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# Earth First!

Beltane

Vol. 20, No. 5

May-June, 2000

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

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## Climbing Proud—The New Canopy Action Network Born

BY SPRIG

One night in 1985, Ron Huber and Mike Jakubal were sitting around a campfire disconcerted that the traditional, short-lived blockade was the only action in the works to stop the logging of 700-1000-year-old trees by Willamette Industries. Jakubal was a rock climber, and somewhere in that late night conversation, he and Huber dreamt up a way to sustain a perch 80 feet up in a Douglas fir. Within days an affinity group from Cathedral Forest Action made it a reality. Loggers came to work one morning to find Jakubal, that day known as "Doug fir," on his platform prepared for a week-long standoff in the unit. The unit was part of an area locally known as Millennium Grove in the Oregon's Willamette National Forest, east of Sweet Home.

Surprisingly, the debut of this innovative tactics didn't hold the US Forest Service and Willamette Industries off long. After lunch they started to fell trees as close as 20 feet from his platform. At the end of the workday, they had cut every tree except for the one he was sitting in. The loggers did their dirty deed and then went home, so Jakubal thought. Probably the first person to witness the massacre of a forest 80 feet up, Jakubal "quietly climbs down to inspect the shattered remains of the once mighty trees. He sits on a fresh stump. A Freddy lunges out from behind a bush, tells him to stop, falls flat on his face, gets up and arrests 'Doug fir,'" recounts an old, yellowed edition of the *EF!J*. (Lesson # 1 for treesitters: Make sure there is always a wookie in the tree.) That may have been the end of the first treesit to save old-growth forests, but it

was really only the beginning. They would try several other treesits that would postpone logging in the Millennium Grove until the massacre a year later.

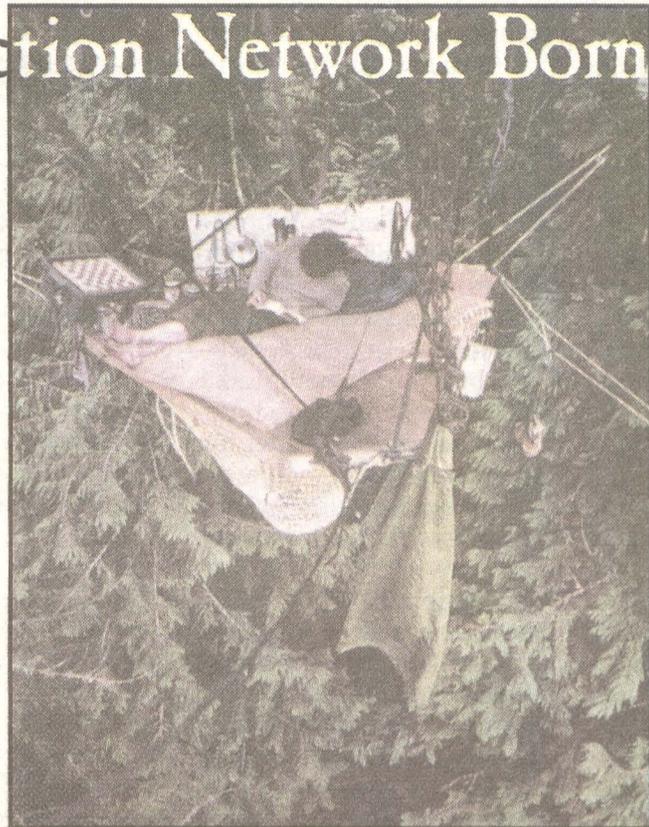
The history of treesitting as a tactic has evolved tremendously since the first sit in North America which was set by spurring up the tree. Today wookies girth trees or free climb to set the first line. Later that summer of 1985, sitters started to tie in to other trees in the Millennium Grove, creating the first small village of about five to six activists. R. Dendron was the first female treesitter in 1986.

In 1987, Randy Prince stayed up for around 42 days in Southern Oregon's North Kalmiopsis treesit. He only left his seven and one-half by three-foot pod complete with typewriter because two days earlier a logger cut into a third of the tree with a chainsaw rendering the sit unstable. During the summer of 1987, treesitters went south to help with the first redwood sits on so-called private lands. These were much higher—130 feet up in the Headwaters groves in Northern California.

### Roots

When you look into the roots of treesitting, you see natural ties between the direct action tree villages of today and the aboriginal tree peoples of New Guinea, Africa and Indonesia. There are tree people called Mava and Muscona in New Guinea living in tree houses 75 feet up. They sleep in close quarters, shit from catwalks and have developed a sophisticated yodeling-like language to call from tree to tree.

continued on page 23



Treesitter in "Sorrow" at the Winberry treesit

Photo by Paul Dix

## GRAIN RAGE CREMATES CARGILL

BY FOSTER WILDNESS AND EMMA GARDENER

On March 20-21, three thousand or so farmers gathered in Washington DC for the "Rally For Rural America." In opposition to the destruction that genetic engineering is inflicting on the planet and in solidarity with the farmers worldwide who are resisting globalization, activists from Grain RAGE (Resistance Against Genetic Engineering) and the Agricultural Action Network (AAN) decided to bring the resistance to the front doors of one of the companies responsible, Cargill, who happens to have its world headquarters just minutes from Minneapolis. Cargill was chosen because it is one of the largest privately-owned corporations and the largest grain handler in the world. It is a major player in food distribution, agricultural biotech research and the push for globalization. Cargill recently gave the University of Minnesota \$10 million to help build a molecular biology research building and claims the solution to the farm crisis is to open up China to Minnesota grain, something our Governor Jesse "No Mind" Ventura also espouses.

Employees coming to work at Cargill on the morning of March 21 were not in for business as usual. The company was expecting a rally at 9:00 a.m. What it

was not expecting were two junked cars with people locked down blocking both sides of its four-lane divided main entrance at 7:30 a.m. As the teams drove in, the laughter couldn't be contained as we watched groundskeepers hammering temporary "No Trespassing" signs and hanging yellow tape to create an enclosure for the scheduled rally. We drove right past them. Some magical beings also managed to close and chain the back gates.

Employees arriving found themselves in a two-mile traffic jam, as Cargill security and police managed to squeeze cars (just barely) past one blockade. Employees had to drive past huge signs proclaiming "Cargill burn your fields!" and "Cremate Cargill!" and had to endure white-clad RAGE'ers yelling, "Burn the buildings, pull the crops, this is where the research stops!"

and singing, "Take these crops and shove it." This clearly was not the sign waving rally Cargill expected. The police finally arrived and pushed us all back to the highway where we couldn't see the blockade. After an hour, the fire department arrived. After blowing the gaskets on a jaws of life, they cut both lockdowns out and didn't arrest them. We even got our blockading devices back.



Traffic blocked alá Grain RAGE

Photo courtesy Grain RAGE Media Collective

continued on page 23

## Hatching a Plan Against Bt Spray

BY ASANTÉ RIVERWIND

Enjoying a clear, wonderfully warm spring day, I was grateful to see two of this early season's first butterflies, an orange fritillary and one I don't know yet. Just a few days ago, the first yellow bell flowers arose from subterranean slumber, brightening these mountain ridges with their blooms. Tonight I sit watching the embers of an ebbing fire flare and spark with the wax and wane of the night's breeze, musing in thought beneath the same glittering stars that millennia of Earth's kindred wild ones have looked upon in wonder. Listening to the coyotes' magical chorus, it is hard to find rhyme or reason in the imminent nightmare facing these forests of eastern Cascadia.

This spring the US Forest Service (USFS) plans to spray 230,000 to over 2,000,000 acres on nine national forests in eastern Oregon and Washington with the biocide *Bacillus thuringiensis* Kurstaki (Btk): the Winema, Fremont, Ochoco, Malheur, Umatilla, Wallowa-Whitman, Wenatchee, Okanagan and Colville. Ostensibly the target is the native Douglas fir tussock moth (TM). However, Btk is lethal to all moths and butterflies in caterpillar stage.

Worldwide there is a significant population decline of *Lepidoptera*, the order of insects that contains all moth and butterfly species. The reasons are many and varied, including loss of viable habitat and food sources, poisons and viruses. Synergistically, today's human societies are taking a heavy toll upon some of nature's most beautiful and fragile creatures. While some of the societal causes for *Lepidoptera* declines may take time or catastrophe to change, other deadly attacks upon butterflies and moths are increasing in severity and frequency.

continued on page 22

# EARTH FIRST!



NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

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

## A MESSAGE FROM MY SOAPBOX

This last month I spent many a night in our merchandise room perusing old issues of the *Earth First! Journal*. Thus, I frequently found myself laughing at the old "Dear Shit fer Brains" and quite often fell asleep confused about where we are heading as a movement. What I found in these old *Journals* was surprising and inspiring. While I have heard many critiques of the early EFlers—they're a bunch of "rednecks for wilderness," misanthropes, beer guzzlers, etc.—I was inspired by a lot of what I read.

The early EFlers not only were churning out a fairly regular newsletter but many of them were the same people who were out blocking roads, playing rowdy roadshows and creating a ruckus. Judging from many of these articles and actions, they were innovative, not afraid to make asses of themselves, irreverent to authority and knew the land they defended. There is something to be said for a group of people who were able to go head to head with a Freddie scientist about the land the Forest Service planned to despoil and then go block the road leading in to a wild area.

After thinking about the early days of the movement (and reflecting on my meager experience) I have some suggestion on where EF! should go (no, I'm not referring to moving the *Journal* and yes, these are only my humble opinions):

### Old school with a twist of added diversity!

We need to hearken back the positive aspects of the early part of our movement. Let's stop kissing the asses of our opposition. It is one thing to treat someone like a living being; it is another to kowtow to them. Some of us EFlers these days would probably assail Howie Wolke for squashing James Watts' hand in the early 80s with cries of "nonviolence." What else can we learn from the early EFlers? How about knowing the

land or area we are defending inside and out? If we don't know our shit, how can we expect anyone (including other EFlers) to take us seriously? Also, the early EFlers supported monkeywrenching and advocated it openly in a pretty mischievous way (how's publishing *Ecodefense* for openness?). These days, many EFlers seem to cringe at the thought of property destruction. Have things gotten better in the last 20 years?

### Eco-Anarchism

Anarchy you say? What does that have to do with Earth First!? For starters, it is the alternative to the destruction that we are fighting. Too often I see that we are limiting ourselves by fighting this timber sale or that destructive practice. Instead I think we should look deeper and focus on the root causes of our dire situation. In the last 10 years, a fundamental critique of civilization and its deleterious effects has emerged that holds many lessons for us. We are part of this living planet and thus our fight is one of self defense and not one of martyr-driven activism. As we fight the domestication of wild nature, we fight the domestication of ourselves. Let's stop fighting the ten-

tacles of the hydra and start addressing the root causes.

### Sab 'em

We need to re-embrace the concept (and practice) of monkeywrenching. The destruction of property and economic sabotage has been a successful tactic in our fight to save the wild. By itself sabotage cannot do it all, but as we have seen in the last couple of years it can slow the bastards down. The last two years alone have seen numerous lab and fur farm raids by the Animal Liberation Front, strategic arson of Vail Inc., American Forest Products, Boise Cascade and a biotechnology lab at Michigan State University by the Earth Liberation Front, and over 25 trashed genetically-engineered crops and tree sites. Are we as a radical movement going to shrink away from supporting these actions? I say we should be extremely public about supporting this sort of militant action. This support can have a chilling effect on the Feds' ability to grand jury and harass a few activists that dare to speak out for these groups.

Like I said, just some opinions or a rant—you be the judge.

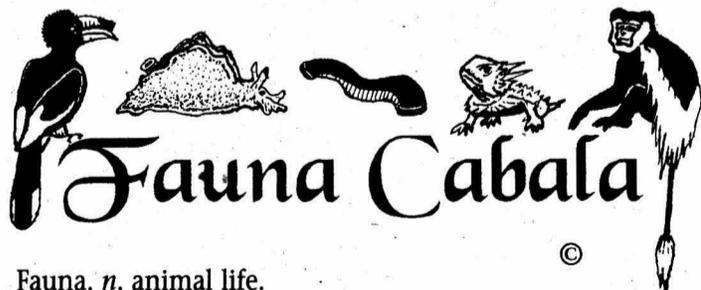
~NIGHTCRAWLER

## • Earth First! Journal •

### DELUXE 20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The *Samhain* (November 1) 2000 issue of the *Earth First! Journal* will be the 20th anniversary issue of the paper. The deluxe issue will include articles from a diverse collection of authors, a list of EF! victories, memorials to fallen places and comrades, "top-10" lists, EF! action "records" and "firsts," an EF! movement timeline, and much more! Send your writings, drawings, nominations, musings, photos, poetry, proposals, pontifications, poophead-bound letters to: EF! 20th, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440.



Fauna. *n.* animal life.  
Cabala. *n.* an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

In springtime, male song sparrows (*Melospiza melodia*) duel with operatic fury and *savoir faire*. Most male songbirds have but one song, and wield it in such a way as to attract mates and compete with other males. Some, however, like the song sparrow, have a half dozen or so song types, called repertoires. After a male hatches, he learns songs from older, territorial neighbors. In particular, he learns songs that his neighbors share, but not those unique to individual birds. He then attempts to establish a territory near his tutors, sometimes replacing a bird who dies. The following spring, his first breeding season, he retains only those songs of his neighbors who survived. Lifetime reproductive success hinges not on repertoire size, but on the percent of

shared songs; sharing enables him to hold a territory through more breeding seasons.

How this occurs is a bit of a mystery, but it's clear that they have a quite sophisticated neighbor recognition system, resulting in stable neighborhoods. Early in the breeding season, when territories are being staked, neighbors will respond to each other with the identical song in battles peaking at 200 songs per bird, per hour. Later, they will respond not with the same song, but with a different one held in common. This less threatening response isn't upgraded to song-matching unless a neighbor crosses into another male's territory. To stranger calls, however, even strangers off-territory, males will respond with songs that aren't shared with neighbors. Females, meanwhile, can individually identify neighborhood males by the songs in their repertoires. They find their mates' songs most attractive, followed by neighbors' songs of the same type. Thus, the communication hidden in song variations—which can also employ following and leading, asynchrony and tonal frequency manipulations—is stunningly complex and decidedly bird-brained.

BY FAITH WALKER

## Earth First! Journal

### Beltane

May 1, 2000

Vol. 20, No. 5

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

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

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### SCHEDULE

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May 18

# TECHNOLOGY IS NOT FAILSAFE, BUT...

BY ANON

*Caveat: There is no such thing as perfectly secure communications of any kind through technology. There are some things that should never be written period, whether on paper or a keyboard. Technology is not foolproof, so don't put all your vegan eggs into one basket.*

It's pretty strange advocating high technology in the pages of the *EF! Journal*. As the reader knows, technology is not neutral; it has been tragically destructive, and truly "appropriate" technology is often an unattainable goal in the current system.

Nevertheless, many of us use computers, cars, phones and other products of industrial society in our resistance. The internet has become a tool for many people fighting ecological and social destruction, from the Zapatistas to the U'wa to Reclaim the Streets.

Corporate, government and military interests account for the lion's share of internet usage, which presents a dilemma for activists who also use it. For the purposes of this article, the essential debate over whether or not to use the internet, as well as how to use it, will be put aside. Rather, I will advocate that every activist who uses computers should get and learn to use encryption and other computer security techniques.

I speak not as an expert but as someone who realized that for the first time in history there was a way for radicals to communicate around the world with a very high level of security when face-to-face dialogue was impossible. The days of smuggling documents in secret pockets could be replaced by digital storage devices that would be uncrackable by anyone if used properly. Guerrillas in the Lacandon Jungle and Basque separatists communicate globally with their support networks through laptops and Pretty Good Privacy (PGP) encryption. So with the help, and at the urging of a friend, I learned how to use it myself.

Now when I travel, I can safely carry with me information that would not look good in court. At home, I can store data that would not compromise me or anyone else if I got raided or robbed (not that I would have any such material, of course). And I can communicate with fellow activists around the world with a high degree of confidence, knowing that our communication is not open to the forces of darkness.

There is a website where you can learn everything you need to get going, as well as download encryption software: <http://security.tao.ca>. The site's topics include maintaining your privacy while searching the web, e-mail tips and tricks, encryption basics and physical computer security. All of what follows can be learned from these sites.

Imagine this: You've just pulled off a major animal liberation, and need to send a communiqué out. How are you going to do it? People have gotten busted faxing communiqués at Kinko's. Using anonymous remailers (websites that allow you to send messages with no "from" box), one can send out a statement from a discreet location, and it will arrive at its destination with no trace of where it came from. Here's another solution, though there are many variations on this theme. Procure a laptop with a modem and an attachment device for public phones. Then fax your communiqué through the laptop to a sympathetic party or the media using coins or a prepaid phone card and skidaddle! Or even better, subscribe to an internet dial-up service (such as [www.freeinet.com](http://www.freeinet.com) or [www.netzero.com](http://www.netzero.com)) using secure techniques detailed in publications such as *Ecodefense*. Encrypt the message, and send an anonymous encrypted e-mail to the ALF press office, who can decrypt it and send it out to the world.

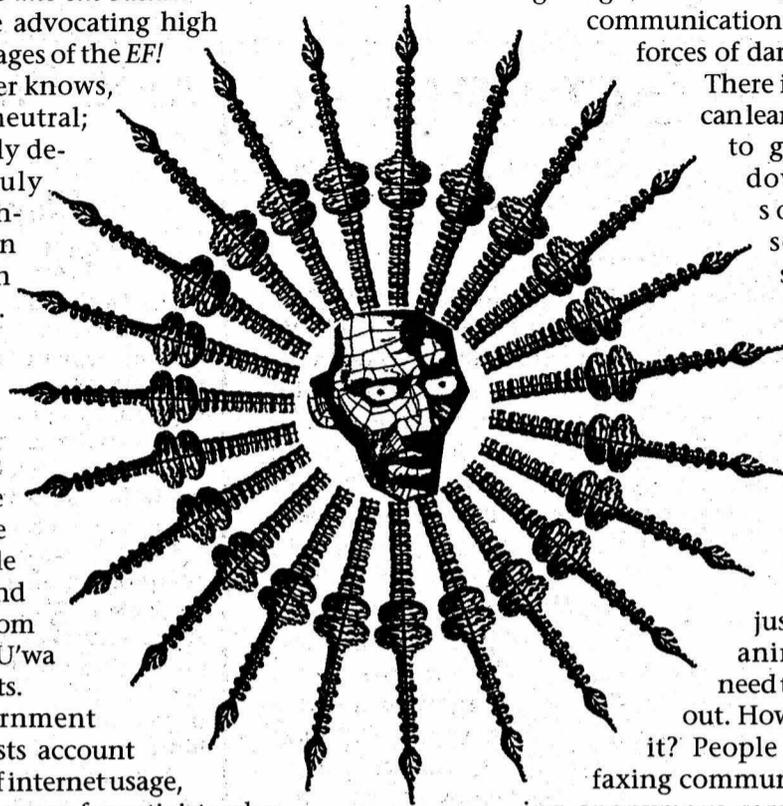
Many activists surf the web without realizing that doing so provides a lot of information to

people you wouldn't want knowing your intimate details. Whenever you visit a website, the location of your computer may be tracked and even your own identity revealed unless some easy steps are taken. A history of the places you've visited on the web are also logged onto your computer, but there are easy ways to deal with this as well.

Easy-to-crack passwords are often created and used by activists who are otherwise security conscious. There are several basic steps to take when choosing a password (or rather, pass phrase) such as using random characters, upper and lowercase letters, numbers, punctuation and special characters.

Obviously, encryption technology is not the answer to all our problems. As one security expert put it, "It is important to recognize that no amount of cryptography is going to further the very real goal of ultimately changing society in such a way that this type of security consciousness is not required. There will be no such thing as a 100 percent secure system until our world has been radically altered. Good computer security is no substitute for good sense. But if it must be written down, computers can offer a higher level of security than keeping hard copies around for the feds to find during a raid. Computers can also offer a much more secure way to communicate than the phone system."

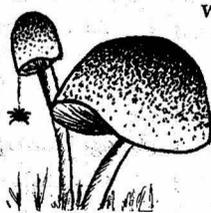
PGP, anonymous websurfing and computer security are like a lot of things: Once you get the hang of it, it's relatively easy. The hard part is forcing yourself to sit in front of a goddamn computer and take the time to learn. But if you're going to use computer technology, why not fully utilize its possibilities to better serve your cause?



## DEAR SHIT FOR BRAINS, 300 WORDS OR LESS PLEASE LIKE SPORES IN THE WIND, YOUR LONG SFBS CREATE WOOD ROT

Dear SFB,

I've been reading the *Journal* for a few years now, and I was wondering, has anyone ever done an anthropological study on the early members of the movement? Their profile seems to have been: white, chauvinistic, beer-drinking good ol' boys until they drop; who hunted, fished, and drove their pick-ups down to the forest edge with that ass-kicking country and western music blasting from the radio. But a curious phenomenon happened when they got to that forest edge. Instead of reaching for a saw to cut down those damn trees, which would seem their natural inclination, they reached instead for a box of nails and a hammer to spike 'em. What caused this curious quirk in their personalities? Were even they dumb-founded, scratching their beards and going, "huh?" My guess is their aberrant behavior has an evolutionary component to it, like those first hominids who



found themselves walking upright, who probably also said, "huh?"

—ROBERT BERMAN

Dear friends at Earth First!

Greetings! from Minneapolis (reluctant former home of the Minnehaha Free State). First I want to give y'all mad props for the excellent job publishing the paper. I've been reading the *Journal* for quite some time now, and it has only gotten better. Secondly, I have a request which has been a long time coming. I have a friend and comrade who is a prisoner of the fascist state, and I've promised him that I would write and ask if there is any way he can get a subscription to the *Journal* at a reduced rate. Because prison wages aren't exactly liveable wages and because he can only receive this type of written material if he pays for it, I was wondering if you could send him a subscription with the price on it. I am willing to supplement any other necessary costs. I will really ap-

preciate this, and so will he. Thanks a lot in advance.

—ANGIE

*Ed. Note: If readers don't already know, the Journal gives out free prisoner subs. Just let us know, and we'll sign 'em up.*

Dear SFB,

That poem: "How I Infiltrated Austin EF!" has really got me in a terrible quandary. Reason being, I wear underwear—boxers in fact! Indeed, some of my Katuahn bro's and sis' are known to do so as well. As I understand it, we are less than true Earth First!ers because of this peculiar trait. Sometimes, you just want to give up "Can't we all just get along?" I propose that boxers, in natural colors, are here forth judged appropriate attire for Earth First!ers who choose to wear them. All of my activities to help the Earth have included my boxers (except for "Depends" on a blockade...). Let's ease up on PC underclothes. My favorite forest green noxies say "Keep It Wild." Hey, hows about someone printing that up—with a fist

up front? I'll take three!

For the Earth,

—ED STEIN, KEF!

Dear eds,

It appears to me that the only welfare systems that are operating in this country are cowboy, corporate and farm. These are the same people that will not support anyone else's need for monetary support. Cowboy, corporate and farmers are always the first people to complain about government intrusions and are also the first to cry like babies for welfare payments from that same government. I call for the end to public lands ranching and an open hunting season on all privately-owned animals which are polluting and poisoning our public wildlands. I call for the end of corporate tax breaks and an end to cash payments to farmers who practice out dated and unsustainable farming practices.

—BAD BRAD

Dear SFB,

Nice try in cutting the Franken trees. You should have done your research on hybrid poplars before



cutting. One of the reasons hybrid poplars are grown is because they sprout from cut stumps, and cuttings can be planted to form a new tree. From the photo, it looks like they will just sprout back or Frankenstein will just take the cuttings to repropagate the hybrids. Next time drag a chain between two bulldozers to uproot them and steal some cuttings to plant next to an unwanted sprinkler system, septic tank or a drain. Hybrid poplars do an excellent job clogging these conduits.

—BIG TOOTHED ASPEN

continued on page 24

May-June 2000 *Earth First!* Page 3

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# Biodevastation 2000 Greet Gene Doctors in Boston

BY ANDREA DEL MORAL

There couldn't have been more police and FBI if it were a terrorist bomb-making convention. The conference was timed to bring over a thousand anti-biotech activists to Boston on March 24-26, the days just before the Biotechnology Industry Organizations' (BIO) largest convention ever. Our convergence was two and a half days jammed full of inspirational panels and workshops which were partly training sessions for the arguments in the street, the signs and puppets being made, and the plethora of media interviews people found themselves in throughout the week. But it was clear that the energy was more than ammunition for activism. For those of us familiar with convergences and gatherings, the excited air buzzing between people was a wonderful emergence into a social, festive sphere. For others, it was a delightful shock to see people laughing and making friends in the moments in between. Several times throughout the week people commented that not only can we beat their arguments, we're having way more fun than they are!

Famous names such as Barry Commoner, Vandana Shiva and Ralph Nader drew part of the crowd, but lesser-known speakers and workshop facilitators provided the real sparks for the debate. Chaia Heller, of the Institute for Social Ecology, brought people to their feet during the panel, "Corporate Agendas and Globalization." She spoke of biotechnology as being a move from material to informational capitalism. "She linked the biotech industry to the WTO, World Bank and IMF in that they create a world in which informational capital can rule. She also offered a proposal of how to combat their trend: extending our protest power into direct political control over our lives.

There was a wide array of panels and workshops. Some of the presenters included Jane Akre and Steve Wilson with their story-telling rendition of their current court case with Fox TV over the rbGH and Monsanto expose. For a shift from talking heads to talking puppets, Shoddy Puppet Company came from Philadelphia to present "The History of Melons," a contemporary tragic folktale from Chiapas. From Devon, England, activist band Seize the Day played a short set of clever, theatrical songs.

Sunday brought the sun and over 3,000 people to Copley Square, including nearly every puppet company in the northeast and many curious locals.

Except for the Church of Euthanasia banners reading "Save the Earth, Kill Yourself" and "Eat a Queer Fetus for Jesus," most of the people at the rally were in high spirits and on topic. Many were costumed, and one group of bunnies carried a banner reading "Violent Fringe Element Against Biotech," taking advantage of negative press since the WTO protests.



Taking over the streets of Boston

The rally paraded down Boylston Street to the Hynes Convention Center, where 10,000 BIO members were beginning their conference. Undercover cops, uniformed cops, barricades, snipers and helicopters were in full force to maintain control over the allegedly violent crowd, but the afternoon's event proved them foolishly wrong. People chanted, "Mutant food equals mutant people!" and then "It's more than food, it's power! Get off your corporate tower!"

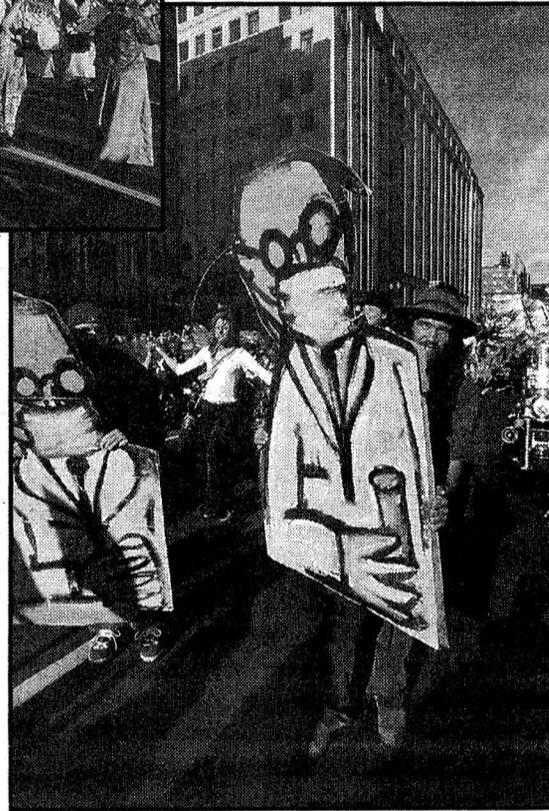
What Biodevastation 2000's attendees lacked in violence, they made up for in volatile creativity. Each day of the conference, Sunday through Thursday, a handful of activists infiltrated and deflated the uneasy, self-righteous mood of industry. Sunday evening there was a GE food dump at the site of the Boston Tea Party. Monday morning, stink bombs went off inside the GE tree session, and four people dumped 70 pounds of GE soybeans outside. At every social event, there was a rowdy presence at the entrance that made BIO people feel more like fugitives than superheroes. At the closing party, a few activists borrowed the microphone from the band and told the crowd that they were ruining cultures and

ecosystems all over the world.

Earlier that day, a group of guerrilla gardeners planted herbs and puppet plants in the Boston Commons. After refusing a formal public debate, BIO was greeted by a makeshift debate on the sidewalk, to which several BIO attendees stepped up. And during the final luncheon, 30 silent labcoats marched a funeral procession with a coffin for biodiversity to the doors of BIO. At the same moment, the last infiltrators were getting arrested inside for jumping on their chairs and taking the microphone, one yelling: "Disease and starvation can't be cured by corporations! Bullshit, get off it, the enemy is profit!" Industry's confidence was visibly shaken.

Throughout the week, people continuously linked biotech to more than food safety and consumer rights. Corporate domination and global economic

issues made it into even the least favorable press coverage. Biodevastation 2000 was a success in many ways, and without a doubt one of the most significant aspects was that the anti-biotech movement refused to be stuffed in a single-issue corner. Connections to racism, feminism, prisons, forest defense, herbal medicine, anarchism, democracy and overall societal problems received constant attention. As Seize the Day chanted, many in the audience joined in: "I swear to all tribal nations, I swear to every race, that I will never rest, until



all oppression is ended. I will never rest, until all oppression is dead."

BIO meets in Berlin in September and in San Diego in 2001.

For more first-hand coverage, visit [www.boston.indymedia.org](http://www.boston.indymedia.org).

For more information on the fight to stop genetic engineering, contact Northeast RAGE, POB 437, Winter Harbor, ME 04693; [nerage@sover.net](mailto:nerage@sover.net) or the Bioengineering Action Network (BAN), POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440; [ban@tao.ca](mailto:ban@tao.ca); [www.tao.ca/~ban](http://www.tao.ca/~ban).

## Wolves and Poodles

A something evil this way comes wolf to the Antichrist as described by Cardinal Biffi, Archbishop of Bologna. The Cardinal said, "The Antichrist espoused vegetarianism, pacifism, environmentalism and animal rights." He then further stated, "The Antichrist was already on Earth in the guise of a prominent philanthropist whose concern for human rights and the environment and advocacy of ecumenism masks his real aim—the destruction of Christianity and the death of God."

A nature may bat last but certainly hits hardest wolf to the thirsty monkeys in drought-affected eastern Kenya who stoned to death a herder watering his livestock. A group of herdsmen had stopped to water their cattle at a pool in the northeastern Wajir when a number of wild monkeys attacked them with stones. The exact type of monkey is not known, although baboons have been known to throw objects at rivals.

An I can finally see the light wolf to Bill Joy, chief scientist for Sun Microsystems, who came out against accelerating technological change in an essay published in *Wired*. He suggested that new technologies could cause "something like extinction" of humankind in the next few generations. He worries these technologies can open a door to self-replicating, mutating, mechanical or biological plagues.

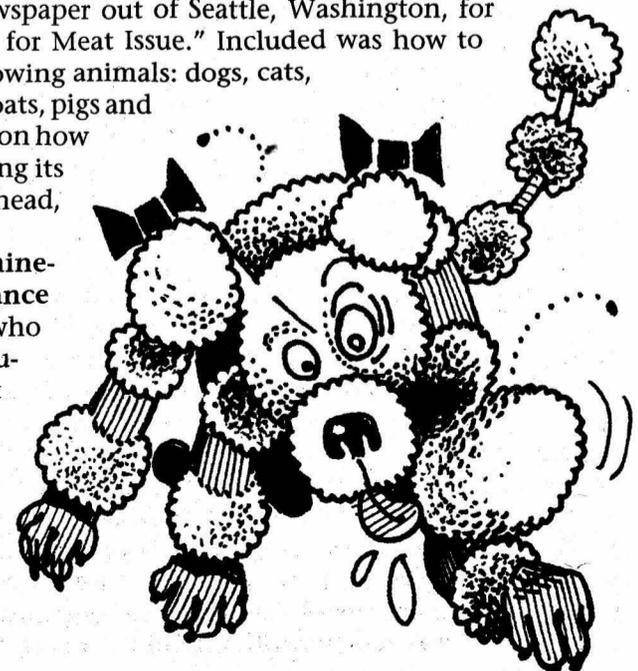
A Mother Nature knows her true enemies wolf to the tornado that took out the FBI office in Fort Worth, Texas, in late March. The office was hit hard enough to blow out the windows, scattering files throughout the downtown streets. Agents were forced to do a grid search of the area to recover their top secret paperwork.



A Round Up™ guzzling, GE loving poodle to Lumen Foods a major health food manufacturer and the nation's largest maker of vegetarian "jerquee." Lumen is promoting the use of genetically-modified ingredients in its products. It has even gone so far as to set up a section on its website, called Biotech Education Series, that contains government-sponsored studies, reprinted articles and letters from scientists from around the world.

A well done poodle with a side of mashed potatoes to *The Stranger*, an alternative newspaper out of Seattle, Washington, for publishing a "Three Cheers for Meat Issue." Included was how to catch, kill and cook the following animals: dogs, cats, lobsters, rabbits, chickens, goats, pigs and cows. Advice was even given on how to kill a dog. "... you can wring its neck, shoot it through the head, or run over it with a van."

A quick, someone call whine-one-one, get a *wha* ambulance poodle to the Seattle cops who complained about their injuries after the WTO protest. It seems many of the crowd-control devices they used on the demonstrators harmed them as well. One officer claimed a gas mask that fit too tightly broke his teeth. At least they get worker's comp.



# Northcoast EF! Unleashes a Week of Action

There were many flaws with the much touted \$480-million Headwater's Deal. One of the most bogus examples is the "Hole in Headwaters," also known as Timber Harvest Plan 520. Located within the recently designated Headwaters Preserve, the hole is an unprotected 705 acre stand along the South Fork Elk River. The area was recently approved for logging by California Department of Forestry (CDF) Director Andrea Tuttle without critical public participation. As part of Redwood Action Week, Northcoast EF! took it into its own hands to see this area and other threatened stands remain wild.

At 7:30 a.m. on April 2, Tuttle was visited by 60 Earth First! activists at her Arcata home demanding that the director stop pandering to the timber industry and take strong measures to protect endangered coastal salmon and water quality on the South Fork Elk River. Four activists climbed the fir tree in her yard hanging banners that read "Corporate Timber Lackey" and "Andrea Tuttle is an eco-terrorist." Others rallied in her driveway with signs saying "Your actions are killing our rivers and salmon," "Clear-cutting kills coho" and "The Earth is not dying, it's being killed and those killing it have names and addresses."

Before departing, activists deposited some mud from the North Fork Elk River, an area where downstream residents have lost their drinking water and salmon runs due to extreme clearcutting by Maxxam/Pacific Lumber. Andrea Tuttle and CDF are soon expected to lift a temporary moratorium on logging in that watershed, worsening flooding and the resident's water quality.

Tuttle and her boss Governor Gray Davis have stonewalled any meaningful reform of forestry laws to protect California's dwindling salmon runs and water quality. CDF has also rubber-

stamped timber harvest plans (THP) up and down the North Coast blatantly ignoring the Endangered Species Act. Governor Davis has received as much as \$300,000 from corporate timber interests since taking office a little over a year ago. Those campaign contributions have greased the wheels for companies like Maxxam, Simpson, Hawthorne Group, Mendocino Redwood Company and Sierra Pacific.

Along with the Hole in Headwaters, many other areas within Maxxam's "holdings" remain threatened. Currently the corporation has 15 timber harvest plans filed that would log a combined 1,040 acres of residual and intact old-growth forest.

Early in the morning on April 3, activists blockaded three gates leading to

lar to the one that destroyed seven homes in the Stafford area, devastated the recovering salmon run in Jordan Creek on January 1, 1997.

