



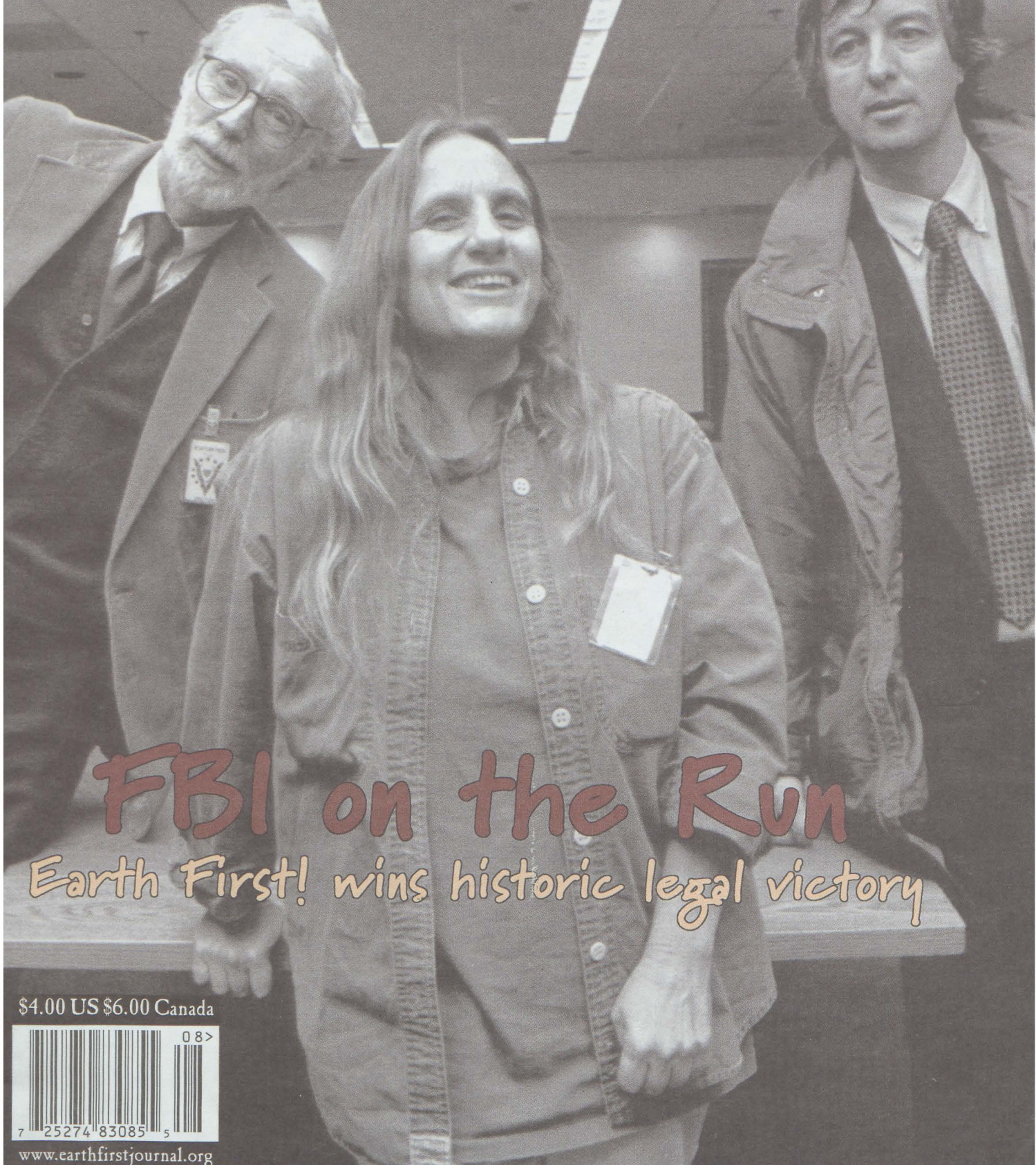
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Earth First!

Lugnasadh August-September 2002



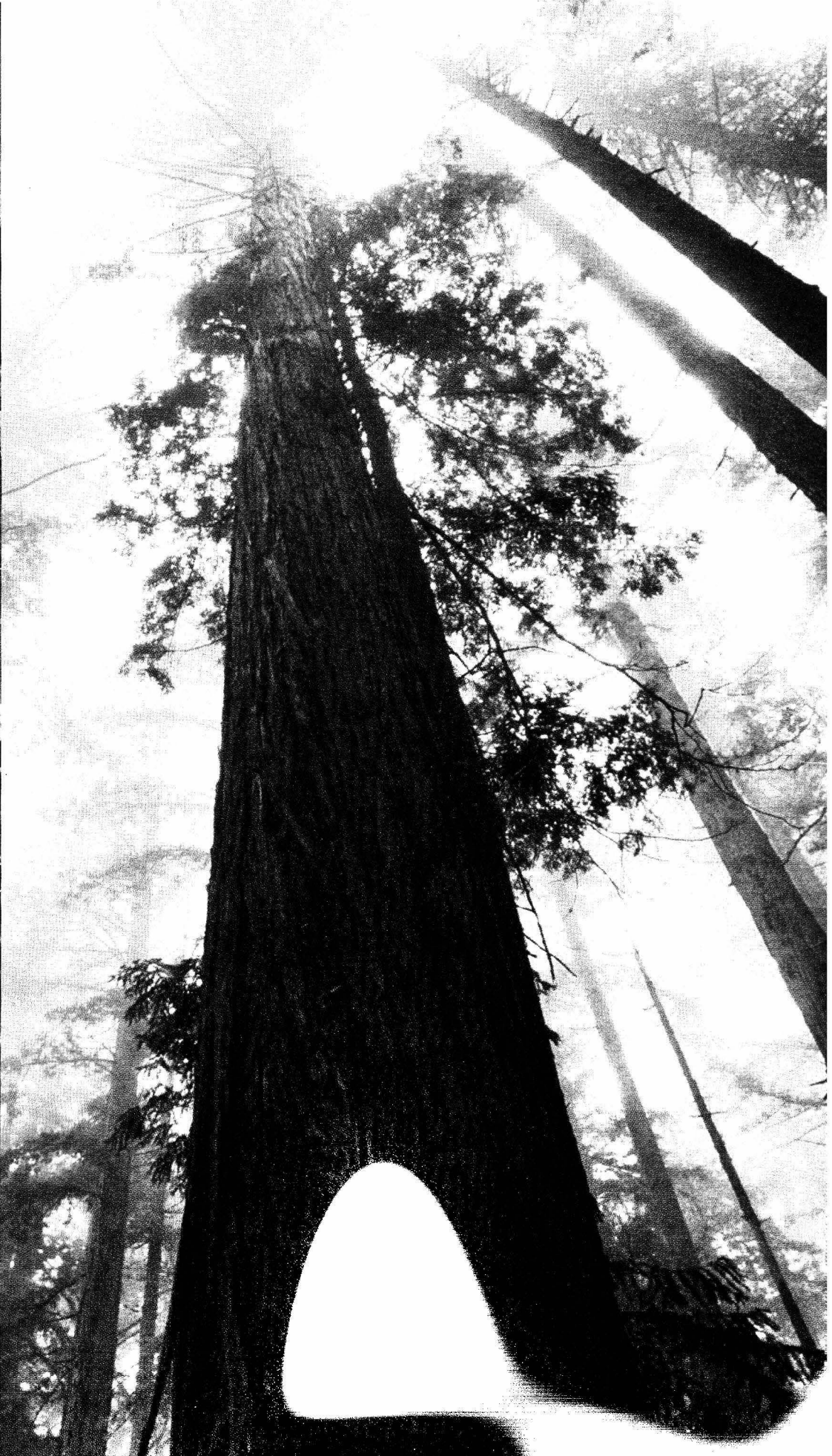
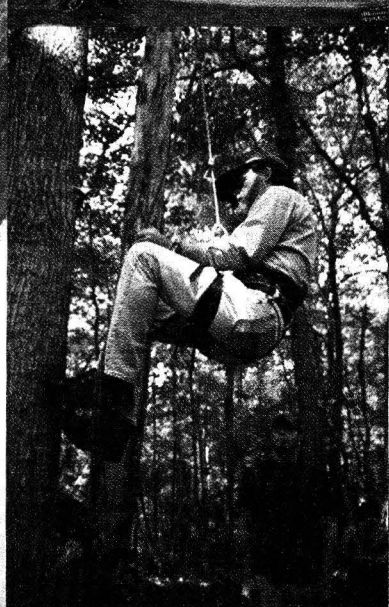
FBI on the Run

Earth First! wins historic legal victory

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Earth First!

Lugnasadh August-September 2002



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PHOTO CREDITS Cover: Judi Bari with attorneys Dennis Cunningham and Bill Simpich, circa early 1990s. *Photo by Evan Johnson.* Back Cover: Demonstration at San Francisco federal building for pepper spray court case, 1997. *Photo by Geoff Oliver Bugbee, www.geoffbugbee.com.* Inside Cover: Shrine for Beth O'Brien, Sunset Tree, Eagle Creek, Oregon. *Photo by Aquilla.* Bitterroot salvage logging demonstration. *Photo courtesy WREF!.* Eastern Forest Defense Direct Action Camp. *Photo by Susan Curry.* stUmpqua Bank protest in Eugene, Oregon. *Photo courtesy Cascadia Forest Defenders.* Ancient Redwoods. *Photo by Geoff Oliver Bugbee.*

The Honor of Being Called on Your Shit

At the Winter Organizers' Conference and Summer Round River Rendezvous, Earth First!ers were talking about sexual dynamics, power and abuse. This is a good sign. People are opening up to difficult issues and being less defensive. Some people are even coming together to directly confront sexual abuse in our communities and campaigns.

At the Organizers' Conference in February, men's and womyn's circles discussed gender power dynamics within the Earth First! movement. During the womyn's circle, we discussed a man at the gathering who had recently abused a womyn in his community, and he was in denial about the problem. Many womyn did not feel safe with him there.

When the discussion circles came together, we decided that a small group of womyn and men would ask the man to leave the gathering. It was a rough solution to a messy, complicated situation. The community was

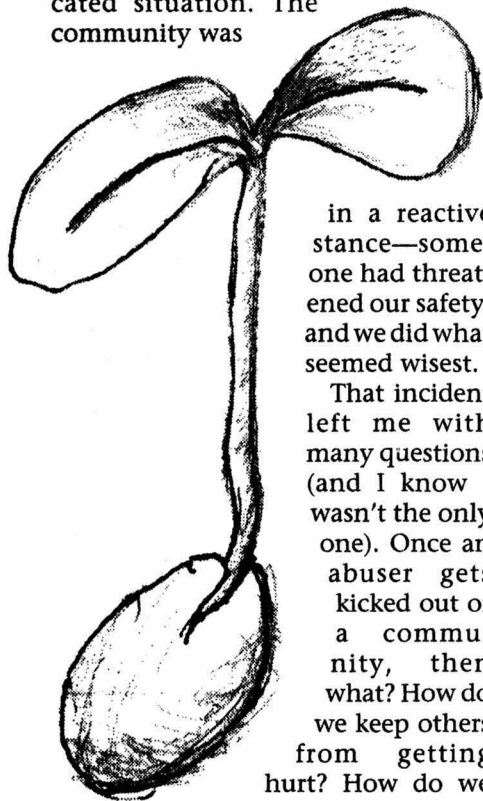
hold that person accountable for their actions after they move away? Do we ever accept that person back? How do we avoid a one size fits all solution? How do we deal with an abusive situation while it is occurring, rather than waiting until someone is hurt and the community is divided? How do we evolve the Earth First! movement to be proactive against sexual oppression?

The domestic violence workshop at the Summer rendezvous provided some answers to these questions. We need to make changes within ourselves and in our relationships to the point where we can "feel honored to be called out on our shit." If you are acting in an abusive manner, a person should feel free to point that out to you, without worrying about your reaction. You would then take the opportunity to step back and examine your behavior.

We can't just deal with sexual oppression in isolated incidents. As communities striving to create sustainable alternatives to corporate and government control, we need to develop processes to work with abusers and survivors, as well as the networks that provide our communities with tools, skills and resources. We need to learn mediation skills (you can often get free training by volunteering at hotlines or shelters), and we need to hold discussion circles where we create common ground by defining terms such as abuse, power, privilege and oppression in our community.

Sexual abuse and oppression only work to divide us, thus weakening our fight to protect the Earth. It is time for us to get proactive and build a strong, respectful and supportive base from which to wage our battle for the Earth. Hopefully, these discussions and actions will remain a priority—until all abusive behavior, whether toward other humans or the planet, has ceased.

—SAMANTHA



in a reactive stance—someone had threatened our safety, and we did what seemed wisest.

That incident left me with many questions (and I know I wasn't the only one). Once an abuser gets kicked out of a community, then what? How do we keep others from getting hurt? How do we

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

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

Article submissions should be typed or clearly printed. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via email. Send a SASE if you would like submissions returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it.

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

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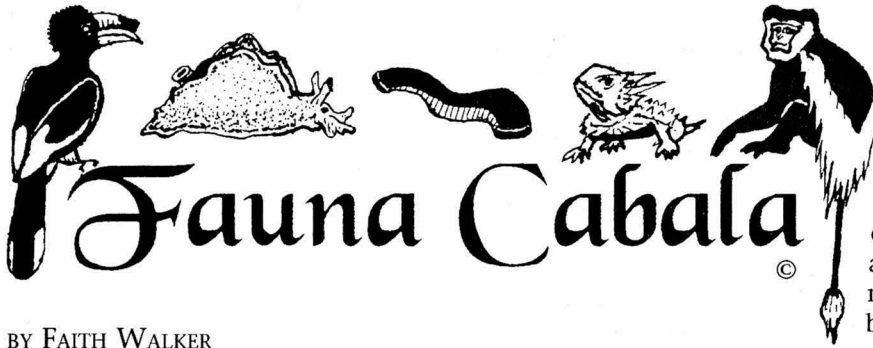
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Fauna Cabala

BY FAITH WALKER

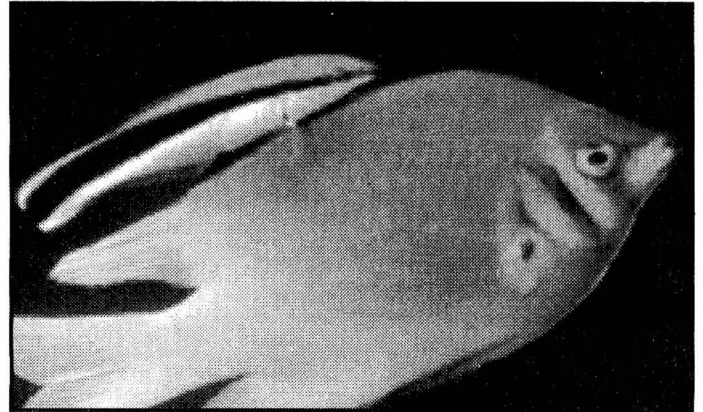
Fauna. n. animal life.

Cabala. n. an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

Cleaner wrasse (*Labroides dimidiatus*) prefer mucus. Reef fish of many species, called clients, visit these wrasse at cleaning stations within their territories, which contain a single station if small, and several if large. Here, to the benefit of both cleaner and client, ectoparasites and infected tissue are bitten off and eaten by cleaners. Individuals of most client species visit cleaners about 100 times daily, and most cleaners have close to 2,000 interactions.

Cleaners, however, try to cheat in their mutualistic relationships by incorporating fish mucus and scales into their diet, to the detriment of clients. If clients have only one cleaning station in their area, they retaliate by chasing

the petite, indiscreet cheaters, ensuring cooperation next time. If they have more than one, they just swim away to another, ignoring the cheater's wrasse ass until it cooperates. Cleaners will always continue to sneak mucus treats, however, simply trying to do so less often than other cleaners, so that eventually they'll build up a clientele larger than their cohorts. This is a rare example of mutualism being reinforced by punishment.



Cleaner wrasse (top) with client

Dear SFB: Letters to the Editors

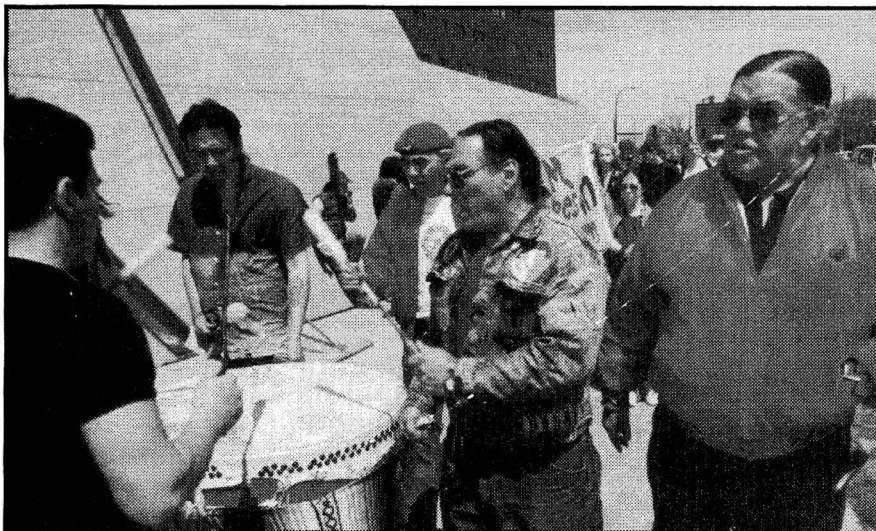


photo by Dwight Metzger

On May 10, the Thunder Nation Drum Group led a protest to University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof's office. Yudof is planning to "study" the Mount Graham issue further before making a decision about joining the controversial large binocular telescope project in Arizona, despite the united and uncompromising sentiment against it from the Minnesota Native American community.

For more information, visit www.mountgraham.org.

Dear Editors,

We Apache very much want Earth First! readers to know how heartened we were to recently learn that Germany's Max Planck Institute abandoned its Mount

Graham radio telescope because the mountain is too wet, clouded and unsuitable for astronomy.

Though University of Arizona (UA) will never get first place in astronomy because of that mountain's bad visibility, they have already achieved several firsts for a US university:

- The first university to arrest a Native American (Apache) for praying on their sacred mountain, a mountain the US government ruled sacred to the Apache.
- The first university to demand prayer permits from Native Americans praying on Mount Graham.
- The first university to produce a written plan to eliminate the religion and traditional culture of the Apache.
- The first university to lobby to exempt itself from US Native American cultural and religious protection law and US environmental law.
- The first university to fight against listing an endangered animal species.

We Apache, our elders, our medicine people and our tribal governments beseech all Americans not to let this university continue to inflict its harm upon us and to relocate its telescopes to where they can conduct real science without impaired visibility.

—RUTH ROGERS

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FBI on the Run

Darryl Cherney celebrates a stunning victory in the EF! vs. FBI lawsuit

BY TURTLE

The afternoon of June 11 will not soon be forgotten by Darryl Cherney, the Earth First! legal team nor their ardent supporters. It was on this day that a federal jury returned a verdict in favor of Earth First! activists Judi Bari and Cherney in their historic lawsuit against four FBI agents and three Oakland Police Department (OPD) officers (see *EF!J* June-July 2002).

The night before they made their final decision, at least one juror prayed to God to help her do the right thing. Mary Nunn would later recall that after listening to the testimony, she believed that the FBI and OPD had clearly lied about their investigation. "I'm surprised that they seriously expected anyone would believe them," she said.

Feeling that the FBI lacked any credibility, the jury awarded nearly four-and-a-half million dollars in damages to Bari and Cherney for violations of their First and Fourth Amendment rights.

Through this verdict, a clear message has been sent to the FBI that it does not have free reign to trample people's civil rights, whatever political views an individual may hold. In this moment, with the tables turned, the FBI is on the run.

And with this huge victory in his pocket, I jumped at the opportunity to talk with Cherney about the trial, its relevance to the movement, how he endured such an exhausting process and what his future holds.

EF!J: After anticipating this day for 12 years, word reaches you that the jury had arrived at a verdict after three weeks of deliberation. It is said that those minutes when you are called into the courtroom—when you know the jury has come to a unanimous decision, and you are merely waiting for it to be announced—are the longest moments in the entire legal process. What was your gut feeling that day, prior to the verdict being read?

DC: My gut feeling was always that the jury would never rule in favor of the FBI and OPD. The lies that the OPD and FBI told about Judi Bari and myself were legion, obvious,

and they were just not going to fly in the face of, really, any reasonable person on any jury.

All of the signs indicated that we were going to prevail. When the jury spent that long deliberating, it meant that they were giving very careful thought to the charges we filed. If the jury had come back with a decision in two or three days, we would have been worried. But after three-and-a-half weeks, it was clear that this was an intelligent jury that wanted to do the right thing.

My greatest fear was that the jury might come up with a

hung verdict—that the reason they were taking so long was that they were arguing and couldn't reach a decision. A hung verdict would have been worse than a defeat because then we would have had to try the whole thing over again.

Let me assure you that spending six weeks in court with the FBI is a profoundly unpleasant experience. Even though our lawyers got to call the FBI and OPD officers liars on the stand, and even though great gobs of truth were revealed on the record, it was still a very dis-



photo by Geoff Oliver Bugbee

A victorious Darryl Cherney

mal experience being in a federal courthouse, in a windowless room, with a bunch of really hostile, mean-spirited agents and cops—who probably would just as soon take out a gun

and shoot you long before they would ever dream of upholding the US Constitution.

EF!J: It is true that many people have been stunned by the magnitude of the verdict and the jury's courage to deliver such a strong message against the FBI. What do you believe Judi would have to say in response to the verdict if she were alive today?

DC: It is always dangerous terrain asking and answering the question: "What would Judi do?" However, on one hand, Judi would be absolutely pleased as punch that we won and that we brought six out of seven agents to justice. On the other hand, Judi Bari would say, "Get Richard Held. Held's next." She passed away before Judge Claudia Wilken dismissed Richard Held from this lawsuit. Ultimately, the judge dismissed six of the FBI agents we had charged, including all of the top brass. Judi would have been outraged by that.

Not speaking for Judi, but speaking for myself, I can tell you that the victory was bittersweet and melancholy. We received a modicum of justice, but having to wait 12 years to receive a small bit of justice is too long in a democracy. During that entire time, the old expression came to mind: "Justice delayed is justice denied." So really, Judi would acknowledge the inadequacies of the court system, and she would point out that the court system allowed the real culprit, Richard W. Held—a COINTELPRO architect and possibly the man next in line, at the time, to become the director of the FBI—off the hook.

EF!J: With striking implications for the Earth First! and global justice movements, can you share your thoughts on what the verdict means to the movement's future?

DC: First of all, it means that the movement can fight back. We don't have to take this crap from the FBI.

I can tell you that the FBI probably finds nothing in the world more distasteful than to pay any activists in the Earth First! movement four-and-a-half million dollars. That, in and of itself, is very sweet. Now we haven't exactly gotten that money yet, and it might be years before we see a penny, nevertheless the concept is probably driving the FBI up the wall.

Secondly, it shows that Earth First! was targeted by the FBI, and that we are victims of FBI terrorism, as opposed to being terrorists ourselves. That the real terrorists are in government. This news is certified in the record, and the FBI is going to have to live with that no matter what.

It also shows that 10 members of the American public can look at Earth First! and look at the FBI and OPD and make a decision that the Earth First! activists were trustworthy and that the police officers were not.

And, may I say, that the issue of monkeywrenching dominated this trial. In fact, when I was on the stand, I defended the concept and practice. Quotes from both Judi Bari and myself—either advocating monkeywrenching, talking about monkeywrenching workshops or praising

the monkeywrenching that other folks have done—were brought into evidence repeatedly. The jury saw that, and they still ruled in our favor.

EF!J: Was there an instant during the trial, with all of its unforgettable stories, that particularly stands out in your mind?

DC: If one day stood out beyond all others, it was the day that the jury got to walk outside, beneath the sunny skies, and look at the bombed car. I think another highlight was Judi Bari's video testimony, which really brought the jury to tears and also showed how thoughtful and honest Judi was.

The jury got to hear over and over again how Judi Bari—a single mother of two children and an advocate of

From the Bari Family...

My family is grateful to the jury and wants to thank them for their courageous decision. They have reaffirmed our faith in the justice system. We're only sorry that Judi is no longer alive and able to share this sweet moment.

Now that the Oakland Police Department and FBI have been brought to justice, they owe it to my family to explain what cause they had to hold my sister's civil rights in such contempt.

Judi's political message was adamantly nonviolent. Yet for 12 long years, she has been wrongly connected with terrorism. After September 11 and the threatening of many of our rights in the name of homeland security, I'm afraid that this scenario will occur more often. My family has seen up close how much harm can result when rights are ignored.

In Judi's case, the authorities stepped outside the law. This verdict reminds us that protection against terrorism should never outweigh the protection of our own civil rights. Otherwise, like my sister Judi Bari, we will be made to suffer the consequences.

—FROM MARTHA BARI'S STATEMENT FOR THE BARI FAMILY
FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VERDICT

nonviolence—allegedly took a pipe bomb, stuck it underneath her driver's seat and then went cruising through the streets of Oakland as if it was nothing.

With eight members of the jury being women, it seemed very clear that they knew, as mothers and as women, that Judi Bari would never do such a thing. And to see the car itself and to see how the bomb ripped through the sheet metal, blew out the windows and blasted out the door in the front, really made an impression on the kind of violence against Judi Bari that this bomb perpetrated.

EF!J: Do you wish anything could have happened differently?

DC: I would have done a few things different. One, we would have brought the DNA evidence into trial. The judge limited our time so drastically that we had to start bailing things out of our ship in order to stay afloat during our limited time schedule. So we did not present the fact that we had genetic material that traced a fake Earth First! press release to Candy Boak of Boak Logging. She's a subcontractor to Pacific

continued on next page

FBI on the Run continued...

An Interview with Darryl Cherney

continued from previous page

Lumber. We also matched a police informant letter to a death threat. We could have shown the jury that solving this crime could have been a lot easier than the FBI and OPD made it out to be, but we didn't present that material. That's a regret.

On the witness stand, I sang "Spike a Tree for Jesus." Some Earth First!ers may be very proud of that, others may hold their mouths agape in horror. I was planning on singing "Who Bombed Judi Bari?" but the FBI essentially made a motion that limited the song I sang to one of three songs.

My lawyer, unfortunately, didn't fight hard enough to try to allow me to sing "Who Bombed Judi Bari?" and so we boxed ourselves into a corner and I wound up singing "Spike a Tree for Jesus." If I had it to do all over again, I would have sang "This Monkeywrench of Mine."

EF!J: It seems like the trial must have provided subject material for new songs. Do you have any ideas about what we might expect as a creative outcome?

DC: Toward the end of this year, I plan on writing a book about the story of the campaign to save Headwaters Forest. I plan on recording two more CDs, one of original music and one of parodies I've written.

When I create my next album, I do plan on having some new material. The trial was laden with humor and with creative inspiration. In fact, I've developed a new career as an improvisational stand-up comic. Almost every week, I'd get up on a stage to do a trial update and sort of spontaneously, I just started doing stand-up comedy lampooning the FBI and OPD. It wasn't hard.

Musically, I see the trial as being an incredible song. But as of this moment, I haven't had a single second to myself to rest, relax and compose my thoughts. So I do plan on taking a year to archive the history of what we've experienced, both through songs and literature. I also hope to make a movie.

EF!J: Let's talk about the stamina needed to endure such a tedious, drawn out process. The determination of yourself and the legal team certainly deserves recognition. What kept you going throughout the trial?

DC: When I first moved to Humboldt County, I made a pledge to myself that if I was going to start a campaign to take on Charles Hurwitz and to protect some ancient redwoods, then I would see that campaign through to the end.

Of course, I didn't think the Headwaters campaign was going to take at least 16 years. I didn't think that we would get bombed and have a lawsuit that would take 12 years.

When it comes down to the stamina to endure the six weeks of trial and the three-and-a-half weeks of jury deliberation, I can attribute it to the incredible support team and network that backed this trial up.

And of course, we had the inspiration of Judi Bari, who was a very magnetic personality and charismatic leader. I will use the word "leader." She led a lot of people to do the right thing by ex-

ample. That is what leaders do: they lead by example, not by telling other people what to do.

I think there was just the moment itself—that we had to get through this; that we worked all this time. You know, hardship has been endured for lifetimes, whether you are a Palestinian refugee living in a decrepit camp or whether you're a spotted owl looking for a home. Lasting six weeks through a trial is relatively mild compared to the suffering that people and creatures go through in this world. Putting it in perspective really helped me get through this.

Then, our lawyers were thoroughbreds; they were like racehorses. They were built for the long haul. Alicia Littletree, who lived with Judi Bari off and on for seven years, was the Zen paralegal. Nothing would phase her. If anybody ever saw the movie "White Men Can't Jump" with Woody Harrelson, Alicia was in "the zone."

So I think a lot of things kept this lawsuit together for that entire time. What actually almost broke our spirit was the jury deliberation. People were going pure nuts with nothing to do. Waiting was much harder on the psyche than going through the trial. Earth First!ers aren't used to doing nothing.



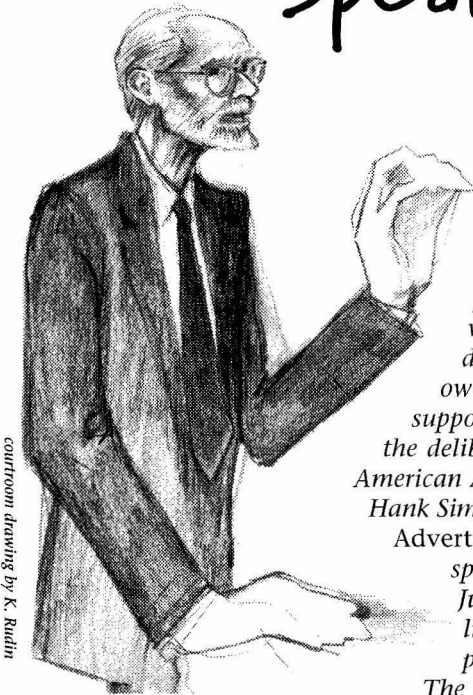
Alicia Littletree and Dennis Cunningham at the Fiddle Down the FBI rally on May 24

photos by Geoff Oliver Brughe

continued on page 40

Speaking Truth to Power

An Interview with Juror Mary Nunn



courtroom drawing by K. Rudin

The only juror who has thus far agreed to discuss the EF! vs. the FBI trial with the media in any detail, was, by her own reckoning, the staunchest supporter of the Earth First! case in the deliberation room. She works for American Airlines.

