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Earth



First!

Beltane

Vol. XVII, No. V

May-June, 1997

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

\$3.50

Women in the Way of Progress

BY HAZEL AND DUSK

On the morning of March 19, a Cascadian women's group came together to block the main entrance of the Hull-Oakes old-growth mill with a metal tripod. The mill has been illegally dumping wastewater into Oliver Creek, a tributary of the Willamette River, for 17 years. The Oregon Natural Resources Council is filing suit against Hull-Oakes for its blatant violation of the Clean Water Act. Meanwhile, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is considering granting a wastewater permit to Hull-Oakes, rewarding them for their illegal dumping, with permission to continue the degrading practice.

On top of all this, Hull-Oakes has applied for National Monument status designating its mill as a "working museum," which will guarantee a yearly supply of 12 million board feet of reduced price "mature" trees off of public lands! The Hull-Oakes mill uses a century-old, steam-driven system which can only process old-growth trees. (Hull-Oakes is the same company responsible for the slaughter of Roman Dunn and the impending butchering of the Howl and Growl sale.)

Sounds pretty evil, huh? Well, it gets worse. During the recent action, one woman courageously hung from the apex of the tripod, while two women were locked by their necks with U-locks to its base. By around 5 a.m. a line of late-for-work loggers and mill workers was building and tempers were getting high. The support team was doing a great job of diffusing the situation until Don Oakes, the owner of the mill, floored his truck and hit the base of the tripod. Luckily, the tripod was metal so the impact did not knock the tripod over but instead bent one of the poles into a precarious position. Despite the best efforts of the support people, the man continued to ram the tripod with his truck. He then attempted to run over the support people and one of the women locked to the base of the tripod.



Don Oakes, owner of Hull-Oakes Lumber Co., about two feet away from killing a Cascadian.

"Intense" is an understatement when describing the energy level at this point of the action. Finally, a mill worker convinced Mr. Oakes that he really was about to kill someone and the blockade could be removed some other way. Then the mill workers knocked the tripod over onto the adjacent hillside, dragging the women who were locked to the legs of the tripod across the road by their necks.

By some miracle or protective power, no one was seriously injured. The police finally showed, but you can guess whose side they were on.

Legal action against Hull-Oakes is in progress. We can't let violence like this go unnoticed or unchallenged. If you want more info, would like to help or make a donation toward legal defense, contact Cascadia Forest Defenders at POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440; (541) 343-7305.

NEVADA TEST SITE SHUTDOWN

Activists from around the world recently traveled to the Nevada Nuclear Test Site to take part in the annual Healing Global Wounds Gathering and Shundahai Network's Action for Nuclear Abolition. Several hundred activists camped at the traditional Peace Camp which sits across the road from Mercury, Nevada where the US has conducted a total of 934 nuclear tests between 1951 and 1992. One hundred of these tests were above ground. This test-site land is claimed by the Western Shoshone Nation un-

der terms of the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley. Because of this, the Western Shoshone is considered the most bombed nation in the world.

March 27-30 marked the multicultural Healing Global Wounds Gathering. Attendees heard direct testimony from indigenous people who have been victimized by the nuclear arms race. Many anti-nuke campaigners also gave in-depth updates on global efforts to end the nuclear age. The Gathering included educational workshops, alliance building, spiritual ceremony and culminated

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Road to the Nevada Test Site shut down by multi-racial coalition.

Blood and Guts in Montana

BY DELYLA AND STAN WILSON
BISON ACTION GROUP

She began by painting her face—symbols of the earth and protection, symbols of power, witchy symbols to calm and center the soul. Slowly, casually, she made her way to a side door. There she paused, prayed and asked the goddess for strength. A knock answered by a polite cattleman gained her admittance to the hall. Walking quickly with a nonchalant carefulness, carrying the heavy bucket filled with rotting bison guts in one hand, she made her way past the Forest Service and Park Service Freddie's that had so graciously been reserved the front three rows. She advanced to the table where the felonious four sat: Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, Montana Senators Burns and Baucus and, of course, Governor Racicot, doing what he does best, talking—once again justifying how it's just not his fault—the government made him do it. Racicot, sounding like Goerring at the Nurnberg trials after the Holocaust, stood whining about the sad sick slaughter of our sacred Buffalo Relations.

Of course there is one difference; in Montana, the genocide continues.

The men talked so much that nobody even noticed a lone, painted woman, except to maybe wonder, "What is that on her face?" Amazingly, they didn't notice the plain white, five-gallon bucket or the wafting odor of not-so-fresh buffalo guts emitting from it. Time froze for a moment, then suddenly, as Delyla reached the edge of the table, somebody shouted, "Nooo," and time started.

Even Gov. Racicot shut up and took notice. The bucket of bison guts splashed onto the table. Juices from putrid buffalo entrails flowed over the edge splashing the very men who had conspired to put them in that condition. One man, a special agent, put her arm behind her back and quickly escorted her outside. Another freeze frame in time as she explained why this had happened. For a moment it seemed as if he might let her walk away, but then time started and the sheriffs came roaring down the hill. Caught but content with a good days work, Delyla Wilson went to jail that sunny day in March.

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EARTH FIRST!



NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

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

TIME FOR A SAFETY MEETING

Earth First! is recognized perhaps more than any other movement in the world for taking nonviolent direct action in defense of the Earth. Whether we are mobilizing masses of people at a corporation's headquarters, blockading logging roads at the point of forest destruction or thrashing bulldozers in the dead of night; Earth First! is on the front lines of the war on nature. Nonviolent action, not rhetoric, defines our movement. But, often I observe a seemingly unstoppable "go for it no matter what" attitude on actions that shortsightedly forgoes safety and strategy and forces action for action's sake. As summer approaches and many of us gear up for a wild, non-stop tour of insurrection against the corporate greed and governmental corruption destroying life on Earth, I feel compelled to say a few things.

First, we must think and act strategically. To paraphrase one of America's greatest community organizers, the late Saul Alinsky, pick your target, freeze it, personalize it and polarize it. For example, the Maxxam Corporation threatens the Headwaters Forest. A critical investigation reveals more at issue than the forest; a \$1.6 billion junk bond scandal, a hostile corporate takeover of the logging company, abuse of the workers and smash and grab industrial forestry practices which are polluting waterways and causing mudslides that kill whole communities. Who's to blame for all this? Corporate raider, Charles Hurwitz. What to do? Expose him as the monster he is and sound the alarm for the world's last unprotected ancient redwood forest that he is destroying.

We must resist the destruction of the Earth offensively as well as defensively, and we must be creative in the ways we do so. It's not enough to wait until the corporations are logging the forest to rise and defend it; we must act before timber sales are awarded. We must work hard in our communities making them an issue of magnified public concern with intensely focused organizing. We must scout the areas and lay down lines of nonviolent defense. We can accomplish this if our groups are strong, consensus-based collectives which maintain clear processes of communication, set agendas and yield tactical, goal-oriented plans. Our campaigns will be strongest if our actions are timely and build on one another. We must assess our group's skills and resources and distribute the responsibilities.

Secondly, direct action can be dangerous. Put safety first! Cops and equipment operators must be fully aware that if they are heavy-handed with an action people could be hurt or killed. Moreover, they need to be told that they will be held personally responsible for any injuries to activists. Locking down to moving vehicles or equipment is not safe. The noise made by the machinery drowns out the sounds of peoples voices as they communicate with the operators and cops. Anyone who suspends themselves from anything by locking to

it is stupid. People should wear long, protective clothing and have eye and ear protection with them.

Direct action requires emotional and physical preparation and dedication. Despite the countless uncontrollable things that can erupt during an action, the one thing most of us have is the ability to control ourselves. We need to practice, roleplay and train in advance of our actions. We have to be fully prepared to deal with physical and psychological torture from the police and other violent persons.

Thirdly, those who inflict violence on nonviolent activists must be held accountable. Tripods have been rammed, knocked over and cut down with people on them. People have been dragged by their necks from the gates they're locked to. Others have been wheeled from their blockades while still connected to 1,200-pound concrete barrels. People have sustained countless injuries from pain compliance holds, over-tightened hand cuffs, being maced, beaten with batons and tire irons, hog-tied and psychologically tortured. To let these brutal acts of violence be repeated against nonviolent people is unconscionable! This sick legacy of abuse will only be perpetuated unless we aggressively challenge each and every instance of violence against us.



When violence occurs, isolate the situation and use conflict management tools to diffuse it. Use cameras to document and intimidate people who are violent with activists. Get medical attention. Contact a good lawyer. File police reports. Trash the hate mongers in the media. Then, make an example of them by hauling their butts to court and taking them for all you can! A sizable claim will intimidate other thugs from attacking activists and will fund full-time activism.

Nonviolent direct action is a means to an end. It is active resistance to injustice, and it is essential. Strategically planned actions promote safety and can bring a group boldly closer to achieving its goals. Study Gandhi's revolutionary "truth force" maxim and the colorful history of social change movements, such as the Diggers, Luddites, Quakers, Plowshares and Chipkos. The most successful movements throughout history have been those that waged strategic campaigns of unshaking nonviolent resistance that grew, matured and diversified from a core of truth and direct action.

In the Western world people are privileged to be able to engage openly in nonviolent direct action. Courageous activists in the other two-thirds of the world are being ruthlessly killed, yet continue to give their lives for their political actions in defense of the Earth and freedom. Every day we need to be kicking down the front door of corporate Amerikkka demanding that the Earth comes First!

—JOHN BOWLING

Earth First! Journal Beltane

May 1, 1997

Vol. XVII, No. V

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

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

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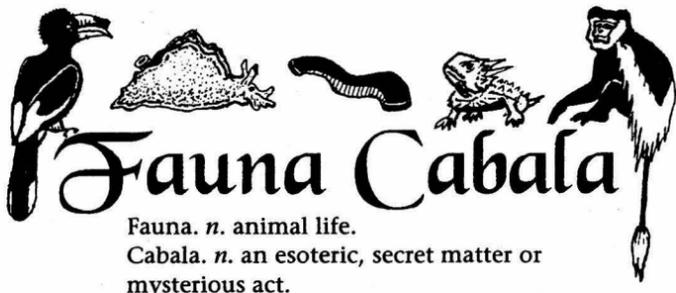
Cover Photo: Rough Legged Hawk by

Jonathan Paul

SCHEDULE

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

MAY 31



Fauna Cabala

Fauna. *n.* animal life.

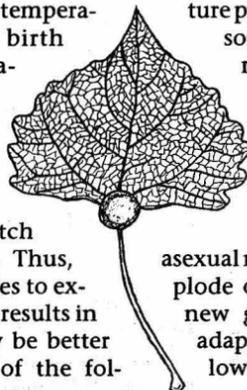
Cabala. *n.* an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious act.

High overhead on cottonwood leaves, pregnant aphids are kickboxing. Springtime on the Colorado Plateau induces aphid females of the genus *Pemphigus* to emerge from eggs in the bark of cottonwood trees. The insects, who are initially wingless, march up the trunks by the thousands. When an aphid arrives at the top, she wanders about to select the perfect leaf, and when found, prods and sucks along the midrib at the leaf's base until a gall (a hollow sack of leaf tissue) forms.

Within this protective gall the female births 50 to 100 daughters parthenogenetically (that is, her egg cells do not undergo meiosis, and thus, without mating, she can produce daughters identical to herself) and feeds on phloem sap with them until they burst out at maturity. A female can increase her reproductive success by selecting a large leaf (because sap content is

proportional to leaf size) and by settling near a leaf's base, the site of nutrient inflow. This creates a stampede for large leaves and vicious territoriality. If a female comes along while another is forming her gall, they engage in a lethal bout of kicking, which can last for two days.

Among aphids, males are an afterthought. Even before a female is born she has daughters developing within her. Throughout the spring and summer, generations of females, some winged and others not, are cranked out every ten days. It isn't until fall, when the drop in temperature prompts meiosis to occur, that females birth chromosomes separating sons. The female's sex rate imperfectly, such that some embryos just have one, pro-males then mate with females, who lay eggs in the bark of cottonwood trees. The eggs destined to become males perish, while those that will hatch into females overwinter into spring. Thus, a multitude of females to sexual reproduction results in some of which may be better adapted to the environmental conditions of the following year.



REVOLUTIONIZING THE MOVEMENT

BY HAZEL

Sexism and power dynamics within the Earth First! movement are relevant and continuous themes and hot topics of conversation. We've begun feeling the effects of internal dynamics as we get deeper into the process of becoming a true community. A key moment in this discussion took place at the annual EF! Activist Conference in San Bernardino, CA this past February. There were many informal discussion groups on the subject, as well as a workshop entitled, "Sexism and Power Dynamics."

Focusing on the negative aspects and difficulties of breaking down sexism and nonsensical criticisms, such as name calling and blaming, tend to undermine the discussion and our movement. In order to progressively move through these issues we need to focus on proactive things we can all do to combat and breakdown our own sexism and the effects of being conditioned and socialized in a patriarchal society. For example, there is no actual "old-boys club." It is not a literal term. You can't get a membership. The referral to an old-boys club refers to dominant "power-over" type mentality.

The power-over way of relating, and other manifestations of patriarchal conditioning, can sneak into all of us, both men and women. Other examples of the "power-over" dynamic range from interrupting someone to outright violence, such as rape or clearcutting. The spectrum in between includes not listening, always "taking charge," hoarding or not sharing knowledge, utilizing dominating or controlling leadership techniques or an unwillingness to create and work within a process which facilitates an egalitarian community and empowers all those involved. Of course, anyone who reads this has their own examples and personal experiences to add to the list.

To me, much of what we attribute to sexism within EF! is not as simple as just sexism. Sexism is one manifestation of living in a patriarchal, capitalistic society, heavily controlled by corporations, exercising increasing thought control. It is of utmost importance that Earth First! address all these manifestations of oppression (racism, ageism, classism, shall I go on?). The domination which hurts women is the same domination which clearcuts ancient forests. We can't end the oppression of the earth until we end our own oppressive roles. This is the reason I am so passionate about these issues and constantly trying to break all of this down. When industrial collapse comes will we really be ready to create that future we all so desire?

Most of us have not been raised or taught how to communicate and work together in an egalitarian context. We end up sabotaging ourselves and our movement with our internal dynamics, resulting in everything from hurt feelings and botched actions to losing dedicated or potential activists. Most of the time this happens despite our best intentions. Corporate culture has taught us about competition, rugged individualism and ignoring

planning, creating strong affinity groups to confront problems and identifying a sexism/isms vibes watcher were other ways suggested to confront "isms." Fishbowls can be a helpful way to facilitate communication on any issue. In a fishbowl, the women form an inside circle, while the men sit around them, forming an outside circle. First, only, the women talk and the men listen, and then the

whole scenario is reversed. Setting time limits is a good idea. Working on group/trust building, utilizing role-reversal role-play games, engaging in conflict resolution (instead of avoiding it), stating your or your group's boundaries and working sexism questions/issues into debriefs are all proactive ways to breakdown sexism. Finding a close male and female friend to share critiques on each others' "isms" in a safe space, after the fact, as well as asking your friends to call you on your "isms" when they happen, can be very helpful. Asking for consent in words and creating an EF! do's and don'ts list were two solid suggestions. A weekly/monthly discussion on sexism and other process issues can benefit any growing community. A common thread in all of this, and a word heard consistently throughout the workshop was *respect*, a basic principle we can all integrate into our lives!

Well, that's a lot of ideas. If we all incorporate one or two of these suggestions into our lives, we'd be well on the way toward being a community rooted in mutual aid, inner strength and power, clear communication, empowerment and action. Many of the ideas from the activist conference were focused on sexism, but many of them can easily be used to identify how we play into power dynamics in general.

Part of the reason why this is all so intimidating and confrontational is because the examples and effects of unequal power relationships are so overwhelmingly ingrained into most of us, to different extents, since birth. If we stop looking at all this as a problem to be solved (with a beginning and end) and instead as part of a continual process which helps us to grow individually, helps our groups, and finally helps the Earth, all of our efforts will make more sense. We are a movement. Movements are constantly moving, changing and growing. So, let's get moving!

As someone from the conference said, "The Earth is toast if we don't deal with this shit."

If you want more information on power dynamics, isms, group/trust building exercises and workshop referrals, contact Hazel, c/o CFD, POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440.



or becoming defensive when faced with conflicts. Teaching shared leadership, critical thinking, conflict resolution and how to relate through a "power from within" instead of a "power-over" dynamic is not in corporate culture's best interest. It is best for them to have the masses (and especially us) divided, quarreling and unable to effectively communicate and cooperate.

We can relearn how to relate outside of "power-over" and other divisive dynamics, but it's not as easy as simply saying so. We need to relearn and practice through group/trust building exercises, learning the conflict resolution process, debriefing, workshops and circles. This will be even more helpful if as many people as possible from a given community can participate.

The following ideas are some proactive suggestions, directly from the workshop at the activist conference: same-gender discussion groups or circles, women's affinity groups and trainings and men's groups. Incorporating gender balance into

Letters to the Editors:

(under 300 words, of course...)

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for the nice t-shirt sent to me. May God bless you richly for such creditable performance. When I put it on people admire it. I am always asked where I got it from.

I will be grateful if you will list me and send me t-shirts at a given periodically interval. God will bless you more and more for that.

I will like to end here until I hear from you again. Amen.

Yours Faithfully,

—SARAH BONNEY
ACCRA, GHANA

PS. Long Live Earth First! Journal
God Bless Earth First! Journal

Dear Friends,

First of all, thank you for your letter and copy of the EF! Journal. I have just received it, and I am in the middle of the reading. My first impression about the EF! Journal? Excellent! I like it very much!

Full of information and personal experiences. It is very impressive to read articles by people from the first lines of Earth defense. The things they do are very inspiring to me.

Probably I ask too much of you but I have request to you—please, can you announce my name and address in EF! Journal "Letters from you to us" with this request to EF! Journal readers:
Dear EF! Readers,

I am very "short of" valuable information about environmental issues, and I need your help. If you have an eco. book or magazine and you don't need it, don't throw it away, please send it to me. I'll be very very thankful!

Best wishes to all Earth Firsters, take care and stay strong because Earth needs us!

—IVICA ERDELJA
BISKUPECKA 4, 42000 VARAZDIN
CROATIA

Statement for the Memorial of Judi Bari March 6, 1997:

We join with you in this moment of remembrance of Judi Bari, who fought valiantly for the green and growing life of your region, and of Mother Earth. The bombing of Judi and her companion by forces now unknown, is a dark testament to her growing significance in the movement against the rapacious greed of big lumber and capital. Even after that honor, her spirit remained undaunted and undiminished, although her body was shattered. She is remembered today, and will be remembered tomorrow, for the flash of the spirit that returned on behalf of life. Let us remember her with our resistance. Ona Move.

Long Live John Africa.

—MUMIA ABU JAMAL
AM 8335, SCI GREENE,
1040 EAST ROY FURMAN HIGHWAY,
WAYNESBURG PA 15370

To: David Levner, Green Party

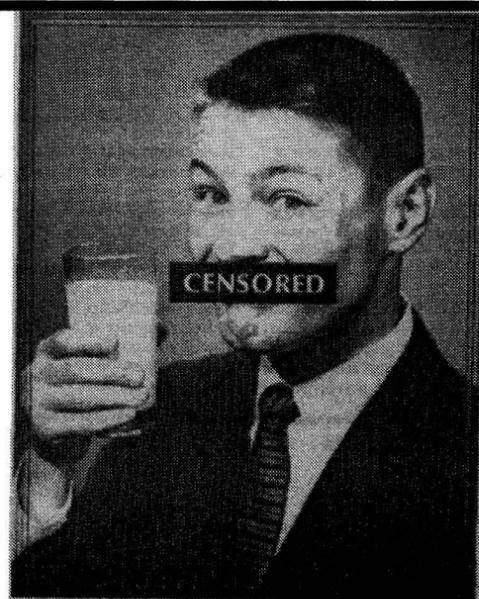
Dear David,

Somehow the great honor of reading Mumia's tribute to Judi Bari fell

to me at Judi's memorial party in Willits, CA. Mumia's struggle with the FBI terrorists is a perfect parallel to Judi's struggle with them. Both of them falsely accused, and the true perpetrators never found nor even sought after.

Judi was the primary and most energetic of the researchers into the facts surrounding her case. Some of what she found has already been told and more will be in the future. The facts will clearly show that Judi and Darryl were under surveillance by the FBI when the bomb was planted in her car. It is inconceivable that the FBI did not see the bomb being planted. As her attorney, Dennis Cunningham said in court, the FBI was on the scene so quickly it was "as if they were around the corner with their fingers in their ears."

The Bari memorial was a wonderful, if not at times sad, event. There



were numerous high-energy, kick-ass speeches, songs, prayers and chants. Many American Indians told of Judi's enormous influence in their struggles, even helping them see their rights for the first time and then going on to win them. Mumia's letter added a dimension and power to the event
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GREAT COAST RAINFOREST

BY JANA THOMAS

The coastal temperate rainforests of North America once blanketed the West Coast in a thin, continuous band from northern California to southeast Alaska. Today, not a single rainforest watershed remains unlogged south of the 49th parallel and only a few valleys remain intact in southern British Columbia, Canada.

Clayoquot Sound, located on Vancouver Island, is the most southerly extent of any significant rainforest valley in North America. It became an international symbol of the destruction taking place throughout coastal British Columbia in 1993, when the provincial government announced that 74 percent of the ancient forests in the sound would be open to clearcut logging. Despite unprecedented national and international protests, the remaining intact valleys in Clayoquot Sound still aren't permanently protected from clearcutting.

Clayoquot, however, is only the tip of the iceberg. The largest concentration of ancient, temperate rainforest in the world is found on the central coast of British Columbia.

Environmentalists refer to this vast, roadless wilderness area as the Great Coast Rainforest. It is a labyrinth of deep-water fjords and steep, narrow valleys pushed up against a backdrop of granite mountain peaks and glistening ice fields. The forests here contain some of the oldest and largest trees on earth. They also provide critical refuge for grizzly bears, salmon and a rare snow-white variation of the black bear called the Kermode, or Spirit Bear.

The massive trees and moderate climate combined with wide-ranging land forms such as small islands, coastal plains, estuaries, streams, lakes, lush forest and rugged mountain peaks provide habitat for one of the most diverse populations of animals in the Northern Hemisphere. These forests support a quarter of the grizzlies remaining in North America. These bears, spoiled by the abundant supply of salmon, are the biggest grizzlies in the world, and they will die out in the next four decades if logging operations continue to move north up the coast.

The government of British Columbia has given logging rights in these forests to a handful of multinational companies. The top ten forest companies in the province cut 77 percent of the annual allowable cut in the rainforest. The worst ravagers in the Great Coast Rainforest are Macmillan Bloedel (MacBlo), International Forests Products (Interfor) and Western Forest Products (WFP).

MacBlo is Canada's biggest logging company and controls over one million hectares of commercial forest land in BC's rainforests. MacBlo produces pulp, paper, newsprint, telephone directory paper, fiberboard and lumber for export to the United States, Japan and Europe. MacBlo's efforts to log Clayoquot Sound in 1993 resulted in the largest civil disobedience action in Canadian history. They currently have cutting rights in the Koeye and Ahta river valleys on the coast.

Interfor is Canada's second largest logging company but the biggest licensee in the Great Coast Rainforest. This is because Interfor was a major beneficiary in 1995 when BC's Ministry of Forests gave away concessions of 230,000 hectares of ancient rainforest on the mid-coast. Interfor was given

72,500 hectares of these pristine forests in what has been dubbed the "Great Coast Giveaway." The key areas that are threatened by Interfor on the coast are the Ecstall River, Kwalate Creek, Johnston River, Ahta River and K'Iskwatsta Creek.

Interfor was blockaded in the summer of 1996 at Ista (near Bella Coola) by environmentalists and chiefs from the Nuxalk First Nation who were trying to stop the clearcutting. Over 90 percent of the trees cut in Nuxalk territory are transported 350 miles south before being processed, providing little opportunity for local employment. Most of Interfor's clearcut forest products are exported to Japan and the United States, almost exclusively as lumber.

Western Forest Products is the third largest rainforest ravager in the province. One key area threatened by WFP is Princess Royal Island and associated mainland areas that are home to the only population of Kermode bears. Road building is scheduled for the

spring in Green Inlet, an essential habitat area for these rare, snow-white black bears. The Valhalla Wilderness Society has proposed that this area be protected as a Tribal Park. Kitasoo Hereditary Chief Neislos says, "We need this 265,000-hectare park to protect all of our land, the white bear, and our herring and salmon fisheries. This has been part of our people's survival for centuries. We do not want it destroyed."

Another critical area threatened by WFP is the Ingram/Mooto/Ellerslie/Pollalie watershed complex located near Bella Bella. This is part of the traditional homeland of the Vickers family of the Heiltsuk First Nation. The Vickers family is inviting people to come to the Ingram Mooto, live with them this summer, and share their journeys in the family-oriented system that has sustained the Heiltsuk for thousands of years. They will be occupying the area where WFP plans to be road building.

At the current rate of logging, most of the remaining ancient forests will be gone within a decade. The government of British Columbia has spent a lot of time and money trying to convince people in the US and Europe that they have responded to environmental concerns. They base this claim on their adoption of the Forest Practices Code almost two years ago. Since that time, the forest industry and the government have repeatedly claimed that significant changes have been implemented in how British Columbia's forests are managed. Front and center among these claims are assertions about the Code's "world class" protection of

streams, lakes and wetlands.

However, an extensive investigation done recently by the Sierra Legal Defense Fund (SLDF) reveals that these claims may be better for public relations than for streams. SLDF did a citizen audit of cutblocks approved for logging in 1996 by major logging companies in four forest districts in coastal British Columbia. A six person team of lawyers, scientists and researchers examined 1,086 streams. Their audit revealed a disturbing level of mismanagement by logging companies and widespread devastation of streams.

One major concern is the extent to which forest streams continue to be clearcut up to both banks. Eighty-three percent of all streams in 1996 cutblocks were clearcut to the banks. Even known fish streams were clearcut 79 percent of the time. This habitat destruction not only reflects the logging industry's abuse of discretion in current regulations, but also highlights the ineffectiveness of the Code's stream protection. In other words, in most cases the destruction was legal and was approved by the Ministry of Forests.

In addition, other citizen audits conducted by SLDF demonstrate that the amount of wood taken out of BC's forests was actually higher in 1996 than in 1995. In other words, BC continues to clearcut just as often and just as much timber as before the Code was implemented. The destruction continues and we need your help!

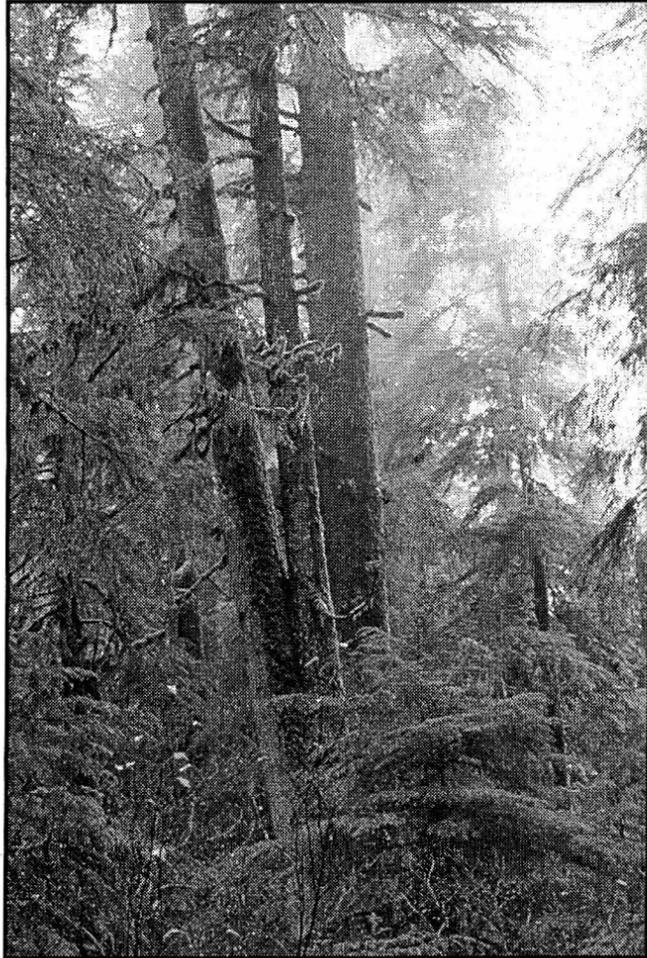
How You Can Help:

- Reduce your use of wood and paper products and ask where the products you buy come from. Please request and buy recycled and clearcut-free wood and paper products.
- Please write to the Premier of British Columbia and tell him to permanently protect the key ecological areas in the coastal rainforests, to stop road building in these areas and to stop clearcutting everywhere. Tell him you support the work of First Nations to safeguard their traditional territories and ensure the survival of their cultures. Finally, ask the government to promote ecologically responsible community development in areas where it is appropriate.
- Environmental protests are likely to occur this summer in the Johnston, K'Iskwatsta, Green Inlet and Ingram-Mooto-Pollalie areas.

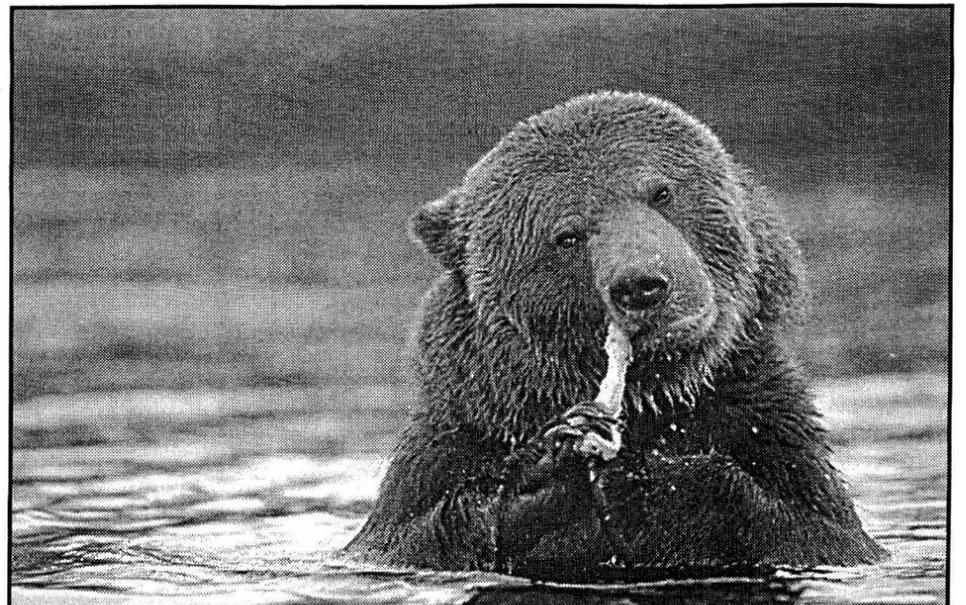
Premier Glen Clark, Rm. 156, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC, Canada, V8V 1X4; (250) 387-1715, fax (250) 387-0087.

Minister of Forests, David Zirnelt, Rm. 128, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC, Canada, V8V 1X4; (250) 387-6240, fax (250) 387-1040.

Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks, Cathy



The Great Coast Rainforest



The natives of the Great Coast Rainforest oppose the logging as well.

McGregor, Rm. 337, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC, Canada, V8V 1X4; (250) 387-1187, fax 387-1356.

For more information, contact POB 2241, Main Post Office, Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6B 1H2; (604) 669-4303, fax (604) 669-6833, e-mail: crn@helix.net.

The Riddle of the Sphinx

BY MOONSHINE

The North Fork of the Santiam River will turn your hand blue in about two seconds this time of year. There's still plenty of snow on the ground here at 3,600 feet in the Detroit Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest. A big, diesel Cat has been through here recently, pushing the white stuff off the road into giant snowdrifts over ten feet tall that line both sides of the winding concrete river that weaves its way through giant cedar, hemlock and Douglas fir.

At 3:00 in the morning some of that snow is finding its way back onto the road.

