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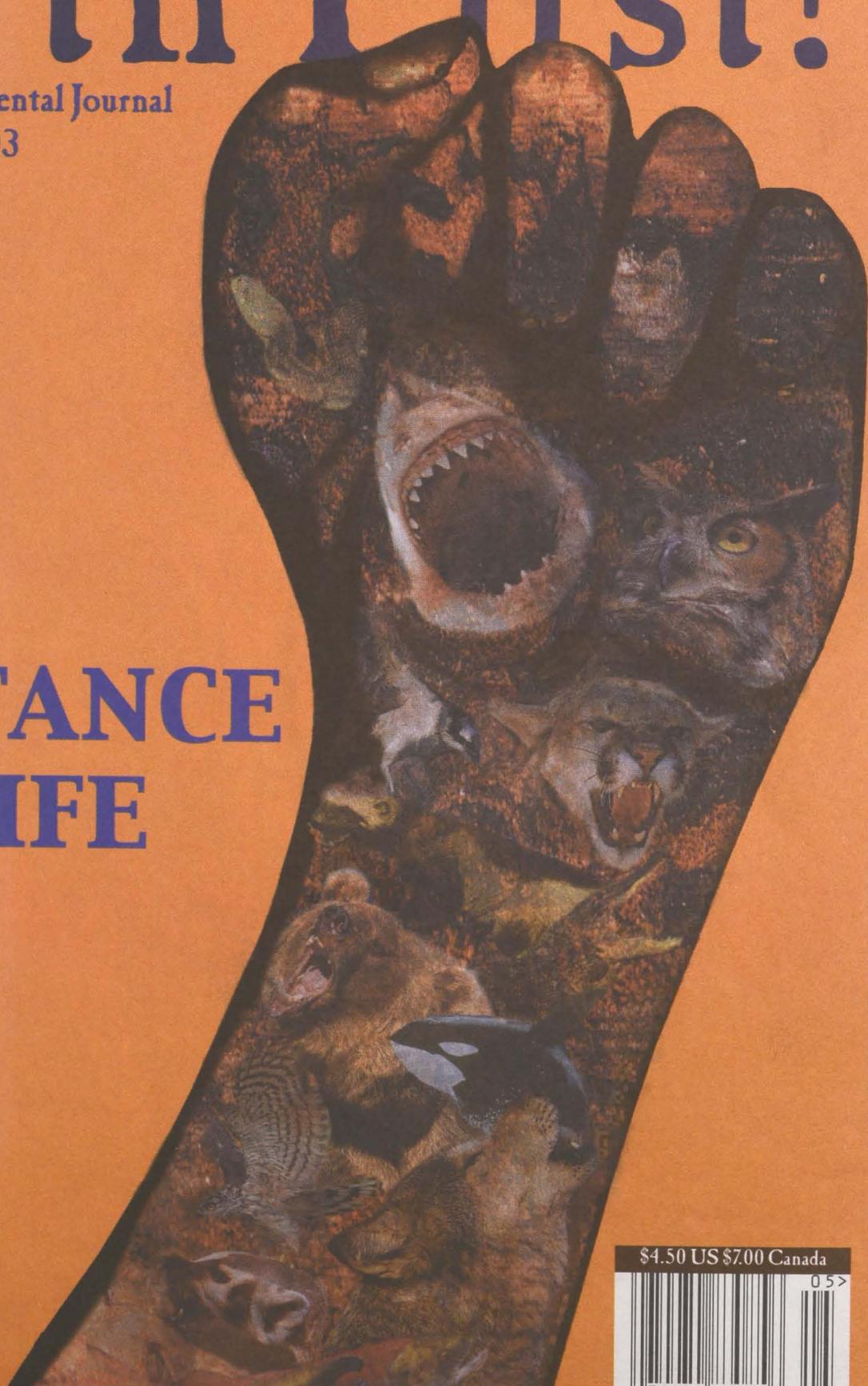
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Grassy Narrows Blockade · Treesitters Evicted · Security Culture · The War This Time

Earth First!

The Radical Environmental Journal
Beltane May-June 2003

**RESISTANCE
IS LIFE**



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is the future written?



Earth First!

Beltane May-June 2003

The *Radical* Environmental Journal



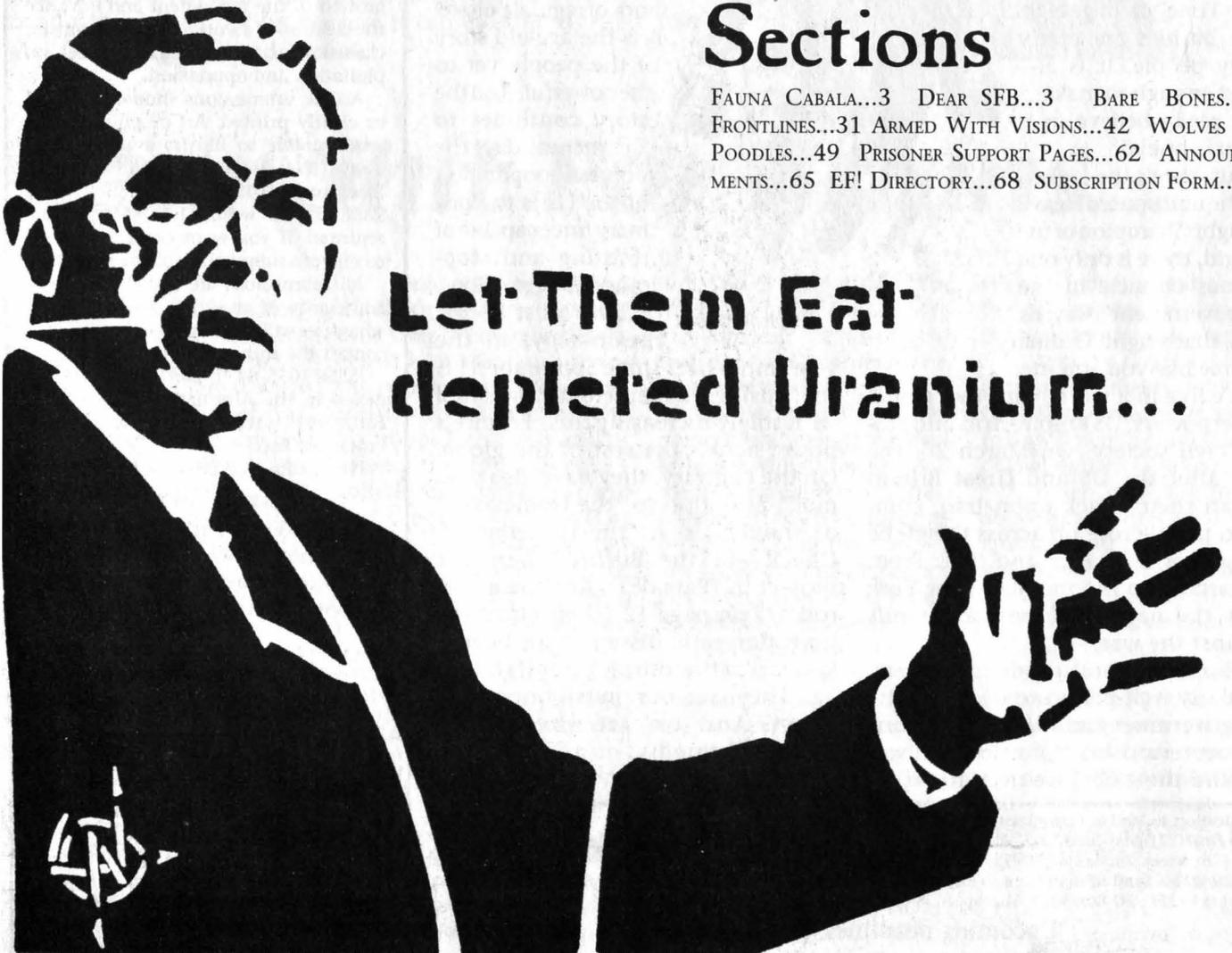
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**Let Them Eat
depleted Uranium...**



Global Enemy #1

The Bush administration has been busy, busy, busy. And you know, if its every action wasn't so offensive to everything about which I cared, I'd almost be impressed. There doesn't seem to be a single week in which the Bushies and their rich corporate sponsors are not waging some deadly new attack on the world. One week, they are helping the logging and development industries gut the Endangered Species Act. The next week, they are rounding up and deporting long term Arabic and African US residents for minor immigration violations. Or, they are waging a war of conquest and murdering thousands of innocent Iraqis for oil and empire. The human and environmental costs of the US war on Iraq are described in "The War This Time" on page eight. The Bushies are pretty scary people. It is almost enough to make one really believe in an axis-of-evil.

But, here's the kicker. As the undisputed Heavy Weight Champion of the World, there is only one serious obstacle in the US government's way: us. Yep, that's right. Ordinary people like you and me.

We live in a world with two global superpowers: US Empire, Inc. and global civil society. On March 20, the day after the US and Great Britain began their attack upon Iraq, common people rose up across the globe in acts of resistance and rage. From Antarctica to Indonesia to New York City, the majority of the world stands against the war.

US citizens and residents are particularly well-placed to resist. As the US government and US corporations export terrorism, repression and war around the globe, we need to inten-

sify our own efforts within the belly of the Empire to create another world—one which is more economically just and ecologically sustainable. The most successful anti-war organizing in the US has linked the struggle for peace to the struggles for justice and a safe environment. Such kickass organizing is discussed in "From Piece Movement to Peace Movement" on page 10.

The US populace has the power to stop the rich corporate elite's schemes. Historically, virtually everything that protects regular folks' lives—from social security to clean air protections to First Amendment rights to the existence of a weekend free from labor—was won only through intense struggles involving thousands upon thousands of regular people. It is the age-old story of the people versus the powerful. And the story continues to the present day; the domestic population of the US is the primary force capable of resisting and stopping US aggression.

This must be the reason why, in the year and a half since September 11, the Bushies haven't been satisfied with solely increasing their Empire's power across the rest of the globe. On the contrary, they have also paid much attention to "the Homeland," or should I say, "the Fatherland"? Check out the Bushies' new pet project in "Patriot II: Are You a Terrorist?" on page 12. Their efforts to limit domestic dissent have been a key part of their strategy, as it should be. They are our most important target. And we are their most powerful enemy.

—WEDGE



A typical Bushie.

Earth First!

Beltane

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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, classism, 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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Fauna Cabala

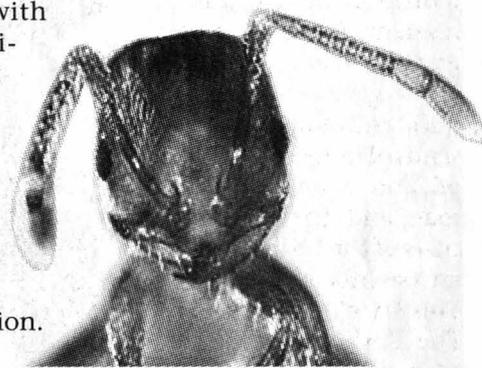
BY FAITH WALKER

Some queens are executed for harboring one unpopular gene.

The fire ant, *Solenopsis invicta*, invaded the southern US in the 1930s. Since then its social organization has shifted dramatically from that of its native Argentina. In its homeland, nests usually comprise a single Argentine queen and her sycophant worker ants. Every ant and her uncle are highly related to each other and hostile to ants that aren't. In the US, however, fire ants have raised an additional type of anthill that has multiple queens. Unlike single-queened nests, queens aren't related to workers, and workers aren't particularly related to each other. This difference in social organization is due to a single gene, which has two forms: B and b. In single-queen nests, the queen always has type BB (queens, like most animals, have two copies of each gene, one inherited from mom and one from dad), whereas in multiple-queen nests, the queens have type Bb. The bb condition isn't an option because it causes afflicted fire ants to expire in early adulthood.

It is workers who control the queens' genes, and hence the colony's social organization. When all of the workers are type BB, then only a single BB queen is allowed. But when there is a critical mass of Bb workers, multiple queens are tolerated, but only if they bear the b form of the gene. So in multiple-queen nests, any BB queen who tries to reproduce becomes queen cuisine—axed by workers because of her disfavored gene. Workers are able to practice genetic discrimination because the gene creates a protein involved in chemical recognition, and thus it seems they're literally able to sniff out offending queens.

This is the only known example of social organization, presumed to usually be a product of the action of many genes, being driven by a single gene of major effect. Since interbreeding between colony types is only possible via one of four possible routes (males of single-queen colonies with queens of multi-queen colonies), it is also the first example of a strong potential for speciation via alternative social organization leading to reproductive isolation.



Dear Shit For Brains...

Dear SFB,

I recently came across this call to action written by Craig Rosebraugh and felt it appropriate to share it with you all in this time of war and destruction. We are being stripped of our civil liberties at an alarming rate, and it seems all we have to give us hope is this spirit of resistance:

1. Attack the financial centers of the country. Using covert or Black Bloc techniques, physically shut down financial centers, which regulate and assist the functioning of the US economy. This can be done in a variety of ways, from massive property destruction to online sabotage, to physical occupation of buildings.



2. Large-scale urban rioting. With massive unrest and even state of emergencies declared in major cities across the country, the US government will be forced to send US troops into the domestic arena, thereby taking resources and political focus away from the war.
3. Attack the media centers of the country. Using any means necessary, shut down the national networks of NBC, ABC, CBS and CNN. Not just occupations but actually engage in strategies and tactics, which knock the networks off the air.
4. Spread the battle to the

individuals responsible for the war and destruction of life—the very heads of government and US corporations. No longer should these people be able to hide behind their occupations, living their lives in peace while they simultaneously slaughter countless people. Hit them in their personal lives, visit their homes and make them feel personally responsible for committing massive atrocities.

5. Make it known publicly that this movement does not support US troops as long as they are serving an unjust and horrifying political regime. Create an atmosphere lacking of support in order to assist US troops at home and abroad in losing their morale and will to fight. If you are supporting troops, you are supporting this war and the

very US government that is the primary terrorist regime in the international arena.

6. Actively target US military establishments within the US. Use any means necessary to slow down the functioning of the murdering body.
7. When engaging in the above six activities, strike hard and fast and retreat in anonymity. Do not get caught. Do not get sent to jail. Stay alert, keep active and keep fighting. Remember, an action is only good (especially at this juncture in US society) if it will serve to severely disrupt the political system of the country, its economy and the corporate interests that drive this society.

Keep fighting...

—TOECATCH

continued on page 44

CANOPY INVASION IN FRESHWATER

Rethinking Direct Action Strategies



photo by Lodgepole

Annapurna being handcuffed 130 feet up in a redwood tree by PL climbers on March 18

BY ROD CORONADO

Not far from where I write this, the last indigenous Mattole people made their stand. In the late 1800s, they were slaughtered by vigilante ranchers on nearby Rainbow Ridge. The Mattole were the caretakers of the forests. They were the defenders of the forests. Now, this very hillside of old-growth Douglas fir, oak and madrone forest is under attack from the same economic interests that led to the slaughter of the Mattole people.

The Rattle 9 Timber Harvest Plan (THP) has been approved. Blue lines mark the trees slated for death. All that stands in the way of the chainsaws at this point are our treesits and blockades. While treesits remain here in the Mattole and on Gypsy Mountain, it was the Freshwater treesits that fell under attack on March 17. This is not an official report from Earth First!, this is my

story of the continuing battle to preserve ancient forests in Northern California and why I believe chants and singing are not enough.

Monday, March 17—The Canopy Invasion Begins

The day began with the eviction of Remedy and Wren from the treesits in the trees known as Jerry and Everlasting Life. They had continuously occupied these trees for 362 and 300 days, respectively. More than 50 California Highway Patrol officers and sheriff's deputies illegally shut down the only road to the treesits. When the road was reopened, more than one hundred supporters gathered to witness as Remedy's lockbox was cut, and she was lowered to the ground. The group I was in began to walk onto the road, and when the police ordered us back, we linked arms and sat down to block the road.

Wren's lockbox took nearly two hours to cut. As darkness fell, we could see sparks fall to the ground from the climber's handheld disc grinder. When PL's hired climber, Eric Schatz (aka Climber Eric), lowered Wren's bound body to the ground, the crowd surged forward. The police began jabbing us back with their batons. Arrests were made as more supporters sat in the roadway, and others chanted and drummed. Local residents and activists began to circle Everlasting Life, which still held Climber Eric's crew. PL's lackeys demanded police protection and got it. Deputies kicked activists who sat in the road and then pepper sprayed and batoned those who resisted.

My affinity group decided to shut-down PL's helicopter logging operation above the Freshwater encampment. Twelve of us walked past the Columbia Helicopter Company security guard and climbed onto the redwood trunks as they were being lifted by the helicopter, disrupting its takeoff. Many of the trees were five to six feet in diameter. The helicopter operator gave up and left the area. We disappeared as the sheriff drove up the road. The helicopter has not flown again in Freshwater.

Tuesday, March 18—The Fight for Life Continues

As supporters arrived in the morning, they were greeted with hoots from another group of treesitters who had reoccupied Jerry and Everlasting Life in the middle of the night. Climber Eric and his crew were only able to remove one treesitter while eight other forest defenders were arrested on the ground.

In a cruel act of frustration, PL loggers and sheriff deputies formed an armed circle to protect one of Climber Eric's crew who cut through the bark and girdled two ancient redwoods known as Wind Dancer and Robin. Meanwhile, two other treesitters evaded capture by traversing to other trees and climbing to the top.

Wednesday, March 19—

Utopia Under Attack

Few forest defenders had slept more than a couple of hours when the cell phones began to ring. The community was alerted to the attack on Utopia, a tree occupied by Silver Willow, one of the Utopian Tree Pirates. That morning, PL security, loggers and the Sheriff's deputies stood guard while Climber Eric cut the limbs off of Utopia and then bound and lowered Silver Willow from the tree. At the same time, a forest defender attempted to lockdown onto PL's gate and was arrested as Utopia fell.

After the attack on Utopia, the police congregated on the helicopter log deck to watch for our next move. Our affinity group decided to stop a PL log deck construction crew in the forest. We ran to PL's gate and locked the police in on the helicopter pad area with a Kryptonite lock. Then, we sped down the hill to the road construction site, and a defender locked down to an excavator, stopping the operation for the rest of the day.

Thursday, March 20—Tale of the Tree Pirates

Another tree pirate, AMD, climbed to the very tip of Jerry to avoid capture by Climber Eric. Meanwhile, two groups played cat and mouse in the forest to stop PL loggers from felling unoccupied trees. When we made our presence known to loggers, they chased us down, each carrying plastic handcuffs. We ran away; it's how some of us avoid PL's known violent attacks on nonviolent observers.

In the afternoon, the crowd watched Climber Eric balance precariously at the tip of Jerry and pull AMD from the limb that miraculously held them both. When she was lowered to the ground, PL loggers advanced toward the ancient tree. Climber Eric began cutting the top of the tree and then a majority of Jerry's limbs.

More activists were arrested on the road for disobeying police orders, while individuals dove into the woods under Jerry's canopy. Climber Eric continued to cut limbs from Jerry despite the knowledge that ac-



Forest defenders surge forward against the police line during the eviction of Remedy and Wren.

photo by Dave Howitt



Climber Eric threatens AMD's life at around 200 feet, telling her that if she falls, he and his crew would testify that she committed suicide.

video still courtesy of NCFE



Deputies protect a Pacific Lumber logger as he girdles an ancient redwood, spelling its death.

photo by Dave Howitt

tivists were beneath him. Never have I seen such determination to destroy something so beautiful as that brave tree. Away from the view of the cops, friends and I cried. For months, we have struggled to protect these few old-growth trees, creating a community of resistance to the destruction of the natural world. Now we were watching as one of our elders was being destroyed.

Friday, March 21—The Battle to Save Merize

Climber Eric came face to face with three brave forest defenders who were resolute in their commitment to keep the tree named Merize alive. Thursday's actions had made it clear that PL, the Sheriff and Climber Eric were intent on continuing their reckless endangerment of our treesitters' lives. Enough tears had fallen.

Stormy, Crazy Bird and Ozark were all witnesses to PL's violence the day before, and I knew each one's strong determination to make a stand for the trees. Three resolute treesitters was more than Climber Eric expected, and he was forced to abandon his attempted murder of Merize.

Forest defenders attempted to lockdown to Climber Eric's truck and were violently pulled from underneath by him and one of his crew. The police made no arrests and announced that they were leaving. Without police protection, Climber Eric left Freshwater and headed to the Redwood Logging Conference where PL President Robert Manne was delivering the keynote address.

Our Nomination for Ecoterrorist of the Month

Over the weekend, forest defenders scrambled to fortify Freshwater's 19 treesits. At the end of the first week, we'd only seen one occupied tree fall, though three others had been seriously wounded. Five treesitters had been arrested, and many more were put at risk by Climber Eric's reckless actions. When AMD was released from jail, she told the story of how, as Jerry's tip began to crack, Climber Eric said that if she should fall, he and his crew had already

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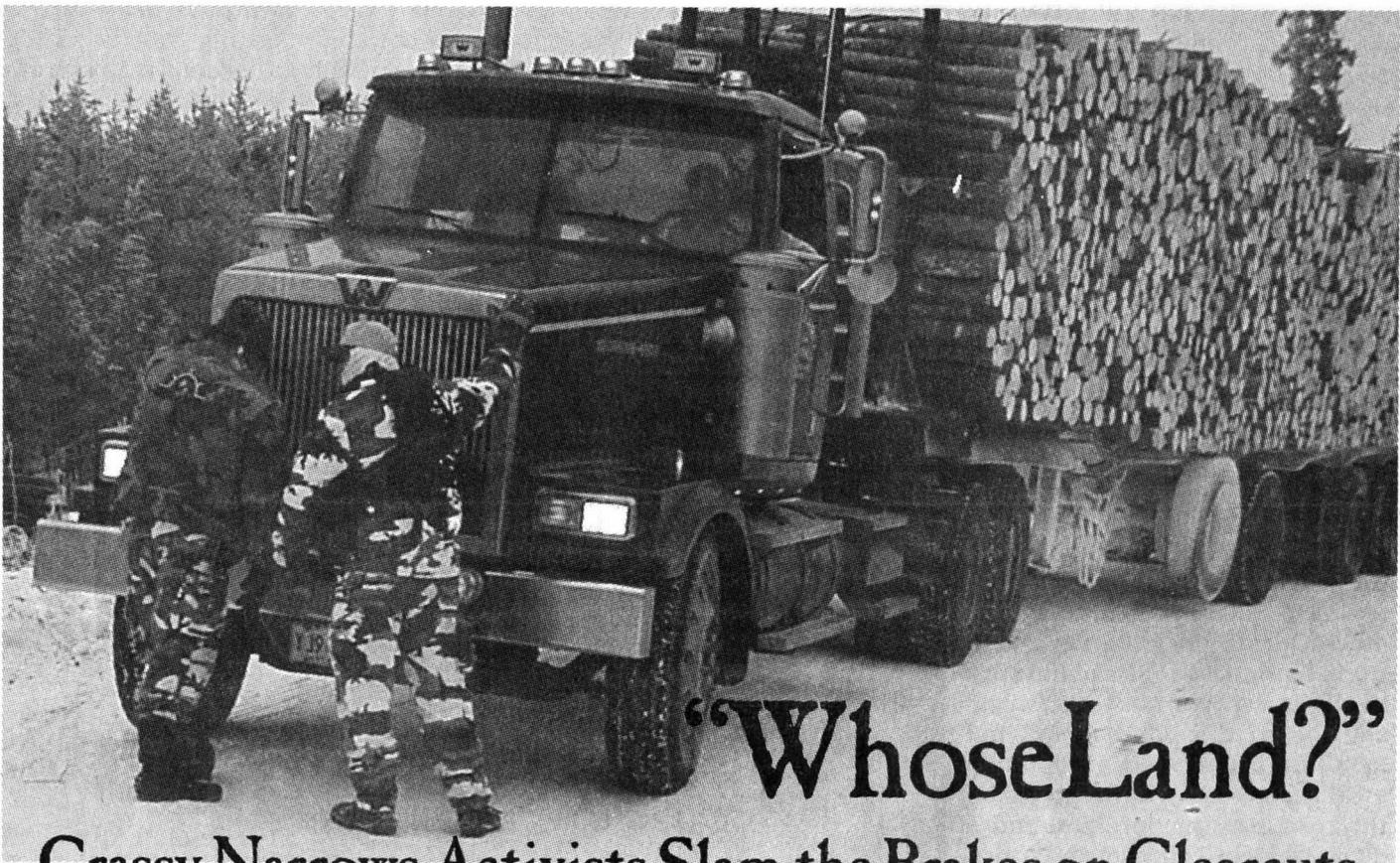


photo courtesy Christian Peacemaker Teams

“Whose Land?”

Grassy Narrows Activists Slam the Brakes on Clearcuts

BY DRAGONBREATH

It would have been the same old story. In the name of free trade and development, in the tradition of colonization and genocide, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) in Ontario, Canada, approved clearcut logging in the Whiskey Jack Forest. They did so against the wishes of the Anishinabe (Ojibway) First Nations community of Grassy Narrows that live there.

Legislators made deals with multinational corporations and promised the locals jobs in the resource-extraction industry. New roads that would make profit-seeking more convenient for corporations were drafted. Developers greedily surveyed maps for future sites to build their lakeside vacation cottages. On December 3, the logging trucks of Abitibi Consolidated, Inc. revved their engines in anticipation of hauling out even more logs clearcut from the beleaguered boreal forests of northwestern Ontario, when suddenly, the drivers were forced to slam on the brakes.

Around 30 Grassy Narrows high school students and supporters had blockaded a logging access road by laying down on the road. Hours passed, and the truck drivers—after being told that no logging operatives would be allowed through—turned around and headed back to town. The message of the blockade was as clear as the breath of the protesters in the minus 20 degree air: Clearcuts on indigenous land would no longer be tolerated.

“It was really the youth who started the blockade. Women and children have been the main organizers and participants,” said Judy DaSilva, a spokesperson for the Anishinabe community of Grassy Narrows.

Despite the frigid weather, the spirits of the blockaders were high, and the First Nations activists constructed traditional lodge pole structures as they settled in for an occupation, which is still going strong after almost four months. In addition to the main blockade, there are roving blockades that follow logging trucks to keep them off other roads in the area. The blockaders—who let everyone through except logging operatives—have the support of most locals. Even the Ontario Provincial Police have said that they will not intervene in this peaceful demonstration.