Hank Sims, with the Anderson Valley Advertiser, had the opportunity to speak with juror Mary Nunn in July after Judge Claudia Wilken lifted the gag order she had previously placed on the jury. The following is an excerpt from that conversation.

AVA: *One thing that was interesting about the verdict: In every instance where you found for both Judi and Darryl, you ended up awarding Judi more money.*

Nunn: I didn't agree with that. I didn't agree with the money at all. I wanted very high money. I wanted \$40 million—I didn't want that low number. But the richest woman on our jury—the one that wore the Rolex—only wanted \$100,000. And we did an average. That's why the number dropped so severely.

AVA: *Were some of the FBI people you saw on the stand scarier than others?*

Nunn: I wouldn't say so much scary. I wouldn't want to be them when they go to meet their maker, how's that? They can do whatever they want on this Earth. My only consolation is that I won't share Heaven with folks like that.

In contrast, you had the people of Earth First!. They come and take the stand. No arrogance at all. When they spoke of things, when they reflected on their projects and their plights, they didn't have all that anger and crud going on. When actually, they were more deserving of it.

They were different people. They were a people that exuded love, warmth and good feeling, and you could feel that from across the room. I didn't have to shake their hands or know their names. I felt that in the room. That's all they had.

They just weren't the type. These people protect our environment. The things we take for granted are their whole way of life. That doesn't go hand-in-hand with going out and bombing somebody. People who go so far to protect a tree,

they wouldn't dare hurt something that's got blood flowing through it. It doesn't fit!

They were beautiful! I wanted to run away and become one of them. I'm not kidding! I mean, I was really impressed. They were just beautiful people. They were gorgeous. I was checking them out to and from the courtroom. They were great people. One time I was in line waiting to get in, and they were concerned about Darryl getting his diabetic medication. Did he have a sweet? They brought him a bagel, they said. And I said to myself [whispers], "That's gorgeous."

[Supporters in the courtroom] took time out of their day—they gave up their income, they were there every day. They were faithful, they were loyal. Who's got friends like that? I've got one or two, but I don't have a 150. What does that say about this? That he doesn't have good spirit and good character, to have people such as that? That come every day? Those FBI agents didn't have that.

I adored the whole group. I adored Darryl Cherney, I adored the beautiful daughter [Lisa Bari]. I'm feeling very cheated that I never got the pleasure of absorbing Judi Bari within the courtroom. I felt doubly cheated—and so did many others of us—that we couldn't go and meet with them after the verdict and celebrate with them.

I cared deeply about what was going to happen to them. As a matter of fact, when I was driving home I used to say, out loud, "I got your back, Judi. It ain't going to go down the way they think it is." I used to say this on the way home, and I don't even know her, do you know what I'm saying? But did I want to fight for her? Yeah, you better believe it.

AVA: *That's amazing.*

Nunn: It's not amazing at all. You gotta stand for something or you're going to fall for anything. When you see evil and you see good, you'd better get with the good. I think we're accountable for our actions, in the end. And not only that—do you want me to tell you the most important thing of all?

AVA: *What's that?*

Nunn: A lot of people don't know this. It just feels good. There's no better high in all the world than to do good. It warms your whole heart up. You carry it with you all day, and you can't even buy a drug that will give you that.

In Memory of an Earth Warrior

Beth O'Brien

On April 13, 22-year-old Beth "Horehound" O'Brien died in a fall from a tree at Eagle Creek, near Portland, Oregon. We are, as a community, still grieving at the loss of our friend. This is a statement written by her partner, Hank. Horehound, we love you.

—CASCADIA FOREST ALLIANCE



What's there to say for someone that's dead? For someone who has had such an impact on my life, as a friend, as a lover. We rode the rails together, ran from cops together, stood up to the cops and looked them in the eye, drank and made love like we were mad (and we were—mad for each other). We

other all night and laughed hysterically. We held each other all night and cried.

If you survive me

Tell them this:

I never gave up

I drank, ate, I made love

I learned to snatch whatever I could

I never asked for pity, and I never gave up

I crawled in the mud, but never gave up

—Chumbawamba

bickered in a way that was operatic. We held each

She was like a ball of lightning, energetic, passionate and caring, always up to some mischief. She was utterly gorgeous and never believed me when I told her so, a result of the abuse she suffered

as a child and the influence of all the magazine ads, billboards and beer commercials. We were both scared little kids in a mean world. We'd been hurt real bad, so we understood each other like that. We followed that lonesome whistle that tugs on every hobo's heart, ran away together and did all the things that punk kids do when they're head over heels in love. That was the thing we did together, and it was magic.

Yesterday, we put Beth in the ground. I made an offering of a flower, a safety pin and a tear. I sang to her about trains and dying (you probably know the song), then said goodbye. Horehound, Hazel, Kiwi, Dumpster Leg, I will always carry your memories, tell your stories, sing your songs, fight your good fight and share the love you taught me to share.

XOXOXO Forever,

—HANK

The Ballad of Beth O'Brien

BY DESERT RAT

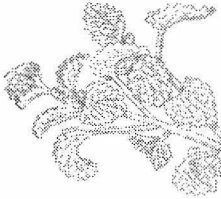
Last night I dreamt I walked along Willamette riverside
I dreamt I saw a freight train with a boxcar open wide
It rolled across the water on a track of rippling blue
And that car was full of travelers, and some with names I knew
There was Connelly, and Larkin, and our Emma on that train
Fred Hampton, Judi Bari, Old Joe Hill and Gypsy Chain
And Carlo Giuliani, and beside that martyr true
I saw a grinning Beth O'Brien and I shouted "I love you"
Well I don't know if she heard me through the rumble and the roar
As they turned down the Columbia and for the ocean tore
Then a shrieking shrill alarm clock chained me to another day
And so I tried to recollect each word I ever heard her say

Chorus (intersperse amongst verses as needed)


Beth O'Brien is dead and gone,
We the living must carry on
She said people should take better care of one another
All around the dumpster pike
Upon a pink and sparkly bike
To bring the food unto the squats and houses that were hungry

Beth O'Brien is dead and gone,
We the living must carry on
She took care of everyone around her like a mother
Now she rides the martyr's train,
Beyond the lightning and the rain
And what before was just a name is now a word of honor







Well she was a Teamster's daughter and a fighter for her land
Likewise a working woman with a young and calloused hand
And a brave and bold musician of the lyric and the string
And the songs of working people were the songs she learned to sing
Well she told of how her father came home one day off the road
With a puppy that he'd rescued from starvation, rain and cold
In a ditch beside a truckstop, Bumfuck Egypt USA
And it's that honest plain compassion that Beth passed along each day
Well the train tracks and the highways of this country she did roam
With the many kids who learn to call abandoned spaces home
And her mascot was the healing herb that grows in troubled ground
And so the people around Portland knew her by the name Horehound




Well she wasn't loud in meetings, and she'd rarely take a stand
But she always did the right thing when the shit would hit the fan
And she never stood for bullshit from the likes of me and you
Or from the hippy dippy kinda yuppie nambie pam woo woo
In Santa Rosa, Food Not Bombs was founded by her crew
That the travelers might eat some healthy food as they passed through
And she left this world a notebook that she kept for homes not jails
All about the places kids can stay who travel on those rails
She was at T6 the day we blocked the fascist cargo cans
With a picture of young Carlo Giuliani in her hands
When the tyrants forced the homeless camp of Dignity to yield
Beth O'Brien kept the vigil on the Naito parkway field



Beth quit the last job that she worked to save her little pay
That Eagle Creek our watershed might live for one more day
Six miles through the snowdrifts and up to the canopy
An exhausted Beth O'Brien slipped and fell out of the tree
Well the sit had been maintained in shifts well into its third year
And it now was only hours away from victory and cheer
But just as honest picket lines are kept until the end
So too those trees would not be empty 'til the ink flowed from the pen
Why do the brunt of struggles always fall upon the young
Why must young workers risk their lives for others yet to come
And the ground upon that mountainside is hallowed where she fell
Oh long live the grove at Eagle Creek that Horehound loved so well



Now I have been told that old Joe Hill cried "ready, aim and fire"
As he bravely faced his firing squad and spat on their empire
Beth's martyrdom is equal but the words are less profound
Because I bet you she just said "oh, fuck" when she met with the ground
Where are the songs for martyrs who were never fierce in war
Whose honor was in cookies, hugs and backrubs for the sore
And the thing she taught me that I most would like to pass along
Is that it's the hardest folks to write about who most deserve their song
Now the living should not try to guess what's in the martyr's cup
But I hope that Beth and Carlo Giuliani might hook up
If they're riding the same freight train and they died within one year
And even if it's just some stupid dream, I hope they brought some beer



Goddess bless you Beth O'Brien for the courage you have shown
For to risk your mortal body that was only flesh and bone
And the 22 years that you gave this world make me cry
Oh Beth O'Brien with a quarter of your honor may I die
A curse upon those traitors in the USD of A
Who'd sell our 50-generation legacy away
And we will not rest 'til victory and vengeance are at hand
Long live Horehound, Beth O'Brien, death unto the corporate man

(Repeat first verse, suddenly bursting from folk to punk, preferably
screaming at top of lungs)

Why We Sit in Trees

BY CHIMPY #2

After a while, you tend to forget the reason you're treesitting. It is a natural reaction. You internalize the political and economic causes for the action because nothing can really challenge the reasoning behind saving the trees. If it wasn't for legislation drawn up at the last minute, cutting these trees would be totally illegal anyway. Even by their laws. The US Forest Service's (USFS) representatives, strutting around with their cell phones, sidearms and SUVs, know they're just taking orders, as the law enforcement branch of a bureaucracy in which they are mere statistics. They're not paid to think for themselves. But for Funky Tree Defending Anarchists, it's just the opposite. We need no excuses, no salary, to do this. We know we're right.

Sometimes people come to visit for a little while, and if they stay longer than a day or two, the rhythms of living here start to sink in. Folks get used to our funny slang, using buckets for toilets, carving the gooey part out of old produce, climbing from tree to tree. And I think people start to realize the inner secret of treesitting: to simply be. Life here is full of all the ordinary things—eating, cooking, keeping dry and warm, reading and cleaning. Once, a reporter from MTV came up into the Sunset treesit and seemed really disappointed. We weren't plotting the downfall of civilization, we weren't a bunch of revolutionaries with guns and balaclavas, just folk of a Zen-like anarchism who wanted... well, fruit juice and maybe coffee without grits in it. Sure, there's a picture of Noam Chomsky on the shrine, but we don't quote him all day. Reasonable people who know the facts support us.

I think that's also the big challenge—to overcome the lack of hyper-stimulation found in the city and learn to face life itself.

And then, when the novelty of being in the trees wears off, to realize that this is an amazing, atypical, beautiful life and every second is a gift from the creator, the goddess, the Great Spirit, the forest. It's when you realize this that you suddenly understand it all, surrounded by the treetops, listening to the birds and the squirrels, the creek downhill and the wind all around you. We're not here because of the logging company, the Freddie's or even George W. Bush. We're here because if you took away everything humans have created, this is what it would be like, this is the womb we all came from, it is the world born

rather than constructed. Just like the secret to treesitting—this forest is the key to life.

This may sound overly trippy or New Agey, and I'd bet most would expect tales of Freddie raids, daring high-flying acrobatics, tales of gruel and vomit and wonder in the treetops. That's all there, of course, but all the craziness that goes on isn't so crazy at the time. I can remember going across the traverse line to the tree named Barkin' Dog

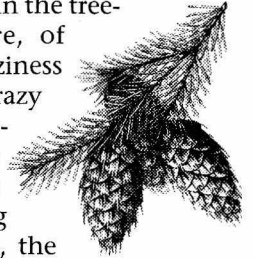
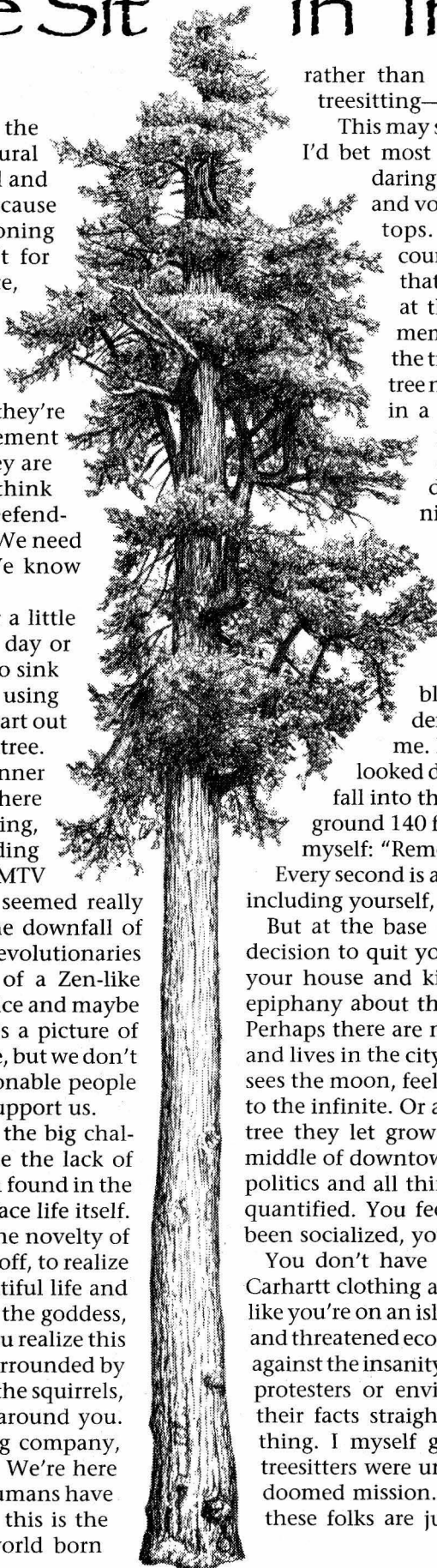
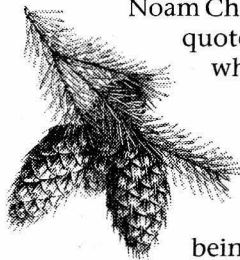
in a snowstorm once, the icicles already formed on the line, snow collecting on my hoodie, weighing down the boughs all around me. It was nighttime but just about light enough to see a few feet in each direction. I shuffled sideways, fingers numb, lines frozen solid, feet slipping on frozen snow, my mind on the little igloo of a treesit about five yards away—shelter, warmth of wool blankets and the candle's glow. Suddenly I stopped and looked all around me. I looked up, snow flying in my face. I looked down, watching pieces of snow and ice fall into the fog, through the boughs and to the ground 140 feet below. And I suddenly thought to myself: "Remember this forever. This is a blessing.

Every second is a blessing, and you owe it to everyone, including yourself, to cherish it all."

But at the base of it all, once you've made the big decision to quit your job, dump your car, move out of your house and kiss your normal life goodbye, is an epiphany about the world that I think everyone feels. Perhaps there are moments when someone who works and lives in the city looks up between the buildings and sees the moon, feeling a sense of longing or connection to the infinite. Or a tug of empathy for some struggling tree they let grow between the concrete slabs in the middle of downtown. It's a connection that supersedes politics and all things human, one that can't really be quantified. You feel it because no matter how you've been socialized, you're still a creature of this Earth.

You don't have to be a crusty punk anarchist with Carhartt clothing and tattoos to come out here and feel like you're on an island of sanity surrounded by clearcuts and threatened ecosystems. And I think people who work against the insanity of logging ancient forests aren't even protesters or environmentalists, just folks who have their facts straight and are doing the logical, ethical thing. I myself got into this campaign feeling that treesitters were unrealistic extremists, crazy folks on a doomed mission. But over time I came to realize that these folks are just people, faced with unreasonable

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Cascadia

BY TREE SPRITE

Hey, Forest Disservice: You just can't keep Cascadians out of the trees! In a period of two-and-a-half weeks, from June 24 to July 10, four new treesits have gone up in the greater Cascadia bioregion, making a total of six treesits to kick-off a Summer of "Treesit Mania." Treesitters are also doing the work you're supposed to be doing before you put a forest up for slaughter—surveys and searches for threatened species. In the past several years, the 17-year-old art of treesitting has climbed to new heights in the search for rare upper canopy species whose presence could potentially cancel these timber sales (see *EF!* December-January 2002). Forest folk across the region are stepping up their campaigns to protect public lands in response to the forest pillaging agendas of the Bush Administration.

Horehound and Eagle Treesits

The Cascadia Forest Alliance (CFA) announced a new treesit July 10 in a 350-year-old Douglas fir tree named Horehound, in memory of treesitter Beth O'Brien. They are poised to defend 216 acres of old growth from clearcutting in the Solo Timber Sale in

the Mount Hood National Forest near Portland, Oregon. "We want the logging companies to know before they buy the sale that it is no longer acceptable to commercially log public lands. We will be using nonviolent civil disobedience to protect this ancient forest," said CFA's Sally Smith.

Treesit

The Solo Timber Sale contains some of the largest unprotected trees left in the Clackamas River Ranger District, as well as some of the oldest Pacific yews in the entire Mount Hood area. In the Spring, a rare lichen, the old-growth speckle belly, was found. After the US Forest Service (USFS) was notified, it put a one-acre buffer around the site, yet refused to conduct any additional surveys.

CFA will also continue to maintain the Eagle Creek tree village until the USFS follows through on the sale's official cancellation.

Berry Patch, Blodgett, Winberry & Fall Creek Treesits

Cascadia Forest Defenders (CFD) have been challenging the Berry Patch and Blodgett Timber Sales in the Willamette National Forest near Eugene, Oregon, and continue to maintain the nearly

four-year-old Winberry tree village. They are also treesitting in the remaining two units of the Clark Timber Sale, also known as the Fall Creek treesit.

A new treesit appeared in Unit 3 of Berry Patch on July 3, where active logging was taking place. Many of the trees that had been cut within this sale were four to six feet in diameter. During a cat and mouse session with loggers on July 8, an activist was nabbed by law enforcement, while loggers directed racial slurs at him. He has been released, but law enforcement has up to a year to formally charge him.

Meanwhile, activists videotaped a Northern spotted owl pair and a pair of

Mania

fledglings in Unit 3. After information was relayed to the USFS, a biologist validated the presence of the owl. On July 11, the USFS refused to stop logging in the area, claiming it had issued an "incidental take" permit back when the sale was drawn up in 1997.

In mid-July, USFS officers blocked supporters bringing food and water to the womyn occupying the Berry Patch treesit. Basil resisted but was finally starved out of the tree, and the USFS cut the remaining forest.

By the light of the full moon on June 24, CFDers climbed 140 feet up a mammoth Douglas fir near Cottage Grove, Oregon, in the Blodgett Timber Sale and set up a treesit. By the weekend, climbers had found an active red tree vole nest—which, if verified, would require the entire 10-acre block of forest surrounding it to be left uncut. If this sale is finalized, it would become a replacement volume sale. This means it would be offered to Roseburg Forest Products in place of an Oregon coast timber sale that was canceled after endangered marbled murrelets were found nesting nearby.

This is just the beginning of the Summer months, and rain or shine, Cascadians are fully prepared to actively wait out the USFS with a potent combination of treesitting, paperwrenching and other time-tested tactics. USFS: Consider yourself warned!

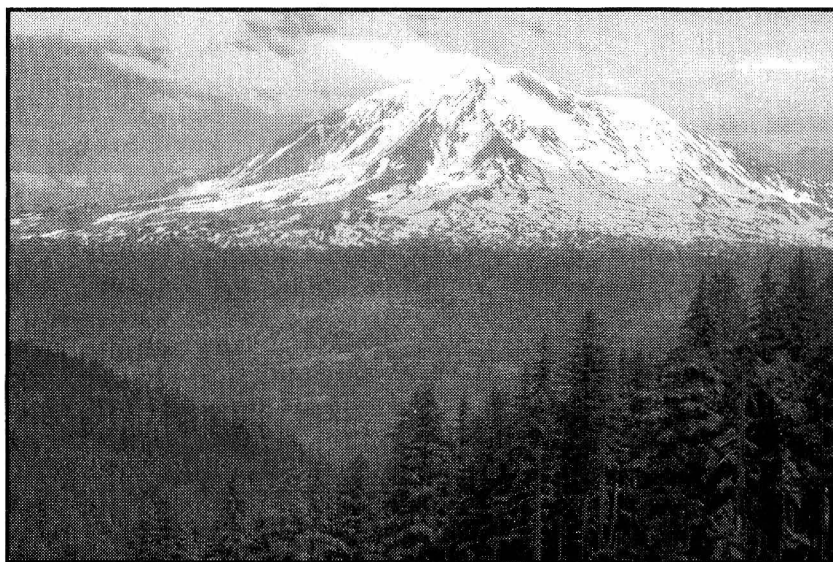
Tree Sprite is a computer-slinging forest activist who has a thing against the USFS.



An old-growth Douglas fir forest, before and after clearcut logging

It's Great to Feel Small in a Big Place **Round River Rendezvous 2002**

The site of this year's Round River Rendezvous (RRR) was at the edge of the Dark Divide Roadless Area, 35 miles north of the Columbia River in Washington's Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Our encampment, high on a ridgetop, overlooked the largest unprotected, contiguous area of old-growth forest remaining in southwest Washington. One could look to the right past the clearcut and see Mount Adams, while straight ahead Mount Rainier watched from a distance. If someone



View of Mount Adams from the RRR site

From morning coffee circles to rowdy campfires, there was always something interesting happening in this evergreen place.

missed the turn to the RRR site onto Forest Service Road 90, they were met with the volatile glory of Mount St. Helens.

This year, the RRR schedule was filled with the standard fare, from climbing trainings to primitive skill discussions. There were also more in-depth workshop tracks on radical legal skills, movement building and medical skillshares. From morning coffee circles to rowdy campfires, there was always something interesting happening in this evergreen place.

Folks sat down with the *Journal* collective throughout the week to give their impressions on this year's RRR and the future of the radical environmental movement.

One womyn who lived 30 miles southeast of the site heard about the RRR from the local media coverage and came to see what Earth First! was all about. "I think the RRR is really informative and a great place to get in touch with things going on locally and nationwide. I think that the energy here is really good for the most part. There are a lot of passionate people here, which is great," she said.

Mookie, whose first RRR was in 1999, hopped freight to get to Washington in his search for that "elusive sense of solidarity that comes when radical direct action folks come together. Because most often we're a pretty isolated

demographic, we are dispersed to our own bioregions. It's great coming together and just seeing the faces of other people who have a similar level of commitment."

Another womyn from southernmost Cascadia came to the RRR because she lives in a really rural area. Despite being involved for six-and-a-half years, she said she had only been to one other rendezvous. "They are usually during campaigns, and I can't get to them. I'm hoping to gain in the area of coalition

building, get involved with other people who are doing the kind of things I'm doing."

Croatan from Eugene, Oregon, had a somewhat different agenda. "I came to promote ideas of green anarchy and to push the movement in a little more radical direction. I'm glad people are protecting individual forests in whatever way they feel necessary, yet, I feel they need to go further. I think there are some individuals within the EF! movement that feel we need to go further in our critique of civilization, the state and the ecological devastation all around us. In general, though, I feel that EF! is a scene rather than movement. I still consider myself to be an EF!er, but I think I need to be more autonomous right now.

"We are a part of this machine. Every day that we're in it, we're further away from life. I want to encourage people to connect to life and what they need to survive, because civilization is going to fall whether we do anything about it or not. I try to create as much chaos as I can and break down symbolic ways of perceiving the world around me. I am attempting to go wild, that's where I'm coming from," he continued.

Sluggo, whose first RRR was in the Jemez Mountains of New Mexico in 1988, came instead for "catharsis, spirit and

photo by Dave Parks

community. That's what keeps me coming back, a chance to see good people. It's great to feel small in a big place. It's where sanity lives really, it always has."

He talked about the many directions the movement has taken and what to expect in the future. "It's hard to say what direction it would go in that it hasn't already tried. At least 10 years ago, it was a lot more focused on strictly wilderness stuff. And when I got involved, it had just started broadening out to urban, social justice issues, animal rights and you name it. I don't know if this movement will call itself the same thing 20 years from now, or if it will be five or six different movements. One can only hope."

The womyn from southern Cascadia saw a similar trend, "It seems to me like the movement is getting a lot more urban. It's definitely dealing with a lot of issues besides environmental issues now, like solidarity issues and social issues, feminism and things like that. So it seems like it's getting a lot more well-rounded in a way. I'm hoping that it doesn't lose the basis of wilderness protection and is able to incorporate those other cool issues at the same time. I feel like the situation in the world is getting worse and worse, so I hope the movement gets bigger and bigger."

Many folks were enthusiastic about the medical training and movement building tracks in the workshop schedule. One womyn who was experiencing her second RRR said that she really liked the track setup. "It's building upon knowledge, not just giving you beginner knowledge and telling you to get the rest of the information somewhere else. We discussed where the movement is going, looked at different methods used and where the movement has been

in the past. Expanding people's consciousness is definitely important, building off the fact that these are not extremist values, that people do value the Earth.

"I also attended the gender workshop, we talked about transgender issues within the movement and how to work on deconstructing oppression on those issues. All oppressions are connected. It's difficult to build a strong movement if the people within it can't respect each other. This is our Earth, it's where we live. Everyone has to deal with the negative repercussions of the destruction of the Earth," she said.

Since activism can be overwhelming, we asked folks how they dealt with burnout. "Actually, living in the woods in a

nice area helps me to not burn out. I see a lot of clearcuts, but I can go to other places in my area where there aren't clearcuts. And also having a garden, stuff like that. When you feel yourself burning out, I think it also helps to take breaks, to have only minor burnouts, instead of a major one," said one activist. Another commented that being surrounded by strong people who feel passionate about life was important, "So when you are starting to drag and wondering why you're here, they can remind you. Also,

enjoying the beauty in the world around you is a reminder."

Eight-year-old Heather from Granite Falls, Washington, who attended her first RRR when she was four, reminded us why the work we do is so important: "Trees—they are special in a way. If we didn't have them, nothing would be here. I want to be part of saving wilderness, when I'm older especially. I wrote a letter to Bush and Congress about saving trees. I said it's important to keep trees. If we don't have trees, then there would be no animals. If there were no animals, then there would be no us."

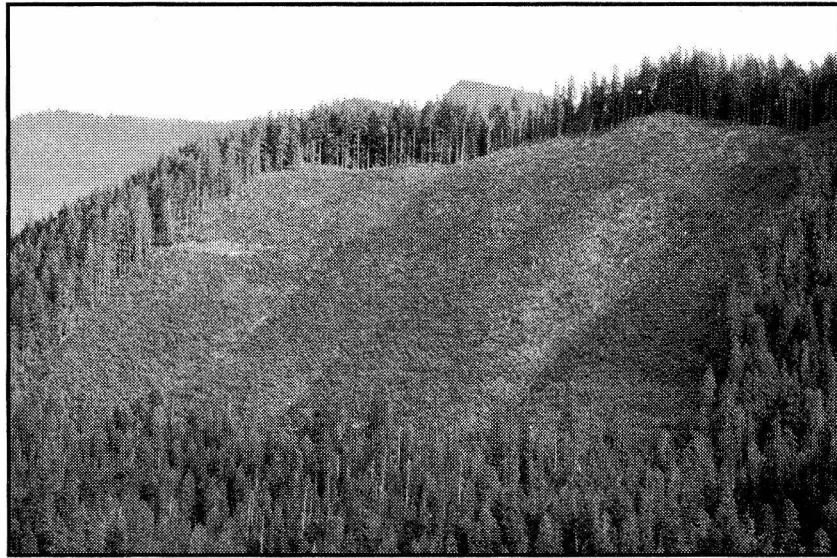


Photo by Dave Parks

Looking at the RRR site from a nearby waterfall

The RRR is a great place to get in touch with things going on.

There are a lot of passionate people here, which is great.

RRR Actions Rock Cascadia

BY TIM REAM

Imagine: seven teams, in four cities, simultaneously acting against three targets in two states with nearly 300 Earth Firsters. Was this a dream? Hardly—this describes the post-Round River Rendezvous (RRR) actions in Cascadia on July 8.

Moving from south to north, start in Medford. In this bastion of old-boy Earth destruction, 35 activists occupied Senator Ron Wyden's office, refusing to leave until they were guaranteed a meeting with the man. Their immediate concern was the Peak Timber Sale in the Rogue River National Forest outside of Crater Lake National Park. This

timber sale would destroy valuable pieces of the intact forest ecosystem in an area already severely over-logged. Wyden has claimed a desire to save mature and ancient forests but is not acting to protect Peak, which was due to be released by a federal judge just days after the protest.