"The whole watershed is trashed," said Soma, a forest activist, "Maxxam is ripping apart the last vestiges of ancient

doors and climbed onto the roof. They refused to leave, forming an encampment on the roof. They came down of their own accord.

Early in the morning of April 5, 12 Earth First! activists, supported by 50 others, locked themselves to four trucks

belonging to Columbia Helicopter Corporation logging crews. Maxxam/Pacific Lumber has been using Columbia Helicopter crews in the Jordan Creek area. PL plans to log all 15 THPs with the help of Columbia's helicopters. The company is an out-of-state, non-union employer that PL has used more frequently every year to replace local jobs.

Upping the resis-

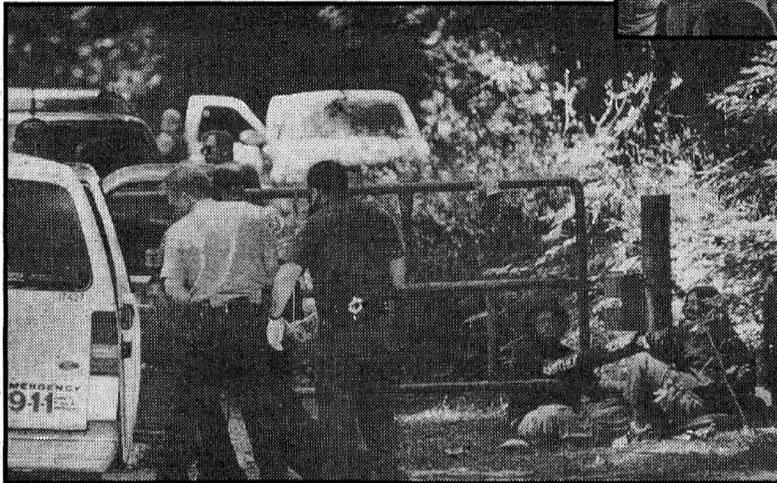
tance on April 6, 17 EF!ers shut down business at Northwest Forestry and Marine in northern Arcata to protest the company's use and distribution of herbicides on Humboldt County's forestlands. Using lockboxes and ullocks and wearing stickers that said, "This product causes cancer and birth defects," they blocked the company's poison storage area. A few activists were able to negotiate a meeting toward a resolution with the head of the company.

"It's illegal to dump a gallon of diesel into a city sewer system, yet Maxxam and Simpson are allowed to spray 40 gallons per acre of these poisonous, diesel-laden chemicals into our watersheds," said activist Jack Nounnan. Last year, PL sprayed 6,867 acres of clearcut Humboldt County forestland with herbicides including Oust, Roundup, Garlon and Atrazine.

For more information contact Northcoast EF!, POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518; (707) 825-6598; n c e f @ h u m b o l d t 1 . c o m ; www.humboldt1.com/~ncef.



Hooray for the riffraff



Hauled away from Jordan Creek

forest left in Jordan Creek." These blockades are in solidarity with a lone treesitter in one of the Jordan Creek THPs who is occupying an ancient redwood tree.

The week of action continued on April 3 as eight people began camping on the roof of Hawthorne Timber Company. Led by a local band, 50 demonstrators marched

and took over the office of the newcomer to town, now owners of the former Georgia Pacific forestlands. Many demanded that Hawthorne withdraw THP 412, the Skunk Train Old Growth cut, and stop liquidation logging or leave Northern California immediately.

Tying themselves together with yarn, activists took over the Hawthorne office and raised a banner on their roof which said, "Stop liquidation logging." After yarning the building with a symbolic web of life, protesters blocked the front

multiple THPs in the Jordan Creek watershed to stop logging residual old-growth redwood. At the main gate one brave activist hung suspended 50 feet in the air by a rope swing that ran across the road between two redwoods and was anchored to the access gate. Eleven others blocked the other two gates with lockboxes and were joined by 75 supporters. Three supporters were arrested.

Three separate THPs in Jordan Creek will eventually clearcut a combined 260 acres of residual old growth. A huge landslide from a Maxxam clearcut, simi-

BY DAVE GOLD

This article is reprinted from the Beltane 1983 edition of the EF! Journal.

While Albuquerque Earth First!ers Neil Cobb and Bobby Seeley risked life and limb in their defense of the Salt Creek Wilderness, other members of Albuquerque EF! took on Earth Last!

The idea was to have a dual action: the blockade and arrest in the Salt Creek Wilderness, and a demonstration outside the Federal Building in Albuquerque. It started out as a typical demonstration. Dave Seeley gave a rousing speech which inspired all the EF! demonstrators. Karen Brown whipped the crowd into a frenzy chanting "Drill Watt, not Wilderness!" and other slogans. Lenora Olsen brought a large sheet which had a highway sign depiction of James Watt with his horns and bared fangs.

During the climax of this orgy of sentiment, from out of nowhere a pickup truck emerged with a 10-foot, black model of an oil rig on the back. On the front of the rig was a poster identifying the owners: "Earth Last!" The symbol of Earth Last! is a picture of the Earth with the same roadside symbolism as the above mentioned James Watt poster. Earth Last! is to corporate plans of destruction what Earth First! is to love of the land.

Riding in the back of the pickup were two screaming members of the diabolical organization. One was the horribly misguided redneck



**EARTH FIRST!**

May 1, 1988 BELTANE EDITION Vol. III, No. IV  
THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL ONE DOLLAR

**Earth First! Smashes Earth Last!**

Steve Blake and the other a mad eco-corporatist David Gold. They were so deep into the insanity of their cause that they raved and ranted simultaneously. Their message of destruction was so terrible it can only be quoted directly:

"In Earth Last! our motto is: Progress First! People Second! Earth Last! We need energy and don't need people and we sure as hell don't need the Earth!" said Gold.

"All mountains are useless. They serve no function at all and should be removed. Their disorderly shapes cause confusion. Mr. Watt is just beginning a wonderful and orderly process. We will all be happier in a flat world."

"We love our Cadillacs. We each drive one, even when we're all going to the same place. And we want to have television sets in every room, and we want them on whether we're watching them or not."

Meanwhile, Blake, the redneck, hollered. "If you all don't get outta here I'm gonna personally kick your fannies so hard they'll fly all the way back to Russia where you come from. You should be going down to Roswell and asking good Mr. Yates for a job. You should be thanking James Watt and our Presi-

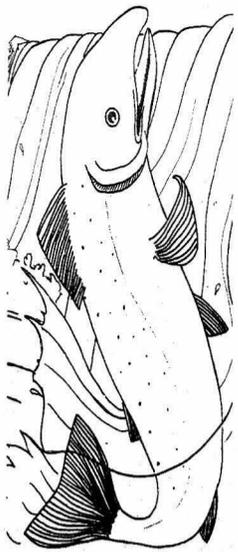
dent, who are trying to save our right to dig up the land. It ain't there to look at. He gave us it so your old ladies could make your toast in your lousy toasters, and you bet they don't have toast in Russia."

The Earth First! members could hardly believe their ears. When they were informed by Earth Last! that it was now time to get down on their knees and pray to the oil rig, the symbol of progress, they could stand no more.

Luckily one Earth First!er, "Grizz" Logsdon, always carries his 20-pound, two-foot pipe wrench in his back pocket just in case he finds any bulldozers in the wilderness that need "fixin." Grizz stands at least seven feet tall and is solid muscle except where he stores his beer. This mountain of a man laid into that symbol of progress while the other Earth First!ers cheered him on. Grizz made quick work of that rig. In less than 30 seconds it was scrap. Needless to say, the downtown office workers were impressed.

The Earth Last!ers took off like the chickens they really are. Standing amidst their pile of rubble they cried out, "No Earth! Go back to Russia, you commie faggots. Get a haircut."

After Earth Last! had been chased away, Karen once again rallied the crowd. Dave Seeley smashed a head of James Watt. Finally, everyone went off to Jack's Lounge to celebrate another Earth First! victory.



# Incredible Edible Salmon?

BY KETA ROSE

The recent death of a PCB-poisoned orca whale in the waters of British Columbia has again raised public alarm about the perils facing the world's oceans and aquatic life. Habitat destruction, pollution, poor practices in the commercial fishing industry and a dwindling food chain

are all part of the continuing decline in marine life across the planet. Although it is time that serious attention should be turned to working on solutions to these problems, governments and industries have decided that it is time to release one more threat into the marine environment in the form of genetically-engineered fish.

One of the international forerunners in fisheries science and in the development of market-ready genetically-engineered fish is the Canadian government. The Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is a major player in assisting industry with the development of "enhanced" fish for the aquaculture industry around the world. Government scientists maintain that the research taking place at their West Vancouver laboratory is mainly in the interest of advancing scientific knowledge. However, this is coming from the same department that willfully promotes both commercial fishing and aquaculture industries in a region where wild fish stocks are at crisis levels.

The "enhanced" year-old coho salmon being experimented on at the laboratory look like wild fish in almost every respect. Their coloration is the same and markings are identical but their histories and development are radically different. Beside an average wild coho of the same age, the differences become startlingly apparent. The genetically-mutated fish are about three times longer and about 30 times heavier than any young coho could ever be. These fish are just some of the thousands of genetically-modified fish at the lab being tested—all paid for by Canadian tax dollars.

The genes, which regulate their growth, come from other salmon species. They are injected into a batch of coho eggs, and as the new fish grow, their genes incorporate and introduce the new DNA. At maturity, both types of salmon (wild and genetically engineered) will be about the same size, but the rate at which they get there is the variable that excites an industry rushing to get food onto the dinner table. Wild coho take four years to reach their mature size, transgenic fish take only two.

Although this issue has just come to the forefront, these experiments started as early as 1989, when companies worldwide started to look at commercial applications for genetically-modified fish. The DFO claims that it was only in the early days that it looked at commercial/government research partnerships. As late as 1996, it explored the possibility of a partnership with Monsanto. It is unclear to this day what commercial/government alliances do exist since the government is not officially receiving any research assistance from private interests in this area. However, this does not mean that information sharing and assistance do not exist between private and public parties. This should not be a surprise to anyone familiar with government kowtowing to the aquaculture industry—one that has caused untold ecological damage on both the East and West coasts of North America. Accidental releases of non-native species, the application of drugs to farmed fish which make their way into native populations and the dumping of "blood water" into

rivers and open waters are all "mistakes" that the industry has owned up to at various times. However, while the industry may apologize, its efforts to make fundamental changes to prevent such occurrences are slow if at all.

GE fish are just one more extension of an industry which puts profit before ecological and human health. As fisheries researchers will admit with some prodding, they are not only conducting "pure science" but also working to establish regulations for "inevitable commercial applications."

So far it is known that GE fish, when put into populations of wild fish, tend to eat more food (owing to their larger size), yet don't have the same swimming abilities as natural fish. This means that they have a tendency to stay and monopolize the food supply. Their larger size means that in a clash with wild salmon, they are the winners.

It is also recognized that GE fish will breed with non-GE fish in a laboratory. Not only will they interbreed, but the larger sized GE fish appear to be more attractive to wild fish. Fisheries scientists Bill Muir and Rick Howard at Purdue University

destructive human intervention), aquaculture production will have to increase sevenfold in the next 25 to 30 years just to maintain current per capita consumption. Aquaculture companies such as the Canadian/American company AF Protein are clamoring for a piece of that market with its own transgenic offerings hoping it will be ready for market within the next year.

Although AF Protein promotes the "ideal" industry, one in which these genetic mutations are grown in landlocked farms (thus, unable to escape into the wild), the reality on both coasts is that fish farmers have put up massive resistance to anything other than open netcage farming. Netcages, where farmed fish reside in the ocean, only kept from wild populations by use of a net, is the most extensive aquaculture practice in North America. Netcage farming has proven itself to be an ecological nightmare and is responsible for the introduction of Atlantic salmon to the West Coast (which appear to be actually breeding in the Pacific waters now for the first time).

Even if the fish were to be raised in landlocked farms (a highly unlikely scenario given the whole history of aquaculture on this continent), companies promoting these dodgy technologies have not even begun to address concerns about human health and food safety. AF Protein has done no long-term testing of its employees or others who routinely eat transgenic fish. (The company can't sell the fish, so the workers eat them.) Instead of addressing the very real concerns about transgenic food health and safety, it instead focuses on how the taste of the fish is identical to other farmed fish—something that is highly irrelevant to health concerns.

According to government scientists, it will be some time before all of the tests are completed in the quest to determine whether genetically-engineered fish will ever be safe to release into any ecosystem. However, in early March, Aqua

Bounty Farms, the American wing of AF Protein announced that its genetically-modified salmon eggs would be on the market to fish farms worldwide by late fall 2000 or early spring 2001.

Activists must now turn their attention to this impending ecological disaster. Genetically-engineered fish pose an incredibly grave threat to marine ecosystems and all creatures within it. Unlike poor fishing practices which can be altered or modified, these "Frankenfish" will forever alter the wild if they escape. Industry and government alike must be targeted to put a stop to this research and development that is threatening animal, environmental and human health the world over.

For more information on GE fish and biotechnology contact the Bioengineering Action Network (BAN), POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440; ban@tao.ca; www.tao.ca/~ban.



artwork courtesy of Flavor salmon

have created laboratory models that show that if, as in our experiments, the genetic change also reduces the offspring's ability to survive, a transgenic animal could bring a wild population to extinction in 40 generations.

Genetically-engineered fish hatch sooner than normal fish. If these fish were to breed and hatch in the wild, the natural cycle of salmon, which is timed to other cycles in nature like the hatching of insects, temperature variations and ocean currents, would not be followed. If these fish were to survive despite those problems, there would be a severe disruption to the cycles of wild salmon (that is, if transgenic fish even have migratory instincts).

Early versions of the transgenic fish tested in both Canada and New Zealand have had misshapen heads, lumpy and distorted gills and excess cartilage growth throughout their bodies. In New Zealand, these genetically-deformed fish caused such a controversy that in March, the company conducting the research destroyed all of the GE chinook salmon it was experimenting with and discontinued the program (though they did freeze the genetically-modified sperm from the fish for possible future projects).

Researchers and activists alike have raised the alarm about genetic engineering and in particular, it being applied to the aquaculture industry. Why then, are government agencies such as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans even continuing research of this nature—research that has the very real potential of devastating the marine world and its inhabitants?

The United Nations has predicted that due to the inability of the world's oceans to continue to sustain life (caused by



photo courtesy of Rough Guidebooks

Grizzly bear meets salmon in the Great Bear Rainforest.

# ATLANTIC SALMON GET ALL MIXED-UP

BY WHIRLWIND

Once upon a time, the good folks who lived in the easternmost corner of the United States, Downeast Maine, would head to the best fishing pool after supper to watch Atlantic salmon. There were a couple thousand of the fish in each of the rivers that rend Maine's rocky coastline—the Dennys, Machias, East Machias, Narraguagus, Sheepscot, Pleasant and Ducktrap. Atlantic salmon, *Salmo salar*, are substantially different from their more famous relatives on the West Coast. They act more like steelhead, returning to spawn in their natal streams several times if uninterrupted by humans or nonhuman predators. They are a completely different genus, not just a different species. The salmon that still struggle to spawn in eastern North America are also significantly different genetically from *Salmo salar* in the British Isles, although they're the same species.

But like salmon everywhere, the wild Atlantic salmon remaining in Maine—the last of their genus in the United States—are on the verge of disappearing.

It's terrifically tempting to blame industrial forestry for decimating the salmon, especially in a state still known as the Paper Plantation for its economic and political manipulation by Big Paper. But most of the biological evidence shows the most serious threats come from farming—of blueberries, cranberries and fish. Aquaculture is a huge problem; introducing rogue genes and competition when the Frankenfish escape, as some invariably do. Agriculture sucks water from salmon streams during critical low flows and dumps pesticides all over the place (if a little is good, more is better, right?) With no shading along the banks—buffers are required on forest land but not agricultural land—salmon streams heat up to intolerable levels. Sedimentation from agricultural and forest lands are also a major threat.

Atlantic salmon have been gone for more than a century from the major

rivers of the Eastern US, although they once churned in the Hudson, Merrimack and others. The last few holdouts still return to the rivers of Downeast Maine, but in 1999 only less than 150 made it. Yep, that's less than 150—total. In the United States.

The writing's been on the wall for a long time. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in 1991 determined that the fish in five of the Downeast rivers faced imminent extinction. A citizen petition to list Atlantic salmon under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) forced the issue; and in 1995 USFWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposed listing *Salmo salar* as endangered. This, of course, freaked out industry leaders and government puppets, who said a listing would devastate the tenuous Downeast economy. Maine Governor Angus King, a Chamber of Commerce Party Independent, followed the lead of his counterparts in Oregon and offered the feds a palliative state action plan to avoid a listing. King made the argument that won governors in Alaska, Texas and Oregon temporary victories before him: "Our people will have a better attitude—and do more good for the critters in question—if they're working on their own plan instead of facing restrictions imposed by the feds." No court has upheld such state plans, but King, like the governors of the other states, swore that his plan would be different.

The feds, like the dull fish they are, bit the poisoned bait in December 1997, dropping the listing proposal and accepting the state plan as a way to recover the fish. Note: They didn't just suspend the listing proposal, as they did with coho salmon in Oregon earlier that year. They had some political incentive. Documents show that Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt made a deal with William Cohen, then a Republican Senator from Maine, to squelch the listing in exchange for Cohen's support in that year's bitter ESA reauthorization battle. Maine's other US Senator, Olym-

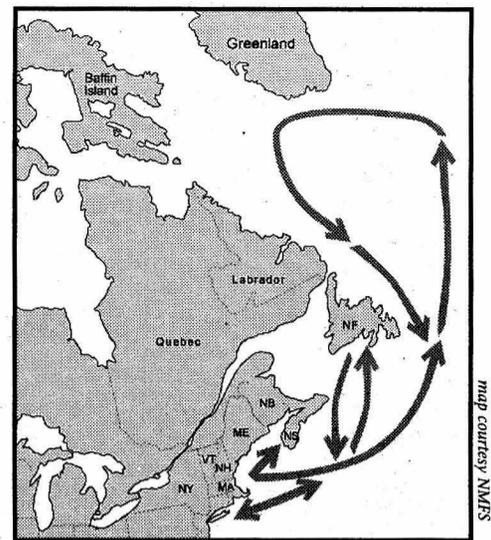
pia Snowe, and Gov. King also promised lawsuits and attacks on the ESA if the feds listed Atlantic salmon. By dropping the proposed listing the feds all but guaranteed a whole new two-year process if the state plan didn't get the job done.

Within the first year, the heads of the state environmental agencies gutted even the paltry recommendations of good-old-boy biologists who set bare minimum stream flows in the Downeast rivers. The scientists said that if the rivers got really, low, the big blueberry and cranberry growers in the region shouldn't take the last drops of water away from the salmon. But in the warmth of the summer of 1998, those scientists were overruled by the group of state agency commissioners, and growers like Cherryfield Foods got to deplete the rivers further. It's not even clear that Cherryfield stopped pumping immediately when the rivers reached the lower level set by the commissioners.

At the beginning of 1999, a handful of individuals and environmental groups including the Coastal Waters Project, Trout Unlimited and Defenders of Wildlife sued over the listing. They followed the old, successful arguments that have always forced listings after the feds accept inadequate state plans: The plans are based on voluntary and future measures and don't do enough to protect the fish.

In an attempt to let the state save face, Babbitt announced in October that the agencies had found "new evidence" that forced them to propose an emergency listing. This news came one week before he had to respond to the lawsuit.

By December 1999, only one female salmon spawned in the Sheepscot River. The only wild salmon making it back to the Dennys River were killed by poachers. The entire hatchery broodstock for the Pleasant River was destroyed after biologists found them infested with a virus. More than two years after the state plan went into effect, obsolete dams on the Sheepscot that have harmed salmon



Migration route of Atlantic salmon

for decades remain in place and unchanged. The local watershed councils remain mired in political turf battles and lack funding to make any substantive changes for the salmon's benefit.

Nevertheless, at listing hearings in late January and early February, King and his ilk trotted out the old standby arguments that no one should buy anymore: The state plan must be given more time to work. What do biologists know? Those fish aren't really wild. It's the ocean's fault and that's beyond our control.

In March the process stalled again after a court forced the agencies to release genetic reports to the state under the Freedom of Information Act and gave the state extra time to review the documents before finalizing its comments on the petition. NMSFS and USFS have until November 17 to make a final decision about the fate of the last wild Atlantic salmon, although they may issue a response sooner. It is not clear if the lawsuit to force emergency listing will hasten the decision.

The story of Atlantic salmon is as old as the hills of Maine, a story of obstruction and stalling and whittling away until there were none. By the rights of justice and the words of the law, the last wild US *Salmo salar* will be listed under the ESA before the year is out. What remains to be seen is whether there will be any fish left to benefit from that protection.



## MITSUBISHI SALT MINE NIXED

BY MARK J. PALMER

In a stunning and surprising move, Mexico's President Ernesto Zedillo announced on March 2 that he cancelled the proposed saltworks planned for the shores of San

Ignacio Lagoon, part of El Vizcaino Reserve, the largest wildlife refuge in Latin America. This wilderness treasure has also been designated a Whale Sanctuary and an International Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations.

"A combination of effective, sustained action by Mexican and US environmental organizations, and the letters and cards from hundreds of thousands of concerned citizens around the world, were responsible for finally halting the proposed saltworks," said David Phillips, Director of Earth Island Institute's International Marine Mammal Project.

Two giant corporations, Mexico's federally owned Exportadora de Sal, S.A. (ESSA) and Japan's Mitsubishi Corporation, had proposed to build an industrial salt extraction plant on the shores of Baja California's San Ignacio Lagoon—the last undeveloped gray whale birthing lagoon in the world.

The proposed salt plant and its attendant piers, giant conveyer belts, evaporation ponds, roads and buildings would have covered 116 square miles. Conveyer belts, carrier vessels, pipelines, heavy trucks, bulldozers and pumps sucking water from San Ignacio Lagoon would have generated enormous quantities of toxic brine and other pollutants, as well as industrial levels of diesel fumes, fuel spills and raucous noise. The development would also have attracted thousands of additional people, miles of new roads and further industrial development to the lagoon area.

Gray whales migrate from the high Arctic waters of the Bering and Chukchi Seas to the warm lagoons of Baja to give birth, a migration that stretches nearly 8,000 miles. They face many hazards, as human development and pollution of the offshore waters and surrounding lands is intensified. An estimated 26,000 gray whales remain in the wild today.

ESSA and Mitsubishi already operate one of the largest saltworks in the world on the shores of Mexico's Ojo de Liebre Lagoon (also known as Scammon's Lagoon) and Guerrero Negro Lagoon. Opposed by whale scientists and environmentalists when it was built in the 1960s, the saltworks has been implicated recently in several serious pollution incidents, including spillage of toxic brine which has poisoned more than 100 endangered sea turtles and hundreds of thousands of fish. The other major

gray whale birthing lagoon is Magdalena Bay, which hosts several industrial plants on its shores. The Mitsubishi Corporation has proposed building tourist hotels on the shores of the bay, as well. Only San Ignacio Lagoon is in relatively unspoiled condition.

The saltworks aren't the only obstacle for the gray whale's survival. The Russians annually kill up to 167 gray whales in the Arctic waters of Siberia, ostensibly to feed the local native villages but also to maintain large fox fur farms. Recently, the Makah Tribe of Washington has recommenced hunting for gray whales, killing a small female gray whale in May 1999 for the first time in 70 years. The government of Japan is pushing to allow trade in gray whale meat (now banned by international law), and environmentalists fear that Japan's hunger for whale meat will generate pressure for Russians, Makahs and others to expand commercial whaling.

Throughout the marine habitat of the gray whale, offshore oil drilling is a growing threat. In addition to the threat of a catastrophic oil spill, offshore oil drilling operations involve the use of toxic lubricating muds and other chemicals that end up in the water, as well as producing loud undersea noise. The high Arctic is experiencing the most intense effects from global warming trends, and scientists believe that increased warming of Arctic waters may be interfering with the biological productivity of the waters during the short summer, causing gray whales to starve.

For more information contact the Earth Island Institute, 300 Broadway, San Francisco, CA 94133; earthisland@eii.org; www.earthisland.org.

## BARE BONES

### LaFramboise occupation continues in South Dakota

Native American protesters at LaFramboise Island in South Dakota say they will maintain their camp despite a failed attempt to stop the transfer of Missouri River land to the state and two tribes.

Those who started the camp in March of last year said century-old treaty rights barred the impending transfer of river shoreline. They kept a spiritual fire burning throughout the year as a symbol of their protest (see *EF!* November-December 1999).

Congress passed a law that allowed the swap in 1998. In February, South Dakota legislators authorized the Game, Fish and Parks Department to manage the state's share of the newly-acquired riverside recreation areas.

When the federal government built dams on the river during the 1940s, '50s and '60s, the Army Corps of Engineers took private, state and tribal land along the river, some of which was not used.

US Senator Tom Daschle and Governor Bill Janklow started in 1995 on a deal that would turn the unused land back to the state and the four riverside tribes. Two tribes chose to be part of the deal. Two stayed out.

After Congress passed the law, a group of Indian protesters wanting a reconsideration of that action, set up the LaFramboise Camp. They argued that the 1868 treaty remained in effect and the state had no right to any of the land.

Daschle and Janklow staff members who worked on the land deal said acts of Congress and decisions in federal courts in the past century have negated the effects of the old treaty. Congress reaffirmed its decision on the land transfer in the summer of 1999. Full transfer of title is expected to take several years.

### Plowshares vs. Depleted Uranium sentenced

On December 19, four activists, calling themselves the *Plowshares vs. Depleted Uranium*, disarmed two A-10 Warthog (Fairchild Thunderbolt II) aircraft. The aircraft were located at the Warfield Air National Guard base in Middle River, Maryland.

Baltimore County Circuit Court Judge James T. Smith Jr. effectively sealed the fate of the *Plowshares* when, on March 13, he granted the prosecution's motion for a gag order. The defendants would not be permitted to explain why they disarmed the planes, nor to call expert witnesses. So as the trial began on March 20 in circuit court in Towson, Maryland, the only issues of contention would be a bogus assault charge and the severity of the sentences handed out.

The defendants elected to stay locked up and did not appear in court. No closing statement was presented by the defense. After Assistant State's Attorney Mickey Norman made his closing statement, the case was in the hands of the jury.

After more than four hours, the jury could not agree on the assault charge. So a mistrial was declared on that charge, and the prosecutor chose not to retry that case. The four pacifists were convicted, however, of malicious destruction of property—with property damage of more than \$300 and conspiracy to maliciously destroy property. Each defendant was expected to pay restitution of \$88,622.11, and should they want to be released pending appeal, each one would have to post \$90,000 cash bail. All were given prison sentences: Elizabeth Walz: 18 months, Susan Crane and Rev. Stephen Kelly: 27 months and Philip Berrigan: 30 months.

# Glen Canyon Dam: Next on the list?

BY KATHRYN WILDER

Lees Ferry. Morning comes too soon, albeit slowly. Faint light, pink clouds, the Vermillion Cliffs behind us turning... vermillion. The jagged Moenkopi rim opposite backlit with early sun. Hoodoos and crags in prayer hands greet the day; cold and sweet memories, linger; clouds slide through yellow to white, the sky to soft blue. The river keeps up her song at the Paria Riffle where waters merge, pea-green and clear blue scouring rocks at the morning's low flow. Trucks rumble by, boats (the motoring kind) getting towed to the put-in. One Grand Canyon trip will launch today—the Millers, we were told. *It's river time.*

On March 14, sixty-five celebrations, rallies and demonstrations took place in 21 countries in honor of the "Third Annual Day of Action Against Dams and For Rivers, Water, and Life" (see page 15). At Glen Canyon Dam, one of the West's most renowned environmental mistakes, more than 250 river supporters gathered for a "Restoration Celebration and Rendezvous."

The roots of this celebration took hold in the last century when a few river-loving folks put their heads together over mediocre coffee in a quiet Moab, Utah, restaurant. Within weeks, Glen Canyon Action Network (GCAN), a people's movement to preserve and restore the integrity of the Colorado River watershed beginning with decommissioning Glen Canyon Dam, was formed.

On the first day of the two-day rendezvous, a teach-in was held at Northern Arizona University (NAU) in Flagstaff, Arizona. It included a series of presentations on issues pertaining to water in the West and the damming and freeing of rivers worldwide. Later, NAU's Cline Library Assembly Hall held an audience of nearly 450 for a memorable evening performance.

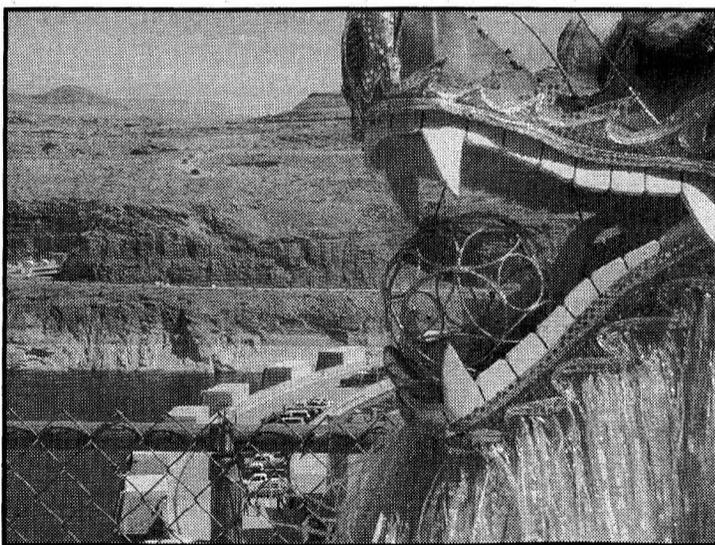
Folksinger Peg Millet, who served a prison term for environmental activism, and long-time radical singer-songwriter Bill Oliver revved up the crowd for Katie Lee, whose original slides and stories of Glen Canyon in the 1950s and '60s stirred even the dispassionate. Lee, who turned 80 last October, still carries herself, her guitar and a tune with the grace and gusto of the vivacious Hollywood starlet she once was, and she sang the river's story right into our hearts. David Brower took yet another stand to defend rivers and the Earth he has fought to protect for over 50 years emphasizing that "the question is not will we drain [the reservoir], but will we drain it in time?"

The following morning hundreds of people carpooled and bussed to the Carl Hayden Visitors Center where GCAN staff and volunteers constructed a stage supported by the beds of two pickups, one the dull blue bashed-in '73 Ford once owned by Edward Abbey. Perhaps Abbey's truck didn't relish the thought of seeing Glen Canyon Dam and "Lake Foul" any more than Abbey had, for it broke down en route—a busted water pump of all things. A bus carrying celebrants from Flagstaff blew a tire near Page, but everyone arrived safely and enthusiastically nonetheless. At noon,

a 55-foot-long salmon-colored dragon danced through the boisterous crowd. The ceremonial dragon, symbol of river health, came from China. If the dragon is happy, the legend goes, the river flows; if the dragon is upset, the river floods. Although Glen the River Dragon appeared happy enough, the river at Glen Canyon Dam can neither flow nor flood, trapped as it is behind that concrete constriction.

Environmental and indigenous leaders spoke from the makeshift stage. Katie Lee sang and read from *All My Rivers Are Gone*, her love letter to her river and canyon. Behind her hung a life-sized poster of Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt standing over Glen Canyon Dam, sledgehammer in hand. Keynote speaker David Brower elaborated on his talk of the evening before. "I am glad we saved Echo Park [in Dinosaur National Monument]," he said, "but we never should have lost Glen Canyon... Forty years later, we are trying to correct that mistake." Brower, alongside indigenous leaders, led in the signing of the "Glen Canyon Declaration," which calls for the decommissioning of the dam and the restoration of the Colorado River. Nearly 200 supporters signed the document.

On the opposite side of the reservoir, a crowd of 700 gathered in a reactionary "Celebrate Lake Powell" rally. Salt Lake City's Channel 5 evening news showed footage of pro-dammers raising the American flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The same station described the GCAN event as "spirited," running



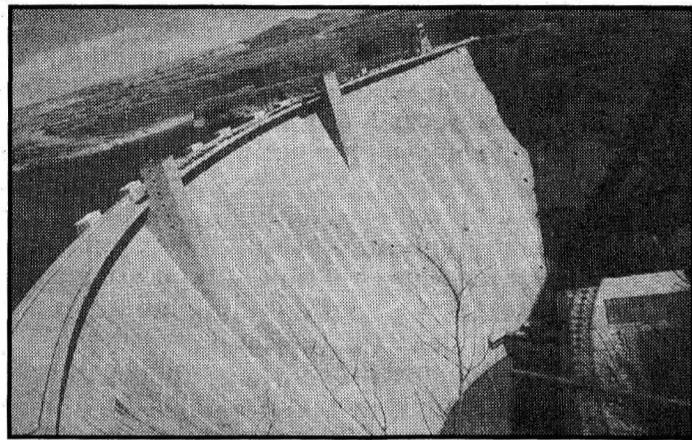
Glen the River Dragon, a bit uneasy with his surroundings

footage of celebrants rocking to the rhythm of Bill Oliver's guitar. The *Denver Post* said of the rendezvous, "The sincerity of the participants bordered on the inspirational." What the media didn't note was that that inspiration comes directly from the heart of the river, and the river's pulse reverberated through us all that day.

Evening found us drifting downriver via the highway and landing at Lees Ferry in Marble Canyon, 15 river miles below the dam, where the celebration continued beside the flowing waters of the Colorado. At this arbitrarily chosen dividing point between its upper and lower basins, the river runs falsely clear and blue and 46 degrees Fahrenheit at flows controlled by the Bureau of Recla-

mation. Here we, along with the river dragon and the activist musicians, sang and danced and lent our hearts to the spirit of a river struggling for life.

When the bulk of the crowd left and the moon rose above the Moenkopi cliffs, a calm settled over the few of us remaining. Ken Sleight, who has earned his nickname "Seldom Seen," showed up and talked of the pre-dammed Colorado in Glen and Grand canyons and of his initial meeting with Ed Abbey right there at Lees Ferry. As Sleight rigged for a Grand Canyon river trip that fortuitous night, he and then-park ranger Abbey talked until the wee hours, discussing what to do about the dam while



Eyesore of the century: The Glen Canyon Dam

drinking all Sleight's beer. A few years later, *The Monkey Wrench Gang* appeared.

Like life itself, the events of these two days are a collection of moments that will eventually run together, drops of water forming the memory's river, but for now, some remain distinct-standing waves, ripples and eddies in my mind. Like watching David Brower rise to the occasion or walking to the bathroom with Katie Lee shielding her eyes from the sight of her river's waters backed up behind the dam. Like the prayers and incantations of Navajo medicine man Thomas Morris spanning cultures and

time; and the crowd's single voice bellowing out the words to Bill Oliver's theme song: "Drain it, reclaim it, unplug it, and rename it; liberate Glen Canyon from Rez Foul!" Or standing next to Sleight as he spoke of Abbey; was it river wind or spirit that touched my skin? And then sitting beside the Colorado with my traveling companions, the night quiet but for the river, a man moving from the shadows fluid as a wildcat and his words, "Now this is more like it," carrying away the intensity of the day, leaving me with just us and the river, the canyon, the moonlight, the

reasons I'm here.

Strung together, moments like these create the current of this movement to free our rivers, restore the Colorado and resurrect lost canyons like the Glen. May there be many more.

For information contact the Glen Canyon Action Network, POB 466, Moab, UT 84532; (435) 259-1063; [www.drainit.org](http://www.drainit.org).

According to Katie Lee, Kathryn Wilder "lives among the castles by a real part of the river." There she writes, runs rivers, and leads writing workshops both on and off the river. Her publications include the *Walking the Twilight anthologies*, and stories and essays in *American Nature Writing*, *Sierra*, *Standing Wave*, *The Bear Deluxe*, *Bugle* and others periodicals.