Grassy Narrows First Nation is located about 80 miles northeast of the town of Kenora, Ontario. The Grassy Narrows reserve is only 14 square miles. However, the Anishinabe’s traditional land use area, which includes the Whiskey Jack Forest, encompasses 2,500 square miles. Within this region, moose, deer, martens, rabbits, beavers, foxes, wolves, bears and eagles settle near the many lakes and rivers that flow to the Hudson Bay. The people of Grassy Narrows are demanding jurisdiction over their traditional land use area—which is not currently recognized by the government—so that they can maintain their culture and relative self-reliance, as well as to stop clearcuts.

In the weeks after the blockade was erected, signs appeared throughout the traditional land use area. The signs informed visitors where they were—on First Nations land—and went on to encourage guests to “enjoy the country” but to “treat the land with respect.”

The Grassy Narrows community has been subject to numerous counts of environmental injustice and human rights violations. This reserve of only 1,000 people is surrounded by clearcuts and is located downstream from

a paper mill that has polluted the Wabigoon River system with mercury, dioxin and furans. Currently owned by Weyerhaeuser, the mill produces newsprint from clearcut Grassy Narrows trees.

Since clearcutting seriously began to impact forests during the 1980s, the people of Grassy Narrows have opposed it. They have suffered the consequences of living within a decimated ecosystem. The loss of habitat has affected subsistence hunters and trappers, as well as wildlife; once-plentiful medicine has become scarce; fish populations have dwindled and the dead trees and oil waste left by logging practices and equipment have enraged everyone.

In addition to resisting clearcutting, the blockade has become a symbol of indigenous resistance to neoliberalism. First and foremost, the blockade stands for treaty rights and First Nations self-determination. However, Grassy Narrows activists repeatedly emphasize that their struggle is part of a larger one. During a talk in Winnipeg, Manitoba, DaSilva commented that ecological interconnectedness and economic globalization ensure that communities around the planet affect one another no matter how far apart they may seem. This sense of solidarity has inspired Aroland, Hornepayne, Constance Lake and Mishkeegogamang First Nations in northern Ontario to block logging trucks in their areas in support of the Grassy Narrows blockade and to defend their own forests. These blockades began in February and continue today.

According to indigenous activists, there is a direct relation between First Nations' blockades and the Ontario government's unwillingness to address fundamental issues such as aboriginal and treaty rights. Grassy Narrows activists say that Abitibi's logging infringes upon the Anishinabes' aboriginal land use treaty rights, but Canadian government officials refuse to acknowledge the claim. In December, a motion put forth in parliament to share revenues with First Nations for the resources torn from their lands was rejected. In 2002, Abitibi's revenues exceeded five billion dollars.

On February 20, 40 activists took a temporary leave of absence from the blockades to protest in front of Abitibi's Woodlands Division headquarters. Their procession of drummers and singers received overwhelming support from most of the local passersby. The march was led and organized by women and children, with the men off to the sides for support and protection. After they encountered locked doors and tight lips at Abitibi, the procession made its way to the office of Robert Nault, the minister of Indian Affairs, Robert Nault. Nault was singled out for his complicity in forest destruction by his leasing of indigenous land to multinational corporations, such

as Abitibi. Marchers briefly occupied his office to drive their point home.

Nault has refused to meet with the blockaders, saying that the Grassy Narrows issue falls outside his jurisdiction and that it was a matter for the MNR to resolve. However, the MNR continues to issue "sustainable forest licenses" to Abitibi, and Abitibi continues to clearcut and "reforest" by planting tree farms that are essentially pulp plantations. These reforestation practices destroy natural forest succession by using aerial herbicide sprays to kill the undergrowth and any wild trees that may be competing with the replanted trees. To add insult to injury, the government considers the clearcuts—replanted as tree farms—to be Abitibi's property, although the land itself was never sold.

On March 17, a rally was held outside the MNR office in Toronto, Ontario, calling for no more clearcuts on traditional lands. Also at issue were the proposed changes to rules dealing with logging and environmental protection. The proposal,

endorsed earlier in the month by Ontario Minister of Environment Chris Stockwell, sets no limits for clearcuts and would allow the government to promise fixed volumes of wood to corporations. There would also be an expansion of tree plantations, including test plots for genetically engineered trees. Aboriginal people would receive no benefits from forestry on their lands. Worse still, these new logging rules would not be subject to public review or court challenges.

Direct action continues to be the only way to stop the clearcuts, so the blockades stand. On the frontlines, youth continue to be the most active force in the resistance.

The principal of the Grassy Narrows high school has relocated classes to the blockade camp indefinitely. Trailers hauled into the blockade site and a teepee serve as classrooms where the children are taught traditional ways of living, environmental protection and direct action. At any one time, there are between 15-40 people keeping the sacred fire burning, including volunteers from the Christian Peacemaker Teams and the traditional Anishinabe Okijjidaa Warrior Society, who observe and protect the blockaders.

Grassy Narrows forest defenders are hopeful and anticipate an active Summer ahead. Although the blockaders have received considerable support from other First Nations, environmental groups and other activists, the area of the Whiskey Jack Forest to the north of the blockade is still being clearcut. Day and night, Abitibi trucks haul logs out to the Weyerhaeuser paper mill, leaving a barren and silent wasteland behind. Resisters intend to block enough roads in the area to cripple or even shut down Abitibi. In June, an Environmental Youth Gathering is being planned at the blockade. For more information, contact the Grassy Narrows Environmental Group, General Delivery, Grassy Narrows, Ontario POX 1B0, Canada; (800) 668-1790; fobister@voyaguer.ca.

Thanks to Steve Fobister and Judy DaSilva for their help with this article.



photo courtesy Christian Peacemaker Teams

The next generation of Earth defenders

The War This Time

BY PUCK

The explosion of a bomb creates a temperature of 5,432 degrees Fahrenheit. When detonated, it indiscriminately annihilates everything within its reach. The human atrocities are painfully apparent. It is obvious that the second US war on Iraq, like the first one, is being felt primarily by civilians. It is a war waged by the US empire to "prove" that it can do whatever it wants, whenever it wants, to whomever it wants. It is a racist war in which Arabic people are vilified as subhuman terrorists and ignored as collateral damage. And, it is a war on Iraq's ecology—one in which nonhuman life is being equally decimated.

As the US government continues to launch full-scale attacks on an already war-worn, UN sanctions-ravaged Iraq, the world braces itself for the outcome. Some predict it will even outdo the monumental environmental devastation caused during the previous Gulf War in 1991. Outrageously, US military officials have announced that their "shock and awe" campaign has consisted of air attacks using more bombs than were used during the first Gulf War.

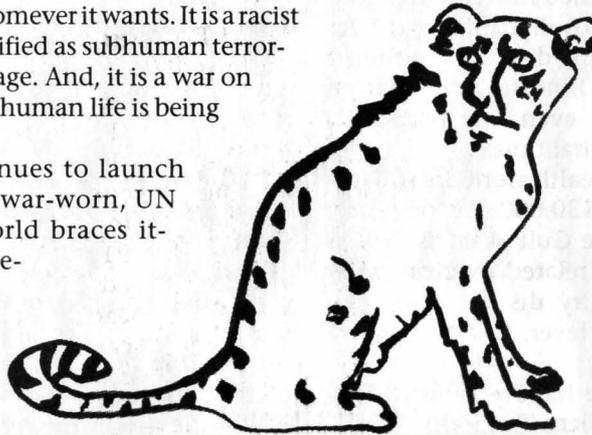
More Collateral Damage

Known as the Fertile Crescent, Iraq isn't the barren, lifeless desert most Americans envision. Wildlife in Iraq include antelope, cheetah, hyena, gazelle, jackal, lion, wolf, dugong (a manatee-like mammal), wild ass, wild pig, jerboa (a mouse-like rodent) and hare. Birds include hawk, vulture, buzzard, duck, partridge, raven and sand grouse.

Deserts make up about 35 percent of Iraq, but there are grasslands, as well as mountains that reach up to 10,000 feet near the Turkish border. Clearcutting and grazing has destroyed most of Iraq's native oak forests, but there is still two percent of Iraq where patches of maple, hawthorne and pistachio trees provide habitat and sustenance for animals and people alike.

Adjacent to the Persian Gulf, the southeast area of Iraq is home to 33 wetland areas. They serve as wintering grounds for migratory, endangered, threatened and endemic birds. The wetlands of Iraq are also home to indigenous Shiite marsh dwellers. This regionally distinct people are facing cultural genocide, in part because the marshes are were systematically drained by Saddam Hussein. Hussein attempted to destroy the marshes in order to eradicate the marsh dwellers' self-sufficiency and wield political control over them.

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Life is abundant in Iraq's waters as well. Coral reefs and swampy mangroves support hundreds of species. Mudflats provide important feeding grounds for migratory and coastal birds. Seagrass beds support sea cows, sea turtles, shellfish and shrimp. Sandy beaches on the Saudi shore provide nesting areas for the threatened green turtle.

Oil as Prize, Oil as Weapon

During the 1991 Gulf War, Iraqi troops intentionally set fire to more than 600 oil wells and dumped millions of barrels of oil into the Persian Gulf as they retreated from Kuwait following the US "victory." The fires blackened the sky to the extent that motorists had to drive with their headlights on during the day. The fires raged for more than nine months before they were extinguished. Oil also spilled on land, forming huge pools and contaminating the soil.

The oil well fires released 500 million tons of carbon dioxide (the leading cause of global warming) and sulfur dioxide (the primary element in acid rain). Black, greasy rain and snow fell up to 1,500 miles from Kuwait. Oil that didn't burn in the fires blew in the wind in the form of a nearly invisible oil "mist" that poisoned trees, contaminated 40 percent of Kuwait's freshwater, and settled in the lungs of people and animals. At least 1,000 people in Kuwait were killed as a direct result of air pollution from the fires, and physicians expect that it will be another decade or two before all the effects of the exposure are discovered.

During the 250 days that the fires burned, the average air temperature fell by 50 degrees Fahrenheit as a result of reduced light from the sun. This led to a decrease in seawater temperature, which directly affected the reproduction and growth of organisms in the Persian Gulf.

The oil that was dumped into the gulf covered 482 miles of shoreline and smothered salt marshes. At one point, there were about 1,000 dead crabs per square yard along the marshes. The oil spills killed more than 25,000 birds from 42 different species. According to scientists, toxic residue could continue to affect the Gulf for more than a century.

If the Earth Dies, Who Survives?

During the five months of Operation Desert Storm in 1991, the US deployed more than 200,000 bombs on the Persian Gulf region. The bombings produced numerous human casualties, and they also damaged soil that could take thousands of years to regenerate. Trenches and berms,

as well as the movement of tanks and Earth-moving machinery broke down the gravelly upper crust and exposed the finer layers of sand underneath to wind erosion. More than 90 percent of Kuwait's deserts were altered. Since 1991, twice as many sand dunes have formed as a result of increased desertification.

Depleted Uranium

Depleted uranium (DU) was used to make weapons and armor on a large scale for the first time in 1991. It is the by-product of a process that naturally occurring uranium is subjected to in order to produce fuel for nuclear reactors and atomic weapons. DU is extremely hard and dense—capable of penetrating tank armor—and is a toxic, radioactive heavy metal. DU has a half-life of more than four billion years, meaning that it will emit radiation “forever.”

Seventy percent of the DU contained in weapons spontaneously burns on impact. Tiny aerosolized glass particles are created, which can be carried long distances in the air and are small enough to be inhaled. Illnesses ranging from headaches to cancer can result if even one particle is inhaled and becomes lodged in a vital organ.

The full effects of DU on human health alone are still just beginning to surface. More than 130,000 out of nearly 700,000 US troops deployed in the Gulf War, as well as Iraqi and Kuwaiti survivors, have related medical problems. Symptoms include respiratory disease, liver and kidney dysfunction, memory loss, fever, low blood pressure and birth defects.

In this second Iraq war, US troops have been firing DU-tipped shells at Iraqi tanks and soldiers. Tragically, the US military is telling its soldiers that there is no evidence proving that exposure to DU munitions is harmful to them.

The Damage this Time

Many people fear the current war on Iraq is going to result in even more extensive human and ecological damage than the first one. For one thing, Iraq has a larger oil reserve than Kuwait. Also, there are only two main rivers in Iraq: the Euphrates and the Tigris. If any contaminants touch either, they will end up in the gulf as well, where currents and shallow waters would quickly spread the pollution.

Already, seven oil wells in the Rumallah oil fields near the southern city of Basra have been set on fire. Near Baghdad, the skies are choked with smoke and ash from trenches filled with crude oil that have been set on fire. Iraqi forces ignited the trenches to hinder the visibility of pilots and hamper attempts to land US troops. Although the oil well fires in southern Iraq are, according to the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), “much smaller” than those during 1991, the smoke contains poisons like sulfur, mercury, dioxins and furans.

UNEP also noted an increase of algae in the Shatt Al Arab estuary and surrounding waters in the Kuwait Bay. This could be the result of raw sewage that is leaking from pipes broken during the bombings in Basra. The algae could also

be growing due to the wastewater and garbage coming from the large number of military ships stationed in the area. The growth of phytoplankton in shallow waters like the bay kills off fish and other aquatic life by using up all the oxygen in the water.

In addition to the obvious military and industrial sites, at least nine places in Iraq that are considered capable of producing biological, chemical or radioactive agents will likely be targeted by air strikes. In 1991, more than 20 chemical and biological factories and stores were destroyed or badly damaged.

Last but not least, US Secretary of State Donald Rumsfeld has publicly refused to rule out the use of nuclear weapons against Iraq. In fact, this could prove to be an excellent opportunity to showcase the “Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator,” a “bunker buster” missile that is supposed to penetrate deep into the Earth before exploding.

Total Resistance on the Rise

The potential for environmental devastation and human suffering caused by this war is unprecedented in recent history. Fortunately, the public response to the war has been as well.

In the US, people have already mobilized in impressive numbers to stop this war—far beyond the anti-war response in 1991. However, this is just the beginning. Ahead of us is the challenge to find a way to go beyond the usual “peace” movement routines of vigils and marches. We can't wait for our so-called “leaders” to act responsibly or morally. We need to find ways to completely shut down—and not just for a few hours or days—the economy and paralyze the oil-dependent infrastructure that allows this country to operate.

By every means necessary we will bring this and every other empire down! Mutiny and sabotage in defense of Mother Earth!

During the first Gulf War in 1991, Puck played “The Star Spangled Banner” on the trumpet in her elementary school marching band and wore a yellow ribbon.

Mutiny and sabotage in defense of Mother Earth!



From Piece Movement to Peace Movement

San Francisco Self-Organizes to Implode Empire

photo courtesy San Francisco Indymedia

BY PATRICK REINSBOROUGH

The latest US invasion of Iraq has been met with massive resistance in the US and around the world. In particular, the response in San Francisco, California was inspiring—20,000 people engaged in mass nonviolent direct action to shut down the city's financial district. Over the course of the four business days after the war began on March 20, nearly 2,600 people were arrested for engaging in acts of protest and resistance. Corporations invested in mass destruction—like Bechtel, Citibank and the Carlyle Group—had their offices blockaded, as did a military recruiting station, the British consulate and a federal office building. Bay Area residents from diverse communities used a range of tactics, including lockdowns, mobile blockades and critical mass bike rides to transform a typically car-clogged consumption zone into a living statement of resistance to Bush's war for empire.

Anatomy of an Uprising

The most important thing to understand about the San Francisco uprising is that the "organization" behind it—Direct Action to Stop the War (DASW)—is not really an organization at all.

DASW is a mobilization based on the affinity group/spokescouncil model that has anchored so many of the global justice mass actions of recent years. DASW grew out of actions against the war last Fall, but it really took off in January, when local organizers hatched a framework for popular resistance to Bush's war—a massive shutdown of the financial district.

The organizing was largely coordinated by DASW's website and weekly spokescouncil meetings. The plan to shut down the financial district was transparent from the beginning and wittily depicted on flyers as an invitation to an "Emergency Potluck to Stop the War." The "Potluck" would take one of several forms at 20 action locations. A "Moveable Feast" would block key intersections in the financial district, and a "Traditional Sit-Down Dinner" would occupy government buildings and corporate offices. Bikes Not Bombs actions—part of the "Take out Menu"—would directly confront fossil fuel addiction and snarl traffic throughout the financial district.

At weekly spokescouncil meetings, affinity groups claimed separate action locations and updated each other on their actions to

stop the war before it started. The spokescouncil model was very successful in allowing people from different communities and different political backgrounds to work together and build a unity that didn't sacrifice our diversity of experience, analysis or tactics.

Build It and They Will Come

One of the most important aspects of DASW organizing has been the strengthening of ties between different movements and communities. The streets were flooded with diversity: soccer moms, black bloc anarchists, people of faith, students, queers, folks of color, militant labor members and even a few corporate chief executives.

The real success of the action came not only from the fact that thousands of people pre-organized themselves into affinity groups, but also that tens of thousands more joined us in the streets on the day of the action. A key component of this strategy were two concepts—telling the future and articulating a values crisis.

An effective organizing and media strategy helped implement both of these concepts. Starting in early March, DASW used the corporate media to tell of a future in which Bay Area residents would rise up and shut down the financial district if Bush bombed Iraq. These events included a high-profile press conference, an open letter to



the city and preemptive actions in the financial district—including a shutdown of the Pacific Stock Exchange where 80 people got arrested.

This media work successfully put DASW's website and the action meeting spot on the front page of the newspaper and on every major radio and television station. Thousands of people were rapidly briefed at an orientation on the day of the action. They were given the action goals, legal and medical information and then dispatched to support the preexisting blockades.

Likewise, DASW focused on a values-based critique that strove to mainstream the concepts of noncooperation and civil disobedience. The DASW website and press conference featured endorsements from leaders of a cross section of the Bay Area. Without sacrificing the opportunity to put out a systemic analysis, the organizing appealed to mainstream values—democracy, a sense of security, justice, belief in international law, patriotism—and used them to leverage opposition against the Bush administration.

This type of mass organizing may stretch the comfort zone of many radicals. However, it has great potential to utilize the growing fault lines in US society. Bush's imperial agenda is challenging many Americans' sense of the US as an international beacon of democracy and justice. Regardless of the fact that it

has always been a hypocritical mythology, there is an incredible opportunity for activists to lay claim to widely held values and direct these energies into "imploding" the Empire.

The US empire doesn't need the consent of radicals to exist, but it does need the consent of the silent majority. Therefore, let us ask ourselves: How can our resistance galvanize anti-war sentiments into a deeper movement for fundamental change? How can we use the disparity between the values of empire and the values that ordinary Americans hold? In San Francisco, this strategy worked well enough that 20,000 people joined us in occupying the streets. With more refinement and widespread application, who knows what is possible?

Unmasking US Empire, Inc.

Beyond simply disrupting business as usual, DASW's targeting of the financial district exposed the links between the corporate-controlled world of poverty, ecological devastation and increasing US militarism. Direct actions transformed the city from a space defined by profits, oil addiction and corporate greed into a city flooded with hope and life affirming resistance. We not only physically challenged the ability of

the US government to make war but acted toward uprooting the entire system of corporate control, racism, anti-Earth values and state violence that underlies its drive toward empire.

The reality is that corporate globalization and US militarism are working hand in hand to create a world of homogeneity, consumer monoculture and control. The

continued on page 64

Direct Action Against the War

Massive amounts of direct actions have been occurring all around the world against US imperialism and the war on Iraq. Here are a few examples:

Police Brutality Shuts Down Port Of Oakland

On April 7, a few hundred anti-war activists blockaded a major US port, involved in shipping military cargo, with one of the most effective tactics ever: solidarity. The International Longshore and Warehouse Union respected the anti-war picket line and sent many of its workers home for the day.

The nonviolent demonstration was broken up with extreme brutality by the Oakland Police Department. They used concussion grenades, wooden bullets and beanbags full of metal pellets. Scores of people, including six dock workers, suffered serious injuries. The wooden bullet casings were marked with a warning not to be shot at people as they could be fatal.

US Military Communication Dish Sabotaged

On February 9, Barbara Smedema sabotaged US military satellite dishes outside a communications bunker at the airport of Volkel, Netherlands. This 24-hour manned bunker is the communication center for 11 silos of US nuclear missiles. The damage was estimated at more than \$500,000.

Bush Called an Ass

On March 28, in Tripoli, Lebanon, two Lebanese cabinet members joined more than 40,000 Lebanese and Palestinians in a street demonstration against the US war on Iraq. Protesters led a donkey covered with a US and Israeli flag that read, "This is Bush."

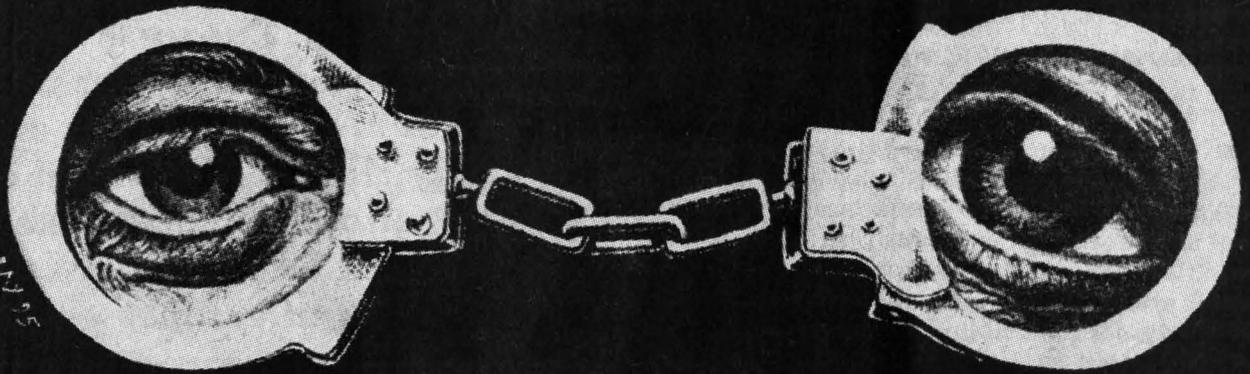
BankBoston Busted Up

On March 27, anti-war activists in Santiago, Chile, used a bomb to destroy an automatic cash machine and smash windows at the US-based BankBoston. The bomb was detonated after business hours to prevent human injuries.



photo courtesy San Francisco Indymedia

Patriot II



Are You a Terrorist?

BY W

Remember the USA Patriot Act of 2001? It was a scary law that looked as if it could have been fictionalized by George Orwell. It was passed soon after September 11, 2001, without much controversy or notice by the general public. In short, the act gave the US executive branch the sweeping powers of a police state. It weakened fundamental constitutional protections against police abuses regarding detainment of folks without charges, searches and wiretaps, among others. And to top it all off, the USA Patriot Act effectively criminalized many forms of direct action as "domestic terrorism." According to the USA Patriot Act, domestic terrorism is legally defined as any act occurring primarily in the US, which affects governmental decision making, endangers human life and breaks any state or federal law—like a barfight or a rowdy street protest.

Well, the USA Patriot Act was only the beginning. Attorney General John Ashcroft's Department of Justice has been dealing out a new piece of legislation designed to not only see the USA Patriot Act's ante; it's gonna raise it times two. This new piece of legislation is called the Domestic Security Enhancement Act of 2003, better known as Patriot II. And it is coming to a congress near you during the next national crisis—maybe during this war on Iraq, or maybe it will be introduced after another terrorist attack on the US populace. One thing's for sure: The Bush administration will pick a time when the US populace is scared and insecure. It sure worked swell for Patriot I.

With Patriot II, the Bush administration and its wealthy corporate sponsors are not going after our schools, forests, hospitals, and wetlands, as usual. They are now trying to strip mine our right to dissent and protest. And they are being secretive about it. The US populace only learned about Patriot II after someone in the Justice Department leaked it to the Center for Constitutional Rights, a progressive legal organization that fights for civil liberties.

Forever...

The first Patriot Act included provisions that required most sections to be reauthorized by Congress in five years. Patriot II doesn't have any such clauses. If it gets passed, it is here to stay until repealed. In fact, Patriot II makes all of the first act's provisions permanent as well. It'll be like a big fascist wart that never disappears, no matter how much one wishes it would go away.

Hand Over Your Papers, Ma'am

Under the first Patriot Act, noncitizens in the US were stripped of their constitutionally guaranteed rights if the government suspected them of being "terrorists"—you know, like someone who drives too fast, or treesits or hijacks airplanes. Being fair minded, the Bush administration was concerned that so much inequality existed between citizens and noncitizens. As a result, Patriot II makes it legal to strip US citizens of their citizenship if they too are suspected of being terrorists. That way, both US citizens and noncitizens are equally under the jackboots of our friendly and freedom-loving government.

In fact, under Patriot II, a person may not even need to do something as "terrorizing" as locking down to a bulldozer to lose all of her rights as a US citizen. She could donate \$10 to Greenpeace. The leaked version of Patriot II states that a US citizen can be stripped of their citizenship, "if, with the intent to relinquish his nationality, he becomes a member of, or provides material support to, a [terrorist] group."

Scientia Est Potentia

We are all a bit curious about the world around us, aren't we? So is the US government. Indeed, they want to know everything about us—everything!

Patriot II begins to fully legalize the Total Information Awareness program by making it even easier for the US government to spy on the US population (see *EF!* January-February 2003). Under the proposed legislation, the Feds

could acquire full access to anyone's banking, transportation, medical, telephone, consumer credit and utility records. And they would not need a warrant to do so. They would only need to swear that they were doing their jobs and enforcing federal law.

Furthermore, in order to protect us from all those "terrorists" out there, Patriot II facilitates surveillance on regular folks, like you and me. The first Patriot Act made it easier for the government to step around Fourth Amendment protections by allowing the top secret and highly permissive Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) court to issue warrants for domestic criminal investigations. However, under Patriot I, citizens still had some meager protections against the abuse of such warrants. Patriot II collapses almost all remaining limitations on the use of FISA warrants. Surveillance could be approved if the government simply *suspected* a person of committing "terrorist" actions. The Feds would not even need to show probable cause that the person was actually involved in any criminal activity.

Are you an agent of a foreign power? Under Patriot II, you probably are. If you have ever sent or received letters, phone calls or emails from foreign-based organizations like Amnesty International or the International Red Cross Society, then you too could be deemed a foreign spy and placed under heavy surveillance.