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portland

BY DENNIS FRITZINGER

downtown portland at a building
yuppie, glassy, touristy,
terraced yards outside with grass and trees,
and flowers,
we marched in to the interior
through glass doors, swinging, revolving,
shops inside like in a mall
except smaller,
chanting our slogans, waving props,
carrying signs, carrying
a big stuffed smokey the bear
with a sign on his front,
tried to storm the elevators,
tried to storm the stairs—no go
when we got up to the 19th,
the one that was our goal.
a thunder of feet going down again;
confusion; more chants; customers,
employees, curious onlookers,
passing through like fish through water.
then the band: *Loud!* but disciplined,
musicians dressed in basic black,
carrying nothing more dangerous
than a musical instrument.
stern faced, confused portland cops
mill around; stand to one side;
confer; then suddenly without warning
tackle at least three of the musicians.
whatever martial arts they teach them
at the police academy
seems to work through their everyday haze
of coffee and doughnuts:
they overpower their targets,
victims, spraying them with pepper spray
point blank. but the spray doesn't stay
where it's intended,
lifts into the atmosphere,
visiting all the people standing around
rubbernecking like an average tourist,
or participating in the demo.
i coughing choking look for an exit—
blue arms are locking doors on one side,
like a squirrel i head to the other—
where coyote waits.
i make it, collapse under green trees
with one person that i know;
a heckler comes by to inform us
we've chosen the wrong target.
you should choose the forest service, he says;
we do, is the reply.
you use toilet paper, don't you? he responds,
and stalks off.
yes, i use toilet paper,
recycled, but i could use water

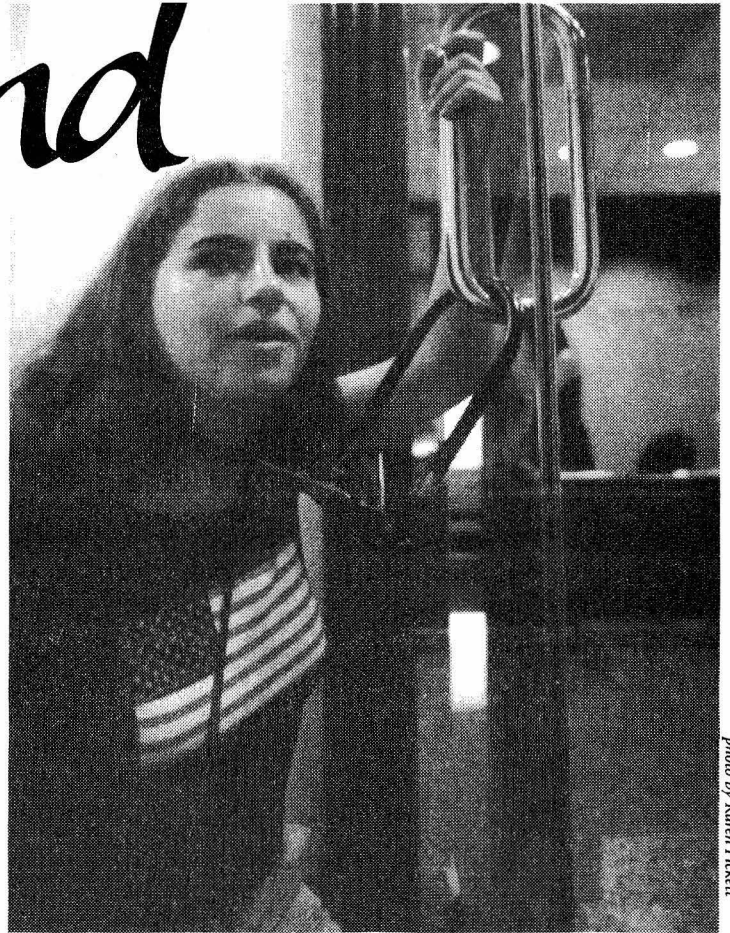


photo by Karen Pickett

like they do in france, and anyway
you use oxygen don't you?
three people rushed without warning,
pepper spray sprayed into the eyes
and cheeks, an eight-year-old girl
hit on the head with a baton—
this is not collateral damage
this is a virulent campaign
to keep people scared and compliant
to make us shut up.
they write the rules and then they don't even
bother to obey them; we follow
the long, confusing lines of the law
better than they do, and get beat up
just the same, and come back.
why? because they're hired for a job,
and we do it solely for love
of the planet we were born on.
portland i got my first taste
of pepper spray, but i still remember
CS gas and how it tasted,
and the insidious chlorine.
portland's structures are still standing—
even the building where we held
our demo and got pepper sprayed—
everything built by trade and commerce,
ripping off the land, destroying forests,
wildlife, everything, just like a plague;
portland looks very much the same.
but is it really?

RRR Actions Rock Cascadia

protests hit four cities, continued...

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The "purchaser" of the Peak Timber Sale is the big-time bad boy of Oregon old growth logging: Allyn Ford, owner of Roseburg Forest Products (RFP) (see page 44). So while the southern Cascadians were pressuring Wyden, 30 people in Eugene were dumping wood chips inside the front door of the bank we call "stUmpqua," blocking the driveway with a stump and flyering the customers of the Eugene branch.

Umpqua Holdings Corporation is headquartered on the 19th floor of a downtown Portland office building, just two quick hours from this year's RRR site. Imagine the Monday morning thrift store shopping spree: business wear for 22. Staff didn't know what hit them as we stormed into their penthouse offices and explained that public lands destruction by the chairman is bad for business all around. The two dozen in corporate drag were quickly joined by another 20 masked activists turning everything into a

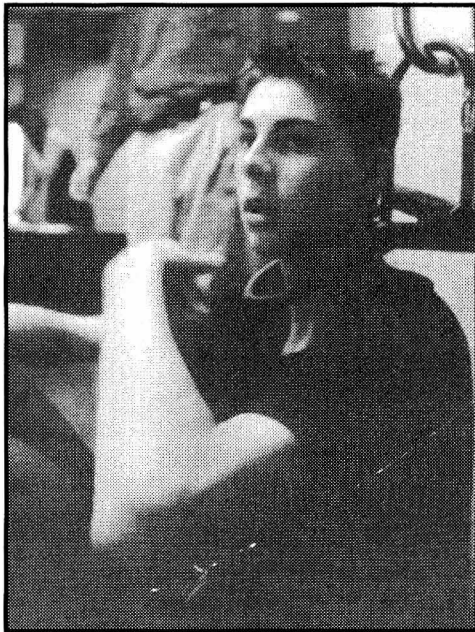


photo by Karen Pickett

drum. Embedded in the action was a poignant passing of the torch from old to young. Among the first wave were two defendants from the powerline toppling Arizona 5 case from the '80s: ever-present EF!er Peg Millett and Ilse Asplund, who returned for her first rendezvous in 15 years.

Please picture Peg on a desktop belting out an Earth ballad to the bank president. Carrying out the lockdown were 17-year-old Sasha Coulter and 16-year-old Adina, supported by veteran

EF!er Karen Pickett. Soon after the lockdowns were attached to the corporate headquarters, the Infernal Noise Brigade entered the downstairs lobby with drums, flags, whistles and a trombone. Without warning, and despite the dancing by lunchtime workers, the Portland Police Department tackled the brigade, pepper sprayed several and made four arrests. Due to police hyper-response, the entire 19-story office building was shut down for two hours. "Boycott Umpqua Bank: the Bank of Old Growth Logging" became an unmistakable media message across the entire state.

No sooner did the news story on Umpqua Bank come to a conclusion, than Portland (and all of Washington for that matter) learned of the fourth EF! action that day.

At dawn, three people locked down to drilling equipment to thwart attempts to install a gas pipeline in the Capitol State Forest just outside Olympia, Washington. Nine were arrested as drilling was suspended, and the issue was moved to the front page.

A clear indication of the success of the RRR was that people still gather by the hundreds under the banner "no compromise in defense of Mother Earth!" The day after clearly demonstrated that this is not just a slogan for a gathering, but a call to action that was heard by many.

Confused during early adulthood, Tim Ream voted for Ronald Reagan twice before realizing that the US was in fact the Evil Empire.

BARE BONES

House Votes to Gut ESA

Representatives Jim Hansen (R-UT), Richard Pombo (R-CA) and Greg Walden (R-OR) joined forces in their effort to weaken the Endangered Species Act (ESA) by introducing HR 4840, the Sound Science for Endangered Species Act Planning Act of 2002.

HR 4840 is a rehashed version of previous attempts to gut the ESA and would legislate what "science" can be used in ESA decision making. The ESA currently requires that all decisions use the "best-available science."

On July 10, the House Resources Committee passed HR 4840 by a vote of 22-18. Among other things, the bill requires the federal government to take into account the impact of an ESA mandate on the economy of a region, and it establishes a higher threshold for adding an animal or plant to the endangered species list.

Opponents do not expect the bill to pass the Senate.

Military Dodges Law

In a move that defense officials say is necessary for military readiness in the new war on terrorism, the House of Representatives has adopted a measure in the 2003 National Defense Authorization Act that exempts the military from environmental laws.

The Department of Defense (DOD) controls 25 million acres of land that provides sanctuary to 300 endangered or threatened species. The DOD claims its trainings have been seriously hampered by having to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and other laws. Environmental groups contend that the new exemptions passed the House because they were submitted in committee at the last minute as amendments to the larger bill.

The proposed measure will go before the Senate after its summer recess.

Barking Up the Right Tree

THE EASTERN FOREST DEFENSE DIRECT ACTION CAMP

BY CHRIS CREWS

At the end of May, I had the chance to hang out with more than 100 dirty, freaky, tree-huggin' activists in the backwoods of Indiana and talk about smashing the state. Was it fun!

Actually, most of us weren't that freaky, and we didn't smell all that bad. But the part about being that villous group known as "tree huggers" was most assuredly true.

Why exactly had we all gathered in Paoli, Indiana?

We came to strengthen and expand the grassroots network committed to defending what's left of the public forests in the eastern US. Under the auspices of an Eastern Forest Defense Direct Action Camp, we counted among our numbers some of the most talented environmentalists from midwestern, southern and eastern states.

The range of participants was amazing: from high school students to aging forest veterans. I found the week-long event especially exciting because the vast majority of both organizers and participants were between the ages of 18 and 32. The commitment and intensity that these enviro-campers exhibited was a slap in the face to those pathetic labels that pop culture tries to assign this generation.

When I arrived, there was nothing but a large field with mowed paths and an old barn. By the end of the week, we'd transformed the space into a fully functioning direct action training facility, complete with a full field kitchen, outdoor restrooms and an impressive network of climbing structures in the tree canopy.

Each day we hauled drinking water from the spring, collected firewood for that evening, discussed the state of the world and picked a lot of ticks off of our bodies. Besides, there's nothing quite like a week of camp food, especially the food at this camp, to make you think you're in heaven.

But we weren't there in search of nirvana. To save the forests in the East, we knew we'd have to create new coalitions, learn new skills and make commitments to protect not only our own bioregions, but the entire eastern forest region.

Were we successful?

I believe so. There were a tremendous number of workshops on protecting our public lands, ranging from legal action in the courts to direct action in the forests. Everyone from community radio gurus to nonprofit lobbyists talked strategy on eastern forest defense and the different roles they were playing to further forest protection efforts.

While the camp was very serious at times, it was also quite playful. One of the running jokes for the week was that the "Rebs" in the South and the "Yanks" from the North were finally starting to work together. The camp mascot, if we were to have had one, would have been "Deerdr," the local deer. She was an orphan raised by some of the folks who live on the land there, and she acted more like a dog than a deer. It was quite a sight to see her licking people and chasing the dogs around the field.

One particularly heartening aspect of the week was the activists' willingness to abandon the internecine battles that plague the Left. Radical and more mainstream environmental organizations worked diligently to find common ground. Both groups recognized that protecting the remaining forests is more important than their different organizing approaches and that lawsuits combined with direct action are a formidable challenge to the timber industry.

Participants had a chance to learn how to use nonviolent civil disobedience, community organizing, lobbying, tree climbing, radio communication, guerrilla economics, paperwrenching, stealth

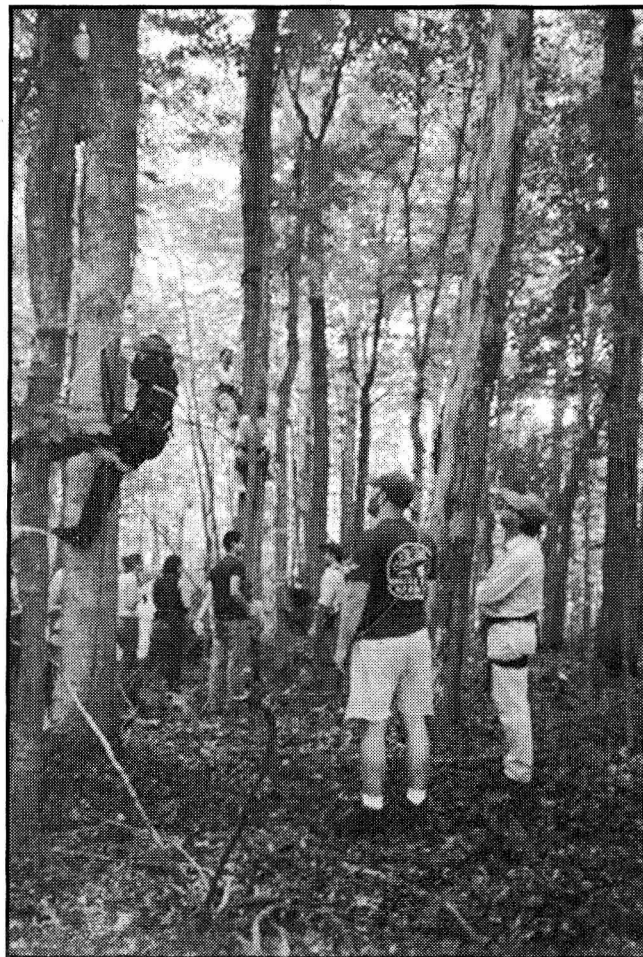


photo by Susan Curry

Skills such as tree climbing will play an important role in protecting eastern forests in the future.



photo by Susan Curry

Activists had a chance to use their workshop skills during a mock action the last day of camp.

movement, group security, blockading and many other skills to protect public lands. All told, people came out of the camp with new skills and networks, focused on protecting the eastern public forests as a whole.

If this sounds like a daunting task, it is. It is not, however, an insurmountable one. Stopping logging on public lands means that activists from different bioregions must work together, because even a relatively simple timber sale involves many states. For instance: A timber sale in Tennessee might involve a purchaser in Ohio, a processor from Pennsylvania and a final sale in Maine.

The need for a more effective and stronger forest protection movement can be seen in every public forest in the US. Multinational corporations such as Boise and Mead, working hand-in-hand with the US Forest Service (USFS), have turned public lands into black holes of destruction and mismanagement. As more companies move back to the East Coast, having finished their decimation of western lands, there are more timber sales, mountain-top removals and more natural resource exploitation projects occurring in the East. The eastern forests are already seeing large timber sales coming up for review or being actively cut.

For example, Ohio is currently revising its Forest Management Plan. When complete, it will set the destructive agenda for the Wayne National Forest for the next decade. Oil exploration,

off-road vehicle use and logging will only increase if it is not stopped.

A sign of what's to come is just next door. The East Side Timber Sale is the largest on any national forest in the eastern US. Located in Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest, it is a blueprint for the future of public land management if the timber industry has its way. As part of the sale, the USFS will permit more than 8,000 acres of logging, including 3,000 acres of clearcuts, 3,500 acres sprayed with toxic herbicide and 125 miles of road construction.

Will the public stand up and demand that their public lands be protected before it is too late? There is a threshold in our ecosystems that cannot be crossed without dire consequences to all life on this planet. We are rapidly approaching that point as the water, land and air become polluted and destroyed.

I refuse to watch my future be destroyed for profit. And I was honored to spend a week with many others who take the stance of "no compromise in defense of Mother Earth."

That was the goal of this hearty band of campers and the focus of future organizing. As more timber companies move in, so will the defenders of the forests, bringing our skills full-force against the corporations who profit from destroying our very lifeblood.

Chris Crews is the co-founder and executive editor of the Athens Town Crier, www.athenstowncrier.com.

BARE BONES

Double-cross at the Border

In San Diego County, California, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and the US Border Patrol are planning to complete the final stages of a three-tiered fence on a 14-mile-long swath of land at the US-Mexico border. The fence would run east from the Pacific Coast through a series of canyons and mesas.

This region is a hotspot for wildlife and a place where two cultures meet. The project will push migrants further east into mountainous and desert terrain, where many die each year crossing the border. It would also require significant amounts of destructive cut and fill earthwork in natural areas.

The one proposed alternative to the plan is not much different. For instance, in an area called "Smuggler's Gulch," fence construction would require cutting off the tops of mesas to fill the canyon. As a result, an estimated two million cubic yards of fill would eventually erode into the Tijuana Estuary.

The project's Environmental Impact Statement is due to be released in August.

Snitching on Monsanto

In May, Canadian organic farmer Marc Loiselle revealed the locations of two secret genetically modified (GM) wheat test sites operated by Monsanto.

Loiselle announced that there are test plots located in Saskatchewan at Agriculture Canada's Scott Research Farm and at the privately owned Ag-Quest Company. He learned about the locations from an agronomic committee he sits on.

There are 33 sites where Monsanto is testing GM wheat in western Canada.

Prior to Loiselle's exposé, the locations of the test plots were unknown to the public and the Canadian government.

WREF!ing Up the Forest Service

Activists Fight to Save the Bitterroot

BY DOGFOLKS

Fire! Burning, raging through 300,000 acres of forest. Killing, rejuvenating—the cycle of life... and death. This is a tale of fire's restoration of a forest, logging's destruction of a forest and Wild Rockies Earth First!'s (WREF!) campaign to save a forest.

The lines were drawn in 2000 when fire raged through the Bitterroot National Forest in Montana. Before the last embers had cooled, the US Forest Service (USFS) and its buddies in big timber had made their plans (see *EF!* May-June 2002). Soon after, environmentalists sold out, deals were made, and finally, nothing was left standing in the way of the destruction of the Bitterroot Forest but a handful of dedicated activists known as WREF!

Activists gathered for the campaign to save the Bitterroot during WREF!'s Wild Rockies Regional Rendezvous from May 21-24. After four days of awesome workshops, good food and better company, WREF! was up before the sun and on the road, ready to do business. They were off to see what the bunnies had left out in front of the Bitterroot National Forest supervisor's office. At the office, they



discovered two 55-gallon barrels of cement right in front of the main door. In moments, Redge Peterson was locked in and comfortable, ready to once again bring attention to the largest timber sale in Montana's history.

Hours later, the chief of police, the county sheriff and some lowly law

was that logging destroys, not restores, forests. Finally, after more than 11 hours of being locked down and the close of a not so "business-as-usual" day, Redge unlocked.

The local media attention and Redge's arraignment on charges of obstructing an officer kept us busy for a couple of days. Then, just as things started to slow down, two WREF! folks were up in the woods monitoring



the logging for a potential lawsuit when, lo and behold, they found the road blocked by a logging truck.

When the driver moved the truck five minutes later, the road was filled with county sheriffs. One of the activists questioned the officer who in turn asked for his identification and was promptly arrested for obstruction. The other WREF! member was detained for hours, until law enforcement officers showed up to explain that the sale had been closed to the public. Though signs weren't posted, the WREF! activist was instructed to call later in the week to see if the Freddie's wanted to arrest him.

Since the Bitterroot Area Recovery Plan's (BAR) inception, WREF! has been monitoring the areas slated to be logged. WREF! has recorded scores of violations, including trees cut inside buffer zones, illegally cut green trees and sedimentation from failing roads. The latest harassment from the USFS was just another attempt to keep WREF! from finding out what's really going on in the Bitterroot.

One week after Redge's arrest, WREF! began a three-day vigil in a maple tree outside of the federal building in Missoula in honor of the national day of action against Bush's Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey. Rey is responsible for exempting the Bitterroot timber sales from an administrative challenge or appeal. This exemption led to the controversial deal in which 60 million board feet of timber will be removed from



Redge, locked into barrels, in front of the Bitterroot National Forest office

enforcement officers started to wander up. They explained that we had to move ourselves and our structure across the parking lot. Redge declared that moving wasn't an option. The rest of the crew moved across the way, and the long afternoon was passed with singing, chanting and talking to the press. WREF!'s message

or two or ten) will be going on all week long.

Don't be a stranger. Last week, someone even told us that we're nice people. Remember how, right after Seattle, you wished you had gone? Don't make that mistake again! Exercise your thumb, hop a freight and if it comes to it, squish nine people into your Geo Metro. Free food will be provided by those great folks with Seeds of Peace.

For more information, or to let us know you're coming, contact WREF!, POB 1742, Missoula, MT, 59806; (406) 549-8863; wref@wildrockies.org.

*Wild Rockies Earth
First! presents*

**Wild Rockies Week
August 11-18**

Come to the Bitterroot for a week of resistance against the destruction of the Northern Rockies ecosystem. Wild Rockies Week will be a hoot and a holler. We'll put the public back in public lands and give the Freddie's an ulcer in the process. Workshops, skillshares, and of course other things (like maybe an action



The devastating effects of cable logging

photo courtesy: WREF!

14,000 acres of Bitterroot forest and roadless areas without appeal. Another 120 million board feet of timber remains on the table, its future unclear.

On June 16, WREF! learned that the USFS had made changes in the Bitterroot timber sale contracts that went against the Record of Decision from the BAR settlement and the Environmental Impact Statement. The changes were made through a loophole in the National Environmental Policy Act known as the 18.1 process, which allows the USFS to make major changes in their mediated plan of actions without notification of the parties involved in the mediation. These changes were made after WREF! activists met with Bitterroot Forest Supervisor Leslie Thompson and presented all of the BAR violations they had found. Amazingly enough, the 18.1 changes made all the violations legal.

One of the major changes allows Summer cable logging in the Little Bull Timber Sale. The USFS has justified the use of this destructive method of cable yarding during the Winter because soil damage supposedly does not occur if done over snow. The addition of Summer cable logging has already proven to be detrimental to the soil. Huge trenches have been created on hillsides, increasing the sedimentation of streams already affected by logging.

Eco-Defense is Self-Defense

In response to this USFS double-cross, WREF! jumped into action. On June 19, Stephanie Valle and Sean McCoy repelled from the Van Buren Street bridge in Missoula, Montana, on ropes anchored to a logging truck hauling trees from the Bitterroot. The Bitterroot banner hangers aimed to raise awareness of the cost of globalization in the local community. The banner that hung between them declared, "Global Capitalism Kills Our Forest."

An hour later, police removed the activists and charged them with felony criminal endangerment. After spending four weeks in jail, Stephanie and Sean were arraigned in District Court and released under strict conditions. Four other activists were arrested for stopping the logging truck and originally charged with disorderly conduct and blocking the roadway. Those charges have since been upgraded to felony accountability to criminal endangerment.

On July 8, WREF! took to the trees again when they learned about a proposed helicopter landing site in the Bitterroot. Live trees will be cut to clear the landing pad, which will be used for helicopter logging in the Little Bull and Big Bull Timber Sales. The activists who are occupying the new treesit are also protesting the destructive changes made through the 18.1 process and the multiple violations WREF! found in the Bitterroot.

These actions are just the beginning. Outreach is happening, people are discovering that the Bitterroot issue hasn't died and neither will the Bitterroot if WREF! gets its way. But we need your help. Join us in stopping what could be the greatest salvage scam of all time. Send donations. Or better yet, come to the wild Rockies and help save the last, best place.

The Dogfolks have been involved in EF! for more than 15 years and are thrilled to be a part of WREF! working on the sexiest campaign in America: the Bitterroot.



BARE BONES

Refugees in Waste Dump Homes will Die

On June 8, experts declared that thousands of refugees living on a chemical waste dump outside Durres, the main port in Albania, are condemned to liver disease and cancer from exposure to chromium VI. Many thousands more are in danger from eating fish from the Adriatic Sea contaminated with lindane, another carcinogen, washed from the dump.

Besnik Baraj, an Albanian chemistry professor and expert on chromium VI, said, "These children are bound to have kidney failure and liver cancer. It will take years, but it will come to all the people living here." Last year, the United Nation's Environment Program identified the dump as the worst environmental hotspot in the Balkans.

The chromium VI could easily be neutralized by treatment with iron, Baraj added. "We could probably cure the dump with 700,000 pounds. It seems so little." Three thousand people live in the contaminated area, and 10,000 use the water supply.

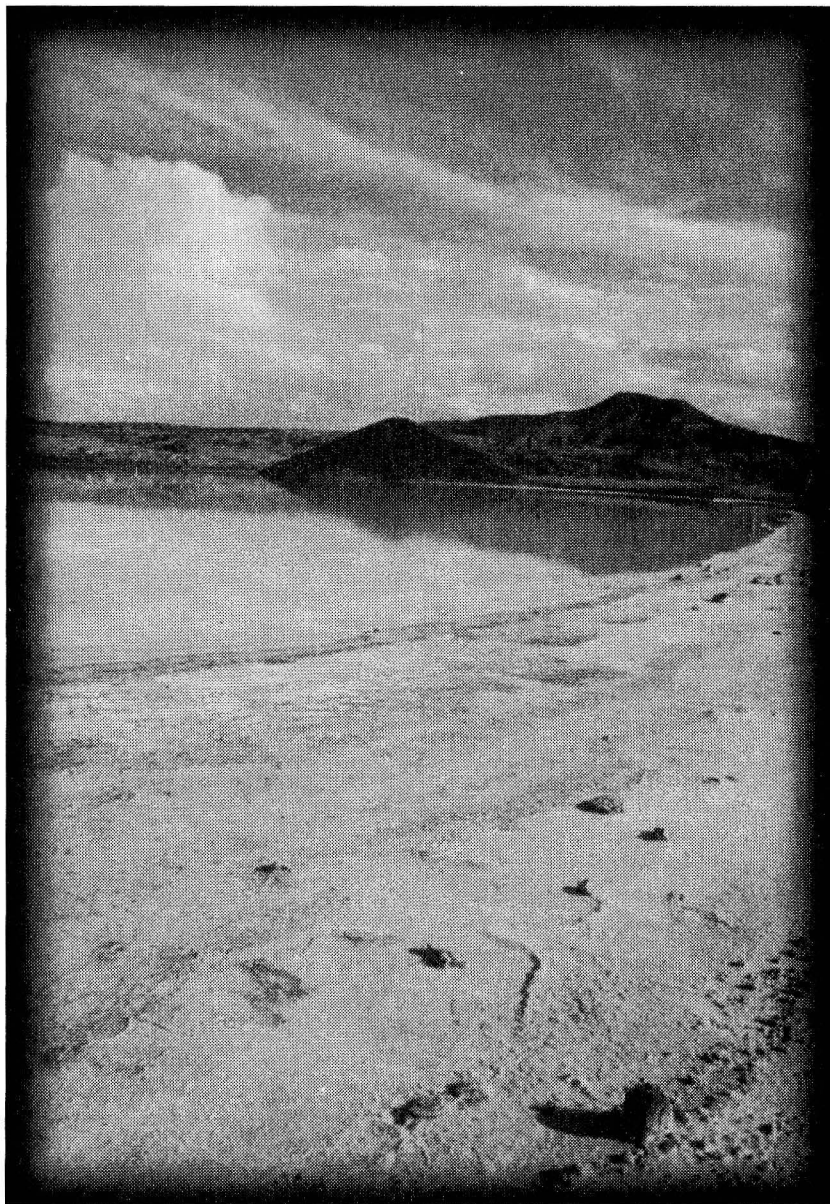
Vultures Die Mysteriously

Scientists are baffled over the disappearance of vultures in India. Throughout the 1980s, white-back and long-billed vultures were so numerous that it wasn't unusual to see hundreds circling a dump or sitting together in a tree.

Since the 1990s, however, thousands of healthy-looking vultures have died. Local people reported seeing some birds die in mid-flight and drop straight to the ground. By the late '90s, nearly 90 percent of the two species were gone.

Scientists are currently searching for a cause. They have ruled out pesticides since only vultures are dying, and toxins have not been found in the carcasses. "The only plausible cause is a disease factor," said toxicologist Robert Risebrough.

Massive Coal Mine Threatens



The sacred Zuni Salt Lake in New Mexico

BY BRYN JONES

Consistent with the Bush administration's partiality to the mining industry, on May 31, the Department of Interior (DOI) signed a plan that will allow coal to be mined from more than 18,000 acres throughout Cibola and Catron Counties in New Mexico. The Salt River Project (SRP), an Arizona-based electric utility and the third largest public utility in the US, seeks to operate the Fence Lake Mine on public, state and private lands. The state of New Mexico approved the mine in 1996, but mining could not begin until approval was received from the DOI. On three previous occasions, the DOI was prepared to issue a decision, yet

public pressure initiated by the Zuni Salt Lake Coalition prevented it.

Having been granted the necessary permission by the DOI, SRP now anticipates starting its mining operations by 2005. If we do not stop SRP in its tracks, it will drill, blast, scrape and rip through the Earth's surface to extract more than 80 million tons of coal during the next 40 years. For every ton of coal, 20 tons of soil and rocks will also be removed. In some areas, pits up to 240 feet deep will be carved out of the Earth. Coal from the mine will then be transported to the Coronado Generating Station in St. Johns, Arizona, where cheap electricity will be produced for SRP's customers in the greater Phoenix area. Surplus energy created by SRP will be sold to other western states.

SRP will also pump groundwater to remove coal that underlies the water table and to control dust kicked up by the mine. Currently, SRP proposes to pump 85 gallons per minute from the Dakota and Atarque aquifers, but it has rights to pump 900 gallons per minute. Both of these aquifers feed the Zuni Salt Lake, located only 10 miles from where groundwater will be pumped.

SRP claims that any impacts on the lake would be negligible. However, five hydrological studies completed since 1992 confirm that groundwater pumping at the mine will have a devastating impact on Zuni Salt Lake, a place sacred to many indigenous people.

Southwestern tribes, including the Zuni, Acoma, Laguna, Hopi, Diné and Apache, have traditionally made pilgrimages to Zuni Salt Lake to gather salt for ceremonial and domestic uses, as well as to seek spiritual guidance. It is the home of one of the Zuni's most important deities, Ma'lokyattsik'i, or "Salt Mother."

Long ago, Salt Mother lived closer to the Zuni Pueblo. It is said that she left her home there because the people were gathering salt without proper offerings and were then wasting it. She went to the lake, 60 miles to the south, so that the people would have to travel a further distance to gather salt. Ever since, the lake has been such an integral part of Zuni culture that in the Zuni language, the direction of south is referred to as Ma'k'yayakwi, or "the general direction of the Salt Lake." Salt Mother warned that if she was disrespected again, she would leave the Zuni forever.

On pilgrimages to the lake, tribes followed ancient salt-gathering trails through the ecologically rich and diverse area surrounding the lake, known as the "Sanctuary

photo courtesy: Citizens Coal Council

Zuni Salt Lake

Zone." Dominated by pinyon-juniper woodlands and desert grassland, the area's wildlife flourishes. Mule deer, bobcats and owls can be found taking cover under the trees, while pronghorn antelope, eagles and foxes utilize the open spaces. In underground tunnels, burrowing owls, prairie dogs and snakes thrive. During times of rain, lakes will appear, attracting shorebirds, waterfowl, toads and frogs.

Native peoples have long held a deep respect for this unique area. When traveling through the Sanctuary Zone, tribes would suspend their hostilities so that everyone could share in the sanctity of the Salt Mother.

Up until now, the proposed mine area has been left relatively undisturbed. The majority of the land is eligible for

people stay indoors with their lights off and window shades drawn. The significance of the curfew and ceremony at this point in time reflects the growing intensity in the struggle to stop SRP's Fence Lake Mine.