# THE UGLY IMPACTS OF ORVs



The Barstow to Vegas race: Watch out endangered species!

photo courtesy Road-Ripporter

BY DJ SCHUBERT AND JACOB SMITH

The noise of off-road vehicles (ORV) is among the least-endearing qualities to hikers, mountain bikers and other non-motorized recreationists. The noise of ORVs can do more than simply annoy humans, however. ORV noise can cause significant adverse impacts to wildlife in at least two ways. First, exposure to ORV noise can result in hearing impairment/or even loss, with severe consequences for animals dependent on their sense of hearing for finding prey, avoiding predators and interacting with other individuals of the same species. Second, wildlife exposed to ORV noise often experience stress and other disturbance effects. Over time, such impacts can lead to altered movement patterns, behavioral changes and long-term stress impacts all with potentially significant adverse results.

Animals exposed to ORV noise often suffer from impaired hearing. Studies have documented hearing loss caused by the noise of dune buggies, dirt bikes and other ORVs inflicted on a wide range of species, including the Mojave fringe-toed lizard, kangaroo rat and numerous birds. Several studies have reported bleeding ears and nasal passages after exposure to ORV activity. Hearing impairment and loss, unsurprisingly, is a very serious concern for most wildlife. Loss of hearing sensitivity can lead to increased exposure to predation, increased difficulty killing prey and otherwise significant disruptions in predator-prey relationships. The impairment of intraspecific communica-

tion is another serious concern. Specific problems can include the inability to recognize mating signals, warning calls and calls by juveniles. For instance, one study reported that small mammals became unusually aggressive and disoriented after being exposed to the Barstow to Las Vegas motorcycle race.

The results of disturbance and stress-related impacts can take longer to materialize but are no less significant. Wildlife disturbance by ORVs is a serious problem for many species, and ORV noise is clearly a major component of these disturbance impacts. Put simply, noise can stress (and thus adversely impact) wildlife. Wildlife exposed to noise can suffer high levels of physiological stress even if they appear to fully adapt to the noise. One potential outcome of disturbance is displacement. When a species is dependent on a narrow range of habitat characteristics, displacement into marginal or even unsuitable habitat has lasting effects on survival and productivity.

A 1971 Environmental Protection Agency report argues that noise acts as a physiological stress producing changes similar to exposure to extreme heat, cold, pain and other high-stress environmental conditions. One consequence is the alteration of wildlife behavior. Noise levels above 90 decibels cause mammals to retreat, freeze or become startled. Amphibians, reptiles and mammals suffer deleterious effects from moderate exposure to ORV noise. These effects included physiological and behavioral hearing loss and the misinterpretation of important environmental acoustic signals.

For some species, the noise of ORVs can directly interfere with critical life history behaviors. For instance, early summer thunderstorms provide an essential environmental cue for the couch's spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus couchi*). The toads, inhabitants of the

arid Southwest, emerge from their burrows to mate and lay eggs, and the larvae are born and undergo metamorphosis. All this occurs when the presence of thunderstorms indicate that the appropriate temperature conditions exist, to ensure both suitable conditions for toad survival and adequate availability of prey and that moisture, another critical ingredient, is sufficient. The toad can mistake the thundering of ORVs across the desert floor for the sound of early summer thunderstorms, however, and emerge during the wrong season and in the absence of water. This can have significant adverse impacts to the population. Although the mechanisms may vary, a wide range of species may suffer from such impacts.

The timing of ORV use can also play an important role. Infant survival of kangaroo rats is jeopardized by ORV use because adults locate their offspring by responding to repeated scratch-whines. ORV use during the late winter and spring poses the greatest threat before the offspring have dispersed. Similarly, when ORV activity occurs during the peak of lizard mating, reproductive success can be reduced.

Long-term exposure to the stress of ORV activity (of which ORV noise is typically a major component), is linked to numerous health problems. Noise exposure is linked to stress, ulcers, tension and coronary disease in humans, suggesting that similar effects might manifest in wildlife species as well. Rats exposed to high noise levels suffered impacts which included reduced body weight, increased heart rate and the shrinking of ovaries and kidneys.

For one thing, ORV noise is loud and, under many conditions, can travel long distances. For another, a great deal of existing ORV use occurs in fragile habitats, such as desert and wetland ecosystems, which often are home to wildlife species that are especially sensitive to noise and other human disturbance. Many species live in and are adapted to quiet environments, and ORV noise often greatly exceeds ambient decibel levels. Third, although the displacement effects of noise disturbance can be severe, many wildlife species are limited in their ability to relocate to avoid ORV impacts. Finally, rapidly advancing ORV technology allows for ever greater penetration into wild and sensitive habitats. The blanket of ORV noise grows ever larger.

Article courtesy of *The Road-Ripporter*, POB 7516, Missoula, MT 59807; (406) 543-9551; [wildlandsCPR@WildlandsCPR.org](mailto:wildlandsCPR@WildlandsCPR.org).

## Center for Biological Diversity Wins Back the Wild West

In a landmark settlement between the Center for Biological Diversity and the US Forest Service (USFS) on March 1, over 50 endangered species will be protected by sweeping changes to Southern California's four national forests. Combined, the Los Padres, Angeles, San Bernadino and Cleveland National Forests contain 6.1 million acres stretching from just north of the Mexican border to near Monterey.

The center sued the USFS on June 18, 1998, charging that the agency had systematically failed to protect a host of endangered species. The center won on March 1. According to the terms of the settlement, the USFS must amend all four forest plans to ensure the protection and recovery of imperiled species by 2002. In the meantime, it must immediately enact a long list of protective actions. The agency must:

- Close off nearly five square miles of forest, including a poorly planned campground and 17 miles of off-road vehicle trails upstream of Littlerock Reservoir on the Angeles National Forest.
- Remove livestock from all peninsular bighorn sheep habitat on the Wellman grazing allotment on the San Bernadino National Forest and remove cattle from dozens of miles of streams and riparian areas throughout the forest.
- Close and obliterate roads.

- Ban USFS use of ethylcol-based antifreeze. This type of antifreeze is deadly to California condors, pets and wildlife. The USFS must also conduct an education campaign urging the public to stop using lethal antifreeze and instead use one of the readily available alternative brands.

- Install anti-perching devices on all electronic communication sites within the current range of the California condor on the Angeles and Los Padres National Forests. All new and re-permitted power transmission lines must be made bird-safe within five years.

- Create an education campaign to inform hunters about the deadly impact of lead poisoning to California condors which feed on carcasses shot with lead bullets. The USFS must also promote alternatives to lead bullets.

- Close approximately 10 percent of the campgrounds in the Los Padres National Forest to protect Arroyo toad and California red-legged frog habitat.

- Close access sites near the Sespe Wilderness and stop placer mining on Piru Creek to protect Arroyo toad and steelhead trout.

### More Good News

In another win, on March 8 the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) officially proposed to designate and protect over 400,000 acres of "critical

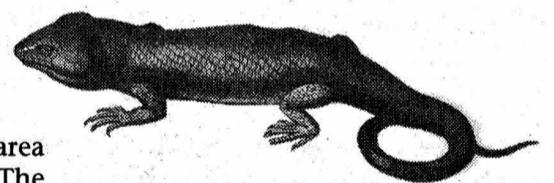
habitat" for the endangered Alameda whipsnake. The whipsnake has declined dramatically due to habitat loss and fragmentation in the East Bay Hills area near San Francisco, California. The designation was proposed in accordance with a legal settlement agreement between the FWS, the Center for Biological Diversity and Christians Caring for Creation.

More recently, in response to a lawsuit by the center, a New Mexico federal judge ordered the FWS to designate critical habitat for the imperiled Mexican spotted owl. Citing systematic delays by the federal agency and 11 years of intensive research, petitions and lawsuits by activists, the judge ordered the agency to complete the designation by January 2001.

The center petitioned to list the spotted owl as a threatened species in 1989 because its old-growth forest habitat was being liquidated on national forests in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah, as well as in Mexico's Sierra Madre Mountains.

### Eiders Protected

On March 14, 2000, keeping to a settlement agreement with the Center for Biological Diversity and Christians Caring for Creation, the FWS issued a proposal to formally designate 16.3



million acres of critical habitat in Alaska for the endangered Steller's eider, a northern duck.

The proposal identifies over 25,000 square miles of coastline and marine sanctuaries, including: 15,800 square miles of Alaska's North Slope, 1,200 square miles of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, marine waters in Kuskokwim Bay and 9,000 miles of coastline from Nunivak Island to the eastern Aleutians, along the northern and southern shores of the Alaska Peninsula and east to Kachemak Bay in Lower Cook Inlet and the Kodiak Archipelago.

In accordance with the same settlement, the FWS last month proposed to designate and protect 47 million acres of critical habitat for the endangered spectacled eider. Excluding overlapping areas, the total area to be protected for the two imperiled sea ducks is approximately 57 million acres.

Since 1993, the Center for Biological Diversity has produced over 100 species listings, critical habitat proposals, endangered species status reviews and habitat protection lawsuits.

# RESISTING RADIATION - UPDATE ON YUCCA MOUNTAIN

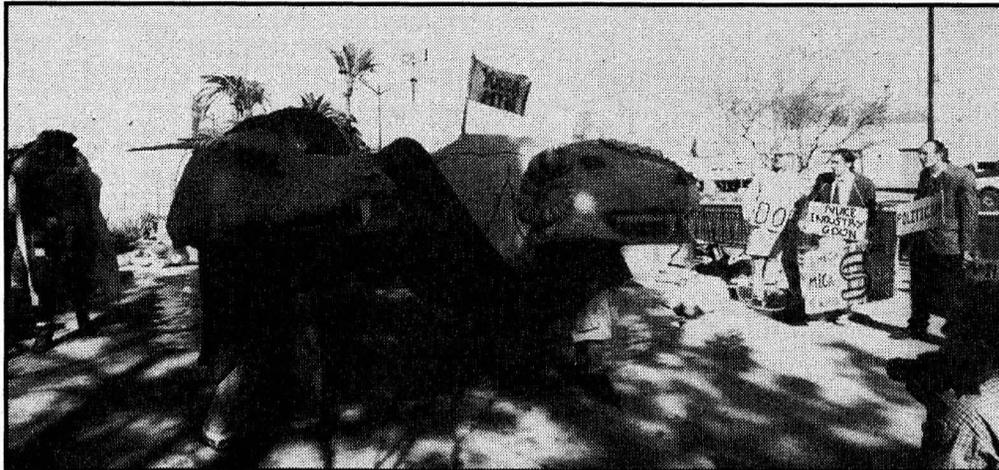
BY AELFGIFU AND DIXIE

For over 50 years the United States government has experimented with the explosive powers of nuclear energy. Although the risks and potentially fatal consequences of this deadly activity are now known by scientists and general citizens alike, the government still tests nuclear weapons and transports and dumps nuclear waste in areas which threaten the lives of millions of people and our environment. One of these proposed nuclear dumping areas is Yucca Mountain, 90 miles north of Las Vegas in the heart of the Nevada desert. Many people consider this beautiful wilderness to be simply a desolate wasteland, devoid of life and perfect for holding permanent high-level nuclear waste. To the Native Shoshone, Paiute and Washoe people, Yucca Mountain is a sacred site, still used for spiritual gatherings as it has been for thousands of years.

The 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley was intended to protect the Newe Nations (Shoshone) territory, including Yucca Mountain. In 1948 a military invasion by the US government forcibly relocated the Newe peoples living near Yucca Mountain to create a massive nuclear testing and dumping site. To this date the Western Shoshone Nation is involved in three court cases against the government regarding the violations of this treaty.

According to Shoshone beliefs this powerful mountain is home to an ancient snake, which, if disturbed will burst forth and dispel its venomous fire. Prophecies relating to the awakening of the snake foretell that when this occurs, the land will shake violently causing giant floods and widespread destruction. In the past 20 years there has been over 600 earthquake events of 2.5 or greater magnitude on the Richter scale recorded within 50 miles of this area. Combine this with the fact that if water seeps into the neutrons contained within the nuclear rods, all it would take is one small earthquake to cause an explosion 10 times worse than Chernobyl. This theory is

considered extreme by the Department of Energy (DOE) who insist that nuclear waste casks (which have never been full-scale tested) are infallible and unlikely to leak. This does not take into account the fact that nuclear testing has already contaminated water in the state of Nevada and affected the lives of thousands of people, animals and plants with deadly radiation causing cancer and mutating DNA, affecting life for generations to come.



Fifth annual Nuclear Fool's Day parade

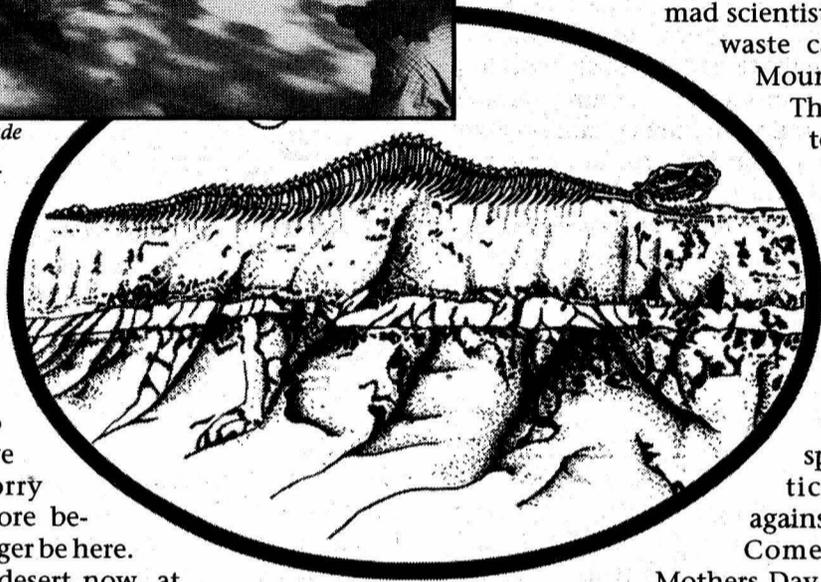
Katherine Blossom, a Western Shoshone grandmother says, "We want the world to know that if they (the government) continue to put that waste into Yucca Mountain, we don't have to worry about water no more because we will no longer be here. If you look at the desert now, at Mercury, there are no animals. At one time that land thrived with deer, antelope, jackrabbits, the little collie animals, you don't see them out there now. What are you leaving for your children and your children's children? This nuclear waste will take all our lives."

As if this isn't bad enough, the transportation of this deadly toxic on roads near lakes and cities, rivers and wildlife poses an immense threat to the stability of natural life. Using the DOE's own data it

can be estimated that between 70 and 130 accidents could occur during this transportation to Yucca Mt.

Corbin Harney, Newe Spiritual Leader and a powerful figure in the fight to stop nuclear insanity, constantly spreads an urgent message worldwide. "We are really concerned about the nuclear waste that is traveling on our land. We don't want our Mother to be [con]taminated with all kinds of radiation. Nuclear radiation is shortening all of our lives. This is very serious—if the government puts nuclear waste in Yucca Mountain it will travel thousands of miles and poison the land, water and air all over our Mother Earth. We only have one water, one air and one mother Earth. Now we rely on you people, its really important for us to unite ourselves together until we put a stop to this nonsense."

April 1 was the occasion for the 5th annual Nuclear Fool's Day parade, a noisy, colorful, messy event composed of a two headed, 40-foot long rattlesnake, three-eyed frogs, mad scientists, a mock nuclear waste cask and a Yucca Mountain on wheels!



These wacky characters all played major parts in a street theater piece which started on the steps of Las Vegas City Hall and progressed onto the federal building where Newe elders spoke of the injustices committed against their people.

Come to the annual Mothers Day Spring Gathering May 12-15. You are officially invited by the Newe Nation to partake in daily sweatlodges and sunrise ceremonies, workshops, nonviolence training, hear speakers from around the world, camp, eat food and be involved in direct action to shut down the Nevada Test Site!

For more information contact Shundahai Network, 5007 Elmhurst Ln, Las Vegas, NV 89108-1304; (702) 647-3095; 647-9385 (fax); shundahai@shundahai.org; www.shundahai.org.

## DUCKTRAP DEERYARD WINS APPEAL

BY RON HUBER

The Maryland Bank North America Corporation (MBNA), scourge of the Penobscot Coast, must find a land trust or other entity to take a permanent conservation easement over the Ducktrap Deeryard by March 30, according to an order issued March 16 by the Maine Board of Environmental Protection. The board was responding to an appeal against the company's 40-cabin sprawl development on the slopes of Ducktrap Mountain in Northport, Maine (see *EF!* March-April 2000).

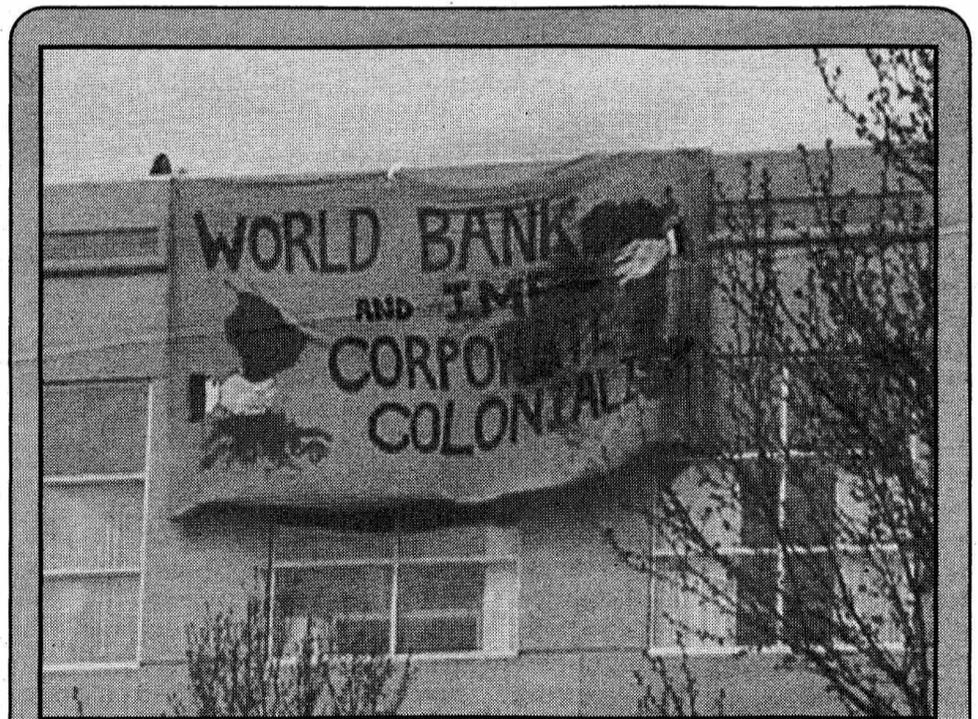
Critics of MBNA's attack on the thickly forested Megunticook Range along Penobscot Bay's western shore had told the board that MBNA had earlier promised to "permanently conserve" the heart of the deeryard, a densely forested area halfway up the mountainside, but then reneged on their promise by proceeding with the 40-cabin development in that very area.

The board contended that the area was critical to the survival of the western Penobscot Bay region's deer herd, who overwinter in the dense woodland on the mountainside, not to mention untold numbers of other wild lifeforms.

The board wrote: "The applicant [MBNA] shall, by March 30, 2000, submit to the Department for review, acceptance and recording a conservation easement in favor of IF&W, or another government or non-government entity, permanently protecting the Management Area and travel corridor described in the final Forest Management and Deer Wintering Area Management Plan dated February, 2000 and accepted by IF&W on March 6, 2000."

The order came as a complete shock to developer MBNA, whose Vice President for land abuse, Shane Flynn, whined that the company was already negotiating with land trusts and that such an easement would hinder it's future development of the land. Flynn and a clearly surprised Phil Ahrens, MBNA's top corporate lawdog, tried repeatedly but without success, to convince the board not to require them to protect the land.

In addition, the board ordered Department of Environmental Protection permit reviewer David Silver to modify "Finding 6B" to note that the department considered the project's impacts to the local school of wild Atlantic salmon in nearby Ducktrap Harbor, as well as in the Ducktrap River.



Protests against the World Bank/International Monetary Fund (IMF) meetings got an early start the morning of March 30, when activists unfurled a massive 40-foot banner from the roof of the Hamilton Park Conference Center in Florham Park, New Jersey, as delegates arrived for the plenary.

The banner depicted two bloody corporate hands squeezing the life out of the global South with the caption "World Bank and IMF = Corporate Colonialism." As the banner was unfurled hundreds of local and federal law enforcement officers stood helplessly below. "The policies the World Bank and IMF imposed on indebted countries support a corporate agenda at the expense of people and the environment. Poverty, child labor, environmental destruction and sweatshops are all direct results of draconian IMF/World Bank structural adjustment programs."

"We're up here to expose the IMF and World Bank as false prophets whose mission is to protect those who already control too much wealth and power," said Lisa Kuhn of the Direct Action Network, who was arrested unfurling the banner.

# BEWARE OF PERMITS!

RRR '98

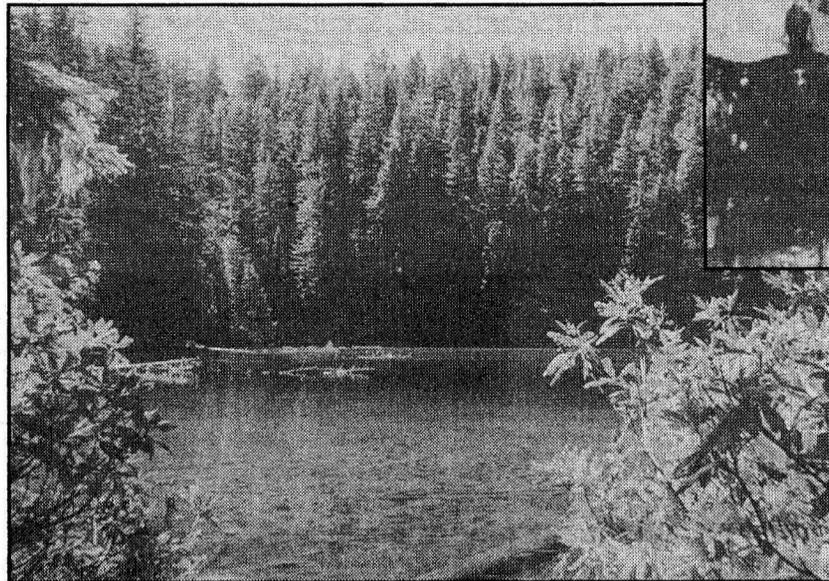
BY JIM FLYNN

When organizing the 1998 Earth First! Round River Rendezvous in Oregon at Twin Lakes (you remember, the most beautiful RRR site ever), Pam and I made the mistake of trying to work with the government. To facilitate communication, Pam and I (through a *good* friend) offered up our phone numbers to the folks at the Umpqua National Forest supervisor's office. Originally we were communicating directly with the resource manager—a good guy named Jerry Harriman.

In the government's mindset of hierarchy and accountability, Pam and I quickly became the homecoming queen and king of the event. At all future meetings before, during and (tragically) afterwards, the Forest Service asked for us personally. And when the RRR was over (here comes the tragic part), We were singled out to be the beneficiaries of \$250 citations for not securing a special use permit for "our" event. Even though we had a friendly working relationship with the Umpqua NF resource people throughout the event, followed their Operation Plan to the letter, got kudos from Jerry for our efficient drinking-water system and well-built latrines, meticulously cleaned up the entire site and closed all the trails, the Department of Justice issued us citations to appear in federal court and pay the \$250.

Well, we decided to play their little game and met them in court. We moved for dismissal based on the unconstitutionality of the Forest Service's special use permitting regulations and to save the taxpayers money (high on our list), but the Department of Justice insisted that the trial move forward. The judge reluctantly set a trial date, inferring that this could be settled outside of court. (It should be noted here that early on in the discovery process we discovered that one of our people, Terry Johnson, was an infiltrator working for the Forest Service. (See *EF!* June-July 1999).)

Pam and I hemmed and hawed over it for a few months. The government was not going to let go of this one, insisting on upholding its permitting regulations. We had little to gain (having all the docu-



The 1998 rendezvous site at Twin Lakes, in the Umpqua National Forest

ments from the discovery process) and \$250 each to lose. So we decided to cop a plea. The federal prosecutor asked us to remind him of what kind of deal he had offered us before. We replied with, "something like \$35 to \$50 each with a guilty plea to Failure to Obtain a Special Use Permit."

When the prosecutor relayed the deal to the Department of Justice, Forest Service law enforcement officials in Washington DC freaked out! We didn't even know they were still involved with or interested in the case. They came back with a counter offer of something to the effect of "\$5,000 each and our signature stating that we promise not to attend an unpermitted gathering on a national forest (ever)."



Flag burning with ¡Tchkung! at the '98 RRR

Ha! As if. So we cast a wide net, subpoenaing a bunch of the bastards, requesting all sorts of "related" documents, saying, "Bring it on, we'll see you in court!"

After much deliberation, they threw in the towel. The case was dismissed. We won!

Lessons to be learned: 1) Don't give them your real name even if they seem nice; use fake, real-sounding names. 2) Throughout the process continue to remind them that we don't have leaders. 3) Don't sign permits. Unless you are the president or CEO of Earth First! you cannot legally sign! 4) Use the discovery process to get all the documents you can, and don't give up in court.

## NO EVICTIONS SINCE DEADLINE

The snow has been falling lightly on the canyon walls as many new lambs begin their lives roaming the sagebrush near Big Mountain. Despite the big deadline no forced evictions have taken place as of yet. According to the hearing in San Francisco on February 22, no official forced evictions will be allowed to take place until a verdict has been released on the *Manybeads vs. United States*

*Government* case. This verdict is not expected for another three months to a year. However, at that time traditionals living on Hopi Partitioned Land (HPL) could face immediate, military-armed evictions. In the meantime, blatant intimidation and harassment can be expected towards the traditionals of HPL.

In the beginning of February, two middle-aged men dressed in plain clothes driving a fancy white pick up truck approached one of the shepherds hogan on HPL unannounced. After probing for names and the whereabouts of long-time supporters, it became clear they had unfriendly intentions. They were asked to leave several times by the two female supporters who were alone in the hogan at the time. While ignoring these requests, they continued to scan the homesite for supporters and information. When one of the supporters began to take their license plate number, they proceeded to leave, but not before turning to her saying, "You better be careful out here, especially at night."

On February 13th several supporters sighted a

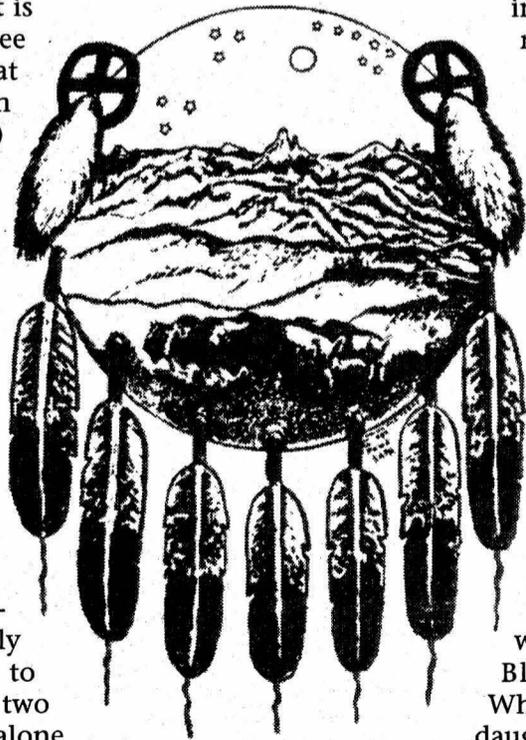
black cargo plane flying a mere fifty feet off the ground. The spectacle of a four gun bomber big enough to carry several tanks slowly passing over traditional Dineh elders, sheep, and HPL hogans was quite alarming. Smaller Sesna style planes continue near daily fly bys usually around 100 feet from the ground.

On the positive side, there has been a lot of international support on the land recently, including supporters from Germany, Italy, England, the Swedish parliament and the Japanese peace walk. However, as the deadline past, many are beginning to return to their homes. Historically, after a major deadline harassment steps up as supporters dwindle. Therefore, now is a great time to come support the elders of Big Mountain.

To the traditionals of Black Mesa, this is a way of life and not just a deadline. The flocks are growing, the grandmas are weaving and Dineh grandchildren are befriending Hopi youth. These are the traditional ways which protect all life on Black Mesa. As Pauline Whitesinger's 17 year old granddaughter, Rachel explains, the sheep are like our banks, but they are more powerful because they are living!

For more information contact, Black Mesa Indigenous Support POB 23501, Flagstaff, AZ 86002; (520) 773-8086; granmonta@hotmail.com; www.blackmesais.org. This is a nonviolent effort! No weapons, alcohol or drugs!

—BLACK MESA INDIGENOUS SUPPORT



## Peltier Supports Dineh

Greetings friends and supporters,

I am writing to reiterate my full support of the Dineh of Big Mountain and their continued resistance against relocation. The final eviction day, February 1, came and went without any major confrontations or skirmishes. I think this strategy is very intentional in that the government knows a long, drawn-out and painful war against a people does not draw as much attention and is much more difficult to fight than a dramatic and sudden attack. I am sure they are waiting for people's attention to lessen before they move in and begin moving people one by one, when few are watching.

Over the years the resisters have had to struggle just to survive and the very fact that they have survived and continue their resistance is testimony to their amazing strength and belief in the Creator. The constant fear, harassment and dangerous conditions under which they have been forced to live have not surmounted their knowledge and skills as gardeners, sheepherders and caretakers of the land. At the same time, I know how the resisters must feel. The relocation bill was passed only a short time before I was arrested, and I know it has been a very long and difficult time for all of us. And like me, I know that the resisters are likely growing tired, but like me, they do not have the capability of giving up because they know they are in the right. When I think of the elders there and all that they have been through, the pride I feel for our people swells. I am very proud of them. It is such an important time for the families to come together in unity and bring a final end to this attempt.

I want to personally ask all of you on the outside to maintain and continue to build awareness around the Big Mountain situation. And, I ask you to support the people in whatever way they request. Relocation really is genocide and if the people of Big Mountain are lost, we all will lose another very special and sacred source of traditional knowledge and a way of life we can all learn from.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,

—LEONARD PELTIER

# Beware the Ides of March Right View Falls

BY MADRONE AND MSH

In mid-summer 1999 a new treesit campaign was born of Cascadian resistance. One more beacon of sanity on this lost nation's public lands. It was July 4, 1999, that the first act of defiance was taken against the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Herbert Lumber Corporation in the Right View Timber Sale. A beautiful sugar pine, Dudley (or was it deadly?), was the first tree climbed in the unit. Madre Loca is the Douglas fir that has held us above the ground for eight months. She stands tall and proud in the middle of the unit where BLM has planned to build a logging road.

On July 12 the treesitters in Madre Loca awoke to loggers tramping through the forest. The loggers were quite confused when they discovered the treesit. After having a nice conversation they told the occupants that, "We're gonna have to tell our boss about this." A few hours later the BLM came to visit and issued a 160-acre forest closure that is still in effect. The treesit is located in unit five, the last standing unit of the Right View Timber Sale. Of the four other units that have already been butchered, two resulted in massive landslides dumping tons of sediment into Cole Creek, a tributary of the North Umpqua River. The forest around Madre Loca was full of Doug firs of all ages, incense cedar, grand fir, madrones, the treasured sugar pine and all the diversity that an old-growth forest offers.

The sugar pines were huge and seemed to be resis-

tant to white pine blister rust, which has taken many of the pines in the area. A pair of spotted owls are known to nest a half mile from unit five. A creek that runs just east of the unit is home to the endangered coho salmon and Umpqua cutthroat trout. Black bear, Roosevelt elk, pileated woodpecker, deer, flying squirrels and owls have all been seen in the forest. The biological opinion for this sale was ruled illegal by Judge Rothstein in 1998, and the BLM has been unable to prove that they have a legal biological opinion.

The BLM is using the notorious Salvage Rider to exempt Right View from environmental laws. On March 15, eight months after the original death sentence, everything changed. Stirred from slumber by rumbling vehicles, the treesitter in Madre Loca poked his head from the platform, knowing what was up. Hardhats, badges and five-foot saws were marching down the hillside. They had come to cut the unit. About 25-30 law enforcement officials were present from federal, state and local agencies as well as about 14 employees of Herbert Lumber. The closure notice was read and the sitter was informed that he was "interfering with an agricultural project," and was asked to come down. Declining the offer, the loggers were given the green light to proceed. They began to work at a reckless speed and at times yelling "fuck you" as a tree was felled. The air was filled with the smell of dying trees, the sound of technological ignorance, the screeches and cries of falling elders all around.

The Earth shook violently with the crash of each tree. Law enforcement officers waited below the tree at all times and stood post around the closure, which had been extended to keep those concerned even further from the murder. With no way in for supporters, the sitter was isolated and prepared for a prolonged stay. Maintaining composure, he spoke truth to power and found most of the ecocidal participants very ill-informed of forest issues in general. "The Earth is here for us to use," came one not so surprising reply. As the crews broke for lunch, one logger whistled a pathetic replacement for the birdsongs that no longer filled the air. Psychological harassment was intermittent, and physical endangerment

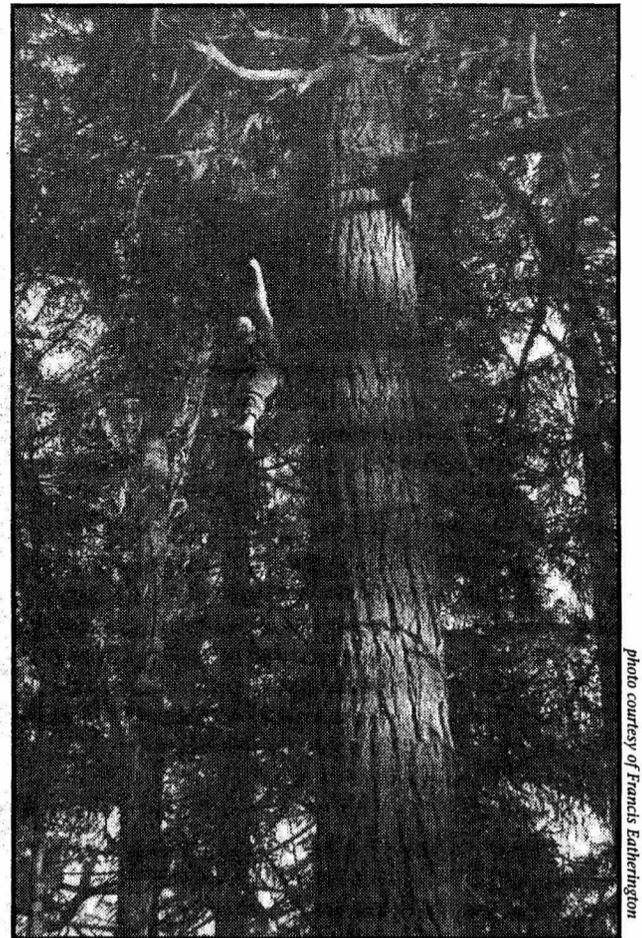


photo courtesy of Francis Eatherington  
Hanging in the trees, back before the chainsaws arrived

peaked with the collision of a falling tree (40 feet from the treesit) to a large Doug fir that was tied in with walkways. The resulting chain reaction jerked Madre nearly knocking the sitter off the platform.

Thirty-two acres were decimated in one and a half days. It took less than 36 hours to destroy a functioning ecosystem. Madre Loca and a "buffer zone" of about one acre remain standing. The life of the treesitter remains in great danger due to blow down from the edge effect. The Madre Loca treesit will remain occupied until we have proof that the trees remaining will not be cut. Please help us to save these trees and bring the sitter to safety. Mischief and Trouble, the crazy flying squirrels, play in Madre Loca each night. We heard the great horned owl and the frogs still croak. A mouse moved into Madre a few days after the logging was done. We mourn the lost of our elders, friends and the magical place that existed, but the forest will forever live in our minds and hearts. The BLM and Herbert Lumber will never take that away from us.

For more information contact Madre Loca Alliance, POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440. For great facts and photographs, check out [www.umpqua-watersheds.org](http://www.umpqua-watersheds.org).