But, we're apparently not "safe" enough yet. Patriot II further empowers the attorney general to unilaterally issue emergency warrants during a "national emergency" created by an attack upon the US. These emergency warrants are not under any judicial supervision for up to 15 days. Who gets to decide what is an attack on the US or a national emergency? Is it the Supreme Court? Congress? How about a national referendum? Nope. Nope. And nope. It's the president who gets to decide. Essentially, this gives the attorney general the authority to conduct unsupervised surveillance for 15 days on whomever he wants. And all the gathered information can be used legally in court.

DNA Database

Patriot II creates a "Terrorist Identification Database" to hold the genetic information of convicted and suspected terrorists, as well as folks who have "associated" with terrorist groups. The government would be allowed to collect DNA from anyone being detained, arrested or jailed. In fact, they could also demand DNA from anyone previously or currently on probation. Given how broadly terrorism is defined under the first Patriot Act, the database could be used to hold information on anyone the government dislikes—including direct action activists. Patriot II also includes penalties of up to one year in prison and a \$100,000 fine for anyone who refuses to cooperate. An activist who was arrested while blockading a logging road and was charged with resisting arrest could become suspected of domestic terrorism and be forced to hand over genetic material for the database.

Grand Jury Gag Order

Apparently, Ashcroft has even figured out a few ways to make notoriously unjust grand juries more secretive and undemocratic. Patriot II allows the federal government to step in and take control of any state or federal grand jury. In addition, the draft legislation makes it impossible to overturn any federal grand jury subpoena—illegal or not.

Patriot II would make it a crime for ordinary citizens, who are subpoenaed by a grand jury, to talk about their grand jury testimony with anyone but their attorney. It would even be illegal for any person to talk about their testimony with their immediate family and friends.

The Disappeared

Ever since September 11, 2001, the government has been rounding up and secretly detaining people for suspicion of terrorism as well as for minor immigration violations based on the country in which they were born. Patriot II legalizes Ashcroft's claim that such detentions should be completely secret affairs that do not require due process. As a result, detainees could be legally held without formal charges, communication with the outside world, public disclosure of their status or access to a lawyer. In fact, Patriot II would make it a crime to disclose any information about such a detainee, even if you are family member.

Patriot II makes it easier for the government to deport noncitizens. Any immigrant, including longtime permanent residents, may be expelled from the US if the attorney general unilaterally decides that they are a threat to "national security."

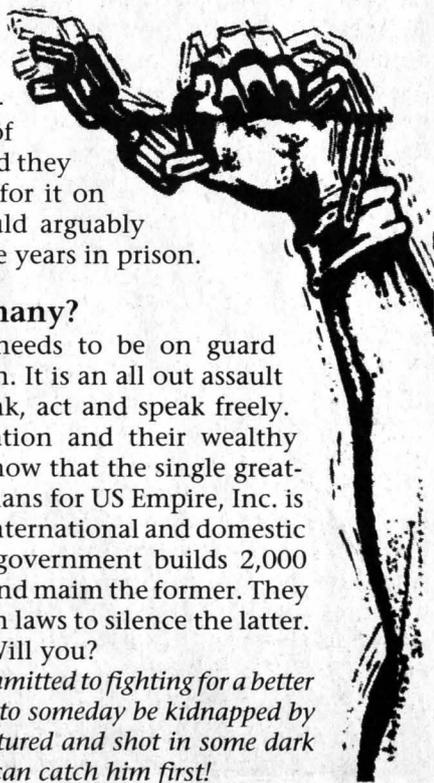
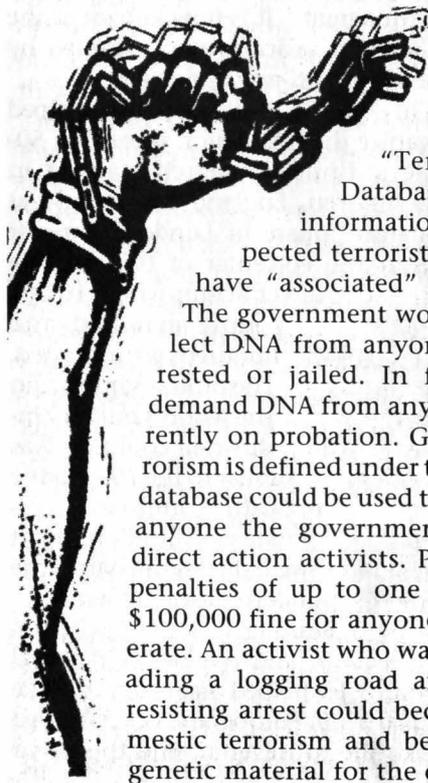
Privacy is for the Government, You Criminal!

Under Patriot II, folks could face five to 10 years in prison for encrypting their email. It would be illegal to use encryption to conceal any piece of incriminating evidence. This encryption crime charge is not even contingent on a charge or suspicion of terrorism. If any activist is convicted of any crime, such as participating in an act of civil disobedience, and they encrypted any plans for it on their email, they could arguably face an additional five years in prison.

Is this 1930s Germany?

The US populace needs to be on guard against this legislation. It is an all out assault on our ability to think, act and speak freely. The Bush administration and their wealthy corporate sponsors know that the single greatest obstacle to their plans for US Empire, Inc. is the resistance of the international and domestic population. The US government builds 2,000 pound bombs to kill and maim the former. They craft secret totalitarian laws to silence the latter. I won't stand for it! Will you?

W is a Cascadian committed to fighting for a better world. He fully expects to someday be kidnapped by the US government, tortured and shot in some dark room. But only if they can catch him first!



Almanac of Revolution

The Sheep Look Up

BY JAMES JOHN BELL

"No one writes alone. If a literature is coming, there's a political movement, too, know it or not. A movement gives literature power, and literature is a fuel to the movement."

—GRACE PALEY, FEMINIST AUTHOR AND ANTI-WAR RADICAL

Consciously or not, when we participate in a movement, we walk in its literature. We give the word flesh, as it were. Whenever we read or retell a story, we help it evolve and grow. Reading shifts perceptions, and can even birth new narratives that challenge and change the way we see the world and ourselves.

Oracles of Eco-Resistance

While Edward Abbey was still fermenting his

deep ecological philosophy and the ecotage antics of *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, British author John Brunner homebrewed a powerful concoction of ecological resistance in *The Sheep Look Up*. Brunner's novel was published in 1972, three years before Abbey's, and became a sensation within the fledgling modern ecology movement. The story is told almanac style, in a future US—where radical environmentalists—closer to the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) than Earth First!—have swelled to more than a million strong. Corporations run this US, and its puppet of a president called Prexy is a dead ringer for George Bush, Jr.

Brunner's warnings in *The Sheep Look Up* are very prescient. In his future US, the president blames every chemical spill, toxic dump and

the resulting contaminated food supply not on the companies responsible, but on "terrorists." US food companies are pushing their engineered food on Africa, and it is causing people to go mad. The ecological resistance movement's founder, Austin Train, is being hunted by the Feds as he and others plot a revolution to save what's left of the Earth. The book is long out of print, but with its apocalyptic predictions for the US now eerily coming true, *The Sheep Look Up* will be reprinted this Summer.

Early Warnings and Forecasts

Throughout his life, Brunner was concerned with the annihilation of the Earth, especially the possibility of a nuclear war. In 1957, he was a leader in the National Council for the Abolition of Weapons Tests—a Hampstead, England group that later formed the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND). The CND quickly embraced the "street left" tactics of direct action. Their no-compromise message is the same today as it was then—"unilateral nuclear disarmament." Activist Gerald Holtom designed CND's logo using the naval flag semaphore code letters for ND—"nuclear disarmament." It is now known as the all-familial peace symbol adopted by the 1960s anti-war movement.

On April 3, 1958, CND also helped organize the first major, three-day, 50-mile antinuclear march starting in Aldermaston, England and ending at Trafalgar Square in London. Brunner was at the epicenter of this massive direct action where 10,000 people marched and hundreds were arrested. The protest's impact on the world's military industrial complex was similar to the 1999 Battle of Seattle's impact on corporate globalization, and it was hailed as the start of the modern peace movement.

Brunner tackled tough subjects in and out of his fictional worlds. He helped organize anti-nuke caravans into Europe, and he continued all his life to travel around the world



artwork by Wayne Anderson

wearing the peace symbol and promoting the causes of environmental and social justice. These themes are woven throughout his more than 80 novels and short story collections.

Almanac of the Elves

In *The Sheep Look Up*, Brunner's eco-warriors call themselves "commensalists" after the biological term *commensalism*. It means literally "at table together" and describes a peaceful, symbiotic relationship between two organisms. The name doesn't stick however, and in the book, the corporate press just calls them "commies" or the more typical "Trainites."

Brunner's fictional eco-warriors share an uncanny similarity with the secretive structure and philosophy of the ELF. "Elves" have carried out actions around the planet since the ELF's genesis during the 1992 UK Earth First! gathering, in Brighton, England. When these Earth First!ers decided to disavow lone acts of nonviolent sabotage in order to build a more popular radical environmental movement, ELF came out of the forests to pick up the wrench.

Underground, nonviolent acts of sabotage are claimed by Elves that operate in secret. Like the ELF, "The Trainites," Brunner writes, "had no formal organization, not even a newspaper, yet now and then manifested themselves—one might almost believe as the result of some telepathic trigger, some upsurge of the collective unconscious—to put a brand on some company or enterprise that was endangering mankind."

Brunner's more extreme factions of the Trainites employ fire bombing as a tactic against the numerous corporate polluters in the story. "The people who have brought it about," states the main character Austin Train when asked if he advocates violence, "have no more right to object to it than the longtime smoker has to object to cancer and bronchitis." Three years after Brunner's death, the ELF gained notoriety in the US in October 1998. An arson at a ski resort in Vail, Colorado, destroyed five buildings and four ski lifts after an injunction to halt logging in important lynx habitat was denied by the courts. Since 1997, ELF cells have carried out dozens of actions resulting in more than 30 million dollars in damages to Earth destroying entities.

Today, the ELF is getting national press for damaging SUVs. In November 2002, the *New York Times* reported that Elves

had used a corrosive cream to etch the letters ELF on the windows of 25 cars and three fast food restaurants in Richmond, Virginia's, affluent West End. Around the same time, a similar substance was used to scar the surfaces of 25 SUVs at a dealership and two SUVs were hacked with hatchets in a suburban subdivision and notes were left in each incident saying it was the work of the ELF.

These ELF actions are right out of the first chapter of *The Sheep Look Up*, in which "cars had their windows opaqued with a cheap commercial compound used for etching glass, and slogans were painted on their doors. Then they turned to the nearby store windows and obscured the goods on offer with similarly appropriate slogans." Dozens more such guerrilla tactics are revealed as Brunner's eco-revolutionary tale unfolds—as the Earth takes more damage, so do the corporations responsible in this not-so fictional world.

"There's an episode in which the adopted son of a childless millionaire is kidnapped and held for ransom against 20,000 water purifiers to be issued *gratis* to the poorer population of California," Brunner recalled about a plot line in *The Sheep Look Up*. Some believe he inspired Field Marshal Cinque of the Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA) to kidnap the millionaire heiress Patty Hearst in 1974. The SLA held her for a two-million-dollar ransom that was to be paid to the poor. "High-profile kidnapping was so obvious an idea in the circumstances that I refuse to be blamed," Brunner later said.

Poor Hacker's Almanac & Other Eco-Anarchist Desideratum

Many characters have leapt into life

from the pages of Brunner's other novels as well, like the hobby saboteurs from his Hugo Award winning *Stand On Zanzibar* and their counterparts in the real Irish Republican Army.

In 1988, Brunner was blamed when Robert Morris, Jr., a graduate student studying computer science at Cornell University, unleashed an experimental, self-propagating program and injected it into the Internet. This time there was hard evidence. The student's mother identified Brunner's *Shockwave Rider* as her son's primer on writing computer viruses. The now legendary computer worm—the first ever of its kind—counted many universities, research centers and military installations around the globe as its casualties.

When asked about his role in Morris's action Brunner responded, "I would say that anybody who reminds our lords and masters that the computerized society is fragile has definitely done a service to the public at large. I hope it is an awful warning to the people who have assumed blithely that they can run a modern society on the basis of secretive, computerized information." *Shockwave Rider* crystallized the mythology of the hacker, much like *The Sheep Look Up* gave shape to the mythos and identity of the radical environmentalist. Brunner's books are now the code of movements—almanacs of revolution.

James John Bell recently authored the afterword for the 2003 BenBella Books edition of John Brunner's science fiction novel *The Sheep Look Up*. In his zine, *The Last Wizards: Book of Green Shadows* and on his website *LastWizards.com*, you can find many other forgotten books.

Lore of the ELF

Despite Brunner's visionary foretelling of the ELF, an ELF communiqué printed in the September-October 1996 issue of the *Earth First! Journal* points not to Brunner's *The Sheep Look Up*, but to UK fantasy author Richard Ford's *Quest for the Faradawn* as the inspiration behind their movement. The book has a mysterious "Author's Note" at the end suggesting that the Elves who are fighting to save the Earth in Ford's story are actually *real*. "This book is the result of an encounter I had some years ago with a strange old man whilst walking in the deep forests near my home," writes Richard Ford about his run-in with old Nab, the main character in the book. "Our meetings lasted approximately two years. 'When the Old World destroyed itself,' the old man said, 'the Elves remained. They cured the wounds and healed the scars. The Elves are always here. We live together still in the forests and the hills.'"

Resistance in the Fourth World

BY MAYUK PELLKEY

"Today's form of colonization comes in the form of tourism and is pushing us off our land and forcing us to be even more dependent on their system. Our survival and existence as a People is on the brink of extinction. If we do not protect our land and mountains, we will be left with nothing."

—CHIEF GEORGE MANUEL, FROM *THE FOURTH WORLD: AN INDIAN REALITY*

The Secwepemc people continue to live on our territory, which we have occupied since the receding of the glaciers of the last ice age. Our people grew up with the land and have seen the land grow into a rich and complex ecosystem.

In mid-1992, devastation came to our last unspoiled sacred place, Skwelkwew'welt, meaning high alpine mountains. It is located in the interior of British Columbia, Canada, 20 miles northeast of Kamloops and 250 miles from Vancouver. That year, the Japanese Nippon Cable Corporation purchased the Tod Mountain resort located in the midst of Skwelkwew'welt (named after John Tod who killed Secwepemc people with smallpox-infested blankets). Until then, it had been only a moderately intrusive ski resort, established in 1961. In 1993, the New Democratic Party provincial government negotiated a long-term development contract with Nippon Cable. Both the government and Nippon Cable failed to consult the Secwepemc, whose specific claim and traditional use studies are ongoing and whose land title claims have not been addressed by the Canadian government.

In 1997, Nippon Cable announced a \$70 million expansion plan of the ski area and renamed it the Sun Peaks

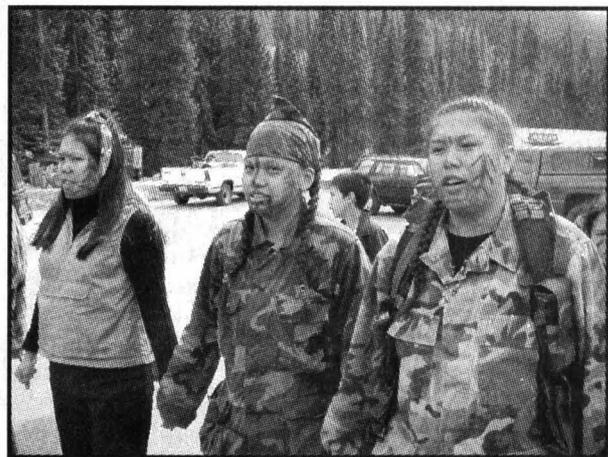


photo courtesy Native Youth Movement

Native Youth Movement Warriors

Secwepemc Elders, youth and land-users have adamantly opposed any more development and encroachment in their homeland. Sun Peaks has proven that it will destroy anything that gets in the way of making money and creating a recreational playground for upper class elite, even if it means destroying our sacred mountains' vital ecosystems and violating the human rights of Secwepemc.

Built on Stolen Land

The Sun Peaks resort is built on Secwepemc land, which has never been ceded, released or surrendered in any way, neither through sale nor treaty, to any corporation or foreign government. Furthermore, we have never given consent to the current expansion projects taking place at Skwelkwew'welt. We remain opposed to any further development within this area and other traditional use areas.

In 1998, Elders asked for a meeting with Masiyoshi Ohkubu, head of Nippon Cable. They wanted to explain to him how the government did not have the right to lease this land to him until the Native land rights and title issues in Canada had been addressed or meaningful consultation had occurred between the Secwepemc, the government and the British Columbia Assets and Land Corporation (now BC Land and Water, Inc.). Ohkubu ignored the sensitivity of the land rights controversy and went ahead with the expansion plan.

Youth Rise Up

This blatant disregard and disrespect to the Secwepemc Elders led many young people to become involved in the resistance movement at Skwelkwew'welt through the Skwelkwew'welt Protection Centre and the newly formed Secwepemc chapter of the Native Youth Movement (NYM). NYM is a Native youth warrior society that defends and protects the land, water, air and Native peoples. NYM has carried out many actions to bring attention to Sun Peaks' invasion onto our lands, and it has deterred tourists and companies from doing business with Sun Peaks. In August



photo courtesy Native Youth Movement

Morrissey Lake, Skwelkwew'welt

Resort Corporation. This plan included the construction of the \$40 million Delta Hotel and ski runs on our sacred mountain and the previously undisturbed Mount Morrisey. Both of these projects have been built despite the fact that

2001, NYM occupied the offices of BC Assets and Land Corporation, the government corporation responsible for the theft of our homeland through sales, leases, license and other land agreements. NYM occupied land to protect the sacred mountains, blocked roads to the Sun Peaks resort and held public protests, which led to the arrests of many Native youth. Sun Peaks and the Canadian government want the Secwepemc out of the way so they can continue to get rich off of our lands and push for this expansion to go through.

This is War

Since Nippon Cable has bought and expanded the ski area, Skwelkwew'welt has suffered irreparable destruction. Sun Peaks stripped three entire mountains of animal habitat, as well as berry picking, medicine gathering and hunting grounds. Two additional mountains are staked for clearcutting. Further expansion will limit our access to traditional food harvesting areas and spiritual sites. It will also bring mass amounts of tourists into sacred areas and sensitive, untouched ecosystems, which are essential habitat for deer, moose, bears, beavers, lynx, bobcats, cougars, wolverines and countless other animals.

Sun Peaks is polluting streams and other water sources with chemical and bacterial additives used to produce artificial snow, as well as weed-control chemicals from their golf course. To run this ski resort it takes one-third the amount of energy used to power an average-sized town. Noise pollution from their never-ending group tours on bicycles, skis, snowmobiles, ATVs and motorbikes scare animals from their homes and, in some cases, make it impossible for animals to breed.

Sun Peaks has deliberately taken a nonnegotiable stance. It has practiced warfare tactics intended to drive the Secwepemc from our homeland, and it has collaborated with the governments of BC and Canada to terrorize us. They have destroyed eight Secwepemc homes through arson, demolition and court injunctions; demolished and desecrated men's and women's sweatlodges; deactivated roads with massive snow blockades, trenches and locked gates in order to prevent Secwepemc people from accessing the land; obtained court orders to prohibit Secwepemc youth from going within a six mile radius of the Sun Peaks resort; imposed three court injunctions prohibiting Secwepemc people from occupying our own land; and instigated the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to constantly harass and brutalize Secwepemc living in the mountains. On one occasion, a RCMP officer accompanying a representative of Sun Peaks held a gun to the head of a Native youth, while the representative delivered a notice calling for the eviction of Secwepemc people from their land. Another time, a RCMP officer told a NYM warrior, "You are not even human."

Never Surrender

Since October 2000, Sun Peaks has instigated the arrests of more than 50 Secwepemc Elders, youth and land-users, most of which face jail time.

In a recent victory in January, elders Irene Billy and Charlie Willard were found not guilty of contempt of court for refusing to leave their land at Skwelkwew'welt. In July 2001, the elders had refused to obey a court injunction sought by Sun Peaks to tear down a community center.

Their case sets an important precedent for other cases of Aboriginal people defending their lands from Sun Peaks.

Unfortunately, there are many other charges and trials still pending that aren't as hopeful. One mother of a six-month-old baby, Kanahus Pellkey (Amanda Soper), has been denied bail and is being held in jail on charges stemming from a Winter 2001 action when NYM warriors set up a tent on a sacred mountain.

According to international law, the forced removal of indigenous peoples from their traditional territories is genocide. The United Nations has repeatedly condemned Canada for violating international human rights laws. In 1997, even the Supreme Court of Canada reaffirmed and recognized the inherent land rights of Indigenous Peoples as "Aboriginal Title." Despite the decision, young mothers, grandmothers, berry-pickers and hunters continue to be sentenced to jail for legally asserting their Secwepemc title to the land.



photo courtesy Native Youth Movement

Elder Irene Billy under arrest for defending her home.

Canada and BC continue to ignore Secwepemc title and rights to the land and consequently ignore their own laws.

Secwepemc resistance will continue until the government recognizes our rightful title to the land. We will continue to live up to our duty to the Creator, defending and protecting our homeland and the legacy of our ancestors. We will never relinquish our title to our homeland.

How You Can Help

Boycott Sun Peaks and tell others to do the same. Organize an information picket in front of local tour agencies to inform the public of Sun Peaks' human rights violations and unacceptable environmental practices. Inform others of the injustices inflicted by Sun Peaks on the Secwepemc. Write letters to the BC and Canadian governments, telling them to respect the inherent and legal rights of Secwepemc. Write letters to Sun Peaks Resort Corporation and Nippon Cable, demanding that they stop expanding into Secwepemc land. Contribute or help raise funds for Skwelkwew'welt Legal Defense Fund, NYM and other projects.

For more information, contact the Skwelkwew'welt Protection Centre spokesperson, Janice Billy, Box 608, Chase, BC V0E 1M0, Canada; (250)679-3295; jrbilly@mail.ocis.net; NYM Secwepemc Chapter; www.skwelkwewwelt.org.

Tarahumara Resistance Stops

BY RANDALL GINGRICH

On March 9, 40 indigenous Tarahumara—dressed in thin cotton clothing in freezing temperatures and armed only with a court order—stopped the chainsaws of an illegal old-growth logging operation near the village of Coloradas de la Virgen, Mexico. This victorious action ended a six-month court battle and three weeks of Tarahumara blockades of logging trucks. It also may mark the turning point in a 26-year-old struggle against fraud and violent repression by the Fontes family drug-trafficking cartel. This article is a simple testament to the strength of the Tarahumara and can only provide a glimpse into their experience.

Coloradas de la Virgen is located in the Sierra Madre Occidental range in the northern state of Chihuahua. The Fontes cartel, headed by Artemio Fontes, has tried to manage the *ejidos* or communal lands in this area as their private ranch—stealing cattle, timber, forcing locals to cultivate opium and marijuana and killing anyone who opposed them. The Fontes' power is based on a 1984 staged *ejido* election. The Fontes cartel falsified support from the Tarahumara by using the names of 17 dead souls and 21 former residents, who had been absent from the region for up to 20 years. As a result, cartel member Ivan Fontes was "elected" *ejido* president.

Not satisfied with millions of dollars in drug profits, the Fontes cartel began to vie for logging concessions from the government. Contracts were immediately granted to logging companies allegedly connected to the state director of rural development. Almost the entire Sierra Madre Occidental Range has been damaged by Mexican logging operations. Currently, 300,000 acres or about two percent of the old-growth forest is left, the rest of it logged without permits or approval from the Tarahumara tribe. The remaining old-growth forest is a refuge to dozens of threatened and endangered species such as the Mexican gray wolf, thick-billed parrot, eared trogon, lined woodpecker, Apache goshawk and jaguarundi. Overlogging was a factor in the extinction of the imperial woodpecker, the largest woodpecker on Earth.

For the last 20 years, the people of Coloradas de la Virgen and nearby Pino Gordo have worked hard to defend the last of the communal ancient oak and pine forests from illegal logging by their powerful *ejido* "leaders." In 1986, a true Tarahumara leader, Julio Baldenegro, was assassi-

nated—allegedly by order of Artemio Fontes—after protesting about the logging operations to the government. In response to the Tarahumara's resistance, the Fontes cartel has murdered 35 Tarahumara and has assaulted or attempted to assassinate countless other people in the last two decades.

In 1995, Consejo Asesor Sirra Madre, A.C. (CASMAC), a human rights and environmental organization, exposed the violence and corruption of the Fontes cartel to the World Bank. This expose culminated in indictments against Artemio Fontes, the arrests of two murderers and the flight of other criminals out of the area. The indictment against Artemio Fontes was not successful. Yet by 1996, there was some relative stability in the region and many of the Tarahumara refugees who had fled the violence were able to return home.

During this lull in the storm, CASMAC and the Sierra Madre Alliance (SMA) were unable to implement local conservation and development projects due to lack of funding and were forced to leave the region. SMA returned in 2002. Without outside support for the Tarahumara, the Fontes cartel was able to reestablish itself as the supreme power by forming more high-level political and business partnerships. They had also acquired a new logging permit and government certification to back their land fraud.

Logging resumed in 2002, but was suspended for two weeks in September when the Tarahumara blockaded the offices of the Secretariat of the Environment in Chihuahua city. The suspension was lifted by an injunction made in the name of a forestry consultant, who had no legal status in the case. Soon after, the rate of logging increased to over 30 truckloads of 300-year-old pines a day.

On February 4, 20 people—mostly Tarahumara women—began to blockade logging trucks entering Coloradas de la Virgen. The military protected the blockaders from the truck drivers and nearby Fontes *pistoleros* or armed guards. Temporarily exceeding his authority in support of the Tarahumara, the commanding officer even confiscated timber transport permits.

This surprising change in policy was the result of public pressure following a February article, in the Mexican magazine *El Proceso*, entitled "Narco-loggers with Official Protection." For the first time in a decade, police and military were held publicly accountable for their complicity with the Fontes cartel. On February 20, a Chihuahuan court



"Respect the Forest, Stop the Threats." Tarahumara and supporters demonstrating in Chihuahua city in October 2002.

photo courtesy Sierra Madre Alliance

Logging in the Sierra Madres

nullified the election of Ivan Fontes as *ejido* president.

Lino Martinez and Martin Valdez—the two legitimate *ejido* members who filed the previous fraudulent election lawsuit—have another case pending. They are seeking to nullify the logging certification of the *ejido* land status that was granted to the Fontes cartel. They have refused to withdraw their lawsuits, despite thousands of dollars in bribes and numerous threats. This demonstrates the incredible strength of these farmers who typically earn less than US\$200 per year and whose community has been torn apart by violence.