To the Zuni, this is a never-ending battle. The DOI purports to care about the lake, in addition to other critical cultural and environmental resources in the mine area. In its approval of the mine, the DOI prohibited SRP from using the Dakota Aquifer, and it is requiring that pump tests be conducted for the Atarque Aquifer.

This is not enough. The Zuni believe that protection of the lake and the surrounding Sanctuary Zone cannot be guaranteed in any way other than by completely rejecting the mine.

The Zuni believe that protection of the lake and the surrounding Sanctuary Zone cannot be guaranteed in any way other than by completely rejecting the mine.

inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places for its cultural and historical value. More than 500 human burial sites are located in the area, as are a multitude of shrines and archaeological sites. Yet, if SRP has its way, it will ravage the land so that it can profit off of ethnocidal coal.

The seriousness of the current situation compelled the Zuni to call upon a religious society from the Jemez Pueblo for help—something that has not happened in more than 20 years. During the last weekend of April, Jemez religious leaders traveled to Zuni to conduct a purification ceremony. Working together and involving everyone on the reservation in the ceremony, the tribes imposed a curfew throughout the Pueblo. Effectively shutting down the reservation, the religious ceremony mandated that

The Zuni are not alone in this fight. Formed in 2001, the Zuni Salt Lake Coalition—which includes the Zuni Pueblo, Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club Environmental Justice Program, Citizens Coal Council and the Water Information Network—is committed to preserving Zuni Salt Lake and the surrounding areas.

The coalition is mounting a massive organizing campaign to build grassroots support for the protection of Zuni Salt Lake. It will be sending a strong message to SRP that desecration of sacred sites and wild areas is unacceptable.

For more information, visit www.zunisaltlakecoalition.org.

Bryn Jones is a law student at the University of Arizona and an intern at the Center for Biological Diversity.

BARE BONES

HLS Drops Lawsuit

On July 8, Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) dismissed its multi-million dollar Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) lawsuit against several animal rights groups and individuals, after more than a year of litigation.

The dismissal sets a precedent for activists nationwide as Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty, the campaign organizing to close HLS, refused to back down in the face of legal bullying.

HLS and Stephens, Inc. were asking for punitive damages in excess of \$10 million. They also sought injunctive relief that would set time, place and manner restrictions on all protests against HLS and its affiliates. It is estimated that they spent more than \$650,000 in attorney fees.

HLS has been targeted by animal rights activists after five undercover investigations revealed a pattern of horrific animal cruelty. As a result of pressure from animal rights activists, Huntingdon has gone from a \$100 million dollar company to its current worth of \$10 million.

Headwaters Plan Released

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released its long-awaited Draft Management Plan for the Headwaters Reserve in early June. The plan outlines management and designation options for the 7,400 acres of redwood forest that were purchased from Maxxam/Pacific Lumber with state and federal funds during the 1999 Headwaters deal.

According to the Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters, the BLM's plan is "for the most part an ecologically sound, biologically sensitive approach. Yet potentially harmful activities are being considered. A prudent management approach must be adopted to prevent any negative ecological impacts from human activities."

Pickaxe Politics

BY KYLE REESE

Mining conglomerates continue to vye for gold, copper and the 10th largest zinc deposit in the world found at the proposed Crandon Mine in Wisconsin. Located next to the Mole Lake Chippewa Reservation at the headwaters of the Wolf River, an underground shaft mine would provide ore for about 25 years. It was near the Wolf River that hundreds of EF!ers gathered to defend the area from ExxonMobil in 1997 (see *EF!J* June-July 1997). The proposed mine has attracted EF! and mainstream criticism in Wisconsin like no other environmental issue, and now the state legislature is preparing to knock the mine out of existence.

In May, a coalition of environmental groups and Native tribes proposed that the state purchase the land and the mineral rights to create an ecological preserve. Though Wisconsin is presently facing budget shortfalls of more than one billion dollars, the governor has called the idea "intriguing," and the mining company has said it would sell out for the right price.

Mining wastes are not currently subject to hazardous waste laws in Wisconsin, even if the wastes contain deadly cyanide and other toxic chemicals. Despite the fact that polls show more than half of Wisconsin residents oppose the mine, state Senate Bills 160 and 271 have been stalled. Respectively, these bills would ban the use of cyanide and would end special treatment for mining in Wisconsin.



The state has issued none of the needed permits for the mine which could start operations in 2005. If the mine is approved, it would be operated by one of the world's largest mining corporations, BHP-Billiton, who bought the rights from ExxonMobil. This mining giant has been responsible for some of the world's most flagrant environmental disasters. At the Tedi River in Papua New Guinea, BHP-Billiton has dumped 80,000 tons of waste daily since 1984.

The debate has also sparked a precedent-setting court case that confirmed Native sovereignty over water on the Mole Lake Chippewa Reservation, which is threatened by the mine's potential usage of the aquifer. The planned mine lies on territory sold by the Chippewa Nation to the US in 1842 and is also on a 12-square-mile tract of land promised to the Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa in 1855. Treaties guarantee the Chippewa access to wild rice, fish and some wild game on ceded lands. The Mole Lake Reservation is a prime harvester of wild rice, which would be threatened by any water drawdown.

The nearby Menominee, Potawatomi and Stockbridge-Munsee Nations would also be affected by the mine pollution. Former Department of Natural Resources Secretary George Meyer admitted that Native Americans "have a case" in using treaties to prevent damage to natural resources. These decisions in favor of indigenous rights could preserve the Wolf River for Native and non-Native peoples alike.

Support for the cyanide ban and no special treatment bills is needed! For more information, contact the Wolf Watershed Educational Project, c/o Midwest Treaty Network, POB 14382, Madison, WI 53714-4382; (800) 445-8615; www.treatyland.com.

Kyle Reese is a Wisconsin Earth First!er who has been involved in the Wolf Creek campaign since 1997.

Frontlines

Forest Destroyers Delivered Black Eye

On June 9, two activists from the Cascadia Forest Defenders stormed the North American Wholesale Lumber Association's (NAWLA) annual board of directors meeting at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

NAWLA is made up of 650 different lumber associations from the US and Canada. NAWLA has been identified by activists as a crucial target in the struggle to protect endangered ecosystems, since the majority of timber sale buyers rely on lumber wholesalers to turn a profit.

The board of directors sat stunned and silent as the activists delivered their message: "If you don't stop directing the wood market to destroy our forests in the US and around the world, we will work to cut off the market for your products."

The following day, activists hung a 45-foot banner from the hotel which read: "NAWLA—110 years of corporate forest rip off." The banner hang coincided with a march in front of the hotel by forest, Chicano and labor activists.

Law enforcement arrived quickly on the scene. The banner was cut down and three activists were arrested.

Groups Protest 100 Years of River Destruction by BuRec

Raising awareness surrounding the past 100 years of river destruction, a network of environmental groups traveled to Hoover Dam in time to protest the Bureau of Reclamation's (BuRec) centennial birthday party on June 17.

The "Sediment-al Journey," a five-day trek covering 700 miles, culminated in a protest of BuRec's environmentally destructive policies. Along the way, the caravan hosted a series of events to draw attention to the negative environmental and cultural impacts caused by BuRec's dam-building legacy.

The protest focused specifically on Glen Canyon Dam. By trapping 95 percent of the sediment and nutrients that once flowed into the Grand Canyon, Glen Canyon Dam has jeopardized this natural wonder's ecosystem. It has also threatened the cultural heritage of a number of Native peoples.

The protest was considered a success, receiving widespread media coverage and raising awareness of BuRec's irresponsible policies.

Way Down in the REI Mine

BY SPRIG

Your waterproofed nylon backpack with a lightweight magnesium frame fits snugly to your back as you walk along the ridge. Inside you carry all you need from civilization to “get back to nature.” You are not camping in a RV—complete with generator, port-potty and dirtbike. You are roughing it in the wilds, leaving no trace.

Maybe this is true about where you camped last night, but not about what you slept in. It’s truly ironic that the tools that help us experience wild nature also take from it in the process. Your pack is an open-pit mine strapped to your back, even if it’s canvas. Inside, you carry your cook-kit made from iron and manganese or aluminum with nested utensils made of stainless steel—a complex alloy of primarily iron, chromium, nickel and copper. An open-pit copper mine is a colossal manmade crater, as much as a half-mile deep and two miles across. It’s evocative of the top of Mount St. Helens, only here the ripping of the land is done gradually, by explosives, bulldozers and trucks the size of two-story buildings. A mine produces enormous piles of waste, which turn canyons and fields into plateaus and mountains. Sulfuric acid is dripped through some piles to extract the copper. Copper mines consume enormous quantities of water in areas where water is precious. There is also a threat of poisonous discharge to rivers near the mines.

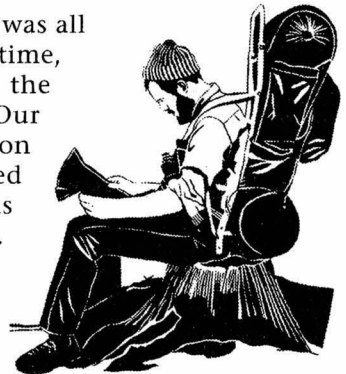
Your backpack frame is either made of bauxite which is high in alumina, magnesium or fiberglass. Bauxite is high

in alumina and is used to produce aluminum in an energy-intensive electro-chemical process. If it’s a radical lightweight frame, it’s made from magnesium which is usually extracted from a rock called dolomite or from magnesite. This process also uses a lot of electricity. Fiberglass is a quartz-based glass made with borates, dug from open-pit and underground mines, mostly in California and Turkey.

The nylon encasing your backpack and sleeping bag and the lightweight, insulating filling are products manufactured from oil or coal. More than 40 percent of all the petroleum products used in the US are imported. That’s one reason why George W. Bush is fighting the war for oil in Afghanistan for us, so we can drive out to nature and engage it courtesy of our petrochemical backpacks.

Sometimes I wonder how John Muir did it with only his wool pants and walking stick. What happened when it rained? Did he just get wet without a vinyl raincoat? His canvas backpack at that time was not a product of the petrochemicals used to grow cotton today, but he probably did have some brass snaps made from copper and zinc.

The course of our history was all downhill after John Muir’s time, as humans began mining the Earth more intensively. Our need to return to the wild soon became inextricably linked with nature’s desecration as others sought to civilize it. Can we return to a more sustainable wild experience? Something to think about as you ascend to the next vista.



Frontlines

Netherlands Eco-Insurgence Roundup

To celebrate its sixth anniversary, GroenFront! called for a month of ecological insurgence throughout the Netherlands.

Jump starting the month of actions, on May 24-25, activists held trainings and workshops, such as “how to occupy a Starbucks construction site,” at the Africaport near the town of Ruigoord. The recently completed Africaport, site of a former treesit camp, is where Starbucks is considering building its European distribution center.

GroenFront! activists protested the expansion of the Schiphol Amsterdam Airport by occupying a construction crane on June 4. The airport was cited as the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the Netherlands. Banners were attached to the crane reading “Stop Jet Expansion” and “Nature will Strike Back.”

Activists struck back on June 15 when they visited the construction site of the Betuwelijn tunnel under the Panterden Canal at Doorneburg. In addition to some “misplaced equipment,” slogans were spray painted on the site for visitors to contemplate. If completed, the tunnel under the canal would link to the undeveloped Kandia Nature Preserve.

In Utrecht, 50 bicyclists took over parking garages on June 17 to protest the devastating effects cars have on the environment. One garage was shut down by security, and no cars were able to leave or enter. GroenFront! argues that the money spent on the parking garages the city hopes to build would be better spent on public transportation.

To top off the month of actions, 1,000 people occupied the highway leading from Utrecht to Amersfoort for seven hours on June 21. The street party, “Rave Against the Machine,” was in solidarity with the actions against the European Union summit being held in Sevilla, Spain.

GE Field Test Disinfected with “Elvenwine”

On June 13, the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) disinfected a genetically engineered test plot at the botanical gardens at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. “The genetically modified bacteria were destroyed because of our spilling distilled elvenwine,” stated an ELF communiqué.

It continued, “We had a bit of a party a week or so before midsummer, and those gardens are the only thing that’s a bit nice in the concrete of De Uithof [the main campus of the Utrecht University].”

Building Native Alliances at Wildearth

BY CLO

The fourth annual Wildearth gathering, held in British Columbia in June, was an attempt to refuel and expand the radical environmental movement. Our main focus was to address the many mistakes white environmental groups have made in relations with the first stewards of the land—indigenous peoples. Wildearth was attended by indigenous families from five different areas of western Canada. Their strong presence and the teachings they left with the white activists who attended was profound. Our intention was to build solidarity between indigenous and non-indigenous people, outside of the band councils and outside the non-governmental organizations. As Brian Granbois of the Dene Nation of Cold Lake, Alberta, “We are all outcasts here. It’s time the outcasts got together.”

At one Wildearth workshop, “America’s Holocaust,” Charlie “Wolf” Smoke, of Lakota/Mohawk lineage, admitted his discomfort talking to a group of white people. Normally, he addresses groups of white people

when he is being arrested or interviewed by the press. As a “Sovereign Indian,” Wolf refuses to apply for citizenship and is continually harassed, arrested and under surveillance. His quiet voice was interrupted repeatedly by a hovering police helicopter. He wasn’t fazed.

Wolf asked us many hard questions. One sticks in my mind: “If your fight was life and death, where and what strength would you draw from?” For most white people the fight has never been life and death, but for indigenous people it still is. Wolf said, “The simple fact is that we indigenous people cannot be separated from the land. Regardless of how well-meaning you may be, once an area of land is thoroughly polluted, you will turn your backs on it and leave. We alone will remain.”

The Sinixt people were represented by the strong voice of their local spokesperson, Marilyn James. James and her family, who live in the Slocan Valley, have been declared extinct by the Canadian government. She explained how she’s been treated by many environmental groups, including EFL, who sometimes ask



permission from indigenous people to do an action but ignore the answer if it is no. “If environmental groups want to work with Indians, they better start accepting that they are going to get answers they don’t like sometimes.”

When asked about indigenous groups that are willing to sell the land and participate in its destruction, she took a breath, leaned in and said, “Where there are right Indians, there are left Indians. The right Indians get the control of the band council, the huge yearly checks from the government and promises of infrastructure. The left Indians are the left-out Indians. They are left out of every decision regarding their land and lives. They are the poorest and most marginalized, because they still have a connection to the land and are not

Frontlines

Sit-in and Hunger Strike Protests Dam

Nearly 150 tribal people affected by the Maan Dam in India started an indefinite sit-in in Bhopal on May 15. Four activists from the group went on a hunger strike on May 20. Families impacted by the dam demanded that the construction immediately stop.

One of 30 large dams planned as part of the Narmada Valley Development Project, the Maan Dam was granted clearance by the Central Environment Ministry in 1994. This was done on the condition that the people affected by the dam be relocated to non-forested agricultural land.

Yet today, 1,000 families still live in the area, and before their villages were to be flooded during the upcoming monsoon season, people decided to take action.

The state administration responded by cutting electricity, removing water pumps, bulldozing trees and schools in an effort to forcibly evict the people from their villages. Those engaged in the sit-in were arrested, but the four people on hunger strike continued.

The fasting activists, determined to wait until the government responded favorably, had to go underground during their hunger strike because of the heavy police

presence. Despite intense combing of the area by the police, the people on hunger strike went undetected.

Twenty-nine days after the hunger strike began, the government agreed to set up an independent Grievance Redressal Authority to ensure that the rehabilitation of the Maan Dam-affected people be completed no later than July 31.

Now that the hunger strike has ended, the people from throughout the project area have resolved to stop the dam through nonviolent, but militant, struggle.

Nigerian Women Take on Oil Giant

On July 8, more than 2,000 women in the Niger Delta occupied one of Chevron-Texaco’s major oil facilities, effectively closing the terminal for nine days. They arrived at the Escravos export terminal after nonviolently seizing a boat used to transport workers to the island facility.

The Niger Delta region is often a site of contention. Locals accuse oil companies and government partners of neglect, despite the tremendous fortune being pumped from the land. Although the site provides \$20 billion in annual exports for the country, people in the area live without electricity.

willing to sell. Look for these left-out Indians and ask them how you can support them."

The traditional Dene of Cold Lake are some of these left-out Indians. While Canada's war machine continues to test weapons of mass destruction in Cold Lake Territory, the Dene band council sells off tribal land for \$35 an acre. The Montgrand family is now fighting the recently created Clearwater Provincial Park, where they are no longer allowed to hunt or fish (see *EF!* June-July 2002).

This strength was also shown from Helen and Frank of the Carrier Wetsuweten Nation who have dedicated their lives to asserting their rights as indigenous people against all odds. I thank them for their willingness to answer our questions with openness and honesty.

I'm sure we will continue to make mistakes, but maybe they will be less frequent in the future. As a white person, I have spent a lot of time feeling that we had ruined our chance to work with indigenous people. I was very grateful for this opportunity to listen and learn.

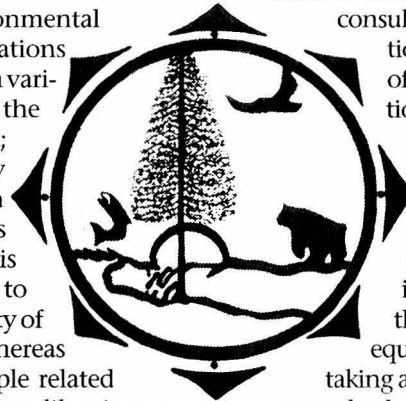
For more information, visit www.tao.ca/~wildearth/.

Clo is a BC forest defender working on indigenous alliance building.

Resolution to Recognize all that is Indigenous to the Land

Indigenous activist Charlie "Wolf" Smoke brought this resolution to the Wildearth gathering. He is asking that environmental organizations act on its principles and not change it in any way.

Whereas all environmental groups and organizations should be working in various ways to protect the natural environment; and whereas every single species of flora and fauna indigenous to any given region is of vital importance to the health and vitality of that region; and whereas the indigenous people related to any given region are likewise an inseparable, living part of that region, integral to its well being; and whereas it is only natural that those of us with like minds work together in every way we can; and whereas the land is naturally and rightfully in the stewardship of the people indigenous to the land.



Therefore, be it resolved that the indigenous people will forevermore be recognized as the legal and rightful stewards and title-holders of the land; and therefore be it further resolved that whatever effort is necessary will be made to

consult the sovereign, traditional indigenous elders of every indigenous nation related to any particular area before filing any lawsuits on behalf of the land or environment. While some situations require immediate action, thereby preventing adequate consultation before taking action, traditional indigenous leadership and guidance will still be sought at every step of the way; and therefore, be it further resolved that each and every public speech or address, and all printed documents will begin by acknowledging the particular indigenous nation(s) holding rightful title to the land in question.

Frontlines

Nine days after beginning the siege, a verbal agreement was reached to end the occupation with Chevron-Texaco agreeing to hire villagers, build schools, provide water, electricity and other amenities to the community.

This was the first such action taken exclusively by women.

Julia Butterfly Arrested in Ecuador

Representatives of Ecuador's Mindo community, Julia "Butterfly" Hill, members of *Acción Ecológica* and Amazon Watch re-occupied the Guarumos construction site of Ecuador's *Oleoducto de Crudos Pesados* (OCP) pipeline in the Mindo Nambillo Cloud Forest Reserve on July 15.

The following day, after a meeting scheduled with Occidental Petroleum (OXY) was denied, Hill and seven other activists were arrested. With OXY's offices shut down for two hours by protesters, the company eventually agreed to meet with community representatives.

Seven people were also arrested on July 16 in the Amazonian province of Sucumbios in solidarity with the resistance against the OCP.

Before a hearing could be held to call for the release of the activists, the Ecuadorian government made a decision to

immediately deport Hill to Panama. "Why is it that transnational oil companies can come to Ecuador, invade people's lands, ravage ecosystems and be welcomed by the Ecuadorian government, when those who come to lend their solidarity to those impacted by these projects are mistreated and deported?," asked Hill.

A majority of the crude oil that would flow through the OCP pipeline would be destined for US markets. Los Angeles-based Occidental Petroleum is a key member of the OCP consortium.

Electronic Civil Disobedience Floods HLS

Animal rights activists participated in an electronic civil disobedience action against Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) in June that lasted for more than a week and flooded the company's website and email systems. This "virtual sit-in"—aimed at drawing attention to the animal abuse that goes on inside HLS—made the HLS website unreachable. It also made it difficult for HLS employees to send external email messages. On several occasions, more than 2,000 people took part in the sit-in within a 24-hour period.

Nailing the Coffin Shut on Fee Demo



On June 15, the Fee Demo National Day of Action was marked by 30 protests held in nine states across the country. Activists gathered to voice their dissent against the ongoing Recreation Program that charges people money to use public lands.

A diversity of creative actions took place throughout the day. In front of the Disney Store in San Francisco, passersby were confronted with a mock "Public Access Sidewalk Fee" collection booth set up to emphasize the relevance of the public lands user fee issue in an urban setting. A sign on the booth asked the question, "Would you let this happen to your city's parks and public spaces?"

In Twisp, Washington, Free the Forests led 50 protesters (six percent of the town's population) in a festive march to the local Forest Service office. There, they presented a nationwide petition containing more than 18,000 signatures against the fee demo program.

Activists in Durango, Colorado, held a toilet paper drive, and then mailed the rolls to Representative Jim Hansen, chair of the House Resources Committee and one of the architects of fee demo. They highlighted the fact that Congress budgets millions of dollars to build things like fancy new toilets, but it only spends pennies to manage public lands and to maintain existing facilities.

In New Hampshire, two effigies representing recreation user fees and the attempt to commodify recreation on public lands were placed in a mock coffin. The lid was nailed shut with hammers representing opposition to fee demo.

The fee demo program was the brainchild of the American Recreation Coalition, a lobbying group that represents more than 100 motorized recreational vehicle industries, resort developers and others, including the Walt Disney Corporation. Fee demo began in 1996 as a rider, tacked onto the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, that called for a three-year experiment to raise money for the allegedly underfunded natural resource agencies. It was extended through 2004 by two later riders.

Congress is currently faced with the decision to either end the program, extend the trial period or make the fees permanent. Three Senate bills have already been introduced to make the fees permanent. On the other hand, New Hampshire, Colorado, Oregon and California have all passed resolutions calling for the abolition of the fee demo program nationwide.

As activists chip away at fee demo's base of support, congressional opinions are beginning to waver. Representative Jim Hansen was expected to introduce a fourth bill

to make the program permanent. In July, he announced that, due to public opposition, he would not introduce the bill before he left office.

Similarly, Larry Craig, a Republican senator from Idaho, had been a staunch supporter of the fee demo program since its inception, but declared in July that he was also pulling his support. "The grades are in, and the Recreation Fee Demonstration Project flunked in Idaho," said Craig. "We have seen the Forest Service aggressively expand the user fees beyond the original intent of the program. In some instances the Forest Service has taken a 'field of dreams' approach: If they build it, the public will pay."

Many fee demo opponents believe that federal agencies, such as the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, already receive adequate taxpayer money to manage public lands, but the agencies use most of it to subsidize mining, oil and gas drilling, grazing and logging. Now, in order to cover their operating costs, recreation sites are entering into partnerships with private companies to develop the sites into attractions that will draw more fee-paying customers. In this way, the road is being paved for the recreation industry to move in, with their main goal being to achieve maximum profits rather than the sustainable use of forests or the welfare of wildlife.

"It's the Disneyfication of our natural treasures," says Tim Hermach, executive director of the Native Forest Council. "These agencies want new sources of revenue, and the fee program is just the ticket. This time, they're in bed with wreckreation corporations, instead of big timber. New industry, same destruction. Same perverse incentives. Same liquidation of our national heritage at a net loss to the American taxpayer. Stop subsidizing the industries that trash public lands, and you'll save billions—that's a lot of picnic tables and toilet paper. A mere fraction of the tax dollars the agencies saved would cover any fee revenue. And it would save what's left of our mountains, forests, rivers and streams."

Meanwhile the number of fee demo opponents continues to grow. Activists are letting our representatives know that we will not stand for any further commercialization, privatization or motorization of our national forests.

For more information, visit www.wildwilderness.org; www.forestcouncil.org.

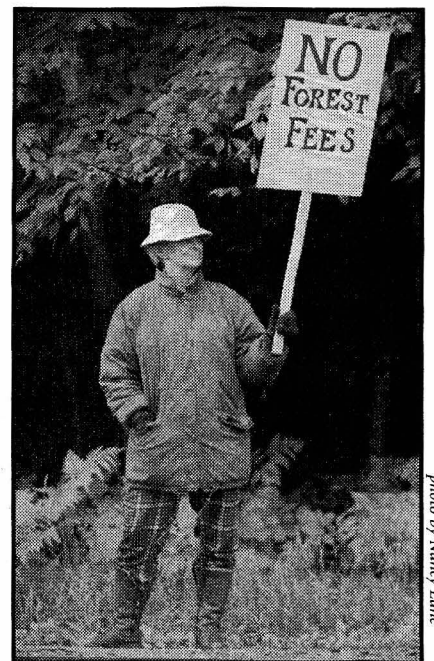
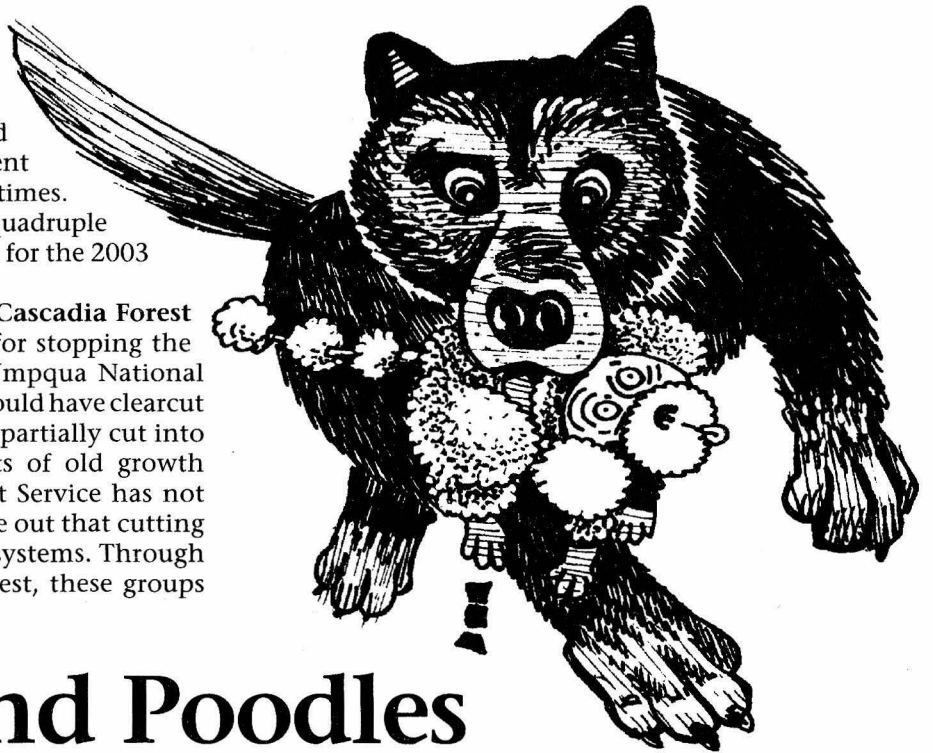


Photo by Nancy Lane

NH State Legislator Stephanie Eaton

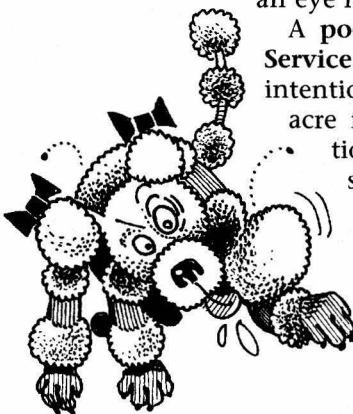
A wolf's call of the wild to this year's Round River Rendezvous committee for taking us to the brink of the Dark Divide in Washington's Gifford Pinchot National Forest. It was a well-spent week of intensive skillshares and good times. All their hard work paid off at Monday's quadruple action. They set a howlin' good example for the 2003 RRR crew in Minnesota.

A wolf pack circling for the kill to Cascadia Forest Defenders and Umpqua Watersheds for stopping the Little River Timber Sale in Oregon's Umpqua National Forest in June. This timber sale project would have clearcut 60 acres of old growth and would have partially cut into another 100 acres to study the effects of old growth logging on wildlife. As if the US Forest Service has not done enough of these "studies" to figure out that cutting down ancient trees destroys native ecosystems. Through reasoned words and the threat of protest, these groups were able to stop the slaughter.



Wolves and Poodles

A wolf clowning in a poodle suit to the Yes Men for their cyberhoax campaign. The Yes Men are a loosely affiliated clan of male and female corporate impersonators who have been able to dupe the corporados at their own game. Recently, the Yes Men sent out a bogus press release saying that the World Trade Organization (WTO) was regrouping as the Trade Regulatory Organization with a new mission dedicated toward human rights and environmental sustainability. Other actions have involved impersonating WTO representatives and giving lectures at WTO-sponsored events. Their lecture themes include advocating selling votes to the highest bidder and making the poor eat recycled hamburgers to cure hunger. One hoax in Finland ended with the speaker stripping down to a gold lamé unitard that exhibited a three-foot-long inflated golden phallus. He explained that it contained a video interface which could be used to deliver electric shocks to employees in the developing world that were not working hard enough. Business people who attended the lectures barely batted an eye in disbelief.



A poodle on fire to US Forest Service employee Terry Barton who intentionally started the 100,000-acre fire in Colorado's Pike National Forest in June. Ironically, she committed this act of arson while patrolling the forest to enforce a fire ban. She joins the infamous list of USFS poodles who have set fire to the forest for a fatter paycheck. These unnatural burns exacerbate the

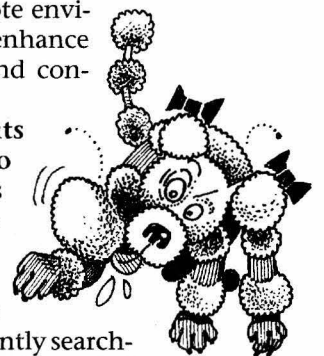
imbalanced conditions that occur due to the suppression of natural fires.