The plan here is to pile enough snow on the road that the US Forest Service will have to call up a snowplow (again) to clear the road when fellers come to begin work at first light. We're hoping this will delay them for a few hours. Then they'll mosey on up the road to find Fern and Dusk locked to the metal gate leading into the Sphinx timber sale, the most recent incarnation of Clinton's Option 9 plan.

Delays, delays, delays. Protesters have already stretched a day's worth of snowplowing on Parish Lake Road and Forest Service Road 2265 into almost a week of work by walking sloooowwly in front of the plows. However, tonight's plan is working backwards. The timber company's security goons have found our two lockdowns before finding the wall. So Fern and Dusk have to lockdown two and a half hours before dawn, and the first person up the road isn't a logger but Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer Frank "Twitchy" Galbreath.

We call him "Twitchy" because every time he visits the base camp, his trigger finger's always down about an inch from his shooting iron, twitch-

ing nervously—like Dirty Harry on bad meth. Twitchy is a stickler for the rules and wants to know *when* we are going to be out of his campground. It's all he can think about most days. He knows we're up to no good.

Twitch gets the call about the lockdowns but can't get to them because of this, this *snow barricade*, or whatever it is, in the middle of the road. There are eight of us sitting up on top of the thing grinning, cameras rolling. Twitchy's trigger finger is jerking like mad. He is very agitated and can't seem to think of a thing to say.

"So, uh, you guys have got to be out of the campground, uh, pretty soon, you know?"

An hour and a half later the road is clear. We walk in front of the Freddiemobiles heading up the road to deal with the lockdowns—walking very, very slowly. Twitchy is bugging out. The finger is just a blur, pulling the imaginary trigger about 50 times a second. When we finally make it to the lockdowns, Twitchy smells a rat.

"These two are also from the campground," he tells one of the Linn County sheriff's deputies. "They've been there for a long time."

Fern and Dusk have been locked down now for about four hours in the snow. The timber company guys come up to check out the scene. After a lengthy consultation amongst The Law, they de-



photo by Kurt Jensen

Delicate Fern held her lockdown for six hours in the snow.

cide to blowtorch the gate apart and bypass the "black bear" lockboxes securing the two women. If they'll unlock now, the cops promise to let them go with a citation.

No deal.

Delays, delays, delays. Now there are three private security rigs, three Freddiemobiles, two Linn County Sheriff's Department Broncos, a Freddie maintenance truck, a snowplow and the timber company foreman's pickup here. Way down the road three pickup trucks full of fellers are catching up on their sleep. Further up the road, 3,000-log-trucks worth of ancient trees are still vertical.

In the ancient Greek city of Thebes, the Sphinx was an oracle that would pose difficult riddles to unsuspecting travelers. If they didn't come up with a good answer quickly the beast would bite their heads off. In the Detroit District, the Sphinx timber sale is another riddle—a lame-brained "forest health" scheme that nobody can figure out. It will cut 15 million board feet in over 400 acres nestled in the headwaters of Straight and Lynx Creeks. The Lynx Creek watershed contains some of the last unfragmented wilderness left in the Detroit District and serves as a wildlife corridor between the Santiam and Mt. Jefferson wilderness areas. The Straight Creek headwaters and other riparian areas have been identified as crucial to maintaining the integrity of water quality downstream.

Scientists have expressed concern that more clearcutting in the hard-hit Detroit District will further jeopardize the city of Salem's water supply and lead to more of the devastating flooding that has left much of Oregon a federal disaster area over the past two years. Public opposition to the sale has been vociferous. The Salem City Council, 70 miles to the west, condemned the sale in a vote last year. Both the current and a former mayor have also been extremely critical in public. When the sale was auctioned off in Eugene last October, over 100 police officers in full riot gear were required to keep the peace at a protest against the auction.

Scientists, activists and even some government officials agree that Sphinx is about as bad as land management gets. The fact that the Forest Service is still committed to "getting the cut out" at the expense of clean water, habitat and public opinion has become the modern day riddle of the Sphinx. Without a good answer soon, one more big chunk of the Cascade Range is going to be gobbled up.

Things are pretty quiet back at the lockdown. The deputies are leaning against their trucks smoking cigars. Maintenance guys are scratching their heads and trying to figure out a good way to hack apart their metal gate. Fern and Dusk are being very uncooperative. Their support crew has run out of songs to sing and is squatting silently at the side of the road. Twitchy is looking miserable in a light jacket as a slushy rain floats down from a lead-gray sky.

"Soooo... When are you guys going to be out of that campground?" he wants to know.

Twitchy's whining breaks the mood. We all laugh. "Probably not for a while, Twitch," somebody says.

ILLEGAL LOGGING IN ALBION NATION

BY RED FROG AND ORCA

Shortly before 6:00 a.m. on April 7, phone lines started buzzing in Mendocino, California, to alert Albion Nation activists that Louisiana-Pacific (L-P) was preparing an assault on Enchanted Meadow. A logging crew had been spotted creeping down the public road with its lights off, assembling at the gate to the forest. Before the sun had risen or the loggers had unlocked the gate, activists arrived to let them know that this forest is contested territory. They would be meeting many more folks in the woods before this day was over; this covert assault would not go unchallenged.

The community won a claim against the cutting of Enchanted Meadow in 1996 and an appeal is in process. Before noon on April 7, an emergency order to stop the logging was filed in appeals court. It could have been up to three days before the writ to halt the logging was considered by the court. The people did not wait for the court to act.

The Enchanted Meadow and the forested slopes that surround it have been a focal point of community resistance to the attempted destruction of the Albion River. This resistance dates back to the 1980s. The original timber harvest plans (THPs) called for the destruction of 225 acres of healthy second growth and residual old-growth redwood and fir forests. The Albion River estuary that skirts the Enchanted Meadow is home to a wide variety of creatures, including river otters, great blue herons, ospreys and the remnants of Albion's native coho salmon, now protected under the Endangered Species Act.

When the original THPs were approved in 1989, legal action followed swiftly. L-P was kept out of the forest until April of 1992 when, on a morning quite similar to that of April 7, a logging team went in and cut three old-growth redwoods near an active osprey nest. What followed, as they say, is history. Six weeks of intense actions: lockdowns, car blockades, road obstructions, cat and mouse, tree sits and a highway rally that turned into spontaneous civil disobedience. Further legal action and the constant threat of direct action have kept the forest standing to this day.

Immediately after the initial contact with the loggers on the morning of April 7, the community geared up for action. A noontime rally was called. By early afternoon folks had arrived from hundreds of miles away, ready for action. Equipment was assembled to sustain tree sits, lockdowns and just about everything else that can be used to keep the trees standing. While some people went to the rally and marched to the gate, others headed directly for the forest.

Anna Marie Stenberg and other concerned neighbors were the first group to meet the loggers in the forest. No Slacker Jacks or Slacker Jills, the locals were ready for direct intervention, and intervention was necessary. Three loggers were spread out along a hillside above Slaughterhouse Gulch. They were going for the big trees first, of course. "There was no question; it was our duty to be there after all these years," said Anna Marie.

Of the three fallers, two were from Oregon and one from Washington. Every year it gets harder for L-P to find contractors that will work in Albion. Last year, when the Tidewater plan was going down, the logging crew was paid even when operations were disrupted by protesters. (And, of course, operations were disrupted—but that's another story.)

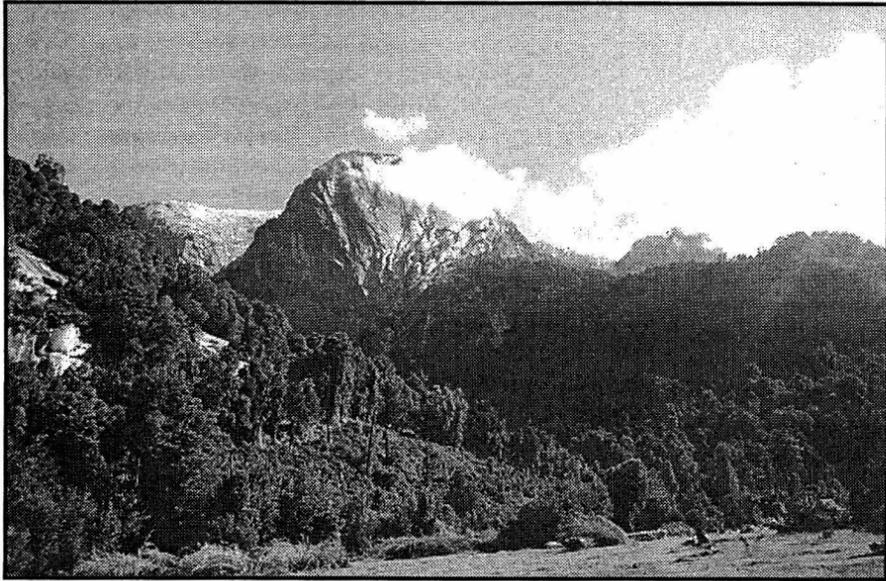
In the Enchanted Meadow operation, the fallers were to be paid by the amount of timber cut. "They were surprised that we were there to stop them. They had no idea that this was going to be happening. They thought it looked like 'a real good cut,'" Anna Marie continued. The first two fallers left right away, wanting no part of this cut. The third faller was a bit reluctant to stop working, but was eventually convinced that the law was quite clear and "no logging operations" meant exactly that. By the time the rally started the fallers had all quit working.

The Albion Nation Uprising in the spring of 1992 saved over half the area. Today, the people are as committed as ever to defending this wild place. The battle over the wild forests of the Albion will be nonviolent, long, fierce and costly. If L-P was testing the waters with this recent sneak attack, they now know without a doubt that the water is still very hot and that the passions of the people here run very deep.

PATAGONIAN FORESTS UNDER SIEGE

BY JAKE KREILEK

After two months of exploring Chile and Argentina, I can now attest to the fact that the southern end of South America contains some of the most unique temperate forests in the world. Centered in Patagonia and straddling both sides of the Andes, these forest ecosystems are some of the oldest on earth and represent a touchstone to Gondwanaland—the ancient supercontinent which shaped the evolutionary processes for so much of our planet's flora and fauna. Not



Patagonian forests in their pristine state

photo by Jake Kreilek

surprisingly in this age of commercial greed and over-consumption, the conservation status of native forests in both countries is rapidly deteriorating.

In Argentina, 74 percent of the country's native forest has disappeared in the last 100 years. In Chile, the situation is even worse. According to a report released by the Central Bank of Chile in 1995, native forest destruction doubled from 1984 to 1994, amounting to over 700,000 hectares (1,729,000 acres) deforested. CONAF, Chile's Forest and Park Service, estimates a total of 6.3 million hectares (15,561,000 acres) of native forest remain. However, no truly accurate data exists on how much is left.

Thanks to the Pinochet regime, which privatized all forest land and industrial operations in 1974, the last 20 years of forestry in Chile have resulted in excessive logging, conversion to exotic pine and eucalyptus and export-oriented trade policies. If current cutting rates continue, the country will lose its remaining native forests in another 20 years. Forest exports, particularly wood chips, are booming again due to improving markets in Germany and Japan and the development of MERCOSUR—the South American version of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

The multinationals have arrived in full force, particularly Japanese companies like Mitsubishi, Daio Paper and Marubeni. According to Ken Wilcox, in his excellent book, *Chile's Native Forests*, Japan's ambassador to Chile believes corporate investments in forestry increased almost twenty-fold from \$35 million in 1990 to \$600 million in 1996. US, Canadian and New Zealand companies are also salivating over Chilean forests and are starting to make large investments in land, chip mills, sawmills, pulp and paper plants and export facilities.

Perhaps the most controversial logging project was launched in 1993 by Trillium, an American corporation based in Bellingham, Washington. Trillium purchased 250,000 hectares in Tierra del Fuego for \$200 million. The fragile forest straddles both Chile and Argentina down close to Cape Horn and contains a unique 10,000-year old lenga—a southern beech species—rainforest. Many forest ecologists and activists in Argentina, Chile and around the world are concerned about logging a native forest at this latitude.

With the assistance of various Chilean foresters and scientists, Trillium prepared an ecological management plan, but many people are quite skeptical of it. Billed as a "sustainable forestry" project, 70 percent of the trees in selected blocks can be removed,

thus sacrificing the structural integrity of much of the canopy. Some of the wood will be used for fine quality furniture but the majority appears to be headed for the woodchipper. Lest anyone forget, Trillium's predominate management practice in the US is clearcutting, and their strategy in Chile and Argentina appears to be appeasement until their operations are in full swing.

As depressing as this news is, the fact remains that Argentina and Chile still retain significant chunks of native forest located mostly in Patagonia and valleys along both sides of the Andes. While it is true that both countries are essentially First World economies (i.e. they are simultaneously expanding domestic consumption and export markets), neither possesses organizational resources within their forest agencies/industries comparable to those in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the Scandinavian and European countries and, of course, the US. Many of the intact native forests in Patagonia are more threatened by campesinos (farmers and ranchers) burning the forest than by logging—a pattern common to many tropical forest countries.

Significant areas of native forest can still be protected with the right combination of vision, common sense and political will. During my travels, I encountered plenty of evidence of a growing forest protection movement in both countries. The most exciting work focuses on efforts to create an International Sanctuary for Sub-Antarctic Forests. This visionary proposal is the product of forest activists in Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and Chile, and is modeled after the International Whale Sanctuary which now protects all whale species south of the 40th parallel in the Southern Hemisphere. Much of the initial momentum for the idea came from *Proyecto Lemu* (Project Forest) coordinator and NFN Argentina representative Lucas Chiappe and Australian forest activist John Seed. These two, along with folks from *Los Defensores del Bosque Chileno* (Defenders of Chilean Forests), have started to circulate the proposal and gather support.

In Argentina, *Proyecto Lemu* has already organized enough political support to create two new provincial parks, Cerro Pirque and Rio Turbio and a protected area, Rio Azul, in Chubut Province. These areas are the initial components of an interconnected system of native Patagonian forests on the east side of the Andes that would start at the northern border of Lanin National Park in Neuquen Province and extend to the southern border of Los Alerces National Park in Chubut. This pioneering exercise in conservation biology would form the South American backbone for the International Sanctuary for Sub-Antarctic Forests. These initiatives have helped to focus attention on the plight of the southern beech (*Nothofagus* family) species as well as the ancient conifers—the alerce and araucaria trees.

In Chile, exceptional campaigns have protected key forest segments that will be the building blocks for the International Forest Sanctuary on the wetter, west side of the Andes. The best example is the Pumalin Park Project, a private initiative organized and owned by *El Bosque Pumalin Foundation*. It encompasses nearly 300,000 hectares of *siempreverde*—an evergreen temperate rainforest containing the most diverse combination of dominant broadleaf trees in Chile; In addition, as much as 35 percent of the remaining alerce forest is now protected within Pumalin's

boundaries. Quite simply, this forest is too wild for humans and, given the altitude, slope aspect and climatic conditions, represents a serious challenge for any bushwhacker.

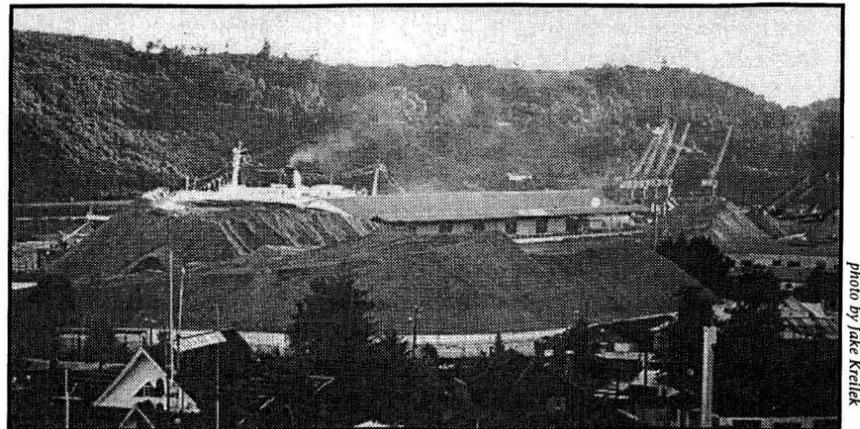
Pumalin is fast becoming a world-class destination for serious ecotourists. The reserve and park are administered by the Foundation for Education, Science and Ecology which is made of seven Chileans well-versed in conservation, science and law. Local people are heavily involved in all aspects of the park's activities, making this project a true model of cultural and ecological preservation.

Another model project is the Cani Forest Sanctuary which preserves 480 hectares of araucaria forest near Pucon. The private reserve was purchased through the efforts of a number of individuals and organizations and is now administered by the Lahuen Foundation in Chile, which offers tours and environmental education programs for schools. The Lahuen Foundation also helped protect Magdalena Island, an intact temperate rainforest ecosystem in the fjords of northern Patagonia, by securing the transfer of 35,000 hectares from CONAF.

The groups in Chile and Argentina go about protecting forests in different ways. This is primarily due to land ownership policies in Chile, where virtually all the forest is privately held. In Argentina much of the forest is still in public ownership. The fact that Chilean forest exports have grown by 22 percent in the last decade to become the third largest industry in the country, indicates that forestry plays an integral part in the country's economic strategy. Woodchips already comprise 17 percent of Chile's forest exports—most of which comes from native forests. Woodchipping is a far greater threat in Chile than in Argentina.

In terms of the bigger picture, both countries are striving to catch up with Western countries' standard of living and economic base via large-scale industrial development and capital-intensive export operations. However, they still possess many indigenous peoples and campesinos who live off the land and rely on native forests for food, fuel, wood products, medicinal herbs and forage for domestic animals. It is a study in contrasts as rural communities in these countries are simultaneously living in the past and facing a much different future due to accelerated industrial forestry.

It is the responsibility of forest groups and activists who work internationally to help prevent Chile's remaining native forests from being



Patagonian forests post-multinationals

photo by Jake Kreilek

turned into short-term commodities. We must join forces with the growing number of groups and activists in Chile and Argentina who are campaigning to end the destruction of these amazing native forest ecosystems.

If you would like to exchange information, host activists or get involved with emerging projects and issues in Chile or Argentina, feel free to contact the following groups: Lucas Chiappe at *Proyecto Lemu*, Epuyen 9211, Chubut, Argentina; 54-945-99081; fax 54-945-99050. *Fundacion Patagonia Natural* at C.C. 160, Puerto Madryn 9120, Chubut, Argentina. Hernan Verscheure at CODEFF, Casilla 3675, Santiago, Chile; 56-2-251-0262 or 251-0287; e-mail recnat@codeff.mic.cl. Adriana Hoffmann at *Defensores Del Bosque Chileno*, A. Lopez de Bello 024, Providencia, Santiago, Chile; 56-2-737-4280; fax 56-2-777-5065.

Bison Dreams: America's Last Free Roaming Herd

BY JAMES A. BARNES, BISON ADVOCACY PROJECT

Officially, the tally stands at 1,083 bison shot dead. The state of Montana, with the enthusiasm and encouragement of the beef industry, and with the reluctant but also shameful participation of Yellowstone National Park, has managed to wipe out half of the only wild herd of American bison left in the world. At last count, researchers recorded only 1,195 animals left in the ecosystem, down from as many as 4,000 two summers ago. Every day I get little faxes from the Montana Department of Livestock giving me the day's kill tally. "Bison Shooting Operation," it's called.

The state's decided to tough it out; despite the great outpouring of support for the bison and outrage against the killing that has reached Governor Marc Racicot, there'll be no stopping now. The Racicot administration sees an opportunity to make the bison problem go away for a few years—the problem being bison eating grass that could otherwise go to beef cattle. So the state Department of Livestock (read "fox"), which was given jurisdiction over Montana bison (read "henhouse") in 1995, is happily carrying out its mandate: enforce the state's "zero tolerance" policy on wild bison in Montana—kill 'em all.

With all the absolutely stunning whoppers cattle interests tell about brucellosis pathology in bison—the justification for all this slaughter—it is hard for the public to get a handle on what is really going on. It is easy to accept the sad head-shaking of the Livestock boys who say how they really love bison, but the Park Service has let 'em get out of hand and they have to take care of an animal disease problem that's just too risky to the state's beef producers to be ignored.

Well I'll tell you what (as if you didn't know), it's all lies.

Brucellosis, a Red Herring

Brucellosis is a bacterial disease caused by the *Brucella abortus* organism. Cattle pass it on to their calves within the reproductive tract and to other cattle when they ingest fresh birth or fetal tissues. Infection generally causes a cow to abort her first calf. After that she delivers normally. Naturally, ranchers don't want to lose any calves, so nobody wants to get brucellosis in their herd. In addition, brucellosis can be transmitted through milk, which made it a threat to human health before pasteurization as it can cause undulant fever, a rather nasty, crippling disease.

Yellowstone bison were, at some point, exposed to brucellosis from infected cattle. Now the herd shows a 12 percent infection rate, more or less, of which only pregnant females can pass on the disease. It is believed that bison transmit brucellosis through milk, as the disease does not cause them to abort, as in cattle. Bison may carry the disease, but they show no deleterious effects from it. Since bison don't mix much with cows, and since they don't abort all over the place, it should be no surprise that wild bison have never transmitted brucellosis to cows. Never. The cattle industry did buy a veterinary researcher at Texas A&M once who pumped a captured bison so full of brucellosis that it came out of her ears, to the extent that she aborted her calf. He penned a cow right next to her, nose in the fetal tissue and, lo and behold, the poor thing came down with the disease too. That, right there, is the sum total of the "science" cited by the perpetrators of bison extermination to justify slaughtering bison. But what if you note that normally bison *don't* abort? Montana's State Veterinarian, Clarence Siroky, has answered that question like this:

If a pregnant bison infected with brucellosis gives birth in the National Forest and leaves tissues and fluids in a snowbank in the shade of a tree; and if the snowbank persists until late May when cattle come onto the allotment; and if a cow licks the tissues in which frozen *brucella* organisms still survive, then she can get brucellosis and devastate Montana's cattle industry.

Of course this scenario is entirely laughable, but the shooters use this very argument for the massacre. At the same time, nearly a thousand of the bison shot this year were gutted where they fell—in snow, under trees, in pastures, wherever. Some of them may have had brucellosis (no testing was done). The gut piles were left where they sat, for anybody to lick.

The Federal Eradication Effort

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), parent agency of the notorious Animal Damage Control, the predator killers, has been demanding the removal of bison from cattle-grazing areas by threatening to revoke Montana's brucellosis-free status. APHIS, and its predecessor agencies, have been managing the federal program to eradicate the disease from the nation's livestock herd since 1934. 1998 is the target year for completing this effort, a date APHIS is not going to make, so the agency is particularly testy about reservoirs of *brucella* like Yellowstone. Since captive bison are commonly ranches in this country and are subject to rules governing livestock disease control, APHIS wants the Yellowstone park to manage bison like cattle to eliminate the disease, contrary to the Park's natural regulation policy. The Park has refused, hence APHIS's "orders" to Montana.

But what APHIS and the cattle industry don't want people to know is that the agency has no statutory or regulatory authority to threaten a state's brucellosis-free status simply on the basis of the disease in wildlife. The laws that authorize APHIS to combat brucellosis apply only to domestic stock. APHIS is blowing smoke, and so is the industry. However, they're aware of the propaganda value of such posturing, which only serves to place increased pressure on the beleaguered Park Service to round up, vaccinate, cull and otherwise ranch the wild bison of Yellowstone.

Recently, the National Wildlife Federation filed suit against APHIS for its failure to release documents under the Freedom of Information Act justifying its directive both scientifically and by regulatory authority. APHIS has neither and is stalling. The word is that the agency is going to try to promulgate new rules giving it authority to manage (kill) all wildlife it claims pose a disease threat to livestock. This possibility represents a power play from agricultural interests doing an end-run around environmental laws. Watch out.

Elk, What Elk?

Meanwhile, healthy bison, some of which carry the brucellosis organism, head for National Forests designated as winter habitat for Yellowstone wildlife, while elk by the thousands winter in feedlots in Jackson, WY, hang out in hay barns, mix with cattle, sit on people's front lawns and try not to become winterkill. But elk also carry brucellosis and, unlike bison, *do* abort their fetuses all over the place. Yet, neither APHIS nor the states of Wyoming and Montana seem worried about their cows getting brucellosis from elk—no threats of disease-free status being yanked, no calls to exterminate them all. Again, the possibility must be considered that brucellosis is not the real issue.

It's sad to think that bison merely need a hunting lobby that wants to see them free-ranging. Unfortunately,

hunters have heretofore been happy to get their buffalo in the state-directed extermination hunts that ended in 1990, and would be pleased to do so again. I wish sport hunters would realize how much better the hunting would be out on the plains when there are millions of animals to choose from. Of course, trying to stick a bison with a spear might be more *dangerous*, but what are you, weenies?

In fact, elk are the only wildlife that have apparently transmitted brucellosis to livestock, and the few modern cases of undulant fever in the US have resulted from elk hunters gutting infected elk and getting the disease through cuts in their skin. Should all wild elk in Montana be killed? If there is a brucellosis threat at all, it is palpably greater from elk than from bison. (There are 30,000 elk in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem). Again, it comes back to rank hypocrisy. Bison knock over fences, elk don't. Elk have an enormous hunting lobby, able to fend off the cattle interests. Bison don't. And bison eat a lot of grass. But the general public would never accept the killing of all Montana's bison just because they might knock over some fences. So the cattle ranchers cloud the issue.

Then For God's Sake Why?

For decades now, we've known that the settler culture of the northern plains, dependent as it has been on constant subsidies and the mining of groundwater, is doomed. Counties are depopulating at such a rate that some have already become "frontier," too sparsely settled to be politically viable. People from these places are scared and will lash out. At the same time, Native nations are growing in strength, cohesiveness and influence, and threaten the power of Montana and other states, at least in the long-term.

At the end of the last century, US strategists developed a policy of separating Plains Indian people from their "larder," the buffalo. The near-extermination of the buffalo was a military decision. The US government let starvation do the work its armies couldn't. While Native people have been pleading with Montana to let them have the Yellowstone bison rather than shooting them, the state has refused. It is not in Montana's interest to help the tribes gain economic independence, cultural integrity and political clout. The policy of keeping Native people dependent on handouts while preventing them from utilizing the bounty that the land provides continues. Indian charitable organizations take Yellowstone bison shot in the field—dead bison, Montana's "gift" to the Indians.

Respect and Disrespect

On March 6, I went down to Gardiner, Montana on the northern border of Yellowstone National Park for a ceremony called by the InterTribal Bison Cooperative—the National Day of Prayer for the Buffalo. Led by Arvol Looking Horse, the 29th carrier of the sacred White Buffalo Calf pipe of the Lakota, the ceremony was conducted outside the wire pen where wild bison have been



Protesters at the Montana state capital in Helena, MT

Photo by Kimberly Dawn

continued on page 26

WARD VALLEY: SACRED DUMP?

BY PHILIP M. KLASKY

Late into the last night of a three-day spiritual gathering at Ward Valley in California's east Mojave Desert, hundreds of people huddled around a mesquite bonfire listening to the drum played by a group of Indian activists. The flames cast flickering lights across the faces of running children. A Mojave elder sat in the clear, cold night, covered with blankets. She explained that she had come all the way from Parker, Arizona, to bless and protect the site. Her daughter handed her a small, frayed woven pouch. With a hand gnarled by age, the elder reached in and pulled out a fistful of corn meal. Singing in Mojave, she threw the coarse yellow meal in the four directions. A chill took my spine as she screeched like an owl at the end of her song.

Ward Valley is a wide, tilting valley in the southeast corner of California's Mojave Desert. The five lower Colorado River Indian tribes and environmental and social justice activists have been battling to stop a proposed radioactive waste dump here. The proposed dump site is surrounded by eight wilderness areas and is in the midst of critical habitat for the threatened desert tortoise. Nearby are the pristine golden canyons and cave paintings of the Old Woman Mountains. To the east, the foothills of the Stepladder Mountains are covered in a forest of cholla cactus. Ward Valley is home to golden eagles, red-tailed hawks, sidewinders, tortoises, song birds, coyotes, jack rabbits and kit fox. In the spring and fall chicory, sunflower and dandelions carpet the ground. Smoke tree and screwbean mesquite line the washes, and during monsoon showers, a wall of water six-feet high can speed down the watercourses.

America's nuclear power industry, anxious to rid itself of the long-lived and highly dangerous radioactive waste from power plant sites, has launched a political campaign to open a national dump at Ward Valley. The industry has directed California Governor Pete Wilson to pursue plans to bury radioactive wastes in shallow, unlined trenches above an aquifer 18 miles from the Colorado River. The area is sacred to the Fort Mojave, Chemehuevi, Cocopah, Quechan and Colorado River Indian tribes. Last year, scientists with the United States Geological Survey issued a report that identified five subsurface pathways by which nuclear wastes leaking from the Ward Valley site would reach the Colorado River—source of water for 22 million people in the Southwest and Mexico.

The industry has been engaged in a well-financed public relations campaign to present the dump as a safe and remote repository for short-lived medical wastes. However, according to Department of Energy statistics, 85 percent of the waste slated for Ward Valley would come from nuclear reactors. A very small portion of the waste, less than 15 percent by volume and less than one percent by radioactivity, would come from medical sources. Most medical waste is short-lived and can be safely and economically stored where it is generated.

Dump opponents believe that plans are to turn Ward Valley into a national repository for the nuclear waste from America's aging reactors. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has unilateral emergency access powers to direct waste to any open dump. The Southwestern Compact Commission, administered by gubernatorial appointees from the compact states, has already voted to accept out-of-compact waste.

Governor Wilson has selected a notorious waste management firm as the dump contractor. US Ecology has left a trail of leaking dumps and litigation across the country. Their nuclear dumps in Illinois, Kentucky, Washington and Nevada are leaking dangerous radioactive materials into the surrounding ecosystems. Two of their toxic waste dumps are Superfund sites.

For the last ten years, a diverse coalition of environmental and social justice organizations have been battling the dump in the courts, in the media and on the ground. Environmental organizations and Indian tribes have notified the federal government that any attempt at a federal land transfer leading to the construction of the dump would trigger a lawsuit asserting the protections of the Endangered Species Act. Similar litigation in 1993 stopped a federal land transfer and led to the designation of 6.4 million acres of critical habitat for the desert tortoise. Activists have vowed to protect the site with nonviolent direct action.

The Department of the Interior has called for a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to explore new information which has surfaced since the original EIS in 1991. The unified Indian tribes, acting as the Colorado River Native Nations Alliance, requested status as a "cooperating agency" in the federal SEIS process. This designation would give the Alliance an opportunity to be directly involved in the drafting, scope and analysis of the final SEIS document. In this way, the Alliance could directly assert the importance of Ward Valley and the desert tortoise to indigenous cultural, religious and economic interests.

The state office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) rejected their request. In so doing, the BLM violated federal environmental justice mandates which direct agencies to encourage full participation in land-use decision-making processes.

Responding to the government's decision, Fort Mojave tribal leader Steve Lopez remarked, "First they force us off our traditional lands and put us on reservations, then they accuse us of living off the government. We want to be self-sufficient, we want to be able to farm our lands and now, after threatening to poison our land and our water, they refuse to recognize our rights."

In 1994, President Clinton signed the Executive Order on Environmental Justice recognizing that low-income communities and communities of color suffer disproportionately from environmental hazards. Last year, at the urging of the Alliance, the Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee designated the dump proposal an environmental justice issue and called for an environmental justice impact analysis. The tribes have asserted repeatedly that the dump project would violate their human rights and have called upon the EPA to halt the project.

The greatest threat to Ward Valley comes from Congress. Senator Frank Murkowski (R-AK) and Representative Don Young (R-AK) have promised to introduce legislation that would force a federal land transfer at Ward Valley and exempt the dump from all existing environmental regulations. The maneuver would preclude the public's right to challenge the dump in the courts.

Opposition to the dump is growing. The diverse coalition of nuclear scientists, medical professionals, economists, community activists, city and county governments, environmental, social justice, wilderness protection, indigenous rights and endangered species organizations and Native American leaders has been working to protect Ward Valley. This struggle has become a movement linking environmental and social justice issues.