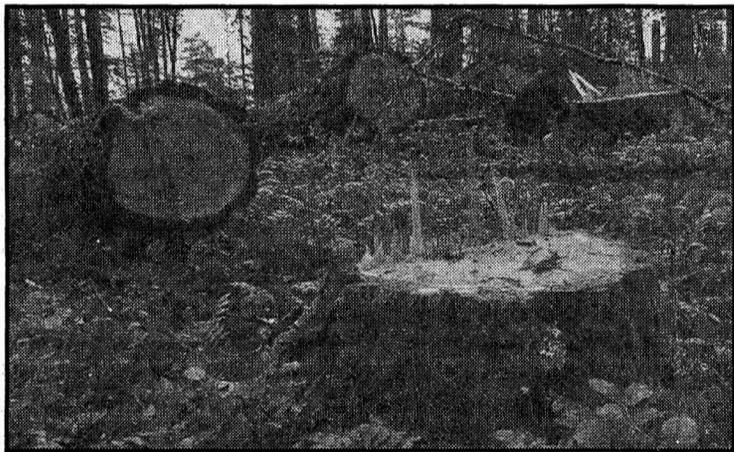


photo courtesy Madre Loca Alliance  
Along with 50 law enforcement agents, they cut Right View down.

## Prairie Dogs: "Warranted but precluded" from ESA...

BY JONATHAN PROCTOR

The black-tailed prairie dog deserves to be listed as a threatened species, but will not receive federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections due to a lack of money and staff, said US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) officials on February 4. Predator Conservation Alliance (PCA) is responding with a demand for immediate action from involved states and federal agencies.

The FWS ruled the black-tailed prairie dog "warranted but precluded" for protection under the ESA. This means the species is biologically imperiled and in need of protection and a recovery plan, but the agency will not proceed with a listing proposal or ESA protection.

This decision is the federal government's response to two petitions to list the black-tailed prairie dog for protection. The first petition was filed by the National Wildlife Federation in July 1998 and the second by PCA, Biodiversity Legal Foundation and biologist Jon Sharps in August 1998.

With this decision, the FWS has formally acknowledged that the black-tailed prairie dog is threatened with extinction. Unfortunately, the decision only establishes formal recognition of the problem, but changes nothing on the ground.

Noting budgetary constraints and a heavy workload, FWS instead passed the buck to the 11 states within the black-tailed prairie dog's historic range, highlighting the ability and recent "commitment" of these states to improve the plight of the species. As of now, the states have yet to act. Unfortunately, all indications are that the states are not truly committed to improving the situation.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission set a terrible precedent—the first state action on the black-tailed since the "warranted but precluded" finding. Only three days after a February 4 article in the *Arizona Republic* discussing possible black-tailed prairie dog reintroduction in Arizona,

Page 12 *Earth First!* Beltane 2000

the commissions responded by passing a proposal not to participate, in any form, in the reintroduction of black-tailed prairie dogs into Arizona. The Kansas Legislature was next to fail the test. On February 21, a proposal to repeal the state's mandatory prairie dog poisoning laws (first enacted in 1903) met defeat in a House Agricultural subcommittee meeting. This proposal merely would have allowed private landowners to manage prairie dogs as they saw fit instead of being forced to poison them.

Since the two petitions were filed in the summer of 1998, none of the involved states have changed the management status of prairie dogs from that of a pest or non-game species to that of a wildlife species of special concern. Nor have the states asked for any reductions in poisoning or recreational shooting of the species on federal and state lands.

The agencies have already shown steps for protection are possible. The Forest Service placed a temporary moratorium last year on prairie dog poisoning on all Forest Service lands. Last September the Bureau of Land Management banned recreational shooting on 15 prairie dog towns in north-central Montana to increase the chance for success of an adjacent FWS ferret reintroduction program. Also last year, Arizona closed its shooting season on black-tailed prairie dogs. Although this move was more symbolic than effective (black-tailed prairie dogs were extirpated from Arizona over 40 years ago), it helps set the stage for a possible reintroduction in the future.

We remain committed to seeing prairie dogs occupy 10 percent of all suitable habitat on public lands throughout their historic range. This will benefit both the prairie dog and all of the species that are associated with the prairie dog ecosystem including the black-footed ferret, swift fox, burrowing owl, ferruginous hawk and mountain plover.

For more information contact the Predator Conservation Alliance, 801 Sherwood Suite B, Missoula, MT 59802; (406) 543-8424, 728-9432 (fax); [jonathan@predatorconservation.org](mailto:jonathan@predatorconservation.org).



photo courtesy Predator Conservation Alliance  
Black-tailed prairie dog lookin' darned cute but gettin' no protection.

# RED CLOUD THUNDER TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

BY ILD

Like the forest itself, the Fall Creek tree village transforms and evolves as the winter calm passes and the roads of forest defense become increasingly more exciting. Our scope is on the Clark Timber Sale, a would-be 96-acre clearcut of publicly-owned ancient forest in the Willamette National Forest by Zip-O Log Mills of Eugene, Oregon.

Knowing this ancient, beautiful and necessary ecosystem needs to remain wild and free for its own sake as well as ours, we have held strong for nearly two years.

These trees will never feel the bloody axes of Zip-O, will never fall to serve the greed of the masses or to give rise to a sterile, monoculture tree farm.

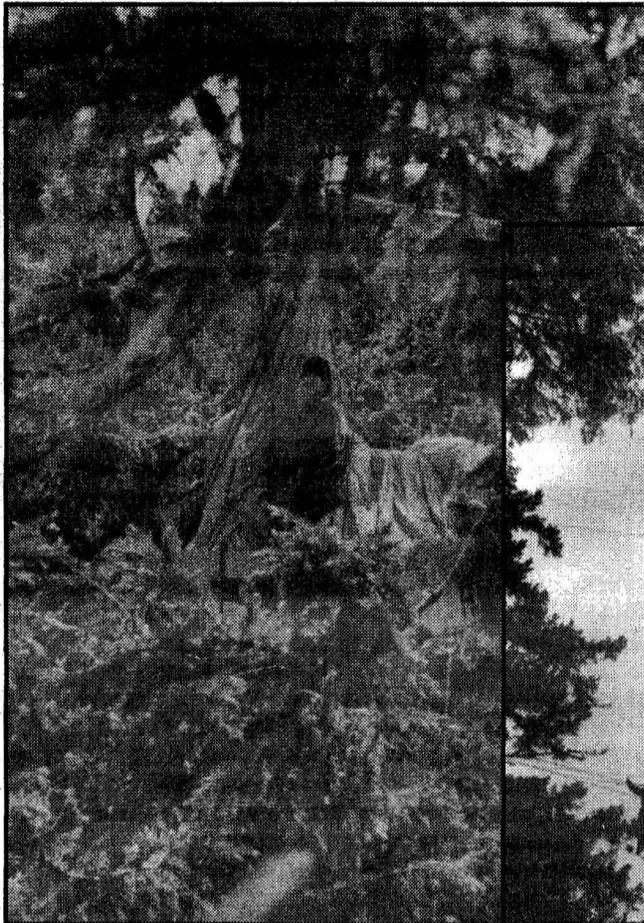
We will spare the forest the reality of corporate culture civilization, despite eviction tactics used by the US Forest Service, which have ranged from humorous to inconvenient to life threatening.

At Fall Creek for two years now, we have endured road and forest closures, witnessed the destruction and burning of our ground camps and personal gear and have been kept up nights by attempts to annoy us into willful eviction. We have had our lives endangered while occupying road blockades, as law enforcement officers recklessly dismantled them from underneath us. We stay ever ready to defend the forests against raids from ground or air.

All of these Forest Service offensives have only served to make us stronger. Through building a community that is fluid, creative and interdependent, constructing and occupying treesits, road defense, ground support and in town campaigning, we keep our larger vision in mind. A vision of a forest protected as well as the beginning of a cycle of constant

learning, teaching and adaptation, rooted in self-governance and respect, growing toward freedom and liberation for all life.

Current Forest Service activity here



Sitter up in Happy

has focused mainly on the recently court-ordered red tree vole surveys. The agency has blatantly ignored the surveys required under the Northwest Forest Plan. The Forest Service admittedly has little experience surveying for voles and has yet to determine the most effective means of finding these canopy dwellers. The surveyors walked specific transects in each unit and at certain coordinates looked up into the canopy with binoculars to locate

nest sites. If potential nest sites were located, a climber was sent to verify the nest. The surveys on all 96 acres were completed in three days, all under the armed guard of Forest Service Law Enforcement. The unnecessary and excessive law enforcement presence that arrived with the surveyors has yet to reappear, leaving us wondering

climbers are scheduled to return in early April to do more extensive surveying in units where no nests were found.

With the help of supportive locals, we will continue to flag trees with potential nests so they can be identified. Although the management protocol for dealing with voles has yet to be determined, we still support the surveys and skeptically hope for the best in terms of protection.

We are planning forest action/wilderness survival camps this spring and summer to coincide with Eugene Active Existence (see page 30). We hope to generate new energy and support, as logging season is just around the corner! The second planned Direct Action Training Camp and Skill Share is June 5-12. The forest needs you! Life at Fall Creek is notoriously exciting in the spring and summer. Come for a visit or stay for a while.

For more information contact Red Cloud Thunder/Cascadia Forest Defenders, POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440; (541) 684-8977; redcloud@efn.org. To express your outrage about logging on public lands, contact Representative Peter DeFazio, 151 W 7 Ave

Suite 400, Eugene, OR 97401; peter.defazio@mail.house.gov; (541) 465-6732; 465-6458 (fax) or Chief Michael Dombeck, US Forest Service, Auditors Building, 201 14th Street SW, Washington DC 20090; (202) 205-1661.



Walking the traverse at Fall Creek tree village.

what they're really up to.

Although some voles were found, we believe this pseudo-scientific process will never accurately represent or protect the diversity of life found in the forest. Wildlife biologists and independent

## ...while the Lynx is Listed as Threatened

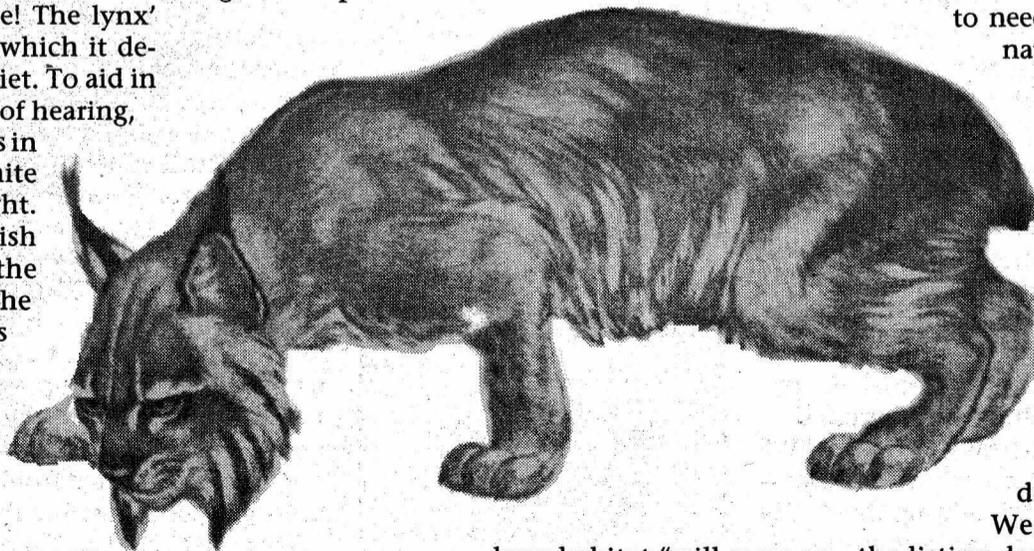
BY SARA FOLGER

A lynx is a rare cat, similar to its cousin the bobcat, but with longer legs, and much larger paws. The lynx' paws are about three and one-half inches across, the same as a paw of a mountain lion three to six times the lynx' size! The lynx' favorite prey is the snowshoe hare, which it depends upon for 60-90 percent of its diet. To aid in hunting, the lynx has an acute sense of hearing, and its eyes can detect tiny differences in light intensity, allowing it to see white hares on white snow, even in low light.

Finally, after many delays, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) listed the lynx as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) across its historic range in the lower 48 states. The Predator Conservation Alliance (PCA) is pleased that USFWS has finally acknowledged that the lynx is in very serious trouble. Hopefully this decision means that in decades and generations to come, outdoor enthusiasts from Maine to Washington will have the chance to catch a glimpse of this beautiful animal or at least discover its tracks in the deep snow.

PCA is skeptical of the agency's proposal for recovering the lynx. In making its decision, the

USFWS concluded that the threat to the lynx is the "lack of guidance to conserve the species in current federal land management plans." Therefore a conservation agreement recently signed by the US Forest Service (USFS) affecting all forest management plans within



lynx habitat "will serve as a blueprint for recovery."

What happened to the practice of the USFWS being responsible for managing recovery of listed species, including writing its own recovery plan? From what we have read thus far, it looks as though the USFWS has delegated primary responsibility

for recovering lynx to the USFS, the very agency whose management policies resulted in the lynx decline in the first place. Both the USFWS and the conservation groups who have fought for lynx protection during the past six years have said that logging, road building, motorized recreation and increased human access in lynx habitat are the main reasons for the species' decline. To continue to survive in the the lower 48 states, the lynx is going to need more than a few amendments to national forest management plans.

It was bad enough that PCA and other conservation groups had to wait six years and file three lawsuits (two we won and the last was filed on March 13 because of yet another delay by USFWS) to get the agency to finally protect the lynx. We are now looking at a proposal to give the USFS a lead on recovering the lynx. It appears that USFWS is taking a new approach to the recovery of threatened species—delay, defer and delegate.

We are still waiting to see the details of the listing decision. If our fears prove justified, we will pursue all administrative and legal means necessary to ensure the survival and recovery of the imperiled lynx throughout its former range.

For more information contact Predator Conservation Alliance, 234 E Menden Hall St, Bozeman MT 59715; (406) 587-3389.

## Blasting globalization in Bangkok, Thailand

One thousand activists marched on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Bangkok, Thailand, on February 11 calling for radical changes to the global financial system which keeps much of the world locked in poverty.

As world leaders and delegates met inside the conference center, singing and yelling protesters carrying banners lambasting the World Bank, World Trade Organization and the International Monetary Fund found their route to the venue blocked by riot police. Undeterred by a massive Thai security curtain around the talks designed to prevent a repeat of demonstrations like in Seattle and Davos, several hundred Thai and foreign protesters approached the conference center and stood across the road from the venue.

Once in front of the venue, protesters slammed globalization and presented their demands to UNCTAD officials, who came out to police barriers to meet demonstrators. Among their demands demonstrators called on UNCTAD delegates to reform the world's financial system to benefit developing countries and help protect natural resources. The protest was mostly peaceful with only a few brief outbreaks of pushing and shoving between demonstrators and the police.

Most of the demonstrators came from Thai non-governmental organizations but were joined by foreign protesters from over 40 countries and 200 textile workers who accuse the government of failing to save their struggling industry.

## Thousands march for Vieques after negotiations

Answering the call of Christian leaders, 150,000 Puerto Ricans marched silently through the center of the capital city of Vieques on February 20, waving white flags of peace against Navy military maneuvers on the island.

Carrying a huge banner which read "Paz para Vieques, ni un tiro mas," or "Peace for Vieques, not one more shot," the religious leaders led a procession of Puerto Ricans down two avenues and an expressway. Another banner read "un silencio profundo hace un gran ruido," or "a profound silence makes a big noise," referring to the religious leaders' call for protesters to march in silence, which distinguished this event from previous demonstrations laced with chanting and drumming.

The march was organized to show popular discontent over the accord reached between President Clinton and Puerto Rico Governor Pedro Rossello on the future of Navy training activities on the island.

Clinton called for a referendum for Vieques voters to decide whether they want the Navy to leave by May 1, 2003, or whether, for an additional \$50 million, they would permit the Navy to stay indefinitely. In the three-year interim, the target range would be reopened, and the Navy would be allowed to practice bombing 90 days a year using dummy ordnance.

Even if Vieques residents vote for the Navy to leave, the commonwealth will get \$40 million and the return of 8,000 acres on the western end of the island, site of a munitions storage facility. These two incentives are contingent on the target range being cleared of protesters, who have been camped out there for 10 months following the death last April of civilian security guard David Sanes Rodriguez, a Vieques resident. A stray US navy explosive killed him.

# U'wa Win A CRITICAL INJUNCTION: BLOCKADE REMAINS AT DRILLSITE

BY PATRICK REINSBOROUGH

The U'wa people of Colombia have won an important victory in their life-or-death struggle to defend their ancestral homelands from oil drilling. On March 30 a Colombian Court ordered Occidental Petroleum (Oxy) to halt all construction work on the Gibraltar 1 drill site because it is on the sacred ancestral land of the U'wa tribe. The judge ruled that the drilling would violate "fundamental rights" of the U'wa people including their right to life.

Roberto Perez, the President of the U'wa Traditional Authority, issued the following statement in response to the verdict: "The injunction speaks of the suspension of the project not cancellation. We have taken an important step and are happy because we have advanced in our struggle even though this has come at great sacrifice."

Even government officials were willing to admit that the injunction was a serious setback to their efforts to drill in the region. Alberto Calderon, president of state oil company Ecopetrol told a news conference, "The project has been paralyzed," The Colombian government and Oxy are appealing the decision.

The injunction was announced as Perez traveled to the US to directly confront representatives of the corporations that are conspiring to destroy his traditional land and culture. With the help of Representative Cynthia McKinney (D-GA), Roberto was able to surprise Oxy Vice President Larry Meriage. Meriage had requested a meeting with McKinney in response to her remarks on Oxy's controversial

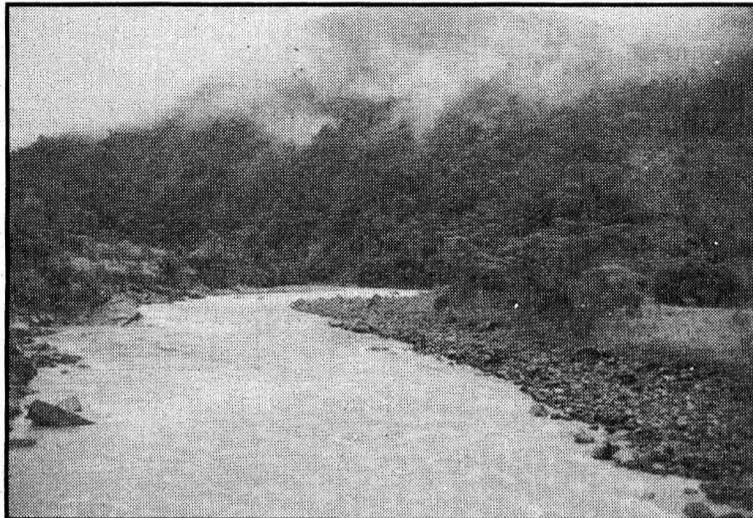
oil project during the House floor debate on the US military aid package to Colombia. When Oxy officials arrived at her office they were shocked to be greeted by the U'wa president and supporters from the U'wa Defense Working Group.

During the intense one-hour meeting, Meriage admitted on record that

Fidelity Investments. Fidelity offices have been hit by over 50 demonstrations and direct actions as activists around the world express their solidarity with the U'wa.

Just as Colombian trade unionists have joined the U'wa in blockading the drill site, Perez was joined by Patricia Buritica, a representative of the Central Organization of Workers of Colombia, for a community teach in and then a march on Fidelity's Boston offices. One hundred Boston area activists with colorful banners and giant puppets staged a rally and called upon Fidelity to meet with the U'wa representative. When Fidelity refused several customers publicly divested, and many more vowed to spread the word.

The injunction has bought the U'wa some time, but thousands of U'wa continue to block-



A river running through U'wa homelands

ade the drill site demanding permanent protection for their full ancestral territory. To achieve this goal and protect their culture and homelands the U'wa need the support of activists in the global North. It is up to all of us to show Occidental shareholders like Fidelity and Vice President Al Gore that we will not allow them to quietly profit from Occidental's crimes. Organize in your community to support the U'wa resistance.

"Oil maintains the balance of the world and is the blood of our mother. In accordance with our natural laws which don't permit the exploitation or destruction of nature, we demand that you respect our rights, our culture and our lives," declared Perez.

The U'wa representative also traveled to Boston to confront one of Occidental's major shareholders, Fi-

For more information contact Rainforest Action Network, 221 Pine Street Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94104; (415) 398-4404; organize@ran.org; www.ran.org.

# Organic Tea Strains Sri Lanka

BY HEMANTHA WITHANAGE

The greenery, wet soil and pure water springs brings you the impression of virginity. Darkness in the forest and sounds of birds and insects create a different world. You can experience this in Sinharaja, which is the most famous virgin forest in Sri Lanka. It houses the highest number of species and the highest endemic population in Sri Lanka.

The National Conservation Review of the country's natural forest carried out from 1991-96 recorded 337 species of woody plants in the sample plots that were inventoried. Of these species, 192 are endemic and 116 globally threatened. Because of its importance, Sinharaja Man and Biosphere Site was declared a World Heritage Site by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization in 1989.

The forest spreads in about 72,000 acres through Western, Sabaragamuwa and Southern provinces. Twenty-two-thousand acres constitute the core area.

Until 1972 the forests' total area reached over 120,000 acres, but unfortunately it was reduced by logging activities between 1972-77. The logging was stopped thanks to the work of the Wildlife and Nature Protection Society-Sri Lanka and some concerned individuals. Since then, the logged areas have regenerated with giant trees, and the secondary forest is luxurious.

As with many other forests in the country, Sinharaja Forest has also been subjected to heavy encroachment. Thousands of acres have been cleared for tea cultivation since British colonization. After independence, a policy of nationalization was applied and these lands were taken by the Land Reform Commission in 1974. Tea cultivation was stopped, but in 1999 problems started again due to the release of 62 hectares of dense forest adjoining Sinharaja for organic tea cultivation.

Natural organically grown products are not new to Sri Lankans, nor to the people in many other tropical countries. They are available in the forests and even in home gardens. These kinds of products have a great demand in the north. Foreign demand for organic products can have negative environmental effects on untouched lands in southern countries.

Sinharaja Plantations Organic Ltd., is set to clear the 62 hectares of lands in Sooriyakanda Village in the Rathnapura District, close to Sinharaja, to grow organic tea, flowers and vegetables for the international market. This area holds virgin forest, secondary forests and cardamom and tea bushes as undergrowth. Cardamon is a valuable spice and a natural organic product, which generates incomes for 50 families of the Ilumbakanda Village, located near the site. Additionally, these forests offer the environmental service of generating water for the Delgoda Ganga River, which is used by the population of the Ilumbakanda village and other downstream villages.

Nevertheless, the Board of Investment, a government body, has already approved this project, in absence of any Environmental Impact Assessment. Villagers' organizations, together with environmental groups, are vehemently opposing this project.

It has also been announced that a very powerful cabinet minister is supporting it due to his relationship with the project proponent. Defenders of the forest hope that the chief minister of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council denies the permission for the project. At the same time, they are urging UNESCO and other concerned people to take actions to protect this unique habitat.

For more information contact the World Rainforest Movement, Inc., Fosseyway Business Centre Stratford Road, Moreton-in-Marsh GL56 9NQ UK; (441) 608-652-893; wrm@gn.apc.org.

# Hunting in Ontario's Wilderness Parks?

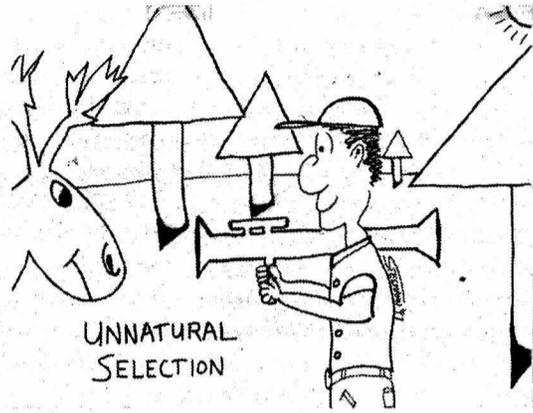
BY ANITA KRAJNC AND TONY WEIS

Ontario's neoconservative Premier Mike Harris is proposing to open existing Wilderness Parks to sport hunting and fishing to satisfy the demands of a special interest group: people who "enjoy" wildlife by killing it. After having already opened all newly established parks to sport hunting, the government moved to weaken wilderness parks—which have been established over the last couple of decades and currently exclude the "hook and bullet" crowd.

In Ontario, there are two categories of parks which are off-limits to sport hunting and motorized access: nature reserves and wilderness parks. Wilderness parks are the most ecologically significant protected areas in Ontario. They are large in size (generally a minimum of 50,000 hectares) and are predominantly roadless sanctuaries where nature functions freely. All wilderness parks are managed to ensure that their natural values remain for future generations. Thus, the government's plan to open wilderness parks to hunting is in contradiction to the objectives for these areas.

Ontario's eight wilderness parks are: Killarney, Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater, Quetico, Wabakimi, Woodland Caribou, Kesagami, Opasquia and Polar Bear. Killarney Wilderness Park, on the north shore of Georgian Bay, is due for a new park management plan and is likely to be opened for wildlife killing soon. In Ontario's Northwest, three Wilderness Parks are threatened. Two of these, Wabakimi and Woodland Caribou, do not yet have management plans. It is essential for the public to become involved in the consultations surrounding the park management planning process.

These latest assaults have to be put in the context of a recent mega-land use planning deal. In its typical blitzkrieg fashion, the Harris government launched the "Land for Life" land use planning process in 1997, involving almost half the province of Ontario. In the resulting settlement—Ontario's "Living Legacy"—a mere five percent of this vast planning area was protected. The other 95 percent of the planning area was handed over to the logging and mining industry in long-term tenure contracts.



Though there was much public fanfare surrounding the Harris government's creation of 378 parks and protected areas under the Living Legacy settlement, only 13 small nature reserves and no new wilderness parks were established. In fact, all these so-called parks and protected areas will allow sport hunting, commercial

trapping, snowmobiling and mining.

The introduction of bloodsport in parks amounts to an assault on the some of the last areas where nature is relatively free to exist apart from the domination of humans. The industrial and extractive recreation agenda of America's wise use movement and its accompanying anti-environmentalist ideology are gaining ground in Canada as sports hunters mount aggressive campaigns to gain access to protected areas. Their recent triumphs are related to the emergence of neoconservative governments in provinces such as Ontario and Alberta and represent the latest steps in the widespread assault on environmental protection.

After a destructive first four-year term which saw the Ministries of Environment and Natural Re-

source budgets each cut by roughly 40 percent, Harris is planning in his second term (which started in June 1999) to give the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters full control of "wildlife management." The government has already signed 99-year wetlands management agreements with Ducks Unlimited and transferred hunter education and licensing programs to the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. Further, in its 1999 election platform, it promised to enshrine sport hunting as a "right" through a Heritage Hunting and Fishing Act.

On August 23-27, the Peaceful Parks Coalition, along with other groups, is planning a major protest at the Premier's Symposium on North America's Hunting Heritage in Ottawa. The symposium was originally scheduled for Toronto but was moved to Ottawa for fear of protests!

If the status of existing wilderness parks is altered, virtually the whole province will be open to sport hunting. The insatiable appetite of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters needs to be challenged.

Sport hunting should be banned not only in wilderness parks but in all Ontario parks and protected areas including conservation, natural environment and waterway parks. We have already appropriated and degraded an excessive amount of habitat, and it is high time to give the other beings with whom we share this province some expanded areas of peaceful sanctuary.

Join the August protests against the sport hunting symposium in Ottawa, and write letters to Honorable John Snobelen, Minister of Natural Resources, Room 6301 Whitney Block, 99 Wellesley Street, West Toronto, M7A 1W3 ON; (416) 314-2216 (fax); john\_snobelen@ontla.ola.org.

For more information contact the Peaceful Parks Coalition, POB 326, Station B, Toronto M5T 2W2 ON; (416) 922-0973; ppc@canoemail.com; http://peacefulparks.engine.ca.

## Day of Action for Rivers Spans the Globe

BY SUSANNE WONG AND ELIZABETH BRINK

"Water for life, not for death!" was the cry as activists in 26 countries took part in the third annual International Day of Action on March 14. Nearly 70 actions were organized to stop dams, push for alternative river management strategies and celebrate rivers.

On March 14, thousands of people around the world organized actions to speak out against dams, fight for reparations and demand alternatives. From Australia to Uganda, groups worked to spread the word about the impacts of dams and the need for healthy rivers. This year marked the third anniversary of the event, which originated at the First International Meeting of People Affected by Dams held in Curitiba, Brazil, in 1997.

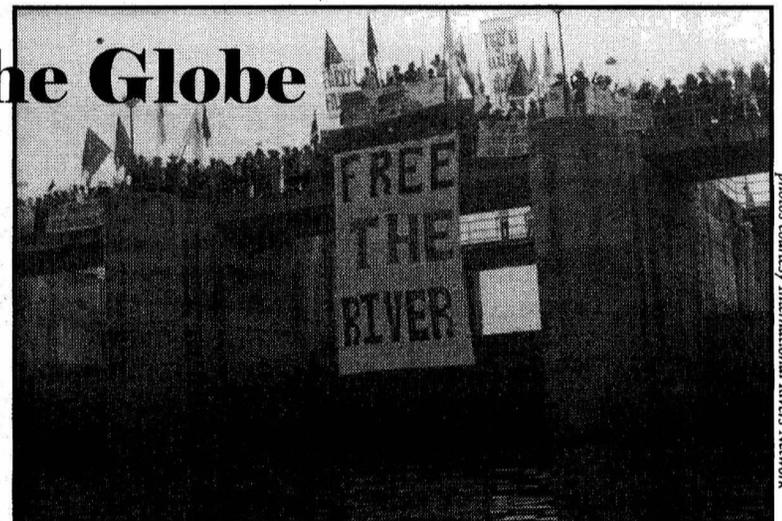
A major focal point of this year's actions was dam-affected people's demand for reparations, which are measures taken to compensate for dam-

ages caused by existing dams. In Brazil, over 3,000 people occupied dam sites and launched protests across the country to demand reparations for people impacted by the Tucuruí, Itá, Castanhão and Lageado Dams. In the Philippines, activists and affected people organized widespread protests to call attention to the intensifying struggle against San Roque Dam on the Agno River.

Groups also used the day of action to call for new strategies for river management and meeting energy, water and flood management needs. In Thailand and Australia, groups campaigned for river restoration and dam decommissioning. Members of the Inland Rivers Network in Australia organized a media campaign to advocate decommissioning the 15-meter-high Wellington Dam, located 400 miles northwest of Sydney. The Australian group Pedder 2000 organized a 10-day Living Rivers Festival in Tasmania filled with workshops, videos and a blessing of Lake Pedder, whose beautiful pink quartz beaches were inundated by the Huon-Serpentine Impoundment. People celebrated the Franklin River through poetry and music.

In Thailand, hundreds assembled on the banks of the Mun, Kok, Yom, Rubror and Mekong Rivers to pray for the rivers restoration and revival. Hundreds of Thai villagers and activists called for decommissioning the World Bank-funded Pak Mun Dam, which has harmed fisheries, and the Rasi Salai Dam, which has been plagued with salinization problems.

In India, hundreds of peasants, laborers and fish workers living on the banks of the Narmada River gathered to express their resolve to fight against large dams and emphasize the need to develop sustainable and equitable ways of harnessing water and energy. The colorful rally and public meeting, organized by the Narmada Bachao Andolan and

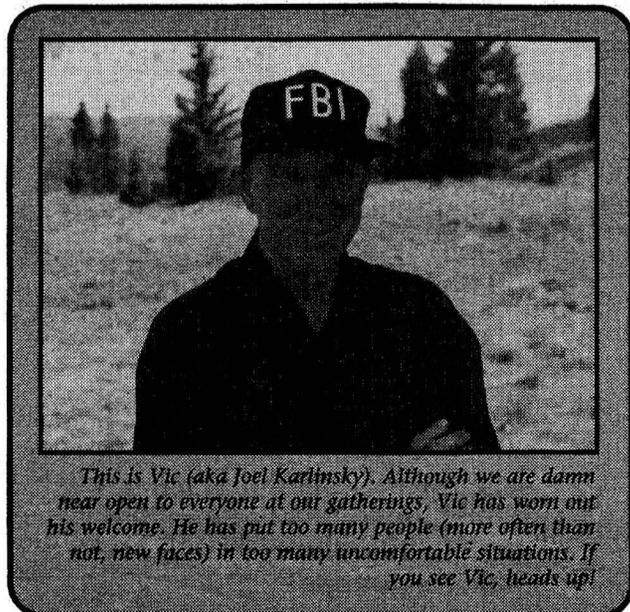


Demonstrating against Thailand's Rasi Salai Dam

the National Alliance of People's Movements, was filled with slogans, songs and resolve.

In Japan, the Association of Fishermen to Preserve the Kuma and Kawabe Rivers planted trees in the watershed in an effort to promote alternative flood management strategies to the Kawabe River Dam. Children and elders planted 1,000 broad-leaf trees on the steep mountainsides lining the Kuma River. This dam would inundate four rivers, resulting in a net loss of power.

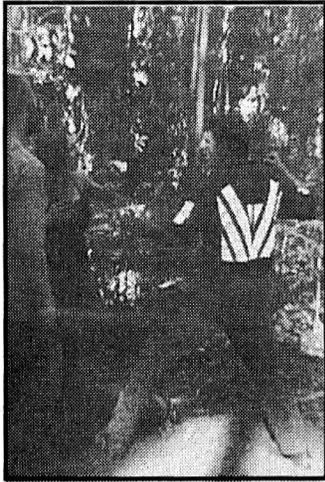
Around the world, innovative protests were organized to demand healthy, free-flowing rivers. North American Innu people snowshoed along a traditional travel route to show their determination to hold on to their homeland and protect it from future threats. In Nicaragua, students, scientists and NGOs organized a public forum on the state of the nation's rivers and lakes and to discuss plans to build an industrial waterway on the San Juan River. Activists from different regions and ethnic communities in Taiwan gathered to protest the Meinung Dam. They released a large balloon in the air to visualize the height of the proposed dam, read a Meinung anti-dam manifesto, held a storytelling contest to "subvert the dam myth" and dropped an "International Day of Action Against Dams" banner over the Meinung River.



This is Vic (aka Joel Karbinsky). Although we are damn near open to everyone at our gatherings, Vic has worn out his welcome. He has put too many people (more often than not, new faces) in too many uncomfortable situations. If you see Vic, heads up!

# THUGS ATTACK PROTEST CAMP AT GOOLENGOOK

Confrontation has once again arisen in Australia's threatened Goolengook Forest (see *EF!* February-March 1999). At midnight on February 22, a mob of up to 50 loggers converged on the long-standing peaceful protest camp in East Gippsland. The encampment was smashed, and several conservationists as well as an independent media cameraman and crew were violently assaulted. The thugs slashed tents with knives and dragged a sleeping Canadian tourist out by his hair before beating him for 10 minutes. The loggers and their male children went on a rampage, leaving axe holes and debris for a hundred meters on both sides of the world heritage Goolengook River. Thirty-thousand dollars worth of equipment and personal belongings were destroyed, including three vehicles.



Timber goon takes a swing

photos courtesy GECO

Soon after, eight people dashed to Goolengook with an independent photographer when they were tipped off by someone who saw the 15 cars of angry loggers going past. Upon arrival, they were set upon by the loggers. The cameraman escaped and dove into the bush after being hit from behind. Other occupants of the car were frog marched out of the car while one man was hit with a hammer repeatedly through the window and a woman was stabbed with an iron bar. They were thrown into a ditch and made to sit with their heads down on the ground while they were beaten. They were

threatened with rape while three were bashed with iron bars and lumps of wood. One man suffered head injuries and his legs were hit with iron bars. The cameraman's car was smashed with bars, rocks and lumps of wood. Every panel was crushed and every window broken before it was turned on its side. Another car and a motorbike were also destroyed, and everything in the camp was smashed. When the police were alerted, all 15 cars left. Seven people were eventually taken to the hospital.