A poodle with a golf ball for a brain to Audubon International (AI) who, in April, awarded the Barona Creek Golf Club near San Diego, California, a Bronze Signature Sanctuary Certification for its "conservation, environmental quality and land management efforts" in developing the golf course. Clifford La Chappa, Chairman of the Barona Band of Mission Indians declared that their partnership with AI "guarantees the sustainability of the golf course and surrounding land for generations."



The series of artificial lakes and ponds is drained from local streams. Barona also transplanted 170 mature native oaks from other parts of the reservation. Soon the resort will put in a new 315,000-square-foot casino 400-room resort hotel. Sounds like a perfect match to AI's mission to promote environmental stewardship that will enhance and protect wildlife habitats and conserve natural resources.

A poodle who can't flip its whitewater kayak upright to save its life because its brain is filled with rocks to the US Olympic Committee for endorsing the creation of the first artificial whitewater river facility in North Carolina. The committee is currently searching for a site to create this faux-river for future competitions and a sports complex. It only makes sense that we need to create rivers when we can't take care of the ones that already exist.



THAT'S WHAT EARTH FIRST! IS TO ME

Kickin' Ass & saving Trees
That's what EF! is to me
Not botherin' to say please
That's what EF! is to me
Bring Corporations to their Knees
That's what EF! is to me
Flippin' off USFS fees
That's what EF! is to me!
Camped far away from City Light
That's what EF! is to me
Monkeywrenchin' in the Night
That's what EF! is to me

Wild People, wild Eyes
That's what EF! is to me
Dancin' under starry Skies
That's what EF! is to me
Echoin' the Wildland's cries
That's what EF! is to me
Burning Green Fire never dies
That's what EF! is to me

So if you wanna be a part
Of this Movement from the Heart
This Rony is the Place to start
Your Inhibitions now depart

Deep Ecology is key
Biocentric Philosophy
Bring Earth Rapers to their Knees
With Brains & Creativity

Yea, the Old School is a Clique
Sometimes it will make you sick
Rednecks who think with their Dick
And Greener-Than-Thou Hippie Chicks

Challenge the worst of the worst
Never deny your Wilderness thirst
This is not about Egos big to burst
It's the Radical Environmental Movement
Earth First!

—Gemini Woman



GIFFORD PINCHOT

Here is the revolution
We already live in it
Now in a time of
revolving, spiraling change

Now where you cannot see
The rot already frees an earth

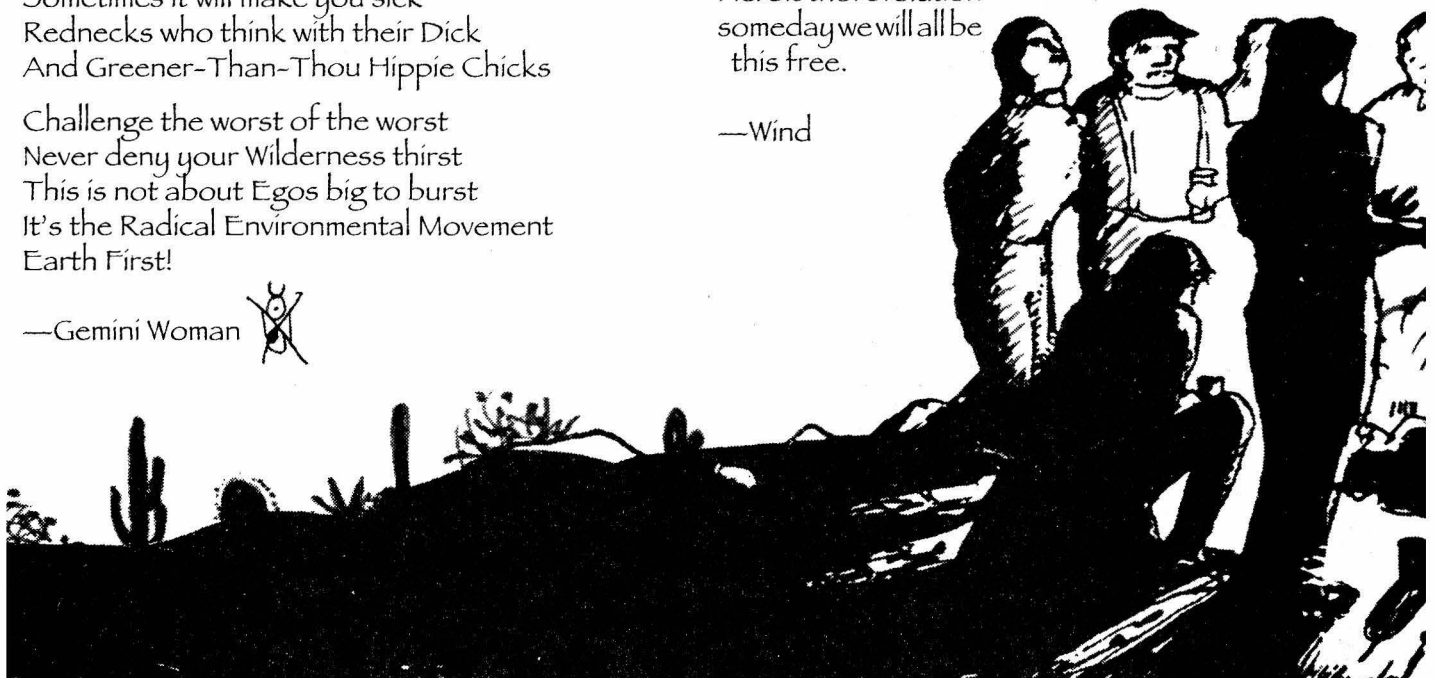
and this once and sometime nation place that
ground its illusions into glass,
making the world drink,
and bidding it be glad and grateful

it was these last five centuries
of selfish, maniacal, egoistic greed,
turning needs into obsessions,
obsessions into blinding, raging
geno-bio-cides

and this great illness, this sickness we have felt,
the shabby deceptions and the wound up
jumped up mechanised men
all unconscious and
all unconcerned about becoming so

still, in the stillness,
the waking revives all
the wisdom of the trees
whose knowledge revives us
lovers and warriors, singers & healers & workers
& climbers & dancers
Here is the revolution
someday we will all be
this free.

—Wind



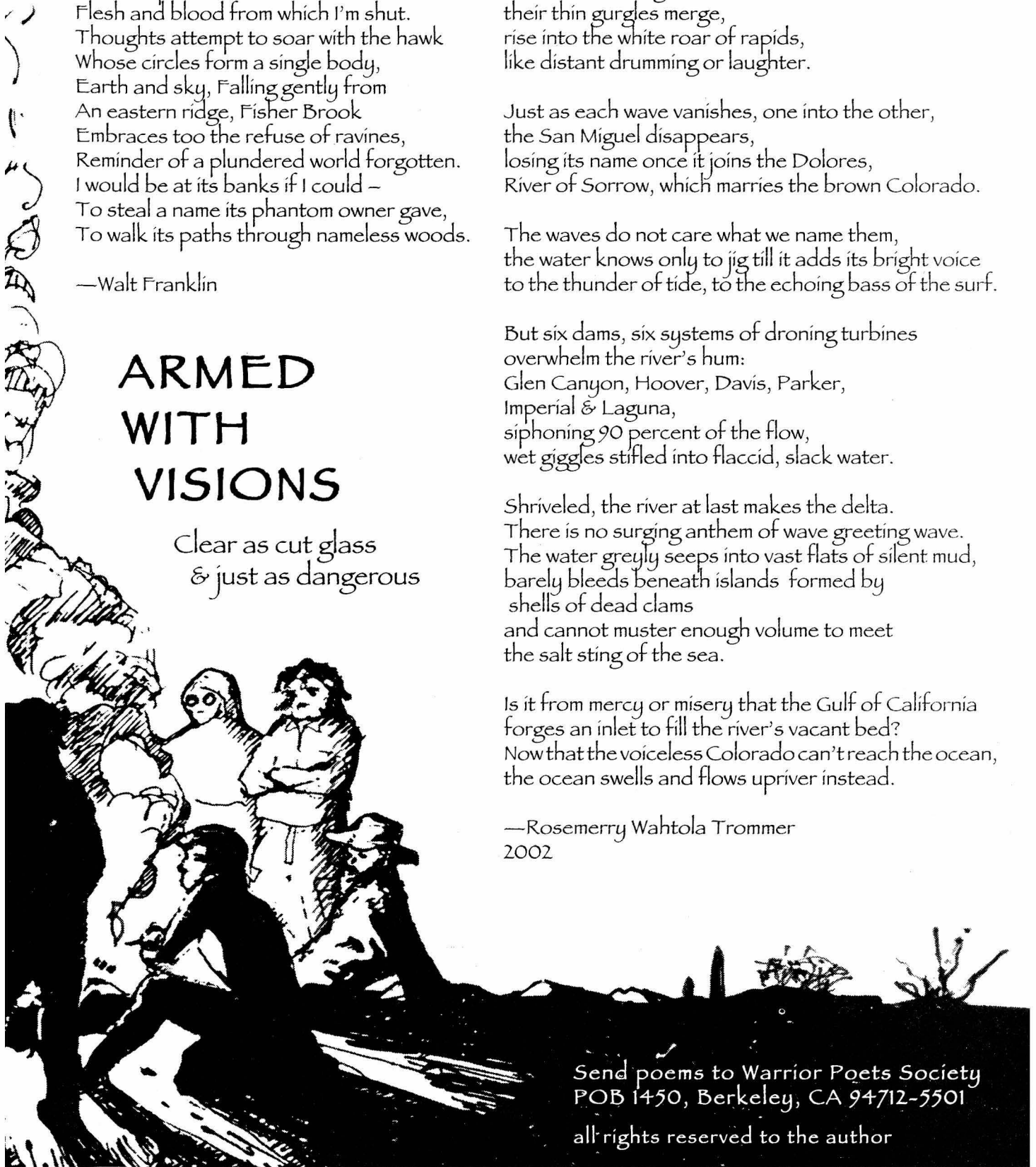
FISHER HOLLOW

Looking down from a crossroad called
Highup, I see the way the hollow, posted
Woods and meadow, has become
Another part of me like
Flesh and blood from which I'm shut.
Thoughts attempt to soar with the hawk
Whose circles form a single body,
Earth and sky, Falling gently from
An eastern ridge, Fisher Brook
Embraces too the refuse of ravines,
Reminder of a plundered world forgotten.
I would be at its banks if I could –
To steal a name its phantom owner gave,
To walk its paths through nameless woods.

—Walt Franklin

ARMED WITH VISIONS

Clear as cut glass
& just as dangerous



FROM THESE HEADWATERS

(Written Near Placerville, Colorado)

Every silver-crowned wave on the San Miguel River
angles southwest toward the sea.
As one crest surges, succumbs to the next,
their thin gurgles merge,
rise into the white roar of rapids,
like distant drumming or laughter.

Just as each wave vanishes, one into the other,
the San Miguel disappears,
losing its name once it joins the Dolores,
River of Sorrow, which marries the brown Colorado.

The waves do not care what we name them,
the water knows only to jig till it adds its bright voice
to the thunder of tide, to the echoing bass of the surf.

But six dams, six systems of droning turbines
overwhelm the river's hum:
Glen Canyon, Hoover, Davis, Parker,
Imperial & Laguna,
siphoning 90 percent of the flow,
wet giggles stifled into flaccid, slack water.

Shriveled, the river at last makes the delta.
There is no surging anthem of wave greeting wave.
The water greyly seeps into vast flats of silent mud,
barely bleeds beneath islands formed by
shells of dead clams
and cannot muster enough volume to meet
the salt sting of the sea.

Is it from mercy or misery that the Gulf of California
forges an inlet to fill the river's vacant bed?
Now that the voiceless Colorado can't reach the ocean,
the ocean swells and flows upriver instead.

—Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer
2002

Send poems to Warrior Poets Society
POB 1450, Berkeley, CA 94712-5501

all rights reserved to the author

Dear Shit fer Brains...

continued from page 3

Dear Earth First!,

Good job on the May-June 2002 *Journal*. I'm glad to see the use of author's real names instead of

pseudonyms. I was also glad to see your publication of an intelligent discussion of the Bitterroot salvage logging settlement.

This is a refreshing contrast to the absurd article by St. Clair and Cockburn in the Native Forest Council's *Forest Voice*. Although I have a few minor disagreements with both the Matt Koehler and the Len Broberg/Mary Anne Peine/Larry Campbell articles, they were both thoughtful and honest. Certainly nobody I know of is happy with the results of the negotiations, and I suspect that few will like the way the Forest Service, bastion of bureaucratic corruption, carries out its end of the deal. Yet without the efforts of conservationists, the results would have been far worse, especially for roadless areas. Thoughtful discussions are essential to provoking better results on future projects of this insidious sort. Thanks again.

For the Wilds,

—HOWIE WOLKE

Hi,

After you made people aware of wiretapping (see *EF!J* March-April 2002), let's make 'em a bit more paranoid: it is or it was possible to use a hung up telephone as a microphone. Hung up as in: receiver down,

on the cradle. It is called frequency flooding. A proposed fix is to short the phone lines with a 10nF capacitor. Recipe for bugging this way: www.staticdischarge.org/phonebreak/general/bugroom.txt.

Rumor goes that something similar is possible with ISDN phones: home.bip.net/laszlob/phonebug/isdn.htm, featuring this nice piece of poetry.

A little tinkling in the night

Just to check your line's alright,

A little tinkle in the day

just to listen to what you say... oh no!

—ARAKRYS

P.S. Detail from the second weblink: "Built into the international CCITT protocol is the ability to take your phone 'off hook' and listen to conversations occurring near the phone without the user being aware this is happening. BT states that this is not implemented in the UK system, but then they also deny that our transatlantic calls are monitored by the US security services at Meanwith Hill. It is difficult to find the truth in areas considered to be of national security."

Dear *EF!J* Collective,

Great job. Your efforts really show. The *EF!J* continues to look (and read) like a professional national magazine with a wild streak.

Thanks much,

—JAMES

To the Environmental Community:

So that Judi Bari is never forgotten for her environmental activism to save the

redwoods or for the physical pain she endured because of the car-bombing, may I suggest that someone ask the environmental community to support the establishment of a "commemorative environmental holiday" to recognize Judi Bari. Even the Green Party might lend its support. While this would not be a legal holiday, it would be a day environmentalists recognized one of their own.

I believe the day and month the car-bombing took place may be an appropriate date. A Judi Bari recognition day would make it impossible for Americans to stop asking, "Who targeted Judi Bari?"

—ROSS

Dear Earth Firstlers,

Ed Abbey turned me on to Arches and then to the environment as something sacred. After 25 years as a registered nurse, I'm now pursuing a new career in environmental law. I'm writing a paper about how a liberal activist judge (like Duncan Kennedy wrote about) would decide a case of an environmental activist's appeal of a conviction for eco-terrorism.

Assuming the judge wants the environmentalist to win over the corporate ski lodge industry, what argument would support his decision?

Strength to you all.

—RETA

PRICE

PLACITASWILLOW@HOTMAIL.COM

Dear SFB,

Your magazine is wall-to-wall reports on the systematic destruction of our environment by government and big money.

I thought you wouldn't mind a letter telling of an exactly opposite effort by government.

Interstate 75 from Naples, Florida, to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, runs directly across the Everglades through an almost completely empty wilderness. Before it was part of the interstate system, it was a two-lane road known as Alligator Alley.

Roadkills were common. Now, as part of the interstate system, the road is lined on both sides by chain link fences.

They built overpasses every two miles and built the fences so wildlife are forced to pass under the highway rather than across it. God knows how many animals' lives have been saved.

When I moved to Florida in 1971 they estimated there were about 35 panthers left in South Florida. Now they estimate there are about 50. It's really not possible to just line them up and count them.

—DAVE QUERY

Editors' Note: You might like to get yer hands on a copy of the March-April 2002 issue of the Journal. The article, "The Landscape of Desire," goes into more depth about the effects of highway routes on natural habitats.

Dear SFB,

Did you know that you Americans are responsible for the demise of the



boreal forest here in Canada? And you are responsible for the vast destruction of all

forms of wildlife that live there (be it a wolf, moose or mouse)?

How are the Americans to blame for that, you might ask? Ninety-five percent of all Canadian forest products are shipped to the USA, and 75 percent of the multinational forest companies that operate in Canada are US owned.

Americans and Canadians are not even vaguely aware of what is happening here in Canada when it comes to forest harvesting. Every tree that is of any value is cut by means of clearcut logging, and any tree that is of no use to the company is knocked down and left to rot. The lungs of Mother Earth are being *ripped* out more and more every day. Wild animals are destroyed at a fantastic rate. It is not hunting or trapping that is killing wildlife and their habitat, it's the forest harvesters, the feller buncher and the grapple skidder that are the real culprits. One Winter of logging with the feller buncher and grapple skidder kills off more animals than a trapper or hunter will take in his or her lifetime. But the real culprit is you—our American friends that support this very destruction by that fact that you are buying Canadian forest products that are causing great harm not only to wildlife but to everything that takes a breath of air on planet Earth.

Since 95 percent of Canadian forest products are purchased in the US, we are asking you to stop buying all Canadian forest products. Write to your congressman or senator and ask them to put a stop to all imports of Canadian forest products. You can boycott Canadian forest products yourself by refusing to buy them at your local lumber yard. If we can kill the market, we can save our forest.

For you animal lovers out there, now is the time to act.

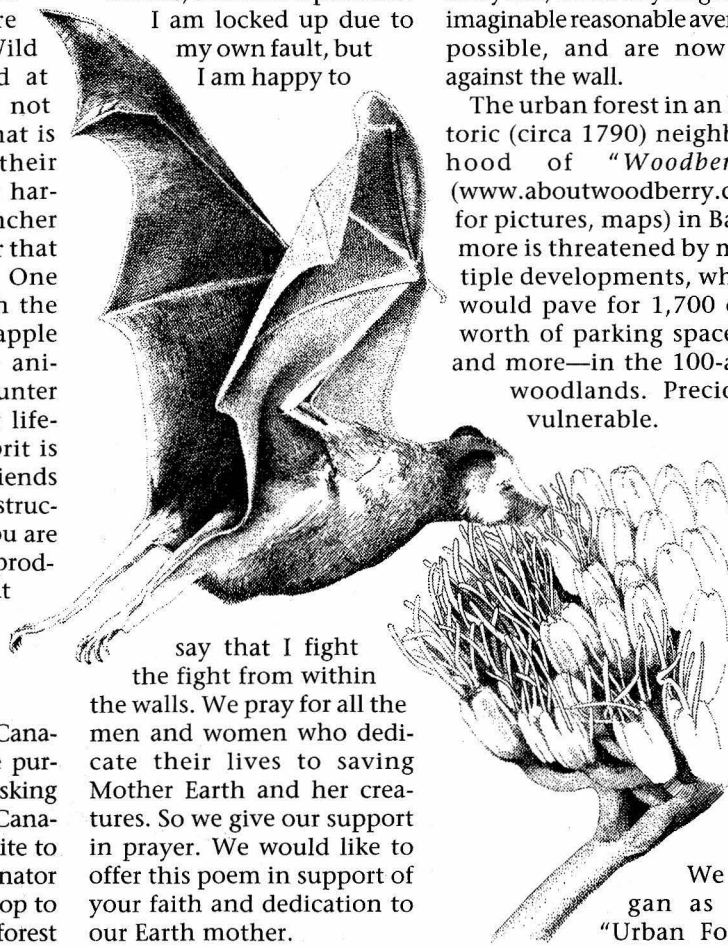
Every day that the feller buncher operates there is a slaughter of innocent animals. Young wolves that will never get a chance to howl... They will be crushed in their dens by the feller buncher or shredded by the grapple skidder. Mother bears and their cubs will never taste a berry this Summer... run over by a feller buncher while they sleep peaceably in their snug dens. No animal is safe from a feller buncher—be it a moose or mouse.

—DAVE DONAHUE

Dear Earth First!

Hi, my name is Lewis storms, and I am a prisoner.

I am locked up due to my own fault, but I am happy to



say that I fight the fight from within the walls. We pray for all the men and women who dedicate their lives to saving Mother Earth and her creatures. So we give our support in prayer. We would like to offer this poem in support of our faith and dedication to our Earth mother.

Transcends All

*In your hands you hold a dream,
a dream can take you anywhere
In that dream you hold power,
power can make you dare...
In that power you hold courage,
courage can make you try...
In that courage you hold love,*

love can make you high!

So dream with the power of courage! As you learn to love yourself, family and friends. The Great Mystery will provide all else you may need in this life. So have faith and take what he sends... For within the Universal circle of life, Faith, Hope and Love "Transcends All!"

—LEWIS STORMS, A NATIVE AMERICAN SPIRITUALIST SERVING TEN AND A HALF YEARS.

Dear SFB,

We are in desperate need in Baltimore. We have fought for three-and-a-half years, used every single imaginable reasonable avenue possible, and are now up against the wall.

The urban forest in an historic (circa 1790) neighborhood of "Woodberry" (www.aboutwoodberry.com for pictures, maps) in Baltimore is threatened by multiple developments, which would pave for 1,700 cars worth of parking spaces—and more—in the 100-acre woodlands. Precious, vulnerable.

We began as the "Urban Forest Initiative" and are now incorporated with the State of Maryland as the non-profit Woodberry Land Trust, with 31 endorsing organizations. We have not simply complained about development, but have devoted thousands of



volunteer hours to plantings, tours and coalition building for environmental consciousness in the city. We've received several grants for environmental restoration, and are working on that. We have children planting trees and installing mushroom gardens and berry plants, building trails and removing invasive vines.

Loyola College, a powerfully rich and politically influential Jesuit college, has intentions of building a 71-acre sports complex in Woodberry woods. This sports complex will initially include a 6,000-seat stadium, three playing/practice fields, 385 cars worth of parking lots, new roads, lights, traffic, noise and predictable accidents.

The college has brought the proposal to the City Council and Mayor, and it has been approved, against the wishes of more than 3,000 petition signers (citywide), including more than 100 children and 95 percent of the neighborhood residents who surround this urban forest. *But get this:* Eventually, Loyola will apply for yet another indoor stadium.

continued on next page

...Keep your letters under 300 words, please.

SFBs Continued...

continued from previous page

If they are successful, the extra stadium is yet another 6,000 seats, *plus* cut another two acres for tennis courts. They claim that they are conserving 30-40 percent, but only for 20 years.

Please help. We need treesitting technical assistance.

—JAN DANFORTH

JDANFORTH@CSOS.JHU.EDU

To Whom It May Concern,

I have spent the past seven months working to get people and the media involved in fighting a threat to the 1,105-acre Governor Dick Forest near Mount Gretna. It's one of the last large forests in southeastern Pennsylvania, providing valuable habitat for many deep forest



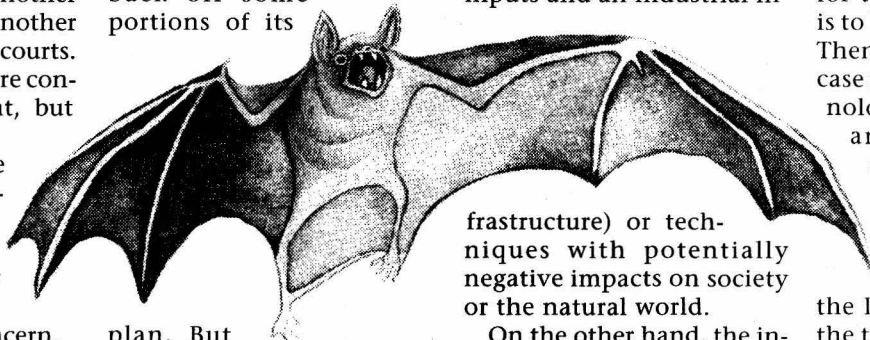
species that are in trouble worldwide due to forest fragmentation and deforestation.

Governor Dick was supposedly preserved forever, but current trustees have focused on a line in the deed allowing regulations to be changed for the purpose of maintaining the property to justify building a questionable environmental education center, logging and a possible cell phone tower.

The center is intended to be little more than classroom space for visiting school groups. There will be no staff naturalist, no natural history museum and no regular public programs.

I have been able to get continuous and positive newspaper coverage in three

counties, favorable public opinion and the board to back off some portions of its



plan. But despite overwhelming opposition and a successful petition drive, trustees continue to defend this unneeded and unwanted building and the possibility of logging.

The intent of the deed seems clear. But the language of the 50-year-old deed is too vague to interest local lawyers. And although I've received a lot of great support from individuals and local organizations, many opponents in our conservative area are afraid of appearing too confrontational, so it's been tough keeping this issue alive.

I would welcome any advice, referrals or help you could provide. Trustees hope to begin construction later this summer. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

—BILL KNAPP

667 BRUNNerville RD
LITITZ, PA 17543-8858

Dear Synthetic Farina Burgers (SFB) for Brains, (or Sages Freaks and Barristas for Brains),

What would happen if we mashed the Technologists, Primitivist-Anarcho-Luddites and a few billion angry peasants all together and worked on one project for 10 years?

A faith in a "Creative Progress" powers pro-technology people (Technologists): defined as supporters

of machines (usually complex and requiring energy inputs and an industrial in-

frastructure) or techniques with potentially negative impacts on society or the natural world.

On the other hand, the inevitable and desirable return to primitivism—the natural state where humans are one with a functioning environment—is what powers the luddites and many anarchists.

"Faith-in-Creativity" and "the inevitables" are trite and blinding. United concrete action for a designated goal is what we need.

Technologists alienate greens and anarchists because their enthusiasm for the "wonders of technological creativeness"—even if it is green or appropriate tech—seems stronger than the technologists' resolve to bring the system down.

Luddites alienate people because they sound murderous in their desire for everyone to change drastically and quickly.

Technologists are ignorant of history and the scale of risk that technologies can create. Assuming technology is inevitable, benign or neutral can mesmerize you with the green possibilities and keep you ignorant of the power-concentrating nature of most technologies. Throughout history, ruthless characters have seized upon new inventions, techniques and weapons.

A synthesis of the Techno and the Anarcho-Green-Primitivist requires that

Technologists first accept that the only legitimate use for technology at this time is to bring down the system. Then they can present their case for an appropriate technology for the transition and the quest for a sustainable world.

Unless the Technologists are not revolutionaries they make the same mistake as the Primitivists in ignoring the transition. Industry and most technology will be gone and the priority will be basic foods and protecting the environment from crazed refugees—not rebuilding industry.

Let's put the revolution and the transition first and agree to debate the details of the distant future some other time.

Grab yer shovels and ideas. To the Frontlines Gringos...

—ELF ACTION INSTEAD-OF-YAPPIN



Zero-Emission Vehicle to be Unveiled at Earth Summit

Exclusive report from the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

At the August Earth Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa, researchers from the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) will unveil the Legway, a \$150 zero-emission vehicle powered by biomass fuel. "While the vehicle can run on everything from trans fatty acids to simple sugars and starches, our studies show that complex carbohydrates yield optimal performance," said Dr. Walter Hook, ITDP's executive director.

The Legway is purported to consume less energy per passenger mile than any known mode of transport, including walking. ITDP researchers claim that the Legway can travel more than 10 miles on the energy equivalent of a bowl of rice. Recent trials conducted in New York City and Accra,

Ghana, showed that the Legway measures up to the ITDP performance claims. "While top speeds are in excess of 24 miles per hour, average speeds are about 11 to 14 miles per hour," said Paul Steely White, the Africa regional director of the New York-based institute. "I've actually been using one to get to work. It works quite well, except that many motorists act strangely—as if a quiet, non-polluting vehicle does not belong on the road," added White. ITDP is already working to convince cities to build special infrastructure for the vehicles—measures it thinks are justified given the claimed environmental and social benefits.

The development of the technology behind this revolutionary invention is mysterious and intriguing. A rudimentary version of the Legway can be found buried in Leonardo da Vinci's collection of writings, *Codex Atlanticus*. The technology was partially rediscovered in the late 1800s, applied in the emerging aeronautics industry and then forgotten as the automobile age got underway. In the 1950s, Albert Einstein was rumored to have dabbled with the technology as he was developing his theory of relativity.

Why has it taken so long for the invention to surface? Some people point to powerful corporate interests who have benefited from the suppression of Legway technology: the oil and automobile industries, as well as big-box retailers. While most fully equipped versions of the Legway cost \$300 to \$500 (more than \$1,000 for sportier models), ITDP has been working with top designers in China and the US to develop models that are affordable for the African market. "We think we can get the price down to about \$60 per vehicle, which would make the Legway ideal for the developing world, helping millions access schools, jobs, clinics and markets," stated White. He waxed on, decrying increasing urban car use that "is congesting streets, increasing respiratory illness among children and isolating the non-motorized majority."

The Legway is purported to consume less energy per passenger mile than any known mode of transport, including walking. It can travel more than 10 miles on the energy equivalent of a bowl of rice.

Dr. Yaakov Garb, an ITDP scientist, qualified the claim that the Legway is a zero-emission vehicle. "Though a tiny amount of carbon dioxide is released, and an occasional incomplete burning of the biofuel can result in methane and sulphur emissions, these discharges are minuscule, rendering the Legway a virtual zero-emission vehicle." He noted that the transport sector is the fastest-growing source of greenhouse gas emissions. Garb also pointed out that other alternative vehicles that claim zero or low emissions, such as electric or hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles are actually very polluting, due to highly toxic production processes and the electric power that must be generated to charge them. "With the exception of the clothesline, the Legway is the most affordable, useful and environmentally friendly invention known," continued Garb.

Dr. Hook, in response to a question regarding the barriers to full commercialization of the vehicle, replied, "The Legway is the only affordable alternative to fossil fuel transport." There are only three barriers to the widespread commercialization of the Legway:

- Safety. The Legway works best on traffic-calmed streets with special lanes.
 - Status. Because the Legway is inexpensive, the bourgeoisie may shun it. Automobile congestion is killing city economies. People have to make the decision to be either upwardly mobile or actually mobile.
 - Sprawl. The Legway works best in dense communities, where average trips are below six miles. Trips farther than this are best bridged by high-quality public transport systems, for which the Legway can act as an effective feeder mechanism.
- For more information, contact Paul Steely White, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, 115 W 30th St., Ste. 1205, New York, NY 10001, steely@igc.org; www.ITDP.org.