Gatherings at Ward Valley attract hundreds of people. Sunrise ceremonies, storytelling, prayer rituals by Indian elders, traditional Mojave gourd songs and bird dances, Aztec dancers from Mexico and Spirit Runs (traditional relay runs across the desert) accompany workshops on radioactive waste, desert ecology, community organizing, nonviolence and political strategy. In the fall of 1995, a group of activists began a permanent occupation of the site which continues to this day.

In the Mojave Desert, periodic windstorms scour the landscape and polish the stars in the night sky. Outside the Avi Hotel and Casino on the banks of the Colorado River the wind blows with ferocity. Tumble weeds dance helplessly across the sand, and a raven, buffeted by gusts, takes refuge in a thicket of mesquite trees.

Inside the hotel, a meeting between representatives of the lower Colorado River Indian tribes and the federal government is coming to a close. Tribal leaders take turns expressing their adamant opposition to the dump proposal. The tribal leaders speak with dignified, urgent eloquence, explaining that they will not and cannot move from a place they have inhabited "since time immemorial."

A Mojave elder rises to speak. She speaks about her children and how she must protect them. As she sings a traditional song describing her people's tie to the land, even the most disaffected bureaucrats take notice and listen. But do they hear?

Contact the Bay Area Nuclear (BAN) Waste Coalition for more information about Ward Valley. Call or write 2760 Golden Gate, San Francisco, CA 94118; (415) 752-8688 or (415) 868-2146.

Ward Valley Protest Reaches New Heights

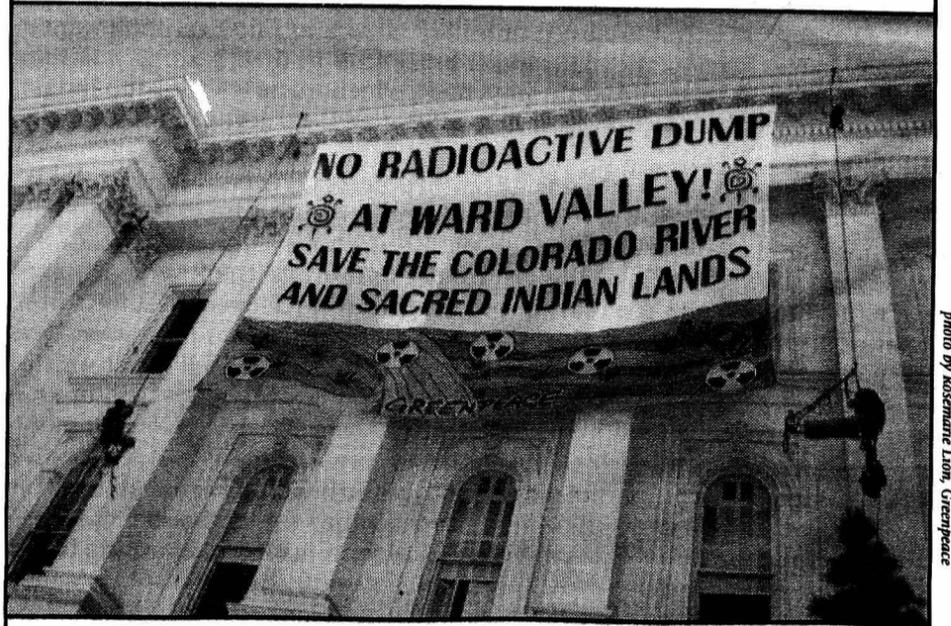


Photo by Rosemarie Lion, Greenpeace

BY SHERRY MEDDICK AND BRADLEY ANGEL

On April 17 two Greenpeace members rappelled off the roof of the California State Capitol building and unfurled a massive 35'x25' banner to protest Governor Wilson's support for the proposed Ward Valley radioactive waste dump. The dramatic protest represents an escalation of opposition to the dump plan. In further defiance of Governor Wilson's demand that federal officials "secure" Ward Valley and evict the ongoing protest encampment at the site, Indian Nations and environmentalists joined together April 25-27 at Ward Valley in the largest protest yet against the dump.

Governor Wilson is aggressively advocating for the controversial radioactive waste dump proposed for Ward Valley. Recently, Wilson announced that the state would enter the Ward Valley area and conduct tests, despite the rejection of this plan by the US Interior Department. These tests would cause significant damage to the area, including further destruction of critical habitat for the endangered desert tortoise.

On February 6, 1997, the Fort Mojave and Quechan Indian Tribes and the Colorado River Native Nations Alliance filed an Administrative Complaint with the US Departments of Interior and Energy. Governor Wilson was charged with violating Title VI of the United States Civil Rights Act for promoting a dump which would have a disproportionate and discriminatory impact on indigenous peoples.

Mobile Chernobyl Heating Up!

The US Senate voted 65-34 on April 15 to ship as much as 33,000 tons of high-level nuclear waste from 43 states around the country to Nevada. The vote was in favor of Senate bill 104, this year's so-called "Mobile Chernobyl Act." If enacted, this bill would authorize the development of an "interim" high-level, above-ground nuclear disposal and storage facility at Yucca Mountain, Nevada no later than November 30, 1999.

In addition, a permanent underground nuclear disposal site at Yucca Mountain, just 100 miles from Las Vegas, is being studied, but a decision on this plan is pending for another four years. Even then, the project is not likely to be completed until 2015. S. 104 would allow waste to be sent to the "interim" site as soon as 2003. Spent nuclear fuel and other high-level nuclear waste would be shipped through communities across the United States to Yucca Mountain for disposal. The fear of nuclear accidents on the road has given the plan the Mobile Chernobyl nickname.

The vote on S. 104, sponsored by republican Senator Larry Craig, who represents big business in Idaho, and republican Energy Committee Chairman Frank Murkowski from Alaska, sets Congress up for what seems likely to be a rerun of the fight over Yucca Mountain in the 104th Congress. An identical bill also passed the Senate last year on a vote of 63-37, an insufficient margin to override a promised presidential veto. This year's senate vote on S. 104 was just two votes shy of overriding a Clinton veto. A House companion bill is expected to be introduced this summer.

While the nuclear industry is pressuring Congress to pass legislation that would allow nuclear operators

to deal with the spent fuel piling up at the nation's 109 power plants, environmental groups are solidly against this measure.

Michael Mariotte, executive director of the Washington-based Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS) has been leading the opposition. On February 11, NIRS presented President Clinton and Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott with 40,000 petition signatures opposing the "interim" disposal plan. There are also 129 environmental, religious and citizens organizations that have registered their opposition.

These groups advocate that an Independent Commission be convened to fully reexamine and reevaluate radioactive waste policies.

Testifying before the Senate Energy committee on February 5, Mariotte said there really is no crisis in the nuclear industry. "This bill attempts to address a radioactive waste disposition 'crisis' that simply does not exist. It would do so by running roughshod over public health and safety standards and existing law intended to protect both our democracy and the environment. It would increase the number of existing radioactive waste sites in our nation by one and decrease the number by zero," Mariotte said.

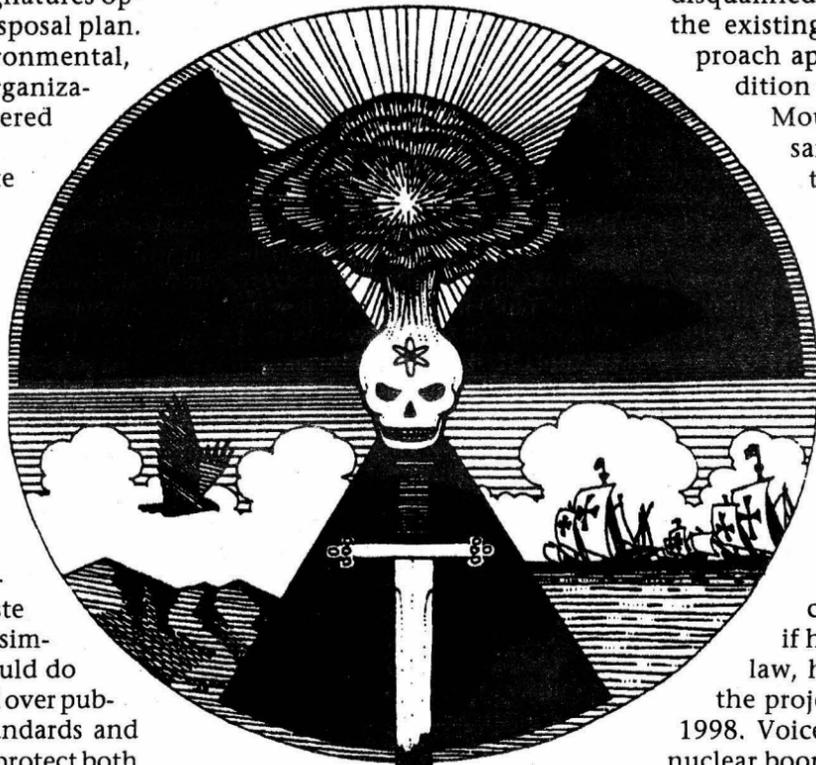
"The bill would set into motion the unprecedented transportation of radioactive waste through 43 states and the District of Columbia, including through major cities such

as New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Jacksonville and across America's agricultural heartland," Mariotte said. If even a minor accident were to occur, the US does not have a trained and supplied transportation infrastructure to respond. The derailment of a nuclear waste train on the French-German border in February is an indication that accidents can and will happen.

Nevada Governor Bob Miller is a long-standing opponent of the plan to put a high-level waste site in his state. In response to proposed changes in the regulations covering Yucca Mountain, Governor Miller wrote then-Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary on December 24, 1996 stating, "One can only assume that the Department of Energy officials believe that Yucca Mountain would be disqualified as a repository under the existing... guidelines. This approach appears to continue a tradition of this program: If Yucca Mountain can't meet the safety rules—then change the rules... the proposed approach, if adopted, will result in a legal challenge by the State of Nevada and further erode the credibility of an already controversial program."

Ultimately, the decision on Yucca Mountain rests with President Clinton. If the legislation is approved by Congress, he can still veto it. And, even if he signs the measure into law, he can still call a halt to the project before December 31, 1998. Voice your concerns over this nuclear boondoggle to Congress and Clinton before it's too late!

Contact your federal congressional members at House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515; (800) 972-3524. Bill Clinton, The White House, Washington, DC 20500; (202) 456-1111. For more information on this issue contact the EnviroLink Network at (412) 683-6400; e-mail support@envirolink.org.



It's plain to see that S. 104 would set extremely high radiation exposure standards and would also circumvent all federal, state and local environmental laws, including the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act and more.

Wolves... & Poodles

• Congratulations to **John Muir Sierrans Chad Hanson, Betsy Gaines and Michael Dorsey** for winning three seats on the Sierra Club national board. Our alpha wolves have successfully reclaimed the power of the pack in America's oldest and largest environmental group, no easy feat. Look for big kills this year on the legislative field as these strong hearts lead the pack with zero tolerance for industry on our public lands.

• Rising out of a pack afflicted by distemper since the 1970s are **Ruckus Society's Mike Roselle and Heartwood's Andy Mahler**. These rogue wolves have also won board member status, unseating a tired, old guard at Greenpeace. These two bloodthirsty leaders will surely team Greenpeace up with other packs to sink their fangs into the corporate cow this year.

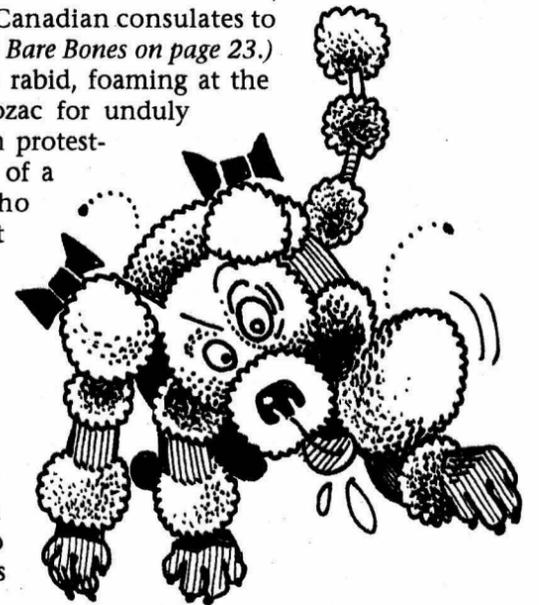
• Much respect goes out to political lone wolf **Mike Swaim, the mayor of Salem, Oregon** who publicly denounced the Forest Service for releasing the Sphynx timber sale and boldly praised the ragged pack of wild Cascadian wolves tirelessly resisting the logging there. Swaim described forest activists disrupting the logging of Sphynx in subfreezing winter conditions and being arrested one after another as "heroes" and called for more arrests in the nonviolent tradition of Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.

• **British priest Rev. John Papworth** earns an ethically unrestrained wolf for saying it is no sin to shoplift as long as the victim is a big supermarket. Referring to the giant British retailer, Rev. Papworth said, "Jesus said, 'Love your neighbor', he didn't say 'Love Marks and Spencers.'" The Rev. Papworth argues that giant corporations have run little stores out of business and harmed local communities.

• **Dave Foreman** wins an extra fluffy, well manicured, pompous poodle for actively campaigning in the past against the newly adopted zero cut logging on public lands position of the Sierra Club. What's more, *US News and World Report* credits Dave as "leading the anti-logging campaign." Let's hope that the newly elected John Muir Sierrans keep this sniveling little ankle biter on a choke chain and put him through another aggressive course at the civil disobedience behavior school.

• **Norway** is acting like a parvo poodle with Hershey squirts, attempting to have international oceans defender, Captain Paul Watson, extradited from the Netherlands for anti-whaling activities it convicted him of in his absence. All wolves are needed to put this poodle in its place and call on Clinton, Congress and US and Canadian consulates to Free Paul Watson! (See *Bare Bones* on page 23.)

• **British police** win a rabid, foaming at the mouth poodle on prozac for unduly arresting a Sussex man protesting outside the home of a Kent veterinarian who signs live animal export certificates. The non-violent activist was nicked for "causing alarm, distress and harassment." What did he do? He called a police officer by his first name, George! For this, he was taken to jail and given bail conditions not to go within a 20-mile radius of Dover! Crap arrest!



SNEAKY DEALS AT SEARS ISLAND

BY AMY LAVANGIE

After a year of relative quiet, the Sears Island (aka Wassumkeag) cargo port and chip mill controversy is heating up again. A year ago, Maine's governor, Anus King, abandoned the project citing a "negative environmental climate." But it seems he's gone delusional again and may need to be reminded of just how harsh the climate can be.

In February, it was announced that Anus added two million dollars to the proposed state budget at the last minute so that the state could purchase the island before the lease/purchase option agreement ran out on March 31. The budget was approved, despite vehement opposition by Republican senators, and the purchase deadline was extended to December 22. The island is owned by developers Fieldcrest-Cannon and the full price is \$4 million. The head of the Department of Transportation (DOT), John Melrose, sees the DOT "in a very strong position to arrange the purchase before December 22," stating further that the DOT "will now conclude efforts to secure the balance through private third parties." Anus has refused to give the specifics of his latest plan to destroy the island, but said that he would like to revive the DOT's cargo port plan at some point and would also like to see "other industrial uses" on the island. A (y)up-scale housing development has been mentioned. But, of course, the cargo port would ruin the yuppies' view and they might oppose the plan. No one, not even delusional Anus, dares say the word "woodchips" any more, at least not publicly, but that doesn't mean that he's given up the three-part strategy to destroy the island, destroy the Penobscot Bay ecosystem and ship Maine's forests overseas.

A group of island land-trusts and big money conservation groups would also like to buy the island and create a wildlife refuge (with hunters and tourists among the humans they hope to draw to this "refuge"), but they can't even make a bid until the state legislature

decides whether or not they will buy the island.

This is just the latest in a 20-year battle over who gets to destroy this 941-acre area on the mid-coast of Maine. Eighteen years ago environmental activists successfully prevented a nuke plant from being built. In the early 1980s, the state's consultants lied about the existence of wetlands on the island to allow destruction for the cargo port to begin. A causeway, which disrupts the tidal flow, was built at a cost of \$25 million! The island was also scarred with access roads. Five acres of wetlands were illegally filled in and a staging area was partially constructed.

A few years later, the Sierra Club exposed the wetlands scam and filed a lawsuit that temporarily halted destruction until a mitigation compromise was reached that allowed the continued degradation of Sears Island. Then Anus became governor and promised that not only would he complete the cargo port (a taxpayer expense of approximately \$100 million), but he'd throw in a chip mill as well.

In 1995, the Supplemental Environmental Impact Study was released and though the impacts of a chip mill weren't considered, the study raised environmental concerns among some state and federal regulators, including the Environmental Protection Agency. They agreed that the impact on Maine's largest (relatively) undeveloped island and Penobscot Bay would be severe.

Meanwhile, regional EF! gatherings were held on the island, followed by actions at public hearings and DOT headquarters. Eventually Anus was forced to admit defeat, but the island remains unprotected.

The status of the island and Anus' plan change almost daily. If you'd like to be kept posted of major developments (pun intended) and especially if you'd be willing to come to Maine to help out, contact Wassumkeag EF! at POB 869, Searsport, ME 04974 or Maine EF! at POB 183, Harmony, ME 04942.



Sears Island, Maine

Photo by Amy Lavangie

FOREST SERVICE BLOWN' SNOW AT VAIL

BY POPPIN' JOHNNY

In the summer of 1996, the White River National Forest Supervisor, Sonny LaSalle, Region 2's "Salvage Slut," approved the expansion of Vail Ski Resort in Colorado—Super Vail. Vail Associates (VA), the parent company of the ski resort and real estate company, thought they were on the fast track to a 1,000-acre expansion. They already have the second-largest ski resort in North America and own 40 percent of Colorado's ski industry. The Freddies showed little regard for the potentially severe ecological impact and public outrage generated by the proposed expansion. Many citizens felt the US Forest Service blindly supported the proposal.

Appeals and opposition have now stalled the proposal temporarily. Yet opponents remain concerned that they have not seen the last of this project. The ski industry is an over-financed, development-driven threat to the wildlands in the southern Rockies. Unfortunately for our public lands and biological diversity, the industry has the Forest Service in its back pocket.

The Two Elk Creek area rises from the lowlands of the Eagle River Basin, near the town of Minturn, Colorado. It ascends from a sage valley floor to critical old-growth spruce/fir forests on its southeastern edge. According to the Colorado Division of Wildlife and the Forest Service's own biologists, these forests are considered prime denning habitat in a core reserve for the Canadian lynx, a species presently considered for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Two Elk's north facing aspects are home to spruce/fir, lodgepole pine and aspen stands. These are unroaded and diverse areas. The south-facing aspects include

open grasslands (created by a fire earlier in the century), cliffbands and isolated aspen stands. Ski lifts and trails, bike trails and access roads now serrate this portion of the drainage. For most of the year humans on skis or bicycles enjoy Vail Ski Resort's "back bowls" which inundate more than one-third of the Two Elk drainages.

Despite this disturbance, the last lynx confirmed to exist in Colorado was found near Two Elk Creek, and lynx have been reported in the drainage as recently as 1991. Super Vail would fracture what remains of the Two Elk roadless area, possibly the home of one of the last remaining lynx populations in the southern Rockies.

The Forest Service decision to approve Super Vail allows VA to increase its skiable terrain by nearly 1,000 acres. The supervisor's decision called for clearcutting and selective thinning of old-growth stands for ski trails and lift access. To add insult to injury, Sonny recommended road construction through a lush old-growth stand for timber hauling, rather than using the resort's well-maintained road system and driving through the community of Vail. The Forest Service appears to believe that the remaining lynx in the Two Elks drainage are less likely to be disturbed by the bulldozers and 80,000-pound logging trucks than are many of Vail's affluent residents.

In a political maneuver of the lowest class, the supervisor is also attempting to change the White River Forest Plan so as to avoid violating his own standards. In a classic case of, "If you can't beat the law then rewrite it," the Forest Service began to eliminate the minimum habitat requirement for the lynx. The proposed Super Vail expansion may push the species below a 40 percent habitat capability requirement

which would violate the Forest Plan. Rather than following common sense and protecting a critical piece of habitat, the Forest Service bent over for the ski industry by erasing the standard. The forest plan amendment, if allowed, would let the Forest Service rubber stamp Super Vail, even if habitat capability was less than 40 percent.

Environmental groups from Colorado have long called for the protection of this land. Timber harvest and roading in the Two Elk drainage was stopped in 1974, and wilderness characteristics were explored sometime thereafter. The Forest Service continues to manage this land with an emphasis on ski resort development, despite continued pressure to manage it for wildlife and wilderness characteristics.

The most recent expansion approval was appealed by locals and environmental groups throughout Colorado. The appeal resulted in a remanded decision and significant delays. VA's projection to begin construction in the summer of 1996 was never met. Eight months later, after supplemental analysis and significant public demonstration, the Forest Service is still attempting to approve this devastating proposal.

Public comment on the Forest Service's attempted forest plan amendment is now being solicited. Send written comments to Loren Kroenke, Holy Cross Ranger District, POB 190, Minturn, Colorado 81654. Let him know the forest plan should not be altered to allow for VA's expansion. The 40 percent standard is not enough; its elimination is simply unacceptable. This amendment sets a bad and dangerous precedent. The project should be amended to fit within the law, and the law should not be changed to accommodate Vail's profit-hungry dreams.



BIG ACTIONS IN THE BIG WOODS

BY ERIC CARLSON

Big Woods Earth First! struck another blow to the forest destroyers and the bureaucracy which facilitates the destruction of the last of Minnesota's northern wilderness. Stung by the winter road blockade at the Little Alfie timber sale, the US Forest Service has delayed logging on 38 additional sites sold illegally. Many of these sites, each equating to 23 acres, have stands of rare, old red and white pine. The Forest Service's reassessments proved to be a direct result of our actions at Little Alfie.

In mid-December, braving subzero temperatures, a group of 30 forest defenders successfully turned away a logging company headed for 3,500 pines slated for execution. The activists had acquired internal memos "hidden from public file" which stated that the sale compromised the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). Little Alfie naturally regenerated after a forest fire some 115 years ago. However, only trees 120-years old are considered under old-growth protection guidelines—another five years and no death sentence.

Approximately one to two percent of the ancient forests in Minnesota remain uncut and only three percent of the white pines have reached ages over 120 years old. Pines can live up to 400 years.

Mother black bears use the older white pines as baby sitters for their cubs. The cubs easily climb the solid

furrows around the trunk and take refuge in the crown. Also, researchers have found that 80 percent of eagle and osprey make their nests in the sturdy branches of the white pines.

After Little Alfie, the Forest Service reviewed 500 sites, encompassing 11,500 acres in the Superior National Forest, which had already been sold to the timber industry. About 800 acres will receive a reprieve until next winter.

The Forest Service sold off most of this wilderness to timber and paper giants, Potlatch and Boise Cascade. Potlatch has doubled its timber consumption and predicts that by 1999, a square-mile of trees will be cut each day in Minnesota's North Woods. An aspen monoculture is the farm of choice for these greedy companies. Aspen have contiguous root systems and grow fast in clearcut areas. The biodiversity of the forests, white pines, balsam, etc. is being replaced by a wake of aspen stumps no more than six inches in diameter.

Just one week after the Sierra Club cut a deal with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to back off on its commitment to contest the 100 percent expansion of Potlatch in exchange for some white pine protection on state lands, Big Woods Earth First! challenged that agreement and reaffirmed our no com-



Big Woods EF! and Greenpeace inflate a 30-foot chainsaw at Canton Lumber to protest redwood sales.

Photo by Bill Busse

promise position at the Forest Resource Council.

The Forest Resource Council, appointed by the governor, represents the forest product industries, USFS, hunters and the compromise environmental groups—Nature Conservancy and Audobon. The council was mandated by the Minnesota legislature to provide voluntary recommendations to the forest industry and government agencies regarding forest management. In other words, the council does little more than formalize the status quo for industry.

Big Woods Earth First! will hold a regional rendezvous and action training over Memorial Day Weekend. Contact Big Woods EF! at 2441 Lyndale South, Mnpls, MN 55405; (612)871-7110; paarise@mtn.org.

ADC KILLS FOR SAM DONALDSON

BY PATT WOLFF

A New Mexico wildlife activist has won her Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit forcing the federal government to release documents detailing taxpayer-financed wildlife killing on ranches owned by ABC newsman Sam Donaldson and Congressman Joe Skeen.

Patricia Wolff filed FOIA requests for the documents in July and August, 1996. After waiting six months for the documents to be released, Wolff hired attorney Steve Sugarman to sue the federal government in US District Court in Santa Fe for violation of the federal FOIA law.

"The release of the documents helps us show the kind of government assistance that freeloading welfare ranchers like Skeen and Donaldson are getting for their livestock operations, at the expense of taxpayers and wildlife," Wolff said. "This is a victory for all citizens who've had to contend with lawless bureaucrats and government agencies."

The released documents include agreements, signed by Sam Donaldson, requesting federal Animal Damage Control (ADC) agents to kill coyotes, bobcats, mountain lions and black bears on his Lincoln County, New Mexico, sheep ranch. Killing methods authorized by Donaldson included leghold traps, neck snares, denning (killing coyote pups in their dens), shooting, M-44 sodium cyanide poisons and aerial gunning.

The documents also show that between October 1, 1991, and July 31, 1996, ADC agents made 412 visits to Donaldson's ranch. One ADC agent reported spending 1,296 hours, or 162 staff days, working on Donaldson's behalf. Between 1991 and 1996, ADC agents reported they killed 74 coyotes, three bobcats and two foxes for Donaldson.

According to the released documents, New Mexico Congressman Joe Skeen also asked ADC to kill coyotes, bobcats, mountain lions and black bears on his Lincoln County ranch, using the same methods authorized on the Donaldson ranch. Between October 1, 1991, and July 31, 1996, ADC agents reportedly made 99 visits to Skeen's ranch and worked there for 315 hours, including 16.4 hours of aerial hunting. During that entire period, ADC reported killing only three coyotes.

"I'm suspicious of the numbers on these reports," Wolff said. "Either they did not fully report what they were killing or they spent half their time sleeping in their trucks. But if you accept their reports as truthful, federal agents made 412 visits to Sam Donaldson's ranch and killed 79 wild critters on his behalf and also made 99 visits to Joe Skeen's ranch to kill three coyotes."

Exactly how much these activities cost taxpayers was not disclosed, but Wolff estimates the work done on behalf of Donaldson and Skeen alone probably amounted to a subsidy of at least \$100,000.

TAKING THE WILD OUT OF THE WOLF

BY SOREN WUERTH

By a 7-0 vote, the Alaska Board of Game recently passed a controversial wolf sterilization plan that proposes to protect the Fortymile Caribou herd. They expect to share the plan as a model for game management in other areas.

The plan to sterilize wolves was billed as a political compromise among a "team" of local hunters, Native representatives, government officials and environmentalists who began meeting in 1994. The team's goal is to increase the size of the Fortymile Caribou herd that roams the boreal-forested interior east of Fairbanks and across into Canada.

An earlier, controversial plan to artificially inflate the herd size by killing wolves was withdrawn in 1992, when critics showed that the herd was getting larger without "management." This time around, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) gathered its first, pulling together a team of 20 representatives from various groups.

During the initial meetings, one of the four people invited to represent the environmental position was so disgusted with the plan, she resigned. Later, the Alaska Wildlife Alliance also resigned and released Dr. Gordon Haber's technical review, "Caribou and Wolves in the Fortymile Region of Alaska."

Haber, a wildlife scientist with 30 years of field experience observing wolves, charged that the ADFG did not accurately depict the benefits of the plan. He said the entire plan is based on the false premise that there is a problem with the caribou herd. He says caribou should be viewed as a single, expansive population since various herds often merge with one another. For example, this winter 50,000 caribou from the Nelchina herd merged with the Fortymile herd.

Nevertheless, ADFG biologist Craig Gardner, who has tirelessly crusaded for wolf control and publicly encouraged the trapping of wolves in the Fortymile area, promotes the "Fortymile Caribou Management

Plan" with unrelenting zeal.

Meanwhile, trapping in the area has intensified. According to ADFG, last year 128 wolves were killed, about half the number of all the wolves inhabiting the area. Most of the animals were tortured and killed by "saturation" snares. This draconian method—walls of nearly invisible wire that clutch and constrict around wolf legs, moose muzzles, eagles wings, etc.—helped make ADFG famous in 1995 when video clips of a hapless ADFG biologist shooting snared wolves was aired by CNN into America's living rooms. (Using a small-caliber gun, it took the biologist five shots to kill a wolf caught in a snare.)

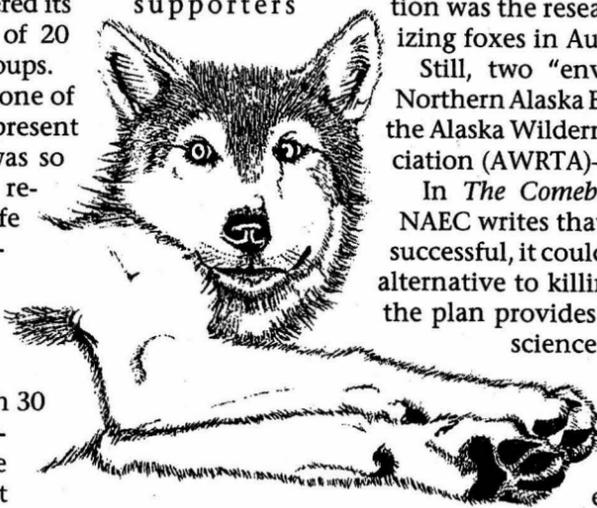
While trapping is also included as part of the plan, the new proposal is marketed as "non-lethal" wolf control. At their first—and only—public hearing in Anchorage, the Fortymile Plan team told a skeptical crowd that the best evidence they had for the success of field sterilization was the research of a university student sterilizing foxes in Australia.

Still, two "environmental" organizations—the Northern Alaska Environmental Center (NAEC) and the Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association (AWRTA)—continue to support the plan.

In *The Comeback Trail*, Ronnie Rosenberg of NAEC writes that "should wolf sterilization prove successful, it could be utilized in other settings as an alternative to killing. Thus, as a secondary benefit, the plan provides the opportunity to advance the science of wildlife management while simultaneously saving animal lives."

AWRTA, the state's eco-tourism confederation, has yet to explain its involvement in the un- and inhumane plan. Its role is curious, considering that eco-tourism businesses were the ones most impacted by the Boycott Alaska campaign that began when former Governor Wally Hickel launched a massive, state-funded wolf kill program in 1992.

Excerpted from *Wild Voices*. To receive a copy, write POB 230916, Anchorage, AK 99523; (907) 566-2468. For more info contact the Alaska Wildlife Alliance, POB 202022, Anchorage, AK 99520; (907) 277-0897; fax (907) 277-7423; e-mail: awa@akcache.com.



PLUTONIUM: NASA PROBE

BY KARL GROSSMAN

It was brighter than the brightest star, said John Van der Brink, and had a tail about 12 times the width of the full moon with "sparkling bits sort of coming off the back of it. This was an extraordinarily spectacular event." From his vantage point in the mountains of northern Chile, where he and his wife had gone to watch meteors, he had "no illusions that it was anything other than a piece of space debris," falling to Earth through the ink black night sky.

What Van der Brink, recently retired as an electronics specialist from the European Southern Observatory in Chile, and other eyewitnesses saw last November 16 was Russia's Mars '96 space probe descending along a swath of Chile and Bolivia and scattering its remains across a 10,000-square-mile area. The probe carried about a half pound of deadly plutonium divided into four battery canisters that were to serve as electricity sources for Mars rovers. Like their US counterparts, the containers were touted as sufficiently strong and heat resistant to remain intact, no matter what. The US is now admitting that may not have been the case.

"Named after Pluto, god of the underworld, [plutonium] is so toxic that less than one-millionth of a gram, an invisible particle, is a carcinogenic dose," emphasized Dr. Helen Caldicott, president emerita of Physicians for Social Responsibility. "One pound, if uniformly distributed, could hypothetically induce lung cancer in every person on Earth."