The Tarahumara's goal is to regain their land rights and unite their *ejido* lands with neighboring community lands. They will then collectively make decisions about protecting and restoring these forests. This movement to stop the logging has united the Tarahumara community. The last blockade was led by women who were widowed by the Fontes cartel more than a decade ago. Equally important, the blockades were widely supported by mestizos, as well as the neighboring Tepehuan people.

No bioregional conservation vision in Mexico can be accomplished without the will of the people who live there. Mexican politics and agrarian law are extremely complex and alien to most people in the US. Yet, it is essential for environmentalists to understand these dynamics because 70 percent of Mexico's forests and 50 percent of rural areas are communal holdings. SMA is working to merge the battle for agrarian rights with the environmental struggle—not always compatible goals. Too many "visionary" environmental organizations forget that given a chance, the oppressed and the endangered beings will find common ground and defend it.

SMA and Fuerza Ambiental, one of Mexico's most effective environmental law nonprofits, are in the process of signing an agreement with the Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture for micro-watershed restoration to begin in six communities in the region. This program would include the Coloradas de la Virgen. SMA has placed a full-time community development advisor in the region and in April began an intensive applied training program for 20 Tarahumara and Tepehuan leaders.

In Pino Gordo, a town neighboring Coloradas de la Virgen, the Tarahumara are finalizing an ethno-ecological management plan based on their traditions, which will create a reserve to protect the largest remaining stands of old-growth forest in the Sierra Madres. The Tarahumara and Fuerza Ambiental are working to establish permanent protection for thousands of acres of pristine, subtropical, pine and oak forests by passing laws that support



Now imprisoned, Isidro Baldenegro talking to the Chihuahuan media about the Tarahumara's struggle to protect their communal forests.

indigenous management of the area.

The Tarahumara are still involved in ongoing legal battles with the Fontes and a long process of administrative changes to recognize their communal lands. However uncertain the future, they have survived three grueling decades of terror and are proud that they are finally fulfilling the vision of their grandparents—a united and free *pueblo* in the midst of an ancient forest.

Randall Gingrich is the founder and executive director of Sierra Madre Alliance, an organization that has advised and supported Mexican and indigenous associates working to advance conservation, justice and sustainable community development in the Sierra since 1992.

Framed Tarahumara Facing 10 Year Sentences

On March 29, Isidro Baldenegro, one of the Tarahumara leaders of Coloradas de la Virgen, and Domingo Rivas Carrillo were arrested by state police and falsely charged with illegal arms possession. Witnesses state the police planted AK-47s and handguns at the scene after the arrest, then forced the Tarahumara to hold the arms for a photo, which was then published in the Chihuahua newspapers. Two months earlier, Isidro's brother, Trinidad Baldenegro and Gabriel Palma Lopez were arrested in similar circumstances. There were no arrest or search warrants in either case. Artemio Fontes is reported to be behind the illegal police action and the murder of Baldenegro's father in 1986, who also was protesting logging.

International help is needed immediately. Demand the immediate release of Isidro Baldenegro Lopez, Domingo Rivas Carrillo, Jose Trinidad Baldenegro Lopez and Gabriel Palma Lopez.

Demand prosecution of Artemio Fontes, Ivan Fontes and the state police involved in the arrests. Also, demand cancellation of the logging contract in Coloradas de la Virgen until the native Tarahumara are granted land rights in the *ejido* and all income from past illegal logging is remitted to the Tarahumara.

Write to Presidente Vicente Fox Quezada, Palacio Nacional, Edeficio 10, Planta Baja, Colonia Centro, Delegacion Cuauhtemoc, 06067 Mexico, D.F. Mexico.

From Chainsaws to Gene Guns

GENETICALLY ENGINEERED



BY POPULUS AND PSEUDOTSUGA

The genetic engineering of trees is a continuation of civilization's domination of all that is wild. The executives and scientists of biotech corporations can only see the forests for their genes. They are rushing to patent, control, engineer and commodify solely to increase their profits. In their blindness, they do not understand that forests are a wondrously complex and beautifully interdependent system of millions of plants, bacteria, fungi, trees, animals and insects—all with their own intrinsic right to exist.

If genetically engineered (GE) trees are commercialized in the US, they will contaminate our native forests, whether they are on private land, in parks, national forests or in wilderness. If we permit this to become a reality, all of the efforts by the forest conservation movement to save wilderness and native forests from the chainsaw will be for naught.

Traits Being Engineered

There are four main traits being engineered into trees: tolerance to Monsanto's Roundup herbicide; pesticide production with the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) which is inserted and present in every cell; sterility; and decreased lignin content. Other traits include decreased branching; stress and ozone tolerance; altered day-length perception so that trees can grow in areas where they are normally unable to; and salt tolerance, which will enable trees to be grown in soil turned saline from industrial agriculture practices.

Lignin is a naturally occurring compound that hardens and strengthens cell walls, protecting trees from insects and allowing them to stand upright. Decreasing the lignin content of trees is touted by the biotech and paper industries as a 'green' aspect of GE trees. They claim this will allow them to use fewer chemicals to break down the lignin in the Kraft process for making paper. However, there are already sustainable nontoxic methods for making paper. Decreasing the lignin content of trees will primarily serve to make papermaking less costly for the paper industry. This genetic weakening could also cause more insect problems, and when these low lignin genes contaminate native trees, whole forests could blow down in even moderate storms.

Inserting Bt pesticide into trees will cause the pesticide to express itself in every cell of the tree. Having this pesticide in the environment will create pests resistant to it, rendering the Bt ineffective. When Bt was introduced into cotton, it was found to be exuding from the roots in high concentrations, negatively affecting the soil food web. In forest ecosystems, the soils are fungally dominated and trees require fungi for their survival. Introducing high levels of Bt into forest soils via the trees' roots, or through the decomposition of leaves, needles and branches would disrupt the delicate soil food web of the forest.

The Trees Fight Back

Trees are vastly complex organisms,

and scientists are having a hard time domesticating them. Many experiments have ended in failure due to the tree's silencing of the inserted gene or when the gene causes unwanted and unexpected changes. An example of gene silencing occurred in a test plot of aspens in Germany. The trees were genetically engineered to be sterile, and the test was given a five-year permit since this species was known to begin flowering in seven years. Some of the trees silenced the inserted gene and began flowering at three years of age. In another aspen experiment designed to reduce the lignin content, many of the trees inexplicably increased their growth and changed the wood color from white to red.

Forced Sterilization of Nature

The biotech industry wants to create sterile trees for many reasons. The one they tout the most is the greenwash claim that sterility will make genetic pollution impossible. The reality is that trees expend about 25 percent of their energy in procreation, and engineering sterility will allow the trees to grow faster. If the industry can decrease the crop rotation of GE trees in the US to 10 years or less, they will be considered agricultural crops, which have much less stringent regulations.

Sterility is most likely impossible to accomplish based on gene silencing and the effects of environmental conditions throughout the life of a tree. In addition, many trees do not solely reproduce via seeds or fruit. The most intensely engineered trees, poplars and

cottonwoods, will sprout from branches that break off in the wind, as well as their trunks and roots. The potential for GE trees to spread genetic pollution to native trees is unlimited.

Lack of Precision

The process of genetic engineering is accomplished using bioballistics, otherwise known as the gene gun. In this process, the target gene is literally shot into the host DNA with the hope that it will successfully lodge into the host cell. This process is so imprecise that it takes 10,000 gene gun blasts to achieve one successful insertion. Even these successes are uncertain. A tree can be profoundly affected depending on where the target gene lodges in the host DNA. Problems may not be immediately noticeable but instead triggered later by environmental factors.

The target gene is packaged with a viral promoter gene and a marker gene, which are resistant to antibiotics. Once they have been shot into the host cells, the cells are then bathed in antibiotics to detect which ones have the desired DNA.

GE science is based on a flawed 40-year-old theory—Crick's Central Dogma. According to the theory, DNA genes are in total control of inherit-

ance. One gene produces a particular protein, which produces a particular inherited trait. This theory was disproven with the completion of the human genome-mapping project when it was discovered that we have about 30,000 genes, almost the same number of genes as corn. It was expected that humans would have 100,000 to 300,000 genes based on the amount of inherited traits in humans.

Types of Trees Being Engineered

When it comes to genetically engineering trees, the biotech corporations are focusing mostly on the pulp and paper species, including cottonwood, poplar, radiata pine, eucalyptus and larch. Fruit trees are also being engineered, and in Hawaii, they are already producing GE papaya, which has been on the market for a few years. The following species are also of interest to the biotech industry and are being tested in open field trials: spruce, almond, apple, aspen, birch, banana, cocoa, citrus, chestnut, elm, herea, kiwifruit, pear, plum, sandalwood, Scots pine, walnut, sweetgums and coffee. Some traits they are engineering in these species is bitterness-free citrus and accelerating the rate at which fruit ripens,

continued on next page

BARE BONES

Sierra Nevada: Chop, Chop?

The US Forest Service (USFS) is recommending sweeping changes to a Clinton-era management plan for forests in the Sierra Nevada mountains in California. Logging would more than double, larger diameter trees would be cut, ranchers could graze more cattle, and district rangers would be allowed to "thin" forests more aggressively.

The USFS's latest plan calls for 450 million board feet of timber to be offered for sale yearly. That's about three times what was cut in the Sierra in 2002, and twice the logging levels of the late 1990s, when studies indicated the spotted owl was in steady decline. USFS officials claim the extra logging will help raise revenues for fire-prevention work.

"The Bush administration is totally running roughshod over forest protections," said Sierra Club's Barbara Boyle. "This can only be viewed as an attempt to appease the timber industry."

Biotech Invades Europe

The European Union's (EU) five-year moratorium on genetically engineered (GE) crops is about to end. Since January, biotech companies like Monsanto and Bayer Crop-Science have been testing the waters by submitting 18 new applications to import GE corn, cotton, canola, and other plants. The first of these applications are expected to be decided upon this Fall.

New EU legislation that took effect last October was intended to end the ban by strengthening decade-old rules on testing and licensing genetically modified organisms as crops or ingredients.

The US has been threatening to challenge the ban on GE crops in the World Trade Organization unless it is lifted. European Greens and Social Progressives have vowed to fight against any such lifting of the ban on GE crops.



Campaign Against GE Trees Heats Up

BY BRAD HASH

In the land where the mainstream media spins "news" into a red, white and blue parade for George W. Bush's war machine, it is no surprise that the issue of genetically engineered (GE) trees has been swept under the rug of US culture. Thus, it should be no shock if our forests are replaced by corporate-owned, patented dendroids and biodiversity becomes nothing more than the panoramic backdrop of a bottled water advertisement.

Fortunately, there is a silver lining to this otherwise sepulchral GE cloud—there is still time for action. Approval for commercial production of GE trees remains five to 10 years away in the US. In January, Action for Social and Ecological Justice (ASEJ) led a coalition of groups, including the Dogwood Alliance, Rainforest Action Network, Polaris Institute, Northwest Resistance Against Genetic Engineering, Institute for Social Ecology, Family Farm Defenders, Forest Ethics, National Genetic Engineering Action Network and the Forest Stewards Guild, in launching an international GE tree campaign targeting International Paper (IP)—one of the world's major players in GE tree research and development.



"Biotechnology, giving pollution a life of its own." Protesters at the GE Trees Conference, Stevenson, WA, July 2001

well, IP is a funder of the Tree Genetic Engineering Research Cooperative at Oregon State University and the Forest Biotechnology Institute at North Carolina State. It is also a three-time project partner with the US Department of Energy in GE tree research.

The GE tree campaign will officially kick-off at the Sacramento Ministerial from June 23-25. The campaign will also be pressuring universities to withdraw from GE tree research and development. This is *the* opportunity to stop the threat of GE trees before the damage is done.

For more information or to get involved, contact Brad Hash at ASEJ GE Tree Campaign, POB 57, Burlington, VT 05402; (802) 863-0571; gaaget@gaaget.org; www.asej.org.

continued from previous page
so it will ripen all at once. This will cut down on the number of workers required to pick the fruits. In coffee, they are also trying to create a decaffeinated coffee bean. In addition, pharmaceutical banana trees are being engineered which produce vaccines in the fruit, turning them into profitable drugs.

Oil Company Involvement

With GE trees being designed for rapid growth, disease resistance and built-in pesticides, they play right into the hands of the corporate schemers who dreamed up carbon offset forestry. Corporations like Shell, Toyota and British Petroleum are involved in the research and development of GE trees

so they can continue their polluting ways in the northern hemisphere. The idea is that fast growing GE tree plantations in the southern hemisphere will sequester vast amounts of carbon, thereby 'offsetting' the corporate pollution. This myth has already been debunked by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the World Resources Institute who showed that plantations in tropical forests can store only one-fourth of the carbon that native forests can. Currently, there are more than 10 million acres of carbon offset plantations around the world.

University Involvement

Universities across the US are involved in GE tree research and development. In

the Pacific Northwest, universities such as Washington State, Oregon State, and Western State are conducting open-air field trials of GE trees. Many of these universities are obtaining funding through grants from the Department of Energy, the US Department of Agriculture, the National Science Foundation and the EPA, as well as biotech and timber corporations. If you are interested in finding the locations of GE crop test fields, start by checking out the websites at www.nbiap.vt.edu and www.gaaget.org.

US Forest Service Involvement

The US Forest Service (USFS) is also heavily involved in GE tree research and development through the

Institute of Forest Genetics based in Placerville, California. The USFS is working in collaboration with many university researchers and corporations to map the genomes of Loblolly pine, Douglas fir and poplar species, as well as working on the genetics of the white pine blister rust.

Where Will GE Trees be Grown?

GE trees are designed for massive plantations. In the US, these plantations will be concentrated in the coastal Southeast and in the Pacific Northwest (where there are already tens of thousands of acres of hybrid poplar plantations). However, most GE plantations will be in the southern hemisphere where the trees will grow faster and the environmental laws are lax or nonexistent. In Tobasco and Veracruz, Mexico, the company Planfosur has 51,891 acres of eucalyptus planted, some of which are genetically engineered. Satellite photos of the global South show that 75 percent of the current tree plantations were native forests just 10 years earlier. GE trees will cause even further deforestation of native forests.

Facilitating Frankentree Failure

None of these frankentrees have yet been commercialized in the US. We have a tremendous opportunity to halt this massive threat to our native forests and the biodiversity of the planet. The threat is real, and our actions to stop it must be tactical and effective.

The Global Alliance Against Genetically Engineered Trees is calling for a global ban on the release of any GE trees into the environment; an end to the funding of research and development of GE trees; an end to the patenting of trees, their genes and indigenous people's traditional knowledge.

If you work in an organization, insert similar language into your campaign literature or demands against corporate targets. Educate yourself and your community about the possible environmental and

health effects of GE trees and the need to ban them. We need a strong platform from the environmental community. Labeling or safety testing will not work—we need a total ban.

Take action against the corporations, federal agencies and universities developing GE trees, as well as the investors who are funding their research. The venture capitalists that invest in biotech are especially vulnerable and can easily be scared into pulling out if we make investing in biotech a risky prospect.

With 50 percent of the trees in the US cut down for paper production and the bulk of GE tree research focused on the species used to make paper it is time to start using tree-free paper made from hemp or Kenaf.

For more info or to get involved, contact Northwest Resistance Against Genetic Engineering, (503) 239-6841; www.nwrage.org.

Populus and pseudotsuga are two species of trees targeted by the biotech industry for commodification and encourage you to end this madness by methods of your choosing. They live in many different ecosystems all over North America and work tirelessly to prevent the gene manipulators from creating a frankenforest future.



Nighttime gardeners make investing in biotech a risky project. For gardening tips, visit www.tao.ca/~ban/1299nighttimegardener.htm.

BARE BONES

Alaska's Tongass in Danger

In February, the Bush administration announced that it will not provide wilderness protection to millions of acres of Alaska's Tongass National Forest. This announcement clears the way for the US Forest Service's plan to log 49 huge old-growth timber sales.

The decision could open more than a million acres of old-growth forest to logging if federal courts reverse Clinton's restrictions on forest road building, as expected. The US Forest Service claims that no more than 676,000 acres could be opened to logging under any circumstance.

The Clinton "roadless rule" would have prevented almost all logging in the Tongass, which contains nearly 30 percent of the world's unlogged coastal temperate rain forest.

EPA Okays New GE Corn

In February, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that it has approved Monsanto's new type of genetically modified corn containing Bt toxins. The approval is a boost for Monsanto, which has been struggling with falling earnings for biotechnology crops.

The new corn is likely to be used to make corn syrup and as animal feed, posing potential health threats to meat eaters.

Pay to Play, Forever...

Bush's 2004 budget calls for permanent recreation user fees on federally managed public lands. It authorizes increased privatization of recreation and other forest-related services.

A highly influential business consortium called American Recreation Coalition has been lobbying for implementation of fees on public lands. Its ultimate objective is to acquire the right to develop and operate recreational facilities on public lands for its corporate members, including Disney, Coleman and REI.

The End of Lake Powell

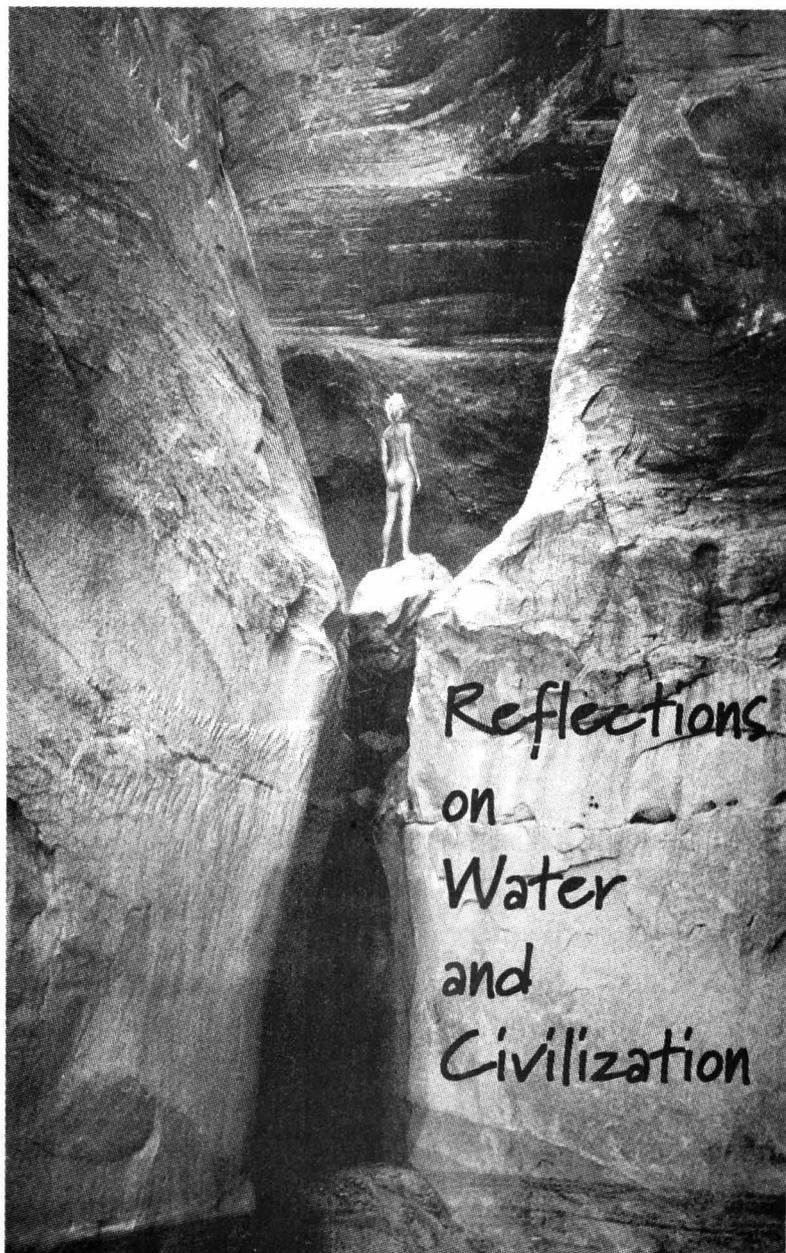
BY SPRIG

The ebb and flow of a river is not a common sight in Tucson, Arizona. During my first Summer monsoon, I biked to the Rillito wash just to see the river reveal itself, if only for a few hours. I stared into the muddy swelling of water, wondering about life before Tucson was established—a time when the Santa Rita and Rillito Rivers flowed above ground. How could people give up that pleasure for cement and pipes?

The juxtaposition of moving from Oregon to Arizona has been enlightening. My skin chafes for what many in the Northwest take for granted as they run to coffee shops to keep their spirits up on a rainy day. When I lived in Oregon, I drank well water and could dip in a creek outside my door whenever I wished. It was a privilege then, and I realize this even more now when I turn on the Tucson city tap.

Here, a twist of the faucet handle contributes to the Colorado River's demise, thanks to the Central Arizona Project (CAP). CAP is charging Tucson's groundwater aquifer with the once grand river, which has only reached the Gulf of California twice in the past 20 years. Arizona's Lake Havasu, really a reservoir, is the source of Tucson's CAP water, and it is at normal capacity despite the drought. Yet, further north on the Colorado River, the infamous Lake Powell is half empty. When the Glen Canyon Dam formed Lake Powell in 1966, it inundated hundreds of square miles of beautiful riverine wildlife habitat in Arizona and Utah. Now, Lake Powell could dry up completely if the drought plaguing the Southwest doesn't end soon.

The tragic drowning of Glen Canyon holds a place in the hearts of many. For some, it is a loss associated with an experience. For folks like me, it is a place I can only imagine based on accounts of those who explored it. Katie Lee was among a handful of people who knew the 170 miles of Glen Canyon like she knows her own body. She wrote about the canyon in 1955: "Each new discovery surpasses the last—it seems the tougher these canyons are to penetrate, the more beauty they hide. I leave a part of me in the arms of the Canyon; leave blood and tears in exchange for what I've seen and will remember all my life." For David Brower, the damming of Glen Canyon was his biggest personal failure. Brower essentially traded Glen Canyon to



Katie Lee in Cattails Canyon, 1957

photo by Mary Koehler

keep the Bureau of Reclamation from erecting another dam on the Green River in Dinosaur National Monument, upstream from Glen Canyon.

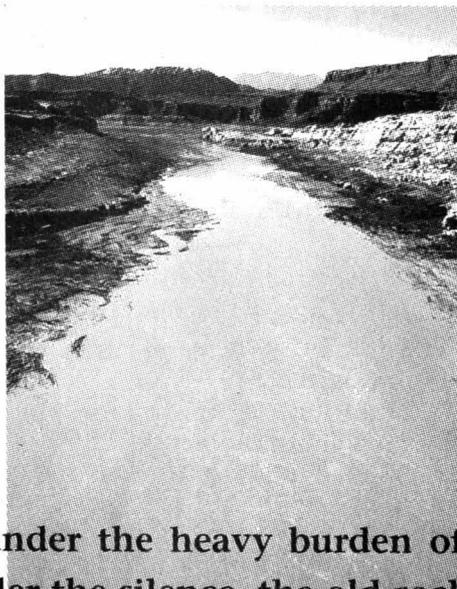
Drier than average conditions have now prevailed for the past three years in the Colorado River Basin. According to the US Geological Survey major droughts of the past went largely unnoticed. The current drought is noticeable because the West has four times the population, and it pumps the groundwater more intensively than it did before. We have only managed to avoid past crises because not all of the Colorado River Basin states have used their full allocations. Irrigators currently use 75 percent of Colorado River water, much of it for water intensive plants such as alfalfa and other feed crops for cattle. Some environmentalists speculate this will be the first place the federal government will make restrictions. The scramble for water resources between ranchers and wildlife advocates in other places with big dams—like Oregon's Klamath Basin—indicates a long fight ahead.

This overconsumption of water, compounded with a regional drought cycle of 25 years, could mean that Lake

Powell and every other reservoir in the upper Colorado River area will be without water. The Colorado River may soon be unable to provide for the 25 million people plumbed into its system. Groups like Living Rivers are working on a two-part program to reform how the Colorado River water is managed so that even in years of sustained drought, human needs can be met with enough water left over to maintain flows for critical riparian habitat. If current population and consumption patterns continue, it remains to be seen if this program is only forestalling the inevitable,

Right now, the UN's World Water Assessment Program estimates that more than one billion people lack access to safe drinking water on a daily basis. The number of people affected could increase to seven billion by 2050. This is all happening in a climate of water privatization, in which global corporations are sucking up 20 percent of public water resources a year. Ninety-five percent of the world's freshwater is up for grabs. This leaves an enormous potential for the few multinational corporations that dominate the market—mainly Suez (France), Vivendi Universal (France), RWE/Thames (Germany/UK) and Bechtel (US)—to claim it for resale. The World Bank's role in water privatization is not yet equal to its infamous history of financing devastating dams, but it is a key player in prying open these water markets for corporate access.

During the International Day of Action Against Dams on March 14 people protested worldwide. In Brazil, more than three hundred families occupied the powerhouse at the Cana Brava dam



Somewhere under the heavy burden of water going nowhere, under the silence, the old rocks of the river channel waited for the promised resurrection.

—EDWARD ABBEY FROM *THE MONKEYWRENCH GANG*

for a day. The owner of the dam, Tractebel—a Belgian subsidiary of Suez, the French water-privatizing conglomerate—promised to bring officials to hear the protesters' demands. In the US, the Glen Canyon Dam has been at the top of the lists of dams that people feel should be extricated.

Before the symbolic cracking of the Glen Canyon dam in 1981 by Earth First!er's, river advocates had been striving toward the liberation of the canyon. It is ironic that as the water level lowers, paddlers will get the chance to see a suggestion of the canyon's former magnitude. If Lake Powell drops an additional 28 percent, the dam will no longer be able to generate hydroelectricity and its weak excuse for existence will be mute. There seems to be no greater time to liberate the canyon than now.

As absurd as placing clothespins on a vital artery, more than 20 dams have been built on the 1,360 miles of the Colorado River. A fraction of its former self, the river still manages to sustain the West, but for how much longer? For me, the impending crisis is a particularly striking analogy to the almost two million people without potable water today in Basra, Iraq.