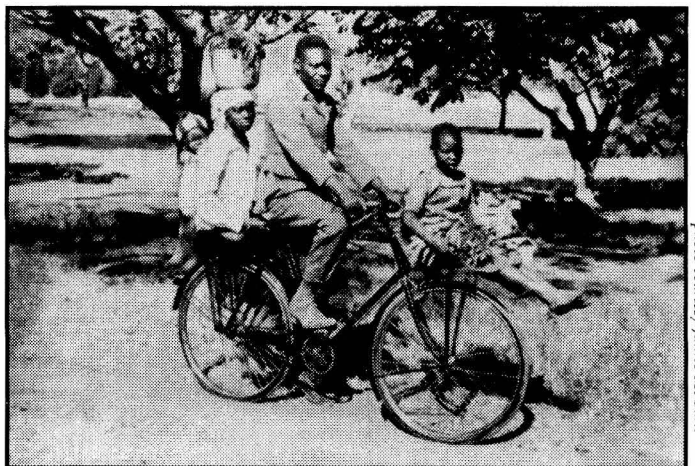


photo courtesy James McCann

A family in Africa using the Legway to go to market

A Century of Inspiration

The Legacy of Mardy Murie, A Legacy of Love



photo by Chuck Manners

Mardy at home in Moose, Wyoming

BY STEVE GIL

"I'm more apprehensive and at the same time more hopeful than I have ever been. I'm counting on the new generation coming up. I have to believe in their spirit, as those who came before me believed in mine." With these honest and heartfelt words, Mardy Murie, mother of the conservation movement, author and dear friend to many, has inspired wilderness activists young and old. For nearly a century, Mardy has influenced generations with her adventures and actions. Her leadership has made her a pillar in the conservation community. August marks her 100th birthday.

Born on August 18, 1902, Mardy Thomas was primarily raised in Fairbanks, Alaska. From the time she was a young child until her later years, Mardy sought out adventures and was unafraid of the challenges that life brought with it. In her classic memoir *Two in the Far North*, Mardy recounts that her stepfather said she must have had some Romani blood in her because she was always wandering about.

In 1924, Mardy became the first female graduate of the University of Alaska. Shortly after graduation she married Olaus Murie, a US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) biologist. For their honeymoon, they went on a 550-mile Winter dogsled trip along the Koyukuk River into Northern Alaska, where Olaus was assigned to study caribou herds. This was one of many times Mardy joined Olaus on his research expeditions. She did not want to miss an opportunity to see wildlands or to be apart from the man she loved so much.

Their 1956 trip north on the Sheenjek River provided a research basis for the area now protected as the Arctic

National Wildlife Refuge. It was during these expeditions that Olaus and Mardy fell in love with the Alaskan wilderness and began to work endlessly to protect it. In her essay "The Need for Wilderness," Mardy wrote, "My prayer is that Alaska's great wild places will remain great and wild and free, where wolf and caribou, wolverine and grizzly bear, and all the Arctic blossoms may live in the delicate balance which supported them long before impetuous man appeared in the North."

Olaus felt he could make a larger contribution to his beloved wild places outside of government agencies, and he retired from the FWS in 1944. They moved to Moose, Wyoming, to the STS dude ranch. Soon after, he became co-director of The Wilderness Society to be a voice for wilderness protection. As always, Mardy was his closest advisor. Olaus began battling health problems, first with lung disease and then with cancer. He passed away in 1963, and for the first time in 39 years, Mardy was without the love of her life. She and Olaus had been side by side nearly every hour of each day and had experienced so much together. She faced one of the toughest decisions of her life: to leave the ranch because of the pain from the memories of Olaus or to stay on the land she had grown to love.

As a 61-year-old widow, Mardy recommitted herself to the work of wilderness protection and stepped into her own as a voice for wild nature. Her work would take her on many new adventures, this time not only in Alaska but also to places where people joining the growing conservation movement would hear her. Mardy was an important voice in the debate surrounding the passage of the Wilderness Act of 1964, a law that protected nine million acres in our national forests. She was near President Johnson's side as he signed the act into law at the White House. In 1977, Mardy testified before Congress in support of the Alaskan Lands Act, and she received a

standing ovation when finished. Without her leadership in advocating for wilderness protection, we could have lost much more of our precious lands.

Mardy is a mentor for the environmental community. Noted author

Barry Lopez wrote, "She has helped generations of men and women understand and articulate their devotion to the work of preserving wild landscapes." She has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Audubon Medal in 1980, the Sierra Club's John Muir Award of 1983, and in 1998, Mardy was awarded the nation's highest civilian medal, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Despite all of her awards and achievements, Mardy has remained a humble and genuine person, living quietly at her ranch in Moose. Around her home are items that

I'm more apprehensive and at the same time more hopeful than I have ever been. I'm counting on the new generation coming up. I have to believe in their spirit, as those who came before me believed in mine.

symbolize the life she has lived: many of Olaus' drawings and paintings, ivory carvings from Native Alaskans and dozens of books from which she has drawn inspiration.

Throughout the years, the Murie Ranch has been a gathering place for the conservation community. The Wilderness Society met there during Olaus' tenure. Students from the Teton Science School have received Mardy's wisdom over lemonade and cookies. And today, the Murie Center continues the work of expanding and deepening the conservation message through honest, heartfelt conversation.

In looking at Mardy's life, we see how powerful her spirit is. In Alaska, she and Olaus traveled on nameless rivers and danced with the Inuit. In Jackson Hole, she raised children and became a part of this vibrant community. In Washington, DC, Mardy's voice was influential in passing significant conservation laws. Through writing memoirs, she poured out her feelings of love for Olaus, the Arctic and all wild lands. In our hearts, we are in debt to Mardy for her strength, courage and spirit. We adore her openness of emotions, her humor, her sweet, gentle voice and her beautiful smile. She has been a source of inspiration and a true role model for generations, and we

work to carry on her legacy. Thank you, Mardy, for all you have given us. Best wishes to you as you celebrate your 100th birthday.

Steve Gil is a Summer intern at The Murie Center. He also works with the Indiana Forest Alliance on ending logging in state and national forests.

The Need for Nature

There may be people who feel no need for nature. They are fortunate, perhaps. But for those of us who feel otherwise, who feel something is missing unless we can hike across land disturbed only by our footsteps or see creatures roaming freely as they have always done, we are sure there should be wilderness. Species other than man have rights, too. Having finished all the requisites of our proud, materialistic civilization, our neon-lit society, does nature, which is the basis for our existence, have the right to live on? Do we have enough reverence for life to concede to wilderness this right?

—MARDY MURIE

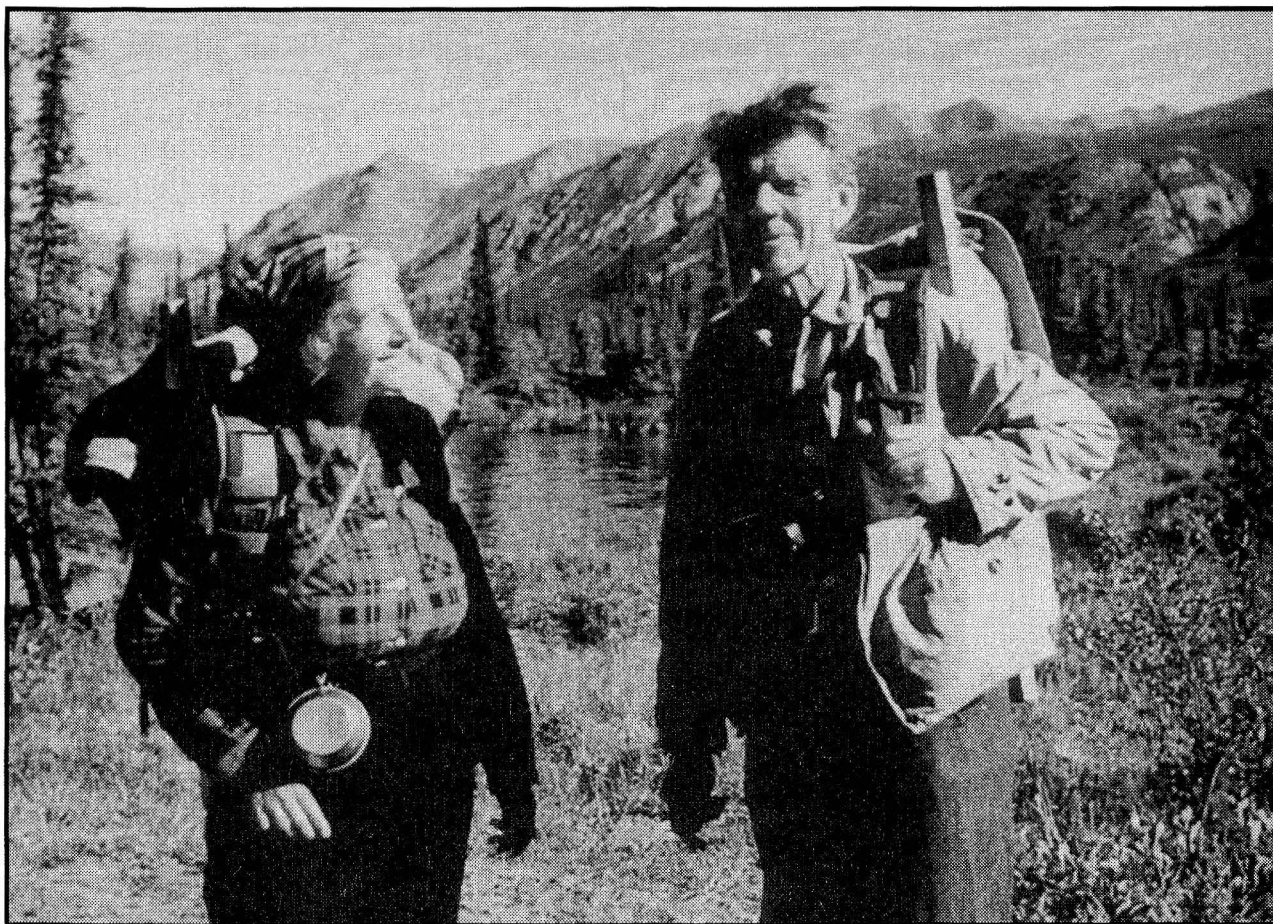


photo courtesy The Murie Center

Mardy and Olaus along the Sheenjek River in northern Alaska

Olaus and I were again alone on the Sheenjek. The clouds rolled away, the sun shone warm. We took a last walk over to the river. We could never have enough of that view, the graceful bend the river made just there, the high banks glowing with rhododendron, the dark accents of the spruce trees, all so real and so peaceful. We looked and looked, and then we looked through tears. At last Olaus said: "Well, I guess I can't look any longer." —FROM *TWO IN THE FAR NORTH*

Climb Safe!

Developing Safe Climbing Techniques

BY THE RED TREE VOLE SAFETY COALITION

This article is written in honor of all the people who have been injured or killed in defense of forests.

Treesitting has become an effective tactic in defending ancient forests in the Northwest. The victories at Eagle Creek in the Mount Hood National Forest, Washington's Watch Mountain and the successful reduction of the Clark Timber Sale in the Willamette National Forest illustrate that treesitting can be a useful tactic. Unfortunately, we have also learned that it can be a dangerous one.

Throughout the years, there have been a number of accidents that have resulted in anything from minor bruises to severe spinal injuries. Most recently, we have been devastated by the death of treesitter and friend, Beth "Horehound" O'Brien.

When we engage in direct action, especially in trees 150 feet up in the canopy, we are literally putting our lives on the line. This risk is something any treesitter must seriously think about, and they should be prepared to accept the possible outcomes. However, once an activist has come to terms with the potential risks, there are a number of concrete ways through which tree climbing and treesitting can be made a safer form of direct action.

This is not intended to be a manual to teach an individual how to climb. It is a summary of the most common reasons that people tend to get hurt while climbing at treesit campaigns and some basic concepts that can form the building blocks for safer climbing. The best way to learn how to climb is to be taught by a climbing trainer who is safety conscious. Just because a person knows how to climb, does not necessarily mean that they are prepared to teach someone else.

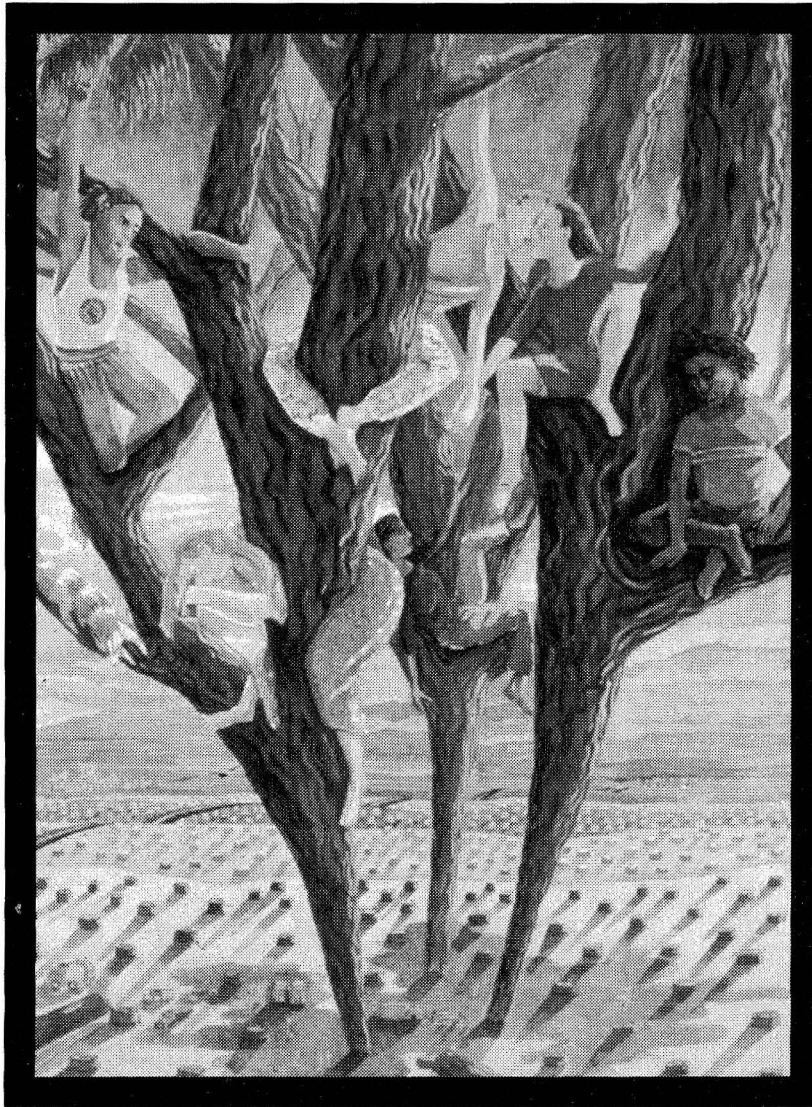
Most treesitting accidents have resulted from treesitters not using safety devices (e.g. not being clipped in) or not using these devices correctly. For example, using wrist, waist or ankle harnesses is not safe. In one situation, a climber insisted on using a piece of webbing as a waist harness. He did this expressly against the request of a much more

experienced climber. When the climber fell, his waist harness slid up under his arms, cinched down around his rib cage and began to suffocate him by the weight of his own body. Two other climbers had to do a dangerous high rope rescue. He was lowered to the ground and emergency vehicles had to be called in. Luckily he was all right, although one of his rescuers was injured in the process.

One contributing factor to his poor judgment was the fact that he had been drinking. Imbibing at 150 feet is not an uncommon practice, but it is certainly a risky one. Each campaign or collective will need to address this issue for itself. It doesn't take a genius to figure out that being inebriated in a treesit may not be in the best interest of safety or of the campaign. The least a person

could do if intoxicated is to wear their safety harness properly and be clipped in to two points of safety.

Another major cause of injuries is objects falling from the treetops onto people standing below. This can be avoided by building walls and nets into treesits, but also through a strong awareness that injuries happen this way. We could also work harder on designing treesits with safety standards built into them, instead of giving the treesitter an unsafe option. For example, a common unsafe design is two platforms with a gap between them that is small, but it is still a drop if one were to stumble. To the climber it could seem



Knotty-Knotty

not worth their time to clip to a safety line as they move from one platform to another.

Safety Concepts

Sometimes it can be hard to teach or learn every single detail of climbing, particularly at the site of a forest occupation under threat. What is more important is to be able to teach, learn and thoroughly understand basic safety concepts which can be applied to any climbing scenario.

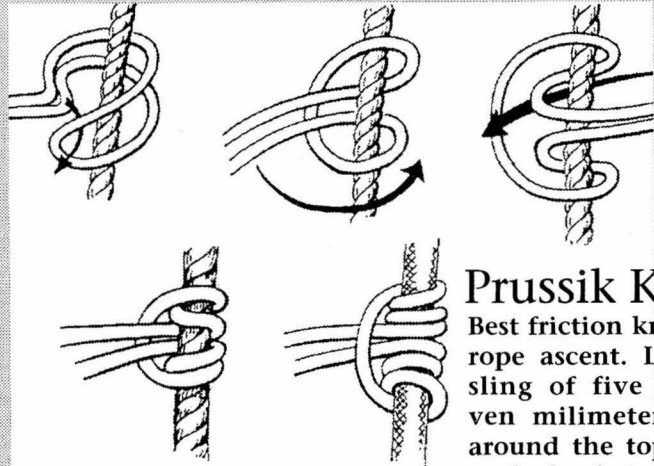
Probably the best and most crucial example of this concept is referred to as "two points of protection." This means that a climber must be clipped in or attached to the tree or the line by two different protection devices at all times.

For example, when a person is climbing up a line into a tree, they are attached to the line by their top prussik (the first point of protection). They also add a backup safety to their bottom prussik (the second point of protection). Never depend on one piece of gear or one point of protection for your safety! Using the two points of protection rule helps to guard against both human error (using a piece of gear improperly) and gear failure by having a backup if one point of protection fails.

The main point we want to illustrate with this is that once someone understands the two points of protection concept and why it makes sense, they are more able to keep themselves safe in any climbing situation—whether they are climbing, descending, traversing or setting a platform, even if they've never done it before. Explaining this concept as general safety protocol rather than just saying "attach to the line here and here" puts a new climber in a better position. The same is true for all the other rules, concepts and protocols that are mentioned in this article.

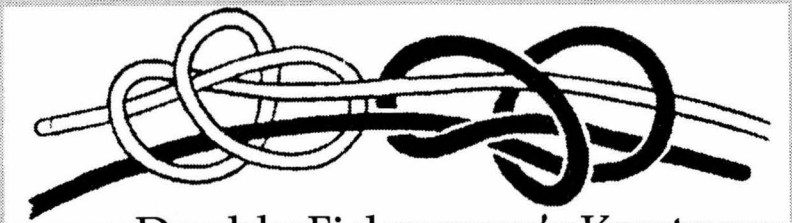
Creating, maintaining and passing on a safe, direct action, tree climbing mentality is another important concept. When climbing for direct action purposes, you are not only putting your own life on the line, but also the future of the campaign, the forest and

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Prussik Knot

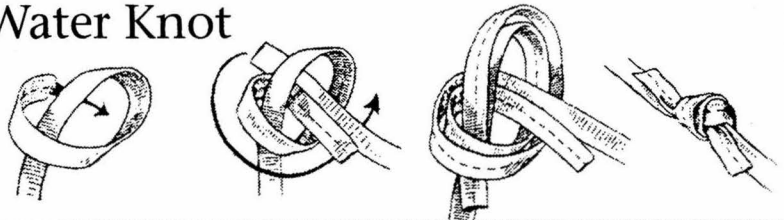
Best friction knot for rope ascent. Loop a sling of five to seven millimeter rope around the top rope and feed it back through itself two or three times.



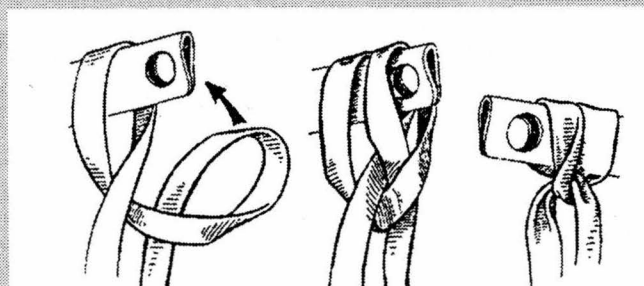
Double Fisherman's Knot

Used to join two ends of rope.

Water Knot



Used to join two ends of webbing.



Clove Hitch Knot

Simple knot to finish line secured to object.

Climb Safe! continued

continued from previous page

your organization. Your safety standards and expectations must be even higher than that of a recreational climber.

"Cool," "macho" or simply "individualistic" mentalities lead to injuries, oftentimes not only for the person exhibiting the mentality, but for the person who learned a bad habit by example. Groups need to adopt the attitude that it is no longer "cool" to climb from tree to tree with no safety. We actively work to protect the lives of trees, so we should also respect each other by actively working not to compromise our fellow defender's safety.

Safety Protocol Training

Along with having a genuinely safe and respectful climbing mentality, each campaign should have a set of safety protocols that are agreed to and respected. Set protocols will help to avoid conflicts in the future. These are agreed upon training systems to provide consistent and thorough

training for new people *and* for trainers. This is often something we don't make time for—to the detriment of our campaigns and our safety.

A climbing training program is only useful if it is relevant, practical and tailored to that specific campaign. Therefore, not every campaign will train in exactly the same way. The most important thing is to train well. Some important aspects that need to be incorporated are:

- **Taking care of your gear.** Climbing gear, particularly ropes and webbing (also known as soft gear), wears out much more quickly if it's not kept clean. If you have to coil your rope on the ground, put down a groundcloth first. Don't step on your gear, especially the ropes.

Never let any kind of chemicals come in contact with the equipment. Petrochemicals, even common ones like insect repellent, can damage ropes and webbing.

Another killer of gear is ultraviolet light. Never store your ropes in the sun. Keep them in rope bags.

Always be aware that soft gear can melt easily. Do not smoke in or around your climbing gear, and avoid circumstances like campfires where sparks may come in contact with the gear.

- **Checking your gear.** Ropes should always be inspected for wear and damage before use. Run them through your hands, checking for lumps, flat spots or bulges which would indicate a damaged core. If the sheath of a kern mantle rope has been significantly exposed to the sun, the rope should be retired. Likewise, excessive general wear of the sheath is grounds for retirement. The rule of thumb is that if 20 percent of the sheath fibers appear broken, retire it.

A final word of caution: In an attempt to cut costs, we've seen activists use polypropylene rope for their actions. This is extremely dangerous. Polypropylene has a very low melting point and can easily be melted by a friction-heated carabiner or rappel device.

All slings and prussiks should be inspected for wear just like a climbing rope. In the case of knotted slings, like lobster claws, check all the knots. Look for any knot whose tail is disappearing into the knot and re-tie it. An inch and a half of tail is considered safe. Inspect your harness before climbing. Look for cuts, ripped stitching or damage to the buckles.

All metal climbing gear should be inspected for hairline fractures. With cast metal items, such as jumars or descenders, retirement should be considered if the item has fallen more than two feet onto a hard surface like pavement and more than 15 feet onto the forest floor.

- **Teaching new people the relevant knots.** This takes time, so often trainers will get lazy with this one, but omitting knots does not make for a safe or complete training. The most basic knots you should learn for climbing are the prussik, clove hitch, water and double fishermen's knot.

- **Two points of protection and the "add, don't subtract" rule.** When switching systems, switching from traversing to climbing, doing a mid-line descent or climbing past an obstruction on a line, always add more points of protection rather than "just one point of protection for a quick second and hoping that nothing happens."



Photo by Kurt Jensen

Climbing in the Winberry Tree Village

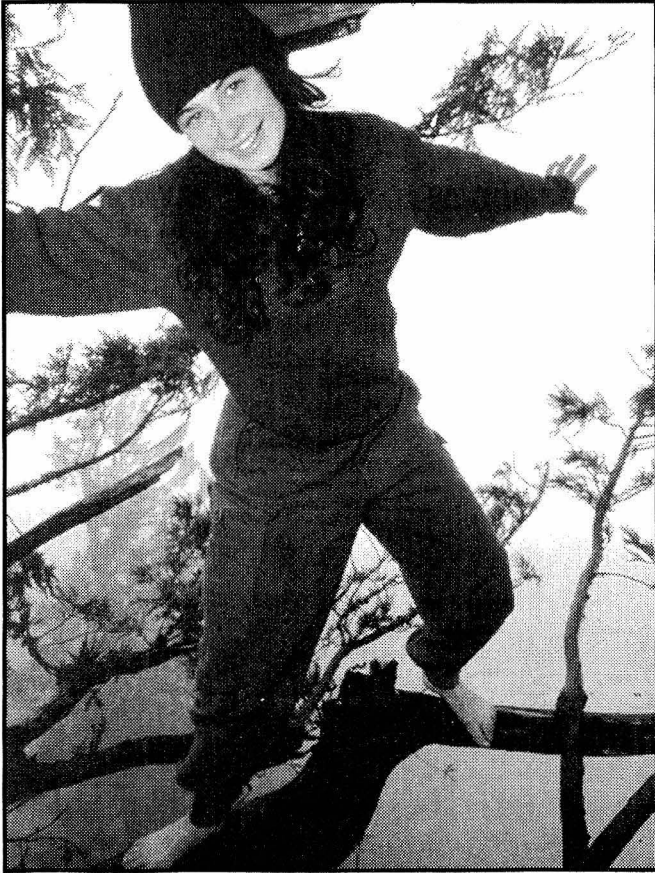


photo by Eric Stromanson/Zuma

A demonstration of unsafe climbing behavior

- **Demonstrate how to ascend *and* descend.** It is crucial to show a climber how to do a mid-line descent, not just to ascend. This may sound obvious, but there have been far too many times where someone was quickly taught how to climb up, but not taught how to get down! This has led to unsafe, not to mention scary, situations. Teach people how to descend with both a prussik and a descending device.

- **Have an emergency plan.** It is important to realize that all of this training and the use of backup safety devices is not only just for a "typical" scenario. The training should prepare the new climber to safely respond in an emergency.

All treesitters should know how to work the phones or radios and how to maintain equipment. There should always be a list of updated emergency numbers of folks in town who can help in any given situation. At basecamp we need more folks who have taken Wilderness First Responders courses or attended intensive first aid skillshares. What happens in the first minutes after an accident is crucial because in most direct action forest situations we are far away from hospitals and ambulances.

This is just a framework to guide folks toward making our upper canopy villages safer. Sometimes taking safety precautions seems like a downer on an uplifting experience, but the forests need you alive and well, and so do we! So be safe!

The Red Tree Vole Safety Coalition is comprised of activists who are experienced climbers and trainers from campaigns like Headwaters and Fall Creek.

The ABC Safety Check

A IS FOR ANCHORS

You want to make sure the climbing line is secured to the tree and fully pulled down.

B IS FOR BUCKLES

Always buckle back your harness straps.

C IS FOR CARABINERS

Are they ajar or unlocked? Do you have as many as will you need?

D IS FOR DEVICES

Do you have everything you need to get up, down or across in any given situation: figure eights, extra prussiks, pulleys and lobster claws? Have you checked for the correct set-up? Is your gear in good shape?

E IS FOR EWOKS

Make sure your fur and any long hair is pulled back away from devices.

F IS FOR FUCK SHIT UP!

G IS FOR GO!



FBI on the Run continued...

An Interview with Darryl Cherney

continued from page 6

EF!J: In hindsight, now that this hurdle has been crossed, how do you believe this has changed you, either for better or worse?

DC: In so many ways, I'd rather be known as the person who helped protect a portion of Headwaters Forest than the person who got bombed and almost framed by the FBI. I'm getting a lot of recognition now for being part of a team that defeated the FBI. I'd rather be known as a preserver of wilderness.

Nevertheless, the learning experience has been profound. For starters, we learned that environmentalism and civil rights overlap because the civil rights of environmentalists are being violated. And so, in a sense, we have become civil rights activists in part whether we want to be or not. I'm a biocentrist, a deep ecologist and an Earth Firster, but gosh darn it, all of the sudden I've had to wage a civil rights battle in order to defend our movement.

The other learning experience has involved just seeing the inner workings of the FBI and understanding the kinds of infiltration that actually take place, as opposed to the kinds we imagine in our paranoid states. Seeing how incompetent they are, how corrupt and criminal they are from a front row seat—it has been an incredible education.

One more thing is that even though we won, this trial kicked my ass. It really humbled me tremendously. It broke me on many days, on many levels. I did manage to maintain my composure for the four-and-a-half to five hours we were in court every day. But I had many distressing moments during the remaining parts of the day.

I learned my own breaking points, my own vulnerabilities. And I learned that as much as I would like to lead by example, that I am terribly human and very imperfect even in the middle of the World Series of lawsuits. I made errors. I struck out. I got into a brawl on the mound.

I don't feel particularly bad ass or on top of the world having won this case. I feel very humbled and incredibly grateful to our lawyers, our paralegal team, all of our supporters and to the jury.

EF!J: While our movement continues to put this into perspective and figures out what comes next, I am wondering if you have any last words that you'd like to share with Journal readers?

DC: So many people have walked up to me and expressed the deepest kind of gratitude. And I have to say that took me back a little bit. I knew people would be happy and celebratory,

but when we said we were waging this lawsuit for all the people who had ever been attacked by the FBI, I didn't fully understand how personally people really took that to heart—that people really did feel that we were fighting this for them.

I also want to say that if anything highlighted the trial in the bigger sense, it was the degree to which the FBI lied along with the OPD. The degree to which they really thought these lies were going to be believed. The fact that they

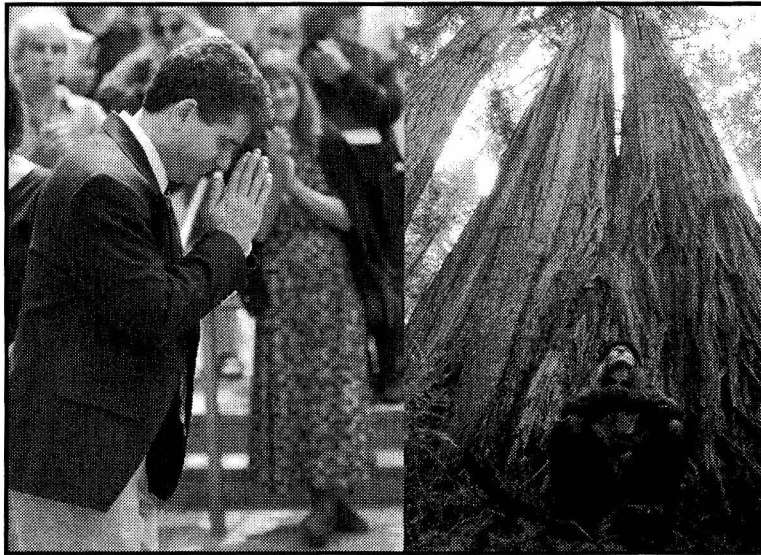
just weren't used to being held accountable. The absolute shock that they felt when they lost told me how out of touch they are.