"Violence of this kind has been used to suppress and control this land and our people for the last 200 years. Such a violent backlash shows just how threatening our assertion of sovereignty is to some in the timber industry. We will not be intimidated," said Krauatungalung elder, Robbie Thorpe, who is a traditional of the threatened area.

The previous day, workers pulled out of a logging coupe in East Gippsland after being served eviction notices from local aboriginal authorities for the area. Thorpe and Albert Hayes, members of the Krauatungalung and Bidawal tribes, served the notice. The logging crew was first approached by the aboriginal leaders and a group of 40 peaceful supporters. The loggers responded angrily by punching and throwing several people to the ground before leaving. Police did not attend.

Officers from the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (DNRE) were also presented with notification of the illegality of the logging operation under customary law.

"You didn't plant these old-growth forests; you've got no right to harvest them. They were

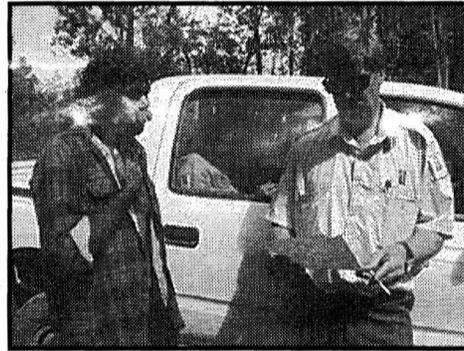
**UPON ARRIVAL, THEY WERE SET UPON BY THE LOGGERS... OTHER OCCUPANTS OF THE CAR WERE FROG MARCHED OUT OF THE CAR WHILE ONE MAN WAS HIT WITH A HAMMER REPEATEDLY THROUGH THE WINDOW AND A WOMAN WAS STABBED WITH AN IRON BAR. THEY WERE THROWN INTO A DITCH AND MADE TO SIT WITH THEIR HEADS DOWN ON THE GROUND WHILE THEY WERE BEATEN.**

here before white people arrived," Thorpe told DNRE officers.

East Gippsland supports over 300 rare and threatened species. However, some of these endangered species barely have a toe-hold in the remaining intact areas: the tiger quoll, powerful owl, tuan and Victoria's most endangered mammal, the long-footed potoroo. The area is an extremely important stronghold of diversity and old-growth forests. Of the 550 eucalyptus species in Australia, 43 live in East Gippsland. Age-old eucalyptus tower over a luxurious understory of tree ferns, conical-shaped sassafras, pomaderis, mountain pepper and cushion-like mosses.

For more information see [www.geco.org.au/attack.html](http://www.geco.org.au/attack.html).

Send letters of protest to Victorian Minister for the Environment Sherryl Garbutt, +(613) 9637-8920 (fax); [sherryl.garbutt@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:sherryl.garbutt@parliament.vic.gov.au).



Albert Hayes, indigenous to the threatened area, serves an eviction notice.

AUSTRALIA

## DIRECT ACTION FOR THE BOORARA FOREST

BY MARTHA CLEMEN

The southwestern region of Western Australia was a unique and special place up until about 200 years ago when European invasion and colonialism began, and the native forests and its people were exterminated. Although most of Western Australia is comprised of desert and even though land clearing has created a huge area that is contaminated by salt, clearfelling continues unabated in the remaining few areas of old-growth forest. This activity is accelerating the already shameful record of destruction that has left Australia with the highest rate of mammal extinction in the world. Boorara Forest, near Northcliffe, is one of the few remaining areas of habitat for threatened creatures such as white and red tailed cockatoos, bandicoots, numbats, chuditches and fire-tail finches.

Forest protesting in recent years has been concentrated on individual forest blocks, with protesters camping in the sites, erecting tree platforms and other structures, locking on and refusing to move. These tactics have resulted in escalating public awareness, through the media as well as peoples' personal experience of witnessing the destruction and visiting the forest camps.

In 1998 the state government launched its propaganda campaign to try to sell the Regional Forest Agreement (RFA)—a 20-year management plan. This agreement handed the last

of our majestic karri and jarrah forests over to companies like Simcoa and Sotico (formerly Westfarmer Bunnings) to be turned, for the most part, into underpriced seventh grade woodchips. Due to the heat generated by direct action, as well as public opinion peaking at 92 percent in favour of ceasing all old-growth logging, the RFA was overturned. Unfortunately, instead of taking the bold steps necessary to save both the timber industry and the forests, what we received was a cop out. Parts of the popular icon forests were put into reserves, and a "gradual phasing out" of logging in the karri up to and after the year 2003. In short, they moved the goal posts and are continuing business as usual.

Boorara Forest has been earmarked for clearfelling, and machines are currently clearing pristine bush to build a logging road hampered by the efforts of protesters camped on private property nearby. The forest is an area of about 1,000 hectares, a vital wildlife corridor between a conservation park and Entrecastaux National Park. Just as important is that it is a water catchment area, with three rivers running through it and numerous streams and natural springs. After the machines left, it turned into a barren, wasted landscape—the same as all the rest of the land for miles around.

The fight to save Boorara Forest is shaping up to be the largest scale and most intense push to end the carnage, with people from all different backgrounds converging. The results so far

have been that the roading process has slowed and a great deal of police and forestry resources are being diverted to allow for logging. So far there have been about 20 arrests and multiple "stopwork" actions. There are already three occupied tree platforms in this forest; some have cables attached to them and are tied off further into the forest to protect a greater area. We are relying on public outrage to change their minds and continuing direct action to reduce their profits.

On the political side, the forest issue has made waves. Even traditional Australian apathy was shaken in parliament when Greens MP Christine Sharp unveiled a montage of the largest stump on record here—4.8 metres in diameter. This stump is located in Gardner Block, a huge area of once-pristine old-growth karri, now a muddy wasteland not far from Boorara. The politicians have not failed to notice the desire of the states' voting population to protect our native forests. A new political party called "Liberals For Forests" was created with its first policy being an immediate ban on old-growth logging. Polls have shown they already have more support than the current Liberal government.

There has also been organised local involvement. The majority of the residents of Northcliffe are aware that the town will suffer from the loss of this unique and beautiful place. Most of the logs will be dispatched to mills in nearby towns, and the short-term economic gain yielded by logging will

in no way benefit Northcliffe. With this in mind, local green groups have set up forest camps and organised nonviolent actions in protest with some success. Pro-industry and timber groups have also organised protests and actions, most notably fire bombing forest camps and forcing people to leave, ramming and chainsawing structures, and blockading the local Craft Shop and Environment Centre. The centre was firebombed in two separate unsuccessful attempts to raze it, and threats of violence and vandalism have been made against local "green minded" people and their businesses.

The Department of Conservation and Land Management directs all of the operations in the forest and is in charge of safety in its worksites. Despite breaches of its own "Calm Act," it continues to endanger the lives of protesters, workers and innocent bystanders in the forests. Treesitters have had to watch as bulldozers push trees over metres away and clear right up to the base of their trees, cope with explosions going off and watch chainsaws felling trees nearby.

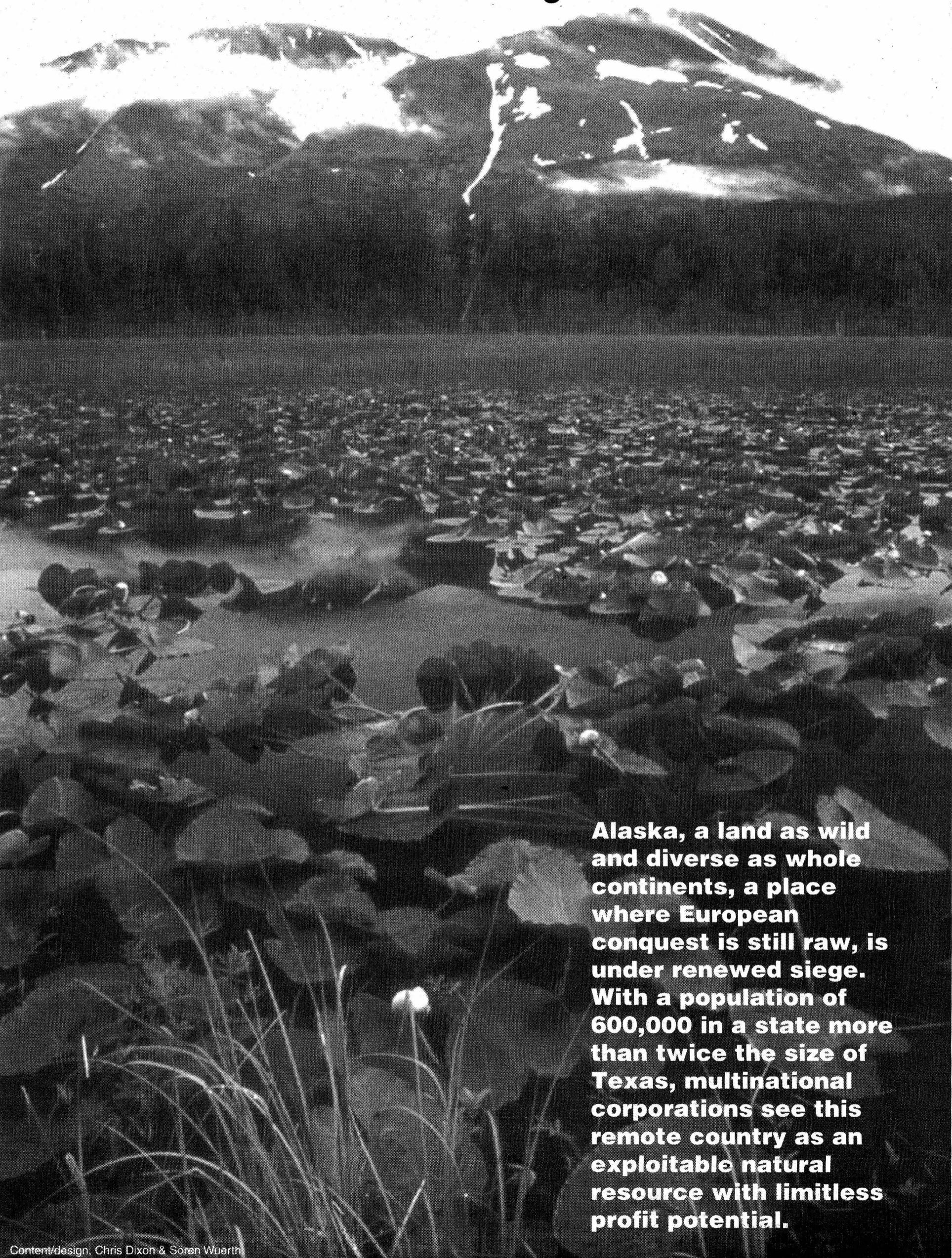
The only way to win this campaign and save Boorara Forest is to stop the logging. As a group we are underfunded and overworked, like most environmental organisations. More than anything we need people to come down and see for themselves the extent of the damage done and help to end it before it is lost forever. We urgently need support of all and any kind if these forests are to stand. The time is now.

For more information contact [mmclemen@hotmail.com](mailto:mmclemen@hotmail.com).



# ALASKA

state of siege



**Alaska, a land as wild and diverse as whole continents, a place where European conquest is still raw, is under renewed siege. With a population of 600,000 in a state more than twice the size of Texas, multinational corporations see this remote country as an exploitable natural resource with limitless profit potential.**



# Pain in the Access

Today Prince William Sound is still a paradise. Unknowable, vast mountain amphitheatres hug calm, green-water fjords that are occasionally distracted by the plumes of orcas. Massive glaciers hold their ice in fractured suspense.

From an island mountain peak, you can still see the Sound as it was before the first human stepped foot, not a smoke cloud, airplane, city, boat, or SUV in sight—just hundreds of square miles of forest, mountains, and ocean.

But come June 7, the wild character that is Prince William Sound will face an onslaught of bumbling humanity. The Sound, just beginning to recover from the 11-million gallon Exxon oil spill a decade ago, will suddenly be an hour drive from a quarter-million people.

An extra 700,000 visitors and as many as 2,000 cars a day will start pouring into little Whittier (pop. 300) with the opening of a controversial road. The town is absurdly unprepared thanks to false promises for state and federal funding. It has three public toilets, few parking lots, sparse housing, almost no public safety, no medical facilities, and a budget barely in the black.

“Please listen to the people who have testified here tonight,” Whittier resident Bill Rome told state officials at a hearing. “You are inviting a disaster.”

For years Whittier—founded during World War II as a hidden outpost—has been only serviced by infrequent, rattling, and adventurous train passage through five miles of mostly tunnel. Like Denali National Park, where vehicle access is limited to school buses, Whittier has kept visitors to a manageable annual stream of less than 200,000.

But, Gov. Tony Knowles began work last year, anyway. “One word symbolizes what this means, and that word is ‘access,’” Knowles said, as he gleefully detonated a ceremonial first-explosion.

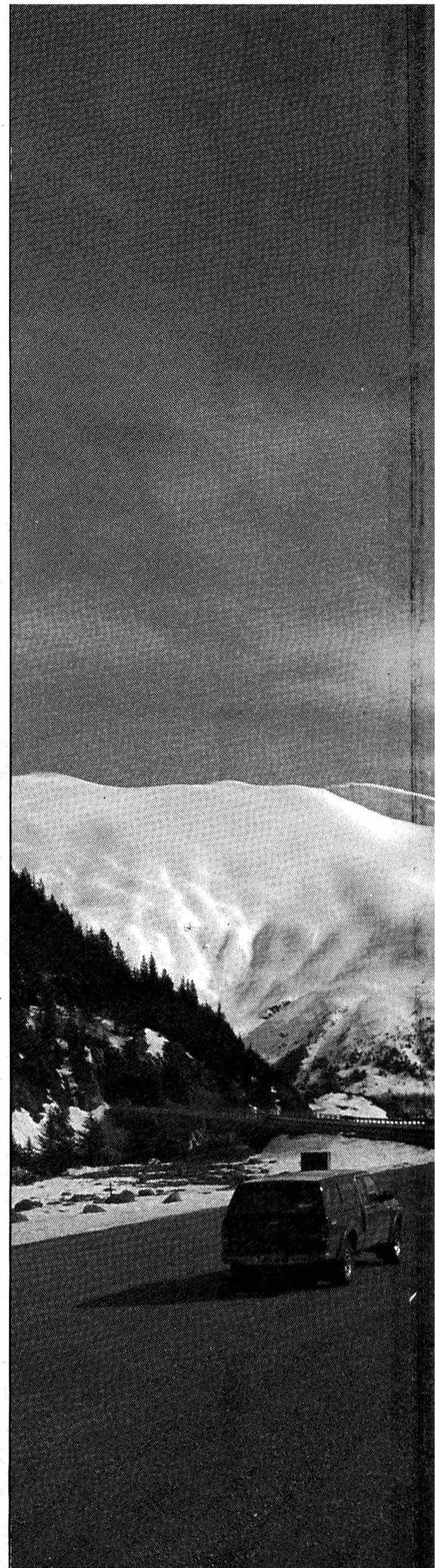
Rushed road work has had its problems. The tunnel had so many electrical violations, human lives could have been put at grave risk from “explosions, fire, electrocution and possible asphyxiation from toxic fumes,” state officials told the Anchorage Daily News.

Assuming they safely make it through the tunnel, hordes of urbanites and tourists will spill out into western Prince William Sound, toting guns, Budweiser, and fishing gear, to board boats with oil-spitting engines.

For those boaters who run out of booze, a state agency has been flooded with requests for permits for floating structures like liquor stores, lodges, and fuel stations for jet skis. Federal and state agencies don’t have the funding, staff, nor coordination to handle this onslaught.

In the Sound, 23 of 25 important species have not recovered from Exxon’s sickening Exxon spill (they only recovered 5 percent and still have avoided paying a \$5 billion judgement against them).

Considering the cumulative effects of outboard motor spills, fuel dock spills and what-have-you, “we’re basically inviting a permanent source of pollution into the sound,” observed Audubon’s Stan Senner. “The long term impact of the road will make the Exxon Valdez pale in significance.”



Portage Glacier, Alaska. Prince William Sound de



Whittier

**Sound Action Camp**  
June 1, Girdwood, AK  
(907) 56-EARTH  
akaction@alaska.com

## A slick introduction to Alaska

In four centuries of resource exploitation in Alaska, few plunderers have controlled the region politically and economically as the oil industry does today.

Alaska has always been a treated as resource colony. Russian imperialists enslaved coastal indigenous people to produce sea otter pelts, nearly driving the animals to extinction. Miners beat their horses to death trying to get to remote rivers and fields in vain search of gold.

Having clearcut away most of the Lower 48, logging corporations moved to Alaska where they enjoyed lucrative, government-subsidized road building and long-term con-

tracts. Then there were the wackos who wanted to use Alaska to test the industrial use of nuclear bombs, proposing to blow out a harbor with a series of explosions.

But the discovery of oil on Alaska’s North Slope forever changed the political climate in Alaska. The oil industry bought politics like candy at a convenience store.

When, in 1989, Exxon allowed a captain without a driver’s license to board its supertanker after a dozen vodka doubles, the nation woke up to the type of industrial tragedy that occurs when we let Big Oil go hog wild.

Rather than a “partner,” as our

Democrat governor likes to describes them, the oil industry’s relationship with Alaska should be characterized as a shrewd, lying, stealing villain.

Who, other than a governor coddled from the start of his political career by oil industry sponsors, would expect anything more than selfish greed from an industry that flushes \$500,000 an hour from the state in North Slope profit?

Despite their lavish gains, the industry avoids oil spill prevention, clean up, and monitoring in favor of public relations.

Just after its 11-million gallon oil spill, the first people Exxon flew to Alaska were not technical experts,

but public relations. Exxon, which percent of its \$5 billion penalty profit the company to those injured if they’ve stalled the lecting interests earlier judge.

The leftover and we do not federal scientist Exxon Valdez for decades.”

British Petroleum was caught illegally ing waste, after tion. And just



Photo by Robert S. Finnegan/Northwest Media

# Ten more threats

## Road building in the Copper River Delta

The Delta, America's largest intact wetland, home to world famous Copper River Red salmon and the traditional land of Eyak Native people, is threatened by a 30-mile road. Should developers have their way, this pristine region would be marred by clearcuts, strip mines and oil drilling. [www.redzone.org](http://www.redzone.org)

## Endangered wildlife

Under Alaska's "intensive game management" law, ecosystems must be managed to produce the "maximum sustained yield" for caribou, moose and other sport hunting targets. "It turns the state into a feed lot," says a biologist. Meanwhile, Cook Inlet beluga whales are being considered for listing as endangered species just as developers are building a new port to export more natural resources through fragile beluga habitat.

[www.akwildlife.org](http://www.akwildlife.org)

## National Missile Defense system

Ron Reagan's doomed "Star Wars" fantasy may be heading for Alaska, with a "theater defense system" planned for deployment in Ft. Greely (home to leftover radiation from past military projects). Clinton could approve this project, which has a long record of failure, as early as this summer. At a cost of \$10.5 billion in annual taxpayer dough, NMD is little more than a subsidy for military contractors.

[www.alaskaactioncenter.org](http://www.alaskaactioncenter.org)

## Logging and road building in the Tongass National Forest

America's largest national forest, the Tongass has been crisscrossed by logging roads. On some islands there is hardly a tree standing, but Alaska's corporate Congressmen are trying to get the forest excluded from a road moratorium. [www.akrain.org](http://www.akrain.org)

## University land grabs

In place of direct funding, state and federal politicians are attempting to give land to the University of Alaska for resource development. The latest proposed giveaway: 500,000 acres. Prior University clearcuts can be seen from space. [www.alaskaactioncenter.org](http://www.alaskaactioncenter.org)

## Recreational snowmachines and personal watercraft.

Believe it or not, plans are afoot for a snowmachine "superhighway" from Alaska to Canada. This comes just as snowmachine-related deaths are rising statewide, as well as conflicts between dogsleds and snowmachiners. Meanwhile, the personal watercraft industry is trying to establish a foothold in Alaska, recently sending its own trade representative up to soothe increasing concerns about the noise and pollution known as Jetskis.

## Toxic military sites

There are more than 648 military toxic sites in Alaska, most in rural communities where food, water and surrounding plants and animals are contaminated with toxic poisons. [www.akaction.net](http://www.akaction.net)

## The tourism industry

The tourism industry is really beginning to rub Alaskans the wrong way. Not only have their giant cruise ships been found dumping tons of toxic garbage into coastal waters, but they hold communities hostage to their patronage, leaving when locals try to impose reasonable taxation on these floating waste dumps. [www.seaknet.alaska.edu/~lcc11](http://www.seaknet.alaska.edu/~lcc11)

## Snowmachine, road, and resort access in Denali National Park

For the second year in a row, Denali won listing as an endangered national park by a nationwide park monitoring group. Among the dangers it faces are snowmachine access and pollution, in addition to proposed road and resort development. Though Denali locals are organizing to oppose a resort in the heart of the park, state and federal officials have an ear bent to the, big surprise, tourism industry!

## Oil industry's "Deathstar" project

Greenpeace protestors are currently huddled in a small hut on an artificial island off the Northern Coast of Alaska hoping to stall the first undersea pipeline in the Outer Continental Shelf. The pipeline, part of BP's "Deathstar" project, has a 25 percent chance of spilling oil. The shifting ice pack and treacherous arctic conditions would make the spill impossible to clean up. [www.greenpeace.org](http://www.greenpeace.org)

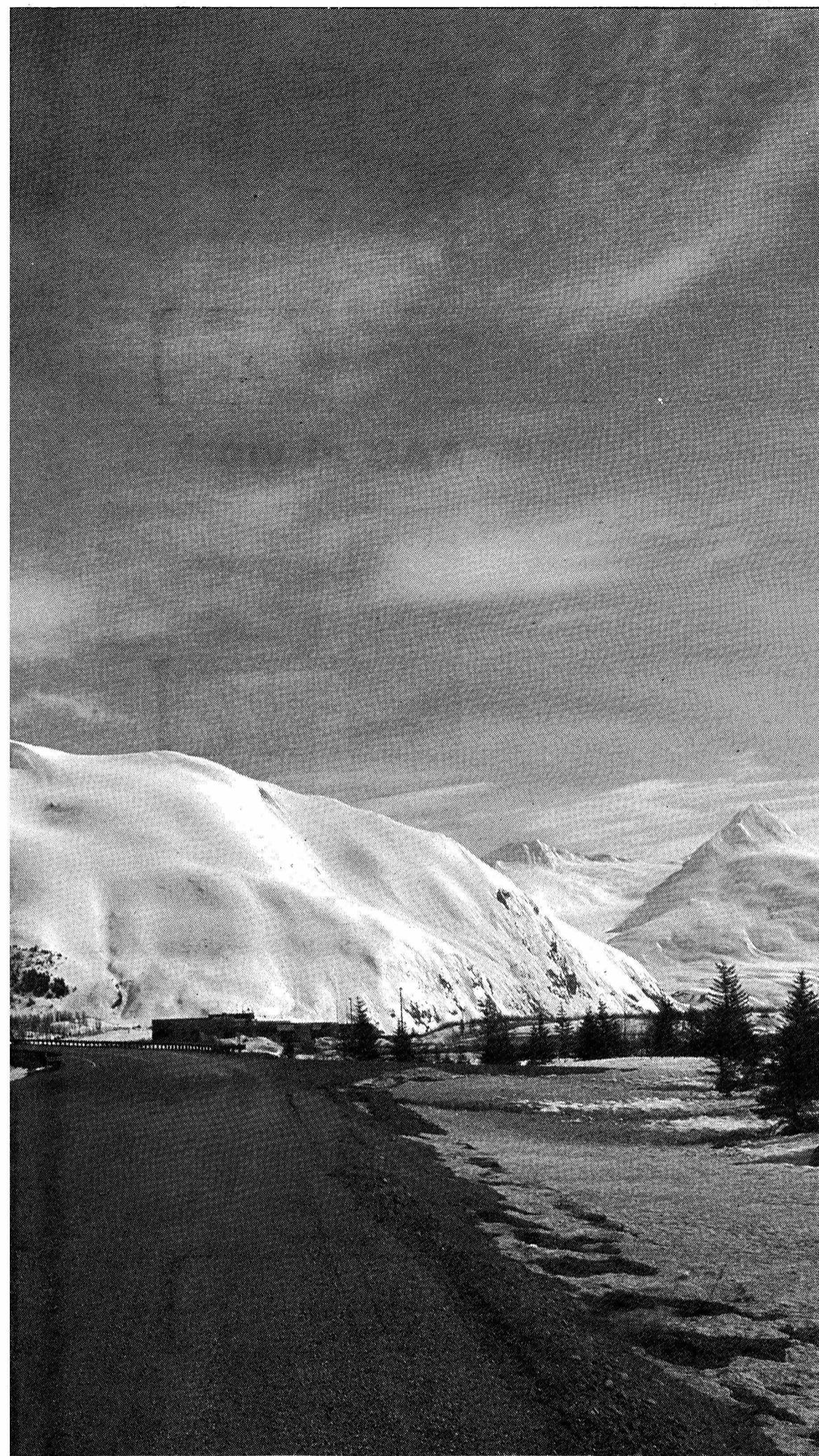


Photo by Robert S. Finnegan/Northwest Media

Lead ahead.

tions personnel. which only recovered 5 pill, still hasn't paid a liability—the amount of money makes in a year—l from the spill. Instead their fine in court, collection money set aside in settlement. oil "is not degrading know what to do," a st said last year. "The oil spill may be there petroleum, meanwhile, illegally reinjecting drill- r hiding the informa- outside Anchorage,

which has worse air quality than Chicago, oil drillers poison Cook Inlet with 3.3 million gallons of drilling waste a year.

Environmental issues aside, Big Oil sponsored for a deceptive advertising campaign to impose an unfair, regressive tax on Alaska dividend checks (a state "balanced budget" effort that lost in an advisory vote by 84 percent); have attempted to monopolize against the interests of consumers and Alaskans; have laid off hundreds of workers through downsizing; and their pipeline company hired an industrial espionage outfit to spy on past and present employees.

In Juneau and Washington D.C., Big Oil has its lap dogs. The Legislature in Juneau has given more than \$1 million to an oil industry lobby group, has dwindled the budgets of state agencies and programs designed to monitor the industry, and is composed of past, and even present, employees of the oil industry and its services. Sen. Frank Murkowski is using high oil prices as an excuse to drill the Arctic Refuge.

But the tide is moving out, exposing the industry's filthy practices. More and more Alaskans are beginning to yell those words that make the industry cringe: Tax Big Oil!

Join us in our calling.



# Subsistence is resistance



**O**n a rainy day in Juneau last fall, five Alaska Native women trailed a fishing net gently out into a local lagoon. Police and federal officers stood on the banks, taking notes and videotaping. The women brought in five salmon that day, fish they would later dry and give to community elders.

"It's for the sake of the children that all this is taking place," said Robert Willard, a respected Native leader.

But for passing their culture onto a next generation, for fishing as they have for many millennia, the woman were arrested. Though Juneau (pop. 30,000) is primarily rural, the state and federal government have made subsistence fishing illegal.

"In 1992 the state enacted non-subsistence use areas, but continued increasing sport and commercial use, with our (Native) harvest level in Southeast (Alaska) less than 1 percent," explained Willard.

Alaska Natives, victims of racism and discrimina-

tion since colonialists first invaded in the 1762, have continually fought political efforts that would restrict their cultural relationship with their land. As a way around a massive Native land claim movement that sprung up after oil was found on the North Slope, Congress imposed a "settlement" whereby every Alaska Native would sacrifice aboriginal title to their land in exchange for nearly \$1 billion and 40 million acres of land. The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act required Natives to become shareholders of regional and local Native Corporations.

The imposition of a western economic model on traditional subsistence economies had devastating results. While a few corporate CEOs, non-Native attorneys, tax consultants and managers raked in millions from the liquidation of Native-owned resources, Native shareholders (and those born after 1971, who weren't allowed stock) received next to nothing. Most corporations went bankrupt within a decade.

Despite the injection of greedy capitalism, Natives still have their land. "Profit to non-Natives means money. Profit to Natives means a good life derived from the land and sea, that's what we're all about..." said a Tlingit Native from Southeast Alaska.

But the attack on Native subsistence and tribal sovereignty, primarily waged by a sport hunting special interest group affiliated with the National Rifle Association, has been getting ruthless.

For 10 years, the Alaska State Legislature has denied an election that could amend the Alaska Constitution to create a subsistence priority for rural Alaska residents. So, Natives throughout Alaska have been denied the fundamental right to continue their subsistence way of life consistent with federal law.

In 1998, the governor and the state legislature appropriated \$1 million to fight a court decision that recognized Indian Country self-governance for Alaska Natives. When the Supreme Court sided with the state, the legislature used leftover funds to challenge the federal subsistence priority.

Last fall, the federal government assumed management of subsistence fisheries (which accounts for less than 4% of the statewide harvest of fish) in federal waters in Alaska. The move infuriated states'-rights fanatics and the Governor announced he would use public money to legally challenge federal authority.

Moreover, the Legislature has sought appropriations to finance a "states' rights" appeal while simultaneously cutting back on many services to rural areas—places ranked among the nation's highest in rates of teen suicide, fetal alcohol syndrome and inhalent abuse; and communities so underfunded, a family's household sanitation is a 5-gallon container, or a "honey-bucket."

These inexcusable actions by state government have prompted Alaska tribes to march once again in defense and support of subsistence and sovereignty.

The third "We the People, Standing Our Ground" march, the state's largest annual demonstration, will be held May 3.



Exposing Big Oil lies



AAC action camp

Action Center campaigns involve music, nonviolent direct action, grassroots outreach, and trainings.

## AAC at work



"Shame on Exxon" campaign



CD for endangered wolves/goshawk



Campaign to vote down a regressive "dividend" tax



AAC wolf mascot



Protecting the Copper River Delta



David Harrison, of Chickaloon, leads Alaska's largest civil rights march

**Get the scoop on Alaska.** Sign up for a free subscription to *Wild Voices*, Alaska's independent journal of news, art, literature, and action updates. Send a request to the address below or check out [www.wildvoices.org](http://www.wildvoices.org).

**AK Action Center**

[www.alaskaactioncenter.org](http://www.alaskaactioncenter.org)

**(907) 56-EARTH**

## A more direct approach

The Alaska Action Center organized more than a year ago to respond to the desperate feeling that we, as Alaskans, have little voice in decisions that affect our communities. We set out to organize and assist a wide range of **grassroots groups** across Alaska. We aim to strengthen those who have felt the blows of isolation, neglect and disenfranchisement, and foster a sense of empowerment, inspiration and unity.

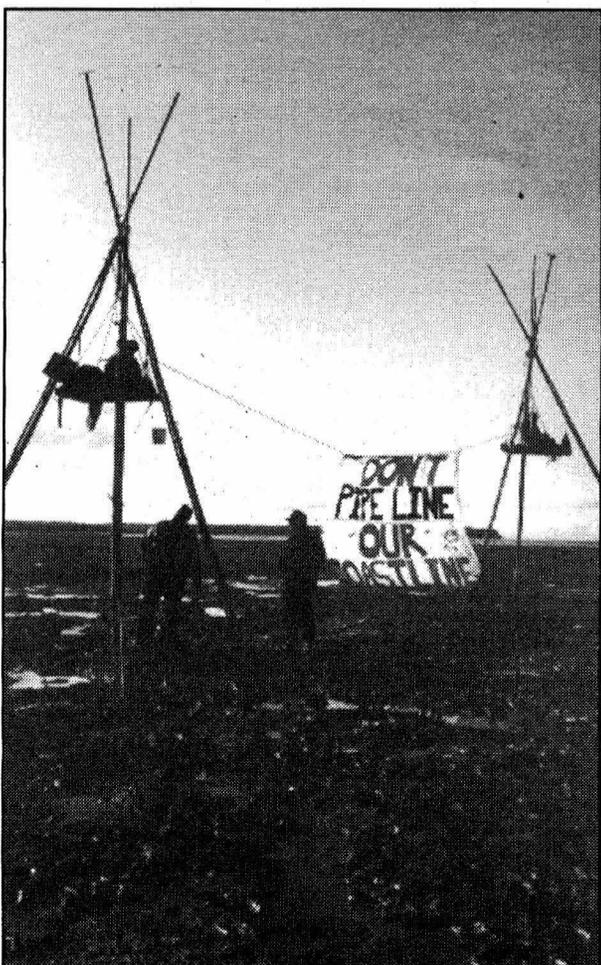
Our work **empowering communities** has received popular support from small towns, Alaska Natives, community councils, and so on. These groups are often overwhelmed by powerful and wealthy special interests exerting undue influence over politicians and public opinion. Our approach of earning community support first is refreshing to residents, who, once informed and organized, are more likely to defend their back yards or their issue with limited compromise.

In our short existence we have worked on dozens of projects. And along the way the Alaska Action Center has earned a reputation as a visible and important player in Alaska due to our fierce dedication to the twin causes of **social and environmental justice**.

Social issues such as Native subsistence, public transportation, and homelessness are naturally wedded to environmental issues like deforestation, oil drilling, and industrial tourism in terms that all have a common enemy: vested corporate interest and the commodification of human and natural resources. Join us in building a powerful and peaceful movement for democracy, ecology, and community.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
Alaska Action Center  
P.O. Box 230916  
Anchorage, AK  
99523-0916  
[akaction@alaska.com](mailto:akaction@alaska.com)



# DEAR NED LUDD,

DEAR NED LUDD IS AN IRREGULAR FEATURE IN THE EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL FOR DISCUSSION OF CREATIVE MEANS OF EFFECTIVE DEFENSE OF THE EARTH. NEITHER THE EARTH FIRST! MOVEMENT NOR THE EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL NECESSARILY ENCOURAGES ANYONE TO DO THE THINGS DISCUSSED IN DEAR NED LUDD.

Dear Ned Ludd,

I have an ethical dilemma. On my ride home every day I see this huge ugly tree farm with the sign "Genetically Engineered Tree Experiment No Trespassing." Being a good tree hugger, I was taught to save the trees but this one is causing a major internal dilemma. I mean, if those trees contaminate the forests nearby then we'll have GE forests! What should I do?

—CONFUSED IN KALAMAZOO

Dear Confused,

A dilemma indeed, but one easily solved. First off, the companies planting these trees are engineering trees for profit. Yes, that means making good ol' Monsanto Round-Up Ready™ Trees. Those trees can (and will) contaminate nearby forests creating a virtual "Frankenforest." Those bastards are plundering the genetic realm just as they have plundered the rest of the natural world.

So my friend, if you feel it is a threat to native forests (and I agree with that sentiment) then follow your conscience. How to, you ask (props to the "Nighttime Gardener's Guide" for this information)? Foresters on the cutting edge of nocturnal forestry research have devised the following strategies:

## Ring barking (or girdling)

Trees acquire nutrients through their root systems and subsequently their bark. If the bark is severed in a full ring around the tree, nutrients will have a hard time traveling up the tree. Thus, we are looking at a tree starved for nutrients and a failed experiment. This is effective for trees that are not fully mature and do not have tremendously thick bark. It works well on poplar, cottonwood and aspen. You'll need good tools: Saws, hatchets and mallets will usually do the trick.

## Nighttime football

Get some friends together, divide up teams and play any number of games— i.e. football, soccer or even stomp the saplings! The point is not to score but to cover as much ground as possible. For experiments to be ruined, one need only ruin 60-70 percent of the site. So have fun, keep the game short and go trample some baby monster trees!

## Hide and seek

Tree identification labels, stakes, tags, signs and the like can all be removed, smashed or rearranged. This is especially appropriate when you don't have much time. This sort of fun can really cause headaches for the scientists at the research facilities. Make sure to hide your goodies well and resist the urge to walk off with anything.