Basra resides along the mighty Euphrates, the river that nurtured the birth of "civilization" along the fertile crescent. In the 1991 Gulf War, US forces destroyed Iraq's water infrastructure. In the current attack, we

have again left the Iraqi people without secure water resources. The irony is uncanny, as the US follows the historical confluence of civilizations that went down the drain, sucking the world down with it.

BARE BONES

Canada to Kill Seals

The Canadian Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans recently announced that it has authorized the killing of 975,000 harp seals during the next three years. The Canadian government claims that the killing is an attempt to preserve populations of cod. The slaughter will be subsidized by taxpayer money even though polls have shown that most Canadians oppose seal hunts. However, environmentalists believe the government is attempting to hide its own mismanagement of the cod fisheries by blaming seals for damage done by human overfishing.

Ex-ALF Spokesperson Cleared

The Canadian Crown has abandoned its case against David Barbarash, the former spokesperson for the North American Animal Liberation Front Press Office. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) raided Barbarash's home last Summer, seizing computer equipment and other materials. The British Columbia Supreme Court ruled that the RCMP's search warrant was illegal. The RCMP was acting on the request of US authorities (see *EF!*, September-October, 2002).

PL Sued for Fraud

In February, the Humboldt County District Attorney sued the Pacific Lumber Company (PL) for \$250 million on six counts of fraud and deceptive concealment in applying for its Environmental Impact Report and Sustained Yield Plan in 1999.

The suit alleges that PL lied to state and federal agencies so that it could log 100,000 additional trees on unstable slopes. PL did not reveal information it had, which showed how the increased logging would result in landslides that would degrade the downstream water quality.

Bush Dooms Puget Sound Orcas to Extinction

BY BRENT PLATER

If you have ever witnessed the silhouette of orcas dancing in the waves at sunset in the Puget Sound, it would be difficult for you to call these animals insignificant. Yet that is exactly what the Bush administration has done, dooming these incredible creatures to extinction.

The Pacific Northwest's orcas have provided scientists with more insights into killer whale biology and behavior than all other killer whales combined. Recent studies of these creatures indicate that the killer whale species, *Orcinus orca*, is incredibly diverse and is probably misclassified. Genetic evidence indicates that it may actually consist of two species or subspecies. Within these divisions, scientists have discovered that killer whales form populations that are completely distinct and reproductively isolated from each other. The Southern Residents, a piscivorous group of orcas found in Puget Sound, are one such unique population.

Since 1996, the Southern Resident population has declined nearly 20 percent, with only 80 orcas remaining in 2002. Scientists have found that toxic pollution, habitat degradation and stress from vessel traffic are the main causes of the decline. The Center for Biological Diversity conducted a Population Viability Analysis of the Southern Residents and determined that within the next century, these threats spell extinction for the Pacific Northwest's most magnificent and charismatic species, unless protective provisions are put in place.

Yet the Bush administration refused to take any action to protect the whales when presented with the results of analysis. So, the Center for Biological Diversity formally petitioned the National Marine Fisheries Service to protect this population under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in May 2001.

This kick-started a legal protection process that may be the last hope for these orcas.

Giving the ESA a Kick

The ESA is needed to protect these killer whales because it is the only law that can address the threats they face. It has the power to address toxic pollution by requiring federal operations that could pollute the killer whales' environment to first be submitted to a review by an independent 'expert' agency.

This would insure that the pollution does not jeopardize their existence or adversely modify their habitat. By protecting their "critical habitat," the ESA can prevent degradation of the killer whale's ocean environment.

Another problem facing the Southern Residents is the noise created by vessel traffic, especially whale watching boats. The ESA's prohibition on 'taking' an endangered species (i.e. harassing, harming, killing or capturing an animal) allows the government to regulate these impacts. History has shown that the ESA is particularly effective in cases like the Southern Residents. We have enough time to



Since 1996, the orcas of Puget Sound have declined nearly 20 percent, with only 80 remaining in 2002. They could go extinct within the next century unless protective provisions are put in place. Yet the Bush administration has refused to take any action to protect the orcas.

promote their recovery if the ESA's protections are implemented. The ESA is simply the best legal tool available to protect them from extinction.

But the Bush administration announced in July 2002, that it will not protect the killer whales under the ESA. It reasoned that Puget Sound's Southern Residents simply aren't significant enough to be enfranchised by the act. This was the first time the federal government invoked this loophole and failed to protect an endangered population because it deemed the population "insignificant," but it wasn't the last: In March, the Bush administration also labeled the Kootenai River burbot, a fish from Idaho, insignificant.

The Bush administration has ignored key information in deciding that the Southern Residents aren't significant enough to save from extinction. These orcas are genetically distinct from all other killer whales on Earth, and they have been reproductively isolated for thousands of years. They survive in waters outside an urban environment unlike any other killer whale habitat. The loss of these whales will create a gap in the species range. And perhaps most importantly, the Southern Residents have their own dialect and culture, as unique and irreplaceable as the whales themselves.

In other killer whale populations where more than one dialect is present, the whales mate preferentially across dialects (dubbed by one scientist as the "sexy foreign accent" effect). The Southern Residents only have one dialect, yet do not interbreed with other populations with different dialects, making them particularly unique among killer whale populations.

For these reasons, killer whale biologists have told us that the National Marine Fisheries Service's determination that the whales are not significant is scientifically indefensible. And those of us specializing in the legal protection of marine mammals know that failing to enfranchise these whales with the protections of the ESA means the agency is simply planning for extinction.

We Will Not Let You Go

You don't need to be a killer whale biologist or a lawyer to understand the callousness of the National Marine Fish-

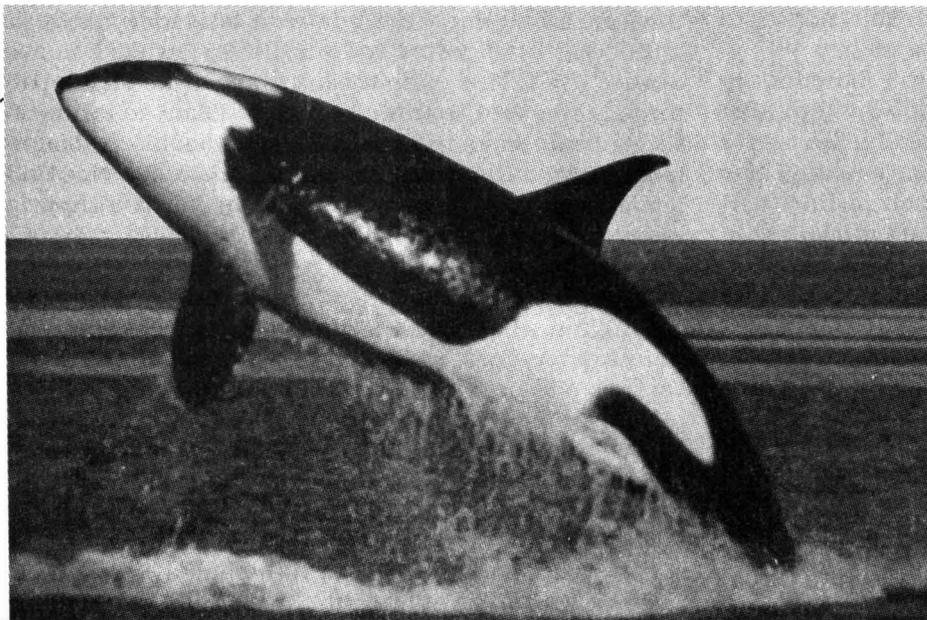
eries Service's decision. These orcas are majestic animals that are an integral part of the natural and cultural heritage of the Pacific Northwest. They are a mainstay of our love of the ocean and our interconnection with life on Earth. If these killer whales are lost, the Pacific Northwest will be greatly impoverished.

Several conservation groups are now challenging the Bush administration's decision in court. In a time when the administration has attempted to roll back dozens of environmental laws, conservationists have been forced to turn to the courts to uphold environmental protections. Recent court victories have shown that the courtroom is still the soft underbelly of the Bush administration's assault on biodiversity.

The legal case is strong: Never before has the federal government determined that a population is discrete and endangered and then failed to invoke the ESA. The case will likely be decided by this Fall. After all the killer whales have taught us, winning this protection is the least we can do for them.

For more information, visit the Center for Biological Diversity website, www.biologicaldiversity.org.

Brent Plater is an attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity, lead author of the petition to protect the killer whales and co-counsel in the lawsuit to protect the killer whales. Along with Patti Goldman of Earthjustice, he represents Orca Conservancy, Ocean Advocates, People for Puget Sound, Friends of the San Juans, Earth Island Institute, Karen Munro and former Secretary of State Ralph Munro in the fight to save the Southern Residents.



BARE BONES

You Buy Solo, You Buy Us

In February, the US Forest Service re-auctioned off the Solo Timber Sale in Oregon's Mount Hood National Forest to Freres Lumber. Seventy-five citizens and forest activists protested the auction, chanting "You buy Solo, you buy us!"

Solo needed to be re-auctioned after the original buyer Thomas Creek Lumber dropped the sale. Activists with Cascadia Forest Alliance (CFA) stopped logging in the Solo Timber Sale last Summer and Fall with a treesit. "We're here today to tell potential buyers that we will continue to use direct action to protect the Oak Grove watershed and native forests," said treesitter Jennifer Steinberg.

Solo covers 167 acres in the Oak Grove watershed, which provides drinking water for 185,000 Oregonians. Activists have discovered old-growth specklebelly, an endangered lichen, in two locations in this sale.

Industry Oiled Again!

On the eve of the US attack on Iraq, Senate Republicans, led by the Alaskan delegation, failed to muster the necessary votes needed to open up vast areas of arctic wilderness to exploitation for oil.

After the Senate voted 52 to 48 against drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska Senator Ted Stevens said the fight was not over. In the last few minutes allotted to him to make his case, he issued a warning: "People who vote against this today are voting against me—and I will not forget it."

The oil industry's allies in Congress used the war against Iraq as an excuse to press for drilling in Alaska, and Interior Secretary Gale Norton pressured high-powered special-interest groups to lobby senators.



photo by Jennifer Roemer

BY YOTE RISA

The Montana sky was tinged with yellow and pink. Another beautiful sunset began to illuminate snowy mountains rising to the Continental Divide. I pushed through the crusted snow on skis, following the frozen Duck Creek across the valley below Fir Ridge. Up ahead, grazing by some willows along the creek, was a herd of 10 bull buffalo. Lingered in the inspiration of the moment, I said a prayer and a warning for the buffalo. "I respect and honor you," I called out. "Stay wild and free. Know that there is danger this way. Please stay away."

I returned to our camp which was on a narrow swath of national forest wedged between the western boundary of Yellowstone National Park and the Duck Creek buffalo trap. The fence was already broken in places by buffalo who were not easily deterred from their Winter migrations. We kept our fire in front of one such hole, hoping to deter hungry buffalo from a trap baited with hay.

My partner took his turn skiing back into Yellowstone to check on the herd. Soon I heard his call and was skiing after him. The buffalo were on the move, heading our way. I tried to ground myself for what I would have to do. These are mighty wild animals, doing what their instinct tells them. Unfortunately, the State of Montana still kills wild buffalo for following their instincts.

At the top of the rise we began to shout and holler, making noises to divert them from the buffalo trap that sits just a hundred yards outside of Yellowstone National Park. I knew that buffalo, especially bulls, are extremely stubborn. It is the irony of their character that their persistence has guaranteed both their survival and continued slaughter. However, this time we were surprised when they turned and ran back in the direction they had come from, deeper into the safety of Yellowstone. Then a pack of coyotes began to howl from the hills, adding a wild voice to our warning calls. Perhaps that was the

magic reinforcement that was needed to keep the buffalo safe, for now.

There were once more than 60 million buffalo roaming the continent. By 1903, all but 23 animals had been slaughtered—victims of the US war against Native Americans, manifest destiny and the westward expansion of cattle. Those few surviving buffalo took refuge in the remote Yellowstone backcountry. Their direct descendants, the only continuously wild herd of buffalo in the US, are still in peril.

During Winter and Spring, buffalo migrate out of Yellowstone to lower elevations where they seek food or give birth. The buffalo follow traditional migration routes along the Madison River Basin. However, in doing so, they cross into Montana where wild bison are hazed, captured and killed by the Department of Livestock (DOL).

Livestock?

In Montana, the cattle industry uses the DOL to slaughter the buffalo and protect their remaining rights to subsi-

Roaming with the Last

dized grazing on public lands. They chase buffalo into traps where they are confined and sent to slaughter. Even those buffalo that escape or are hazed into the park are endangered because they use up energy needed to survive the harsh Winters of Yellowstone. The chaos of the hazes disrupts local communities and traffic, as well as endangered bald eagles, sensitive trumpeter swans, elk, moose, grizzly bears, wolves and other species.

The state of Montana and public agencies have killed more than 3,000 native buffalo since 1985. The DOL's excuse for the slaughter is brucellosis, a bovine reproductive disease that was actually first passed to buffalo from cattle. There has never been a documented case of bison transmitting brucellosis to cattle in the wild.

The DOL is supposed to test captured buffalo for brucellosis and release those that test negative. The test they use is extremely inaccurate. It tests for brucellosis antibodies or exposure to brucellosis, rather than the disease itself. This often means that the bison shipped to slaughter are the animals most resistant to brucellosis. Post-mortem tests have confirmed that many slaughtered bison did not actually have the disease. Not that it matters much—the last 135 bison killed in Spring were never tested.

Buffalo Spirit

Buffalo are majestic and wise creatures. Their imposing stature, large hump, thick, shaggy brown and black fur, short curved horns and penetrating eyes make them distinctive among the many spectacular large mammals of the West. It is hard not to feel blessed in their presence and humbled by their sense of community. Buffalo are reminders of what once was, messengers of a wisdom that is threatened by our current way of life.

Last Spring, I came out to join the Buffalo Field Campaign (BFC) and roam with the buffalo. BFC volunteers

defend the buffalo on their traditional Winter habitat and advocate for their protection. Daily patrols stand with the buffalo on the ground the buffalo choose to be on and document every move made against them. That is when I first learned about the buffalo spirit.

Last April, I witnessed more than 70 buffalo hazed through a barbed wire fence and captured. The sound of screeching wire, as it ripped through flesh and pulled from the posts, sank in my gut. I watched helpless as the herd was corralled into the trap after being chased across the meadows and bluffs. After the buffalo were shipped off to slaughter, a dozen bison emerged from the forest in a row and paused by the trap, as if paying their respect for

nights during a snowstorm. You could hear the buffalo banging against the walls of the trap as they tried to escape into the fresh snow. They were all sent to slaughter.

Those ghosts have roamed with me as I wander. They remind me that we cannot be complacent. That day I was an observer, overwhelmed by the power of the buffalo's presence, distracted from my role as their defender. Those 29 ghosts have brought me back to Yellowstone for a full season, to honor those lost buffalo by actively fighting to defend the survivors.

Get Involved

You, too, can join the buffalo defenders. Mass action requires a mass.

Herd of Wild Buffalo

those that were lost.

This winter, I saw an old bull who was being chased by eight snowmobiles run through a barbed wire fence several times. After running the bull ragged for a few hours, they pushed it toward the trap where it jumped a fence and escaped into the woods.

Last May, as the snow melted and the days grew longer, I began looking forward to wandering myself. One afternoon, I was back outside the trap along the park border. A herd of bull buffalo joined us in the sagebrush near the woods. We felt blessed to be that close to such majestic creatures. They seemed to be looking straight into our souls, weighing our purpose there with them. I felt inspired and comforted and humbled, just a few feet from animals weighing several thousand pounds.

They moved on to the private property and grazed near the trap. The buffalo do this often, taunting the DOL and then running off. On this afternoon, they were chased off by DOL agents on ATVs and then came right back out and over to the trap. The DOL agents closed the gates to the trap and captured 29 bulls. They left the buffalo there for two

Come defend the buffalo. Delicious meals and gear are provided. We can train you in nonviolence, video documentation, the current legal situation and any other skills shared by our volunteers. We live communally with an inspiring group of activists. All you have to do is thumb it out to West Yellowstone and give us a call.

March, April and May are our busiest months. Hundreds of buffalo leave the park, days are long and volunteers are fewer. Come experience the wildness of Yellowstone while working to defend the last herd of wild buffalo. If you cannot make the trip out to Yellowstone this Spring, there are still many things you can do to help the buffalo.

For more information, contact the Buffalo Field Campaign, (406) 646-0070; buffalo@wildrockies.org; www.wildrockies.org/buffalo.



BARE BONES

Fox In Charge of the Henhouse?

A proposal added at the last minute to Congress' 2003 domestic spending bill, which was passed on February 13, will let the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management award an unlimited number of "stewardship contracts" to logging companies.

The program was approved without any evidence of the program's performance, its ecological impacts or an assessment of the intended local work force benefits.

Stewardship contracts allow the agencies to trade an unlimited and unspecified number of trees to pay for "restoration" work and "fuels reduction thinning" under Bush's Healthy Forest Initiative. In reality, logging companies are given access to previously protected areas. Allowing restoration and/or thinning to be paid for with the most ecologically and economically valuable trees increases future risk of wildfire, as well as the need for true restoration.

Buffalo Massacred

As of mid-April, the National Park Service and Montana Department of Livestock have already slaughtered more than 240 wild bison this year. For the first time since the 1996-1997 season, Yellowstone National Park has reopened the Stephens Creek buffalo trap.

In March, buffalo near the northern boundary of the Yellowstone National Park were hazed into the trap where they were held until slaughter. In only one night, there were 175 wild bison caged in the trap which was built for 125. Numerous injuries were documented as trapped bison gored each other in close confinement.

These operations mark a return to darker days for Yellowstone park rangers, who haven't killed buffalo in six years.

I am not just an herbalist. I am an anarchist, an ecologist, a witch, an educator, a student, a refugee's daughter and a botanist. I am simply someone working on my own healing, so I can help in some small way to heal the Earth and those on it. The more I delve into the health field, the less people understand where I come from politically. I am less and less on the frontlines in actions. Instead, I am spending more time inside, listening to one person at a time tell me about their pain and looking for ways to help them transform it. I am also spending more time away from people, with plants, learning how to listen.

In my life, I have chosen to take the struggle of holding the Earth first to the health field. I feel that I am coming full circle with my studies and practice and am ready to apply it to my love and respect of the Earth.

The field of herbal medicine can be messy. There are no basic standards or licenses to buy in order to become an herbalist. You either call yourself one or you don't. I like this aspect, as it fits nicely with my anarchist philosophy. In fact, I strongly disagree with any national accreditation or licensing; I like being an outlaw.

The problem I have with herbalism is the same problem with every aspect of anarchist structure: accountability. The question comes up again and again in various communities that don't want to involve laws, licensing or police. Likewise, how do we hold herbalists, or those using, picking and buying herbs accountable?

Anyone can write a book on herbal medicine and end up with thousands of people reading it and believing it. Anyone can print up a certificate they got online after taking a week-long correspondence class on herbs, call themselves a Master Herbalist and begin seeing patients. Anyone can collect and make medicine from plants, selling it as "professional formulations." This is a very empowering field; it is also a very dangerous one. Personal responsibility is essential. Community expectations and guidelines are necessary. There are "herbalists" who act outside of their scope of knowledge, representing themselves or teaching in ways that may do more harm than good. One of the most valuable phrases you can get from an herbalist is, "I don't know."

The ignorance and misuse of herbs can lead to several problems. The herbs may not work as expected because the

plants are old, adulterated or their energy is tainted from exploitation. Unfortunately, this makes herbs seem less effective, and for many, using herbs becomes a passing fad rather than a shift toward using more natural substances in their lives.

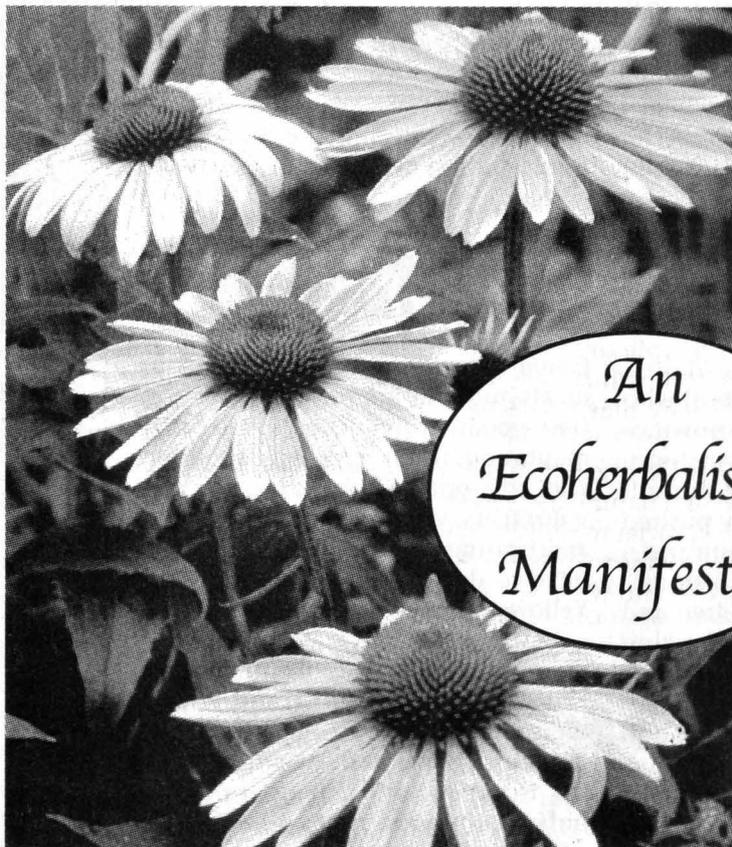
You may inadvertently contribute to the decimation of plant populations by following commercial trends. Pharmaceutical companies pay for research on herbs to "prove" they are the most effective solution for whatever the companies deems is important at the time. Echinacea is one good example. Many of the "popular" herbs are endangered in the wild due to "market" pressure. To put it simply, I would rather people take a Tylenol than white willow bark if they don't know the source of the bark.

Herbal medicine is medicine. I don't care how the Food and Drug Administration labels it. It is serious. It can heal, and it can harm. It is not to be played around with. It is to be studied intensely—in whatever medical model you choose—and responsibly experimented with in a limited capacity. Don't use it if you don't need it.

In the Earth First! community, I have seen people who are so excited to be at an outdoor gathering or camp that they immediately begin foraging for food and medicine. Many are empowered by the idea of taking care of themselves and forget that they are brief visitors to the area. I was

just as guilty of this as any. Before ever touching such valuable wildlife, one should have a clear understanding of the ecology of the bioregion. Having a Tom Brown survival skills book or an herb book by Michael Moore isn't good enough. Spending time listening and watching is much more important than the adrenaline that comes from hunting. Finding a local person who has an understanding of the area is vital. You would be shocked at how many plants, animals, insects and humans may be relying on the wild ginger you just plucked from the side of a creek to cook with your tofu and rice.

I recently took another herb class, this time from my friend Filiberto. It was a reminder of how much I have to learn. He is from a small mountain village in Mexico. When his people collect flowers, they only collect the petals that have fallen on the ground. When they cut a plant, they seal any cuts in the plant limb or root with beeswax, spiderwebs or cocoon silk. He only collects plants



An
Ecoherbalist's
Manifesto

Instead of gathering echinacea in the wild, grow it at home.

seven days before a full moon. Then, during the full moon, he makes the medicine and buries it for a month. His use is based on survival and need.

My question to everyone is: What do we really need from the Earth? Many of us are battling all sorts of psychological illnesses that eventually manifest physically. People are looking for a magic pill to cure them, whether it's an herb or pharmaceutical. In the medical system of Fili's people, psychological illnesses are associated with the element of Air. For the other elements, there are many healing plants that can be used, but for Air, he knows of only one thing to do. He believes that psychological illnesses come from a lack of connection to the Earth—therefore, if you suffer from mental illness, bury yourself for several hours inside the Earth. I wonder if this is often all we need to do.

It is for Filiberto and the oral knowledge he carries, passed down for centuries, that I write the following manifesto.

The Manifesto

Due to the overharvesting, habitat destruction and disrespect that our green brothers and sisters are experiencing, a new faction of herbalists is growing to protect the remaining wild plant populations. Herbalists and other plant nerds are welcome to join us in this struggle using the following principles:

We will strive to educate people on and use substitutions to herbs the "market" has made popular and help shift the focus to the weedy plants in bioregions we call home.

When we garden, we will use organic, biodynamic guidelines to work with native and naturalized species that have little impact on or are beneficial to the land.

We will spend extensive time educating ourselves and others about the ecology of the land we inhabit, as well

as wildcrafting principles and ethics.

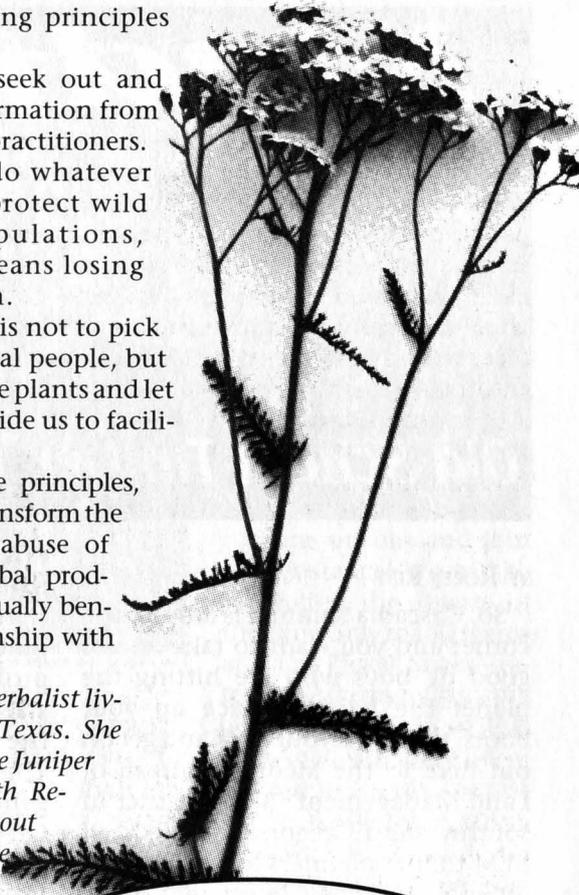
We will seek out and treasure information from indigenous practitioners.

We will do whatever it takes to protect wild plant populations, even if it means losing our freedom.

Our focus is not to pick herbs and heal people, but to listen to the plants and let the plants guide us to facilitate healing.

Using these principles, we hope to transform the misuse and abuse of plants in herbal products to a mutually beneficial relationship with the land.