But at the same time, I realized how much it is really the FBI that's a threat to our national security. In this case, I saw how Earth First! has really become the defenders of our national security. What is our national security but the land we live on, the air that we breathe, the water we drink, the forests that modify our climate and all the wonderful things that the Earth provides us?

Something I've said many times, and I'll say it again to the *Earth First! Journal* readers: Earth First! was blockading the FBI from clearcutting the constitution. I think that we can all rest a little bit easier knowing that when given an opportunity to look at the FBI up close, the jury of our peers, of average Americans, chose to believe Earth First! over the FBI.

The lawsuit saga continues on November 1, when the next court hearing is set to rule on the post-trial motions. The FBI has indicated that it is going to appeal. Cherney and the Earth First! team have also mentioned that they plan to appeal a number of issues, including the dismissal of the FBI's top brass and Richard Held. Whether or not the FBI will want to have its horns locked with Earth First! for several years to come is a question the FBI needs to be asking itself and remains to be seen.

For more information, visit www.judibari.org.



Darryl Cherney pauses to reflect on what this struggle has meant to him.

photos by Geoff Oliver Bugbee

EF! KIDZ Activity Page

What Creature?

An ecosystem is an area—such as a forest, desert, ocean or river—where all plants and animals depend upon one another and the environment to maintain a balanced and healthy place to live. When something makes an ecosystem go out of balance, it effects all the animals and plants.

When humans cut down a forest, it has a huge effect on the creatures and plants that live there. The animals no longer have a place to live. Forest conditions change so that the plants that were dependent on the trees to shade them can no longer grow. Dirt that was held in place by tree roots washes into the rivers and smothers the fish. When a species of animal cannot find a place to live or get food, it will eventually die off or become extinct.

Forests around the world are being cut down by greedy corporations that care more about making money than keeping the balance of ecosystems intact so that all animals and plants can survive. People who care about the Earth are taking action to save the forests and to make sure no more animals or plants will be lost forever.

Read these questions and guess which endangered species depends on the old-growth forest and ocean ecosystems of the Pacific Coast.

WHAT CREATURE...

Is an endangered species in California, Oregon, Washington and Southern British Columbia?

Is black and white in the Winter and brown in the Summer?

Pairs with its partner for life?

Ranges from California, around the Pacific shoreline, to Japan?

Flies at a rate of 50 to 60 miles an hour over both the surface of the sea and above forests?

Travels as much as 60 miles inland to find old-growth forests where it can nest?

Has a strident *keer* call which carries as much as a mile above the surface of the sea or a valley?

Will not survive if old-growth forests are destroyed?

“Flies” underwater with its wings to catch fish?

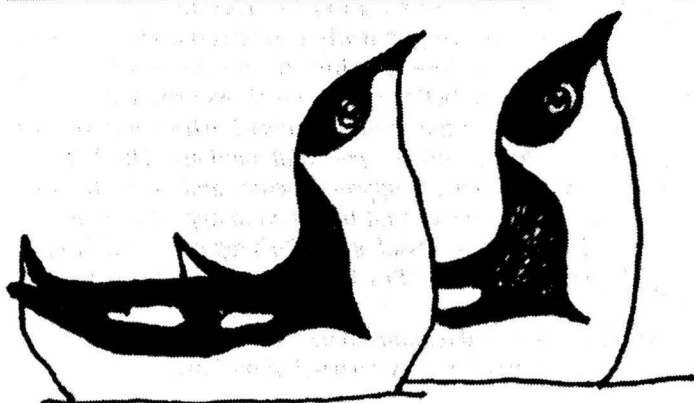
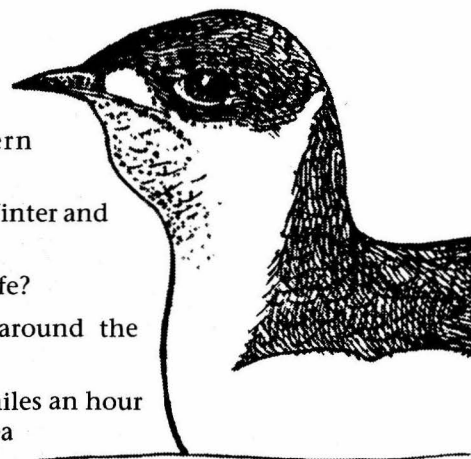
Is a northern relative of the penguin?

Lays a single egg in the upper branches of an old-growth tree?

Uses natural depressions in old-growth trees or mossy branches for its nest?

Leaves its young alone in the nest while it makes two or three trips a day to hunt for fish from the ocean?

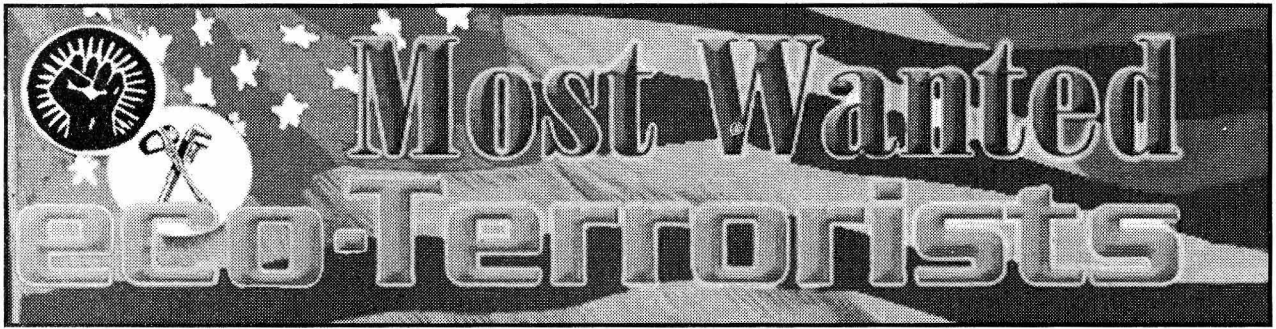
Cannot be bred in captivity?



This remarkable creature is:
Brachyramphus marmoratus,
none other than the

MARBLED MURRELET

Excerpted text from *The Marbled Murrelet, Mysterious Seabird* by Mavis R. Jones and Paul Harris Jones.



Allyn Ford Oregon's Own Eco-Terrorist

BY RUBY JOHNSON

Allyn Clair Ford is the president, chief executive officer and sole owner of Roseburg Forest Products (RFP) and its subsidiary Scott Timber, based in Roseburg, Oregon. RFP is the largest purchaser of federal timber sale logging contracts in Oregon and Washington, most of which are old growth and native forest timber sales. In 2000, RFP was identified as one of the largest, privately owned companies in the state by *Oregon Business Magazine*. That year, RFP's sales totaled \$850 million. Most of these profits come from logging public lands, which contain the last remnants of old-growth ecosystems.



Allyn Ford, forest destroyer

It is my duty to my community to continue logging old growth, and I have no plans to stop.

"stUmpqua" Bank: Financing Eco-Terrorism

Since 1971, Ford has also been the chairman of the Oregon-based Umpqua Bank, and he owns two-and-a-half million dollars of its stock. Umpqua Bank has been the target of a boycott and protests during the past couple of years because of its connection to forest destruction. Organizers of the boycott estimate that nearly half a million dollars have already been divested from Umpqua Bank by concerned citizens.

In April, activists protested outside the bank's annual

shareholders meeting amid heavy police presence (and an all white-male board of directors). This was the first opportunity for Ford to see the protests against him, and he seemed shocked by such signs and banners as "Allyn Ford is an ecocidal maniac." One womyn, who was able to attend the shareholders meeting, talked with Ford about his role in the destruction of our last public ancient forests. His shockingly archaic reply was, "It is my duty to my community to continue logging old growth, and I have no plans to stop."

Ford's Forest Fetish

Ford currently holds logging rights

to approximately 26 ancient and native public forest timber sales in Oregon. At least 10 of these are "replacement volume" timber sales totaling thousands of acres and containing trees that are up to 800 years old and nine feet in diameter.

The replacement volume scheme came about in 1995 when Congress passed the now infamous Salvage Rider, which suspended all environmental laws that normally regulate the sale of federal timber. The Salvage Rider also required the Forest Service to cancel some RFP-owned timber sales in the Siuslaw National Forest to protect the habitat of the marbled murrelet, an endangered seabird that nests in coastal forests.

Replacement parcels for these canceled sales were supposed to exchange "an equal volume of timber, of like kind and value." However, in typical Forest Service fashion, old-growth forests ranging from the Willamette National Forest to the Rogue River National Forest were targeted to serve as replacements for the tree farms that were originally purchased by RFP.

According to the Public Forestry Institute in Eugene, Oregon, many "replacement volume" parcels are worth up to three times what the timber company originally purchased. Some examples are the North Winberry Timber Sale (home of a three-year treesit occupation), east of Eugene, which would clearcut 300 acres of ancient trees. The East Devil Timber Sale would log 184 acres of native and old-growth forest, with some units intruding into the pristine roadless areas bordering the Diamond Peak Wilderness Area.

Ford is a proponent of the Umpqua Land Exchange Project (ULEP). The ULEP was initiated in 1994 by Aaron Jones, owner of the Eugene-based Seneca Sawmill Company, to assess the possibility of trading private holdings in the Umpqua watershed for other public forest lands in the basin. The timber companies involved asserted that they should be given lands they can log if they are to be restricted on their own lands by laws protecting salmon and trout. In 2000, RFP gave \$100,000 to the Republican National Convention's state elections committee. In October 2000, Congress allocated more than four million dollars to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the

675,555 acres being considered in the ULEP. The EIS is slated to be completed by the end of this year.

Employees of RFP have become known for harassing and physically assaulting activists. In 1996, at the Yellow Creek Timber Sale in the Umpqua National Forest, a RFP logger struck a protester. Later that year, at the First and Last Timber Sale in the Umpqua National Forest, a RFP logger chased an activist with a running chainsaw until she hid behind a nearby tree.

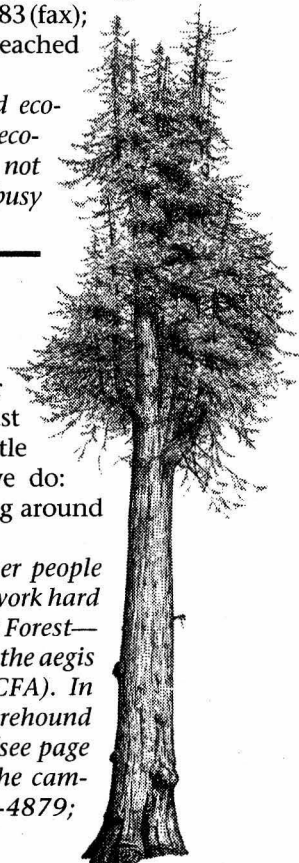
In May, RFP began a 20 million dollar expansion of one of its sawmills in order to increase its "stud" production by more than 70 percent to 360 million board feet per year. This expansion follows a recent purchase of a 75 million dollar facility in Riddle, Oregon.

As if his destructive practices in Oregon weren't enough, Ford was recently licking his chops over three old-growth timber sales in Washington's Gifford Pinchot National Forest. In June, however, he decided to reject the sales "because of public pressure and controversy." Doesn't Ford realize that *all* old growth and native forest timber sales have a huge and growing opposition? With his 26 contracts to log public forests in Oregon, he is going to hit major hurdles every step of the way. The only solution for him is to get out of the old-growth forest business.

In all, RFP is set to log thousands of acres of the most ancient and biologically diverse forest that we have left in Oregon. In some cases, such as the East Devil Timber Sale in the Willamette National Forest and the Peak Timber Sale in the Rogue National Forest, logging could begin any day. Several of these timber sales have been the site of treetop protests by activists. Your help is needed immediately!

Tell Allyn Ford to stay out of our forests. Contact Allyn Ford, Roseburg Forest Products, POB 1088, Roseburg, OR 97470; (541) 679-3311; (541) 679-9683 (fax); allyn@rfpco.com. Ford can also be reached at his home at (541) 673-7454.

Ruby Johnson is a self-proclaimed eco-defender dedicated to exposing the eco-terrorists of Cascadia. When she's not digging up dirt on Allyn Ford, she is busy tuning her monkeywrench.

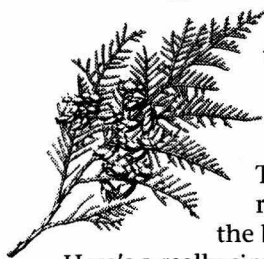


Next on Allyn Ford's Chopping Block: 26 Timber Sales on Public Lands

Siskiyou National Forest	Willamette National Forest
Father Oak	Winberry
Tin Can	Slap
Roseburg Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	East Devil
Buck Creek	Pryor
Happy Summit	Umpqua National Forest
Johnson Creek	Blodgett
Bell Mountain	Jigsaw
Bear Buck	Pigout
Slimewater	Peanuts
Hurricane Ruby	Whitebird
Broken Buck	Rogue River National Forest
Medford BLM	Peak
Serpents Grave	Silver Sturgis
Bonnie n' Slyde	Buck Point
Key Elk	
Conde Shell	

Why We Sit in Trees continued

continued from page 10



situations and filled with desire to protect something every human on the face of the planet has love for, even if that love is clouded by social conditioning or covered up by concrete and asphalt. That's something we can relate to; it's really the key to saving these forests; it's the basis for everything we do out here.

Here's a really simple invitation: Come out to the forests. You don't have to climb up into the trees or block the roads or lock down to anything. Just come out into the woods for a few weeks and decide for yourself if old-growth forests seem too crowded, if clearcuts seem at all healthy, if the stands the USFS planted appear to be "more real" than the untouched parts of the forest. The deepest secrets, the most profound

revelations of living in the trees for months on end, can all be found just by coming out to the forests for a little while and doing exactly what we do: breathing, drinking, eating, looking around and simply being.

Chimpy #2 and a variety of other people who are sometimes named Chimpy work hard to defend the Mount Hood National Forest—and sometimes other forests—under the aegis of the Cascadia Forest Alliance (CFA). In July, CFA started a treesit named Horehound in defense of the Solo Timber Sale (see page 11 for details). To help out with the campaign, contact CFA, (503) 241-4879; www.cascadiaforestalliance.org.

Exposing Corporate Nonprofiteering

BY JEFF NELSON

Pro-consumer advocate Rick Berman claims that he wants to "expose" funding sources of nonprofit activist organizations. On February 12, Berman testified before Congress and referred to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, the Ruckus Society, Rainforest Action Network and the *Earth First! Journal*. Berman asked Congress, "When will this breeding ground for environmental criminals be held accountable?" Yet his enthusiasm for drawing aside the veil seems to wane thin when the focus is turned on himself.

Berman is a Washington, DC, tobacco, food and alcohol lobbyist who also runs several nonprofit organizations: Guest Choice (which was started with a \$600,000 check from Phillip Morris and was recently renamed the Center for Consumer Freedom), the Employment Policies Institute (EPI, which fights against raising the minimum wage) and the American Beverage Institute (which represents alcohol sellers and attacks organizations like Mothers Against Drunk Driving).

Berman was recently exposed for funneling millions of corporate dollars—donated to these nonprofit organizations—directly into his own bank accounts. Berman pays himself in the form of salary and benefits for his role as executive director, as well as through payments he makes from the nonprofits to his own corporation, Berman & Company, Inc., for consulting services.

Nonprofiteering?

According to his 1998 tax returns, Berman earned more than one million dollars in salary and for consulting services. Another way to look at it: Berman paid himself about 79 percent of all the charitable donations raised that year by EPI. And that million-plus paycheck was from just one of the nonprofits that Berman operates.

In a letter recently published on ParentalFreedom.com (which parodies Berman's ConsumerFreedom.com website), Berman tries to distinguish between using a nonprofit to pay himself a "salary" versus paying money to his Berman & Company corporation for "consulting"—a company Berman

admits he wholly owns. He asserts that he actually paid at least part of the nonprofit money he has steered toward his corporation to other people he chose to employ, as opposed to putting it all in his own personal bank account. Berman threatened a lawsuit for defamation over this distinction.

Berman Fights for "Consumers"

Berman's website ActivistCash.com claims it "root[s] out the funding sources of the most notorious anti-consumer groups." But this is Orwellian-speak at best. Berman's nonprofits seek to quash actual pro-consumer groups, such as the Center for Science in the Public Interest, which educates the public about food safety and nutrition issues. Berman's definition of "pro-consumer" appears to be encouraging people to smoke cigarettes, drink alcohol, eat lots of junk food and ignore the health consequences from consuming these items.

In reality, Berman has used ActivistCash.com to compile a collection of information mixed with insults, distortions and outright falsehoods—perhaps in an effort to spice it up and make his corporate funders believe he's actually engaged in a meaningful enterprise.

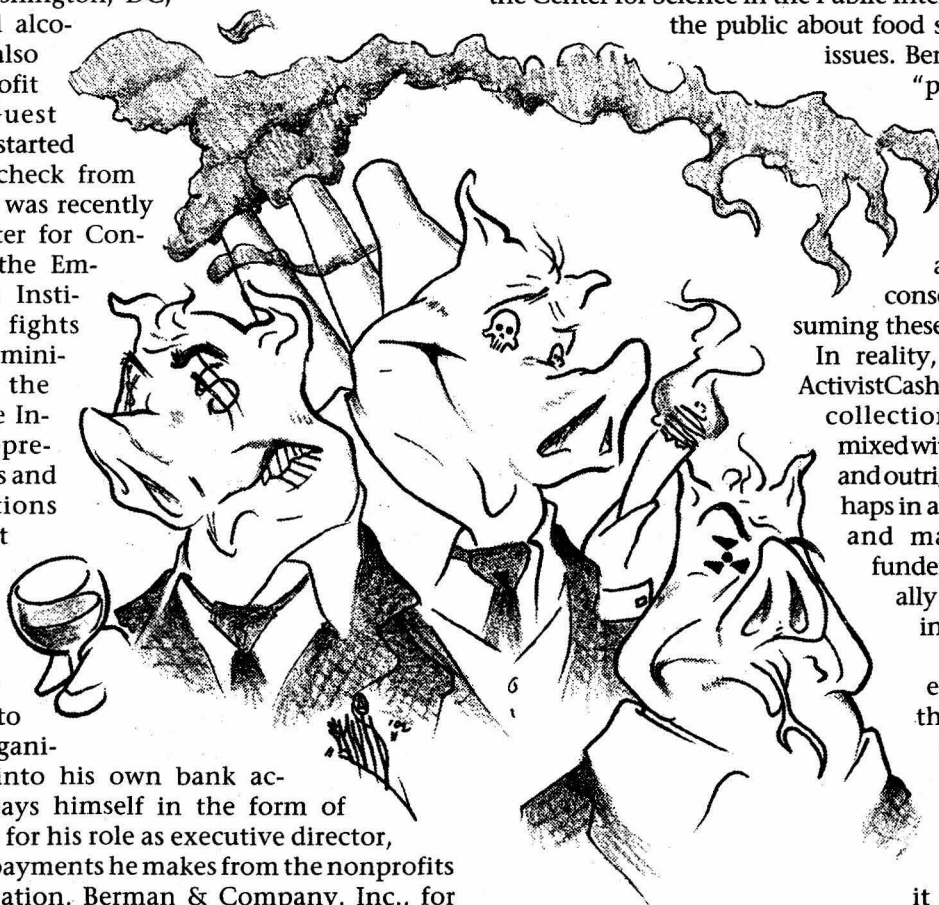
Imagine if the executive director of the Sierra Club raised a total of \$100 million in one year—and then paid 79 percent, or \$79 million, of it to himself directly as salary and as consult-

ing fees to a corporation he wholly owned. Berman would probably be the first at the door of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) trying to get the Sierra Club's nonprofit status yanked.

Does Berman live in a glass house? Is moving the majority of corporate donations from a nonprofit you run to a for-profit you own what the IRS intended for nonprofit status? It may all be perfectly legal, but there's an Enron-esque feeling to it.

To read more on the controversy about Rick Berman, visit www.parentalfreedom.com/response2berman.htm.

Jeff Nelson is the president of VegSource Interactive, a clearinghouse of vegetarian resources.



Corporate Activists Clap for ExxonMobil

BY CHICKPEA

For the past three years, the Dallas-based direct action collective UPROAR (United People Resisting Oppression and Racism) has collaborated with Greenpeace, US PIRG and the Seattle-based PressurePoint to call attention to ExxonMobil's environmental and human rights abuses worldwide. In May, the coalition organized a Festival of Resistance in response to the annual ExxonMobil shareholder meeting in Dallas.

Representatives were due to arrive from Indonesia, Colombia, Cameroon, Russia and Tibet to testify at a mock trial exposing ExxonMobil's negative impacts on their communities. So when organizer Scott Crow received a request to write an op-ed for the *Fort Worth Star Telegram*, he assumed the coalition's public relations firm had successfully stirred up interest. However, Crow soon discovered that the *Star Telegram* was tipped off by a wholly different source: Citizens for a Sound Economy (CSE).

CSE, which shares board members with the conservative Media Research Center and the Cato Institute, is well organized, corporate-backed and media savvy. Since September 11, along with other industry front groups, CSE has exploited the terrorist attacks by smearing environmentalists as "eco-terrorists." Public Citizen obtained CSE's 1998 budget, which indicates its top contributor was the oil and gas industry—at more than two million dollars, with ExxonMobil contributing \$200,000. Corporate donors like Philip Morris, General Electric and Johnson & Johnson join ExxonMobil in making up more than 85 percent of CSE's budget.

Insidiously, CSE has disguised its corporate funding by co-opting the language and tactics of people-powered organizing, claiming to be the "grassroots voice for consumers." According to its website, CSE consists of "a growing and permanent volunteer grassroots army" organized to demand policy change. CSE has also linked itself to other "grassroots" organizations to further enhance its public image, including the Citizens Organized for Racial Equality (a conservative equal rights group) and the Free Republic Network (an organization that "champions causes which further conservatism in America").

Mark Levin, president of the American Freedom Center, a legal and public policy research institute, explicitly linked the Festival of Resistance protests to the "war on terrorism" in a *Star Telegram* editorial published the day before the shareholder meeting. "As the US military continues to battle terrorism overseas," it read, "ExxonMobil is preparing for the possibility of eco-terrorism at this week's shareholder meeting in Dallas." The editorial was just one of many strategically placed in newspapers in the weeks before and after the demonstrations.

On local television news, against the backdrop of video footage showing burning dumpsters and smashed windows, CSE representatives warned viewers that, "The same environmental radicals who looted Seattle to protest the World Trade Organization meeting in 1999 will descend on Dallas to protest ExxonMobil's environmental policies." Fortunately, most print media didn't make use of CSE's sensational sound bites. The *Star Telegram* referred to the demonstrators as "social activists, ranging from environmental, alternative energy and social policy proponents."

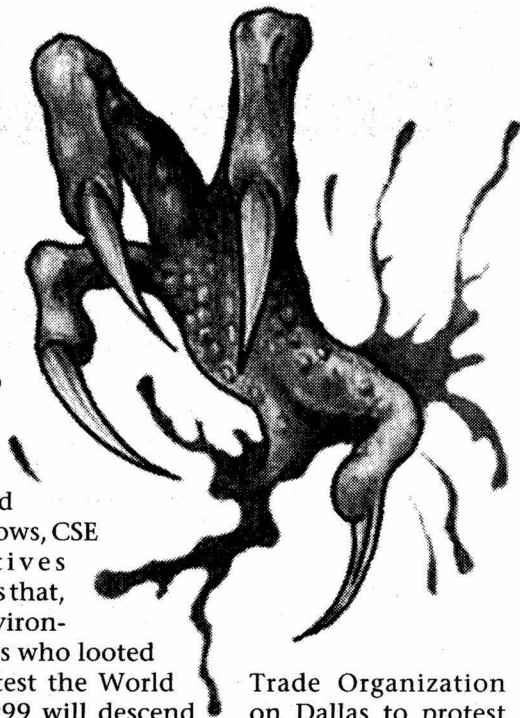
At the protest in front of the shareholder meeting, counter-protesters with CSE converged with signs that read: "Capitalism and free enterprise are what make this country great!" and "Thanks ExxonMobil for being a good corporate neighbor." When the counter-protestor's picket line passed by protesters holding brightly colored puppets and "Stop ExxonMobil" posters, they clapped their hands and yelled, "Let's hear it for the eco-terrorists! You're an eco-terrorist! Why don't you go burn down a ski resort?"

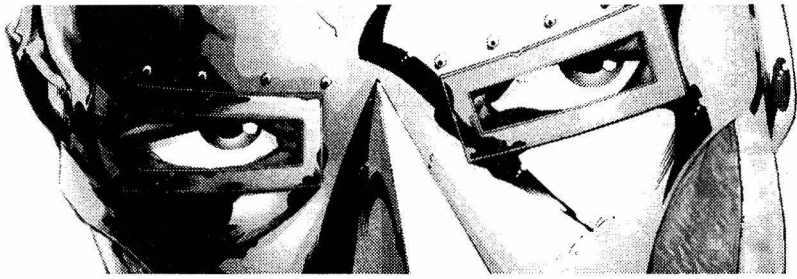
On the morning of the shareholder meeting, Crow called the *Associated Press* to confirm its plans to cover the Festival of Resistance protest. It was then that he discovered the national day book editor had received word that the protest was canceled. The regional day book editor had also been told the event's time had changed. This unusually under-handed tactic, combined with a nationally coordinated media smear campaign, was clearly the work of a corporate-funded effort by CSE. It not only spread misinformation, but also blocked the exposure of human rights and environmental violations that compromise the international "Stop ExxonMobil" campaign.

In the process of countering the Festival of Resistance, CSE painted local Dallas organizers as "eco-terrorists." This poses a clear danger to small groups like UPROAR who do not have massive budgets to clear their names. CSE's corporate funding needs to be exposed, and future collaborations between grassroots and national environmental groups need to include media trainings so that CSE and other industry front groups are less successful.

For more information, contact Scott@riseup.net.

Chickpea is an avid bicycle commuter, community organizer and Independent Media Center journalist in Houston, Texas.





When Robots Bleed:

Research Scientists Blur the Line Between Nature and Machine

BY JAMES BELL

In his 1972 speech *The Android and the Human*, science fiction visionary Philip K. Dick told his audience, "Machines are becoming more human. Our environment, and I mean our manmade world of machines, is becoming alive in ways specifically and fundamentally analogous to ourselves." In the near future, Dick prophesied, a human might shoot a robot only to see it bleed from its wound. When the robot shot back, it may be surprised to find the human gush smoke. "It would be rather a great moment of truth for both of them," Dick added.

Present-day cloning, nanotechnology and robotics are blurring the lines between nature and machine. While laboratory-created biotech and robotic lifeforms proliferate, nature experiences a catastrophic decline. These technologies represent as great a threat to the ancient natural order of our world as they do the modern political one. This is why the US military is aggressively backing research in many of these new technologies.

The Clone Wars

It wasn't until 1963 that British scientist J.B.S. Haldane, inspired by experiments to copy a frog, coined the word "clone." Dolly, the world's most famous sheep, was cloned in 1997 from the udder cells of an adult ewe. The "inside joke" around the naming of Dolly speaks volumes about the scientific community's "boys with toys" complex. Embryologist Ian Wilmut admitted, "No one could think of a more impressive set of mammary glands than Dolly Parton's."

Ironically, some in the scientific community are banking on the work of the women's movement to justify cloning in the US. Any law banning reproductive cloning would ultimately run up against the US Supreme Court's ruling in *Roe v. Wade*, which, by upholding the right of a woman to choose an abortion, arguably implies that the state cannot interfere with how she chooses to reproduce.

In November 2001, Advanced Cell Technology of Massachusetts jarred the nation's focus away from the recession and terrorism when it announced that it had succeeded in cloning early stage human embryos. Debate on the topic has stayed equally divided between those who support therapeutic cloning and those, like the American Medical Association, who want an outright ban.

The Military and Corporate Alliance's Robot Army

The word "robot" (Czech for "forced labor") was coined by Karel Capek in the 1920 play *R.U.R. (Rossum's Universal Robots)* in which machines assume the drudgery of factory production, then develop feelings and proceed to wipe out humanity in a violent revolution. While the robots in *R.U.R.* could represent the "nightmare vision of the proletariat seen through middle-class eyes," as science fiction author Thomas Disch has suggested, they also are testament to the persistent fears of manmade technology run amok. In a modern manifestation of this theme, in 2003 movie goers will see robots revolt against their makers in the \$180 million Warner Brothers movie, *Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines*.

Similar themes have manifested themselves in popular culture and folklore since at least medieval times. One such legend, from 16th century Prague,

centers around Rabbi Löw and the Jewish legend of the *golem*. After molding the *golem* (a statue or figure of a man produced from mud or clay) and endowing it with life, Rabbi Löw was forced to destroy the clay creature after it ran amok. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* makes reference to this legend in the character of Golem. Here a humanoid creature is transformed by the "technology" of the ring into an immortal. In an ironic twist, Tolkien's Golem is brought to life on the silver screen via computer animation. It is truly a *golem* now, enchanted by programmers and interacting with the humans in the film.

While some might dismiss these stories simply as popular paranoia, robots are already being deployed in the real world and are poised to replace the more deadly duties of the modern soldier. The Pentagon is replacing soldiers with sensors, vehicles, aircraft and weapons that can be operated by remote control or are autonomous. Pilot-less aircraft played an important role in the recent bombings of Afghanistan, and a model called the *Gnat* was recently sent to conduct surveillance flights in the Philippines.

"The real challenge is to mix man and machines," said Colonel Leahy, program director for the *Gnat*. "It will be a loose ballet at first. But eventually, the systems will be linked to each other, sharing information and deciding among them who has the best shot."