The National Security Council's director of legislative affairs, Gordon Bendick, discounted the dangers, "If [the canisters] burned up in the atmosphere, bottom line here, if they weren't heat resistant enough to stand

NUCLEAR

what I would call a nonstandard reentry pattern, the release was maybe up to 200 grams of plutonium, which is like a drop of blood in the Pacific Ocean. There is no environmental problem with a couple of hundred grams.... If in fact this thing survived reentry into the atmosphere and came down and crash impacted on the earth—they were meant to penetrate the earth, much as the containers with the plutonium-238 were meant to penetrate Mars, their original target—they'll never be found. And even if they did and were found, people could walk around with them in their pants pockets for the rest of their lives and never be bothered.... If it became particulate matter after diffusing in the atmosphere, burned plutonium would be much similar to open air testing that the French did in the Pacific as recently as a few years ago." Nor was that possibility dangerous, since "we can find no positive causal link" between radioactivity released in atomic bomb testing done by the US in Utah, for example, and cancer, Bendick claimed.

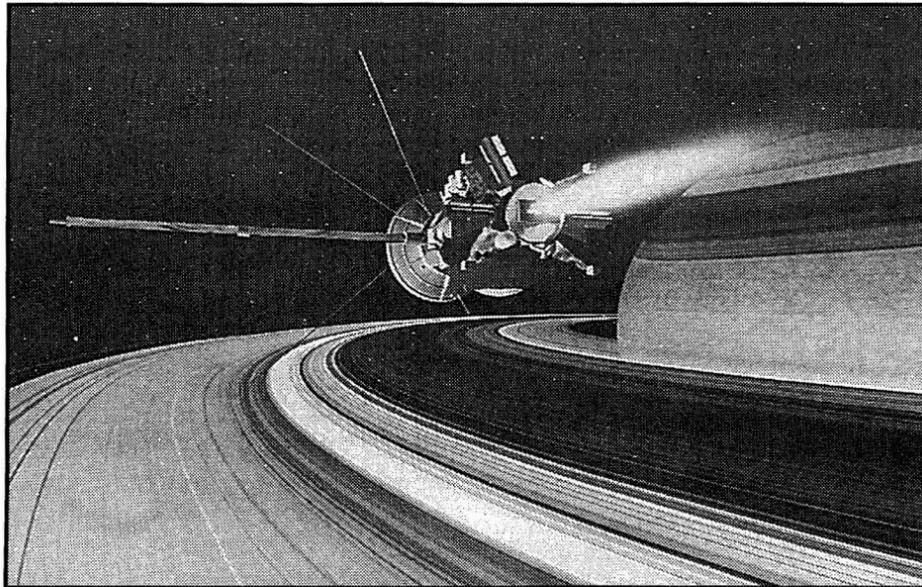
Such serenity did not always reign. When the US Space Command announced on November 17, 1996, that the wayward Russian probe "will reenter the Earth's atmosphere... with a predicted impact point... in east-central Australia" in a matter of hours, President Bill Clinton telephoned Australian Prime Minister John Howard. He offered the "assets we have in the Department of Energy" to deal with any radioactive contamination.

Howard placed the Australian military and government on full alert and held a press conference to inform the Australian people of the potential danger. The US television networks all featured stories on their Sunday evening news programs. "Mars probe expected to fall within hours," reported CNN.

Russian Space Agency spokesman Vladimir Ananyev admitted, "We've got a problem." Russian NTV television reported, "Unburned bits of the station could hit the Earth. To make matters worse the station has four thermoelectric generators fueled by radioactive plutonium."

November 17 but the night before.

Months later, the fate of the probe and the plutonium it carried remains unclear. The US, which gave a presidential-level pledge of "assets" to Australia to deal with any radioactive contamination when it looked like the probe was falling on Australia, was not



Cassini is scheduled to reach Saturn in July 2004.

Back in Australia, some people "hit the panic button when President Clinton rang the Prime Minister," reported the *Irish Times* from Adelaide: A "national crisis" had been "sparked by this interplanetary ballistic bungle." Others hit the bottle: "A barkeeper in the tiny outback town of Tibooburra offered his customers free beer after officials announced the probe might land in a nearby swamp."

In fact, belying its motto of "Masters of Space," the US Space Command—the arm of the US Air Force charged with space warfare and tracking manmade objects in space—had made the first of a series of blunders. Through November 17, the day after the Mars '96 space probe had already fallen on South America, the Space Command remained focused down under.

The succession of errors caused "a government source" to tell *Space News*, "I think it's a real black eye for the US Space Command and their space tracking capabilities."

In fact, on November 17, the Space Command made another not-so-masterly prediction: The probe would fall not on Australia, but to the east, in the Pacific. It then updated this report with news that Mars '96 had fallen in the Pacific just west of South America—between Easter Island the coast of Chile. "The Mars '96 probe landed in the water," heralded *USA Today*. "That means the radioactive batteries in its lander vehicles with their... ounces of potentially lethal plutonium, lie at the bottom of the ocean."

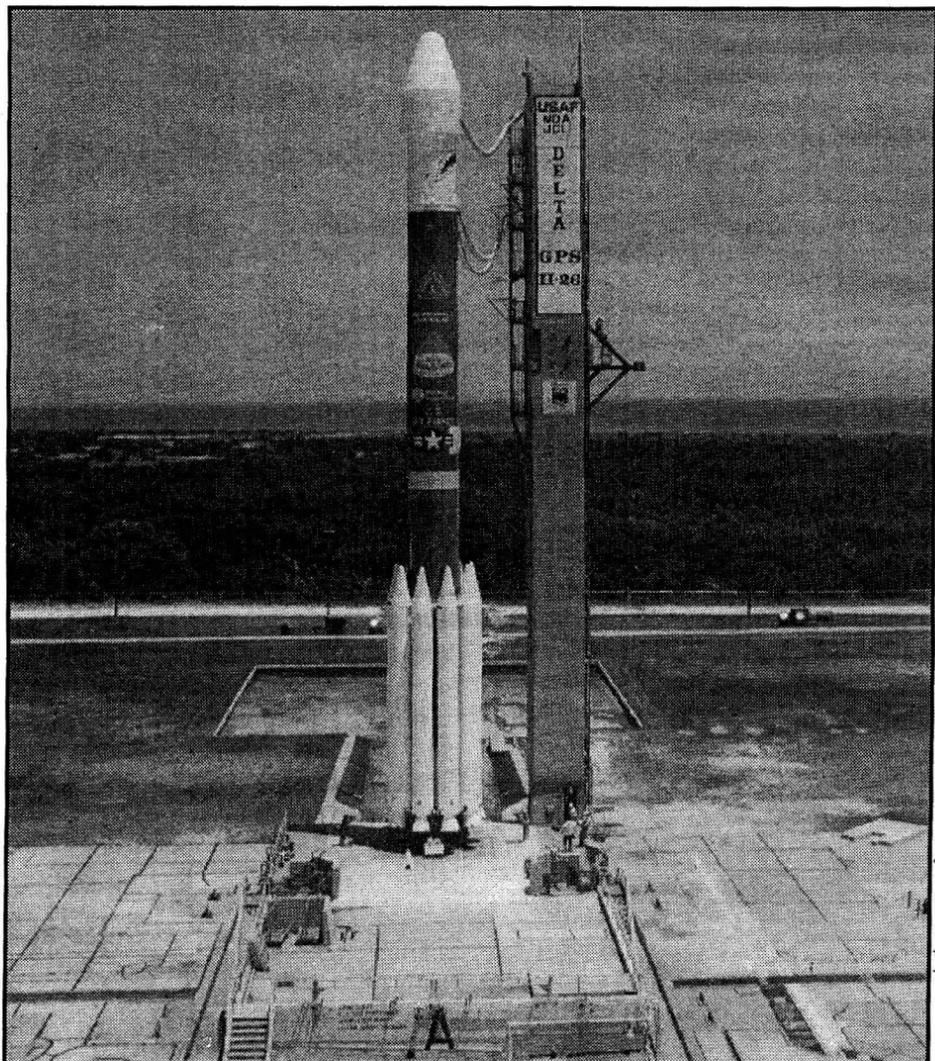
Prime Minister Howard went before Australia's House of Representatives, "It does appear that what we all have is a happy ending to the saga of the Russian spacecraft." The *Washington Post* ran the headline: "Errant Russian Spacecraft Crashes Harmlessly After Scaring Australia."

They were all wrong. On November 29, 12 days later, the US Space Command completely revised its account yet again. It changed not only where but also when the probe fell—not off South America but on Chile and Bolivia, and not on No-

providing any major assistance to Chile or Bolivia. Dr. Luis Barrera, an astrophysicist and director of the Astronomy Institute at the Universidad Catolica del Norte, suspects NASA doesn't want too much attention paid to the crash because bad publicity might impact NASA's already controversial plan to launch a record 72.3 pounds of plutonium on its Cassini probe scheduled for October.

While the Mars '96 accident was an embarrassment to the Russian space program and the US Space Command, as well a potential nightmare for the region affected, it "is a gift to those who would challenge the Cassini mission and other nuclear-powered space missions," commented Steve Aftergood, a senior research analyst for the Federation of American Scientists. "It reminds us all that not only can accidents happen, but they do happen with disturbing regularity."

Bringing that message home in a spectacular way was the January 17, 1997, explosion of a Delta II rocket lofting a \$40-million Air Force navigational satellite. The 12-story, \$55-million rocket blew up 13 seconds after launch, turning the windy sky over the Cape Canaveral Air Station into a distinctly unpatriotic Fourth-of-July-style fireworks display. "Take cover immediately from falling debris," announced an Air Force officer over the public address system at the launch site. "I say again, take cover immediately from falling debris." As the burning fragments descended over a wide area, a cloud of toxic chemicals formed above the site and began drifting out to sea, then back to land and then south along Florida's Atlantic Coast. It contained nitrogen tetrozide and monomethylhydrazine, components of the rocket's fuel—both described by NASA documents as "deadly if a person comes into contact" with them. Residents as far south as Vero Beach, 100 miles away, were told by the Cape Canaveral officials to stay inside, close all windows and doors, and turn off air conditioning and heating units. At the Cape Canaveral Elementary School, Brad



Cape Canaveral, Florida

PUTS LIFE ON EARTH AT RISK

Smith, a fourth and fifth-grade teacher, described the cloud as having "weird purples and blues and reds." He said he pushed wet paper towels under the door to his classroom to keep the rocket fumes away from his students.

The accident occurred just where a Titan IV rocket is scheduled to launch the Cassini probe carrying 72.3 pounds of plutonium, more than has ever

312 miles above the Earth's surface. But if there is a miscalculation or malfunction and it comes in too close and undergoes what NASA calls an "inadvertent reentry," it could burn up upon hitting the 75-mile high atmosphere, spreading plutonium over a wide area.

NASA PR material gives the impression that even then, the plutonium would not be dispersed as cancer-

cal quantity of a potent alpha-emitting cancer producer. The number of cancer doses is so high as to make calculations extraneous. Scientists and engineers in control of their faculties would surely have eliminated this project from their agenda. Yet it appears that is not the case."

Of the 25 known US space missions involving nuclear power there have been three accidents. The Soviet and now Russian failure rate has been the same: about 15 percent. That includes the Soviet Cosmos satellite which in 1978 disintegrated as it crashed to Earth over Northwest Canada, leaving a swath of nuclear debris over tens of thousands of square miles. Recent US space probe missions involving plutonium were Galileo (with 50 pounds of plutonium onboard) launched in 1989, and Ulysses (with 25 pounds) in 1990. Indeed, carrying up Ulysses and its plutonium was to be the next mission of the ill-fated Challenger in 1986.

Moreover, plutonium-power is not necessary for the Cassini mission. Solar photovoltaic energy could substitute to generate the mere 745 watts of electricity that the plutonium-powered system is to provide. In 1994 the European Space Agency announced a "technology milestone," a "breakthrough" in "high efficiency" photovoltaic solar cells specifically for use on deep space probes.

Global Networks' Gagnon says an additional reason NASA insists on using nuclear power on Cassini "beyond

its operations with the Pentagon to keep its funding up, and continues to "work in step with the military."

General Joseph W. Ashy, commander-in-chief of the US Space Command, told *Aviation Week & Space Technology* recently how the US Air Force intended to "expand into" space. "We will engage terrestrial targets someday—ships, airplanes, land targets—from space. We will engage targets in space, from space... it's politically sensitive, but it's going to happen. Some people don't want to hear this, and it sure isn't in vogue... but—absolutely—we're going to fight *in* space. We're going to fight *from* space and we're going to fight *into* space."

As for the energy for the weaponry that the US military would like to see used in space—such as laser weapons, particle beams and hypervelocity guns—an Air Force report entitled *New World Vistas* released last year said there were "power limitations" for space weapons today. "A natural technology to enable high power is nuclear power in space," asserts the report. "Setting the emotional issues of nuclear power aside, this technology offers a viable alternative for large amounts of power in space."

Despite the danger signs with which Mars '96 and Delta II lit the sky, the Clinton administration is pushing ahead not only with Cassini, but with other nukes in space. In September, the administration announced a national space policy that included the development of nuclear-propelled rockets for military and civilian uses. The Defense Special Weapons Agency will work on "multiple nuclear propulsion concepts" for military missions, while NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center's Advanced Concepts Division, along with Los Alamos National Laboratory, will develop nuclear propulsion for civilian uses.

Meanwhile, at the 14th Symposium on Space Nuclear Power and Propulsion in Albuquerque in January, scientists from Brookhaven National Laboratory recycled a plan to rocket high-level nuclear waste into space. The US government had proposed this same scheme decades ago, but rejected it out of fear that an accident on launch or a fall back to Earth would douse the planet with atomic waste.

Recent events, says Gagnon, "show that despite all the claims by NASA and others, technology can fail, that spacecraft can fall out of the sky and burn up on reentry. The Mars probe accident followed by the Delta II explosion gives us two clear examples of what can happen with Cassini... and Cassini, meanwhile, is one of many nuclear space missions to come—lethal undertakings which we must stop."

US acknowledgment that radiation may well have been released over Chile and Bolivia when the Mars probe nose-dived back to Earth is tacit admission that safety systems are not foolproof.

Says John Pike, director of the Space Policy Project of the Federation of American Scientists: "If you like Mars '96, you'll love Cassini."

Not counting all the other causes of death... we're talking in the order of 10 to 20 million extra deaths.

been used on a space device. According to Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space coordinator Bill Sulzman, the Delta II blowup and other accidents "show that launch and flight failures are routine and that any claim that there is no real danger from Cassini is false. In fact, adding nuclear cargo to the situation is a setup for catastrophe."

The Cassini probe is to be launched on a Titan IV rocket despite its poor record. In 1993 another Titan IV blew up, 101 seconds after launch, from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, blasting to smithereens an \$800-million spy satellite system it was lofting. "Workhorse, My Foot," was the title of an editorial in *Space News* after that mishap. "The Titan frequently is referred to by its misnomer, the workhorse launcher," said the space industry publication. "But it has proven to be more of a temperamental and ornery show horse."

In the wake of the Mars '96 and Delta II accidents, and with Cassini and other US space projects involving nuclear material planned, the Florida-based Global Network is stepping up its fight against nuclear power in space. In March, it plans a series of gatherings in Europe to rally support and will hold a protest at Florida's Kennedy Space Station on October 4, two days before the proposed Cassini launch. A sit-in on the launch pad to physically prevent the Cassini launch is one of the actions planned, said Bruce Gagnon. "We're talking about attempting to get onto the launch pad through whatever nonviolent means are necessary. We think it's important to try and stop this launch."

Whether or not Cassini explodes or is even launched, its use of radioactive material has already done damage. In July 1996, Los Alamos National Laboratory reported increased contamination of workers and equipment and cited work on Cassini's plutonium-fueled systems as the primary cause.

If the Cassini mission goes forward, many more people could be impacted. The initial danger is that a blowup on launch could break open or melt the plutonium-carrying canisters and spread radioactivity. The second potential flash point is the "slingshot maneuver" planned for 1999. In this "flyby" scheme, 22 months after launch, NASA will swing Cassini back toward Earth in order to use the planet's gravitational force to gain enough velocity to propel the probe on to Saturn, its final destination. During that passover, Cassini is to fly just

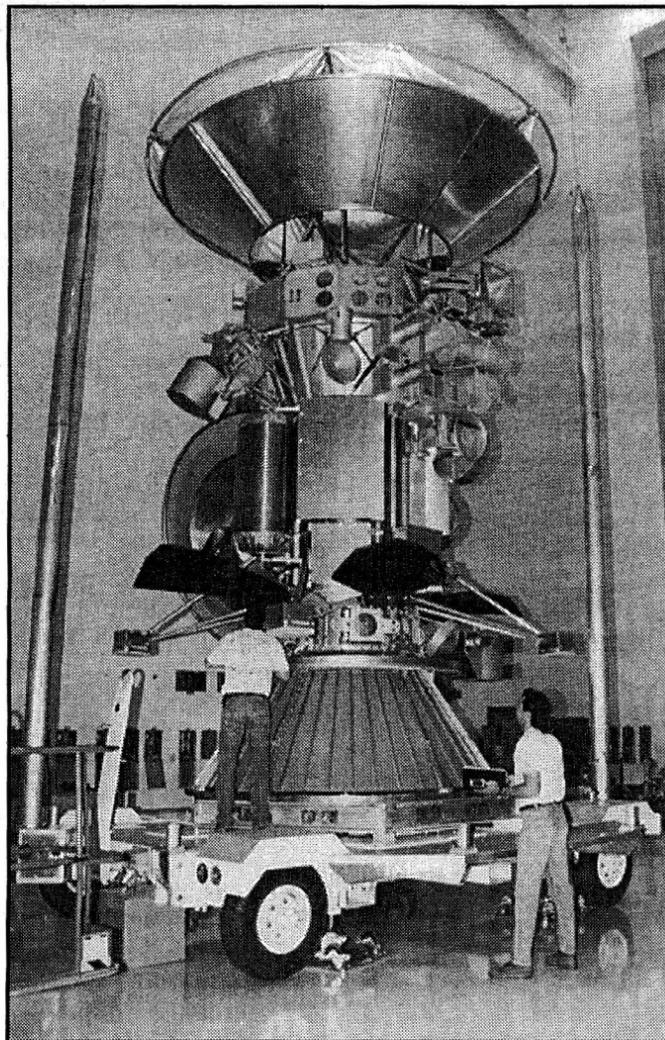
causing vapor and respirable particles. But, in fact, the space agency's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Cassini Mission totally contradicts that, saying, if the Cassini probe dips into the Earth's atmosphere during the "flyby," a sizable portion of the plutonium fuel would be released, including much of it as "vapor or respirable particles."

The Cassini Mission FEIS says that if there is such an "inadvertent reentry" during the planned Earth "flyby" of Cassini on August 16, 1999, and the probe breaks up dispersing plutonium, "approximately five billion of the estimated seven to eight billion world population... could receive 99 percent or more of the radiation exposure."

As for the death toll, NASA says in its FEIS that despite the radiation exposure, which it acknowledges could impact billions of people, only 2,300 cancer deaths would "occur over a 50-year period to this exposed population."

However, Dr. Ernest Sternglass, professor emeritus of radiological physics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, after his review of the data contained in NASA's FEIS, said that "they underestimate the cancer alone by about 2,000-4,000 times. Which means that not counting all the other causes of death—infant mortality, heart disease, immune deficiency diseases and all that—we're talking in the order of ten to 20 million extra deaths." Considering the additional potential causes of death, the total death toll "may be as much as 30 to 40 million people."

Dr. John Gofman, professor emeritus of radiological physics at the University of California at Berkeley, says just the amount of plutonium NASA admits could be dispersed in a "flyby" accident "represents an astronomi-



The Cassini spacecraft in the Payload Hazardous Servicing Facility

pressure from DOE, the national nuclear laboratories and Lockheed Martin and the nuclear industry" is the "military connection." The Pentagon is seeking to use nuclear power for weaponry in space. NASA, seeing its funding shrink with the end of the Apollo moon missions of the 1960s and early 1970s, began coordinating

Photo courtesy of NASA



Direct Action Disrupts Russian Nuker

BY VLADIMIR SLIVYAK

About 25 activists blockaded the office building of the Siemens AG company in Moscow on Tuesday, March 25. The action was organized by the Antinuclear Campaign of Socio-Ecological Union and members of Rainbow Keepers. Activists chained themselves to the entrance of the building with handcuffs and banners reading, "No more reactors!" and "Siemens' death."

After more than an hour the police arrested about six activists who were released two hours later without being charged. The blockade succeeded in stopping all the work of Siemens' office for a day. As a Siemens' representative told the protesters, "We've lost a large medical equipment contract because of this action."

"Siemens' contracts are dirty business. Siemens is involved in the construction of a new nuclear reactor, VVER-640, near the Leningrad nuclear plant. They'd never construct the same reactor in Germany, as they told the German media. Siemens is lobbying the European Commission for a loan to complete two old, Soviet-designed reactors at the Kalinin and Rostov nuclear sites. But these projects have met local resistance and are illegal under Russian laws. We're calling for a boycott of Siemens everywhere in the ex-USSR," said Vladimir Sliviak of the Socio-Ecological Union's Antinuclear campaign, Eurasia's largest nongovernmental environmental organization campaigning against new nuclear reactors and Siemens in Russia.

"We'll not stop this campaign until Siemens will get out of this country and the dirty nuclear business in Russia and Eastern Europe," added Sliviak.

For more information, contact the Socio-Ecological Union's Antinuclear Campaign-Siemens boycott, POB 211, 121019 Moscow, Russia; 7-095-298-3087.



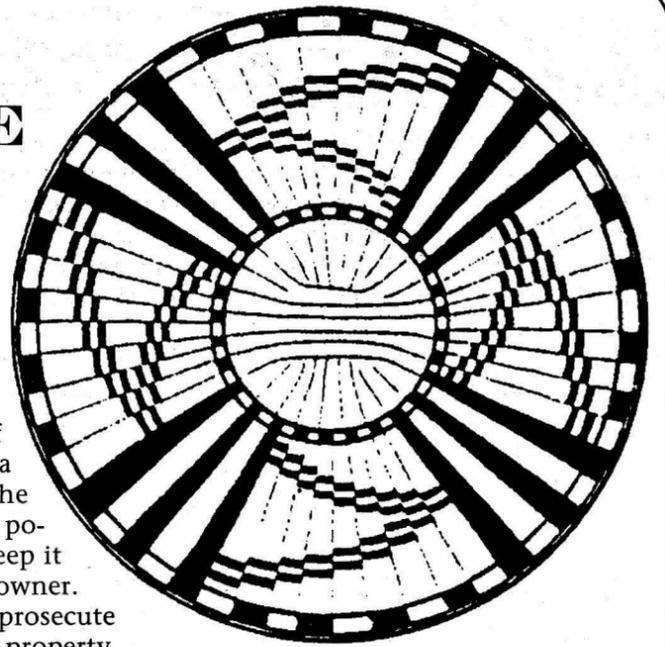
NUXALK REPATRIATE STOLEN TIMBER

Timber stolen from the Nuxalk Nation (an indigenous people from the west coast of Canada) was recovered from a UK timber yard on April 9. The timber was handed over to the police who have been asked to keep it while investigating the rightful owner. They have also been asked to prosecute the yard for handling stolen property. The Nuxalk have never sold or ceded their lands, signed them away by treaty, or lost them in battle, so they consider the timber to be rightfully their property.

About 40 activists from Forest Action Network UK invaded the seven-acre yard of International Timber in Manchester. They climbed the roof of the storage sheds with banners saying, "Stop Buying Stolen Timber," and, "Interfor and Mac-Blo: Timber Thieves," while other activists below reclaimed 15 or so planks of western red cedar. Four Nuxalk, including Hereditary Chiefs Qwatsisnas, Snuxyaltwa and Kw'puts dressed in traditional regalia and assembled outside the yard to witness the liberation of their property.

While hard-hats looked on in disbelief, assorted police and their cars arrived and milled around, not quite able to cope with the fact that the protesters tried to hand them the timber.

The timber, shipped by Interfor and MacMillan Bloedel (two large corporations which clearcut on Nuxalk lands), was carried to the local police station.



After an hour of negotiation, Chief Inspector Kirby finally issued a receipt for the timber and retained it in the station. However, he refused to talk to the Nuxalk people, as he was clearly uncomfortable with what was becoming a (minor) international incident. On the following day, the police told the Forest Action Network that they were talking with the Canadian Embassy as they were uncertain how to proceed.

The protesters insist that International Timber, its parent company Meyer International and all other companies handling timber from the Canadian rainforest, should be prevented from selling anymore until the issue of legal ownership of the timber has been dealt with.

For more information contact the Forest Action Network UK at 4 Kingsley House, Avonmore Place, London, England, W14 8RY; phone +44 171 602 5889; e-mail: wildwood@gn.apc.org or higgs@envirolink.org; <http://www.envirolink.org/orgs/fan/uk>.

German Mass Movement Resists Nuke Shipment GORLEBEN ACTION!

The first week of March saw the biggest mobilization ever of police in peacetime Germany as they forced through a shipment of nuclear waste containers to the storage depot at Gorleben, near Hamburg.

Over 30,000 police were mobilized for the operation which began when six storage flasks (Castors) were moved from their base at Neckar Westheim in southern Germany the previous Friday. Protests took place during the weekend, with 30,000 people marching from Luneburg and transport links being sabotaged. The flasks were moved by train as far as Dannenburg, where they were confronted by 3,000 people. The tracks were cut through and people cemented themselves to the rails, delaying the arrival by over eight hours.

For the last 15 kilometers to Gorleben, the Castors were loaded onto specific reinforced lorries to travel by road. They were confronted by massive resistance. Of the two possible routes, one was made impassable by 50 tractors belonging to local farmers. Tunnels were dug under the road as well. The other route was lined with police virtually the whole way, and a new law was passed making it illegal to go within 50 meters of the road.

At midnight on Monday the police began moving more than 4,000 people who were sitting in front of the gates near the Castors, initially by picking them up, then hosing them with a water cannon and finally by drawing truncheons on them. Some people

dangled from the trees above the Castors. It took over eight hours to remove them all. When the Castors were finally ready to move, thousands of people who had been staying in different camps near the route were mobilized, employing various tactics. The Castors were confronted by 1,000 Autonome (German anarchist types) who erected burning barricades in the field outside the village of Quickborn. A full-scale battle ensued, with the German state employing helicopters, water cannon and armored cars to force the transports through.

Finally, a group of 50 protesters managed to get through to the Castors, and one man locked onto the trucks. At one point, riot police who had tried to slash the tires of tractors blocking the road, were chased away by a crowd of over 100 people and then had to be rescued by helicopter! Because the route was so heavily policed, the Castors were hardly delayed once they had begun, but they got through at an estimated cost of £53 million and with accusations of gross mismanagement by the opposition MPs. It is unlikely that there will be any more transports for two years. With over 60 percent of Germans opposed to nuclear power and thousands prepared to take direct action, it is questionable that the authorities will ever be able to repeat such an action.

Reprinted from *Earth First! Action Update*. To subscribe send £5 to Dept. 29, 1 Newton Street, Manchester, M1 1HW.

LIFE IN SHELL CONTINUES

EarthCulture, a group dedicated to tropical wood-use reduction, led a troop of bicyclists to protest Shell Oil's horrible environmental and human rights track record and their recent proposal to drill in Peru. Seventy-five activists descended upon a Greensboro, NC Shell station on March 23, chanting, holding banners and blocking one of the entrances. The group of bicyclists circled the gas pumps while the media had a field day! Afterward, 20 activists shut the Shell station down by linking arms around the pumps and politely refusing to leave when seven police cars showed up. No arrests were made.

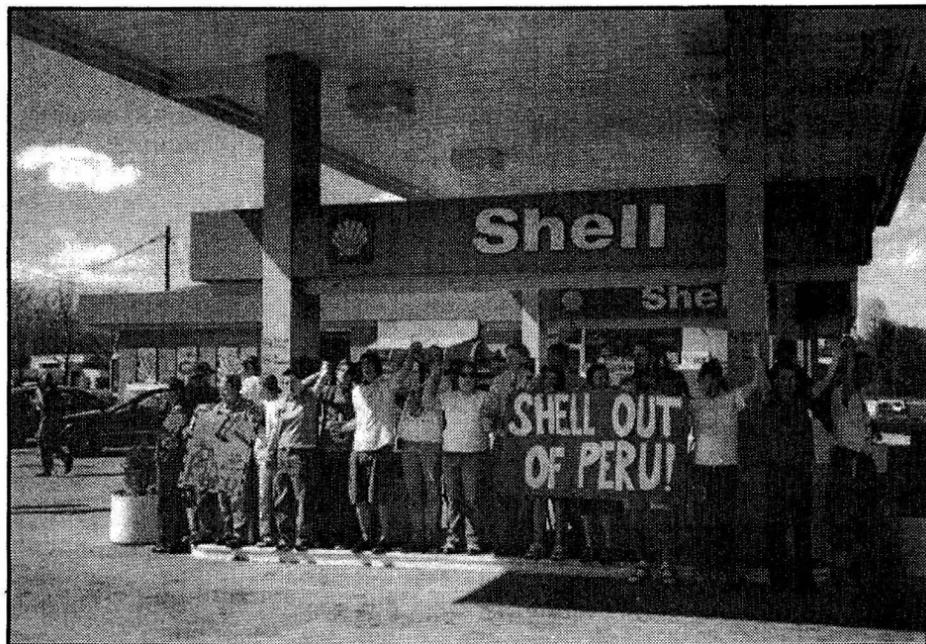
Shell will be drilling for gas this July in an indigenous reserve in Peru, unless we can act quickly to stop them. This \$2.7-billion project will be one of the largest gas operations in South American history. The proposed site is home to the Nahua and Kugapakori peoples, and Shell's presence threatens to displace them from the land, expose them to disease and possibly wipe them out completely.

Shell's disregard for the earth and its peoples is nothing new. International outrage erupted when nine members of the Ogoni tribe were hanged in November, 1995, for opposing Shell's operations in Nigeria. One of those hanged was Nobel Peace Prize nominee, Ken Saro-Wiwa. Eighty anti-Shell demonstrators were shot in a 1990 massacre by Shell-supported guards. Shell also spilled 40 percent more oil in Nigeria from 1982 to 1992 than the Exxon Valdez in Prince William Sound.

If you would like to do a demonstration or get the word out in another way in your area, your help is certainly needed. Contact us and we can send you materials and offer other assistance in setting something up.

You can write Shell's Peruvian headquarters telling them you are opposed to their flagrant disregard for indigenous rights and the rainforests. Write to Alan Hunt, Av. Nicolas Arriola No. 740, Lima 13, Peru; fax 011-5112-242-037.

Contact EarthCulture, POB 4674, Greensboro, NC 27404; (910) 854-2957; <http://sipnsurf.com/~graham/earth.html>.



Greensboro activists blockade a Shell station.

SHELL MERGERS OBSCURE OWNERSHIP "WHICH STATION?"

Shell Oil Company, a Delaware Corporation owned 100 percent by Royal Dutch Shell Group, is "blurring" its corporate identity and environmental responsibility while deepening its pockets with a series of mergers. These mergers will reduce the Shell identity and delegate environmental responsibility down to independent companies where the only beacon is the financial bottom line. This "blurring," using non-Shell company names and merging with AMOCO in Texas, New Mexico and Colorado, Texaco throughout the country and Mobil in California, rids Shell of its corporate responsibility.

Shell has been no environmental friend, but creating these independent operating companies will leave oversight in the hands of local and regional, over-promoted managers who want to make a big name for themselves financially by cutting the bottom line to zero.

Examples are rampant; the leak/spill history of Shell subsidiaries, despite being touted as "reduced" by Shell, is dismal in critical wetlands areas in California. Shell pipeline's compliance record amounts to, "Don't fool with it unless we get caught," and Shell Oil Products has the Martinez spill record and other huge environmental problems in Wood River, Illinois.