Stiki is an herbalist living in Austin, Texas. She coordinates the Juniper Holistic Health Resource Center out of the Rhizome Collective, a nonprofit permaculture and community space.



Yarrow can be easily cultivated in a garden to replace wildcrafting threatened native herbs like Oregon grape, trillium and pipsissewa.

Frontlines

ALF Strikes Against Supreme Lobster

In the early morning hours of February 2, the Animal Liberation Front paid a visit to Supreme Lobster in Chicago, Illinois. The company supplies seafood to more than 5,000 Chicagoland restaurants and supermarkets.

The brake lines on 38 trucks were cut, and the refrigeration systems on 20 others were damaged. This action cost Supreme Lobster up to \$50,000 in damage and put them out of commission for more than a week.

Supreme Lobster makes more than 75 million dollars annually, and over the last 25 years, it has been responsible for the deaths of more than one billion sea creatures.

Fish Factory Construction Halted Again

On February 19, dozens of people from Bella Coola, Canada, including Nuxalk hereditary chiefs and youth, native and non-native commercial fisherpeople and local residents occupied an Omega Salmon fish-hatchery construction site for three days. The Atlantic salmon hatchery was being constructed without consent at Ocean Falls, British Columbia, in the traditional territory of the Nuxalk nation.

On March 3, Nuxalk hereditary chiefs successfully contested Omega's attempt to get a court injunction against them. The injunction would prevent the Nuxalk people from interfering with the hatchery's construction in the future.

Another SHAC Victory!

After just 10 days of protest, Deloitte & Touche—one of the top four accounting firms in the world—pulled out of their role as auditors to Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS).

Activists picketed offices, carried out home demos on directors, glued locks and spray painted offices and homes. Daily leafleting, mass phone calls, emails and actions took place all over the world against the company. After 10 days, Deloitte & Touche caved in to pressure and abandoned HLS, leaving Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) activists with a victory in record time.

HLS is a vivisection company with laboratories in the UK and New Jersey. HLS kills 500 animals a day in experiments contracted by companies dealing with chemicals pharmaceuticals and household products.



Medford BLM

Old School Timber Thugs

BY ROOT ROT

So, Cascadia Summer is around the corner and you want to take on the good ol' boys who are hitting the planet the hardest? Lace up your boots, throw on your pack and get on out here to the Medford Bureau of Land Management (BLM) district in southwestern Oregon. The Medford BLM timber planners love to log old growth, and they don't play nice. They've got more than 50 timber sales in various stages of planning. They're proposing 1,140 acres of clearcutting and 1,860 acres of commercial "thinning" per year.

Rogue Valley, resistance is on the rise. Last Summer, the first treesit that southwest Oregon has seen in quite some time was erected in a prolonged fight to keep the big trees standing at the Peak Timber Sale in the Rogue River National Forest. That campaign helped spark a resurgence of direct action in southwest Oregon and northwest California. Every old-growth timber sale auction is now met with protests, and the paperwrenchers are suing the BLM at every opportunity. There's also a growing realization that protests and lawsuits alone are not protecting the ancient forests. People

are hungry for campaigns that stop the logging before it starts.

Trashing Paradise

The Medford BLM contains 128,700 acres of ancient forest. They manage the largest forested BLM roadless area in the US: the 46,646-acre Zane Gray roadless area. The Zane Gray is found on the northern bank of the Rogue River and contains forests as rugged and wild as any in North America. Not surprisingly, this is where the BLM has planned an old-growth timber sale. The Kelsey Whisky Timber Sale targets almost *two square miles* of ancient forest that have been designated as critical habitat for the northern spotted owl by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Zane Gray Roadless Area

The vast, unspoiled wilderness of the massive Zane Gray is some of the best northern spotted owl, Pacific fisher, and southern Oregon coho salmon habitat in the Pacific Northwest. The impressive Zane Gray roadless area provides the region's wildlife with a rare and

Frontlines

Greenpeace Shuts Down GE Market

On February 19, six Greenpeace activists locked down to three buses parked in front of Shaw's Markets main distribution center in Methuen, Massachusetts. The buses blocked shipments of genetically engineered food to Shaw's stores and were painted with the messages: "Shaw's: Stop Genetically Engineered Food" and "The Genetic Experiment Ends Here."

During the blockade, Greenpeace sent representatives to Shaw's headquarters in West Bridgewater, Massachusetts to request a meeting with Shaw's chief executive officer, Paul Gannon. Simultaneously, more than 200,000 consumer emails were sent to the company demanding that they remove GE food from their inventory.

Through genetic testing, Greenpeace found that four out of five of the Shaw's brand products tested contained genetically engineered ingredients.

Thousands Protest Oil Spill in Madrid

On February 23, tens of thousands of people wearing oil-stained jumpsuits took to the streets of Madrid, Spain. They marched in protest of the way Spanish government

handled the Prestige tanker spill, the nation's worst ecological disaster. After bleeding petroleum for six days, the Prestige broke apart and sank on November 19, spilling more than 20 million gallons of oil off the coast of Spain. Oil from the spill drifted as far away as France and Portugal.

The Spanish government has been blamed for downplaying the extent of the disaster, failing to equip and coordinate cleanup operations, withholding information and issuing misleading information. Protesters demanded resignations from the government officials who handled the disaster.

ELF Targets Urban Sprawl

On March 21, two houses under construction were burned in an upscale suburban development in Superior Township, Michigan. Graffiti at the anti-sprawl action, claimed the work as that of the Earth Liberation Front.

The houses were in late stages of construction, and damage totals are estimated to be \$400,000. These were the third and fourth fires in this area since September, though the earlier two were not claimed by any group.

intact mature and old-growth forest extensive enough to provide a refuge for populations of old-growth dependent species. In fact, these populations act as a source of biodiversity for nearby forests that have been degraded by logging and road building.

The Zane Gray also acts as a wildlife connectivity corridor that allows for population exchanges between the forests of the Klamath/Coast Range and those of the mighty Cascade Mountains. This connectivity corridor is regionally significant—it helps prevent the isolation of many species and allows for genetic flow between mountain ranges.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service recognized the Zane Gray roadless area as being irreplaceable habitat. It designated a significant portion of the area's watershed as "critical habitat" for the survival of the northern spotted owl. Nonetheless, the BLM intends to log there.

The Pickett Snake Timber Sale

The Pickett Snake Timber Sale is uniquely situated on the north-eastern edge of a serpentine soil ecosystem in an ancient forest near the Rogue River. This ecosystem provides habitat for an astounding amount of wildlife and rare plant diversity.

The timber sale planners of the Grant's Pass resource area of the Medford BLM are hoping to log almost 1,000 acres of untouched mature and ancient forests. The BLM intends to remove virtually every large tree from the area, leaving only a mere six to 10 trees per acre. Uncomfortable with the word "clearcut," the timber planners euphemistically describe the liquidation of these ancient forests as a "structure retention harvest." George Orwell would be proud of the linguistic creativity of our federal timber sale planners.

Unfortunately, this structural retention harvest is a death sentence for nesting bald eagles and northern spotted owls, the elusive Pacific fisher, the endemic del norte salamander and the vanishing coho salmon.

Succumbing to an insatiable hunger to devour ancient forests, the

BLM has even rejected many of its own specialists' recommended mitigation measures, which were designed to lessen the effects of clearcutting. The requests of the BLM's own botanists for no-cut buffers around three rare plant species were rejected as inconveniencing structural retention harvests. Another BLM biologist's request to establish a five-year monitoring program on the effects of clearcutting on northern spotted owls was denied.

What Can I Do?

Come on out and join the resistance! We will be protecting the forests of the Zane Gray roadless area and the Pickett Snake watershed during Cascadia Summer. Check out page 35 in this issue of the *EF! Journal*. For more information about these two areas, contact Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, POB 102, Ashland, OR 97520; (541) 488-5789; www.kswild.org; Mazama Forest Defense. (541) 482-2640; mfd@mazamaforestdefense.org; www.mazamaforestdefense.org.



Endangered northern spotted owl

Treesits Erected in Victoria, BC

On the night of January 13, students at the University of Victoria in British Columbia, Canada, erected a treesit in the Cunningham Forest in an old-growth Madrone tree. The forest is threatened by development from the university. After a Douglas fir grove was partially cut down in late December, students began demanding protection for all remaining forested areas on campus and a comprehensive restoration plan.

The students propose that all new developments should instead take place on the university's parking lots and lawns.

Mattole Activists Interfere with PL's Plans

In the Mattole watershed in Humboldt County, California, Mattole Forest Defenders removed thousands of flags, which marked proposed timber harvest plans (THP) filed by Pacific Lumber. On March 9, a bundle of these flags was left on the doorstep of Pacific Lumber's headquarters in Scotia, California.

Activists also made logging roads temporarily impassable by strewing brush and debris on them. The actions were taken in order to interfere with the approval of the THPs, which must go through a "pre-harvest inspection" before advancing in the approval process. The THPs include proposals to build roads across streams and in seismically active gorges, as well as logging plans that target large stands of old-growth Douglas fir and hardwood forests.

Activists Block Access to Dow Plant

On March 11, the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal delivered contaminated drinking water from Bhopal, India, to Dow Chemical's Texas headquarters. Activists blocked entrances to the building with 250 gallons of contaminated water taken from wells in Bhopal, the site of the world's worst industrial disasters.

In 1984, a disastrous leak at a Union Carbide plant in Bhopal killed more than 8,000 people in the first three days alone. After the explosion, Union Carbide abandoned the plant, leaving hundreds of tons of toxic chemicals behind. Activists demanded that Dow clean up Bhopal and accept full responsibility for the health and environmental damage in that city.

Vengeance for Slain Tigers

Under the cover of darkness on April 4, Animal Liberation Front operatives set fire to the roof of Czimers Game and Seafood in Lockport, Illinois. Damage to the shop was estimated at \$100,000.

The arson came only 12 hours after William Kapp, a county corrections officer, was convicted of illegally selling, transporting and killing more than a dozen endangered tigers and leopards. Kapp, along with store-owner Richard Czimer and 14 others, were involved in the Midwest exotic animal butchering ring. Kapp faces more than two years in federal prison.

Metolius Basin "Restoration" Logging Destroying the Forest to Save It

BY BLUE MOUNTAINS BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

The Metolius Basin in central Oregon is a uniquely beautiful area supported by the clear, cold and spring-fed Metolius River. It has magnificent stands of old-growth ponderosa pine, western larch and Douglas fir. Rare and endemic plants grow there, including Peck's penstemon, tall agoseris and *Elaphomyces anthracinus*, a rare truffle. Bull trout, chinook salmon and kokanee salmon inhabit the rivers, and northern spotted owls, northern goshawks, and bald eagles can be seen in the area. The Metolius Basin also receives many human visitors due to the outstanding scenic views of Black Butte and the abundant opportunities for recreation.

Yet, this area is under threat. The US Forest Service (USFS) is planning a timber sale that would cover up to 75 percent of the area and log up to 40 million board feet of timber.

The Metolius project, like virtually all other timber sales in eastern and central Oregon, is billed as a "fuel reduction" sale to "reduce the risk" of wildfire. As such, it gives logging companies the legal and political cover of Bush's Healthy Forests Initiative. The Metolius forest is also threatened by Bush's administrative rollbacks of environmental protection laws.

The USFS is on a regionwide binge of targeting the last old-growth habitat for logging, including northern spotted owl and northern goshawk habitat, lynx and wolverine travel corridors and riparian "conservation areas." Incredibly, these sales are billed as "restoration" projects. As with most of the timber sales in the region, the Metolius sale covers thousands of acres. Also common is that trees such as the native grand fir are being characterized as invasive "weed trees" in order to rationalize the logging of larger trees. Like other sales, the Metolius plan incorporates areas that already exceed forest plan limits for soil impacts caused by past logging and roading.

Commercial logging of large diameter trees is planned despite at least three overlapping protective designations for the area. The Metolius Timber Sale area has "late successional reserve" status under the Northwest Forest Plan and overlaps the Metolius Conservation Area and the Metolius Research Natural Area. The USFS is ignoring all of these protective designations.

The Metolius sale would use new pilot "stewardship contracting authorities." These contracting methods would

allow the USFS to use a "goods for services" clause to "pay" the logging/restoration contractors in trees instead of cash for restoration work done.

Other favors to the timber industry include the "designation by description" clause, whereby loggers pick which trees to cut by interpreting what the USFS wants, rather than felling marked trees. The outcome of these pilot authorities are highly subject to the political intentions involved. The USFS could use "goods for services" and "designation by description" to fund much needed small diameter thinning under 12 inches diameter at breast height; or if applied to larger diameter trees, the use of

these authorities could be problematic. They could make it easy for greedy contractors to pick the biggest, healthiest old-growth or mature trees to cut. The Metolius Timber Sale would be one of the first projects to select from these new contracting authorizations and could thus set a precedent for other national forests.

The Blue Mountains Biodiversity

Project (BMBP) is fighting the Metolius sale. We are an extremely resource-efficient grassroots group. Last year, we won all five of the lawsuits we filed. Three stopped post-fire salvage logging. One stopped forestwide toxic herbicide use and another halted a plan that threatened moth and butterfly diversity across several national forests. However, we are now facing the potential loss of one of our most effective tools—litigation—due to Bush's roll backs of environmental protection laws and public process.

BMBP is also more desperate for funding than ever before in our 12 years of existence. So far, we are still able to litigate on all the major timber sales in four national forests and one Bureau of Land Management district, and we are a cosponsor of Cascadia Summer. We will be experimenting with new, creative tactics to sidestep any loss of protective laws. So please help by donating whatever money you can to keep BMBP from going under and come out to help during Cascadia Summer. Donations can be made to: Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project (or to League of Wilderness Defenders for a tax deduction) 27803 Williams Lane, Fossil, OR 97830. For more information, call (541) 385-9167.



The Metolius River

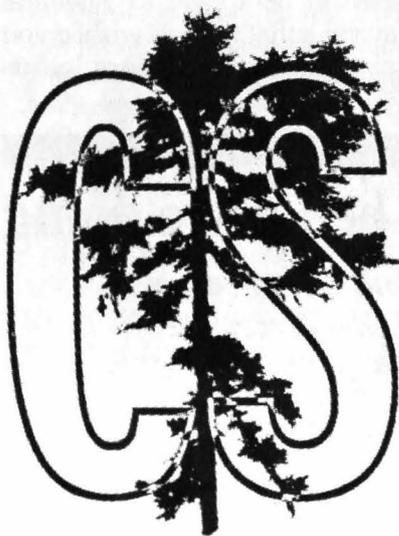
photo courtesy Karen Coulter

Come to Cascadia Summer 2003

Join the Season of Resistance

Cascadia

Icy rivers rushing off high mountain slopes. Towering forests of hemlock and Douglas fir shrouded in coastal mist. Flowering dogwoods greeting the Spring amidst boughs of pine and madrone. The Cascade Mountains, Blue Mountains, Siskiyou Mountains, and Klamath Mountains. Mt. Shasta and the Trinity Mountains. The Okanogan. The Steens, Salmon, Saddle and Warner mountain ranges. The coastal ranges. Vancouver Island. The Olympics to the west and the Willows to the east.



The land influenced by the majestic Cascade Mountain Range and the Columbia River. Southern British Columbia to Northern California.

Home to some of the last great wild forests. Birthplace and last resting place of the wild Pacific salmon. The range of the northern spotted owl.



Cascadians putting their bodies on the line to protest illegal roadbuilding for the Peak timber sale in Southern Oregon.

Cascadia

Torn apart by clearcuts, roads, mines, grazing. Our public heritage plundered for the private profit of the timber industry. The landscape a checkerboard of destruction. The forests scraped, the owls fleeing, the rivers dammed, the last wild places on the chopping block.

This is our home. This is public land. This is our invitation. As the jaws of the corporate industrial empire clamp tighter around all that is vibrant, all that is wild, all that resists being tamed, we invite you to share in our part of the struggle. Come to Cascadia Summer 2003. Join us in this season of resistance!

A Bit of History

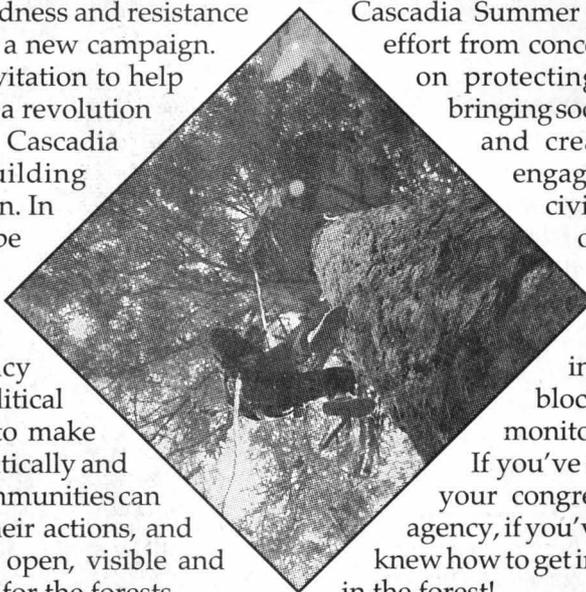
Over half of the land in Cascadia is federal public land. Managed by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), this land was long looked at as an endless source of raw materials and resources for private profit. The growing environmental awareness of the 1960s and '70s forced the federal government to enact environmental laws that prioritized species and habitat protection. However, the BLM and Forest Service systematically flaunted these regulations—long had the government agencies been in the pocket of the timber industry. Concerted direct action and legal pressure in the '80s and '90s forced the government to comply with its own laws and increase protection for species, most notably the spotted owl. Logging of the remaining ancient forests all but halted, because it couldn't be squared with the law. In 1994, then-President Clinton swaggered into Cascadia promising a solution that allowed ancient forest logging and roadbuilding while "protecting species habitat." As weak

as this plan was, it was too much for the industry. The timber barons brokered a back-room deal in Congress called the Salvage Rider, which opened vast areas of ancient forest to logging and suspended all environmental laws. We're still fighting the last of these timber sales, as well as hundreds of new threats to the forests.

Now, King George II and his industry cronies are ordering federal agencies to disregard environmental laws, while taking steps to limit the public's access to information and our ability to comment on timber sales on our public lands. Legal challenges to these actions will take years, especially in a hostile judicial atmosphere. Once again, all that will remain between the chainsaws and our last ancient forests will be us, our allies, and the growing roar of active resistance. We in Cascadia have a long tradition of fighting the system with everything we've got, but as the threats grow ever stronger, and the forests grow ever smaller, we need help more than ever.

What is *Cascadia Summer 2003*, you ask?

As an endless war against all wildness and resistance is upon us, we cast the spark of a new campaign. Cascadia Summer 2003 is an invitation to help defend the forests, and to create a revolution in the way we live our lives. Cascadia Summer is sharing skills, building alliances, and empowering action. In this vision, forest defense can be well-coordinated across the region *and* decentralized. Treesits, blockades and full-time direct action can be emergency tactics *and* part of an overall political strategy that mobilizes people to make the logging of ancient forests politically and economically unfeasible. Our communities can be secure havens for radicals, their actions, and their lifestyles, *and* they can be open, visible and accessible to anyone with a love for the forests.



Cascadia Summer is a call to action, a coordinated effort from concerned friends of Cascadia focused on protecting Cascadia's ecosystems, while bringing society into balance through education and creative direct action. We will be engaging in a wide range of tactics, from civil disobedience, treesits, and public outreach in urban and rural areas, to lawsuits, political pressure, and public education. Throughout the Summer, trainings will be offered in direct action, civil disobedience, blockading, tree climbing, timber sale monitoring, and much more.

If you've ever longed to do more than write your congressperson or appeal to a federal agency, if you've ever felt that you just wished you knew how to get involved, this is your chance. Join us in the forest!

who we are, where we're at, and what the hell we're doing

Cascadia Forest Alliance

office:

1540 SE Clinton St., Portland;
503.241.4879

mailing address:

POB 4946, Portland, OR 97208

cfa@spiritone.com

www.cascadiaforestalliance.org

Cascadia Forest Roots (newsletter):

mailing@cascadiaforestalliance.org

listserv@cascadiaforestalliance.org

Cascadia Summer 2003 is organized by a group of experienced and dedicated environmentalists. Some of us focus our work with locally based grassroots organizations, and others prefer to work more independently; some are volunteers and some work for large, established environmental groups. All of us are committed to a broad movement for fundamental social change. Isolated, fragmented single-issue campaigns will fail. Symptomatic action and limited reform are steps we often have to take, but they must be expressions of a deeper, broader movement against all oppression. Creating freedom and

Cascadia Forest Defenders

office:

454 Willamette Street, #205, Eugene,
541.684.8977

mailing address:

POB 11122

Eugene, OR 97440

forestdefenders@tao.ca

www.forestdefenders.org

Green Canopy (quarterly bulletin on website)

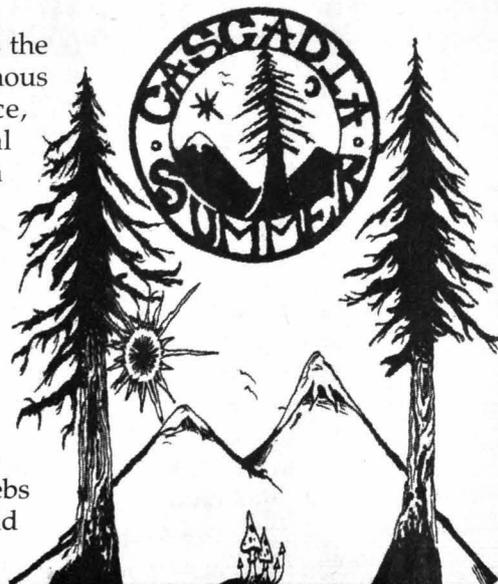
justice in our communities allows the inspiration and power of indigenous uprising, multiracial defiance, womyn's wisdom, and spiritual consciousness to make our strength true and sustainable. And as part of the rising tide of the global justice movement against the militarized corporate Empire, we can see our enemies more clearly, collaborate with our allies more globally, and focus our work more effectively. Cascadia Summer is a chance for us to deepen all our relations as persons, as communities, and as webs of resistance — embryos of the world we desire!

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project

HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830
541.468.2028, 541.385.9167
or 541.617.1009

Mazama Forest Defense

541.482.2640
mfd@mazamaforestdefense.org
www.mazamaforestdefense.org



WWW.CASCADIASUMMER.ORG • INFO@CASCADIASUMMER.ORG

Sampling of Current Campaigns:

Solo/Mt.Hood

Located in the Oak Grove Watershed on Mt. Hood near Portland, the Solo timber sale contains ancient forests, endangered voles and lichens, and a healthy community of slow-growing Pacific yew. While using direct actions like treesits and blockades, CFA is also looking for endangered species in the sale. Confirmed sightings receive several-acre logging buffers (at least until Bush completes his gutting of "Survey and Manage" regulations). Contact Cascadia Forest Alliance at 503.241.4879 or cfa@spiritone.org.

Clark/Fall Creek

Starting in 1998, activists have successfully halted any further logging at this sale very near to Eugene. A treesit village was created and *the campaign is still going strong 5 years later*. Activists also helped reduce the sale from 96 to 29 acres by locating red tree vole nests which require a 10-acre protective buffer. Contact Cascadia Forest Defenders at 541.684.8977 or forestdefenders@tao.ca.

Blodgett/Brice Creek

Citizens of Cottage Grove, OR, trying to protect their watershed became fed up with a lack of response from government officials. In June 2002, with the help of the Cascadia Forest Defenders, a treesit was erected at the Blodgett timber sale. Blodgett was sold to Roseburg Forest Products and threatens the water quality and last ancient forests in the area. In a recent partial victory, the unit containing the treesit was dropped from the sale, but 90 acres remain. Contact Cascadia Forest Defenders at 541.684.8977 or forestdefenders@tao.ca.

Straw/East Devil/Pryor

Logging began at this group of sales in October 2002. All these sales are near Warner Creek (site of a huge victory for the forest as a result of a 6-year campaign which included a year-long road blockade). All these sales were purchased by Roseburg Forest Products, which is hearing loud and clear that logging at these sales will not come easy. Two treesits and a road blockade were erected in March at Straw Devil. Contact Cascadia Forest Defenders at 541.684.8977 or forestdefenders@tao.ca.

Medicine Lake/Mt.Shasta

US government agencies, working with Calpine (an energy company related to Enron), are planning to develop the Telephone Flat Geothermal Plant on the sacred and ecologically significant Medicine Lake caldera in Northern California. Medicine Lake is the sacred place of origin for the Modoc, Pitt River, and Shasta tribes. The power plant would cover about 100-200 acres and would include 13 miles of transmission lines through roadless areas. Contact Deep South Cascades at 503.957.5572 or bwsisq@yahoo.com.

Boycott st Umpqua Bank!

The owner of Roseburg Forest Products, Allyn Ford, is also the Chairman of the Board of Umpqua Bank, already the largest bank in Oregon and growing. A successful boycott against the bank, including regular protest rallies at banks statewide, is ongoing. Contact Cascadia Forest Defenders at 541.684.8977 or forestdefenders@tao.ca.

Knob/Meteor/Salmon River

The Salmon weaves through hundreds of thousands of acres of unprotected roadless areas, providing connectivity rarely seen in the lower 48 states. But two district-wide timber sales plan to take tens of millions of board feet of trees, covering both forks of the river. The Knob sale (7.2 mbf from 578 acres) is in native forest and is directly adjacent to the Salmon River Wild and Scenic corridor. The Meteor sale (1,8880 acres) was created as a scientific "study" to see the effects of large scale logging on habitat! In total, these projects would devastate 2,458 acres of ancient forests. Contact Deep South Cascades at 503.957.5572 or bwsisq@yahoo.com.

Northwest Ecosystem Survey Team

The Northwest Forest Plan was intended to preserve habitat for rare species in the remaining ancient forests. The Forest Service has been using every loophole to get around surveying for and protecting species such as the red tree vole. NEST does more thorough surveys and typically finds 75% more nests than the Forest Service. NEST will be having a series of survey camps throughout the Spring and Summer, so come learn to identify rare plants, lichens and red tree voles. Contact NEST at 541.434.1463 or caswild@efn.org.