## Advice

Be careful. The test sites can be enormous and you can easily get lost among the rows of monocultured trees. As ironic (and gratifying) as it would be to use a chainsaw to mow down the biohazards, noise is a serious consideration so keep it simple! Also, be prepared for the obvious public relations slant that the multinationals will take on this sort of action. Overall, be creative. Just think of all the possibilities— GE tree occupations, nighttime logging competitions...



Dear Ned Ludd,

What do you think about liberating genetically engineered animals from labs? Do you think there are any risks inherent in those sorts of actions? I just can't stand to see animals exist in labs, but I'm scared of them mating with other wild animals.

In a dilemma,

—IVANA DUMORE

Dear Ivana,

Well that's a tough dilemma. Lab raids have been an effective tactic in highlighting the horrors of vivisection as well as liberating animals (duh), so I'm not going to say that people should not free transgenic (GE) animals from labs where they are being experimented on. I will say that there is a tremendous risk for genetic pollution involved. If transgenic animals somehow get out into the wild (intentionally or by accident) and mate with wild animals, those foreign genes could be spread into the greater environment.

So I recommend that people do a considerable amount of research before conducting any lab raid (or any action for that matter). Ask yourself if it makes sense to risk the pollution of the natural world by liberating transgenic animals. If you feel that the risk is not too great and you are fully committed to providing homes for these animals, then I say go ahead. Otherwise, I say don't do it and risk the lives of even more animals and the greater ecosystem. Beware, there is no way to tell that an animal is genetically engineered. Even a tag on its cage could be incorrect.

My advice: Be careful, liberate to your heart's desire and consider getting those animals sterilized.

## EARTH NIGHT NEWS EARTH NIGHT NEWS EARTH NIGHT NEWS EARTH NIGHT NEWS

### ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT

#### San Francisco Bay Area

On January 3, four incendiaries were ignited at Rancho Veal corporation in Petaluma. There was an estimated \$250,000 in damages.

Two trucks belonging to Petaluma Chicken Farms were totally destroyed by incendiary devices on January 15.

B&K Universal Breeders in Fremont were targeted on February 25. Four incendiaries were set resulting in the burning of trucks. B&K breeds lab animals for vivisection. In late February, 29 windows were smashed at Neiman Marcus causing \$100,000 in damages. It was targeted because of its sale of fur products.

#### Long Island, New York

Six different fur stores were targeted on the night of January 20. "Windows were broken, locks glued shut, lighting ripped down and slogans were pasted on the wall." This was part of an open ended attack on all aspects of the animal abuse industry, and we will not stop until all life is free from exploitation and abuse!" stated the communiqué.

### ANTI-GENETIX

In the first known anti-genetic engineering action in Australia, the group Free Seed Liberation (FSL) claimed responsibility for pulling up about 100 genetically-modified pineapples in Brisbane. Sometime around March 3, protesters breached a two-and-a-half-meter-high barbed wire fence to carry out the late night raid.

"Our governments should be directing research dollars into moving our society toward sustainable organic food production, rather than developing crops such as these pineapples, which are being developed purely to benefit the food processing and biotechnology industries," a spokesperson for the FSL said.

"The Ministry of Forest Defense," a nighttime forestry group, claimed credit for the destruction of genetically-modified

trees at the British Columbia Ministry of Forest's (MoF) "Tree Improvement Branch" in Saanich, BC in late March.

"The MoF is committed to transforming BC's wild forests into tree farms.

"So we acted on our conscience and decontaminated the majority of coniferous test trees, numbering in the hundreds." We cut, sawed and lopped young trees and ring barked the larger trees," stated the communiqué.

On April 1, just one month after an ELF raid on a greenhouse containing GE oats at the University of Minnesota-St. Paul campus, a group calling themselves the "Genetic Jokers" visited the US Forest Service's (USFS) research department.

From the communiqué: "Six vehicles belonging to the USFS were trashed. The tires were flattened, windows were etched, spraypainted messages left, and paint stripper poured on their hoods. The building was decorated with painted messages like 'No More Tree Pharms' and 'April Fools!'"

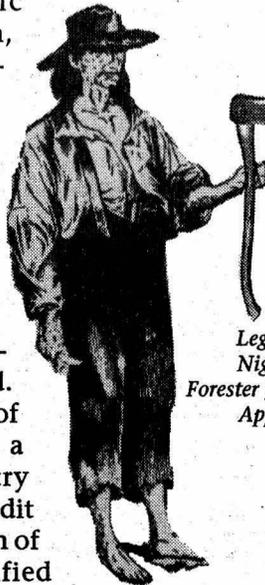
According to the USFS, the agency is looking to 'improve the productivity of forest products' by genetically mapping poplar and white pine trees to

change lignin content, which accelerates growth and yield."

### ECODEFENSE

On March 26, the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) made its second appearance in Minneapolis, Minnesota to protest the reroute of Highway 55 over sacred Mendota land. From the communiqué: "Four machines had wires and hoses cut, dirt and sand poured into gas tanks, oil tubes and exhaust pipes, engine parts smashed and messages were left. The road is not nearly done, and neither are we."

On March 25, near Oxford, England, the main electric supply cables were toppled at the Campsfield Detention Centre by the Campsfield 7. "The aim was to cause major inconvenience to the running of the private detention centre. Campsfield House holds around 200 men, mostly political refugees. People are being held without charge, without time limit, and without decent access to legal representation," stated the communiqué. The action was dedicated to Barry Horne (UK ALF prisoner).



Legendary Nighttime Forester Johnny Appleseed

# Bt Spraying

## Coming to a National Forest Near You

continued from page 1

One of the most lethal and egregious of these is Btk. Commercial Btk insecticides are formulated from naturally occurring bacteria. Btk's effects upon adult *Lepidoptera* are not fully known. Btk protein spores are eaten by feeding caterpillars. Once ingested, the protein attaches to the intestinal walls, where it grows, produces toxins and eventually bursts the intestine, killing the caterpillar. In nature, Btk is one way caterpillar populations are kept in balance so they don't strip an ecosystem of its plant life.

Human societal use of Bt was perhaps first pre-empted by Rachel Carson in her book *Silent Spring*. Lamenting and fighting societies' use of pesticides, she hoped for a way to ecologically utilize natural biological methods instead. Coupled with this hope was, of necessity, a hope for change in societal awareness, to work in harmony and humility with nature. Unfortunately for *Lepidoptera* and numerous other species, corporate societies have learned the use of biological poisons without achieving the necessary humility and respect of humanity's place in nature's web of life. Instead, fueled by the mindset of control and dominance over "subservient" nature, viewed as a resource for profit and utilization, the multitudinal minions of today's society have developed, produced and unleashed Btk to further manipulate the natural world to enhance commodity production.

Commercial formulations of Btk are composed of Btk bacterial protein mixed with various chemicals utilized as emulsifiers and surfactants to disperse, spread and adhere the protein to vegetation over a wide area. The actual formula percentages of Btk can be as low as 2.1 percent. The rest of the chemicals referred to as "inert" are exempt from public disclosure as industry "trade secrets." Yet inert ingredients make up over 97 percent of Btk spray formulas, containing known or suspected carcinogens and are unstudied—including chemicals listed as hazardous by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The uses of Btk are many, varied, profitable and growing with yet more research, genetic engineering and the opening of potential new markets.

Taking its cue from Carson's half heard hope, certified organic farms are permitted to use Bt as a "natural" insecticide. This helps organic farmers to contend with *Lepidoptera* and other insects that feed on crops. The non-organic agriculture industry has gone even further, growing corn that has been genetically engineered to produce its own Btk. Agricultural use of Btk, from spraying to GE-Btk corn has been significantly responsible for part of the serious decline in monarch and other butterfly and moth populations.

Other variations of Bt, such as Bti, are used to curb mosquito, black fly and other insect populations near urban and resort areas. Btk has been used by governments from New Zealand to Nova Scotia to the US in order to slow the spread of the Asian gypsy moth. Timber corporations and the US Forest Service also use Btk on millions of acres to target the caterpillars of native moth species which defoliate and sometimes kill trees.

The growing widespread use of Btk has severe repercussions to *Lepidoptera* species. Many moths and butterflies, as with many invertebrates, have evolved over the ages to fill very specialized ecological niches. Many species subsist by feeding only on a very limited range of flowers. As native habitat continues to be lost to development and commercial extraction the range of available plants is lessened. Many specialized species are consequently becoming increasingly rare. Btk sprays that extirpate rare *Lepidoptera* species also harm rare plants that may depend upon only one species of butterfly for pollination and seed propagation.

Unlike less populous rare species killed by Btk, the more numerous TMs, while suffering severe mortality, are unlikely to be extirpated. They are among the coyotes of the *Lepidoptera*—resilient

with a greater chance of becoming Btk resistant. What the Forest Service doesn't disclose, however, are several scientific studies showing that TMs and spruce budworm (another native species and frequent spraying target) have an ancient role in a healthy forest ecosystem. These species have periodic cyclic population increases. In a relatively recent study, Catherine Parks, research scientist at Oregon State University, revealed that during drought periods when populations peak for the caterpillars of conifer needle eating species, the resulting defoliation helps trees to survive by reducing the amount of moisture lost through transpiration/evaporation. Instead of re-leafing, the defoliated trees survive by using their energy to build up starch reserves in their roots. Of course, some trees die—providing nutrients for the soil, reducing competition for scarce moisture and creating homes for woodpeckers and numerous other species. Since these species have survived together for countless centuries without the help of modern managers or Btk, then why the "need" for spraying?

As with many government programs, it is motivated by a strange combination of fear of nature and desire for commercial profits. Managing the national forests for timber production requires dense stands of trees on large areas of land. These tree farms would lose some of the economic harvest potential if the natural thinning of native *Lepidoptera* was permitted. TM population cycles peak every nine years. In typical paradox, the USFS continues to plan timber sales in old-growth stands, while pretending to be concerned about the loss of critical old-growth habitat as a pretext for spraying. Another reason the USFS gives for the spraying is to protect humans from being irritated by the stinging hairs of TM caterpillars. Apparently wood workers, and loggers in particular, develop increased hypersensitivity and allergic reactions to the caterpillars' mildly stinging hairs. Stay tuned as the agency next plans to remove the stings of bees, the teeth from bears, or even your own minds, all to "protect" us from harm.

Cumulatively, widespread use of Bt is not only threatening the survival of numerous *Lepidoptera* species, it has impacts throughout the food chain. The various Bt formulas tend to be specific to certain genera or species, such as all *Lepidoptera*, all black flies or all mosquitoes. This is because various types of Bt proteins match the pH range of the host. Different genera vary considerably in their pH ranges. However, while the Btk which kills *Lepidoptera* may not kill other genera outright, the toxins produced and the harmful inert ingredients in commercial sprays have a wide range of damaging impacts. Caterpillars are eaten by many types of wildlife, providing much needed protein in the lean spring season. Btk toxins from infected dying and dead caterpillars are passed throughout the food chain. Many forest species have evolved to depend upon the cyclic population rises of TMs as food sources. Essential soil microbial communities are impacted as well, with Btk's spores and toxins causing levels of mortality whose full extent and implications are not yet understood.

Unnaturally high levels of Btk spores in an ecosystem also present other dangers including mutation, adaptation and resistance. Btk toxins are harmful to mammalian species if they enter the bloodstream. In most cases the host's pH balance prevent this from occurring. However, research exists of instances where Bt interaction and combi-



nation with other bacteria has resulted in the death of mice as well as severe infection and hospitalization of humans. As with any biological organism, the tendency to evolve and adapt to surrounding or changing circumstances is inherent. This tendency is increased significantly when levels of Bt spores naturally present are artificially increased by commercial spraying. Given the evidence, such spraying is foolish at best and an ecological and societal nightmare at worst. The respiratory, eye and skin irritants of Bt impact numerous species. Birds have been known to abandon nests in spraying areas or produce fewer surviving young. To date research has consisted largely of laboratory experiments upon animals. The full impacts of Bt to wildlife species has never been adequately assessed.

So many species are disappearing incrementally ever closer toward extinction's abyss, many rare *Lepidoptera* among them. It is an unfortunate anthropocentric world view which allows humans to comfortably rationalize numerous species as pests or parasites. It is a commodity-blinded mindset which calls natural cycles epidemics or catastrophic. Such viewpoints remain in denial, blind to our human population rises and the consequent damage inflicted by modern technological societies on the Earth.

It is urgently imperative that we join together and act to prevent these atrocities. Once again, the people responsible have names and addresses. The corporate manufacturers include: Abbot Laboratories, North Chicago, Illinois 60064; (800) 323-9597 and Monsanto, Robert Shapiro, 800 N. Linbury, St. Louis, MO 63167; (314) 694-1000

The USFS is responsible for its inane spraying and needs to hear from the voices and actions of concerned people. Address your comments to USFS Btk Project Leader Bill Funk, (503) 808-2984; Regional Supervisor Harv Forgren, POB 3623, Portland, OR 97208; (503) 808-2200. The street address is 333 SW 1st Ave, Portland, OR.

The League of Wilderness Defenders-Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project along with four other groups, are preparing to file a lawsuit in federal court to prevent the spraying of national forests. They will be represented by Ficaros, Dugan, Rosas and Regan, Bahr, Stotter. The Forest Service is already attempting to circumvent the legal process and spray before an injunction can be obtained. Your help is needed in the fight. For more information and/or to contact Blue Mts. Biodiversity Project, HRC 82, Fossil, OR 97830; (541) 468-2028.

# Canopy Action Network Takes to the Trees

continued from page 1

Wookies do much of the same except their language is not so sophisticated, and they bucket their shit and bury it in logging roads. The Mava and Muscona people live in trees in rugged mountainous terrain because it is the most defensible position. Although law enforcement have been able to pull treesitters down from shorter treesits, they are still one of the more empowered actions to be a part of.

The Efe, an African pygmy tribe, climb tall trees to gather fruit and walk fearlessly around on the branches. As many as 20 climbers may be in the crown of a tree at once. Some of the best Cascadian climbers are at home 150-200 feet up, half-naked, barefoot and without their safety clipped on. Using vines, the Efe construct bridges between trees. Similar techniques called traverses are used in modern day tree villages. They are a means not only to connect one sit to the next but to link as many trees together as possible, so they will be protected. The Efe are superb arboreal engineers and can tie vines into many different knots, each with a special function. One climbing technique they use seems like a combination of girthing with prussic-like vines for stirrups. The Dayak people of Malaysia (see *EF!* June-July 1998) are amazing tree climbers as well. They have been blockading development and deforestation of their native forests for the last 15 years. Inherently, tree people are tree defenders.

The practicalities of living in the upper canopy were passed down from traditional peoples to scientists studying rain forests. In the 1920s, Max Nicholson, who would later be one of the founders of the World Wildlife Fund, was part of an English expedition to explore the forest canopy in then British Guiana. With the help of native climbers, they were able to string rope ladders from tree to tree. In the 1960s, an American researcher named Elliot Mc Clure built a treesit in Malaysia 120 feet off the ground. For over three years, he and other students of the canopy were witness to the glorious details of life in the rainforest. This is similar to the magical visits with wildlife that only treesitters today are privy to. Mc Clure last climbed this treesit at the age of 65; by 1977, it and the surrounding forest had been cut down to make way for the Trans-Peninsular Highway. If only he too had learned Lesson #1.

## Branches

The evolution of the tree villages of today came out of the Road Wars in England beginning in 1994. The Whitcroft woods hosted the first modern day tree village in beech trees 60 feet up. This was the beginning of the renaissance period for treesitting. With the help of talented rock climbers, people set up hammocks and platforms that were connected by rope walkways. Later in Stanworth Valley, another campaign to block motorway expansion from August 7, 1994-May 5, 1995, there were at

least 45 treehouses and a total of four and half miles of walkways before the final eviction. Another creation of this time period was internets or webs connecting tree to tree composed of nylon



Giant ponderosa pole pine just right for sittin'.

webbing cargo nets, trawler fishing nets or circus nets. Activists also used carabiner clips taped onto their wrists to prevent law enforcement from using their harnesses to pull them from the trees. Law enforcement further developed its evil techniques like cutting off every branch below protesters that refused to come down. Another sit to note was the Mother Ship at Kennet Camp, Newbury, which was built between eight slender trees and could hold up to 30 people complete with kitchen. The three-story sit in The Beech at Fairmile took tree squatting to a new level.

In 1996, using the arboreal technology developed during Road Wars, the Owl Creek tree village at Headwaters in Northern California was the first US manifestation of the long-term upper-canopy encampments that we see today. In 1997, the Love Pod was another highlight in treesitters' history. It was the first wrap-around treesit, roomy enough for six or perhaps more. Today you'll find variations of this original design, now called donuts, in most sit scenarios. In addition, the rocket stove has revolutionized some sits. It is energy efficient, made out of recycled tin cans and ash and can boil a pot of water using about 12 sticks (see *EF!* September-October 1999). The Luna treesit may be the originator of the first rain water collection system. While Fall Creek in the Willamette National Forest hosted the first gym complete with exercise bike 200 feet up, platforms made with recycled innertubes and sticks are the rage at the Winberry treesit also in the Willamette. The Eagle Creek sit in the Mt. Hood NF in Oregon now hosts a pod that one can actually walk upright around a 500-year-old tree named Truth. It is now complete with propane heating, cooking and lighting.

There have been many other treesits in the past 15 years, each with their own

unique story. One of the most successful treesit campaigns occurred recently at Watch Mountain, near a timber town called Randle in Lewis County, Washington. It was an ideal example of a community organizing around a treesit.

## Leaves and buds

The occupations of threatened forests are stretching from months to years. Julia "Butterfly" Hill knew Lesson #1 and lived it for two years. The most publicized and well-known treesit campaign was built on her connection to Luna and her personal dedication, but like life, it had a bittersweet ending. Many treesitters continue to sit despite the losses and small successes. It is because it's more than a tactic. It has become a symbolic way of life. The life of the tree and the life of the treesitter become intertwined. Treesitting can actually heal and sustain Earth defenders living in our disconnected reality. Spring, a regular treesitter at several Oregon treesits expressed it like this:

"Living closer and ever looking to nature, breakthroughs are made, deep personal issues are brought to light, and a new level of trust is necessitated by the willingness to live in the elements for a purpose higher than narrow, self-centered aims. Personal vision, communicated and shared through simple means, weaves the colorful fabric of the community. We eat and sing together, ramble at dawn and rant at the coming of night. Everyday is an exercise in

nonhierarchical organization and the irrepressible quest for freedom."

Spring recently witnessed the cutting of the Rightview Timber sale from the Madre Loca treesit a hundred feet away (see page 12). He joins the lineage of sitters like Jakubal, Huber and Julia who have had a treeline perspective on the destruction of the old-growth forests. Survivors of the Road Wars, also witnessed countless atrocities to nature.

## Seedlings and saplings

At one point in fall 1999 there were 11 treesits. Presently, there are five active ones. Eagle Creek, Winberry, Fall Creek, Freshwater and Madre Loca will soon be joined by summer sits not yet publicized. Around each treesit or village is a community of dedicated forest activists willing to do whatever is needed to defend the last remaining ancient forests. From sitting in trees to organizing public events to midnight escapades, there are people that work at every level to make these campaigns a reality.

In a show of solidarity, a coalition of treesit/direct action forest campaigns has formed using the name Canopy Action Network. Sharing our collective knowledge and energy, like branches reaching out, we will fill in those holes that have been cut into the forest canopy and make our green corridors stronger. Treesitters and forest activists around the world send us your info and link up to the universal carabiner. Sometimes the web of life needs to be tied up with truck rope.

For more information, go to our website at [www.pickaxe.org/links.html](http://www.pickaxe.org/links.html) or call us at 1-888-pickaxe; [pickaxeprod@igc.org](mailto:pickaxeprod@igc.org).

## Cremate Cargill Continues

continued from page 1

Just as the last person was getting cut out, the AAN rally arrived 75 strong with puppets and huge banners. A festive rally proceeded, the centerpiece being a mock trial of Cargill. Evidence was given by a local organic farmer, who testified about genetic engineering affecting his livelihood. An activist spoke about the plight of farmers in Minnesota, emphasizing the 1,500 family farms being lost this year to large agribusinesses like Cargill. A teacher talked about educating our children on the real history of America. A woman from the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy spoke about Cargill's ties to the World Trade Organization. Two Grain RAGE activists spoke about the need to increase actions against genetic research, citing the three acts of direct action that have happened in Minnesota. An organic farmer provided final evidence, dumping 50 pounds of genetically-modified soybean seeds. He then urged the crowd to grab handfuls of organic seeds and take them as a remembrance of what we are fighting for. After hearing all the evidence, the

jeering crowd found Cargill guilty (well okay, a lot of us came in biased) and dragged away its "spokesperson" who was being pelted by soybean seeds.

It was a great action. The idea of teachers, students, farmers, anarchists and local townspeople slowing up traffic and reminding all their employees that they are implicated in the corporation's crimes is probably causing executives to lose sleep. People were respectful of other groups' tactics, and the AAN folks even joined in on chorus of "We don't need no water, let Cargill's fields burn!" We are planning similar actions, and with Minnesota being a hotbed of agricultural biotech research, we shouldn't be lacking for targets.

For more information contact Grain RAGE, POB 580444, Minneapolis, MN 55458; (651) 213-6131; [grainrage@visto.com](mailto:grainrage@visto.com); [www.tao.ca/-ban/grainrage.htm](http://www.tao.ca/-ban/grainrage.htm).

Join us in July when we shut down the International Society for Animal Genetics (ISAG) Conference. Join Earth and animal liberationists and help us tell the mad scientists what we think! July 21-26 St. Paul, Minnesota.

# DON'T BE A REGULAR FUNGIUS AMONGIUS, BE DIFFERENT

Dear SFB,

I was just reading about *BLU* magazine on the internet and they had a link to Earth First! so I clicked on it and right at the top of your website you have "prisoners" so I clicked it on and in true revolutionary style they give all the pertinent information regarding political prisoners, and the whole rotten prison industrial complex. I have always judged organizations by their relationship to political prisoners and this to me is the true test of a revolutionary organization. There are so many groups out there that don't even give lip service, but your organization is for real and not fake in my book and thus commands even more respect from me than previously. So in my humble opinion Earth First! is the *Shit!*

—TIYESHA MEROE

Dear SFB,

Having spent nearly the last decade in New Mexico and committing the last five years to defending her forests, I am compelled to respond to Chellis Glendinning. Undeniably, there are legitimate social justice issues that must be resolved in northern New Mexico, and sustainable communities are a worthy goal. Unfortunately, this message has been co-opted by wise-use activists. Chellis Glendinning has often been an adversary of northern New Mexico's conservation community, by promoting a false paradigm has contributed to the cutting of its last remaining stands of ancient ponderosa pine trees. Some "activists" have been so romanticized by the distinctive mountain communities of "El Norte" that they have confused sustainable, rural needs with pure profit and greed enterprise. This confusion has debilitated efforts by conservationists.

One of the most tragic results is the La Manga Timber Sale, in which dozens of 500-year-old ponderosas have been chopped down: trees that were alive before Columbus' tragic arrival. More recently, the Agua Caballos Timber Sale which is slated to log 10 million board feet and build miles of new roadways. The distortion of large-scale commercial logging as "sustainable forestry in the interests of communal survival" is a great injustice to the many rural, Hispanic families that don't cut down old growth for a living. In fact, many people's livelihood in the area will be negatively affected by impacts on the resources of land-based communities such as deer, fish, clean and abundant water, firewood, non-timber forest products, etc. Simply put, the very communal survival that Chellis claims logging will ensure is jeopardized precisely because of that logging.

The survival of these communities is not debatable, but logging on federal lands is not a valid answer. Rather, the communities require resources to restore and promote the activities that made them sustainable in the first place (e.g. acequia agriculture) as well as bringing in new technologies and opportunities into these remote areas.

—BRYAN BIRD

Dear editor,

Someone once commented that when former President George

Bush said "environmental president," he showed enough teeth to make you instinctively clutch your throat. I had the same reaction while reading Chellis Glendinning's promotion of "sustainable forestry" on national forests in northern New Mexico (Brigid 2000). Glendinning used this term three years ago to advocate the La Manga Timber Sale, which sought to clearcut and high-grade a few thousand acres of rare Southwestern old-growth ponderosa pine forest. I asked her about this at that time, and she responded by waxing poetic about the remarkable "ecological knowledge" of those who intended to cut the sale. When pressed, she acknowledged that she had never been to the sale site, and was not aware that it involved old-growth forest. Having been made aware, she nevertheless continued to support this deforestation.

Ike DeVargas, a close personal friend of Glendinning's, is the owner of the logging company that was awarded the La Manga sale. DeVargas has a long history of encouraging violence against environmentalists and once publicly burned forest activists in effigy. He was also the recipient of a major award by a notorious wise use group. More recently, this cast of characters pushed for a timber sale called the Agua-Caballos sale. One of the biggest timber sales ever offered on New Mexico's national forests, this sale proposes to log over 10 million board feet—again from old-growth ponderosa pine forests—under the guise of "sustainable forestry" and "forest health." National forests will never be safe from deceptions like this until we end the federal timber sales program once and for all. Once the logging program has ended, there will be a lot more jobs in ecological restoration in northern New Mexico than there currently are in logging.

—CHAD HANSON

Dear EF!

Three hundred words is not enough space to answer the complexity of issues raised by the letters of Mamma Bear, Brian Bird and Chad Hansen. But it is an opportunity to say how very sad this situation has become. Over the past four years (the time I have acted as a witness and occasional spokesperson), I have seen behavior not befitting the goals of our progressive movements. In his superb *Faces of the Enemy*, the philosopher Sam Keen explores the projection of invented negative qualities which result in the fabrication of the enemy—and a sense of rightness in one's own position. Check it out. There are a number of inventions in the letters. A few examples: I have never participated and will never participate in the logging of old-growth trees. I am not a "wannabe." (See my denunciation of New Age wannabe-ism in *Yoga Journal*, February 1995.) Also, I am not part of "a cast of characters" pushing the Agua-Caballos Sale; I was never involved.

On to Ike DeVargas: His community-based logging outfit does not clearcut or highgrade. His goal is to preserve the land-based cultures of northern New Mexico; contrary to the belief of some conservationists, he does not spend time in his community spouting violence against envi-

ronmentalists. An award from a wise-use group did come to him in the mail, but he received it in the same mood the FBI once accepted an award from a Sante Fe anti-nuclear group; with *astonishments*. And to visit Charolette Talberth's Post-Forest-Guardians-bomb contention on the (March 1999) Earth First! website: I do not now and have never "forment(ed) hate and violence."

In the radical psychology movements of the 1960s-80s, we pioneered the idea that politics by listing and caring is more effective and democratic—and simultaneously repairs the broken world we are trying to replace. To be the object of such projections and attempts at character assassination has been a painful experience. But, in my heart, I know that we are all aiming toward a saner, more sustainable world. What this tempest comes down to is just a different slant on how to get there. Sustainability by conservation vs. sustainability by our culture. It's an archetypal conflict of our time—and deserves *real* discussion. My hope for this crucial discussion is less projection and more honesty.

—CHELLIS GLENDINNING

Dear SFB,

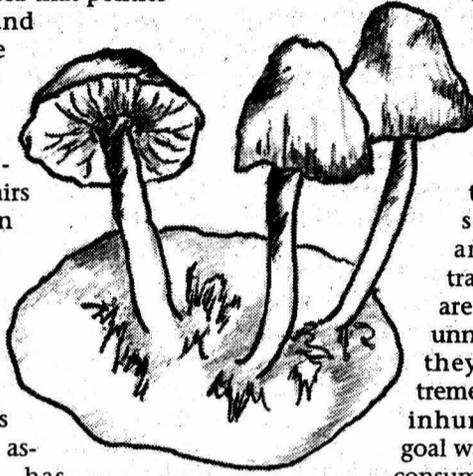
Hi! The last *Earth First! Journal* had an inspiring article about *El Jardin de la Esperanza* in New York City. I was moved by the actions of Alicia Torres and her community to create and protect this sanctuary. A few days after receiving the article, the *New York Times* ran an article describing the destruction of the park and the arrests of 30 activists. Although I had every intention of sending an e-mail or letter to the editor in favor of other key figures, I regret that I never did. While I love the *EF! Journal*, I have to think that in some cases when time is of the essence, it might not be the best medium. I propose establishing an EF! e-mail list to promote a quicker response. An e-mail list would also be much more convenient and easier to pass on to other people. Let's face it. Most people are stressed as all hell about lack of time. Many people just don't have the time or patience to sit down with an EF! *Journal* and pull out all of the different calls to action. Yeah, this sucks, but it's a fact of modern life. The important thing is to do *whatever* will work. In this case, I think a mailing list could be the best tool. I've seen it work. A few weeks ago, Ohio Senator Kearns was going to introduce a resolution to strike down Darby Creek, a proposed wildlife refuge. In the course of a day, an e-mail was sent out across Ohio, and the senator received over two thousand calls in one afternoon! The bill was yanked the next day. Now, I'm not offering a mailing list as an alternative to the EF! *Journal*. Far from it. I don't think any medium could replace the *Journal*. But certain stories or issues demand direct and immediate action. Only e-

mail is swift enough and inexpensive enough to meet this demand.

—ROBERT BOLEY

Dear SFB,

Hi. I am a member of an ALF cell in a highly populated city on the east coast. Though our clandestine actions are done in the middle of the day without any masks to hide our identity. One great example of one of our unmasked—or urban camouflage



campaigns was when we targeted grocery and hardware stores in our town that sold mouse and rat glue traps. Not only are these traps unnecessary, but they are extremely cruel and inhumane. Our goal was to prevent consumers from purchasing these devices and to stop stores from selling these devices. All live and humane traps would remain on the shelves. Our "urban-cammo" consisted of very nice clothes. Remember, people *do* judge you based on your appearance. Now is not the time to show off that "Meat is Murder" or "ALF" T-shirt. Also make sure you walk up and down a few aisles and that you have some groceries in your cart. Nothing will catch the management's or security's attention more than someone pushing an empty cart for an hour or so. Once we began our "shopping," we would fill our carts with all the rodent glue traps on display and snap or break off the UPC bar code that the management usually scans when it is time to reorder.

Next, we would push our carts towards any in-store garbage cans (the deli or cafeteria has the most.) When no one was looking we would throw all of the traps into the garbage bags making sure to cover the traps with real garbage. (Make sure your garbage can is not directly visible to any security cameras where you may be monitored from!) Though this tactic was often successful, it was not 100 percent effective. We would often find the damaged glue traps replaced on the shelf the following day. We quickly solved this problem by filling our carts with veal, chicken, turkey, cow, fish, eggs, etc. Then, after getting all of the glue traps we would brows the aisles, as we opened up the glue traps and permanently affix them to the dead animal parts, thus insuring that for one, they could not be placed back on the shelves the following day. This tactic also caused hundreds of dollars of damage to the animal products themselves! And again, we would always remove the UPC bar codes that are used for recording.

Hey Shit For Brains, yes you!

So I pull up to the *journal* office on my bike to lend a helping hand, and I notice a bumper sticker (on a truck no less) that reads: Pregnancy, another sexually transmitted disease. I am glad my four year old, who was sitting in his Burly, can't read. For a

couple of hours my son was cruising around, completely unaware that he was regarded by someone (or perhaps the majority?) there as a disease. For the fucking record dudes and dudettes (who ever you are and to all who hold that opinion), my son is not a disease. The real disease is the way in which most children in the westernized societies are raised, not the children themselves, much less children are raised as my son is being raised. Your car that is plastered with eco-stickers is more of a disease than any child, okay? It saddens me that so many people in the liberation movement don't accept children. Yes I know about population this and that (I am, by the way, limiting my children to one). Remember, what counts is the lifestyle that children are raised in. I urge everyone to accept children in the struggle for Earth and animal liberation. Everything you love and fight for is (unfortunately) in the hands of our little fellow human beings. Let's show them some respect and acceptance and sow the seeds of future liberationists, lest we end up with yet another generation of humans untouched by the plight of earth and creatures. It is hard enough being a single parent, trying to find a place in the liberation movement without the added stress of knowing we are regarded with so much contempt.

—A. CHAMPAGNE

Dear Shit For Brains,

I see a lot written about stopping corporate America from dominating the destruction of the world. Excellent! Now please read slow so you don't get lost. The revolution that separated the American colonies from England was funded by the wealthy land owners. When the US constitution was written "we the people" did not include the slaves, bondsmen or serfs. These people along with the paid labor class and women were thought of as property. "We the People" of 1776 translate into those who are capable of spending millions of dollars to get public officials elected and corporations that employ professional lobbyists in the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first century. With the exception of the civil rights movement of the 1950's and 60's, little has changed society, politically in America since the colonies. If you are seeking an end to corporate destruction of the environment and not seeking political reform, I am afraid you are fighting a losing battle. The US Constitution was written to insure corporations hand in the government (through legislation) while the Executive Branch protects private property and corporate rule. It should be either a fight for the welfare of the worlds' environment, or a fight for the welfare of the US constitution. You can fight for both, but you will be fighting yourself. I hope you EF!ers stop bashing revolutionary work. The world can not withstand capitalists-democracy! Hate mail and love letters are accepted by me, a captive of the state. Just write to: James Ray Howard# 65679 LCF/DOC Box 10000 Limon CO 80826

Dear Shit For Brains/Lawn Fuckers,

If you despise your neighbor's carcinogenic lawn, then fill some

# AND WRITE US ABOUT YOUR TROUBLES AND GOODTIMES...

cups with water and table salt to make salt balls which you can throw onto a snow covered lawn so as to appear that they are snow balls. In the spring, the lawn will have brown spots. Oops. Pesticides don't always keep the lawn green. Better off with trees instead.

—SODIUM CHLORIDE

Hola/Adidos,

Any Earth First!ers in Nicaragua or Central America, please feel free to contact us! (work-study visits are possible also) Please write in detail, and be patient for a reply. No phone, remote location) Non-violent, pacifists only.

—DIANE APARTADO

#96, RIVAS, NICARAGUA, CA;  
BLISSBLUES@HOTMAIL.COM

Dear EF!

I come not bearing denunciation or vituperations so I wonder if this fits in Shit For Brains. I come instead bearing words of praise. How novel! The one thing I like about the *EF! Journal* is that it is a publication of a movement—not an institution which is what you get with many other environmental publications. As a movement publication, it provides you with ongoing debates that are current in its branch of the environmental movement. The *EF! Journal* is also one of the newsiest publications you will find. It is chock full of information from around the world, presented in a format where every reader can find something to fit his or her taste for the movement, from a quick snack, to a full course intellectual banquet. Finally your *Journal* shows an irreverent zeal where not only do you beard the green establishment with the same vigor as you attack corporate criminals, but then for extra measure, you trash your own orthodox as well! That takes guts.

As far as moving is concerned, Eugene is a nice place to live. I left a bucolic college community a couple of decades ago to live in dying industrial cities in Ohio. It is possible to find political relevance and even a twisted sort of happiness among heathen, gentiles and non-believers. The damage will do you good. That's where the work has to be done. The coasts are too trendy, too hip in the worst sense of the word and too flighty. Try the Midwest or even the South. Be brave. Take a chance.

In the struggle,

—RANDY CUNNINGHAM

Dear *EF! Journal*,

I think you should stay right where you are. Moving anywhere else will be a time consuming added expense that will take your energies away from the great work you are doing. As for the New York City area, I lived not far from there, in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Let me tell you, it is an ugly, depressing place for a nature-loving individual such as myself. I felt like a pariah fighting almost alone against overwhelming odds surrounded by people who were either the worst sort of opportunistic yuppie trash or else they were just too hassled and busy to care. Stay in a place which has obviously made you strong. Besides, you'll never make everyone happy with your location. What are you supposed to do, move every couple of years so

everyone can have a piece of the pie? I think the EF! movement here on the East Coast will be strong enough without needing its *Journal* here as well. I'd like to add how impressed I was by "Fun Guys" saying that violence is a lot easier to start than to stop. (Don't be in such a fucking hurry to go there.) If there had been no window smashing at Seattle, the cops would have had a much harder time explaining why they gassed peaceful protesters. That is not to say I am against monkey wrenching. (I remember how heartened I was by Vail.) Property destruction should always be for a good, well thought out reasons.