Additionally, the blurring of corporate identity makes agencies and lawmakers give the new company the "benefit of the doubt"—not realizing that the same people have been getting by with the same things for decades under a different name. This should be publicized and eliminated. Continual neglect and shabby operating practices, lack of surveillance, lack of repairs and lack of prudent operating controls, shutdowns, corrosion programs for prevention of leaks, etc., should be tracked down and eliminated! Boycott Shell! Boycott Amoco! Boycott Texaco and Mobil! Boycott cars!

TRIBE THREATENS MASS SUICIDE TO PROTEST OIL EXPLORATION

About 4,000 members of the Columbia's U'wa tribe recently threatened to commit mass suicide if oil exploration takes place on their ancestral lands. The indigenous community believes that drilling for oil inflicts wounds on Mother Earth that could have deadly consequences not only for the tribe, but for the whole of humanity.

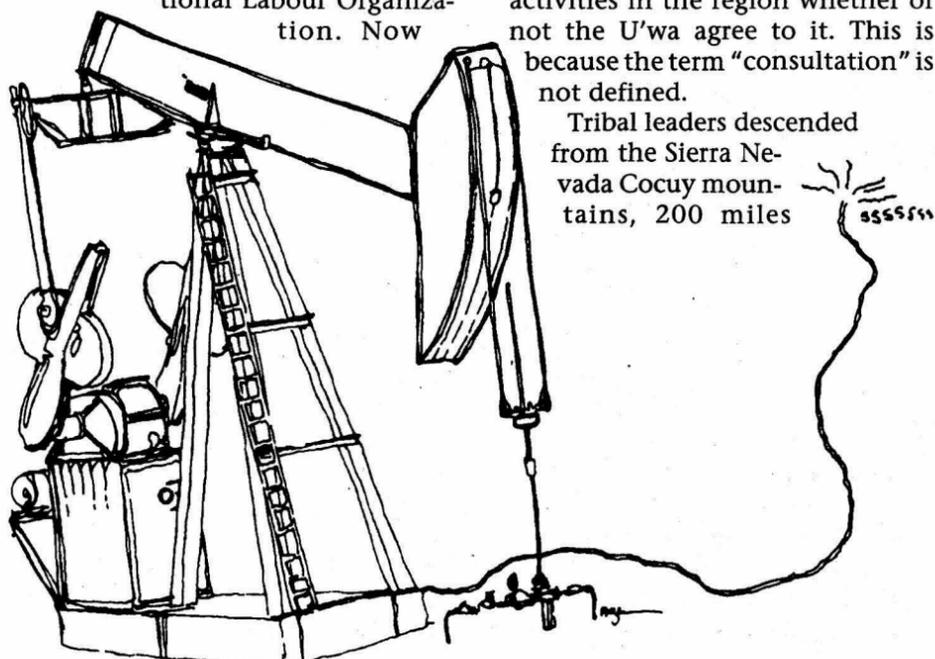
The Colombian Environment Ministry issued an authorization for oil exploration in indigenous territory on the border with Venezuela by Oxy, a branch of the US company Occidental. Multinational oil companies are already active in the areas surrounding the tribal territory. The Constitutional Court of Colombia ruled in February that the necessary consultation process with the U'wa has not occurred. This failure is in violation of the Colombian Constitution and Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization. Now

the government of Colombia has 30 days to carry out the consultation.

"All honorable men and women understand that the path one follows by causing wounds to Mother Earth is a deadly one," said Jose Cobaria, spokesperson for the U'wa, warning that members of the U'wa tribe may be left with no other alternative than collective suicide if drilling goes ahead. He issued an appeal for help from the international community, "so that they help the white man understand the meaning of the life of the people and animals."

According to Carlos Sanchez of the Organizacion Nacional Indigena de Colombia, the decision by the court is not necessarily a good one for the U'wa although it delays exploration. At the end of the 30-day period the government can still unilaterally decide to continue oil activities in the region whether or not the U'wa agree to it. This is because the term "consultation" is not defined.

Tribal leaders descended from the Sierra Nevada Cocuy mountains, 200 miles

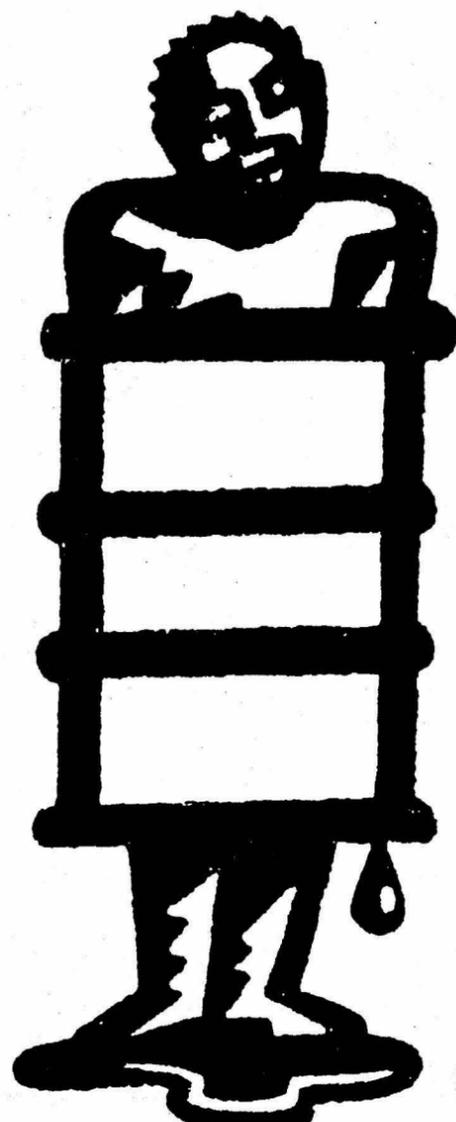


northeast of Bogota to neighboring towns to discuss the court decision. The U'wa consider oil the "blood of mother earth" and say drilling will destroy their culture. They have refused repeated efforts by Occidental to make a deal. "What is sacred we don't sell or negotiate," said Ebaristo Tegria, an U'wa lawyer.

Oxy believes the proposed oil field to be worth billions of dollars, as preliminary seismic tests indicate that the field could contain between 1-2.5 billion barrels of oil. The field could be one of the largest in the hemisphere. Robert Stewart, Occidental's manager of corporate affairs, said, "We wouldn't have gone through all of this if we didn't think the field was worth it."

Please send letters to the President of Colombia, calling on him to respect the rights of the U'wa people and their decision to not allow Occidental to continue its oil activities in their territory.

Please send letters to President Ernesto Samper at fax +571 286 7434, with copies to Minister of the Interior Horacio Serpa Uribe at fax +571 284 0619, Minister of the Environment Jose Vicente Mogollon at fax +571 336 2011 and Organizacion Nacional Indigena de Colombia at fax +571 284 3465; e-mail: onic@colnodo.apc.org.



BIG MOUNTAIN RESISTANCE BUILDING - SEND MORE HELP!

BY EF! SUPPORTERS ON THE LAND

The attack on the Dineh elders and families of Big Mountain has been led by the US Government, Peabody Coal and the Hopi Tribal Council for 24 years. It has been a movement fueled by greed and lies, organized to relocate the Dineh from their sacred ancestral home in order to mine the land for coal.

March 31 marked the deadline for families to sign the highly restrictive "Accommodation Agreement (AA)." In short, those Dineh families who sign are only allowed to live on the land for 75 years, under the complete jurisdiction of the Hopi Tribal Council. The AA also states explicitly that individuals who violate any three laws of the Hopi Tribal Council will be evicted. The laws may be as trivial as wood gathering without a permit, keeping a junker car, etc. Three strikes and you're out! Families who sign the AA essentially forfeit all their freedoms and concede to the fascist dictums of the Hopi Tribal Council. Although both the Navajo and Hopi Tribal Councils were established by the US and don't always represent the values of the traditional people, the Navajo Tribal Council has rejected the AA.

The first weeks of April were marked by intense moments of coercion and harassment of the traditional Dineh families resisting relocation by the Hopi Tribal Council and their lawyers. A number of Dineh signed the AA in fear of losing their culture and land to relocation. About 15 families did not sign the AA because they are unwilling to compromise their lives and the future of the land. The AA was set up to allow only the "head of the household" to sign. According to the government's plan, this one person, the elder, represents much of the extended family.

This means that numerous families are affected because they do not have a voice or any recourse when the head of the household signs. The AA was established to facilitate an agreement between the US and the Hopi Tribal Council. It states that the Hopi Tribal Council will receive \$50.2 million if the Council drops 30 lawsuits against the US and if 85 percent of the families sign. About 75 Dineh heads of household signed the AA which ultimately affected around 270 families. The Hopi Tribal Council was successful in attaining their 85 percent sign quota and the \$50.2-million bounty is forthcoming.

After March 31, the Federal Office of Navajo Hopi Indian Relocation was authorized to issue eviction notices to the resisting families. Representatives from the office began to go to the resisting families to let them know that they have 90 days to decide if they want to voluntarily move. If the families refuse to move, they will be forcibly relocated. Although it is thought that forcible relocation will not occur until after February 1, 2000, no assurances of this have been made. The families of Big Mountain will be relocated to New Lands, the sight of America's largest radioactive spill. Twenty-five percent of the Dineh relocated there have already died.

This does not mean that Big Mountain should be put on the back burner for the next three years! Harassment and impoundment of livestock continues and is likely to escalate during this time period.

Many people disregard what the Hopi Tribal Council has to say, and they believe that the resisting families will be harassed and forcibly removed from their land when the issue is diverted from the media and there is a lag in support on the land. We must counteract this threat with vigilant support on the land and persistent outreach in com-



Git yer butts out here pronto!

munities everywhere and to the media. Forming and improving solid Big Mountain support networks will help to these ends. Calls for support will continue until the harassment and threat of relocation ends. It is crucial for people to know that during the next few months, vital groundwork is being developed between supporters and resisters who are working together to create a foundation that will not be broken!

Pauline Whitesinger, a resisting elder, says, "At this time I am being harassed during religious ceremonies, and I am affected by livestock impoundments. I will not sign because I do not trust the lease agreement. It is because the future generations are threatened with land loss and displacement. This is my position. Please help us." We all must take a serious look at what we can do for these indigenous people. Relocation is genocide for the Dineh!

Those who attended the Earth First! Activist Conference in February will remember hearing Lawrence Altsisi's powerful explanation of the serious predicament he and other Dineh resisters are faced with. In 1988, after 16 years of intense harassment, his family relocated

across the fence line to the Navajo Partitioned lands. Lawrence, who was a legal adult at the time, did not sign away his hogan on the Hopi Partitioned Land. He has remained a resident there ever since. The Hopi Tribal Rangers say he does not exist on the census surveys that were taken, even though he himself was one of the census takers on the land. On January 8, 1997, 13 of his sheep and goats were impounded and he was issued a citation for trespassing by the Hopi Rangers. He had 90 days to leave his land, which has now expired, and he is subject to arrest at anytime. The Hopi Rangers stated that on April 9 his hogan would be bulldozed.

In response to this threat EF!ers and other supporters mobilized to nonviolently defend Lawrence's home. The Direct Action Fund played a key role in supplying vital communications and video equipment for this purpose. April 9 has come and gone with our presence alongside Lawrence and his home. No bulldozers. No Hopi Rangers. This demonstrates that nonviolent witnesses at Big Mountain are effective in preventing, or at least delaying, human rights abuses. Whatever happens at his home will set a precedent for how the other resisting families are treated. Therefore, it is vital that we maintain a stronghold of support at his hogan. There are other Dineh like Lawrence also boldly resisting relocation that need urgent support from our movement.

Corporate interests and governing powers are ripping apart the last of the Dineh's ancient culture. This is a call to stop this intolerable abuse! People should be in contact with their regional Big Mountain Support Group or start one so that the Dineh can have solid outside support. Please, keep your prayers for Big Mountain strong. Those who want to come to the land should be trained in nonviolence, be self sufficient and have the ability to document and witness any form of harassment. Documentation can be more effective with solid communications equipment such as CB's, scanners and handheld radios. It is highly advised to come with a 4x4 or sturdy vehicle. If we maintain a constant presence of support and documentation, the sacred land and culture of Big Mountain will be defended!

Contact Sovereign Dineh Nation at POB 40319, Flagstaff, AZ 86004; (520) 522-8683; fax (520) 522-8741; e-mail: sdn@primenet.com; http://www.primenet.com/~sdn/ or the SDN-Dineh Alliance Sub-Office POB 2889, Window Rock, Az 68515; (505)-371-5551; e-mail: dineh@primenet.com. To hear more about Lawrence's situation write to him: Lawrence Altsisi POB 838, Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039.



PAIN COMPLIANCE HOLDS

BY KIRK MURPHY, M.D.

As activists, we face injuries and threats so a handful of armed thugs can make the trains run on time for those who destroy species, ecosystems and human communities with taxpayer dollars. Ominously, our freedom and personal safety are violated by those with guns and badges so that the timber barons and corporations can hurry and clearcut the nation's forests.

The widely reported use of pain compliance holds (PCHs) against forest defenders engaged in peaceful civil disobedience is unacceptable on many levels. Fundamentally, the use of violence against the passive violates the sacred person and the inalienable rights of the individual being, in this case a human. Violence against the nonviolent violates international law and treaty obligations, medical ethics and the professional standards of the law enforcement community. The aggressor, in the case of forest defenders, is often a Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer (aka Freddie), Bureau of Land Management officer or a private security guard. The officer is also violated, through visceral immersion in sadism—inflicting pain on another to relieve one's distress, arousal and frustration. The community is violated as well, in the sense that its most powerful expression, the willingness of its people to place their bodies in the path of destruction, is marred by violence.

As a physician with formal subspecialty training in treating trauma victims, my eye-witness observation of the routine use of PCHs against nonviolent citizens began in Oregon at the Horse Byars II protest on August 10, 1996. My training in the long-term consequences of PCHs continued as I met and worked with activists at Anpo and Headwaters. I found that many of those who were locked down and out of public view had been subjected to PCHs and deliberate psychological torture involving explicit threats of pain. Law enforcement officers repeatedly threatened to mace those locked down in the face, and there was a single report of a Freddie directly and accurately stating that such a misuse could kill the forest defender!

In addition, many forest defenders reported being deliberately exposed to hypothermia, solar radiation burns, frostbite and other tissue damage by the forcible removal of their protective clothing. Finally, many reports have surfaced from forest defenders that their bodies, limbs, hands and feet were deliberately twisted in a manner which could only lead to immediate pain and potential injury from fracture, rupture or compression of nerves, arteries, veins, bones, muscles and tendons. Eyewitnesses have collaborated that in several incidents across multiple states, Freddies left people in such positions for many minutes or longer and made deliberate statements about the pain and potential injuries caused by such maneuvers.

All of the foregoing reports of violence against forest defenders describe circumstances in which activists were passive and immobile, seated or (more commonly) locked down. I have personally witnessed the repeated and deliberate infliction of pain on citizens engaged in nonviolent civil disobedience. The fact that the Freddies and their local allies were so casual in public is a grave warning: The use of PCHs and other forms of violence has become a routine tactic.

Pain compliance holds can cause pain directly by stretching, flexing or pressuring certain "receptor" nerves, or indirectly by causing numbness, tingling or pain as the nerve cell is starved of nutrients, sends a "false signal," finally no signal, and then, dies. Some of the people I examined showed clinical findings and provided clinical histories which indicated that their nerve injuries, some of which are likely to be permanent, came from the latter: starvation of the nerve through sustained application of force.

How to resist? A little information about nerves may help you decide.

Nerves, like trees, take up nutrients through a net of tubes. If the tubes are blocked, especially the oxygen tube, the nerve will die. It takes brain nerve cells as few as three minutes to die from no oxygen. The time it takes nerve cells in the body to die depends on a person's condition and medi-

cal history. Nerves in people with diabetes, high blood pressure and many other conditions are far easier to kill.

If you can keep the tubes open, however, the nerves will live. Usually nerve roots and stems have no problem staying open. Muscle and fat may be two weapons against the nutrient shut down caused by PCHs. The greater the muscle mass and tone, the easier it will be for that well-toned forest defender to tense up and lock out those probing fingers. My dead chicken physique makes this a clear case of "do as I prescribe, not as I do," but extra sessions of toning may help you and Gaia this season of forest defense. Strength and tone do not equate with definition however; perfectly defined muscles are road maps for the torturers. This brings us to the next paradox: How to stay healthy with (more) fat.

In the long run, fat will kill you. Brain, breast, heart, colon, you name it, the more fat, the sooner the death. Having cleared the obligatory health warning, here's the good news: in the forest, fat is your friend. Fatty insulation (or adipose tissue, for the humor impaired) helps block out both the cold and those probing Freddie fingers, and makes it harder to find and operate tender pressure points. So, put off that crash diet until fall and put on some fat cells in the service of Gaia. Diets can wait, but the forest you save this year may be your own!

Fat and muscle are hard to put on or off the week of an action. Some short-term fixes rely on a few tricks about gates.

Our pain nerves have gates. Most people who slam a hand or foot will instinctively rub vigorously on their leg or arm between the injury and the points further "upstream" (closer to the brain). This behavior is literally hard-wired. Signals from the pressure fibers will drown out the signals of the pain fibers, thus acting as a "gate" which is closed to pain signals. In a lockdown, if you can't rub the injured limb, you may find that tensing the muscle groups "upstream" (closer to the body, farther from toes and fingers) can act to create local pressure and "gate out" the pain signal. Another way to gate out pain signals is to use the new creams based on pepper oils, which cause a heat signal that blocks pain from arthritis or other inflammations and swellings. But, be forewarned, pain is a necessary signal to avoid injury. Use of numbing agents should be avoided by anyone with a systemic medical illness or anyone in extreme conditions of heat, sun, wind or cold in which pain can be a warning of frostbite or other tissue injury.

The other big gate for pain is emotion. Anxiety intensifies pain perception and vice versa. So, "mellowing" one's way through PCHs and other tortures is a useful tool for forest defenders of a meditative nature. Yoga breathing (what us techno MD's call "diaphragmatic breathing" or breathing inward so that your belly goes out away from the spine) is the big tool here. Yoga breathing or other powerful relaxation techniques will decrease pain indirectly by shutting the gate in the brain which must be open if pain signals are to be received. Be patient; the yogis didn't flop down on their beds o' nails the first day they tried to meditate, so this technique must be practiced before an action in order to be effective.

Exercise, meditate or eat. Any other prescriptions?

Well, actually, yes. It turns out that PCHs are not intended to be used for anything other than apprehension of fleeing subjects or subduing violent people. As of this writing, the preliminary data about Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer training is that such

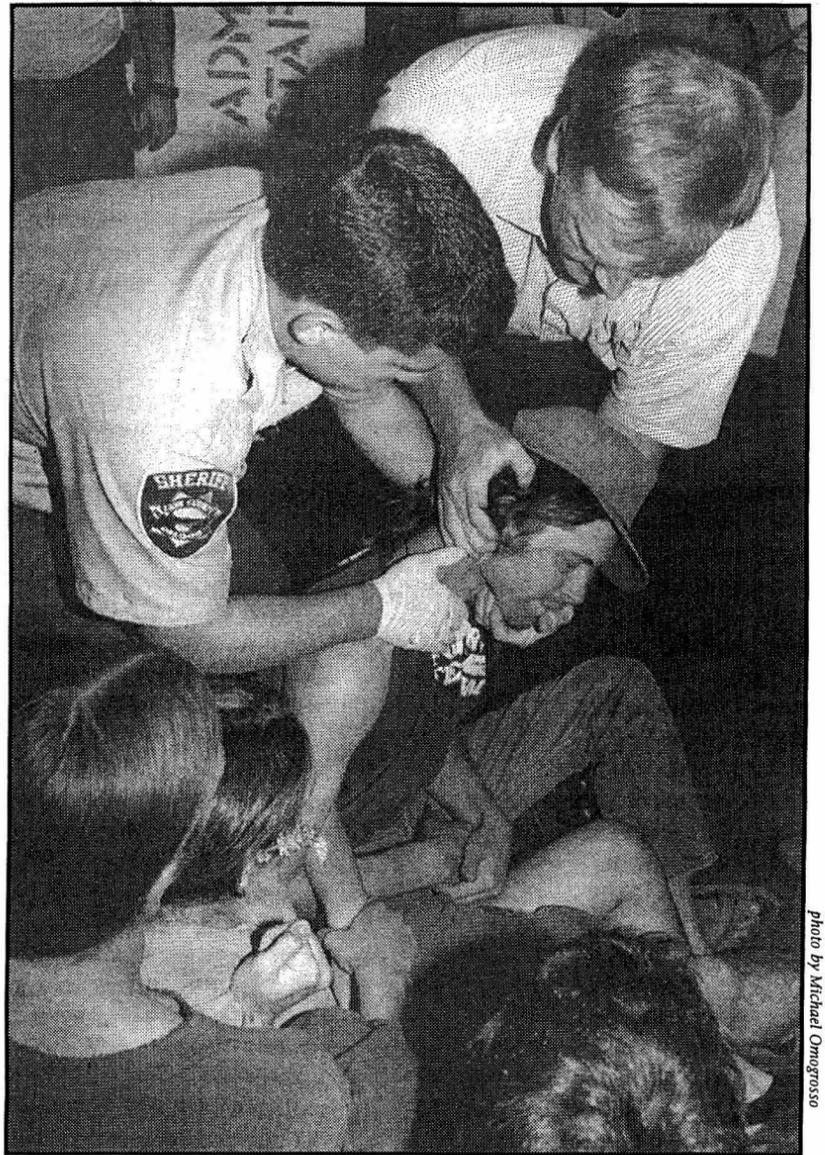


Photo by Michael Omrogson

Breathe Grasshopper, the pain is only in your head.

techniques are not taught to be applied in a sustained or lengthy fashion. This fact was heartily endorsed by a senior federal law enforcement official, who commented to me on the relative rarity of the need to use such techniques. He shared my opinion that PCHs should never be used on a nonviolent, passive citizen.

The other prescription for the control of PCHs is to scream bloody murder when you feel, hear of see their use. Scream at the officer and his or her co-conspirators on site. Remind them that when locked down you or your supportee are neither violent nor a flight risk. Remind them that they are violating your civil rights and their own policy and sworn oath, and that they will pay heavily in civil court.

Scream to your support team, local media and activist network. Let the media know when violence is being used against passive resisters who can't run away and that their first amendment rights are being violated to expedite the destruction of nature by a special corporate interest. Scream to your local ambitious politician about this abuse. Such politicos, properly approached, may help us turn appropriations against the "violence for pillage" campaign that was carried out against forest defenders of 1996.

Scream for justice, compensation and punitive damages. If you don't want the money, cool, give it to base camp, but sue. In our struggle against a system that only understands money, we can't hope for it to understand something is too evil to be attempted, but we can help it to understand that something is too expensive to be attempted.

Scream (metaphorically) to the Office of the Chief of Forest Service Law Enforcement, William Wasley at (703) 235-3426; fax (703) 235-1536. Because the new chief was brought in from another agency (Secret Service) and has only been in his position for six months, he could be a potential ally in the struggle to stop the use of PCHs against nonviolent citizens in the nation's forests. So let's try honey, not vinegar. If contacts with the chief's office are civil, polite and non-confrontational, we may be able to help the Forest Service end the illegal and unconstitutional use of PCHs by rogue Freddies acting in violation of training and policy. This may be an improbable symbiosis of tactics, but isn't that what Gaia teaches us?

BARE BONES

Clone This!

On March 5, Congressional hearings were held on the ethics of cloning. The panelists, stacking, er, speaking at the hearing included the director of the Oregon Primate Research Center, the Chairman of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission, and the CEO of Genzyme Transgenic Corporation.

While members of the Science Subcommittee on Technology expressed reservations about the cloning of humans, not one addressed the ethical issues of using animals in cloning or related research. The comments from the director of the National Institute of Health were pro-animal research and pro-biotechnology. All of the panelists were excited about the possibility of applying cloning technology in animal agriculture. The CEO of Genzyme argued that such activity is "socially responsible and acceptable in our society."

Please send comments to the Subcommittee on Technology by June 5, 1997. Rep. Connie Morella, Chairperson, House Science Subcommittee on Technology, 2319 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515.

Victory at Anpo

Native Americans have declared a victory over the Forest Service and Thomas Creek Lumber Company. The American Indian Movement (AIM) and Earth First! joined forces last year to resist two timber sales that threatened Anpo, a Native American spiritual youth encampment in the Mt. Hood National Forest outside Portland, Oregon.

EFers and AIMers worked side by side in nonviolent defense of this sacred ceremonial site. Recently, the Forest Service announced the cancellation of units six through nine of the Haze timber sale. These were the units directly adjacent to the Sun Dance Arbor, sweat lodge and camp sites.

Although this represents a significant victory, the Forest Service contends that they will allow Thomas Creek to remove replacement timber volume for the canceled units of the Haze sale from the units in the Hazel sale that began before people mobilized. For more information contact the First Nations Survival Support Network at POB 42608, Portland, OR 97242; (503) 635-0460.

Miller Bill Targets Corporate Welfare in Nature Resources Subsidies

On March 4, Representative George Miller (D-CA) reintroduced his omnibus bill to end cut-rate timber sales and leasing of publicly-owned natural resources. The Public Subsidies Deficit Reduction Act would phase out subsidies for resource extraction and require that taxpayers receive a fair return when publicly-owned natural resources are sold or leased. Eliminating the subsidies would save taxpayers more than \$5 billion over five years and improve the health of public lands.

The bill targets an array of subsidies to resource extractors that have taken billions from taxpayers' pockets. These subsidies include royalty-free mining of hard rock minerals, below-cost timber sales, subsidized irrigation for agribusiness, below-market prices for electricity, and deals for concessionaires in national parks.

Please call your representative and urge him/her to cosponsor HR 919 to phase out resource extraction subsidies. For more information contact Mary Anne McConnel at (202) 546-8500 x110 or maryanne@taxpayer.net, or Liz Birnbaum of the House Resources Committee at (202) 226-2311.

HOW TO GET BUSTED

BY JIM FLYNN AND OTHER CRIMINALS

So, you have made the decision to get arrested in defense of the natural world, but you just don't know how to go about it. Well, for starters, consider the arrest as only the beginning. After the arrest, you have booking, jail, arraignment, trial, sentencing and maybe jail again. Here are a few things you should expect to find on your journey through the modern justice system and some suggestions on how to deal with them.

Pre-Arrest

Decide before the arrest whether you want to be released fast or if you are open to jail solidarity or a hunger strike. If you want to be released as fast as possible, bring your picture ID with you and the court will be happy to add your latest escapade to your record and send you home (providing they don't have other reasons for holding you).

Failure to provide ID, however, will usually delay your release but will leave your options open for things like non-cooperation or use of a fake name. If you plan to use a fake name, don't wait till you are in the patrol car to determine who you would like to be. Use a believable name and a local address, and forget your social security number. Tell your friends before the arrest what your new name is. If you have ever been fingerprinted before or if you can't lie under pressure, don't even try it. (Yes, of course, it's illegal to lie to the police.)

Memorize a few phone numbers that will accept collect calls from jail. Having jail support and bail arranged before you get arrested will make the whole process easier and less worrisome. Support people accept your collect calls, feed your dog, call your work, arrange your bail and generally see to your needs while you are in custody. Jail support people should *never* risk arrest.

Don't carry drugs on you at *any* action or demonstration even if you are not planning to risk arrest. Arrests happen.

Jail Solidarity

The purpose of jail is to disempower people. Non-cooperation is a way to take the power back, as a matter of principle. Jail solidarity is a decision by arrestees to practice non-cooperation. It is intended to be used as a bargaining chip or "display of power" to the jailers. Jail solidarity can be quite effective but usually only works when there are a sufficient number of arrestees to make the jail overcrowded. If you have never been arrested before (and get lucky), they may release you without ever finding out who you are!

The extent of the non-cooperation should be discussed before the action with everyone who is willing to risk arrest. People should talk about how long they are willing to stay in jail and the parameters of the solidarity. No walk, no talk, no dine, no sign? Simply not giving your name is a very powerful way to clog the jail system in itself, or you can refuse to cooperate with every step of the process by refusing to walk, talk to jailers, eat their food or sign any papers. Decide in advance how far and how long you are willing to go, and stick to your agreement until you *all* decide to alter the plan. With few exceptions, hunger strikes are flaky if you aren't willing to die or if you'll be in for just a few days. Plan realistically; jailers are masters of the art of persuasion.

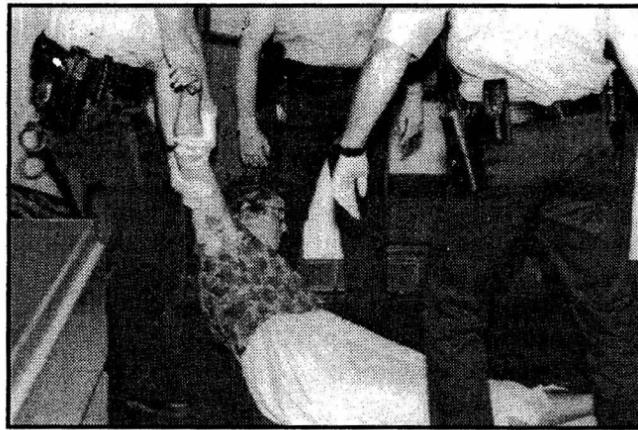


Photo by Michael Ommegang

The Arrest

Don't expect the cops to read you your rights like they do on television. Being placed under arrest can be as subtle as an officer placing his/her hand on your shoulder or just detaining you. If you are ever in doubt if you are under arrest, just ask.

Once you are under arrest, you have the option of cooperating (walking) or passively resisting (free ride). Resisters should be flexible (in more ways than one). If the law is in a bad mood that day, passive resistance or "going limp" will often result in pain holds, or at least, hair pulling. Non-cooperation bravado quickly melts in the grips of a pain hold. More and more frequently, passive resistance results in charges of "Resisting Arrest" or even "Assaulting an Officer." Be calm, be careful.

As mentioned before, the fast track is to give them your ID and not much else. Be nice, but don't play their "good cop with just a few questions" game. This would be the time to use that fake name you have devised, just say you don't have your ID on you.

Note that some police have microphones affixed to their lapels and video cameras in their vehicles, so watch what you say to anyone.

If an expedient release is not so important, don't tell them anything, not even your name. Don't be a jerk, don't try to convert them, just tell them that you are not going to talk to them. They will stop bugging you when they figure out that you don't want to play.

Booking

If you give your ID, this process will be quick, not much more than fingerprints and a few questions about your employment and health. If you aren't talking to them, this process will be pretty quick, too. However, they may strip and cavity search you, just to show you who's boss.

Generally, if they give you a new wardrobe, you are going to be their guest for the night. Ask the seasoned inmates to tell you how the system works. Most newer jails have holding cells with phones that only collect calls can be made on. Call your jail support and tell them how you are doing.

Relax. Expect things to move slowly.

Jail

Jail can be a rewarding experience or Hell, depending on your attitude. Enjoy your time in jail. Get some sleep. Exercise and do yoga. Catch up on some reading. Fasting and giving away your food is a great way to make friends, and you can get real food once you are out.

From here on out you have little control over your life. Lay back and let the jailers take care of your needs; but remember, no inconvenience is too petty for a jailer to inflict upon a non-cooperative prisoner. Meditate on simplicity.

Arraignment

Sometimes you will be released before the arraignment. In these circumstances, resist the temptation to run. Non-attendance will result in a warrant being issued for your arrest, and "Failure to Appear" is a nasty charge that will haunt your activism for years to come.

At the arraignment

you have another opportunity to expedite the process by pleading "no contest." Never, never, never plead "guilty," which can leave you vulnerable to civil prosecution. Usually, you will be entering a "not-guilty" plea to leave your options open for later. Ask for a court appointed lawyer, and go back to jail until the judge decides you are not a threat to society and not a flight risk.

The judge may offer to release you on bail. However, bail money usually finds its way into the court's pockets through fines and fees, so it is best to avoid bail and just sit it out until trial.

Freedom

[If you are so dangerous that the judge will not "O.R." you (release you on your Own Recognizance), skip this part.]