Leading the Pentagon's remote-control warfare effort is the Northern Virginia-based Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. The agency is working with Boeing to develop the X-45 unmanned combat air vehicle. The 30-foot-long windowless planes will carry up to 12 bombs, each weighing 250 pounds. George W. Bush enabled such research by increasing the military's already inflated budget, and in a way they're thanking him for it: the X-45 looks exactly like a flying "W."

According to military analysts, as early as 2007, the "W" will be used to attack

radar and anti-aircraft installations. By 2010, they will be programmed to distinguish friends from foes without consulting humans and independently attack targets in designated areas. By 2020, robotic planes and vehicles will direct remote-controlled bombers toward targets, robotic helicopters will coordinate driverless convoys, and unmanned submarines will clear mines and launch cruise missiles.

Rising to the challenge of "mix[ing] man and machine," MIT's Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies (backed by a five-year, \$50 million US Army grant) is busy innovating materials and designs to create military uniforms that rival the best science fiction. Human soldiers themselves are being transformed into modern cyborgs through robotic devices and nanotechnology. Soldiers may one day very soon, as Dick envisioned, "gush smoke."

The Post-Human Future

The 2002 International Conference on Robotics and Automation, hosted by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, kicked off its technical session with a discussion on "bio-robots," the melding of living and artificial structures into a cybernetic organism or cyborg.

"In the past few years, the biosciences and robotics have been getting closer and closer," said Palio Dario, director of the Advanced Robotics Technology and Systems Lab. "More and more, biological models are used for the design of biometric robots, [and] robots are increasingly used by neuroscientists as clinical platforms for validating biological models." Artificial constructs are beginning to approach the scale and complexity of living systems.

Some of the scientific "breakthroughs" expected in the next few years promise to make cloning and robotics seem rather benign. The merging of technology and nature has already yielded some shocking progeny. Consider these examples:

- Researchers at the State University of New York in New York City have turned a living rat into a radio-controlled automaton, using three electrodes placed in the animal's brain. The animal can be remotely steered through an obstacle course, making it twist, turn and jump on demand.

- In May, eight elderly residents of Florida were willfully injected with microscopic

silicon identification chips encoded with medical information, making them "scannable just like a jar of peanut butter in the supermarket checkout line." Applied Digital Solutions, Inc., the creator of the chip, will soon have a prototype of a device able to receive satellite signals and transmit a person's location.

- Human embryos have been successfully implanted and grown in artificial wombs. The experiments were halted after a few days to avoid violating *in vitro* fertilization regulations (see *EF!* March-April 2002).

...scientists built a robotic fish that was guided by the brain of an eel.

- Researchers in Israel have fashioned a "bio-computer" out of DNA that is capable of handling a billion operations per second with 99.8 percent accuracy. Reuters reports that these bio-computers are so minute that "a trillion of them could fit inside a test tube."

- IBM has built a video screen whose images appear so true-to-life that "the human eye finds [the video images] indistinguishable from the real thing."

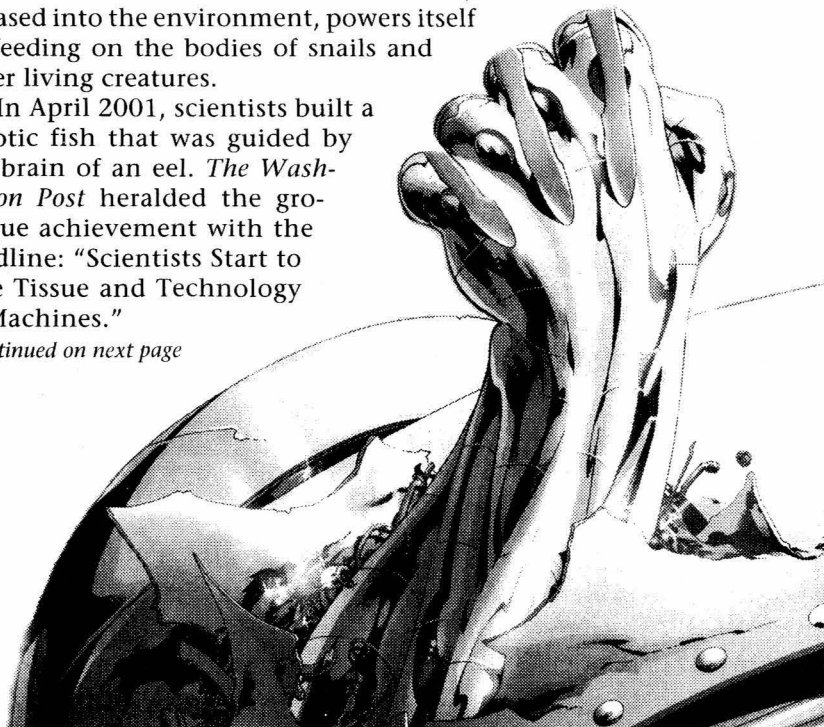
- In England, University of Reading Professor Kevin Warwick has implanted microchips in his body to remotely monitor and control his physical motions. During Warwick's Project Cyborg experiments, computers were able to remotely monitor his movements and open doors at his approach.

- Engineers at the US Sandia National Labs have built a remote-controlled spy robot equipped with a TV scanner, microphone and a chemical micro-sensor. The robot weighs one ounce and is smaller than a dime. Lab scientists predict that the micro-bot could prove invaluable in protecting "US military and economic interests."

- US scientists have built a machine that, when released into the environment, powers itself by feeding on the bodies of snails and other living creatures.

- In April 2001, scientists built a robotic fish that was guided by the brain of an eel. *The Washington Post* heralded the grotesque achievement with the headline: "Scientists Start to Fuse Tissue and Technology in Machines."

continued on next page



ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Seaborne Bladders

World Water, SA, an international consortium that includes Alaska Water Exports and similar companies in Norway, Japan and Saudi Arabia, considers itself a pioneer of "bulk water delivery."

In April, Alaska Water Exports proposed to fill ocean-going bags with billions of gallons of freshwater from rivers in Northern California and tow them south. The water would then be sold for a profit to parched cities such as San Diego.

A pipeline would run from the mouth of a river to floating polyfiber water transport bags that are 25-foot deep, 100-foot wide and three times as long as a football field. Each bag can hold more than 13 million gallons of water.

Because freshwater is lighter than saltwater, and with the help of air pockets built in, the bags would be able to float on the ocean's surface. If water rights are indeed granted, Alaska Water Exports would use tugboats to transport the bags—making approximately 750 week-long round trips to haul water from Northern California to San Diego.

"What tankers did for the oil industry, water bags will do for the water industry," said Terry Spragg, a Seattle entrepreneur who is developing his own line of water bags.

Lightning Knocks Out Nuclear Reactors

Even though lightning hits Scotland's national power grid on a regular basis, on May 2, it caused a power surge which tripped the Torness Nuclear Power Station's safety systems. BBC News revealed that the lightning strike shut down both reactors at Torness for five days.

The incident was the first time in the station's history

that both reactors had been knocked out simultaneously.

Dr. Richard Dixon, with Friends of the Earth Scotland, responded, "It was obviously quite serious if it took them five days to switch a reactor back on again—to take that long to decide what to do."

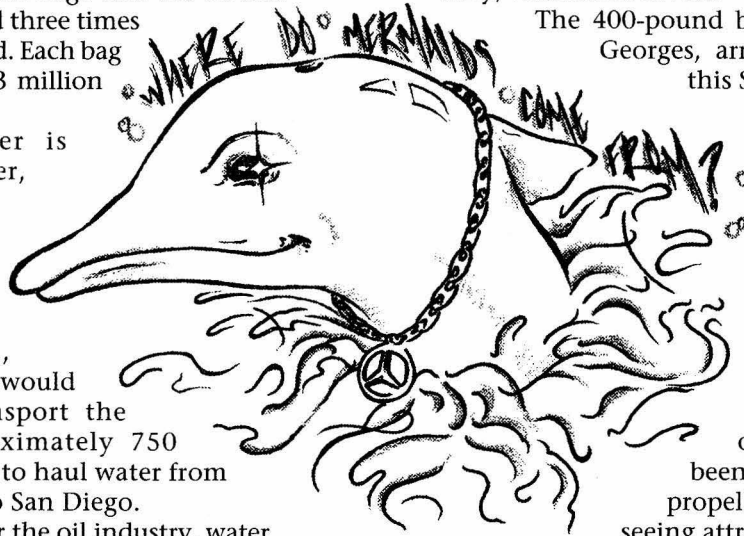
Dolphin Courts Swimmers in the UK

A sexually frustrated dolphin tried to lure people away from an English seaside resort in June. Swimmers were warned that the dolphin would attempt to entice them to mate. In fact, he had already attempted to mate, unsuccessfully, with some divers.

The 400-pound bottlenose dolphin, nicknamed Georges, arrived near Weymouth, Dorset, this Spring.

Dolphin rehabilitator and advocate Ric O'Barry, explained, "When dolphins get sexually excited, they try to isolate a swimmer, normally female. They do this by circling around the individual and gradually move them away from the beach, boat or crowd of people."

Georges has resisted moving on to less-populated waters, has been injured by more than one boat propeller and has become a local sight-seeing attraction at the resort.



An Area Known for Its Honey

On June 11, authorities in India reported the "green rain" seen by residents of Sangrampur village, north of Calcutta, was not some mysterious toxic substance. Bee feces with traces of honey were falling from the sky.

"On studying the samples of condensed droplets, we found they were feces of bees containing traces of honey excreted from a large swarm of bees flying overhead," said D. Chakraborty, chief scientist of the state's pollution control board. Pollen gave the droplets their greenish-yellow color.

non-native animals and population growth, up to one-fifth of all living species—mostly in the tropics—are expected to disappear within 30 years.

A 1998 Harris poll of the 5,000 members of the American Institute of Biological Sciences found 70 percent believed that what has been termed "the sixth extinction" is now underway. A simultaneous Harris poll found that 60 percent of the public was totally unaware of the impending biological collapse. Nature and technology are not just evolving—they are competing and combining with one another. Unless changes are enacted now on a global level, Mother Earth may one day be better known as our "motherboard." Let's just hope it doesn't rust.

For more info., visit www.technologicalsingularity.info.

James Bell is a writer for Sustain, a national environmental information group based in Chicago.

When Robots Bleed

continued from previous page

• In February 2001, MIT researchers successfully tested a robotic fish controlled by a microprocessor and powered by the muscle tissues stripped from a frog.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature, the International Botanical Congress and a majority of the world's biologists believe that a global "mass extinction" is already underway. "The speed at which species are being lost is much faster than any we've seen in the past—including those related to meteor collisions," said University of Tennessee biodiversity expert Daniel Simberloff. As a direct result of human activities, including resource extraction, industrial agriculture, the introduction of

Prisoners in the Struggle

Prisoner Updates

• Emma "Pitch" Murphy-Ellis is expected to be released to a 14-month probation on July 27. She has served four months for blockading a road with 30 protesters at the Eagle Creek Timber Sale near Portland, Oregon.

• Mel Broughton has been released. Served four years for conspiracy to cause explosions in an eco-defense action.

• Summer Nelson, 700 10th St., Columbus, GA 31901-2899, USA. Serving three months for a School of the Americas demonstration. Summer is active with Wild Rockies EF! and the Buffalo Field Campaign.

• José Bové, 20671U, Maison d'arrît, Avenue du Moulin de la Jasse, 34750 Villeneuve-les-Maguelonne, France. Serving 90 days for his role in dismantling a McDonald's restaurant.

Ecodefense

• Jeffrey "Free" Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St., Salem, OR 97310, USA. Serving 22 years and eight months for arson at a car dealership.

• Craig "Critter" Marshall, #13797662, SRCI, 777 Stanton Blvd., Ontario, OR 97914, USA. Serving five-and-a-half years for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of incendiary devices to torch SUVs.

• Dr. Yurl Bandazhevsky, Ul. Kalvarijskaya 36, POB 35K, Minsk 220600, Belarus. Serving eight years for telling the world that the nuclear radiation around Chernobyl is worse than what the government had reported.

• Iñaki Garcia Koch, Carcel de Pamplona, C/San Roque, Apdo. 250,31080—Iruñez—Pamplona, Navarra, Spain. Serving five years for sabotaging a dam construction site.

• Marco Camenish, Hornlistrasse 55, 8330 Pfaffikon, Switzerland. Extradited to Switzerland to serve 10 years for destroying nuclear facility powerlines in the 1970s and '80s.

• Grigory Pasko, Russian Federation 690 100, g. Vladivostok, ul. Ivanovskaya 2, kv 24. Russian eco-journalist serving four years for exposing the Russian Navy's dumping of nuclear waste.

• Helen Woodson, #03231-045, FMC Carswell, POB 27137, Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA. Serving 27 years for the disarmament of a Minuteman II missile silo with a jackhammer, mailing warning letters to officials with .38 caliber bullets inside, robbing a bank and burning the money.

Animal Liberation

• Matthew Whyte, #99477-111, TCI, POB 7001, Taft, CA 93268, USA. Serving 14 months for assembling incendiary devices with the intent to later target dairy trucks.

• Peter Schnell, #99476-111, FCI Otisville, POB 1000, Otisville, NY 10963, USA. Serving 24 months for same action as Matthew Whyte.

• Neil Bartlett, FW7083, HMP The Verne, Portland, Dorset, DT5 1EQ, England. Serving four years for Earth and animal liberation bomb hoaxes.

• Dave Blenkinsop, EM7899, HMP Birmingham, B18 4AS, England. Serving three years for assaulting the managing director of Huntingdon Life Sciences. Also serving 18 months for rescuing 600 guinea pigs from a lab supplier.

• Geert Waegemans, Begijnestraat 42 2000, Antwerp, Belgium. Serving four years for attempted arson.

• Rae Newlands, GN6613, HMP Winchester, Romsey Rd., Winchester, SO22 5DF, England. Serving four-and-a-half years for aggravated harassment of Huntingdon Life Sciences shareholders.

Anti-Globalization

• Rob Middaugh, #6859467, POB 5000, Delano, CA 93216-5000, USA. Serving three years for his involvement in the Mayday 2001 Reclaim the Streets celebrations in Long Beach, California.

• Robert Thaxton, #12112716, OSP, 2605 State St., Salem, OR 97310, USA. Serving a seven-year mandatory minimum sentence for throwing a rock at a cop at a 1999 Eugene, Oregon, Reclaim the Streets.

• Sarah Roberts, #7289038, TTCF Module 232, Terminal Annex, POB 86164, Los Angeles, CA 90086, USA. Serving six months for "Unlawful Assembly" and wearing a mask during the Mayday 2001 celebrations in Long Beach, California.

MOVE

The "MOVE 9," members of an eco-revolutionary group, were framed for the murder of a cop and sentenced to 30 to 100 years each. Although many of the MOVE prisoners are listed together, they must be written to separately.

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

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

• Edward Goodman Africa, #AM4974, SCI Camp Hill, PA 17011-0200, USA.

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

• Mumia Abu-Jamal, #AM8335, SCI Greene, 175 Progress Dr., Waynesburg, PA 15370, USA.

Mumia, a politically active journalist, was framed for the murder of a cop in 1981.

Indigenous

• Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA. An American Indian Movement activist, Leonard is serving life in prison after being framed for the murder of two FBI agents during the Pine Ridge siege in 1975.

• Eric Wildcat Hall, #BL-5355, Unit I/A 10745 Rt. 18, Albion, PA 16475-0002, USA. Serving 35-75 years for helping ship arms to Central American indigenous activists.



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For more information, contact the Autonomous Media Conference, (520) 628-8720; www.consensus.net/autonomousmedia.html.

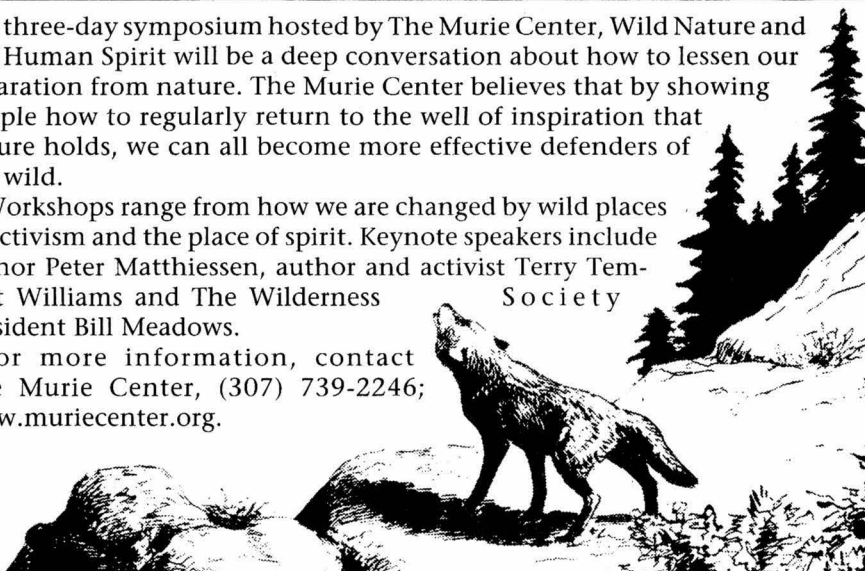
Supporting organizations: AK Press, *Earth First! Journal*, Thought Crime, Feral Press, See Sharp Press, Processed World, A Food Not Bombs Menu, Radio Limbo, AZ Independent Media Center, Billboard Liberation Front, Bound Together Books, Pan Left.

Wild Nature and the Human Spirit August 24-27 · Moose, Wyoming

A three-day symposium hosted by The Murie Center, Wild Nature and the Human Spirit will be a deep conversation about how to lessen our separation from nature. The Murie Center believes that by showing people how to regularly return to the well of inspiration that nature holds, we can all become more effective defenders of the wild.

Workshops range from how we are changed by wild places to activism and the place of spirit. Keynote speakers include author Peter Matthiessen, author and activist Terry Tempest Williams and The Wilderness Society President Bill Meadows.

For more information, contact The Murie Center, (307) 739-2246; www.muriecenter.org.



Action for Nuclear Abolition

October 4-15 · Las Vegas to the Nevada Test Site Peace Camp

Since the 1940s, the ancestral lands of indigenous peoples have been used for testing nuclear weapons, experimenting with biological and chemical warfare agents, incinerating and burying hazardous wastes, as well as mining uranium. The Nevada (Nuclear) Test Site (NTS) and the proposed Yucca Mountain nuclear waste dump illustrate ongoing government and corporate plans that facilitate genocide.

Activists are hard at work mobilizing folks to come to the beautiful Great Basin Desert for a spirited celebration of nonviolent resistance.

Starting August 6, the Family Spirit Walk for Mother Earth will begin its 800-mile pilgrimage from Los Alamos to the NTS. The walk will arrive in Las Vegas, Nevada, on October 4.

On October 5, there will be a People's Nuclear Abolition Summit in Las Vegas. This will be a day of education and empowerment, with presentations by indigenous, environmental and peace activists. Beginning at the Department of Energy headquarters in Las Vegas, we hope to have hundreds joining the walk on October 6-10, for the remaining 65 miles to NTS.

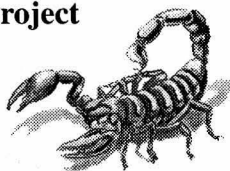
The walk will culminate in a nonviolent direct action camp on October 11-15. Among the highlights of the week will be Indigenous Peoples' Day, direct action training, nonviolent occupations, blockades and actions at Yucca Mountain and NTS.

Join us as we wise up, rise up, honor all the living things and resist this military-industrial madness.

For more information, contact the Shundahai Network, (800) 471-4737; shundahai@shundahai.org; www.shundahai.org.

A nonprofit, tax-exempt organization which funds environmental education media. Donations and funding proposals can be sent to:

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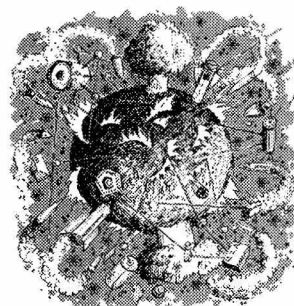
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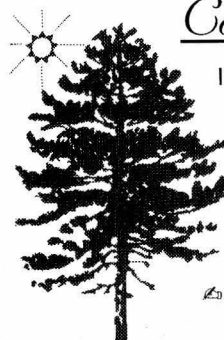
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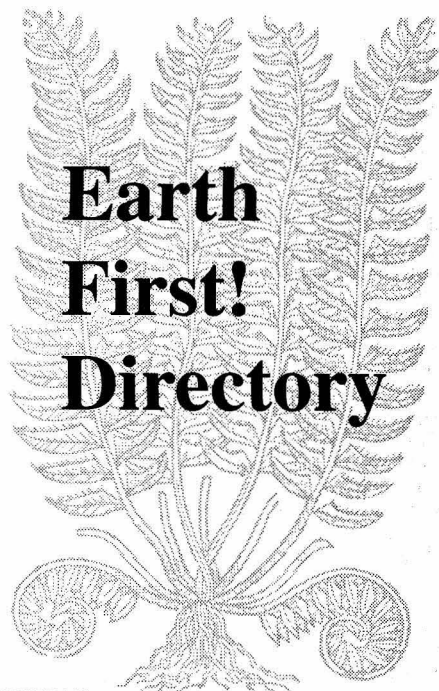


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Antoinette Dwinga

Divided and Conquered?



BY FREE

For decades, people in the US have struggled and fought against imperialism, colonialism, racism, sexism and countless other forms of oppression. Each one of these struggles has failed on at least one level. Why? Because all of these struggles have allowed themselves to be divided, not only amongst their ranks, but also separated by their causes.

The truth is that all of our struggles are interconnected. On a deeper level all of us know this. Often we talk of community, mutual aid and solidarity. Yet where have these ideas manifested themselves?

I am not talking about the mass protests or direct action camps. I am talking about our everyday lives. We have to live the revolution.

All too often we allow ourselves to be divided into cliques. We can get so caught up in our own ideals that we may become unwilling to work with others who do not share the same ideological "purity." At that point it becomes impossible to express ideas outside of your own circle, and even harder to work with others for a greater good.

It seems that we have dedicated more time to rhetoric and debating ideology. More time is spent arguing: reds against greens, anarchists against socialists, pacifists against militants. Struggles are condemned as single issues, others are deemed as more important. And then there's the "all important" struggle of smashing the state, because of course, once we do that, everything else will just naturally follow.

Every time I read an independent publication, whatever struggle it deals with, I find a common theme: people slugging off others who could be allies.

While we are so occupied arguing amongst ourselves about whose idea of the perfect world is better, the real world, the one we all live in, is falling to pieces.

We think we have all the answers, if only people would do it our way, or my way, or your way. We are so caught up in attitudes of superiority that we fail to realize that we are losing.

People we know and love are going hungry. People we care about are committing suicide and overdosing. People we know are being raped, beaten and abused. It is all around us, in every city, town and community. And we go on writing

our articles, putting out our zines, slugging people off and talking about the revolution.

What are we fighting for? Is there a goal? Because apparently we are not fighting for each other or for our community. Maybe we are fighting to protect the Earth, but that must not be it either because we all still use electricity from dams, drive cars and dumpster or buy food.

We know there are alternatives, we talk about them all the time. Yet we never work together to create them.

The ideal world does not exist. Not everyone is going to be an anarchist. Not everyone is going to be vegan. And it is going to take a long, long time to phase out mass production and become completely sustainable. That is just reality. We can't create the perfect world, but there is no reason why we can't work together to make the one we live in better.

We have to use every tool in the toolbox. If that means we have to work with the unions to accomplish something, we do it. If we have to work with the church to feed hungry children, we do it. If we have to vote to change something, we do it. If we have to take direct action to stop something, we do it.

Because if we don't do it no one else will, and 15 years from now you can read in the *Earth First! Journal*, *Green Anarchy*, or *Clamor Magazine* about how activists are fighting for the last acre of old growth, how the indigenous nations of the world have lost all their land, how one in four people are in prison or under supervision. You will be able to read how we lost every single battle because we were too stubborn, too egotistical or too ideologically pure to work together.

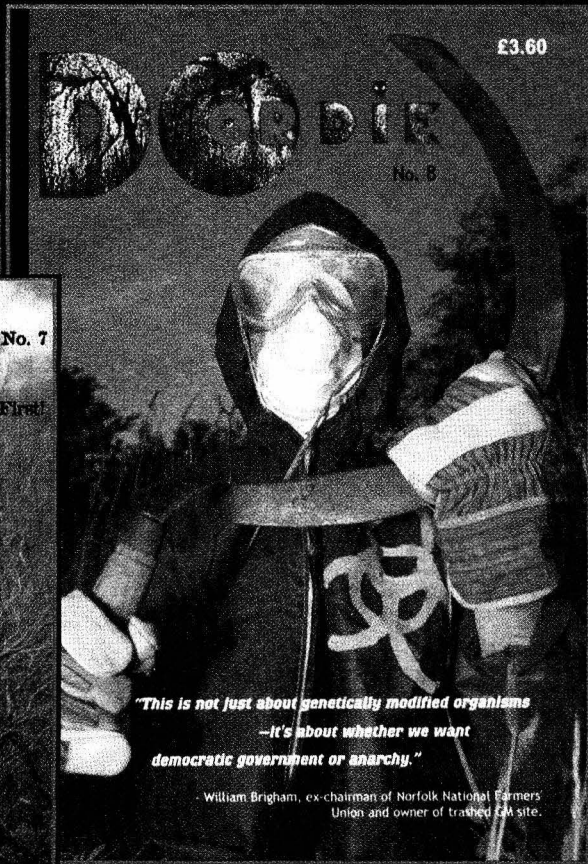
We have a choice, we can shoot for the stars and accept nothing less, or we can aim for the stars and take every step that gets us closer.

I would compromise almost anything if it meant we could actually change the world and not just talk about it.

Jeffrey "Free" Luers has been active since 1996. He has fought for a range of issues including animal rights, gender equality, anti-fascism and eco-defense.

DO OR DIE

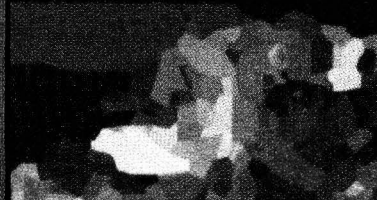
DO OR DIE IS an annual journal crammed with ecological reports and radical analysis. IN THESE TIMES OF concrete alienation, here are voices that shine hope from movements taking action to defend nature, create revolution and re-wild humanity...



*"This is not just about genetically modified organisms
—it's about whether we want
democratic government or anarchy."*

William Brigham, ex-chairman of Norfolk National Farmers
Union and owner of trashed GM site.

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DO OR DIE

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DO OR DIE

No. 7

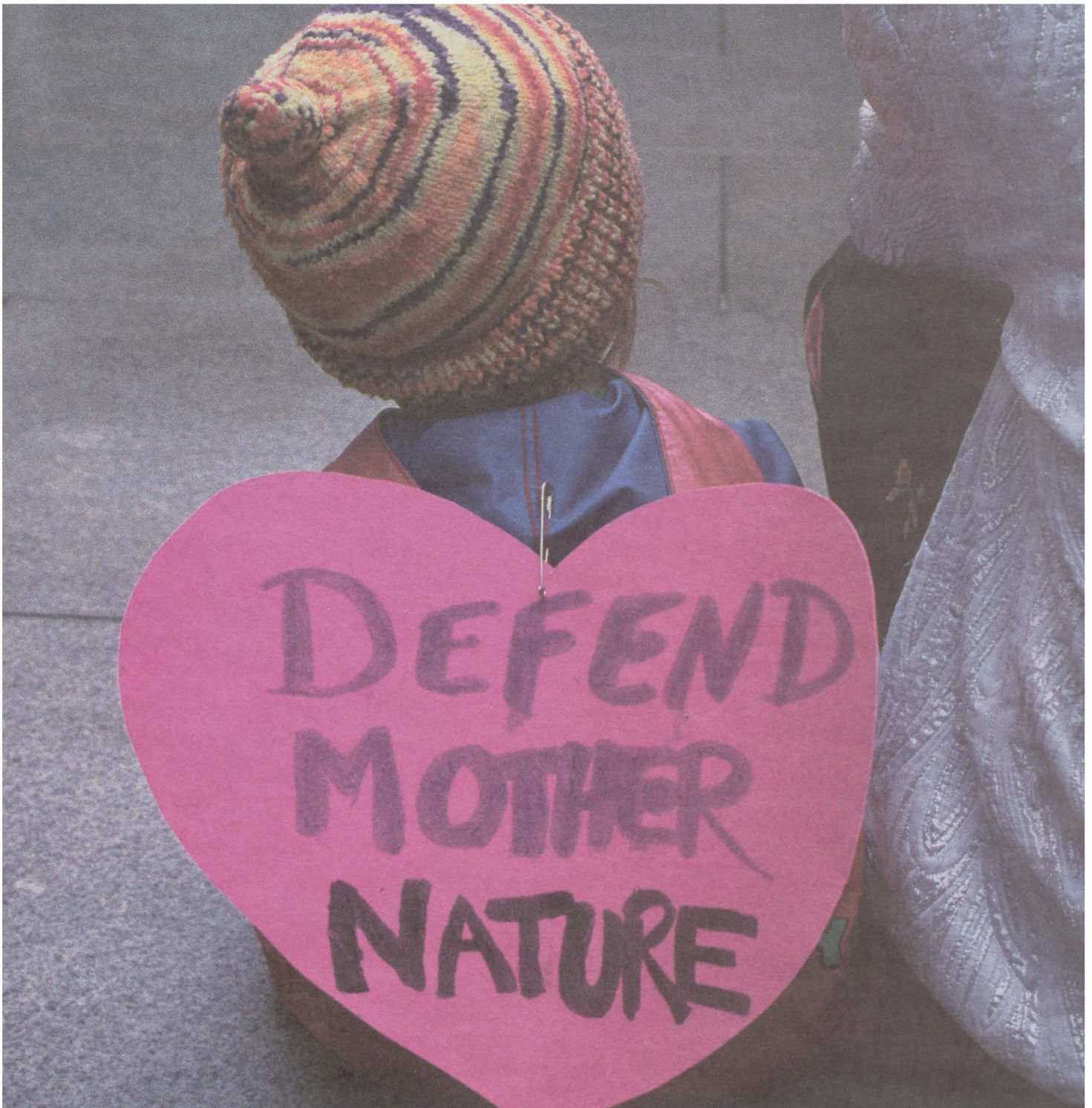
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but we carry a new world here in our hearts,
and the world is growing as we speak."*

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