PS. I really loved the pictures and the theme of the Brigid issue SFB!

PPS. One way to resolve the question of "What EF! stands for" is to say "the Earth, first" and then point out that fighting corporate power is one of the best means to that end.

To the magickal people at EF!

When I first heard of tree-spiking, I saw it as an exquisite way to rid the world of the soul-less kind of murderers, more commonly referred to as loggers. Then one day I was visiting my beautiful friend Esmerelda, a tree and saw a small, solid object jammed inside of her trunk. I was immensely saddened as I realized the pain this object was causing her. I thought about tree-spiking and how pained and unhealthy it is for the trees, not to mention ineffective. Half of the tree has to be cut through before a chainsaw ever reaches the spike inside. I am troubled and concerned to know that this *Journal* cares so little about the trees to promote such actions as tree-spiking. There are tremendously better alternatives! My personal favorite alternative is tree sitting. There can't possibly be a better way of demonstrating your love for the trees than living in them in order to protect them. Causing them harm does not show love. If you care at all—stop tree-spiking!

—FAERIE DOSEIDA

Greetings Earth First!

Man o man was I sorry to read the Brigid Feb-March 2000 article about our my bears. I'm of the Navajo Bear Clan in the Southwest US. My ancestors from Canada were there first and "would be shocked to their veins" to know all that is going on to the bears. First the Bear Clan always had the bear as a brother and that if we evolved from animals, we did not do it by the ugly gorilla—which has two feet, two arms, and can stand up to a human position, but so does the bear and taller, and more coloss, and warmer. That overkill at BC is sick. I'm going to write the minister and also get some family to do so at the four corners USA by letting know what I read! My main issue is thanking Earth First! for continuing your newspaper. Damn you're good. I am at United States District Court on my appeals in Sacramento, California. But outside, or among all my friends your info is spread at the yard in my Red Man Circle.

Thank you.

Dear eds:

I think it is healthy for the movement in the long run to examine our shortcomings. I'm generally glad the *Journal* has aired the international disagreements, though they sometimes are painful.

One thing I've never seen is reporting or commentary on errors based on failure to do homework, or just plain boo-boos, like monkey wrenching the wrong address. We are humans, and errors are going to happen. I have taped to the back of this sheet a commentary from *In Good Tilth*. [An article about saboteurs destroying crops not genetically engineered.] It interests me because the Germplasm Repositories are a good thing—anti-centralization, anti-corporate, anti-man's domination over nature.

—BRUCE SILVERMAN

Editor's note:

I agree 100 percent with your sentiments about accuracy in monkey wrenching the correct targets. Unfortunately, the author of the piece you attached believed the public relations department of UC-Davis at face value. A day after the actions, UC-Davis had to admit that many of the crops destroyed were either genetically engineered (the Round-Up Ready® sugar beets) or resistant to toxic chemicals (the Brava® herbicide resistant tomatoes). When dealing with universities spreading corporate funded genetically engineered crops into the environment, it's important to realize that they will always lie, deny and slander anyone opposing GMOs.

—NIGHTCRAWLER

Dear SFB,

When a tree-sitter's tree falls in the forest, does anybody cheer? Of course not. But in a painfully large number of the tree sits that's ultimately what happens.

Since those wild Oregonians adapted rock climbing techniques to scaling old-growth trees back in 1985, lots of trees have been defended by this righteous tactic. But how many are still standing? The trees often come down in dramatic and/or spiteful ways, as when Jumpin' James Jackson's tree was cut down while he was in it in Texas (and he jumped to a nearby arboreal friend, hence the name...) Most victories come on public lands when pressure is sufficient to turn around timber sales.

I'm a pragmatist. On private land, the options to save habitat are few. You can buy it (too expensive, rewards bad deeds); seize it (our government isn't ready for that except when highways or malls are being built); improve regulations (reformist, takes too long); make it wickedly expensive for the corporation to operate (satisfying, but a crap shoot in terms of success)—What else? There's conservation easements, where use of the land is restricted to conservation uses.

The Luna tree agreement is essentially a conservation easement but more restrictive. Several long time forest advocates worked with Julia Butterfly on this agreement over several months. Sanctuary Forest organization will inspect the team, or precludes a no-compromise oppositional stance to multi-national corporations. It hardly sets a precedent since

Maxxam isn't about to put its timber rights for three acre parcels up for sale. Let's move on. Save your fighting energy for the corporados.

Still Looking for another species to work with,

—KAREN PICKETT

Most Honorable Shit fer Brains,

A huge hug and "thank you!" to Kris Maenz for her insightful editorial last issue. I share her fear that if Earth First! expands to include too many human centered values, we may become Cultural Sensitivity First! or worse, Earth Also?!

Many Earth First!ers attending the National Organizers Conference feel the movement is expanding to include more social issues, environmental justice, etc. That's cool and I respect it, but it needs to be clarified that only a small minority of the movement even attends this conference, perhaps 150 of a movement of thousands and it is hardly an even cross section. Other EF!ers could argue we've expanded into the mainstream conservation movement, the punk scene, the Christian Church (via Udo's prophetic Deep Ecology), the pagan community, the hippie culture, the anarchist movement, the Boy Scouts and gawd knows where else. Many (maybe most) of us are still Patagonia clad backpackers, tree huggers and bird watchers, disenfranchised with the Sierra Club. Cowboy hats seem to be coming back in style within the movement and Texas Earth First! can still drink Foreman's good ol' boys under the table any day.

Let the love of wild nature continue to be the common thread that unites the Earth First! movement!

And when we talk of diversity, let's not forget the likes of an anonymous soft-spoken aging camouflaged poet, Vietnam veteran and Earth warrior of sterling integrity—you know who you are!

With love,

—NOME ANSLAND  
BAD-ASSES FOR BIODIVERSITY

Dear SFB,

A few words, if I may...

Let me start by saying thank you for sending me an introductory copy of the *Earth First! Journal*. Even before I received it I knew the basics of what EF! is all about, but after reading it I was encouraged even further to get myself involved! To answer your questions, I honestly do not remember when, where or how I first heard about Earth First!, but when a voice in my head told me to search for you on-line, the *Journal's* webpage was the first one I found. Naturally, I promptly requested the introductory copy. I was very pleased with what was inside. You give plenty of ways to get involved in various activities, and the merchandice is nice too.

Now for my particular slant on things. I certainly support the idea of "no compromise in the defense of Mother Earth," but I believe there are several ways in which the battle can be

fought. I got something of an anti-technology message. I believe technology is the key to our success. By developing advanced, clean power sources there would be no need for polluting fossil fuels or dangerous nuclear waste. While I didn't catch anything that argued against that, I was wondering why we oppose genetically-engineered crops. My impression was that, by creating quality food crops, that can be grown in large quantities in labs, the problem of the natural world being destroyed for farmland would be greatly reduced. By further development of genetic technology, perhaps even someday organic-based machines will end the need for environmentally harmful power sources and manufacturing techniques altogether. (OK, so I am a sci-fi nut. But hey, some of it makes a lot of sense!) I suppose a good summary of my beliefs would be that rather than only facing the onslaught face on, perhaps we should attempt to redirect it. I know our resource are limited, but I think we should put some of them into a little R&D. Find and support companies developing alternative, clean products, more efficient land management, and so on. Well, that is just my two cents.

Anyhow, moving right along, there is no EF! group in my area, but I would like to found one. There are currently issues near to me pertaining to Lake Tahoe and various local wildernesses that could use the EF! touch. I work full time and go to college full time too, so my cash and time resources are small right now. If you would send me any helpful information you have as to the best ways I could form a group, I would greatly appreciate it. Lastly, I would like to meet a few EF!ers to be pen pals. If any one there is interested, or if you have some kind of list or whatnot, you may give my mailing and/or e-mail address to them. My e-mail addy is Samkim4025@aol.com.

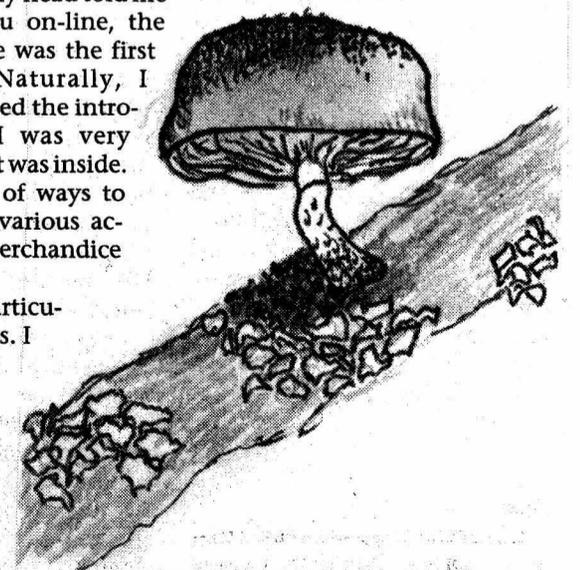
—JUSTIN WICKER

Editor's note:

My question is how would growing food in labs stop the problem of the natural world being destroyed for farmland? Are you suggesting we all trust companies like Monsanto and Dow in producing genetically modified food in labs to sustain us? I hope not, as any solution to the technological society we live in that uses that very technology to address it is doomed to fail.

By the way, do you want to eat food "grown" in labs?

—NIGHTCRAWLER



# Round River Rendezvous 2000 Cherokee National Forest

Katúah Earth First! cordially invites all y'all to the beautiful mountains of southern Appalachia for the annual Earth First! Round River Rendezvous—Y2K style! We're gonna party like it's 1999, and we're gonna organize like the revolution is around the corner! We will be gathering from July 2-9 at a gorgeous spot called Frog Level in the Unaka Mountains of Katúah. (The word Katúah is adopted from the Cherokee who named the Blue Ridge Province and surrounding mountains, rivers and valleys.) Frog Level is outside of the town of Hampton above Dennis Cove in the Watauga Ranger District of the Cherokee National Forest in upper east Tennessee.

The southern Appalachian mountains are some of the planet's oldest mountain ranges and contain North America's most biologically diverse temperate forest. The forest here has been labeled "mixed Mesophytic forest," and central and southern Appalachia are thought to be its genetic birthplace. Rivers too numerous to name flow out of the mountains to create and water the bottomlands during their dash to the sea. While the forests, rivers and mountains here have been struggling to recover from the insults of the settlers and early industrialists, new threats have arisen in our beautiful bioregion. Unchecked development, rampant road construction, dirty energy production and industrial forestry run amok. All threaten to decimate the last bits of ecological integrity necessary for recovery and survival in Katúah. We are working with traditional and not so traditional allies and are slowly but surely building a movement for change here in the southern mountains.

So, we are plotting to host a fun and productive rendezvous. We are proud to be in such a diverse and rowdy movement, and we really want to show y'all a good time and what a beautiful place

we live in! The rendezvous is a great space and time to network and get to know fellow activists and hell raisers. Please feel free to organize workshops and discussion circles. If you need to schedule a workshop in advance, please contact Olivia at (828) 645-8845. Please feel free to come a little early and stay a little late to help set up and clean up. Bring musical instruments and come prepared to party around the campfires! Also come with an affinity group because we fully intend to have the movement help us give a major Earth raper some major grief.

We are planning on having a contra dance one night so bring yer dancing shoes! The kissing Katúans will be hosting a kissing booth to raise money for KEF. We will also have an auction to raise money for the post-rondy action, so bring cool loot to donate and money to buy other people's stuff. And bring yer own mug as we have several fine homebrews available. We want to strongly encourage folks to come self sufficient and to camp in small groups. Haul in some extra firewood so we don't deplete the future soil of Frog Level. Individual campfires are unnecessary and wasteful. Everyone should bone up on their low impact

camping skills as the site is incredible, and we want to leave it like we found it.

## Stuff to bring for "down South" living:

A good attitude! We've got the hospitality, but it's your job to help make the fun. Bring smiles, laughs, hugs and general merriment. OK y'all, we may be sweet and southern, but we definitely ain't your momma. We can't stress enough the virtue of self sufficiency. This means personal gear, sleeping gear, eating gear, your *own* food and a way to cook. You won't be all that near any stores, so pick up what you need along the way.

If you need a ride from there, give us a call. Hopefully if you are hopping trains, you know enough to figure out where they stop. Like bus riders, give us a call and we'll do our best.

Transportation contacts: Knoxville, TN; Sloth or Meagan at (865) 525-0907; domommy@hotmail.com; Asheville, NC; Colleen at (828) 252-8312; colleenrock@earthlink.net; Chattanooga, TN; John at (423) 949-5922 johnjgb@mindspring.com; Athens, GA; Hans at (706) 613-5984; hxs1403@owl.forestry.uga.edu. For general information please contact KEF! Mountain Faction, POB 1485, Asheville, NC 28802; (828) 285-0631;

mountainfaction@cs.com; KEF! River Faction, POB 16242, Knoxville, TN 37996; (423) 633-8483; Katuah@fcmail.com. KEF! Tennessee Valley Faction, POB 281, Chattanooga, TN 37401; (423) 949-5922; johnjgb@mindspring.com. KEF! Foothills Faction, POB 608, Athens, GA 30603.

## On dogs

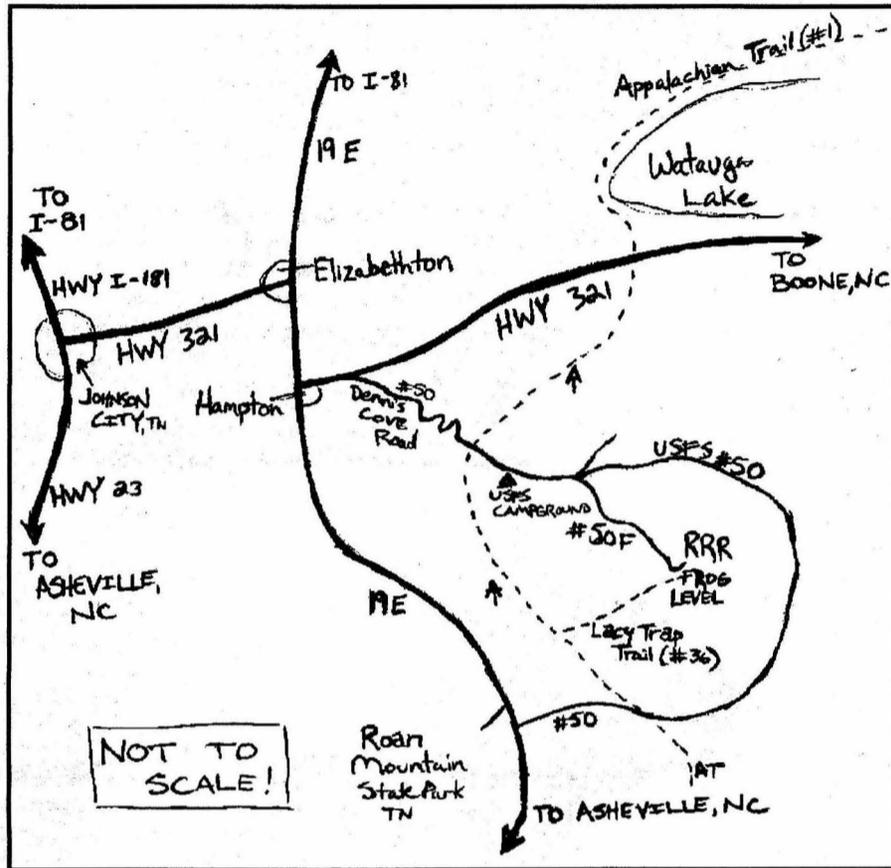
We love dogs, but we must ask that you do not bring them. A great deal of biodiversity exists at Frog Level. There is a beaver dam, turkeys, coyotes, wildflowers and bears living in the hills and valleys. We have also had altercations between dogs and children, and there are folks who feel a kids-safe space must be dog free.

## Directions

First, get yourself a map of Tennessee and find Johnson City. The mountains east of Johnson City are where we will be (south of Watauga Reservoir). Folks coming from the north, west and south (except the extreme southeast) will want to figure out how to get on Interstate 81 and take that to upper eastern Tennessee. When you see signs for Johnson City, get on I-181 and travel about 40 miles to Johnson City. Get off at Exit 31 (Hwy 321,

Elizabethton) and take Hwy 321 (and Hwy 67) east for approximately 24 miles to Elizabethton. Go thru Elizabethton and follow 321 as it joins 19E south (you will be turning right onto 19E) toward Hampton (approx 15 miles). Look for signs to the United States Forest Service Dennis Cove Campground and follow them. At Hampton, 321 will split from 19E so turn left at the Texaco and follow Hwy 321 (also 67E) east a little over half a mile. Look for Citizens Bank, and turn right onto Dennis Cove Road. Travel up this steep and very windy paved road (with hairpin curves) and enter the Cherokee National Forest (about five miles). Follow Dennis Cove Road past the Laurel Creek Lodge (last spot for gas, firewood and ice), and pass the Appalachian Trail crossing and the Dennis Cove Campground. The pavement ends about another mile at the top of Dennis Cove. *The road gets very rough at this point!* Slow down and follow this road which is also known as Forest Service Road #50 for 3/4 of a mile to a three-prong split in the road. Take the far right split (onto FS #50F), and travel along this unpaved mountain road for another two miles and you will arrive at Frog Level. Please look for a good place along the road to park, out of the way of incoming and outgoing vehicles. Welcome to Frog Level, y'all.

Now, seein' that the road is pretty rough, and if you have a very low-riding passenger car, you may want to consider going the long way. Instead of turning at 321, you would continue south on 19E and travel up the Doe River to Roan Mountain. Pass Hwy 143 on your right and turn left onto Forest Service Road #50 and follow it way up into the mountains. Beanpole says this road is in better condition than the portion from Dennis Cove. Follow this until you see the Frog at the split and turn left and follow that road down into Frog Level. From the southeast, find sunny Asheville, North Carolina on your maps. Head towards Erwin, Tennessee, on Hwy 19/23. Stay on Hwy 23 going northish. Pass Erwin, Tennessee. The main road will become 19W/23 and I-181—this is okay. Take exit 31 to 321N/67E (Elizabethton). From there, follow the directions above.



Bring a \$25-50 donation, to help us cover costs (no one turned away for lack of funds); a neat-o item to auction off (funds to benefit RRR direct action); additional funds for the Katúah auction and the kissin' booth; tent and/or tarp, sleeping bag and clothes—layers, layers, layers. It can get real hot in the day and decently cold at night. It's the mountains, y'all, rain gear, boots and creek-crossin' sandals; a water filtration system; food enough for the *entire* time; campstove, pots/pans, utensils, plates/bowls/cutlery, etc., mug for *homebrew* (yes, that's homebrew... yummy); bug juice (they ain't all that bad, but we're definitely not entomologically challenged here); sunscreen (for the pigment-challenged among us); toilet paper (if you use it, you need to bring some); musical instruments; an affinity group and a readiness for merriment.

Food; bring yer own!

## Transportation

Frog Level is accessible by road (see directions and map) and by the Appalachian Trail (AT). As the AT crosses White Rock Mountain it connects to Frog Level via the Lacy Trap Trail (#36). It's about three miles from the AT to Frog Level, and the trail is rated as moderate. If you are planning on coming to the rondo by plane, train or bus, figure out which city you will be arriving in and contact us. (Although, to be honest, it will help us out considerably if you can arrange your own transportation.) On alternative transportation: bikes—a regional bike map exists, beyond that if you can get to the area, give us a call and we can give you directions from there; buses—Greyhound stops in Chattanooga, Knoxville, Asheville and Johnson City.



These folks here are your hosts, and they are ass-king you to get your butts down South.

photo courtesy KEF!

Death Valley Daze

Standing in a hot morning sun taking a piss  
 when over the mountains, I hear an awful growling hiss.  
 Not a rattlesnake, oh this is much more scary  
 Its a flying death squad of the fucking US Military!  
 Coming at me fast & low across the clear desert sky,  
 Blasting by on a fly as I wonder just why  
 Do these yahoo terrorists hate wilderness?  
 Pumping pollution & noise on the wildlife as they rest,  
 I thrust my fists in the air in opposition to the suckers  
 US out of Death Valley!  
**CRASH & BURN MOTHERFUCKERS!**

-Daniel Patterson

Liatri's Scarage

Beyond the driving game we make Professor  
 I got beamed on the outer edge  
 by a zipping golf ball  
 & give of crumbly chigger bites  
 Starting to itch  
 Case I was on a rescue mission  
 where a state employee's plant  
 was robbed of its land by another subdivision  
 look out at 10,000 years  
 of prairie community summer drought heaven & earth cycle  
 it tasted the quickening odor of herbicide  
 rising from heaps of broken trees  
 In a land  
 where they are earthworms are exotic  
 anymore prairie will be executed this week  
 We each carried out a flat of Liatri's Scarage  
 With its bruised corns  
 and it felt like a funeral procession  
 I felt like a pail bearer  
 Under the hot scorch of afternoon sky  
 between people wholly occupied with golf  
 it's bird whose unfamiliar call  
 popped at my ears like a broken record.

-Jenny McBeide

Putt Putt Rebut

Somehow mankind devolved off-course -  
 from Indian nature lover  
 to alien sand trap builder!  
 He felled live oaks with no remorse,  
 ancestral ones with beards of moss.  
 There now remains an empty plain -  
 a golf course fit for little carts  
 who would want to walk?  
 he remarks.  
 This land & metal-clubbed primate  
 this barren landscape artist  
 would never hesitate  
 to wield his superiority complex  
 of nature - with hate  
 This is not a hell of fire or ice -  
 a more grass  
 a more culture scarred with pain  
 that liquidates the lightning bug & dandelion  
 May let's buy-off herbicide with no regret  
 into subterranean pure water & swamps  
 on at feed the white egret  
 This was a land where the black bear  
 rolled in honeysuckle,  
 made merry  
 picked back berry  
 All observed by one flying eagle

-Lucy Wells Tierney

Cottin Fence

Out here in the Wild New West  
 it's like to do what I do best  
 I tried it once and ever since  
 when I go out in Cottin Fence  
 • The bobbed wire stretches across some land  
 But it don't stop me blowing sand  
 Or dust, for me rest of us  
 For hence, when I go out in Cottin Fence  
 • The cow is king in his dust bowl castle  
 & all their pies are a gawd dammed hassle  
 it take years in Congress to clean it all up  
 & you get for a quick shortcut, Cottin Fence

"Some say 'Cottin Fence, what will that do?'"  
 "I yell 'hey one range ain't no gawd dammed zoo'"  
 Let freedom reign from mount to sea  
 & let them shit - smooze cows roam free  
 • Free with one coyote one cat & one wolf  
 & may padded pawd out rdy slow hoof  
 For the range was meant for one wild & free  
 & truth well are, ranchers will never see  
 • So when you're out on our public land  
 have any cutters close at hand  
 & keep in mind, it just makes sense  
 To always keep on Cottin Fence  
 -Porcupine Slim

**ARMED  
 - With  
 Visions**



Maintain in Motion  
 rumbling thunder  
 diet & stores flying  
 with one rising dust  
 the ground shakes  
 Contiguous memories there  
 within powerful nomadic hearts  
 one life beat of the land  
 Roming, sculpted vast eastland  
 prairie  
 meandering along cottonwood stream  
 shading beneath aspens' ever talking  
 sheltering leaves  
 edges of forest  
 buffalo this land is yours  
 wound before human time  
 bond with us, with us who remember  
 rising with one smoke  
 of beaded sweetgrass  
 healing with burning sage  
 rising sea bottom shells long ground  
 into rich prairie soils  
 it's not you alone who are vanishing  
 but one sanity, balance,  
 serenity and lost magic  
 to one human's amongst us  
 with each pull of their  
 foolish triggers  
 with each dead, post-  
 of their trapped fence)  
 with each moment  
 in which they don't see  
 one inherent connection  
 beyond time  
 buffalo if you to you  
 at human hands  
 it is we  
 who will be but ghosts  
 haunting one spirit vacant  
 bodies of that - because  
 we could have been  
 -Sante Riverwind

Send Form To:  
 Warrior Poets Society  
 PMB 361  
 108 MLK Jr. Student Union  
 #4510  
 Berkeley CA 94720-4510

Clear as glass

& just as dangerous

all rights reserved for warrior poets

## BARE BONES

### Bad news for wolves

A day after the Alaskan State House approved a measure to cut the public out of wildlife management decisions through ballot measures, the Senate approved a bill that all but overturns the state's only successful wildlife initiative, which bans land-and-shoot wolf hunting.

Senate Bill 267 was approved by a 14-5 vote, allowing anyone with a hunting or trapping license to spot a wolf from an airplane or helicopter, then immediately land and shoot the animal if it occurs within areas where the Game Board is trying to boost game populations. It essentially reverses a ballot initiative banning same-day airborne hunting, approved by 58.5 percent of voters in 1996.

Senator Pete Kelly (R-Fairbanks) said he sponsored the bill to help the people in McGrath and other regions who he says are suffering because wolves are eating too many moose.

Earlier, the House passed a proposed constitutional amendment that prohibits the public from using initiatives for wildlife management issues.

Anchorage lawyer Doug Pope, a former Game Board chairman and author of the 1996 wolf initiative, called the recent vote another phase in almost 40 years of intense debate on wolf control.

Unlike in the Lower 48, wolves in Alaska are classified as neither threatened nor endangered. The Game Board, in January authorized wolf control programs for the Nelchina Basin and McGrath areas to boost prey populations, but Knowles blocked the Department of Fish and Game from implementing it without more study.

### Truth about WTO toxics

The Washington Toxics Coalition recently received Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) from the Seattle Police Department for all chemicals used in crowd control during the November WTO protests. The department reported the use of an OC gas (active ingredient is oleoresin of capsicum), Pyrotechnic CS agent (*o-chlorobenzalmalononitrile*) and Liquid Agent CN (*chlorolactetophenone*).

One disturbing find was the solvent used in the CN agent. The MSDS indicated that the agent is 50 percent active ingredient and 50 percent methylene chloride as a solvent. Methylene chloride is a possible carcinogen as reported by the National Toxicology Program and the International Agency for Research on Cancer. The National Library of Medicine's Toxnet website reports it to be an experimental carcinogen, tumorigen, teratogen (causes birth defects when it reaches egg or sperm cells of the parents, or the developing fetus) with experimental reproductive effects. The site also indicates that human mutagens were present.

In addition to these serious effects, central nervous system depression is reported. Many of the nervous system effects given on the Toxnet site are similar to those experienced by protesters. Some of the symptoms listed are lethargy, mental confusion, headache, tingling of the limbs, acoustical and optical delusions, liver and kidney damage, increased risk of spontaneous abortion, coma and death.

Another dangerous effect of methylene chloride is described in Gosselin's *Clinical Toxicology of Commercial Products*. The compound is metabolized to carbon monoxide in humans, which could be dangerous to persons with asthma or cardiovascular problems.

# My LIFE WITH LUNA OR HOW WE PRESERVED A REDWOOD STAND

BY JULIA BUTTERFLY

If someone had told me that I would live in a 1,000-year-old tree for two years withstanding *El Niño* storms, helicopter harassment, and a media spotlight that would strip away my privacy and lay me open to intense attacks, I would have run far away from Northern California. Such was not to be my fate.

After 738 days living in the canopy of an ancient redwood tree, the Luna Preservation Agreement and Deed of Covenant was recorded, protecting Luna and a 204-acre grove of her family around her in perpetuity. Ultimately, my hope is that even if people still do not understand my intentions, reasons and beliefs for negotiating, then we can just agree to disagree.

There are too many vital issues that need our help rather than our adversity. I've always tried to not get caught up with infighting, attacks and pettiness that plagues our movement and undermines our strength as activists. Instead I try to focus on honoring diversity, thinking positively and understanding people's intentions.

Over the two-year treesit vigil, Luna symbolized the importance of protecting old-growth forests and taking personal responsibility. Luna became a beacon of hope illuminating the truth that we as individuals can make a difference, and as a joined community we can change the world. When deciding how to proceed in my efforts to protect

this area, I felt a huge sense of responsibility about the implications and consequences of my actions.

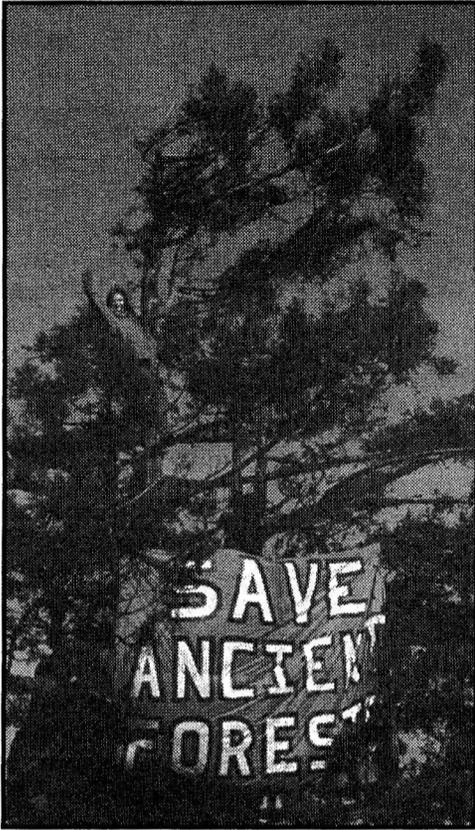
The agreement was a nearly year-long process that involved input from many. Every step and decision I made was painstakingly thought out. How

would it affect Luna? How would it affect the families in Stafford? How would the outcome affect mainstream consciousness? Ultimately, I got my guidance through prayer. Many people dismiss this as too philosophical and not strategic. To me, prayer and love are not strategies; they are a way of life.

My intention in the Luna treesit was to permanently protect the tree and surrounding area and to

help make the world aware of the destruction of ancient forests. Many people have asked why another treesitter couldn't have taken my place in Luna. Last summer, I seriously considered this, and my ground support coordinator, Michael Rising Ground, was prepared to continue the marathon sit. At that time an agreement seemed imminent. I thought that having another activist take my place would not have ensured permanent protection for Luna.

Treesitting is an effective tactic to gain interim protection for a threatened area, but we must employ other strategies such as litigation, land swaps and acquisition in order to



Julia Butterfly perches in Luna.

Photo courtesy Circle of Life

## Luna Conservation Easement

The agreement Julia Butterfly and others crafted to protect Luna and the surrounding three acres near Headwaters Forest is a covenant to restrict use of property, essentially a conservation easement but with broader reach and more specific restrictions.

Specifically, the agreement outlines five provisions: 1) *It states that the purpose is to preserve and maintain the ecological value of the Luna property;* 2) *that Luna shall remain undisturbed on the Luna property, about 2.9 acres, in perpetuity and under no circumstances shall Luna, living or dead ever be removed from the Luna property;* 3) *Pacific Lumber gets to remove some downed trees (once), subject to a written Ecosystem Protection Plan which protects Luna, the soil and the ecosystem from damage.* (As an aside, note that this ecosystem protection plan is to be overseen by an Earth First!-turned-forester, veteran of

many woods actions himself.); 4) *Sanctuary Forest, a nonprofit known and trusted by local activists, is able to inspect the property for compliance, and Julia, as well, has the right to return to the Luna property with some advance notice.;* 5) *The agreement carries the restrictions in perpetuity, even if the land's ownership is transferred.*



preserve a grove. I believed that a covenant would be the best way to ensure that Luna could live for another millennium. Trusted foresters reassured me that the Luna Preservation Agreement offered a potential for healing and restoration that far outweighed any negative impacts associated with pulling out already downed logs. After this one time PL may never again go in the grove and take out standing or downed trees.

During the course of the negotiations, Pacific Lumber wanted me to denounce treesitting, civil disobedience and forego my freedom of speech. I was unwilling to compromise my beliefs, morals, values or to sign away my First Amendment rights. The loudest clamor of dissent about the deal was giving \$50,000 to Pacific Lumber to offset lost revenues. This money was then donated to Humboldt State University for forestry research. How could I give money to a corporation that is destroying forests, watersheds, and people's lives and have them donate it to "buy-off" future scientists?

I believe that everything in life is energy and that our work is learning how to direct it. The same is true for money. Whether we like it or not, money is important to most people in our world. It can be a powerful tool even as we continue to work toward protecting the life of all species and ecosystems for their intrinsic value rather than depleting resources and habitat for financial gain. In the struggle to protect the life of all species including humans, we must use the tools available.

I prayed long and hard over this. It became clear to me that to pay to protect the area would be using a tool to gain freedom for a small but important symbolic area. I will spend the rest of my life doing everything I can to affect positive change for the planet.

Let's look into our personal lives, at the money we spend on vehicles and fuel to reach the places and people we are defending. Where do the electricity and gas come from that we use in our campaign headquarters to function? Computers that we use to spread our message are a source of toxic pollution. What is happening to a river, the air, indigenous cultures and the poor because we use these tools? Ultimately, we must challenge everything we do and decide if the good outweighs the bad, while trying to reduce the harm we cause in every possible way.

For every finger pointing at the destruction caused by corporations, governments and consumers, I see three fingers pointing back at us. They stand for power, responsibility and love. We have the power to change our world for the better. We have the responsibility to do it. We have the love of all life to make this transformation of consciousness lasting. The three fingers rest in the palm of our hands, and there lies the change we wish to see in the world. Let us continue to do everything we can to bring about freedom, justice and peace for all our relations—plant, animal and human.

# A COMMENTARY ABOUT THE LUNA DEAL: BEHIND THE BUTTERFLY

BY ANDY CAFFREY

I have yet to meet anyone in the movement who hasn't heard Julia Hill speak, who hasn't been deeply moved by her passion, spirit and intellect and especially, her presence. You can almost see her aura. I know of no one in the movement who wants to silence or censor her in any way, or curtail her speaking engagements. Nor do I know of anyone complaining about her book.

Yet movement critics of her deal with Maxxam are not being listened to with any kind of love or respect and are receiving hurled invectives to shut up and not weaken Julia.

"When you have spent two years up in a tree, then I'll take what you say more seriously," is the automated first barrage from those who seem to feel we all

have to be with Julia, uncritically and completely, or we're against the movement. This is the same dualism haunting the wise-use mind of corporate-fed timber workers.

Julia Hill was a newbie to Pacific Northwest forest activism when she sold her belongings in Arkansas to come back and scramble 180 feet up a tree and live there for two mind-altering years. To criticize her presumptuousness at

negotiating her own deal for trees in Headwaters Forest with just a couple of friends and enemies, her snatching away of the treesit from Earth First! or her praise of our worst enemy Charles Hurwitz and his Maxxam corporation, seems, well, not out of line at all for any organization that still has any of its wits—or tactical sense—left.

I helped put on the first Headwaters events in the Bay Area in 1986. The movement was exciting and smart in the early days, incredibly vital and inspiring. It was broken and bruised, lonely, scary, frontlines activism that kept Headwaters from completely abating during the decade it took to mobilize other more suburban groups and individuals to amplify this stand against corporate ecocide of the remnants of this unique and powerful forest.

In the process, Earth First! took a bomb in the side, was invaded with an FBI COINTELPRO, and fended off a corporate PR hate instigation campaign which created bogus EF! press releases, monkeywrenching recruitment posters and dozens of death threats and physical attacks against activists during 1990's Redwood Summer. But those were the good old horrible days. Now we have ratified nonprofit individuals running the "Headwaters Campaign" consuming all of the riffraff.

The riffraff are in fact the only people who responded to an emergency request from the citizens of Stafford to fight for the stability of the hillside above their town. These are the courageous jocks who for next to nothing, except a bud or two, rigged what would later be christened Luna, and kept the sit going for almost two months. Julia, unaware, was selling her personal belongings at Arkansas flea markets.

Imagine the riffraff shock when they were not involved in the decision to end the sit. I did support work for the Stafford Giant treesit (aka Luna) and Julia for her first year. From three months into the sit, hordes of volunteers lined up to spot her. Imagine the shock when "Julia's

treesit" ended with no replacement installation. I was shocked to first hear of the sit ending on the evening news and to hear Julia praise Hurwitz's enlightenment because of his "progressive" deal to end "her" sit.