Use your time out to talk to your lawyer and fellow arrestees. If you are defending yourself, get advice from activists who have been to trial and from at least a few lawyers.

Go for a hike and remind yourself why you are putting yourself through such a hassle. Get naked, go dancing, if ya got 'um—smoke 'um.

Trial and Sentencing

Be prepared. Have a pre-arranged court strategy. Don't bring your friends unless it is a group trial *and* you all have decided to make the court into a circus. If not, cut your hair and dress corporate for once.

If you are convicted, you have another chance to rush things along by asking for more jail time, which will conclude your sentence quickly and cheaply. Judges and lawyers usually won't understand this preference, so sometimes it's hard to get. Next best is community service. There are plenty of good organizations out there to work for, even some who are fighting for the same things you were standing up (or sitting down) for. Fines and court fees aren't so bad—you can blow them off (unless they have your bail money), and they can't put you in jail for not paying fines. Avoid probation at all costs. Probation means that if you get busted again (once you have a criminal record, why not?) they can give you an additional charge for violating probation.

Post-Trial

Once you are out, do the fun parts of the "Freedom" section listed above, then go and get busted again.

Remember to view your post-arrest actions as part of the action itself and the larger resistance to the system. Jail time and court proceedings, however short, can get more media, thereby reaching more people and furthering your cause. Successful non-cooperation can also be personally empowering and cause the system to implode.

THE LOST ART OF CAT & MOUSE

BY DRAGONFLY CASCADIA

He who learns to run away, lives to fight another day.

—BOB MARLEY

The world's biologists tell us that we humans are causing species extinction at a rate unseen since the age of the dinosaurs. Some of us humans, however, have dedicated ourselves to keeping the Earth's life support systems going. We rally, agitate, litigate and lockdown. But an often overlooked direct action is cat and mouse.

Cat and mouse is the essence of non-violent direct action. It is an attempt to postpone forest destruction by playing real life "tag" with cops and loggers. Like the tree-hugging women of India's Chipko movement, activists in this country have taken to putting their bodies between chainsaw wielding loggers and trees marked for death. The point is to stop the cut.

Interfering with logging is illegal on federal, state and "private" forests. Falling trees with people running around in the forest is also illegal. As a mouse, your task is to create so much chaos that the fallers are putting your life at risk by continuing to cut. Whether or not you succeed in talking the loggers out of working, you are certain to soon be arrested by law enforcement. If we still wish to remain free, then the chase is on... and we're the rodents!

Why resort to such a potentially dangerous tactic? Like Quakers, we know that when injustice occurs, it is morally unconscionable to sit back and do nothing. We must bear witness to ecological atrocities. As Earth Firsters we must go further. We must halt the machine at the point of destruction.

At this stage of the Earth's evolution, people who feel as we do are in the extreme minority, but we don't need vast numbers to be effective. Think of cat and mouse as guerrilla activism.

Cat and mouse is most effective when used in tandem with legal action. For example, in the "Thanksgiving Day Massacre" of 1992, Pacific Lumber began illegally building a road into the heart of the Owl Creek grove of Headwaters forest. Only a hike by a "trespassing" activist clued the world into this. The days that followed saw doz-

ens of arrests as activists jumped in front of roaring chainsaws, danced on bulldozers... and ran away from cops, playing the cat and mouse game.

Five days after the massacre began, it ended. A federal judge granted the Environmental Protection and Information Center's request for a temporary restraining order. Lawyers stopped the saws in court, and to this day, one can visit the grove and count the redwoods with blue stripes that still stand... because people were there to hug them.

So what exactly is needed to do good cat and mouse?

1) Nonviolence training: The importance of this cannot be underestimated. Focused workshops that include group discussions of what behavior is tolerable in an action are necessary. Role playing is essential. Never go into a civil disobedience action with people who are not committed to the practice of nonviolence. Remember, we do this because we love the Earth, and by extension, the humans who are destroying her. Angry activists, wingnuts or provocateurs can endanger you!

2) Gear: Deep-woods actions require that each person involved has their own map, compass, water, appropriate clothing for the bioregion (good rain gear, warm clothing, etc.) and extra food. Be prepared to part with anything you go into the woods with. Establish hidden equipment stashes before the logging begins. Never enter a logging area with a heavy pack on your back, and don't forget a good, sturdy, waterproof pair of boots.

3) Be in good physical shape. You will need to outrun workers and cops when the time comes. For deep-woods actions you may not only have to sprint the initial 300-yard getaway, but also hike a few miles out to your rendezvous point.

4) Practice being stealthy. Don't let change or keys jingle in your pocket. Don't travel in groups larger than three (unless you are far off a road or trail). Refrain from all vocal communication near the logging site. Develop clear line-of-sight hand signals in your group.

5) Know the land. Nothing compensates for firsthand knowledge of terrain! Before you go out with your group, establish key points on the map. Know the roads, the units, where the loggers park and work, where the heavy equipment is kept and where it operates, where and when security patrols and where the cops will be coming from. Good pre-action reconnaissance is invaluable. Know the major and minor drainages, the topography, your drop-off and pickup points and of course, your escape routes. It is important to memorize this information; never write any of it on your map (just in case you do get caught).

6) Have a guide. Guides know the shortest (and safest) routes in and out of the woods. Guides brief new people and make them feel confident and relaxed. Guides don't take unnecessary risks.

7) Have outside support. This is the person to call if you are nabbed. All actions need someone to do jail support, i.e., a person who knows the names of every person in the woods. Someone on the outside also needs to drive to drop-off and pickup points for the action group. There needs to be an established location and pickup time (as well as alternative plans if the pickup point is compromised).

Someone on the outside needs to work the media. This means writing up the press release, faxing it everywhere, making follow up calls, arranging interviews and having sound bites ready. Activist videographers and photographers must hike the woods and get where the action is. Excellent footage of the salvage logging of redwoods in Headwaters this fall aired on CNN thanks to the cat and mouse skills of several activists.

For our direct action movement to grow, cat and mouse must be presented to mainstream activists in a safe and wholesome manner. At the Enola Hill campaign, for example, people from Portland came out to show their support for Native American sacred sites. Many were arrested for closure crossing, yet many others demanded a more meaningful arrest scenario.

One morning, about 70 of us began a march toward the gate in order to prevent access to the sale. Less than a quarter mile up the hill, we could hear the thud of trees crashing. Then a truly spontaneous thing happened... we all scurried up the hill toward the logging!

The more nimble of us hiked ahead of the group, climbed around the loggers and dropped in on them to warn them of the group below. The workers immediately stopped cutting! Soon Forest Service personnel appeared (some in uniform, some in camouflage) and arrested 28 people. The fallers had to quit because the arrestees went limp and had to be carried out on stretchers.

It's important that you never approach a logging operation from below. This is very dangerous.

Being effective means staying in the game (i.e., avoiding arrest). Here the practical and spiritual natures of cat and mouse merge. When surrounded by cops or loggers, practice meditation (hiding). When we are still and silent, we become attuned to a forest that consciously desires to protect us.

As for law enforcement, it is rare to find a regular cop that is stealthy in the forest. The Forest Service camo Freddie's are getting pretty good at creeping about, though. In a campaign on federal land, you are certain to encounter them. Beware.

When you do make the initial contact with loggers, it is important to keep a personal space buffer between them and you. Ten feet at minimum, 40 feet is best. Some loggers can be threatening and violent. They will sometimes verbally abuse you and if you let them, may physically do so. In Humboldt County, loggers are legally entitled to place you under citizen's arrest if they can physically grab you. They will run at you at full speed.

In Oregon, we have found that workers are inclined to continue cutting trees, even after they are aware that you are in the woods. Some loggers have even gone so far as to fall trees right where they knew protesters were located. A good rule is to stay behind loggers, as they never fall trees towards their own backs.

In confrontations with loggers, as in life, it helps to look folks in the eye, keep your hands open and visible and maintain a posture that is not threatening. Introduce yourself. Make jokes. And, if you plan on doing this sort of thing more than once, get yourself a forest name. Good luck, and may the forest be with you!

BARE BONES

Headwaters "Deal" Delayed Until 1998

The Pacific Lumber Company (PL) has agreed to extend for six months the agreement that would swap the prized Headwaters grove and other old-growth redwoods for some \$380 million in land and/or cash from the government.

The current moratorium on logging Headwaters and Elk Springs remains in effect until 1998.

The logging moratorium does not affect PL's other forest lands, some 190,000 acres of old growth and cut-over lands in northern California's Humboldt County.

Four groves of ancient redwoods and Douglas fir remain unprotected as they are unaffected by the swap agreement arranged last spring by the Clinton administration and PL's owner, Charles Hurwitz. Those old-growth groves have been "salvage logged" by the timber company as recently as last October. Winter season salvage continues currently on PL's land.

Free Paul Watson

On March 31, ocean defender Captain Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society was arrested by German authorities acting on an Interpol warrant from Norway. At the time of the arrest, Paul was supervising the preparation of a Sea Shepherd vessel for a campaign against illegal drift netting in the Mediterranean. The German High Court found questionable discrepancies in the court documents presented by Norway, which convicted Paul in absentia on the charge of sinking an illegal Norwegian whaling ship in 1992, dismissed Norway's extradition request and released him. Three days later, Paul was seized again by Dutch police in Amsterdam. Now, Paul is in a maximum security prison in the Netherlands.

Norway is pressuring Holland to extradite Paul and has filed extradition papers and additional charges. Holland is refusing to release Paul on any bail conditions. This is an election year in Norway and Paul is the floundering Prime Minister's ticket to reelection. Help is needed to free Paul and expose Norway's illegal whaling activities. Contact Sea Shepherd at POB 628, Venice, CA 90294; (310) 301-SEAL (7325); fax (310) 574-3161; nvoth@estreet.com; <http://www.seashepherd.org>.

Roosevelt Dam

Early last year, the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity filed suit against the Bureau of Reclamation for failing to analyze the effects of enlarging the Roosevelt Dam and flooding out Arizona's largest population of endangered southwestern willow flycatchers. Amazingly, the Bureau decided a study would not be necessary despite the take of 90 flycatchers (20 percent of the entire subspecies).

While the Bureau found no significant impact, the US Fish and Wildlife Service determined that the enlargement of the dam will jeopardize the existence of the flycatcher. Rather than require changes in dam management, however, FWS permitted 100 percent take of all flycatchers. The loss of 20 percent of the subspecies is allegedly mitigated by the purchase of riparian habitat with one pair of flycatchers on it, 50 miles away.

The Roosevelt Dam was built in 1911 at the confluence of the Salt River and Tonto Creek. It provides water to the Phoenix area and valley agribusiness. In 1984, following failed bids to build new dams in the Gila River Basin, the Bureau decided to increase the height of Roosevelt Dam by 60 feet. In 1990, it decided to raise it another 17 feet.



BARE BONES

Jet Skis Top Polluter

Jet skis are fouling America's waters with the equivalent of 15 Exxon Valdez oil spills a year. The motors, used on 1.2 million personal watercraft devices, are "America's number one water pollution source," says Russell Long, director of the Bluewater Network, which has filed a lawsuit demanding that the EPA prohibit the motors.

Long said the EPA should forbid manufacturers such as Kawasaki, Yamaha and Suzuki from making jet skis with two-stroke engines. A Swiss lake has already banned two-stroke personal watercraft engines and Lake Tahoe has a similar ban that takes effect in 1999. Two-stroke engines release 1.1 billion pounds of hydrocarbons into the water every year.

"We can't understand how the EPA and the industry can allow these motors to be sold," Long said.

FOIA Victory

The Southwest Center for Biological Diversity has won two cases before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals requiring the US Forest Service to provide information on where Mexican spotted owls and northern goshawks live. The Forest Service argued that such information was exempt from the Freedom of Information Act and that if such sensitive information was given to environmentalists, it would have to be given to everyone. The appeals court ruled that the agency has discretion to release or not release such information on a case-by-case basis but that environmentalists are entitled to it.

The Southwest Center petitioned to list the Mexican spotted owl as a threatened species in 1989 and is currently suing the US Fish and Wildlife Service for refusing to accept a petition to list the northern goshawk as an endangered species in the west. The Southwest Center recently won a lawsuit over the decision not to list the Queen Charlotte goshawk as an endangered species in southeast Alaska, British Columbia and western Washington.

Thank you so, Bill

Despite presidential promises of protection, Utah has granted a permit to Conoco to begin drilling for oil in the newly designated Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Conoco plans to drill 14,500 feet below the surface to test a theory that oil is trapped in ancient geological formations there. It has agreed to restore the site if no oil is found. Word is that ancient geological formations are restored in much the same way as ancient forests.

SW Center Strikes Again

On March 14, a federal judge ordered the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to list four species as endangered and to set aside habitat for them and two other species already listed.

District Judge Roger Strand chided FWS for having repeatedly missed deadlines under the ESA. The jaguar, the Sonora tiger salamander, the Canelo Hills ladies' tresses, the Huachuca water umbel, as well as the previously listed southwestern willow flycatcher and cactus ferruginous pygmy owl, were affected by the decision.

"The courts are now recognizing that the agencies are not credible in their efforts to protect species," said Robin Silver of the Southwest Center, which petitioned for protection of the species under the ESA.

In response to FWS' arguments that it lacked the staff and money to meet the deadlines, the judge ruled that officials "don't have *carte blanche* to decide not to carry out their duties under the guise of resource allocation."

THE YEAR ROAD BUILDING ENDED

The lessons from last year's Salvage Rider are clear: our remaining ancient forests are vulnerable, the timber industry's irresponsible and extreme agenda threatens these forests, and the lack of accountability in the US Forest Service means the agency is failing to protect the public's interest with balanced forest policies.

In the 105th Congress, we may see a number of opportunities to address the agency's accountability. Timber roads have been identified as a major subsidy to the timber industry and a serious threat to forest and aquatic ecosystems. With a concerted effort we can put an end to new timber roads this year.

According to the Forest Service, there are 377,810 miles of roads on 157 million acres of national forest. This is 1.5 miles of road per square mile of national forest. By comparison, road density averages 1.1 per mile in non-Forest Service lands. National forests in the Northwest average 3.5 miles of road each square mile, more than twice the road density that causes populations of elk, wolves and bears to decline. These figures don't even include all the logging roads. The Forest Service estimates that 20 percent of roads in national forests of western Oregon and Washington are not listed in official inventories. Many roads listed as closed or obliterated remain passable by regular cars.

The president's 1998 fiscal year budget reduces Forest Service road funds by five percent to "reflect a policy move toward eliminating timber sales in areas that do not have previously constructed roads," according to the Office of Management and Budget. However, Forest Service Chief Dombeck has stated that the administration is planning to build 300 miles of new roads and reconstruct another 2,000 miles in 1998.

Meanwhile, nearly two-thirds of the

national forest road system (232,837 miles) is in need of maintenance. According to Chief Dombeck, it would cost \$440 million to carry out this backlog of needed repairs. This proposal to build 300 miles of new roads contradicts the administration's stated goal of staying out of roadless areas. Considering the \$440-million maintenance backlog, we need to convince Congress that it doesn't make sense to keep building new roads when the Forest Service is not maintaining the road system we have now.

The Clinton administration is also proposing to end "purchaser credits" for road construction in national forests. This program currently provides timber buyers credits against payment for timber for constructing roads associated with their timber purchase. This is a step forward, as purchaser credits help hide the subsidy for road building received by the timber industry. This new policy requires no legislation because the Agriculture Department has the administrative authority to end the purchaser credit system.

In addition, Clinton's budget proposes to shift the funds from the road purchaser credit system into another credit program called the purchaser-elect program. This is another road credit program intended for small timber companies, but under the definition of small timber companies all but two timber companies qualify. So, while the administration is moving in the right direction, they need to go further and cut all funding for new roads and eliminate the purchaser-elect credits program.

To adequately protect roadless areas Congress must pass the Kennedy/Porter amendment which would delete funds for timber road construction in roadless areas and eliminate the purchaser-elect road credit program.

Timber roads in roadless areas are

targeted by the Green Scissors Coalition, and are included in Budget Chairman John Kasich's (R-Ohio) "corporate welfare" target list. A new coalition of taxpayer, environmental, consumer and free-market groups joined Representative Kasich and Ralph Nader to release a list of 12 corporate welfare programs targeted for elimination. The Stop Corporate Welfare Coalition targets include national forest timber roads, a \$100-million subsidy for timber companies over a five-year period. The Green Scissors Coalition says eliminating spending for construction of new forest roads would save taxpayers about \$50 million annually.

A reaction from the logging industry and their supporters in Congress can be anticipated. An Associated Press story says that "opposition is mounting among influential Democrats" in Congress to the Clinton administration's proposal to end purchaser credits, specifically citing a letter from Senator Tom Daschle (D-South Dakota) in response to pressure from the logging industry in the Black Hills. Representative Norm Dicks (D-WA) also expressed reservations about the policy change during a House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee hearing. The fight over roadless areas and timber roads can be expected to be one of the biggest environmental battles in the 105th Congress.

Please contact your representative and senators and urge them to support an end to new timber roads. Mention the \$440-million maintenance backlog and urge them to support retiring these roads to prevent them from further damaging the environment. Call (202) 224-3121 or write your representative at US House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; and your senators at US Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

—WESTERN ANCIENT FOREST CAMPAIGN

PORTLAND BIRD IS A GREAT BLUE HERON WHO LIVES THROUGHOUT THE CASCADIAN WATERWAYS, AND ENJOYS A COMMITTED RELATIONSHIP WITH A SPOTTED OWL...

LAST CASCADIA PORTLAND BIRD AND SPOTTED OWL TOURED THE COLD WAR SKELETONS OF THE HANFORD NUCLEAR RESERVATION'S PAST. SINCE 1988 THE OFFICIAL "MISSION" FOR THE HANFORD RESERVATION IS TO CLEAN UP THE MASSIVE RADIOACTIVE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARDS LEFT THERE AFTER A HALF CENTURY OF UNREGULATED NUCLEAR RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION. TODAY NUCLEAR INTERESTS AND LOBBYISTS SEEK TO CHANGE HANFORD'S MISSION FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP BACK TO PLUTONIUM AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS MANUFACTURING.

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ORIGINALLY BUILT THE FAST FLUX TEST FACILITY FOR RESEARCH ON LIQUID METAL BREEDER REACTORS, AND TO TEST TECHNOLOGIES AND MATERIALS FOR THE NUCLEAR POWER INDUSTRY. THIS OBSOLETE FACILITY WAS TO BE DECOMMISSIONED AND SCRAPPED STARTING DECEMBER 1995 AS PART OF THE HANFORD CLEAN-UP PLAN.

ONLY HOURS BEFORE WORKERS BEGAN TO DISMANTLE THE F.F.T.F., A PRIVATE COMPANY STOPPED THE CLEAN-UP BY OFFERING 300 MILLION IN PRIVATE CAPITAL TO KEEP F.F.T.F. "HOT." ADVANCED NUCLEAR AND MEDICAL SYSTEMS INC. PLANNED TO PRIVATIZE F.F.T.F. TO PRODUCE RADIOACTIVE TRITIUM GAS, WEAPONS GRADE PLUTONIUM, AND MEDICAL ISOTOPES CALLED "RADIOPHARMACEUTICALS."

STARTING COSTS TO RECOMMISSION THE F.F.T.F. WOULD BEGIN AT \$200 MILLION. ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES WOULD COST \$88 MILLION. THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY HAS ALREADY DIVERTED OVER \$40 MILLION ANNUALLY FROM HANFORD CLEAN-UP FUNDS TO KEEP THE F.F.T.F. ON "HOT" STAND-BY.

OUR PROPERTY TAXES WENT UP HOW MUCH? TO PAY FOR WHAT?

I HEAR THEY'RE TURNING THIS PLACE INTO A "STARBUCKS"

WHY MUST WE WEAR THESE SAFETY SUITS?

SOME RADIOACTIVE SPIDER OR MUTANT TURTLE COULD BITE US, AND WE'D END UP IN SOME CHEESEY COMIC STRIP!

WHAT'S IN THIS TANK?

DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL WASTE FROM TRITIUM PRODUCTION AT THE F.F.T.F. WOULD BE 17,968 CUBIC FEET OF RADIOACTIVE SOLID WASTES, PLUS 55 SPENT FUEL ASSEMBLIES. THIS HOT NEW WASTE STREAM WOULD BE ADDED TO THE EXISTING TONS OF RADIOACTIVE GARBAGE THAT WE STILL DON'T HAVE SECURE TECHNOLOGIES OR PLACES TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF.

OVER 200 MILES OF HANFORD'S GROUNDWATER IS CONTAMINATED WITH RADIOACTIVE TRITIUM TO LEVELS 168 TIMES THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY'S DRINKING WATER STANDARDS. AN UNKNOWN AMOUNT OF THIS LETHAL BREW IS SEEPING INTO THE COLUMBIA RIVER.

IT'S OUR SALMON! RECOVERY PLAN! GLOWING FISH FLOATING ON THE SURFACE ARE EASIER TO RECOVER.

PLEASE - JUST LIST ME AS "EXTINCT" ALREADY!

OUR GOVERNMENT THAT SPENDS MILLIONS CRIMINALIZING SICK PEOPLE WHO SMOKE MARIJUANA TO EASE PAIN AND NAUSEA, IS THROWING MILLIONS MORE TO START UP A NUCLEAR BOMB FACTORY TO MAKE "MEDICINE."

HERE'S YOUR RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL SUPPOSITORY!

TEST SITE SHUTDOWN

continued from front page

with a 250-person procession to the main gates of the Nevada Test Site led by Corbin Harney, spiritual leader of the Western Shoshone Nation. This annual event is a powerful experience for all who attend; it marks the point where good and evil collide. One really feels the power of an age-old, deep-rooted spiritual force confronting a shortsighted, ego-based show of physical force. Roughly 50 peaceful protesters were arrested in a Gandhian-style line crossing to bear witness to the atrocity of nuclear weapons testing.

The Action for Nuclear Abolition began on March 31 and lasted through April 4. These five days were dedicated to strategic, nonviolent direct action to break the nuclear chain and shut down the Nevada Test Site. On Monday, March 31, activists sat atop tripods and locked themselves into steel lock boxes and concrete-filled devices to successfully close down five test site gates for several hours. Four tractor trailers carrying low-level radioactive cargo were stranded on US Highway 95 until Wackenhut's private security squadrons forcibly broke through one of the five barricades. There were many injuries sustained during this action, ranging from torn shoulder ligaments to back injuries. Strong winds and improper support resulted in a tripod blowing over at the main entrance, causing serious injury to Adriana Lubenova from Bulgaria. Adriana is a veteran tripod sitter whom many remember from Cove Mallard. Her scapula was broken, and she had to undergo painful reconstructive surgery to her heel. A trust fund is in place to help pay the doctor bills, half of which the doctor demanded up front.

The second annual Nuclear Fools' Parade made its way through downtown Las Vegas' casino district on Tuesday, April 1. Enormous puppets towered above the crowd. They brought the antinuclear weapons testing message from the remote peace camp location to a wider array of people.

The final day of action was Thursday, April 3. By 4:30 a.m., activists had successfully barricaded both the north and south-bound stretches of highway 95, the main route leading to the test site. The highway was entirely blocked as far as 55 miles north of Las Vegas, completely shutting down the test site for five hours—a task the Clinton administration seems unable to do! The northbound lane was blocked by six activists locked into cement barrels and a junker car. The southbound lane was blocked by seven people locked into large pieces of pvc piping 12"-15" in diameter filled with concrete, rebar and a lock box.

The first vehicle trapped in the southbound lane was a bus filled with workers leaving the test site. This was followed by several miles of cars,

trucks and RVs. In the northbound lane cars were able to pass but not without putting activists in danger. The highway patrol stopped all large vehicles and trucks from passing. Among the trapped vehicles were three trucks carrying nuclear waste and 17 worker buses headed for the test site. One of the waste trucks, origin unknown, was confirmed to be leaking radiation. So much for government assurances of safe waste transportation. Twenty-two people were arrested on trespassing and obstruction charges and held overnight in jail. One of those arrested was a journalist from San Francisco covering the action.

On the day of the action, Julia Moon Sparrow, a founding member of the Shundahai Network said, "The Department of Energy (DOE) still hasn't gotten the message that the Cold War is over and the nuclear age is ending. We're disrupting test site traffic on the highway because their deadly nuclear business cannot go on as usual."

Many might ask, "Why protest nuclear weapon's testing when the US has already signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)?" Although the CTBT was signed by the US on September 24, 1996, the DOE is still planning a series of "subcritical" tests at the Nevada Test Site. The US specifically negotiated treaty language that would permit "subcritical experiments." The tests, coupling conventional explosives with nuclear weapons materials such as plutonium 239, are designed not to produce a sustained nuclear chain reaction—hence the term "subcritical."

The first of these tests, code named "Rebound," is set for this June. "Holog," short for holography, is scheduled for this fall. Four more tests are planned for 1998 and more in 1999. Each test will cost the taxpayers approximately \$10 million.

DOE officials argue that these "experiments" are consistent with the wording of the CTBT, but disarmament activists counter that the United States is violating the spirit of that hard-fought treaty. "The US has the opportunity to drive the nuclear disarmament process forward, but it could also inadvertently drive the world right back into a nuclear arms race," said Greenpeace disarmament campaigner Bruce Hall.

These explosions are part of the United States' effort to "break out" of the recently signed CTBT should a president decide to resume full-scale testing. They are being used, among other reasons, to maintain "readiness."

In addition to subcritical testing, the US plans to turn Yucca Mountain, which adjoins the test site, into the nation's high-level nuclear waste dump and the test site itself into an interim dumping ground. This proposal is known as the "Mobile Chernobyl" project. If it is



photo by Kenny Christ

Using a "candle," all traffic to the test site is stopped.

approved by Clinton and Congress thousands of deadly nuclear waste shipments will travel the US and come up US-95 from Las Vegas. The Department of Energy admits that an accident involving nuclear waste bound for Yucca Mountain could contaminate 42 square miles, require 460 days to clear and cost the taxpayers over \$620 million dollars. (See article on page 9.)

Historically, direct action at the Nevada Test Site created a critical mass of awareness which brought about a five-year moratorium on nuclear testing at this site. We must not turn back now. Nuclear weapons testing on any scale is not acceptable. Show your support of the peace actions recently taken, and help create a nuclear-free future. Call on President Clinton and Energy Secretary Pena to cancel the subcritical tests and close down the Nevada Test Site.

How you can help:

Support local organizations dedicated to stopping the testing, or start your own by doing actions at federal buildings, etc.

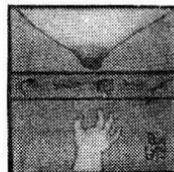
Call your Senator and Representative as well as the White House and DOE. Tell them to cancel the subcritical tests! Clinton's number (202) 456-1111.

Contact the Shundahai Network or ACTION FOR NUCLEAR ABOLITION! 5007 Elmhurst Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89108; (702) 647-3095, fax (702) 647-9385, e-mail: shundahai@radix.net. For more action coverage and pictures check out the Shundahai Web page at <http://www.macronet.org/macronet/shundahai>.

Come help shut the test site down in June with *direct action*.

To help Adriana pay her doctor bills, please contact the Shundahai Network.

BUG GUTS: BIG BOWL OF WARM FUR



MUSIC REVIEW BY JOHN BOWLING

Musical artists rosebud and Scott Ireland dish up a heaping serving of lyrical longing for the breakdown with their new CD release, "Big Bowl of Warm Fur." These two rural activists from southern California have been pumping out provocative eco-rants for years as the Swamp Poets and Leather Muffin and as former members of San Diego's own Night Soil Man.

This author is challenged to ascribe any particular musical style to the artist's work other than post-industrial-renaissance-folk-rock. Their music is laden with radical eco, anti-corporate themes that are blended (make that liquefied, as with a blender) in throbbing esoteric melodies.

"Deus ex Machina" is a wickedly contrived song of haunting gothic rants and rhymes soundly denouncing industrial technology. The title of this song refers to a god in Greek and Roman drama that was introduced by means of a crane to decide the final outcome of the performance—technology to the rescue! The lyrics of this song are ignited by tantric marching melodies and reveal the artists' cynical glee at the collapse of industry. "Imagine no machinery/No Black & Decker scenery/No viral meat caterpillars crunching jaws and numskull drillers/Chainsaws spitting ol' growth pampers/Bulldoze all the happy campers/Pound the pests/Crush everything/Then set your clocks for Silent Spring/

Mitsubishi lights out!"

Issues of population and consumption are heartily taken up in "Creak Butterball the Bufflehead." This song proclaims, "Don't breed/We can't feed you/What you did is what you get/Now what the hell did you expect?" The track "Sweet Mary Brown Eyes" is an electric guitar soliloquy of a bad trip to industrial civilization. "When I awoke in Babylon/Two hundred hits of mescaline/I'm Mary fuckin' Magdalene/Lockdown with the CEO's in kryptonite love/Lumberjack offer blows your dams/Your soldiers die to go to town...."

"Bulldozer Boogie" is an acoustic guitar-led tirade that celebrates monkeywrenching and night work. "Blow a dam a sweet donut hole/A wrenched monk starts the show/It's time to jam the controls before the bulldozer rolls/Eat dirt/Fist First/Dead caterpillar no crawl." Other tracks include, "Androids Don't Secrete Croton Bug Concerto #420 in D," "Tits Aren't for Kids," "Here Come the Javalinas," and "Beanstalk to Shittsville."

As well as humor and sarcasm, there's a genuine hard line of radical political ideology throughout the de-constructionist druid funk this feisty compilation offers that any activist will revel in. Bug Guts—it's where we're all headed. Seek this one out sooner than later and arm yourself with it for the revolution. Down with empire, up with spring!

To get a copy send \$12 to Corporate Pork Records, POB 461, Santa Ysabel, CA 92070.

Don't Let Bison Dreams Die

Bison Guts

continued from page 7

imprisoned this winter by Yellowstone National Park—disease free, but still guilty of being bison. As we gathered a bald eagle spiraled above us, and we all felt the sacredness of our circle, purified by sage and sacred words. Park employees, wearing black over their badges and insignia in protest, joined us in a kind of confessional, asking for absolution for the crimes they were too weak not to commit, faced with their orders.

Tears streamed from our faces as we heard songs of pain and loss, sung in Lakota mind you, but we understood nonetheless. Meanwhile, the grinning shooters drove past, out to the ranch of New Age huckster Elizabeth Clare Prophet who demands that bison on "her" property die. There we heard them shoot a group of buffalo while we were praying, just to stick their fingers in the faces of the Native people and all of us.

Afterwards, a group went to the ranch to see the grim work of butchering animals that were killed with contempt instead of respect. There, Rosalie Little Thunder, a brave elder, walked up to say a prayer over a bison carcass. The ranch manager for the Church Universal and Triumphant (CUT), Prophet's cult, insisted that she be carted off to jail. The sheriff didn't want to but the man insisted.

Of course the most famous incident of direct action this year took place when Delyla Wilson dumped the bucket of bison guts onto the table in front of Governor Marc Racicot. Conrad Burns, on the other hand, said, "I just sat there like a dummy."

The newspapers editorialized that "animal rights zealots" like Delyla showed shocking disrespect for the governor, and that the cause of bison protection would be better served by rational persuasion of decision makers, blah, blah, blah. Who cares? It was great.