Biscuit Fire Salvage/NW Rendezvous

The largest fire in the US last year was called "Biscuit" and covered 500,000 acres. It had photo-op written all over it, and Bush made the trip to southern Oregon to announce his new logging plan, the Healthy Forest Initiative. It expands the federal timber program using confusion about fire as the justification for increased logging. The reality on the ground is that most places inside the burn perimeter contain live trees. In many areas, the burn was an undeniably healthy, light underburn of fallen debris and brush. Nonetheless, the Siskiyou National Forest has identified "salvage opportunities." Not surprisingly, these "opportunities" are mostly areas with healthy giant trees on steep slopes. Cascadia Summer's battle to defend public land will meet the Bush administration and timber industry head-on in burned areas like the Biscuit fire. Join us Memorial Day weekend at the Northwest Regional Rendezvous in Southern Oregon. Contact Mazama Forest Defense at 541.482.2640 or mfd@mazamaforestdefense.org.

EVENTS CALENDAR OF EVENTS CALENDAR

May

4 • Sunday

Hike to Skokomish, Southern Olympics, meet at bus stop at Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA, at 8:30 a.m.
Cascadia Defense Network
deane@efn.org
www.peacefromtrees.com

7 – 14 • Wednesday – Wednesday

Columbia Gorge Action Camp
CFA 503.241.4879
avtreehug@wildmail.com

10 – 13 • Saturday – Tuesday

Mother's Day Gathering
Nevada Test Site
Western Shoshone Defense Project
www.shundahai.org

11 • Sunday

Hike to Scatter Creek near Seattle,
Cascadia Defense Network, deane@efn.org, www.peacefromtrees.com

14 • Wednesday

Timber sale review in Eugene
CFD 541.684.8977
forestdefenders@tao.ca

15 • Thursday

Cascadia Forest Revue in Portland
Mt. Hood timber sale teach-in
CFA 503.241.4879
www.cascadiaforestalliance.org

22 – 26 • Thursday – Monday

NW Regional Rendezvous, Southern Cascadia. Join us for education, action and fun as we begin a busy Summer of ecodefense. There will be strategy sessions, workshops and skills sharing. (See "Biscuit Fire" article on previous page.)
MFD 541.482.2640

nuregional@mazamaforestdefense.org
www.mazamaforestdefense.org

May 31 – June 1 • weekend

Action training camp in Washington
Cascadia Defense Network, deane@efn.org, www.peacefromtrees.com

June

6 • Friday

Mazama Forest Defenders Benefit
1st Friday Art Walk in Ashland, OR
MFD 541.482.2640
mfd@mazamaforestdefense.org

7 – 12 • Saturday – Thursday

Salmon/Klamath River Action
Training Camp, details TBA
503.957.5572 bwsisq@yahoo.com

19 • Thursday

Cascadia Forest Revue in Portland
CFA 503.241.4879
www.cascadiaforestalliance.org

20 • Friday (Summer Solstice)

Benefit for Cascadia Summer
CFD 541.684.8977
forestdefenders@tao.ca

20 – 22 • Friday – Sunday

Magickal Activism Camp, Portland
Write for details. On Saturday,
there will be a Summer Solstice
celebration. sea-ef@scn.org

23 – 25 • Monday – Wednesday

Int'l Ministerial Conf. and Expo on
Ag. Science and Tech. in Sacra-
mento, CA. GE trees in our forests?
MFD 541.482.2640

June 27 – July 7 • week and a half

Minnesota Earth First! Round River
Rendezvous, Superior National
Forest, rrrmn@ziplip.com

July

July – August (dates TBA)

Protests of geothermal develop-
ment and cultural insensitivity at
Medicine Lake on Mt. Shasta, CA
503.957.5572 bwsisq@yahoo.com

17 • Thursday

Statewide Day of Action against
stUmpqua Bank
CFD 541.684.8977
forestdefenders@tao.ca

18 – 20 • Friday – Sunday

Action training camp, Portland
CFA 503.241.4879
www.cascadiaforestalliance.org

August

2 • Saturday

Trek for Trees, the 5th annual
pledge bike ride for the ancient
forests. Fundraiser for the
Cascadia Forest Defenders.
CFD 541.684.8977
forestdefenders@tao.ca

15 • Friday

Rural Rally for the Forests
CFD 541.684.8977
forestdefenders@tao.ca

31 • Sunday

ResistDance in Portland
CFA 503.241.4879
www.cascadiaforestalliance.org

September

21 • Sunday

Autumnal Equinox event/demo
www.cascadiasummer.org

**Many more events to come as
Cascadia Summer unfolds —
keep yourself, your friends, and
your neighborhood informed at:
www.cascadiasummer.org**

Defending the Southern Appalachians Katauh Earth First! Style

BY FREEBIRD

As the Bush administration shamelessly dismantles decades of environmental legislation, factions of Katauh Earth First! (KEF!) from three states are working in solidarity with local activists to defend national forest lands. In Wise County, Virginia, a 5,000 strong grassroots group called the Clinch Coalition has linked arms with KEF! to oppose mountainside logging and natural gas wells and pipelines that threaten local watersheds and recreation-based economies.

In December, the Clinch Coalition filed a lawsuit against the US Forest Service (USFS) to halt a series of timber sales within the Clinch Ranger District. The USFS's own flawed environmental assessment provided part of the basis for the lawsuit. As the suit was being filed, KEF!ers and local activists were already in the woods doing treesit training workshops.

During the Winter, KEF!ers scouted the proposed timber sales. While some trees in the units are of marketable size, KEF! observed that the vast majority are too small and "gnarly" to be worth much on the market. These sales may be an attempt by the USFS to clear a diverse forest of "undesirable" species in order to make way for planting trees of their own preference.

The Clinch Coalition sent a friendly "heads up" to area loggers, giving them advance notice that the timber sales will be vigorously opposed. They also warned that the pending lawsuit will add unforeseen obstacles to any profits the loggers may be depending on. In this same spirit of goodwill and gracious manners, KEF! sent out "Holiday Greetings!" cards to all of the potential bidders, with photos of treesits, road blockades and the cheerful salutation, "See You In The Woods!"

The Road to Nowhere

While dozens of activists were learning nonviolent "homeland defense" techniques in the Virginia mountains, two other groups were scouting the notorious North Shore Road project in North Carolina. This "Road to Nowhere" threatens to penetrate into an otherwise isolated section of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

The project seeks to complete a road to a cemetery now isolated within the national park by the waters of Fontana Lake. Formerly the Little Tennessee River, Fontana Lake was created by the Fontana Dam. The dam was built to generate electricity for Alcoa, a major WWII-era producer of defense materials. Communities and habitat along the Little Tennessee were drowned by the lake, as were innumerable sites of cultural importance to the Cherokee people.

The rock strata through which the road would be blasted is heavily acidic. This would impact dozens of mountain streams and seeps that run through the area. Also, the topography is treacherous, with alternating ridges and ravines, making road building a financial boondoggle.

In a classic case of pork barreling, Representative Charles "Chainsaw" Taylor and outgoing Senator Jesse Helms earmarked \$16 million to initiate the project. Anyone intimately familiar with the terrain would know that this sum is ridiculously out of touch with actual construction costs. However, their real purpose is to commit even more tax dollars into a money-guzzling road fiasco and to commercialize this region. Road proponents envision new "infrastructure" within the park in the form of a "cultural center" and other amenities. In reality, this would increase traffic and further diminish water and air quality.



Representative Charles "Chainsaw" Taylor wants to build a road through recovering North Carolina wildlands. Call him and give him a piece of your mind, (202) 225-6401.

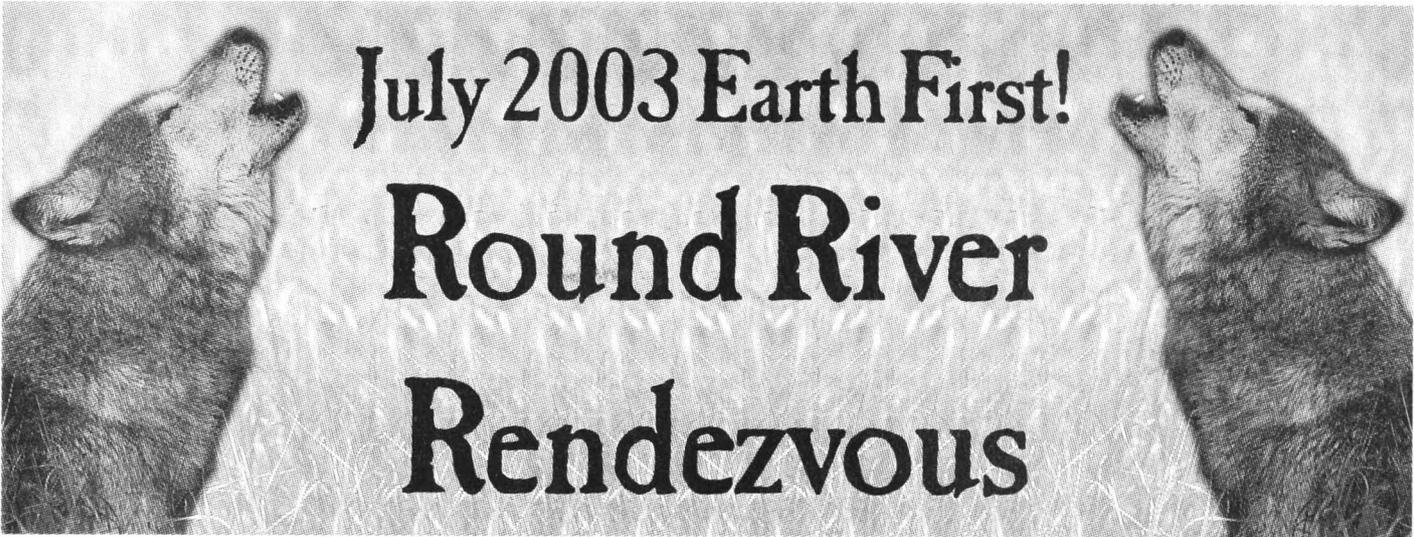
What's not given consideration is that the North Shore area has become a de facto wilderness due to its inaccessibility. While it does have many traces of human intervention across its landscape, the area has enjoyed nothing but footsteps for the past 60 years. This area should remain impenetrable to automobile tourism. The good news is that when this proposed project is defeated, the \$16 million will stay in the coffers of Swain County, one of the most impoverished counties in the state.

A week-long scouting foray across the North Shore region galvanized KEF!'s opposition to this horrendous project. KEF! is now taking things a step further and proposing the removal of Fontana Dam. The dam has fulfilled its purpose and is obsolete. Let the Little Tennessee run free! There's great potential for employment in restoring the land currently silted up under the lake. The land therein should be restored to its previous owners, including the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from whom it was stolen.

In March, the Swain County Board of Commissioners voted to accept a cash settlement from the federal government and end the Road To Nowhere controversy once and for all. Representative Taylor (the same guy who introduced the notorious 'salvage rider' legislation during the Clinton administration) is now attempting to circumvent the democratic process by introducing legislation *requiring* the road to be built! You can contact Taylor at www.house.gov/charlestaylor and let him know you oppose the North Shore Road Project.

For more information, contact Katauh EF! Mountain Faction, (828) 225-0814; ddscooter5611@yahoo.com; Clinch Coalition, www.clinchcoalition.org.

Freebird is a KEF!er in the mountains of Western North Carolina who hosts the EF! Radio Show on Free Radio Asheville, 107.5 FM.



July 2003 Earth First! Round River Rendezvous

Gray wolves roam the wilds of northern Minnesota.

BY THE MINNEHAHA EARTH FIRST! ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Minnehaha Earth First! cordially invites folks to the beautiful hardwood and evergreen forests of northern Minnesota for the annual 2003 Earth First! Round River Rendezvous (RRR)—Midwest Style, *Don'tcha know!!*

From June 27 to July 7, we're gathering for a wilderness encampment of hundreds of folks from around the world who are dedicated to taking action to protect the Earth. A diverse bunch is expected to attend this year's rendezvous, from activists with decades of experience to people new to the movement, including families, punks, rednecks, hippies and indigenous warriors. Days will be spent hiking and relaxing, networking, training and meeting. Everyone is encouraged to share skills, teach and learn, work hard and have a good time.

Examples of workshop topics this year include herbalism, identifying wild edible plants, Native American resistance history, technical climbing (rock, small tree, and urban), self defense, and discussions on strategy, tactics and movement building. If you are interested in hosting a workshop, let us know.

Plan to stay for a rousing action on the final day of rendezvous. Bring an affinity group, EF! banners, sign-making materials, lockdown devices and spirit!

The 2003 RRR will be held under the canopy of a spruce, pine, maple and oak ecosystem currently known as the Superior National Forest. Though ecologically out of balance from clearcutting, Superior is still a large, undeveloped wild area that provides a refuge for many species.

Northeastern Minnesota is traditionally known for its big pines, spruces, birch, firs, abundant cedar and tamarack bogs—and lots of really big mosquitoes. The terrain is typically rocky with thin, acidic soil, and it has the most varied topography in all of Minnesota, including several small mountains. Unfortu-

nately, the last hundred years of clearcutting have decreased the number of pines and replaced them with aspen and buckthorn. However, gooseberries, thimbleberries, wild currants and many other edible berries still abound, as well as some medicinal plants including wintergreen, burdock and sweet gail. There are also edible and hallucinogenic mushrooms, white tail deer, black bear, bald eagles, ravens, goshawk, wolves and the king of the North: the moose.

There was a bounty on wolves in Minnesota until 1965. By the 1950s, wolves were gone from southern and western Minnesota. In the north, only less than 700 remained. Luckily though, the population of timber wolves has increased to approximately 3,000.

Minnesota Resistance History

The Bolt Weevils: During the late 1970s, power companies used eminent domain laws to build high voltage, radiation-emitting electric towers on privately owned farmland. Farmers in Sterns County, Minnesota responded by taking direct action and toppling the power towers.

Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant: Excel Energy's nuclear power plant on a flood plain of the Mississippi River—immediately adjacent to the Prairie Island Mdewakanton Dakota community—has been a site of controversy since its creation in the early 1970s. Serious opposition developed in 1990, when the plant announced plans to store high-level nuclear waste from reactors in 48 outdoor steel casks. Intervention by the Prairie Island Coalition led to the establishment of the 1994 Minnesota Nuclear Waste Law. The law limited the amount of nuclear waste that the plant could store on site to 17 casks. If no federally authorized program is accepting waste when the 17 casks are full in 2003, the plant may shut down earlier than expected.

Little Alphonse RIP: During the Winter of 1996, a sympathetic US Forest Service worker tipped off allies of Greenpeace and



The rugged shore of Lake Superior near the site of the 2003 EF! Rendezvous

photo courtesy Minnehaha EF!

Big Woods EF! to an illegal timber sale just a few miles from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. In response, an emergency mid-Winter road blockade was organized and legal action was taken to stop the sale. Although that particular land sale was not stopped, more than 20 other timber sales were stopped due to the road blockade and accompanying litigation.

Minnehaha: Beginning in 1998, the Minnehaha Freestate/Spiritual Encampment was the longest running urban land occupation in US history. Groups including Earth First!, the American Indian Movement, the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota indigenous community and local community organizations resisted the re-routing of Highway 55 through South Minneapolis for almost two years. In December 1998, more than 800 police officers raided the camp. Operation "Cold Snap" was the largest combined law enforcement action in Minnesota's history. In December 1999, a second and final raid ended the occupation when police and Department of Transportation officials finally succeeded in cutting the four sacred oak trees and building their road. The four sacred oak trees, which were growing in the four cardinal directions were, at least 130 years old, and they were held sacred by the Mendota Mdewakanton community and other Native Americans.

What You Should Bring for Midwestern Living

A good attitude! We've got hospitality, but it's your job to help make the fun. Bring smiles, laughs, hugs and general merriment. Bring respect for the land and the community that gathers there. Be prepared to volunteer your time at some point during the rendezvous—including helping with security, cooking, maintaining the shitters and with childcare. We may be sweet, but we definitely aren't your parents. We can't stress enough the virtue of self-sufficiency. This means bringing personal gear, sleeping gear, eating gear, your own food and a way to cook.

Bring an empty dog collar! You can wear it at the fire each and every night, "You dirty dog, you." But out of respect for the local inhabitants and each other, leave your canine at home. (That means you!)

A More Specific List of What to Bring

We're asking for a \$25 to \$50 donation, sliding scale, to help us cover costs (but no one turned away for lack of funds). The site is very close to Lake Superior which means

the weather can be unpredictable. It can get really hot in the day and cold at night. So bring a tent and/or tarp, sleeping bag; and clothes—layers, layers, layers. Although there may be a kitchen setup, please be prepared to be self-sufficient. Bring enough food for the entire time you'll be with us. If you can, bring water, cooking and eating utensils and a water filtration system. Pack some buggy protection for our unofficial state bird, the mosquito. If you use toilet paper, you need to bring some. Also bring musical instruments. And don't forget your affinity group for the post-rendezvous action.



You could encounter this fine looking fellow at the 2003 Earth First! Rendezvous from June 27 to July 7.

Photo by Louis Gagnoni

You won't be all that near any stores, so pick up what you need along the way. The best place to do food shopping is in Duluth or the Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul). The camp site is about four hours from the Twin Cities and about two hours from Duluth. After Duluth, there are mainly small towns. Please remember that most of these towns are home to small, locally-owned businesses and working class folks. So please don't mess with them.

In an affirmation of our natural right to assemble in the commons, we will not be seeking permission from the US govern-

ment for the gathering. Be forewarned that they might harass us for exercising our rights. One thing you can do to minimize harassment is to make sure your vehicle is legal.

The RRR committee is concerned about its relationship with existing communities in northern Minnesota. Local folks have a reputation for intense recreation, and there are a lot of recreation options in northern Minnesota, including resorts, hiking, boating, fishing and canoeing in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. This means that there will be a lot of other people along the north shore of Lake Superior the week of the rendezvous enjoying the forest and lakes. We hope that some of the people from these communities will attend and that any impression the RRR leaves with them and other residents will be good! The 2003 Rendezvous is not only going to be a great gathering, but also the potential beginning of friendships and relationships with residents of northern Minnesota.

Directions to the Site

To get driving directions to the site or for more information, contact Minnehaha EF!, (612) 240-5760; rrrmn@ziplip.com. The directions will also be posted on the *Earth First! Journal* website, www.earthfirstjournal.org.

See you at the rendezvous. Earth First!

Armed with Visions

...clear as cut glass & just as dangerous...

Earthangels

people stomp their feet,
create a beat,
break down this life to
bee stings and butterfly wings
shut down the electronic angel
put your trust in green breath
lay your head down, let your hair
become dirty with twig and bead
in a tiny green piece of a silver world
it's perfect how life here shares space and support,
bumblebee spreads the seeds and rain feeds the trees

new york city is pop-snap-tag,
lead weights in your backpack,
bic pen drumming as you meditate
complication,
definition,
cacophony.

why do people take more than we need?
why must we hurt somebody else for us to live?
these maniacs in business suits paint
more and more green to gray

some children picket and climb up the trees
yelling for dear life:

"we don't need money to breathe"
"we don't need money to love"

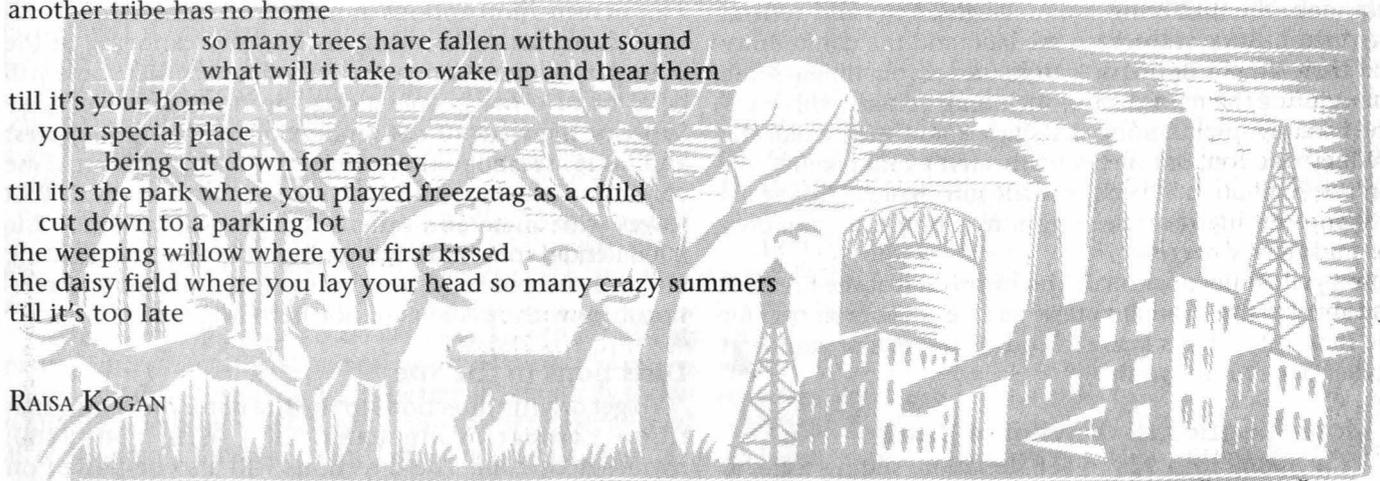
but, they are outnumbered
by those who only believe in one love
money grabbed out of a newborn's hand
money's green is worth more than nature's

cutting down the amazon rainforest
for cocaine and hamburgers
another hour,
another tribe has no home

so many trees have fallen without sound
what will it take to wake up and hear them

till it's your home
your special place
being cut down for money
till it's the park where you played freezetag as a child
cut down to a parking lot
the weeping willow where you first kissed
the daisy field where you lay your head so many crazy summers
till it's too late

RAISA KOGAN



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Glades Riding

I rode the wind last night
in supple ancient leathers
cracked along crease lines
like tracings in lizards' hides,
rode out along Alligator Alley
through the Glades alive with
night things, thick with sounds,
bull gators the base note,
their roars and twirling bodies
seeding explosions in marsh water,
the skeeters high pitched whines
just memories as I slammed past
too fast for them to bite,

I floored the Harley and
raced the moon across the sky,
rode right down the yellow line,
watched shimmering moonlight
silver the swamp grass and
stream past me at warp speed,
I rode till first light
tethered the moon out of sight,
and day notes infiltrated
the soundscape barely able to
be heard above the engine roar,

I stopped by the side of the road,
became drunk with the scents of
wet grasses and the musk of otters,
drunk again with the music of
wrens and the croaks of herons,
still more with the feel of damp
warmth rising like fog from the
marsh edges heavy with night dew,

I see ahead the roofs of new houses
edging into the Glades like toxic
aliens welded to reclaimed land until
the next big blow comes surging in,
I've roared, marched, written letters as
we turn the land into leaching fields,
drain the sacred wildness from ourselves,
drain the sacred wildness from the land,
and treat it like no account sludge to be
buried out of sight and forgotten, and
I fear that when it is all paved over and our
wildness is a footnote factoid from the past,
that we'll all go mad with soul memories
that surf our night dreams and make us lust
for midnight rides on a Harley racing the moon
down yellow lines on roads thick with sounds
and musky smells and explosions in marsh water.

ZEN OLEARY

MARCH 13, 2003

Gray Whale

Gray whale,
Once there is no more left of you than an image
Of the dark shape that moved on the waters
In animal paradise,
Once there is no memory,
No legend to log your life and its passage
Because there is no sea where your death will fit,
I want to set these few words
On your watery grave:

'Gray whale,
show us the way to another fate.'

HOMERO ARIDJIS

Last Night

On this last night
a pink moon shines

in the old farm pond,
by now all peeped out

and bubbling with frogs.
At the field's edge

where cows once stood
asparagus begins to fatten

above the greening labyrinths
where voles scurry and are still.

A vixen and pup watch through trees.
A bobolink adjusts herself on her nest.

Surrounding them all, iron stakes
stick into earth, their orange tails

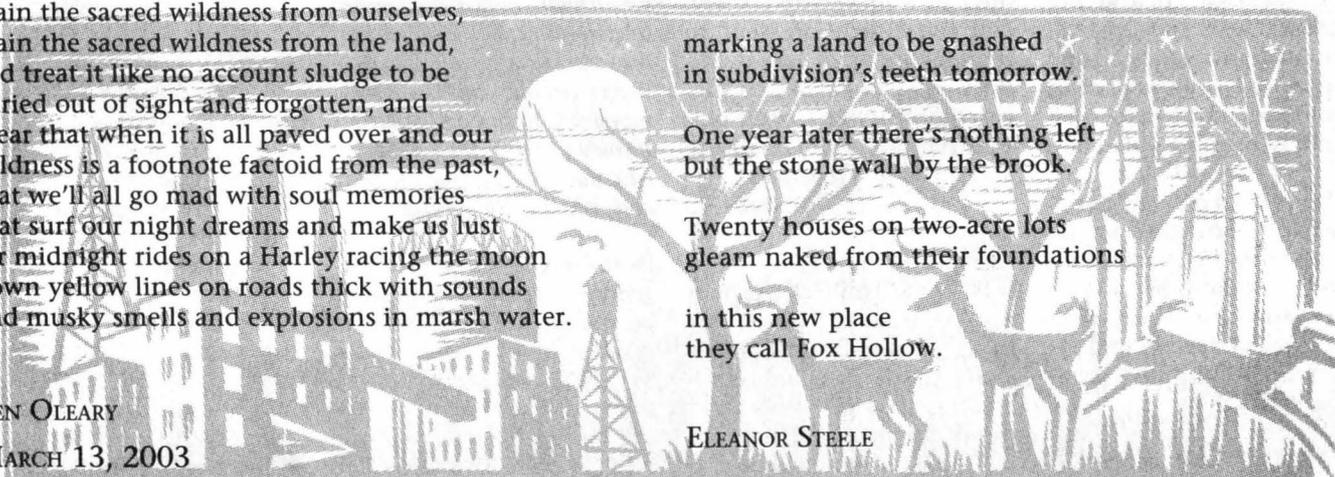
marking a land to be gnashed
in subdivision's teeth tomorrow.

One year later there's nothing left
but the stone wall by the brook.

Twenty houses on two-acre lots
gleam naked from their foundations

in this new place
they call Fox Hollow.

ELEANOR STEELE



artwork by Eric Drooker ©

Send poems to the Warrior Poets Society, POB 14501, Berkeley CA, 94712-5501

DEAR SHIT FOR BRAINS...

Letters to the Editors

continued from page 3

Dear SFB,

Being at the EF! Organizers Conference this Winter got me thinking about improvements we could make to strengthen our communities and thus the effectiveness of resistance.