Ironically, the message of the sit had initially been one of unity, similar to the Steelworkers/EF! camaraderie developing around the Kaiser Aluminum strike against shared nemesis Maxxam. Here, in Stafford, was an example of how corporate ownership of state forestry officials and policies in California led to illegal, rubber stamp, obliteration-logging of hillsides causing the destruction of fisheries and towns.

These pro-corporation forestry policies and the resulting rapacious siltification of salmon spawning streams remain unchanged after Julia's sit ended. The message is no longer being transmitted by cell phone from atop pirate radio station Luna. Julia gave \$50,000 (establishing a precedent for the price of a single old-growth tree and surrounding three acres) and great PR to our worst enemy while we were trying to announce solidarity with a workers strike against this same man who also owns Kaiser Aluminum. Earth First! still has a \$50,000 reward offered for information that jails Hurwitz! Hurwitz's Savings and Loan looting cost taxpayers \$1.6 billion. But Julia wants us to love Charlie. Talk about mixing up her and our messages.

Meanwhile global warming continues, intensifying storms and droughts up here, and Luna sits poking her lone head above the ridgeline. Beyond the obliterated 200-foot buffer zone bought to "protect" Luna, itself savagely helicopter logged early in the sit, she is still completely encircled by clearcuts and landslides on Maxxam land. And this remnant, beating heart of the forest, emanating like Butterfly's love from Luna, will be salvage logged. A quite sad end to the story.

It's a pity Julia didn't learn the first spiritual lesson of the redwoods, that the forest's strength and majesty comes from holding hands at the roots.

## FLORIDA RUCKUS CAMP ROCKS!

BY YAEL

On March 11-17, 85 college students made their way out to Arcadia, Florida, to hone their skills in nonviolent direct action at the Ruckus Society's Alternative Spring Break/Global Warming Action Camp. We camped out at Peace River with all the fire ants and were awoken early each morning by early risers banging on pots. It was a week of extensive training and skill sharing, and all of us left the camp with new ideas to keep our actions safe, creative, nonviolent and effective.

The week started with a nonviolence training session. Realizing that we are attacking the forces of evil, we went over some basics of the philosophy of nonviolence—from Gandhi to Martin Luther King Jr. Although some students believed in nonviolence only as a strategy and others as a way of life, we all understood on some level that nonviolence leads to accountability, responsibility and trust instead of the hostility, tension, anger and powerlessness associated with violence.

We all received an introduction to climbing, put on some gear and got on the scaffolding. Some students utilized their climbing training in a role-play of a direct action on the last day of camp. We touched upon the ins and outs of radio communications, scanners and frequency analyzers. We also went over how to deal with the media during actions, starting

with press advisories and press releases and on to effective message delivery and soundbites. At the camp, the media was all over us as we played with motorcycle cables, u-locks and lock boxes. Although we practiced direct action blockades, we were often reminded that our tactics are not our message and that it's not always appropriate to take action.

Other workshops included scouting and banner making. Our legal workshop started with the reminder that we are not breaking the law to get media; we are exposing an injustice while intervening on behalf of a higher law. One such injustice that we covered at the camp was global climate change, a serious threat that is leading to species extinction and the loss of biodiversity.

The Ruckus Society's Alternative Spring Break camp empowered us as students and gave plenty of ideas for how to raise hell (and awareness) on campus. Students have a lot of power in their colleges and communities. From running divestment campaigns to pressuring our schools to quit investing in corporations, from tabling at alternative job fairs to sabotaging interviews with the big bad corporations who come into our schools to try to recruit students, from petitions and sit-ins to whatever else works, we need to utilize all of our tools and skills to facilitate change in our schools.

For more information contact the Ruckus Society, 2054 University Ave #204, Berkeley, CA 94704; (510) 848-9565; 848-9541 (fax); ruckus@ruckus.org; www.ruckus.org.

## Frontlines

### Ice Capades between Greenpeace and oil rigs

On February 29 eight Greenpeace activists parachuted and snowmobiled onto the frozen Arctic Ocean to protest the construction of British Petroleum Amoco's Northstar project, the first offshore oil project in the Arctic.

Using a DC-3 cargo plane to carry supplies, the activists set up "Ice Camp Sirius" one mile from the controversial Northstar oil production facility in the Beaufort Sea off Alaska's north coast.

The confrontation escalated March 10 when three Greenpeace activists holding a banner reading "Global Warming Starts Here" were arrested by Alaska State troopers and charged with criminal trespass.

At the time of the arrests the activists were outside of the no trespassing zone, waiting to be interviewed by journalists about to arrive on the scene. The troopers used force to confiscate video, still cameras and digital images the activists had taken of the Northstar construction site.

Greenpeace vowed the arrests would not deter its effort to challenge BP Amoco's Arctic drilling. Five activists remain at the Greenpeace camp.

If built, BP Amoco's Northstar project would produce oil from an artificial island six miles off Alaska's North Coast. Oil would be transported ashore in a pipeline buried beneath the seabed. Sub-sea pipelines are untested and unproven in the Arctic Ocean.

### French rise up against TotalFina oil

Tens of thousands of people demonstrated in Nantes, France, February 5 against French-based oil company TotalFina and the government's response to an oil slick ravaging the west coast of France.

Fishermen, politicians, trade unionists, environmentalists and local families joined the protest against the pollution and economic damage caused by the oil spill that has hit 250 miles of coastline since the tanker *Erika* sank in December. Protests also took place outside the Paris headquarters of TotalFina, which chartered the 25-year-old ship to send 25,000 tons of highly viscous fuel oil to Italy. TotalFina says it is not legally liable for the disaster but has promised \$120 million to help pay for the clean-up, which includes removing oil from the wreck and promoting tourism in the region. The tanker still holds upwards of 15,000 tons of oil, while more continues to drift onto islands and beaches, trapping birds and closing oyster beds.

### Indigenous Brazilians blockade mining

On February 9, indigenous people of the Makuxi, Wapixana, Ingariko and Taurepang Tribes set up a roadblock on the road leading into several mining villages and Uiramuta municipality in the Raposa-Serra do Sol area in the north of Brazil's Roraima State. They denied access to anyone carrying mining equipment, fuel or alcoholic beverages. The indigenous people want the Brazilian government to formally recognize their land as an indigenous territory. Roraima Governor Neudo Campos and local estate owners have launched a campaign to block the demarcation of the Raposa-Serra do Sol reservation. Meanwhile, nearly 700 landless rural workers marched on February 23 into the Brazilian industrial capital São Paulo, culminating a two-week march to demand that the government give back the land.

## SUPPORT J18 PRISONERS!

June 18, 1999 saw massive protests all over the world against global capitalism and its ecological impact. The following have all been jailed in connection with the protests.

Robert Thaxton #12112716,  
O.S.P. 2605 State St, Salem, OR  
97310, USA (7 years)

Kuldip Bajwa DN7230 (21  
months) and Stuart Tokam,  
DN7072 (12 months), HMP, Jebb  
Avenue, Brixton, London SW2  
5XF, England.

Jeff Booker DN7071, Elmley,  
Eastchurch, Sheerness ME124OZ,  
England (21 months)

Sean Brown, BP5610, HMYOI  
Ashfield, Sherwood Rd,  
Pucklechurch, Bristol BS169LY,  
England (12 months)

Thomas Wall, FF4431, HMP  
Belmarsh, Western Way,  
Thamesmead, London SE28 0EB,  
England (18 months)

Jon Barnett, FB5538, HMYOI,  
Bedfont Rd, Feltham, TW13 4ND,  
England (6 months)

Jailhouse writings by Political Prisoner Robert Thaxton  
"Rob the Rich" and "Fuck You Bearden" available for \$1 from Anti-  
Authoritarians Anonymous, POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440

Proceeds will go to Rob's legal defense fund helping to compile  
Rob's writings and pay legal expenses.

Check out the Earth Liberation Prisoner's Network  
"Spirit of Freedom" website at  
[www.geocities.com/earthlibprisoner](http://www.geocities.com/earthlibprisoner)  
[earthlibprisoner@hotmail.com](mailto:earthlibprisoner@hotmail.com)

## Cove/Mallard Coalition Spring Training May 26-June 1

Come to the Big Wild for a week-long session of trainings and workshops held in the Wing Creek-Twenty Mile sale area to prepare for a summer of protests in the Otter-Wing and Mackey Day timber sales. Tentative workshops include climbing, edible & medicinal wild plant identification, blockades, bipod set-up, grizzly tracking, timber sale/road monitoring and more. Come prepared for rain. On June 17, interrupt the Freddie's diabolical plan to begin logging by dancing on the "Million Dollar Bridge" which accesses the Wing Creek-Twenty Mile timber sales. Come and experience it, fall in love with the howl of wolves and magnificent old-growth stands. Vegan meals prepared by Seeds of Peace. For more information, contact us at POB 8968, Moscow, ID 83843; (208) 882-9755; [cove@moscow.com](mailto:cove@moscow.com).

### Genetix Alert Press Office

We have several functions, all of which are designed to explain why people destroy genetically engineered crops and undertake other nonviolent actions aimed at resisting genetic engineering.

Any anonymous information received by the Press Office which details anti-GE direct-actions will be communicated to the media.

If any anti-GE action happens in your area, please tape news coverage, gather newspaper articles, record radio shows, etc. and send them to the Press Office. You will be reimbursed for expenses such as postage, tapes, etc.

We are available for interviews, phone-ins, news reports, etc. and have no knowledge of the person(s) carrying out any courageous anti-GE actions.

Contact: Denny Henke 787  
Ellsworth, Memphis, TN 38111;  
[genetixalert@tao.ca](mailto:genetixalert@tao.ca). Cell  
phone: (901) 438-9907; Fax:  
(901) 458-9907 (call above  
phone number before faxing)

### MUTUAL AID LEGAL FUND

A small group of Seattle activists have formed a not-for-profit group to raise funds towards the legal support of anarchists and other radical activists who are facing trials for politically motivated acts. Our first project will be to raise defense monies for activists being charged with felonies from the anti-WTO demonstrations here in Seattle. We hope to be established as a legal defense fund for future trials as well as create a database of sympathetic attorneys.

Send checks, international money orders or well-concealed cash (checks/money orders made out to "Mutual Aid Legal Fund") to:

Mutual Aid Legal Fund  
POB 95616  
Seattle, WA 98145-2616  
[malfund@yahoo.com](mailto:malfund@yahoo.com)

### Old zines don't die—they get new editors...Live Wild Or Die #8

A new crew has taken the helm of the unsinkable LWOD and are looking for submissions. We also have new T-shirt designs available:

- 1) North Amerikan Nighttime Gardeners Guild
- 2) Winnie the Pooh: Visualize Industrial Collapse

Send us something and we'll send you something  
POB 580444, Minneapolis, MN 55458

### Wild Earth Gathering,

May 19-26, British Columbia, Canada

This is a call to action to help with the continuing nonviolent action campaign to protect the ancient forests of the upper Elaho Valley, north of Vancouver, British Columbia.

Come help us protect front-line grizzly habitat—1,300-year-old Douglas firs, and camp on a sandy beach next to the Elaho River beneath coastal glacier peaks.

Training workshops include direct action, art in action, plant walks, security culture and a foot stompin', hand clappin' good time!

Bring your own cold weather camping gear and food. For more information e-mail us at [wildearth@ziplip.com](mailto:wildearth@ziplip.com).

### NORTHWEST RONDAY-VOO! 2000 MAY 26-29, WILLAMETTE NATIONAL FOREST, OREGON

Adherin' to tradition, when the RRR goes back East, we have a big ol' party in the West round about Memorial Day. So, come on over to the Willamette Valley, and join us for some fun and mischief.

We gots lots to see: Diamond Peak Wilderness, Fall Creek tree village, North Winberry treesits, a burnt ranger station that we don't know shit about, 80-million-board feet worth of old growth (16,000 full log trucks) to be butchered in the upper North Umpqua River (only 15 miles away) and a couple of nice hot springs.

Directions: From Innerstate-5 take exit #188 onto Highway 58. Go on about 36 miles to Oakridge (home a da burnt ranger station). Two miles east of Oakridge and 200 yards past Dink's (market with neon flashing sign, a.k.a. last stop for beer) turn right onto Hill Creek Reservoir Road (FS Rd. 21). Within the first mile turn right (stay on Road 21), and go along the west side of the reservoir. Go near 23 miles to the 24-mile marker post (don't be askin', we didn't put the posts up) and within 1/2 mile turn right on into Sacandaga Camp. Ya done made it!

### Big Woods Rendezvous May 19-21

The Big Woods Rendezvous is a three-day action gathering for new and life-long 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 social change. Nonviolence workshops, tree climbing, tree sits, banner hanging, blockades as well as issue discussions and campfire revelry.

For info contact Big Woods EF!  
at: POB 580936 Minneapolis, MN  
55458; (612) 362-3387; [eco-action@geocities.com](mailto:eco-action@geocities.com).

### Eugene Active Existence!

Join us in a global convergence of activism that will change the world! Come to Eugene, Oregon for a nine-week gathering of coalition-building, mutual-aid and direct action.

#### Calendar of events:

May 8-14: Models for Revolution—our radical heritage:

May 15-21: City to Gardens

May 22-28: Body Politics

May 29: June 4 Genetic Engineering, Animal Rights and Biodiversity  
June 14-17: Punkfest in Eugene:  
chaos days 2000, Punx General Assembly, [chaosdays@zdn.net](mailto:chaosdays@zdn.net)  
(303-285-3480 x8899)

June 18: Historic Re-enactment:  
Enough said!

Weekly events: Mondays: round table discussion and intro to each week. Fridays: critical mass bike rides and black blocs. Saturdays: recreation and play. Sundays: forest hikes and movie / video night. For more information, 541-684-9677; 541-302-5020; [gae@efn.org](mailto:gae@efn.org).

### TAKE DIRECT ACTION AGAINST SMOKEY'S FEES! JUNE 10

The Clinton Administration is likely to make recreation user fees permanent this summer or try to enact a fee-demo program in order to keep the program going.

If you pay your user fees, you will be counted as supporting the program. The fact that you paid will increase the chances of user fees being permanently authorized. Don't pay unless you want Smokey and his private partners to commercialize, privatize and motorize recreation on America's public lands.

On June 10, there will be a national day of action to end fee-demo and to put a halt to the associated corporate-backed efforts to Disneyfy the wild for fun and profit.

For more information, contact Wild Wilderness 248 NW  
Wilmington Ave., Bend, OR;  
97701; (541) 385-5261;  
[ssilver@wildwilderness.org](mailto:ssilver@wildwilderness.org);  
[www.wildwilderness.org](http://www.wildwilderness.org).

### DO-IT-YOURSELF (DIY)

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May 18-21

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A hands-on gathering of techniques and humane technology workshops. Workshops include seedsaving, carpentry, herbalism, self defense, book binding, wine making, bike mechanics and more!

Please send stamps or otherwise contact us to get on the mailing list. POB 4934, Berkeley, CA, 94704; (510) 496-2740 x3957; [silver@onebox.com](mailto:silver@onebox.com).

## End Corporate Dominance Conference Making it Real: Strategies, Tactics, and Victories

May 19-21, Portland State University, 1850 SW  
Broadway, Portland, Oregon

Not content with their control of commerce and industry, a handful of corporations are perpetrating a hostile takeover of culture. At the same time, for several decades, corporations have been aggressively mobilizing politically, using their enormous resources to dominate political discourse at every level, with the goal of establishing a global system of unchecked corporate power.

To combat this assault, a global movement of people is under way. The massive 1999 demonstrations in Seattle against the WTO testify to that movements broadening appeal. As in past years, the conference is expected to draw as many as 1,000 participants from throughout the Pacific Northwest for films, lectures, performances, exhibits, workshops, panel discussions and music.

Keynote speakers this year will include: Dr. Owen Wiwa, brother of executed Nigerian activist and author Ken Saro-Wiwa; Virginia Rasmussen, founder of the Massachusetts-based Program on Corporations, Law, and Democracy; and Flavio Santi, indigenous leader fighting oil drilling in Ecuador.

Sliding scale donation; no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

For more information, End Corporate Dominance Alliance, POB 1375, Portland, OR 97207; (503)725-9047; unity@mail.pdx.edu; www.ecda.net.



### THE NIGHTTIME GARDENERS

*The Nighttime Gardener: A guide for the Shy Nighttime gardener in North Amerika.*

With detailed instructions on how to research, locate and destroy genetically engineered crops.

Available now for free from [nighttimegardeners@angelfire.com](mailto:nighttimegardeners@angelfire.com).

### Targets of COINTELPRO

Commemorate the tenth anniversary of the bombing of Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney.

May 19: 6:30 PM  
Ashkenaz

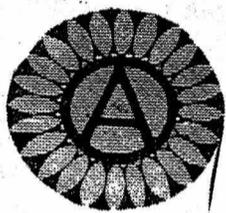
13217 San Pablo Avenue  
Berkeley, California

\$10-25 sliding scale

Speakers include John Trudell, American Indian Movement leader; Angela Davis (invited); Geronimo ji jaga Pratt (invited); and Jose Lopez, Puerto Rican Leader from Chicago. Music by Rebecca Riots, The Coup, Jello Biafra and Darryl Cherney.

For more information contact Noelle Hanarahan (415) 648-4505.

## GREEN ANARCHY #1



North America's very first issue of the paper the police can't suppress.

This issue is an introduction to deep ecology, primitivism, social ecology, diggers and more. Plus the latest news from eco defense, animal liberation, community resistance and prisoner news from here and around the world. Also, A16 news, John Zerzan's *Primitivist Anarchy*, Chai Heller's *So this is what Democracy looks like*, David Orton's *Deep Ecology*, Emma Margon's *Diggers and Dreamers* and survival trips. Recommended for all Greens and Anarchists.

Only \$2 from POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440, USA.

## Fiddle Down the FBI!

May 24 11:30 a.m.  
FBI Headquarters  
San Francisco  
Federal Building

Just before noon on May 24, 1990, in Oakland, CA, a shrapnel-wrapped car bomb exploded under Judi Bari's car seat, nearly killing her and injuring Darryl Cherney.

The FBI "terrorist squad" responded with an immediate, full-scale counter-intelligence operation against Earth First! and charged these activists with terrorism. No real investigation of the bombing was ever done and the bombers remain at large.

Dozens of fiddlers will gather to fiddle down the FBI and rally against police repression, violence and intimidation. Come celebrate with joyful music the legacy and fierce fighting spirit of Judi Bari.

## Fall Creek Tree Village Jubilee! June 5-12

Red Cloud Thunder has occupied the Clark Timber Sale in the Willamette National Forest since April 20, 1998. Since then, this forest has served as training/spawning ground for grassroots, no-compromise activism informing many of the importance of our public lands

Join us for a week of intensive workshops, campaign sharing, campfire revelry and aboreal piracy!

Workshop topics include: direct action logistics, camp craft, alternative medicine, wilderness survival and networking.

Please come as self-sufficient as possible. Bring food, fuel, gear and an open mind. For more information contact, Red Cloud Thunder/Cascadia Forest Defenders, POB 11122, Eugene, OR, 97940; (541) 684-8977.

## Moonshadow Needs Interns

We are looking for interns who are interested in learning about gardening and alternative construction methods as well as those who want to focus on media, environmental and social justice activism, art, computer communications, office organization and non-profit development.

We encourage perspective interns to come for at least two weeks. Then, if it's a win-win situation, they stay as long as it's good for all involved. All interns are asked to provide \$5 a day for food (we follow a vegetarian diet) and general costs. We have a number of outbuildings that are ready for occupancy for those who bring bedding and a flashlight. No pets or livestock.

Moonshadow, which functions as a home in addition to an office and research center for the Sequatchie Valley Institute (SVI), is located on 300 acres of mixed deciduous forest on a mountainside in the Sequatchie Valley, of southeastern Tennessee.

Please contact us for more information. The Sequatchie Valley Institute - Route One, Box 304, Whitwell, TN 37397; (423) 949-5922 [carol-kimmons@utc.edu](mailto:carol-kimmons@utc.edu); [mediarights@bledsoe.net](mailto:mediarights@bledsoe.net)

## Siskiyou Field Institute June 16-30

Offering science-based field courses that focus on the unique ecology of the Siskiyou Mountains and the greater Klamath Region. Courses are available for a wide range of learning levels and ages.

Most programs are based out of the Cave Junction area of the Illinois River Valley, 30 miles south of Grants Pass, Oregon. Classes on such varied topics as fire ecology, carnivorous mammals, nature writing, natural selection forestry and glacial ecology.

Siskiyou Field Institute works hard to keep tuition as low as possible. We provide some financial aid, including reduced fees and field scholarships.

Siskiyou Field Institute, PO Box 220, Cave Junction, Oregon 97523; (541) 592-4459; [institute@siskiyou.org](mailto:institute@siskiyou.org); [www.siskiyou.org](http://www.siskiyou.org).



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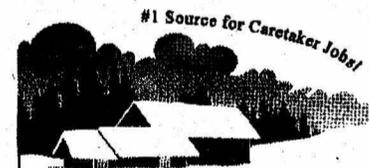
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## BARE BONES

### Grizzlies under the gun!

The battle over grizzly protection continues with the March 1 release of the draft Conservation Strategy For The Grizzly Bear in the Yellowstone Area (CS). The document represents one of the last pieces of the puzzle that has to be in place before the US Fish and Wildlife Service can remove Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections for the bear. The CS also sets standards for bear and habitat protection in a post-delisting world. Since the grizzly is an ecological barometer for the health of the ecosystems of the West, delisting is an important issue for other wildlife too, casting a long shadow over the future of species such as elk, native trout, bighorn sheep and wolves.

Federal agencies and states have pursued premature delisting of the Yellowstone grizzly as a way to demonstrate "success" under the ESA. Grizzly experts are worried about the implications of escalating private land development in bear habitat and uncertainty about key food sources such as the white bark pine, imperiled by an introduced disease, and Yellowstone cutthroat trout, which are threatened by whirling disease and introduced lake trout in Yellowstone Lake.

### Chip mill arrestees sentenced to research

Two anti-logging activists who staged a protest at the Keystone Chipping mill near Kane, Pennsylvania can avoid jail if they write research papers on the attributes of logging in the Allegheny National Forest.

Joshua Cohn and Shannon Hughes were sentenced in March in McKean County Court for an October 1998 incident where they blocked access to a mill owned by Willamette Industries.

They chained themselves to a tripod and refused to leave the property after police told them they were trespassing. They eventually unlocked themselves and turned themselves over to police.

In imposing his sentence, McKean County Judge John M. Cleland told Cohn and Hughes if they're going to be activists, they must know the other side of the story better than the opposition does. He sentenced them to do 50 hours of research on how "timber harvesting enhances (the forest) and promotes black cherry and other valuable timber." Cleland also told them he tends to be a critical reader. He said if they don't present him with papers showing a thoughtful argument, they'll be in violation of the sentence. "I'm not asking them to change their minds," Cleland said, adding he wants them to "understand the other side of the argument."

### Two charged in Mexican wolf death

Two people from eastern Arizona were charged in the 1998 killing of an endangered Mexican gray wolf. James Michael Roberts and an unnamed juvenile were charged with violating the Endangered Species Act and the Lacey Act.

Rogers faces up to \$125,000 in fines and up to 18 months in prison if convicted of violating both laws. The agency did not say what penalties would be levied against the juvenile. The charges are class A misdemeanors.

The body of the female wolf was found shot to death on October 18, 1998, near Jim Smith Peak in Catron County, New Mexico.

The agency said the wolf was shot to death in Arizona and then transported across the border into New Mexico. Last month, two rifles were seized in connection with the investigation. The killings of three other wolves in 1998 are still being investigated.

# NEGATIVLAND AND CHUMBAWAMBA

## THE ABCs OF ANARCHISM

MUSIC REVIEW BY SLEVE

Both Chumbawamba and Negativland have been hovering on the fringes of the subcultural music world since the early '80s, although in very different areas. Negativland is rooted in US cassette-culture experimentalism, while Chumbawamba began as one of the "Crass bands" of '80s UK political punk. Both have gotten into legal troubles in the past for copyright infringement. "Your best entertainment value," as Negativland once said. It's a match made in heaven (or hell) and a perfect follow-up to the unexpected worldwide success of Chumbawamba's *Tubthumper* record from 1998.

Blissfully, there isn't a trace of "real music" anywhere on this mind-boggling collage of mangled audio snippets (at least for more than five seconds at a time). Just what you need when that whiny couch surfer won't stop trying to play Casey Neill songs she just learned. Get 'em stoned, sit 'em down with this and watch 'em wither. In the sometimes-a-little-too-insular EF! music circles, only ¡Tchkung! comes close to this, although there's a readily obvious sense of snotty humor as opposed to ¡Tchkung!'s grim militancy.

Hear Chumbawamba gleefully destroy their big hit song as they collage it to pieces and change the speed! Rock out to stolen music from the Spice Girls, the Beastie Boys, the M\*A\*S\*H theme, the Sex Pistols and Grandmaster Flash (stealing from Chic, everyone's a plagiarist!) Try to find out where those bands actually are in this overdriven short-attention-span cutup! Guess how long it will be

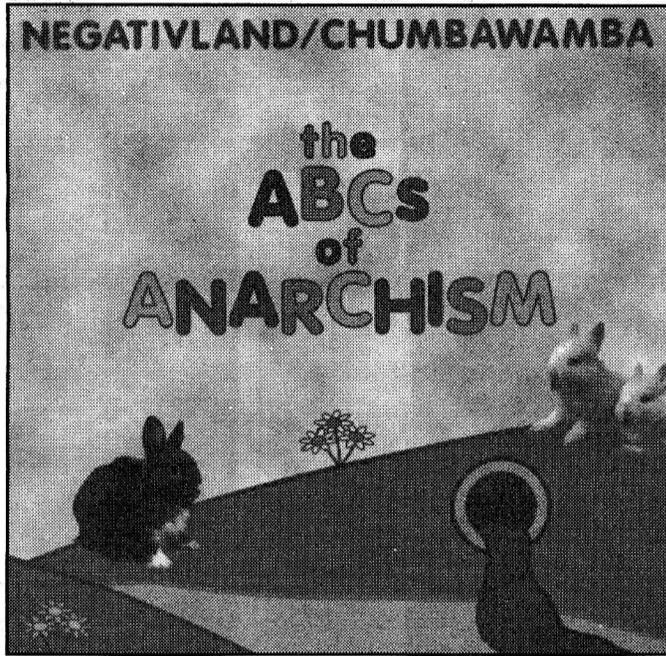
until they are sued, this record becomes illegal and you can sell your spare copy for \$100 (like the last banned Negativland record, *U2*)! Wonder where the Country Bunny Children's Boutique across from Oak Court Mall really is! Gasp as scummy advertising guys caught on tape talk about how to create fear in consumers while controlling the water supply! (I'm not kidding, unfortunately.)

Oh yes... this record actually does have a unifying theme besides Teletubbies and the Cookie Monster, as Negativland member "The Weatherman" reads from Alex Berkman's 1929 classic *The ABC's Of Anarchism*. Berkman's explanation/exaltation of anarcho-philosophy hasn't dated much and still holds up. In addition, we get relevant quotes from Doris Lessing (any EFlers who have not read *Prisons We Choose To Live Inside* should put it on their list), Noam Chomsky and the Teletubbies.

Political, noisy and entertaining, along with a direct action bedtime story for the kids... What more do you want? Give that acoustic guitar a rest and check this CD out. Unfortunately it's not on

vinyl, so I can't cut it up even more on my turntables. You could probably write for a tape. Both of these bands also have extensive back catalogs. Chumbawamba's *English Rebel Songs* or *Anarchy* and Negativland's brilliant *Dispepsi* CD are good starting points.

To order *The ABC's of Anarchism*, send \$10 to the *Journal*, or write to Negativland, 1920 Monument Blvd. MF-1, Concord, CA 94520; or Chumbawamba, POB TR666, Leeds LS12 3XJ UK.



# MINING THE LAND OF CAIN

VIDEO REVIEW BY GARY MACFARLANE

As depicted in the Cold Mountain, Cold River's new video release, *Mining the Land of Cain*, much is at stake in North Eastern portion of America. Labrador is the eastern end of the Quebec peninsula and is considered as part of the province of Newfoundland, Canada. It is a land of caribou, sparse northern boreal forests, anadromous fish and the cold northern Atlantic Ocean. The landscape is carved out of ancient rocks, among the oldest on Earth. Not surprisingly, nickel is found in these rocks—supposedly the largest concentration anywhere on the planet.

The story is the same as it is everywhere. Some giant corporation wants to develop some natural treasure that functions as the hunting grounds for an indigenous people. It goes without saying that the development would also have negative consequences on the non-human inhabitants of the area.

There are two striking impressions I have from viewing *Mining the Land of Cain*. The first is the stark, beautiful landscape found in Labrador. No wonder the Innu love this place. Imagine a fjord land that has been weathered by a few million years of geologic processes where the tops of mountains are

rounded off baldies but the valleys retain U-shaped characteristics.

The second is the native people of the area—the Cree. The direct documentary approach is taken where the interviews and camera angles use a matter-of-fact style that underscores the credibility of the message by avoiding dramatization or over statement. This same approach has been used to great success in such noted documentary films as *Treblinka*.



Innu youth at Voisey Bay circa early 1900s

The interviews bore into your consciousness. One Innu woman in particular, stands out as an icon for all indigenous people. At once she resembles photos I've seen of the Saami or Lapp people of northern Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia, the Inuit of Alaska and Canada, and most interestingly, a Gaelic woman (photo circa 1850) struggling through the

aftermath of Black '47, the potato famine in the Irish countryside.

The editing process goes back and forth between interviews, the land and the issue surrounding nickel development. One can't forget the interconnection by this approach. It is like reading a Noam Chomsky book where he methodically demolishes the opposition, point by point.

The film documents the Cree's struggle to draw the Canadian government's attention to their indigenous rights. When the video was made in '98 there had been no decision on the mining permit.

Although the Canadian government recently granted the corporation's mining permit, it is contingent upon consultation with the Cree. This consultation process could greatly alter or even end the company's plans for Voisey Bay. One can only hope for the best for the Cree and the other inhabitants of this land.

Get this video and see it. We need more of this kind of understated and powerful work.

To purchase one of your own contact Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers Video Project, POB 7941, Missoula, MT 59807; (406) 728-0867; cmcr@wildrockies.org; www.wildrockies.org/cmcr.

# Earth First! Trinkets and Snake Oil

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By Jane Doe. This anarchist version of *Animal Farm* will inspire activists young and old. A great read! Fiction, 192 pages, \$10.

### Concrete

By Paul Chadwick. A full-color, illustrated comic (graphic) novel about a group of EF!ers who contact Concrete (a mountaineer/writer trapped in a large concrete body) to help save an old-growth forest. Full of EF! history and philosophy. Fiction, 160 pages, \$18.

### Desert Solitaire:

#### A Season in the Wilderness

By Edward Abbey. Our favorite naturalist poetically shares his experience as a ranger in desert country. Nonfiction, 337 pages, \$7.

### Do or Die #8:

#### Voices from Earth First!

This journal is filled to the brim with direct action, resistance, theory, critique, sabotage, and subversion. British EF!ers have put together a must read for revolutionary ecologists. This may be the last issue, so order now while supplies last! 345 pages, \$15.

### Earth First!

#### Direct Action Manual

The antidote to despair. Everything you need to know about blockading tactics, techniques and devices to defend the Earth, from monkeywrenching to civil disobedience. Fully illustrated, lots of diagrams and graphics, 154 pages, \$8.

### Earth First!

#### Campfire Poems:

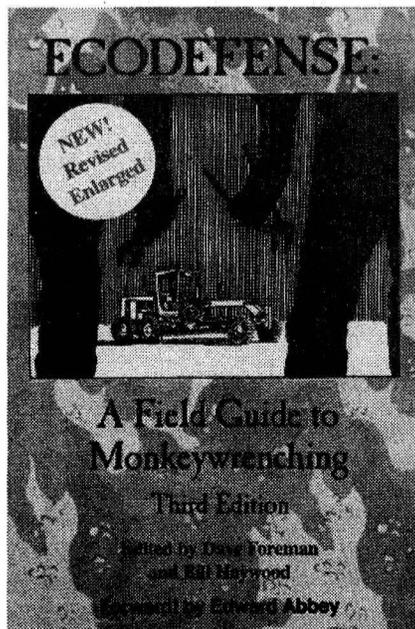
#### An Anthology of Biocentric Poetry

Edited by Dennis Fritzing, Karen Coulter and Dwight Metzger. Dozens of poets including Rod Coronado, Karen Coulter, Darryl Echt, Dennis Fritzing, Peter Galvin, Mathew Haun, Lone Wolf Circles, Asanté Riverwind, Snaggletooth and Faith Walker. Reading list, 237 pages, \$10.

### ECODEFENSE:

#### A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching

Edited by Dave Foreman and Bill Haywood. Forward by Edward Abbey. The monkeywrencher's bible. (Make sure to read the security chapter!) Extensively revised, expanded third edition. Illustrated, 352 pages, \$18.



### Ecological Resistance

#### Movements:

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Edited by Bron Taylor. A thorough study of the driving forces behind radical environmental movements around the world. Nonfiction, 422 pages, \$20.

### The End of Nature

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### Green Rage:

#### Radical Environmentalism and the Unmaking of Civilization

By Christopher Manes. A brilliant defense of radical environmentalism, challenging the ethics of modern industrial society and asserting the right of the natural world to blossom, evolve and exist for its own sake. Nonfiction, 291 pages, \$13.

### Grizzly Years:

#### In Search of the American Wilderness

By Doug Peacock. A chilling account of tracking grizzly in the wilderness of Montana. *Grizzly Years* is a soul jerking adventure story. Nonfiction, 288 pages, \$14.

### The Monkeywrench Gang

By Edward Abbey. A damn good book about people who are fed up with development and do something about it. Fiction, 387 pages, \$7.

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### Refuge

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### Waste of the West:

#### Public Lands Ranching

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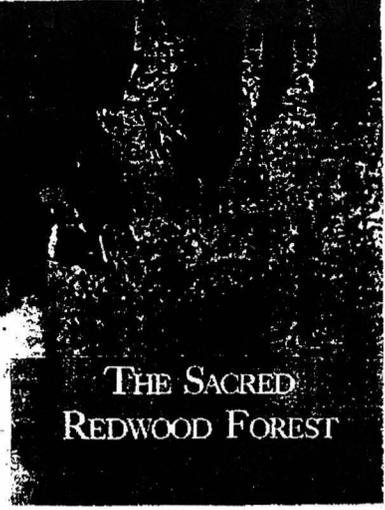
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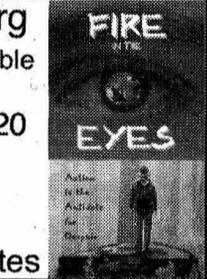
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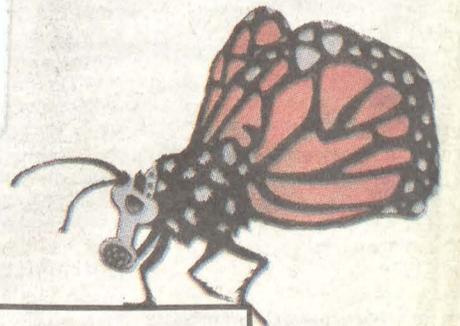
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### Innards

Encryption 101.....	3	Madre Loca Raided.....	12
Mad Scientists Confronted.....	4	Birthday for Fall Creek.....	13
Earth Last! Smashed.....	5	And the Winner is.....	13
Return of Headwaters EF!.....	5	U'wa Granted Injunction....	14
GE Fish and You.....	6	DA Down Under.....	16
Gray Whales 1—Mitsubishi 0.....	7	Son of Ned Ludd.....	21
Biodiversity Wins Big.....	9	April Fools on USFS.....	21
ORVs = Death.....	9	Round River Rendevous....	26
		The "Deal" .....	28-29
		Anarchist Propaganda.....	32