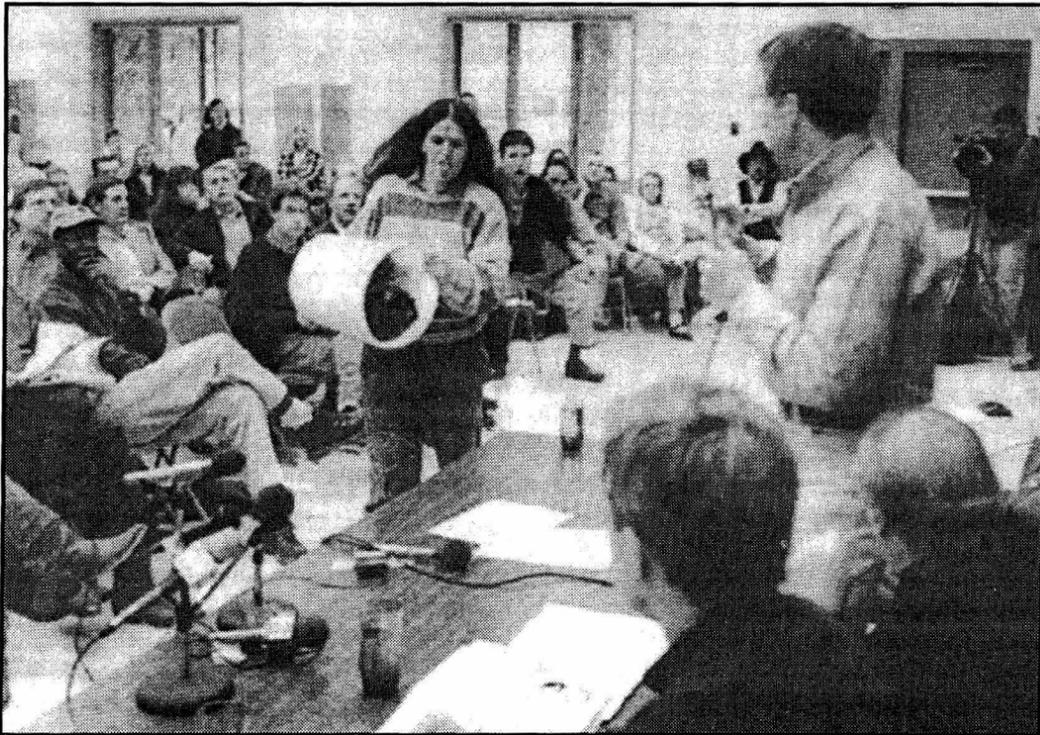
What's Next?

By the time you read this all bison still outside of Yellowstone National Park, including those tested, marked and tagged as being brucellosis-free, must either return to the park or be shot. Why? Under the Interim Bison Management Plan, bison must be gone well before cattle are trucked in to stock grazing allotments on Forest Service lands outside Yellowstone park. Bison activists fully expect that there is going to be a last bloodbath against weakened animals who cannot be hazed back into the park.

Rosalie Little Thunder and the InterTribal Bison Cooperative (ITBC) have received a commitment from the Tokala Society of the Oglala Lakota to form a Yellowstone border patrol to keep the state of Montana from killing any more bison. Riders may, ecologically incorrect as it might be, haze bison back into the park and feed them if necessary to keep them safe from Montana's gunboys. The Yellowstone bison survived near extinction and years of ranch manage-

ment from the turn of the century until 1968. They're clever animals and they'll survive "pollution" by feeding and manipulation. They don't survive bullets very well. Whatever direct action bison-protectors take to keep them alive this season, we remain resolute in keeping the Yellowstone herd free, wild and unfenced.

Meanwhile, Governor Marc Racicot got the state legislature to pass a bill allowing the Department of Livestock to sell captured wild bison on the open market, proceeds going to fatten the agency's budget. This contradicts the state's own rhetoric which heretofore has found the threat of disease-



Delyla Wilson dumps bison guts on the Montana Governor and other politicians responsible for the bison slaughter.

free bison so severe that they would not accept proposals to quarantine them in tribal facilities for later incorporation into tribal herds. Apparently the prospect of money has lessened brucellosis's virulence. The idea of a state selling off public wildlife for profit is appalling and goes against a century's worth of wildlife and game management laws and policies.

What To Do

Frankly, bison activists have been asleep at the switch for too many years and this horrendous crime is the result. Never again will we let a slaughter like this happen. The corruption and venal pandering of APHIS and Montana's Department of Livestock is so overwhelming that these agencies have completely lost their credibility with researchers and veterinarians nationwide, and have earned contempt from the rest of us. Governor Racicot has found his place among the great despoilers of the West, standing proudly with men who destroy to show their power, who will carry out the will of moneyed interests in opposition to all that's decent.

Two things must happen. First, further slaughter must be physically prevented. That's Earth First!'s job, if anyone's. EF! must be there with the border patrol this year and must be prepared to stop further killing next winter. Second, work must be done to change the legal and political forces that have become genocidally lethal to bison.

We must force APHIS to back off its threat to yank Montana's class-free beef status.

Yellowstone National Park's hands-off policy towards bison must be preserved and strengthened. Bison eradication interests want to force the park to keep a small, fenced herd treated like cattle in a feed lot. Allegedly an Environmental Impact Statement on Bison Management will be completed this year, so we will have a chance at public process.

We must force the Forest Service to prioritize bison winter range needs over cattle allotments—eliminating the allotments if we can.

And finally, we must work to reintroduce bison throughout public and tribal lands in their native habitat—

the detailed, necessary business of forging easement agreements, marking out corridors, altering cattle grazing patterns, mapping recovery areas, and changing land management priorities to presume that bison have a place in the American landscape.

Contact these officials:

- APHIS Administrator Terry Medley, (202) 720-2511, fax (202) 720-3982 e-mail: lmark@aphis.usda.gov
- Governor Marc Racicot, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620 (406) 444-3111 momholt-mason@mt.gov
- Superintendent Mike Finley, Box 168 Yellowstone NP, WY 82190 (307)344-2002, e-mail: webmaster@nps.gov
- Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, Interior Bldg., 1849 C St. NW, Washington, DC 20240; (202) 208-7531, fax (202) 208-6956, e-mail: Bruce_Babbitt@IOS.DOI.GOV
- Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, 200 A Whitten Bldg., 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC, (202) 720-2166, e-mail: Agsec@usda.gov

Bison Activist Organizations:

- Bison Advocacy Project, POB 7381 Missoula, MT 59807; (406) 728-5733, e-mail: bison@wildrockies.org; http://www.wildrockies.org/bison
- Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers, POB 7941 Missoula, MT 59807; (406) 728-0867, e-mail: cmcr@wildrockies.org. (Contact them for video clips of the slaughter.)
- InterTribal Bison Cooperative, POB 8105, Rapid City, SD 57709-8105; (605) 394-9730, fax (605) 394-7742, e-mail: itbc@rapidcity.com

continued from page 1

The results of the action were immediate. After a short break for clean up, and so Burns could fly the coop, the meeting resumed. But the format had changed; people were allowed to speak and, as best as they could, the politicians sat down and shut up. Next the local news hit, quickly followed by the national press. As Delyla was being bailed out, the officer in charge told her that the *New York Times* had just called. The following days were spent talking to press from Washington, DC to Australia to Wyoming—on and on the word spread.

The decision to dump bison guts in front of America's criminals Senator Conrad Burns, Gov. Marc Racicot, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman and Senator Max Baucus was made, for Delyla, by those very men. For months, years, these men and many others have talked and talked while every year more bison died. Environmentalists talked. Politicians talked. The Native American tribes talked. The people talked.

In this state-sanctioned blood bath the only things cheaper than words are bullets—bullets fired by state and federal employees and private citizens year after year while everyone sat around talking, talking and lying. All talking ever accomplished was piles of dead bison. Only action ever saved any lives.

When the state wants to kill, kill it will. It takes years of concerted, in-your-face action to cease a state-sanctioned blood fest. The policy of genocide directed by Montana, Yellowstone Park and the cattle industry against the last free-ranging bison herd left in the world, is just such a blood fest. Government agencies respond to very little. They respond to a hit in their pocketbook and public embarrassment. The lie machine of Montana, fueled by its cattle industry, can believe what it will, but nobody comes from Germany, France, Japan or New York to see Montana cattle. They come to see Yellowstone Park and they come to see bison!

Having BAGged Racicot, Glickman, Baucus and Burns, Delyla found herself the latest media dollar and the Bison Action Group (BAG) found itself a whole lot poorer. While Delyla waits out the trial, BAG has been forced to involve itself in fundraising. (The support throughout the community of Bozeman and all over the country for Delyla has been incredible!) May 19, 1997, Delyla will appear before J.P. Egeland in Livingston for her omnibus hearing. A packed courtroom to support her would be nice. A day of direct action would be even better.

Wanna know what you can do? Come to the park and help out. Come with all you can muster. Come with ideas. Come with outrage. Come with a sense of humor! Just be ready to act! Be ready to spend a summer in the park and in their face! Remember that Delyla, BAG and the bison need not only your help and support but your money! You can send donations to BAG at POB 7326, Bozeman, MT 59771; (406) 586-9141. And, as a special favor to us all, BAG your favorite politician/bureaucrat!

SUPREME COURT SAYS LANDOWNERS CAN SUE UNDER ESA

BY BRIAN VINCENT

On March 19, the US Supreme Court ruled that people who have suffered economic hardship from the Endangered Species Act (ESA) can sue the government to force less protection for species. The suit was brought in 1992 by ranchers and farmers near Klamath Falls, Oregon, over the government's decision to scale back irrigation during a drought. They complained that the scale back, designed to provide more water for the endangered the Lost River sucker and the shortnose sucker, caused them undue financial harm. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) had determined that operations at reservoirs in Oregon and California might jeopardize the species' survival.

"Without water, ranchers had to sell off cattle they couldn't feed, and farmers saw crops die in the fields," Gregory Wilkinson, the attorney for the plaintiffs, told the high court last year. Wilkinson claimed the ranchers and farmers suffered \$75 million in damages because of the FWS' action. The plaintiffs argued that raising lake levels to protect the fish constituted a *de facto* designation of critical habitat and an economic impact analysis was required.

The unanimous decision reversed earlier rulings by lower courts that only those seeking to enforce ESA protections have standing to sue under the Act. Lower courts had ruled in the Oregon case that those claiming economic harm as a result of efforts to protect endangered species did not have legal standing to sue. The Supreme Court disagreed, noting that the ESA allows "any person" to enforce its provisions. That means ranchers, loggers, utility districts and other developers can sue regulators for failing to consider the economic impacts or scientific necessity of protecting imperiled species. In so doing, the court has opened the door to challenges to the scientific basis for agency decisions from an economic standpoint.

Reaction from the conservation community was mixed. Sierra Club attorney Alex Levinson said, "The Club's grassroots citizens rely on open courthouse doors to allow them to protect the environment. This decision may harm our nation's wildlife heritage, though, if powerful, wealthy corporate interests can tie up under-funded agencies in years of court litigation every time they try to protect the nation's dwindling wildlife." Heather Weiner, of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, said the decision will likely result in more lawsuits filed over the ESA, but it did not necessarily give industry and property rights groups an edge over environmentalists. "Our position has always been that citizens ought to have equal access to the courts. The irony is that these industry groups have spent tens of millions of dollars to try to deprive us of that access."

While the ruling may not have direct impact on species protection—since the federal government retains authority to prevent actions which jeopardize listed species—the decision is certain to have a chilling effect on agency implementation and enforcement. Despite its successes, the effectiveness of the ESA has been hampered by a continuing reluctance of the federal government to properly enforce and implement the law. The Clinton Administration has routinely skirted the ESA, failing to list species in obvious trouble, designate critical habitat and/or develop recovery plans. Hoping to avoid political headaches and future lawsuits, the Administration will no doubt put pressure on an already skittish FWS to accommodate development interests.

US Army Tanks Threaten 331,000 Acres of California Desert

BY DANIEL PATTERSON

The US Army is trying to expand its 642,000-acre Ft. Irwin tank-training base to almost 1,000,000 acres by grabbing 331,217 acres of prime east Mojave desert habitat. Big numbers. Big scam.

The proposed Ft. Irwin expansion area, located between I-15 and Death Valley National Park, contains 310,000 acres of BLM public land (about the size of Rocky Mountain National Park). 197,000 acres are within the Avawatz Mountains, South Avawatz Mountains, Kingston Range and Soda Mountains Wilderness Study Areas (WSA's), which are being considered for future official wilderness status and protection. These WSA's were not designated wilderness in the 1994 California Desert Protection Act due to military politics. The Department of Defense has been trying to acquire this land since 1985.

The Army says that with new technol-

ogy it can now engage the enemy from a greater distance, and therefore must have more land for tank war games. "The technology-driven argument scares the hell out of me," explains Jim Dodson, a Sierra Club activist, Air Force budget officer and Army veteran. "Technology never stops evolving, and if you carry this logic through, then in the middle of the next century they'll want all of Southern California." Jeff Wright, a San Bernardino county EFler, said, "The BLM is not a land bank for the Army; it is supposed to be a land steward."

The land the Army wants is huge, remote, strikingly beautiful and rich in native biodiversity. It's a wonderful, wild desert area, full of Joshua trees, desert tortoises, Nelson's desert bighorn sheep, bats, owls, Gila woodpeckers, badgers, chuckwalla, Mojave fringe-toed lizards, springs, rare plants, cultural sites and riparian habitat. It is

Settlement Reached on "No Surprises"

Hoping to avoid further litigation, the Department of Interior reached a settlement with conservation groups on March 18 over FWS' adoption of its "No Surprises" policy.

In 1982, Section 10 of the ESA was amended to allow the taking of threatened species, provided an HCP was approved by FWS. In 1984, FWS adopted regulations requiring HCPs to be altered if they were found to jeopardize the survival and recovery of endangered species.

In 1994, without public notice or comment, the Clinton administration reversed the regulations with its No Surprises policy. Under the new policy, an HCP cannot be altered to increase protection for declining species or newly listed species except under "extraordinary circumstance" and only with the approval of the land owner if the changes require additional payments or development limitations. No Surprises legalizes HCPs even if they are found to endanger target species or fail to protect newly listed species. [The policy essentially reverses the mandate of the ESA to protect endangered species at all costs and instead protects private profits at ecological costs.]

Under the settlement, the Interior Department agreed to provide public notice and allow comment on its controversial initiative. In August 1994, conservation groups—including the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity, Spirit of the Sage Council, Shoshone Gabrielino Nation, Biodiversity Legal Foundation, Fund for Animals and Forest Guardians—sued the government for announcing its No Surprises policy without prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

The groups asked the court to throw out the policy and all HCPs that use it until FWS provided for public notice and comment, as required by the ESA and the Administrative Procedures Act.

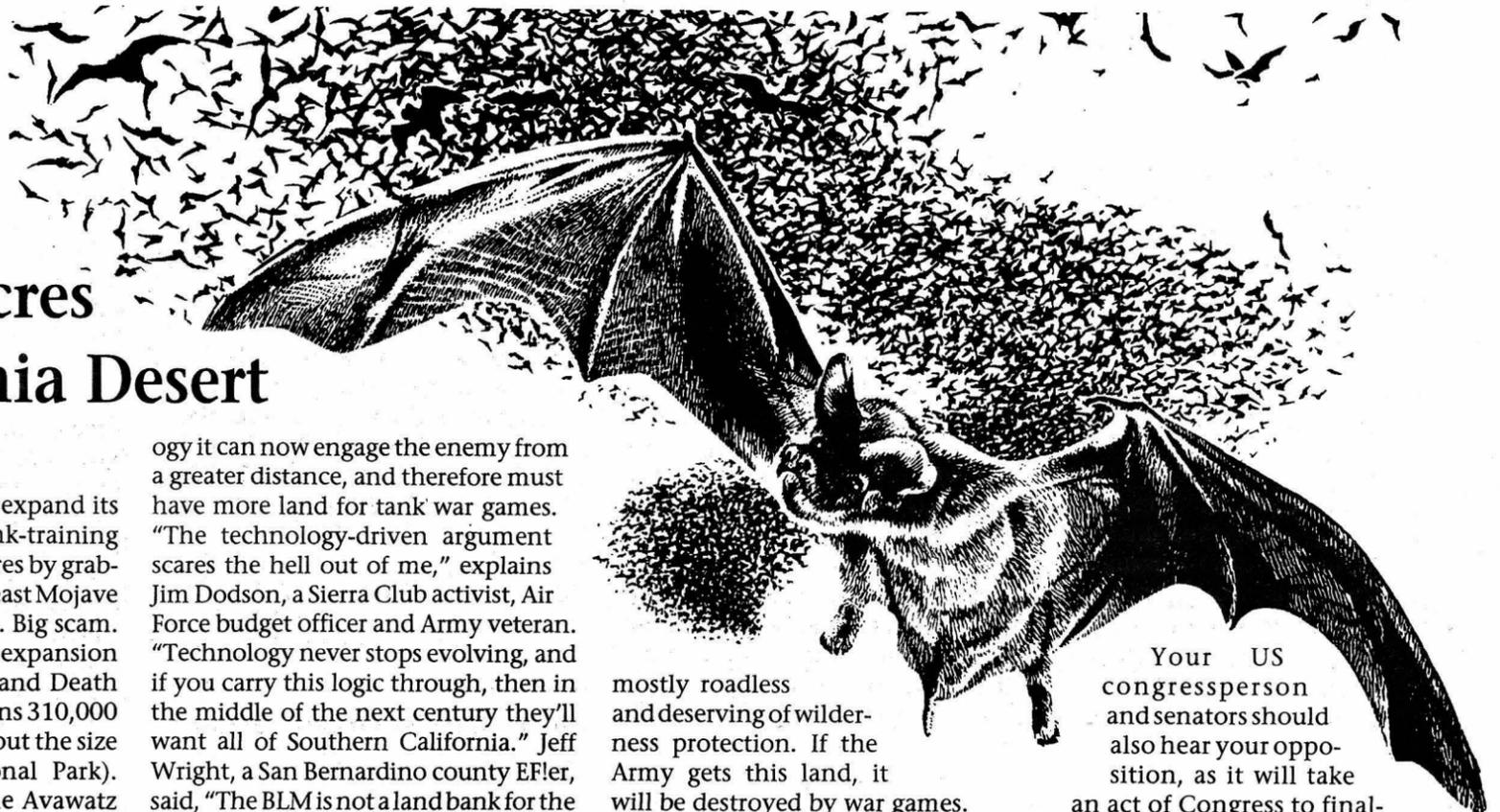
The Department of Interior has now agreed to publish a notice requesting public input on the substance of No Surprises. While the settlement does not preclude the government from processing incidental take permit applications, it does require federal agencies to "ask specifically for, and respond to public comment on, the appropriateness of any No Surprises assurances contained in each incidental take permit application based on an HCP that has not previously been noticed for public comment in the *Federal Register*." [Once the notice is published, the public has 60 days to comment, and the government will then have 150 days to publish its final decision.]

Who to Write to

While FWS has not yet published its request for public comment in the *Federal Register* [it has until May 18, 1997], you can make your voice heard now. It is critically important that we articulate our concerns about No Surprises.

Send comments to Laverne Smith, Chief, Division of Endangered Species at US Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 452, Arlington, Virginia 22203; (703) 358-2171; fax (703) 358-1735.

For more information, contact the Spirit of the Sage Council at POB 77027-102, Pasadena, CA 91107, (909) 422-1637 or the National Endangered Species Network at Bldg. C #347, 915 L St., Sacramento, CA 95814, (961) 753-7187.



mostly roadless and deserving of wilderness protection. If the Army gets this land, it will be destroyed by war games.

It will take a great public outcry to stop the Ft. Irwin expansion. Please take a few minutes to put your opposition on the record against an Army "taking" of public land and natural resources. Tell the BLM to oppose plans to expand Ft. Irwin onto any public lands. Write to Mike DeKeyrel, NTC Land Acquisition Project Lead at BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; fax (760) 255-8799. Comments are due by June 4.

Your US congressperson and senators should also hear your opposition, as it will take an act of Congress to finalize any expansion. You can also protest at local Army facilities to bring attention to the Ft. Irwin expansion. Groups and individuals are encouraged to join the No Public Land for Ft. Irwin! coalition. Contact No Public Land for Ft. Irwin! at POB 7745, San Diego, CA 92107; e-mail: mojaveef@envirolink.org. Do the truly patriotic thing. Work to protect wilderness and your public land.

Ya got somthin' ta say? Well, den

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that reminded us all that Judi was not alone. That the prisons are peppered with political prisoners in this country—people who are not innocent but who are guilty of being effective advocates of change.

We Greens must realize that the more effective we become the more apt we ourselves will be sabotaged and bombed. Bari's struggle is Mumia's. Mumia's is Leonard Peltier's. Leonard's is Geronimo's. And when the Greens speak of Unity, they damn well better be speaking of standing as one with these stalwarts and consolidating the efforts. No amount of structural fine-tuning can fix an irrelevant vision.

Judi's wit was immense, even in her dying days. Although she often quoted Joe Hill, saying, "Don't mourn, organize," as the end neared she chimed, "Don't om-m-m, organize!"

Please pass along if possible our gratitude to Mumia for his inspirational message. And I encourage all Greens to insist on a proclamation of binding support for finding Judi's bombers and bringing the culprits to justice who have imprisoned Mumia, Leonard and Geronimo. No Green meeting of any sort should end without a resolution taking some action toward resolving this terror.

As Judi said, "This is not about me. This is about the ability of every activist to work for social change and justice without the fear of their government's secret police."

—DAN SCANLAN
GRASS VALLEY, CA

EF! Journal,

In the past seven years I've worked as an organizer or volunteer in many parts of the environmental movement. One thing that I've observed as individuals start their journey to save the Earth, whether an Earth First!er or a PIRG canvasser, or a wide eyed college freshmen at their first SEAC meeting, is we begin with the highest ideas and convictions. Unfortunately over time, many of us let our edges erode and become compromised in our approaches to the issues as the realities of the political process and the enormity of our goals becomes apparent.

In the little over a year that I got to know and work with Judi Bari, I found, for the first time in my journey, an organizer and individual who drew the line and refused to never let herself cross over to achieve her will. Even more incredible, despite the disabilities she sustained in the 1990 attempt on her life and that she was raising two daughters, she seemed to become only more radical. Judi was the one who declared this summer that there would be social upheaval in Humboldt County if Charles Hurwitz began logging Headwaters. (She was right!) Judi was the one who headed up the outside support and fundraising for this year's two-month long basecamp, and Judi was the one who made us face the issue of misogyny and patriarchy within our own movement.

There were many times this past fall when I'd call Judi from an action or basecamp with a crisis; the sheriffs were brutalizing lockdowners, there was dysentery in the kitchen, some wingnut was walking around

claiming to be God. She always took my call, calmed my fears and somehow managed to make me laugh at the absurdity of what we face in our struggle. She kept me sane through some of the biggest challenges I've ever faced. As the Headwaters fight continues and we reconvene basecamp and actions this coming fall, I think that's when I'll miss her the most... I love you, Judi.

—JOSH BROWN

To: Dave Morris
Superintendent Olympic NP
600 East Park Ave.
Port Angeles, WA 98362

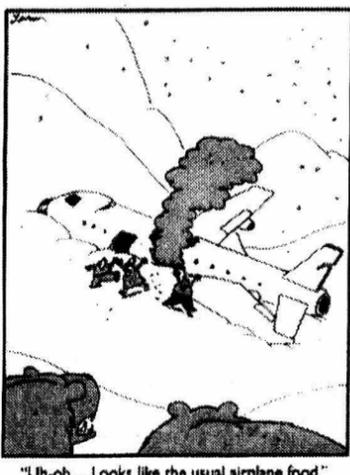
Re: The Lake Crescent Management Plan/DEIS

We oppose the use of recreational motor vehicles and watercraft anywhere in Olympic National Park. One only has to look at the sad example of Yellowstone to see why. If there be any space allocated in the US for citizens to be free of pollution, noise, and the mindless arrogance of motorized travel and recreation, the national parks should be it. Let 'em ride the damn things on tailings piles, settling ponds, logging roads, strip mines, drained reservoirs, abandoned highways, fouled rivers, construction sites, parking lots, dumps, dammed creeks, putrid canals, clearcuts, ore heaps, polluted harbors, overgrazed allotments and the little lakes and manicured lawns of suburbia, where the machines will feel at home.

In addition, if people have to have conferences, let them do so in the endless supply of pastel hotel facilities that host, in their dim florescent-lit confines, gatherings of oily-faced businessmen in suits with nametags. Keep the development crap out of this, and every park, and kindly quit sucking up to the hucksters who, whispering into the ears of certain dim-witted congress-people whose greed outweighs any moral or aesthetic sensibilities by several orders of magnitude, have engendered the odious proposition that our national parks should become theme parks for the bored, lazy, and cash-laden. They may dangle before you a fattened budget with promises of shiny new trucks and neat whizbang GPS collars to track the beleaguered animals with, but you must be strong. You've been given a mission to protect this place, Olympic National Park—for folks to enjoy, yes—but on the landscape's own terms. Don't screw the pooch.

Sincerely,

—JAMES BARNES



Dear friends,

That 1997 Eostar Earth First! Journal is outstanding. I wanted to send a letter to the Pres about something that got me all stirred up, but I can't find His official address anywhere.

Being as how the Earth First! Directory doesn't have a "DC" (Washington) address, maybe it's high time and dang appropriate that it did. Something like:

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The President

c/o Earth First!
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

All relevant letters to the Pres could and should henceforth be so addressed. I just know that He (and Al) will consider this quite an honor. And publishing the right address will help me out.

Thanks,

—FRED

PS. Judi Bari "gone"? Don't kid yourself.

[Ed. note: Thanks for the suggestion, Fred. Now everyone will be able to find the Pres listed in our directory on the inside back page.]

Dear Shit-fer-Brains,

I found this memo crumple up in a trash can. I think it's important that this cabal be exposed.

Signed,

—ANONYMOUS

TOP SECRET • TOP SECRET • MEMO FROM THE EARTH FIRST! COUNCIL OF PATRIARCHS

It has come to our attention that certain young women, whom we have identified, have nearly ruined our plans. Clearly there has been a breach of security. These young ladies are under thirty years of age, before which it is well understood that they should be seen and not heard. They have publicly questioned the wisdom of their elders, in particular, the Men of this Council.

As the Council of Patriarchs Ladies Auxiliary knows, a girls place is at the side of her Eco-Warrior—and those homemade cookies sure are delicious! But these young women who attended the recent EF! Activist Conference attempted to "out" our secret organization. They identified several men who they said were responsible for oppressing them and dissing their lifestyle. Fortunately for us, their identification was incorrect.

They fingered the philandering Jeff Miller, the wretched John Green, the dissipated Craig Beneville and the loathsome James Barnes as Members. Of course, they are not and will never be part of our Patriarchal Council. (Jim Flynn is, but we're trying to kick him out.) These traitors to the Patriarchy have grumbled about being told what to do by important EF! leaders; they hit each other and giggled during serious meetings; they hang out at the Journal office; they have not listened with attitudes of respect to EF! Artists' speeches, poems and songs; they refer to well-known and trusted EF!ers by unflattering names; they associate with Missoulians; they make fun of vegans; they frequently promote violence against humans; and they have been known to say mean things about cops.

Of course, the allegation is laughable that some of their "girlfriends," Acasia B. and Kimberly D. in particular, could be "enabling" their men's dominance... They've got those pa-

thetic fools by their short hairs.

The young women did correctly accuse Brother Chris K. of being a "Traitor to Anarchy," and his lovely wife Michelle of being an "anti-feminist." Chris is a fine fellow and a Member in good standing, but their accusations may prove useful. After all, once a traitor....?

I think we've narrowly escaped real damage this time, but be careful. Steps will be taken to neutralize the offending females.

In Manly Solidarity,

—PAT RIARCHY
GRAND POOBAH OF THE
EF! COUNCIL OF MEN

[Ed. note: Thank you, "Anonymous," for your efforts to bring the EF! Council of Men out of the closet. Now, we need to identify their members and expose them in public.]



Direct action in defense of the Big Wild can take many forms...

Dear SFBs,

I want to respond to criticism directed toward me and the EF! about our reporting on Woody Harrelson's and Alexandra Paul's actions for the forests.

I used to feel the same way as the critics who've weighed in about celebrities jumping in to support our issues. That changed for me in Portland in 1993. A full roster of noted musicians were there to perform at the free Ancient Forest Concert attended by some 70,000 people—making it the largest political gathering in Oregon history.

At a concert press conference, Carole King was taking heat from an obnoxious timber town reporter for her having "Hollywoodized the issue." She fiercely defended herself and the issues: "I've lived in my community for 17 years and I've been on the board of my local environmental group for 15 years. I consider myself a conservationist first and a performer second."

David Crosby followed with a searing analysis of the entire debate. When chastised about his lack of caring for workers, he

said, "We know it's not the guy in his pickup truck, working a dangerous job trying to house and feed his family, that's the enemy. It's the cold-blooded bastards in the board rooms that don't care about workers or ecosystems that are the real problem."

Now, certainly I don't adhere to the notion of rock stars as the vanguard of the Revolution—as some of us mistakenly believed in the pre-Altamount era. But, when Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne and John Trudell play a benefit for the forests, not only is much needed funding raised, we get major press coverage that we wouldn't otherwise have. When Alexandra Paul comes to an action, the media follow. When Woody scaled the Golden Gate Bridge, a hell of a lot more people

heard about Headwaters. When he used his time on Letterman and Barbara Walters to promote, not his movies, but Headwaters, use reduction and fiber alternatives, that really was an activist taking advantage of an opportunity presented him.

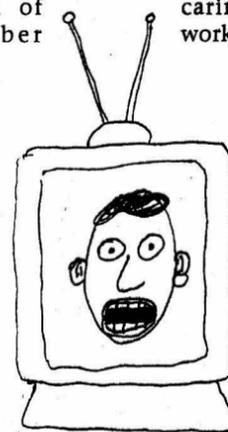
Granted that media attention is a societal flaw. Granted the issue is important enough to stand on its own. But, the point is they're doing it and they very well could be doing nothing at all of social value with their time and money. Certainly, most of their performing peers could give a shit. And, those that do are more likely to step up if they are appreciated, rather than excoriated for their actions.

Bonnie and Jackson deserve praise for their decades of work on nuclear and forest issues. I'm proud of them. I'm glad there's Alexandra Paul and a new generation following their example. Members of Soundgarden recently bought and set aside forest land in Washington state. Where would we be without them? Where would the American Indian Movement be without Marlon Brando? Ask any member of AIM how they feel about Marlon's involvement.

I question Woody's choice of movie roles now and then. But, so what? I don't have to and usually don't watch them. And, I've never watched Alexandra's TV show. And, I think America's infatuation with entertainment royalty is sick. But, ultimately, I'm glad they're out there doing their part.

We're all in it together,

—JUSTIN TIME



stan up and say it, but be brief!

Hiya Earth First!

It's been a while since I wrote for the journal, but, in case any of you were wondering, I'm still hard at it—rainforest conservation projects in Ecuador and New Guinea, reforestation in India, Councils of All Beings and other experiential deep ecology workshops all over the place. I'll be doing a 3-month tour of the US in the fall—12 weekend workshops and maybe 15 deep ecology/rainforest roadshows but more about that in the next issue. For now, I want to tell you about a project in the temperate forests, a project we're calling the Southern Forests Sanctuary or Gondwana World Park. It all started while Eshana and I were hiking in the Cani tree sanctuary near Pucon—Chile's first private park, a magic plateau of endless little lakes and old growth forests dominated by an association of Monkey Puzzle trees (*Araucaria araucana*) and Coihue (*Nothofagus dombeyi*). The Araucaria along with *Alerce* (*Fitzroya cupressoides*) has been a national monument in Chile since the '70s and, although frequently poached, receives at least nominal protection.

The Coihue, however, along with the other members of the *Nothofagus* family, *Lenga* (*Nothofagus pumilio*), etc. are logged, chipped, burned and cleared with abandon and as I was walking in wonder among them in the Cani sanctuary, I had this incredible sense (which I last experienced at Terania Creek in northern NSW in 1979) that they were calling to me to help not only themselves but all the members of the *Nothofagus* family of trees and their associated southern forests. I hadn't felt such a call as strongly as this since Terania Creek in northern NSW in 1979. At that time I was among a few hundred local new settlers so moved by the call of the trees, that we launched what I believe was the world's first direct action in defense of the rainforests. Some two years later, our movement succeeded not only in protecting these few hundred hectares in the Nightcap National Park, but through winning the battle for public opinion in our state, to the creation in one sweep of a string of rainforest national parks throughout the state which protected over half of the rainforests that remained

in New South Wales (see "130 Arrested in Australia," *Earth First! Journal* December 1982).

Anyway, back in the Cani Sanctuary, Chile, 1996, I heard such a call again. It also came to me that I was somehow supposed to enlist the aid of the Antarctic beech trees from Australia (*Nothofagus moorei*) to help protect their Chilean cousins. I felt that this was somehow to be achieved via the common origins of the *Nothofagus* family in Gondwanaland more than 100 million years ago, by knitting the ancient connections back together again with a 4-country environmental education program and celebration of the trees. Somehow, I feel, the ancient Gondwanan connection when "understood" will create some magic that will raise the profile of the *nothofagus* and offer them protection wherever they need it—Myrtle beech (*Nothofagus cunninghamii*) are being logged and chipped in Tasmania; the New Zealand government is breaking an accord it made with the conservation community by logging and chipping their southern beech forests; in Argentina, though there is no woodchip-ping, for the time being anyway, the *nothofagus* forests are most threatened by logging and clearing. So I started to discuss this idea with other Australian and New Zealand groups, with the Chilean Lahuen Foundation and the activist group Defensores del Bosque Chileno, and the Lemu group of activists from the cordillera of Eastern Argentina (who had stopped a dam at Epuen and successfully campaigned to create a string of national and state parks near the border with Chile). To my amazement, the latter presented me with a far-reaching proposal which they had independently prepared, for a southern tree sanctuary south of the 40th parallel (which Chilean, Australian and New Zealand groups have subsequently endorsed) to join the whale sanctuary already in place. The picture of this proposal (by Argentine artist Pedrito Cifuentes) says it all. Check out our other projects, World Rain forest Report, Deep Ecology and find out what YOU can do on our website: <http://forests.org/ric/>

For the Earth,

—JOHN SEED

Dear friends and comrades,

This letter is a response to rumors that seem to have been spread widely and a call for improving the ways we deal with interpersonal problems. A full-details version, including suggestions for better problem solving, is available (hardcopy only). It is too lengthy and personal to ask the *Journal* to print, but you are invited to read it and pass it around. Just send a mailing address to 585 Chenery St., San Francisco, CA 94131 or DParks@Darwin.Stanford.edu.

It's only because of the value I place on the people I've met and worked with in Earth First! over the last 14 years that I choose to respond publicly. If I didn't have that stake, I'd just kiss it off and find other things to be involved in. On a personal level, my reason is to try to avoid unnecessary suffering. I'm always sorry to see anyone feeling hurt or intimidated in the movement, and I really hate to contribute even inadvertently to such situations.

At the 1995 RRR in California I was told that a woman I had met briefly early in the week had accused me of harassing her at the evening rally. I had greeted her and stayed nearby for a while, mostly because she was with someone I had known for several years, but I wasn't paying special attention to her, and our interaction did not involve physical contact or significant conversation. This seemed like a situation where I could apologize for making her uncomfortable and learn what cues I had missed, and she could accept my assurance that it was not a case of intentional harassment. However, my several attempts to resolve things through people I thought to be mutual friends were refused (by the "friends"; I have no idea what she thinks).

At the recent activist conference I found out that at least one person who was not originally involved has taken it upon herself to actively spread false claims of overt and intentional harassment. I don't have everything figured out, but I do not engage in intentional harassment, and I can't accept being called a liar for saying so. I fully realize that harassment of women is a bigger and more general problem than mistaken accusations, but that's not a reason to proceed with prejudice or without checking into assertions before repeating them.

One of the limitations in current *EF!* culture is that the all-purpose response to any conflict is to be confrontational and set up a blockade. This is often an appropriate reflex when dealing with real enemies, but it's not a productive way to resolve differences among people who should be working together.

—DAVE PARKS

Dear old Shit fer Brains,

What's happened to you? You don't look so good. Last issue you looked so bad it was just too much for me to ignore.

All your responses sounded so wimpy and apologetic. You printed the most pathetic apology to Greenpeace after you declare them a "poodle." Then, when Captain "Poodle Lover and Seal Brusher" Watson attacks a past *EF!* editor, you don't even give the old blowhard a slap back!

And what is up with all those cowardly critics not using their real names? Come on "Bay," "Fez Velour," "Unsigned for the Un-sung," "I. M. Pissed," "John Doe," "Oregon green anarchists," "The Green Phantom from Philadelphia," etc. are your arguments so weak that you are afraid to be associated with them?

One last complaint, Rod Coronado's letter last issue was an excessive personal attack on the National Activist Network and a brownnose to PETA (another previous and persistent poodle). C'mon Rod, remember who your friends are.

Other than that, I think the paper looks great and the editors are doing a fine job. Give yourselves a raise!

—JIM FLYNN
(*EF!* READER
SINCE 1988)

Dear Activists,

If our movement is going to promote direct action in defense of the Earth, then we need to get serious about creating effective and responsible support for political targets, defendants and prisoners. We need to be able to trust that we will be supported by the movement when we are targeted, or how much will we really be willing to put ourselves at the risk of imprisonment? What went down between the Nation Activist Network (NAN) and Rod Coronado (*Eostar* 1997, *EF! Journal*) isn't as simple as "just personal infighting," but rather it raises serious issues that have come up in the heat of government repression that have implications for us all. When people put themselves out as support resources for activists targeted by the government, we need to know what their support really means and what conditions may be attached to it.

Our activist communities need to discuss:

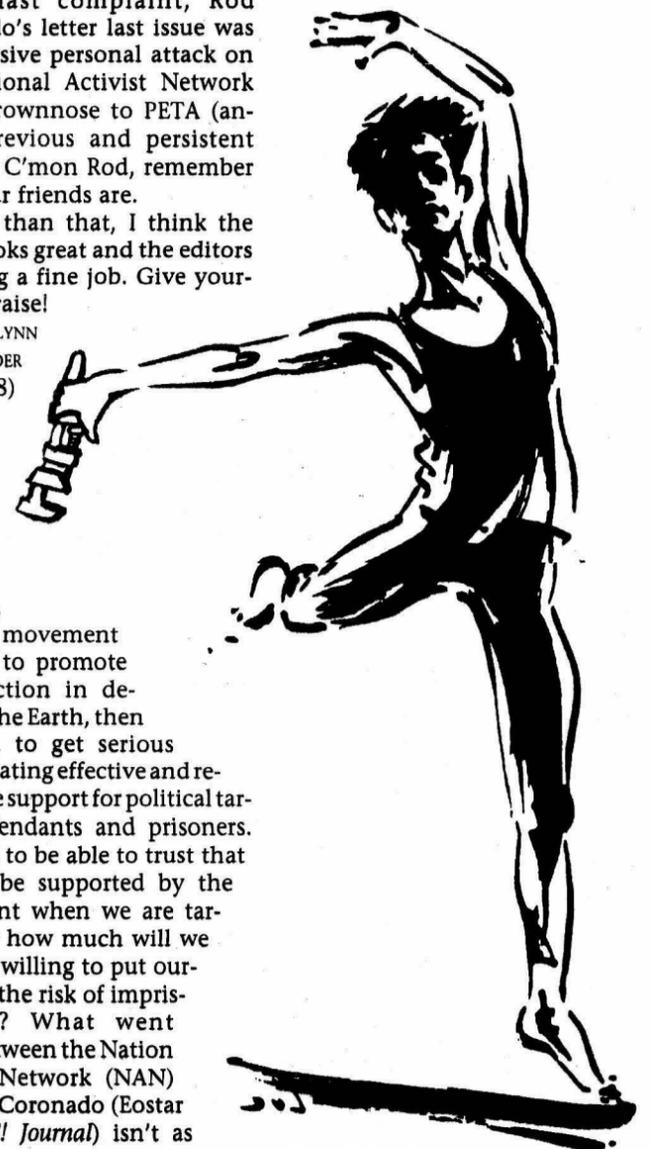
- What standards of conduct will we hold ourselves to when we are defending against government attack?
- In the event of being attacked, what are the individual concerns of people in our groups?
- What support resources are in place or need to be created?
- What do you know about the needs of political targets, defendants and prisoners? Where can you find out?
- What criteria is NAN or other "activist support" groups putting

out as to who they will support? Does their criteria potentially put some of you at risk of non-support or isolation?

We need to build solidarity among ourselves now, and not wait for the next crisis to hit, because it will, and in fact it has: four activists of the Coalition Against the Fur Trade, activists who organize legal campaigns against the fur trade, have been wrongly accused of ALF mink liberations and face more than nine years in prison. YOU CAN HELP by writing the "Mass 4" to express your support and contributing desperately needed donations for legal defense. (Make checks payable to the Mass 4 Support Committee, POB 80632, Minneapolis, MN 55408.)

In solidarity,

—ANNIE



Dear Friends,

I have been writing to a political prisoner in Tennessee. Although his crimes are not in connection with the environmental movement, he is a supporter of such issues. He has requested I write to you, to inform you that the prison where he is presently incarcerated is pumping raw sewage into the river, called Duck River, which runs by the prison. The prison is: Turney Center Industrial Prison, Route I, Only, Tennessee 37140-9709, USA.

He would like to remain anonymous due to any recriminations he might receive over raising the issue. I am unaware of the exact laws surrounding such issues in Tennessee, but it seems likely that this would be illegal. If there is anything you can do, or anyone you can inform of this situation to attempt to get it stopped it would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely
(name withheld)

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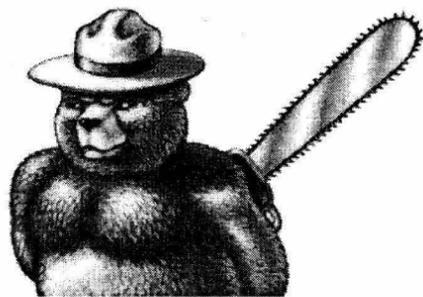
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Only You Can Prevent Logging on Public Lands



With your help, June 4, 1997 will be a historic day. It's the national day of action to end logging on public land. If we can pull off a series of coordinated actions nationwide, just prior to the introduction of a "Zero Cut" bill, we will force the timber industry to react to us. For the first time in the history of the forest movement, they will be on the defensive.

Why June 4th? Because that day marks 100 years since the first logging "rider" was passed. The Forest Reserve System, as it was originally set up in 1891, prohibited resource extraction on our public lands. Then, in 1897 the so called Organic Act was passed. But it wasn't an "act" at all. It was tagged onto a spending bill with no public debate.

The Forest Service motto is "Caring for the land and serving the people." A simple look at their books and the landscape and it is obvious that they are "Trashing the land and serving the corporations." In 1996 the government spent about \$1.3 BILLION of our money on the timber program. Not a cent was returned to the treasury that didn't go into other timber related funds. We spent all this only to produce the equivalent of 3.9% of total US consumption of wood and fiber. We dumped three times that into the landfills! The polls consistently show that the American people oppose logging on public land. Since the Forest Service won't manage the land in the public's interest, we must make them stop!

So what's new with the Zero Cut campaign? A new network of grassroots groups across the country committed to working the Zero Cut message into their work. The Sierra Club is preparing to introduce legislation that will end commercial logging on public lands in June. Nationwide, activists are organizing a series of actions ranging from letter writing campaigns to more colorful and newsworthy events such as large demonstrations and direct action! That's where you come in!

How can you help? Talk to your community and figure out what you plan to do, and then let us know. We are trying to have a meeting about zerocut with every regional forester and forest supervisor. Where there are particularly egregious sales, the district rangers should hear from us. There are also some woods actions planned to stop logging on that day. We are going to play connect the dots with the national media and get the widespread attention this issue deserves!

Contact the following about the campaign. We want to hear your ideas and can provide the shocking Zero Cut facts, pamphlets, educational videos, planning and media support.

Phil Nanas, Protect Our Public Lands, POB 25431, Eugene, OR 97402; (541) 461-8733; zerocut2@aol.com and John Johnson, Southeast Center For Ecological Awareness, POB 4213, Chattanooga, TN 37405; (423) 266-8324; secea@chattanooga.net.

CASCADIA RISES

The Summer of '97 will bring some of the most hideous abuses of corporate power to the last intact forests of the Pacific Northwest. Despite legal and legislative challenges to capitalistic greed, the war on the Earth rages on in endless search for profit. Wild critters are fleeing in terror as industrial society closes in on their homes. How can we stand by and watch?

WHERE WILL YOU BE THIS SUMMER?

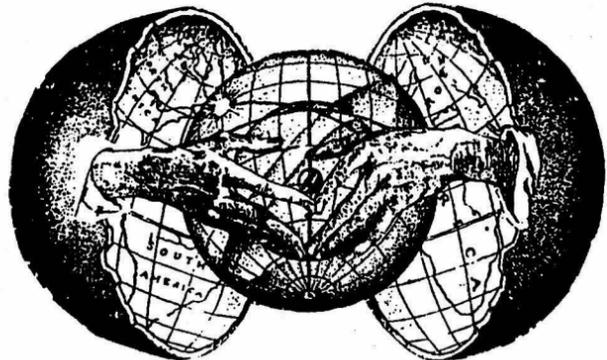
Come help starve the corporate beast as it plunders its way through the public lands of Cascadia. Spend the summer on the front lines of direct action eco-defense. Join the countercultural dance of ecological and social resistance, while creating alternatives to the waste and alienation of modern society.

- Ongoing direct action and training base camps will rotate throughout Cascadia, creating a network of nonviolent resistance, blockades, occupations and tree villages. Squat the forest, liberate the land!

- Summer basecamp kickoff in the beginning of June, followed by a national coordinated day of action for the Zero Cut campaign on June 4.

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No More Roads in our National Forests

On May 29, forest activists all over the country will participate in protests aimed at the US Forest Service, calling for **No More Roads in our National Forests!**

The Forest Service has already constructed over 386,000 miles of roads in our national forests. This is the equivalent length of 14 rings around the earth, or about one and one-half trips to the moon. This is also over eight times the length of the US interstate highway system. **This makes the USFS the biggest (socialized) road building organization in the world.**

We need wholesale, radical change in the way our national forests are managed, and we need it now. Take a break from putting out brush fires, and on May 29 go to the Forest Service office near you. Tell them how you feel. Make a scene.

The Forest Service has been able to fool too many people for too long, and we can't rest until every East Coast yuppie and Oklahoma sixth-grader knows that Smokey has been a very bad bear.

For a "Keep It Roadless" flyer or for more information, contact the Cove/Mallard Coalition at (208) 882-9755 or the Northern Rockies Preservation Project at (208) 345-8077.

NAFTA Superhighway Anti-Road Show Coming to the Midwest in May

Earth First! troubadours Danny Dolinger and Peg Millett will head up the Alliance for a Paving Moratorium's NAFTA Superhighway "Anti-Road Show." The multimedia show will show the true costs of "free" trade and more roads.

From Texas to Michigan the Anti-Road Show will educate and activate communities on and near the route for the proposed I-69 extension, culminating in a big demonstration in Memphis on May 28 to coincide with a public hearing on the entire I-69 NAFTA Superhighway proposal.

Interstate 69 presently extends from Flint, Michigan, to Indianapolis, Indiana, but as the NAFTA Superhighway it would plow through farmlands, forests and hundreds of communities in eight states, plus Canada and Mexico—all to facilitate truck trade that would result from the transnational corporate exodus to the south. This will add to air pollution, traffic congestion, global warming, roadkill and human death. Local economies and quality of life would suffer as development moves from town centers to narrow strips along the highway.

The Anti-Road Show Touring Dates:

Waco, TX—May 5, Tom Wiggins, Waco Natural Foods (817) 772-5743

Houston, TX—May 7, Drusha Mayhew, Sierra Club (713) 864-6168

Shreveport, LA—May 8, Jeff Wellborn, Sierra Club (318) 868-5243

Little Rock, AR—May 9, M. Sullivan, Students React (501) 224-3418

Fayetteville, AR—May 11, unconfirmed (888) ACT-4-APM

Memphis, TN—May 13, Scott Banbury (901) 452-5086

Chattanooga, TN—May 15, Katuah EF! (423) 624-3939

Nashville, TN—May 17, Katie Culver TFDC, (615) 383-5003

Carbondale, IL—May 18, unconfirmed (888) ACT-4-APM

St. Louis, MO—May 19, Mark Quercos (314) 772-6463

Columbia, MO—May 20, Jillian and Devin (573) 443-6832

Bloomington, IN—May 21, Sandra Tokarski, CARR (812) 825-9553

Indianapolis, IN—May 22, Andy Knott, HEC (317) 685-8800

Heartwood Forest Council—May 23-26, Heartwood (812) 337-8898

Paducah, KY—May 27, Christie Hanson, RACE (618) 564-3367

Memphis, TN—May 28, BIG DEMO and PUBLIC HEARING at the AGRICENTER, noon until 3 p.m. Contact (888) ACT-4-APM or Scott Banbury at (901) 452-5086.

For more information about the Alliance for a Paving Moratorium's work to promote alternatives to more roads and cars, or the new Coalition Against NAFTA Superhighways that APM is building, call (707) 826-7775 or write to POB 4347, Arcata, CA 95518.

Heartwood Forest Council Full Circle • May 23-26

Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend the 7th Annual Heartwood Forest Council, "Full Circle," to be held Memorial Day weekend (May 23-26) at Camp Rivervale in southern Indiana, nestled among the forests and farms along the White River near Spring Mill State Park. Seasoned activists, newcomers and other friends of the forest will assemble for entertaining and educational programs, workshops and strategy sessions, and coordination of efforts to protect our precious remnant hardwood forests. Delicious vegetarian meals will be provided as well as music, drumming, dancing, day hikes and a celebration of the changing of the seasons.

The theme for this year's event, "Full Circle," reflects the expansion of the

Heartwood network, and it is the first Heartwood Forest Council to be held in Indiana since the meetings that led to the organization's founding were held there nearly seven years ago. The program for this year's event will likewise address the full circle of issues which threaten our forests, from destructive logging to the invasion of chip mills to wasteful use and disposal of wood and paper, as well as the needs of grassroots organizations and the spiritual and physical well-being of forest activists.

Join in the action, come gather around the fire, and be a part of the Full Circle!

For more information or to help out, contact Heartwood at POB 1424, Bloomington, IN 47402-1424; (812) 849-3631.

Big Woods Rendezvous

Minnesota · May 24-26

The Big Woods Rendezvous is a three-day action gathering for new or long-life activists working for peace and environmental justice. The Big Woods Rendezvous will offer people opportunities to build affinities and put tools in our direct action tool box. The Rendezvous will bring together a diverse community to develop new skills while sharing time-tested tactics to affect critical social change.

Nonviolence workshops, tree climbing, banner hanging, blockades and scouting, community organizing, consensus decision making, campfire revelry, issue discussions and more!

Meet in the old oak grove on the shore of Lake Geneva near Alberta Lea, MN. Call or e-mail for more information. Eric at (612) 333-1917; e-mail: ecarl102@aol.com; www.geocities.com/rainforest/7094

Earth First! Gathering in the UK

July 8 to 13 · Action 14-15

Last Summer saw the biggest Earth First! gathering in the UK to date. 400 people from all over Britain, as well as Europe and the rest of the world, spent 5 days in a beautiful, remote part of North Wales. There were talks and workshops ranging from actions to save the Australian rainforests to self-defence classes, blockading nuclear convoys to setting up solar panels. There was also plenty of football, tai chi, acoustic music, swimming in the lake and all round having a good time with old and new friends.

The '97 gathering will be very similar, but there is always room for improvement. We are seeking presentations by eco-direct action campaigns from Britain and abroad. We also want to hear from people who would like to discuss movement-wide issues, such as gender, the history of previous UK movements, or how to run a successful campaign. A space will be provided to allow discussions on controversial issues within the direct action movement. If there is something you feel needs to be sorted out, then tell us.

The gathering is also an opportunity for people to learn new skills and techniques that are of use to direct action campaigns. We need trainers to teach such things as building lock-ons, producing press releases, self defence, first aid, putting up tripods, legal support, etc.

The exact location of the site will not be announced until the day before the gathering although the general area will be publicised in May. This is to stop police from hassling the land owner. This year we are going to ensure it is easy to get to the site by public transport.

After the last gathering, we disrupted an RAF training base and a British Aerospace Engineering factory involved in the supply of Hawk aircraft and the training of their pilots for the Indonesian military. We need your help with this year's action.

Although people are organizing this for free, there are still a lot of expenses: printing fliers, phone bills, possible marquee hire, money for food, bond for the land owner... over a thousand pounds. Anyone up for a benefit gig or got some cash? Send cheques to "Earth First!" at the address below. We'll be asking for a donation from people attending, probably around ten pounds for the week.

If you'd like to be involved or for more information, contact the EF! Gathering, c/o 16 Sholebroke Avenue, Chapeltown, Leeds, LS7 3HB, UK; phone/fax (phone 1st) 0113 262 9365; e-mail: cornerstone@gn.apc.org.

Fund for Wild Nature

A non-profit, tax-exempt foundation which funds research, education and literature projects. Funding proposals and donations can be sent to: POB 1657, Corvallis, OR 97339

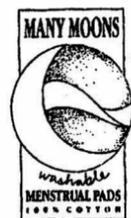


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Northwest Regional Rendezvous

Eastern Oregon · May 23-26

Join us Memorial Day weekend in eastern Oregon's Mahleur National Forest for more fun, education and action than you can shake a piece of downed woody debris at! The rendezvous will be located on the stunningly beautiful South Fork of Deer Creek, within the proposed "SS Deer/Jobs" timber sale. The rendezvous site is in an already impacted area of ponderosa pine, aspen and mixed conifer.

Rendezvous organizers are planning a diverse array of workshops, walks and action trainings, complemented by fabulous music and fine suds to quench the most dedicated eco-activist's thirst.

A word of caution: Eastern Oregon is known to harbor wise use types. Watch out for potentially hostile situations in the rural communities around the rendezvous site.

To get to the rendezvous: Get your butt to eastern Oregon. Coming from the north on US Highway 395, go 17 miles south of the town of John Day and turn right (west) on County Road 63. (Coming from the south, County Road 63 is 52 miles north of Burns.) Head west on 63 for 10 miles to Forest Service Road 24. Turn right on 24 and go 10 miles to Forest Service Road 425. Turn left on to 425 (your only choice), go 1.2 miles on 425, then turn left on to FS Road 430 and park.

Southwest Regional Rendezvous

San Luis, Colorado · June 6-8

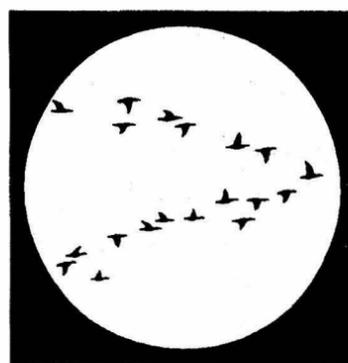
The headwaters of the Rio Grande Basin in Colorado's San Luis Valley are wrought with the scars of 150 years of industry extraction. It is also home to the Southwest's largest, and perhaps the nation's largest logging operation, on the once pristine Taylor Ranch (known to locals as La Sierra). Taylor's foresters have plans to remove 210 million board feet of lumber off the ranch in the next 10 years.

Join together with activists from across the Southwest in San Luis, Colorado to see the mountains and forests which give life to the Rio Grande.

Join us in discussing issues and projects threatening the ecosystems of the Southwest. Come prepared to learn about campaigns and environmental activism throughout the Southwest. Share stories, experience and bear witness to one of the nation's most damaging logging operations.

For more details and a map to the Southwest Regional Rendezvous contact Ancient Forest Rescue at POB 762 San Luis, Colorado 81152; (719) 672-3012. Please write or call if you would like to give a presentation or performance during the rendezvous.

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'T WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE EARTH DAY

'Twas the night before Earth Day, when all through our town
not a creature was stirring, 'cause there were none left around
The streets were all swept, balloons flew in the air
to mark the grand opening of a Homeowner's Fair
There were billboards and banners and tour buses parked
the land that was left survey stakes marked
And Jim Bob was there to see this new leap
when he settled to bed for a long April sleep

Jim Bob tossed and he turned and he drooled in his bed
while visions of profit margins danced through his head
He'd rise to the peak of wealth and of fame
ten more UT buildings would soon bear his name
Swiss bank accounts would be on the rise
golden-cheeked warblers being swatted like flies
Ten dollars made for each dollar he spent
everything that he touched would be turned to cement
and once the country is paved over and barren
he'd rename the nation Freeport-McMarren
Jim Bob had a wet dream as his vision unfurled
"Today Barton Creek, tomorrow the World!"

When all of a sudden he awoke to the sound
of the breaking of glass inside the compound
He threw off his covers and jumped with a fright
"Who could it be this time of night?"

He ran down the stairs and out into the street
then he looked all around and he cried in defeat
His fair had been ruined, he viewed such a scandal
for this was the work of no normal vandal
And who did he see but old Santa Claus
all dressed in black, with a wrench and a cause

Jim Bob shat in his pants as he trembled in fear
the time of his judgment was coming too near
for one thing about Jim Bob that nobody knows
was that he'd killed the last reindeer with a shining red nose
And though Santa was a story Jim Bob didn't believe in
on that fateful night, Santa came to get even!

Now each tour bus was toppled, the tires were slashed
not a window was left that hadn't been smashed
The gates welded shut so no one could get through
the locks to the homes were all coated with glue
The plumbing removed from each bathroom stall
"NO COMPROMISE" painted on every wall
Barton Creek algae filled every new fridge
and Santa had even blown-up the bridge!

Santa smiled at Jim Bob, and knew he'd taken his toll
He jumped into his sled and back to the North Pole
He sped through the air, there was no time to linger
He laughed "Ho! Ho! Ho!" and gave Jim Bob the finger
Then Santa exclaimed as he flew out of sight
"Merry Earth Day to all, but to you...an Earth Night!"

—Dome Anslande

POEM FOR THE RHINO IN MATOPOS

This is for the rhino we approached
In Matopos Park
Intruding close enough on foot
That I could see the sad sad eyes
The forlorn resignation
That there's nothing anyone can do about us.

They call him James
As if colonialism should continue.
Something gave him a bad foot
Making it harder to keep away
From all the cameras
All the annoying, silly people
Who want to get as close as possible
But don't bother to learn about you
Don't remember those sad sad eyes.
He left footprints in the dust like great lily pads.
When the mightiest creature surrenders
We'll have to turn and face ourselves.

—Jenny McBride

Montani Semper Liberi

I sat staring directly at the mountain
across from the U-shaped ridge
upon which I was camped,
thinking of the giants
upon whose shoulder I stood.
The meditating Bodhisattva
who giggled like Han Shan
while staring at these same rilled monstrosities,
The Catholic Mystic whose voice carried over
the number-nine wire I have struggled
to remove.

As I stared
I heard a boulder crash
down the side of Three Fools Peak
and I remembered that "growing in the open air
and eating and sleeping with the earth
is the secret to making the best persons,"
and mountaineers are always free.

—Chuck Brushwood

I Want to See a Wolf

I'd like to see a wolf,
See that embodiment in the wild
All the power wrapped in that fur
All the knowledge flaming in those eyes
All the fiery mystery of survival
Silent in that scent.

But maybe
I'd like to see an animal
Who has seen a wolf
Without making a show to me
Of all the hunger and fate escaped.

—Jenny McBride

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DARRYL CHERNEY

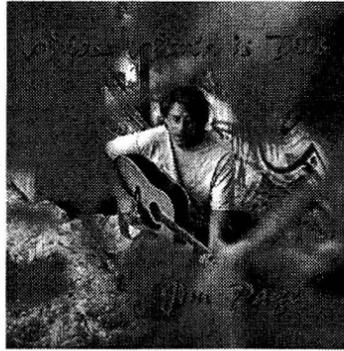
No one can create a campaign song as fast as Darryl. He's a campfire favorite.
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NED MUDD AND HIS RUSTIC BAND

Ned's music is neither technically nor politically correct. Many of the songs were recorded in a burned-out warehouse; but, hey, they sound great!
"Fine Time in America" Suburbia Blues, Nation of Sheep, Vacation from the Rest of the World TAPE—only \$8

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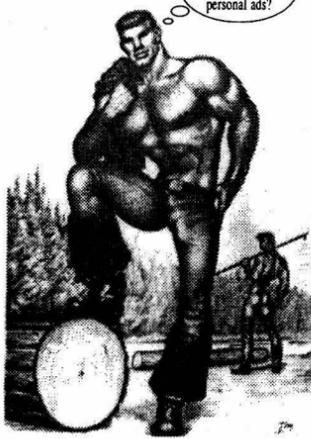
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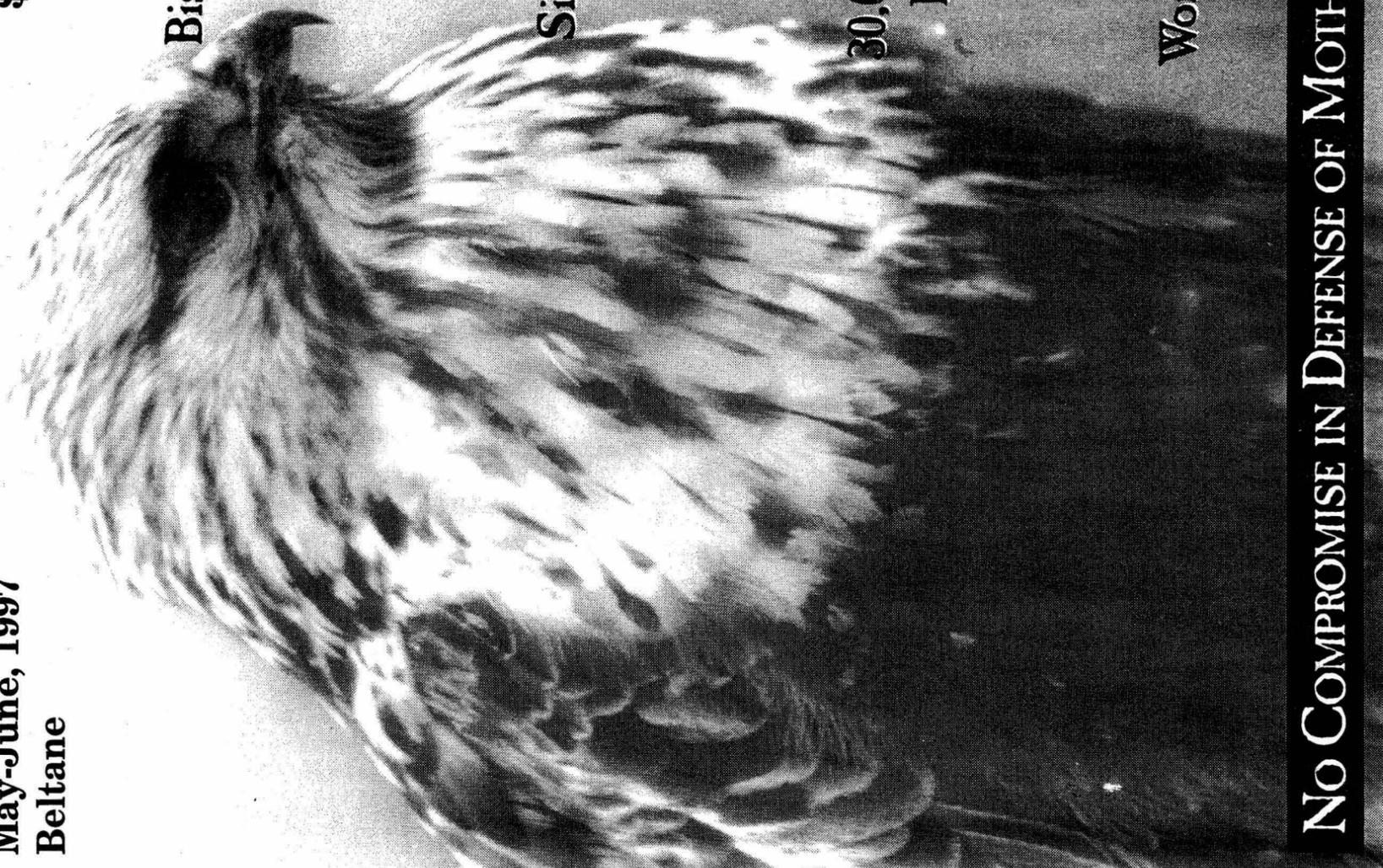
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