The comment that spurred this train of thought was by a friend who said something like, "There's no retirement plan in the anarchist community. Once your usefulness as an activist runs out, you're abandoned or excluded, more or less." How true this is when it comes to most prisoners, the elderly, and some parents and children. If we are going to pose any threat to the dominant order, we must take care of each other and provide a social net of security.

The IRA set up pubs where the proceeds would go to families of those killed in action. I'm not supporting the militarization of EF! or suggesting that we engage in selling alcohol, but if we can guarantee that the loved ones of insurgents will be taken care of and that the insurgents themselves will be inundated with support and revolutionary solidarity once behind bars if caught, this will definitely be more encouraging for those willing to take the more extreme and essential acts of attack. It is essential to keep those behind bars involved, not only because of the experience and ideas they can share but the bonds made and gratifying exchanges that can occur.

"An army of lovers is unstoppable." The more we strengthen our love for each other and the bioregions we're

fighting for, the more fierce we will be, and hopefully we can transcend pacifist ideology and fears to move on to attack those that endanger and murder the life we cherish.

I'd like to see the end of the stigma of childraising in our movement. Activist moms and dads are not primary culprits in the ecological crisis. So, let's welcome children to our camps. They too have much to offer like laughter and those unexpected but pointed observations. In non-civilized functional social structures,

young, healthy wimmin were often the childbearers, but the elderly, with their life experience, wisdom and often more patience, did a bulk of the childraising. This freed up the parents to still do as they please for most of their time. It also gave an important responsibility to the elderly, giving them purpose and worth. Now we have overstressed parents who haven't even got their own lives

worked out trying to raise children in a fucked-up society, and the elderly are sent to retirement homes, lonely and miserable. So I'd like to suggest that we work toward pre-nuclear family child raising and social organization.

—TUMBLEWEED

Dear Shitty Brains,

Do or Die is my favorite publication from the UK. It is a publication of EF!ers/Eco-Anarchists. It has a couple components that are sorely lacking in the *Journal*. There is a big focus on self-critique and analysis (anarchist). Also, the humor is great. Critique is

meant as a tool to point out holes or deficiencies in one's analysis. It is meant to sharpen one's analysis. It is an act of mutual aid. Analysis is the drawing up of what you are dealing with in a holistic way. Looking at the economic forces, cultural tendencies, ecological situation, etc. of the crisis we are immersed in. It is an attempt at understanding how things came to be the way they are and understanding the roles of the institutions that maintain and reproduce our impoverished existence destroying this planet.

In the *EF! Journal*, I read about threats to the Earth and peoples and mostly civil disobedience actions taken to try to slow down all the brushfires (symptoms) of the techno-industrial empire. Rarely, if ever, do I read about trying to understand the effectiveness of such actions within the local and larger scheme of things. Rarely do I hear questions of what could have been done better or what else we could do. I'd like to see more self-criticism and analysis so we can develop accurate theory to base our actions on, resulting in more effectuality.

—THE PONDERING TORTOISE

Editors' note: The Journal is a forum for the radical environmental movement. Article submissions are welcome, especially those providing critique and analysis of movement tactics and strategies. If you've got something to say, we encourage you to write an article and send it to the Journal.

Dear Brains For Shit,

There are problems that can't be reformed away. Problems inherent to political structures. So if we are really going to stop the megamachine, we are going to have to move beyond begging politicians and CEOs to save patches of wilderness that they profit from destroy-

ing. We're going to have to move beyond disempowered attempts at media representation. We need to identify the core of this rotting system and strike hard. One article I highly recommend for discussion is called "Hit Where it Hurts" by Ted Kaczynski, published in *Green Anarchy* #8 (www.greenanarchy.org). He makes some important criticisms of forest defense activist strategy and tactics and lays out an interesting strategy for dismantling the techno-industrial order. For all those engaged in sabotage or who are interested in reading some important points for effective action, this article is essential, and I'd personally be super stoked if the *Journal* would reprint the article.

—WANNABE SABOTEUR

Dear SFB,

I found out today that the Bush administration has passed new regulations that allow logging in parts of the Tongass National Forest. This makes me sick. Alaska needs an Earth First! more than ever to protect one of the most beautiful places in the world!

I'm packing my bags and going this Summer.

Anybody coming?

—MATT LOHR

Dear SFB,

I must say that I am super excited about Cascadia Summer, www.cascadiasummer.org. This Summer is gonna fuckin' rock. I'm so glad that the treesitters and radical ecologists of the Pacific Northwest, from Northern California to British Columbia, are organizing a national call-to-action against the capitalist death machine. In these days, it is easy to lose hope in the face of such a large amount of corporate and governmental attacks on freedom and the Earth. It is



TK
/2

good to see that some folks are refusing to meekly accept such a state of affairs. Bush, you fucking puppet, I'll see your dreams of Empire destroyed. The World is against you. Up Against the Wall, Assholes!

—FONSI KNORR

Dear Sirs,

I am a Vietnam veteran that recently bought a piece of property in eastern Tennessee—Tazewell, to be precise. Three weeks ago, the state Department of Transportation decided to inform me they want some of my land. At that time I did not know that I had an oak tree that comes out of the ground and then at about six inches high, it decides to nearly hug the ground for about eight feet, with no support, then goes up diagonally for eight to 10 feet, then grew sideways again for 15 to 20 feet, then goes straight up for 50 to 75 feet. This tree has been worked on by the ages and is an architectural marvel made by the Master. This tree is on the edge of my property and will be the first one to be cut down if the DOT is successful in condemning my land for their use. I need help! Who, what, where and how can I go about trying to stop them?

Thanks,

—MIKE MALONE

JETHROTAZ@HOTMAIL.COM

Dear SFB,

It disrespects the arguments over appropriate technology and the (mis)application of science to cite bad pop-anthropology (interview with J. Zerzan in the March-April 2003 issue of the *Journal*). I only hope my homeboy will use the last of Cascadia's waning monsoon season to avail himself of better reading material than that provided by Daniel Quinn and other prehistoric revisionists.

While environmental changes, bad diets, meeting new bugs and simply surviving infancy in greater numbers (not to mention living long enough to be afflicted by age-related diseases) have definitely resulted in new and unique ways to shuffle off, people were crippled and killed by bacterial infection, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis and tooth decay thousands of years before they started farming Babylon. I've held a number of skulls of sorry individuals that should have been brushed better, or at least should have not been a wimp about having the offending upper molar smashed loose. The problem tooth would lead to a bone infection that destroyed the maxillary sinus and ate into the brainpan. The victim's prolonged (perhaps noisy) agony probably led to

at least a few late-night euthanizations, but the folks I looked at seemed to have run the whole river and expired "naturally"... from tooth decay.

—ONE-EYED JACK (MORMON)

P.S. I know John is too cool to read Quinn. That was mean and I'm sorry.

Dear Earth First,

James John Bell's otherwise excellent article "Homeland Security" in the *Brigid* 2003 issue contained several serious errors regarding the philosopher Hypatia. She was killed by a Christian mob in 415 AD, several centuries before Muhammad was born, and 227 years before Egypt fell to "Muslim Conquerors" in 642. The famous library at Alexandria was also destroyed by Christians, not Muslims, in the same spasm of religious zeal that killed Hypatia. In fact, Muslim civilization showed a profound respect for science and literature, which the Christian west was not to inherit for many years.

Hypatia was one of the most inspirational and hardcore womyn in antiquity, and your readers deserve correct information about her (if not in the letters section, then in *Errata*). Otherwise thanks for a great issue.

—DAVID DREXLER

Dear SFB,

What in the the hell is wrong with you people? This isn't a game. The world is going to shit in a hand basket. Bush and corporate bosses are stripping us of every right we hold dear. And the most "radical" activists just want to dress up in cool black clothes and go fight the pigs. You don't stand toe to toe with a huge bully, you go for him at his weakest. When and where you choose. The pigs are way more vulnerable in the dead of the night. Organize and strike at the power structure when no one is expectin' it. Daylight is right for marches and holding hands. (Hell, I even like to hold hands and sing.) But I also like to strike where it hurts and get away. Be radical, but be radical at night, in small groups of friends with whom you'd trust the rest of your life (cuz that's what you are doing). Oh, and afterwards, stay mum. Don't brag to your boyfriend (oh wait, I mean committed life partner). Do some research on security culture and be careful. And don't fuck up. It is like guns and trains, one mistake can cost you the rest of your life. But do it. Do it. See you in the trenches. Run Arrow. Run.

—GUSTAV LANDAUER

P.S. EF! may be kinda lame, but it is pretty cool, too.



Sin Agua no hay Vida. Sin Tierra no hay Paz.

artwork by Miguel Flores

Battling Oppression From the Inside Out

Earth First! Organizer's Conference 2003

BY BEE

Tonight, I sit at my computer to reflect on a weekend spent at the 2003 Earth First! Organizers Conference. The gathering, which took place from February 14-17 in the Los Padres National Forest in California, was capped off by a direct action in downtown San Jose, California. After any action, I find it hard to readjust to everyday life. The intensity of working with working like-minded people toward one goal contrasts strikingly with the alienating normalcy of work, family, social obligations and financial debts. Writing helps me to process the experience, to get on with daily duties without losing sight of what I've been through. Post-action writings are also pieces I hope to share with my activist circles and other communities for discussion and education.

This was my first Earth First! Rendezvous, marking what I hope is a new element of my activism. For the past two years, my energy as an activist has been centered on providing first aid at larger urban demonstrations against corporate globalization, social injustice and militarism. This weekend, instead of heading to San Francisco, California (or better yet, New York City) for protests against the US-led war in Iraq, I chose to go to the woods. I went not only to coordinate a first aid clinic and trainings, but to get to know local and nationwide radical ecology activists.

What I encountered was not a panacea for the Earth's problems, but I was thrilled by the commitment, energy and depth of analysis among the Earth First!ers I met. This was not a group of narrow-minded eco-fanatics thinking only of protecting trees and wildlife and ignoring their own class and race privileges. Rather, it was a collection of individuals launching an Earth-centered struggle against all forms of oppression. This is a fight I can join not only as a medic and urban activist, but as an organic farmer, an anti-racist ally, a feminist and a battered yet defiant planet.

in a men's caucus. Their report-back to the whole group turned into a deep group discussion that included both critiques and "thank yous." While the problem of sexism was not solved in those few days, a dialogue that usually is silenced was able to occur in all of its pain and messiness.

I am a newcomer to Earth First!, but I am not new to activist communities where issues of sexism—and power in general—have divided us and decreased our efficacy. I found it uplifting

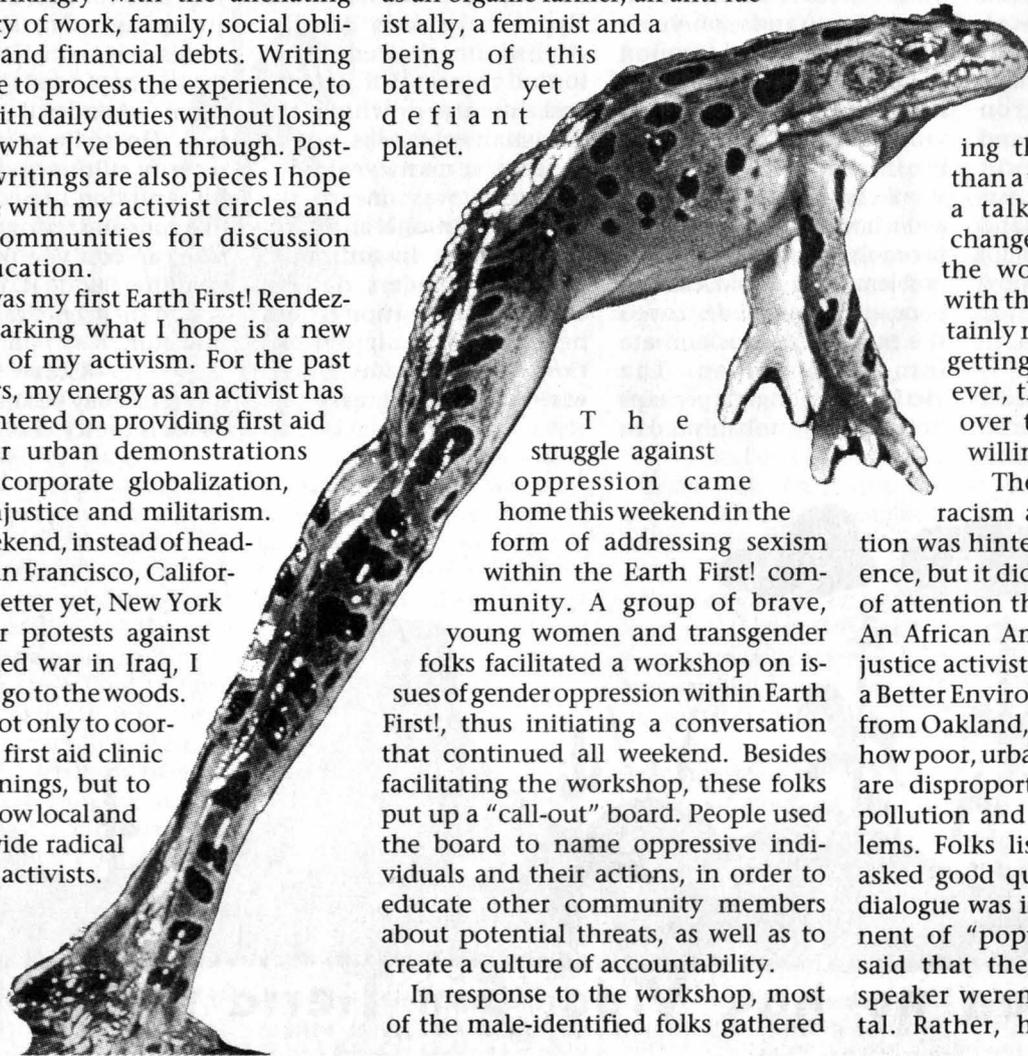
to witness Earth First!ers committing themselves to work on sexism here and now, while recognizing

that it will take longer than a weekend and more than a talk to effect long-term change. What I learned from the women, formerly active with the Santa Cruz group, certainly made me cautious about getting more involved. However, the work that happened over the weekend aided my willingness to stick it out.

The connection between racism and ecological destruction was hinted at during the conference, but it did not become the center of attention the way that sexism did. An African American environmental justice activist from Communities for a Better Environment came all the way from Oakland, California to talk about how poor, urban communities of color are disproportionately impacted by pollution and other ecological problems. Folks listened attentively and asked good questions. However, the dialogue was interrupted by a proponent of "population control" who said that the issues raised by the speaker weren't really environmental. Rather, he claimed the issues

The struggle against oppression came home this weekend in the form of addressing sexism within the Earth First! community. A group of brave, young women and transgender folks facilitated a workshop on issues of gender oppression within Earth First!, thus initiating a conversation that continued all weekend. Besides facilitating the workshop, these folks put up a "call-out" board. People used the board to name oppressive individuals and their actions, in order to educate other community members about potential threats, as well as to create a culture of accountability.

In response to the workshop, most of the male-identified folks gathered



were social problems and that they shouldn't be the concern of Earth First!ers. Before anyone could intervene, the sky did, and a huge gust blew down the tarps above our heads. Unfortunately, the discussion that could have been generated around issues of racism and ecological activism was lost in the wind.

Racism *must* be addressed by Earth First!ers. I think it was not a focus this weekend because the issue of sexism is much closer to the experiences of EF!'s predominately white members. However, white activists cannot continue to think about racism as an issue for people of color alone. We cannot draw tidy boxes around race, class and gender and assume they never intersect. We cannot passively ponder, "Where are all the people of color in our movement?" Too often, this question comes from a feeling of guilt that white folks think can be remedied by recruiting more colorful faces to our events—without questioning our own white privilege or changing our organizing methods.

There *are* people of color within Earth First!. What are we doing to address racism amongst each other? There *are* people of color struggling against ecological destruction in their communities. What are we doing in solidarity? Solidarity means offering our support in a sustained, non-tokenistic manner. It involves putting ourselves on the line for others and not co-opting their leadership or taking too much credit. Solidarity means reaching out—not to take but to give.

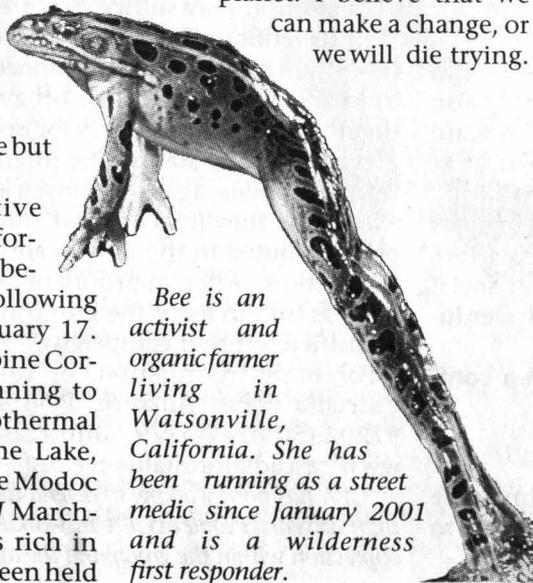
Solidarity with native people in Northern California was one motivation behind the direct action following the conference on February 17. The action targeted Calpine Corporation, which is planning to build an enormous geothermal power plant at Medicine Lake, near Mount Shasta in the Modoc National Forest (see *EF!* March-April 2003). The area is rich in biodiversity. It has also been held

sacred by the Modoc, Pitt River, Klamath, Shasta, Karuk, Wintu, and other native peoples for thousands of years. The action drew attention to the cultural and ecological destruction that Calpine will perpetrate if it carries through with the project.

On the afternoon of February 17, two dozen Earth First! activists entered Calpine's corporate headquarters in downtown San Jose. For 10 minutes, we confronted Calpine representatives, passing out flyers and explaining why we opposed the geothermal plant at Medicine Lake. Some Calpine representatives tried to physically block us as we paraded around their offices, but we were nonviolent and no property was destroyed. We left on our own accord, chanting "We'll be back! This fight is just beginning!"

Police arrived and pursued small groups, as we dispersed outside. A number of us were detained on the street, asked for identification and questioned by the police, but all were released. We had committed no illegal acts, but we did attract more than half-a-dozen squad cars, a sheriff's van and numerous plainclothes officers.

Overall, the weekend left me with a renewed sense of urgency. I am filled with rage and despair at the havoc being wrecked throughout the world, but the resisters I met this weekend gave me hope. We are at a unique historical moment in the US and across the planet. I believe that we can make a change, or we will die trying.



Bee is an activist and organic farmer living in Watsonville, California. She has been running as a street medic since January 2001 and is a wilderness first responder.

Earth First! Organizer's Conference February 2003, Arroyo Seco, California

The river is flowing through the Arroyo Seco
wearing away at the plastic bags
strewn in sycamore roots at the edge
Frogs clamor loudly in large conventions
all night

debating what to do about humans
myriad birds pass the word
through the oaks and brush
most intensely at dawn
after the Great horned
and Flammulated owls
have questioned assumptions
by the light of the moon
shooting stars and purple brodia flowers
contest invading South African oxalis
Buckeye drop their fruit bombs to rot
starburst puffballs explode
leaving enigmatic hard star shells behind
poison oak covertly infiltrates among us
as we humans laugh and talk
planning incursions into the corporate
headquarters
threatening native lands
venting rants and emanating poetry
to dispell our anxiety
over a distorted world
where the sun burns too intensely
across our morning circle
finding solace in each other's arms
as old and young alike
prepare to confront the WTO in Cancun
with smart memes and our bodies
confront ourselves in sexism and racism
the greening of an early spring
seeps into our spirits
scent of our tribe lingering
on our fingers
the staying power of love and commitment
pulsing in our blood
igniting our hearts
the conviction of passion
mixed with dedication
until next time
we stay together

— KAREN COULTER

*Written 2/19/03 in a truck stop
restaurant on the way home.*

Adopt an Anti-Oppression Policy

BY ANYONE

As activists in a progressive social movement, we often feel that we are enlightened people who have found some way to thoroughly subvert our own social conditioning. We believe we are reasonable people dealing with an unreasonable situation. Because we know this, we tend to put ourselves in a position of superiority above other people, feeling self-righteously that folks who drive SUVs, have corporate jobs or watch football are all brainwashed and ignorant.

This is a very dangerous situation, because it means that many of us are incapable of effective self-examination. Far from being enlightened, we are as prone as anyone else to sexism, racism, classism or ageism. There is, however, one significant difference. As a group, we try to be aware of oppression and, as activists, we *do* something about it. It's our nature. We identify problems and try to solve them.

Because of this, the Cascadia Forest Alliance (CFA) has adopted an anti-oppression policy. Having such a policy in writing is an effective first step in preventing oppressive behavior. It tells people that there are consequences for certain oppressive actions, and it shows folks wanting to be part of the group what CFA is all about. The policy also puts a framework in place, which gives the entire community and individuals who have survived oppression a structured means of dealing with offenders, rather than the usual pain and confusion that comes out of controversy and drama.

In addition to the policy, we have set up anti-oppression meetings, which serve as spaces where people can safely bring up group related oppression issues. It is also a good idea to have oppression workshops and men's and women's discussion groups, which focus on oppression as a valid issue that warrants attention and concern.

Working against oppression within the movement is crucial because it means that we are critical of ourselves and dynamic enough to fix internal problems. A social movement that fails to do this is hypocritical and eventually doomed to fail.

The following is the policy text, as posted in a common area:

CFA Anti-Oppression Policy

This is an evolving policy that changes with time. The present version has been ratified by consensus. Feel free to suggest changes.

In order to create a safe and productive environment for activism and community, CFA has a zero tolerance policy toward oppressive behavior. This policy is not a means to punish people for their behavior. Rather, it is a means by which an individual can work with the group in order to overcome the socialization that is the root cause of oppressive behavior in the first place.

Oppressive behavior is herein defined as behavior that demeans, marginalizes, threatens or rejects people because of some personal characteristic that harms no

one and can't be readily or justifiably changed: their age, gender, mental health, race, culture, sexual orientation, general appearance, income, status as homeowner, renter or squatter, experience in activism, being a parent or a child, etc.

Anyone exhibiting oppressive behavior can be subject to an intervention by a group of concerned and/or affected people. No steps will be taken until there has been at least one intervention, and it has been determined that the person who committed the act understands the consequences of what they did. Also, if someone feels that they have been unjustly singled out as an oppressor, they can call interventions of their own.

In addition to this, it might be necessary to ask the offender to temporarily leave the group until the issue is sorted out and an intervention can be arranged.

While the possible consequences vary, the following is a *potential* continuum:

- Initial warning: If the offense is minor, an informal conversation may suffice to correct behavior.
- Intervention: Should oppressive behavior persist, an intervention meeting could be formed to confront the offender to let them know that their behavior is not acceptable and that there are consequences for oppressive behavior.
- Probationary status: The offender is told that if something happens again (a physical or sexual assault, for example), they'll be kicked out of the campaign and possibly outed to the movement.
- Ejection: After appropriate meetings, the offending party is told to leave the group and, if deemed necessary, identified to other campaigns.

For more information, or to give feedback, contact Cascadia Forest Alliance, POB 4946, Portland, Oregon 97202; (503)241-4879; info@cascadiaforestalliance.org; www.cascadiaforestalliance.org.

CFA has been working to defend the forests of Oregon for more than six years. People at CFA are working to eliminate and deal with oppression within the group and the activist community at large.





A **healing, strengthening, glad-you're-alive wolf** to **Brian Avery**, a US activist who was shot in the face by an Israeli tank in April. Avery was working in occupied Palestine with the International Solidarity Movement. At the time he was shot, he was wearing a fluorescent red vest with a re-

letter. A communiqué from the People Against Imperialism said they painted the "A" black as a "symbol of mourning for the victims of US political, economic and military aggression, as well as an act of resistance against the growing repression of our civil liberties." The highly visible action sparked city-wide controversy and debate over political expression and the war in Iraq.

A **pack of clever, resourceful and salvage-savvy wolves** to the **Eugene Earth First!ers** who painstakingly excavated two trees threatened by a construction project. The activists transported the trees—including a 7,000 pound cypress—to a safe location. The tree-moving escapade became a catalyst for local ecological action when hundreds lent encouragement to the dedicated crew.



Almost all politicians are automatic poodles, but an **especially snarly, conservative and fascist poodle** goes out to **Oregon State Senator John Minnis**. Minnis, who labels various acts of civil disobedience as "terrorism," has authored Senate Bill 742. This proposal would

make participating in an act intending to "disrupt" the "commerce or the transportation systems of the State of Oregon" punishable with life imprisonment.

A **wolf who repeatedly gets snarled in traps—but manages to escape from captivity each time—to Keith McHenry**, a co-founder of Food Not Bombs. McHenry has been arrested and/or cited four times in the last six weeks while protesting, giving out literature or serving free food in Tucson, Arizona. In one incident, a Marine who was shouting at peace protesters for being "fucking Communists" fell into a water fountain, and police arrested McHenry for assault.

Two days later, while tabling at a street fair, McHenry was harassed and photographed by a member of the Merchants' Association. After McHenry quietly told the man that he should be ashamed of himself for his harassing behavior, McHenry was arrested for insulting the head of the Merchants' Association. McHenry has the dubious distinction of being the first white man to

face the "Three Strikes" law in California for his activist-related activities. In total, he has been arrested more than 130 times.



Wolves and Poodles

fective white cross on it, and his hands were raised. Although Avery suffers from serious shrapnel wounds to his face, including bone fractures and lacerations of his tongue and cheek, he is in stable condition. Avery celebrated his 25th birthday recovering in the hospital.

A **mournful wolf howl of sorrow, love and outrage** to **Rachel Corrie**, the 23-year-old working with the International Solidarity Movement who was killed when a bulldozer in occupied Palestine crushed her skull and then ran her over. She was trying to prevent a Palestinian home from being demolished. Corrie acted bravely in the face of danger and sacrificed her comfort, privilege—and ultimately, her life—to resist injustice. The memory of her courage and the tragedy of her murder will inspire acts of beauty, solidarity and resistance all over the world for years to come.

A **pack of strong, defiant and determined wolves** to **all of the rest of the people** who are volunteering to act as human shields against US violence and imperialism around the world.

A **de-colonizing, re-wilding wolf** to the **People Against Imperialism** who took steps to liberate a sacred hill in Tucson, Arizona, from a Roman alphabetical character.

The hill was originally known as Chuk-son in the native O'Otham language, which means "black bottom base," referring to the volcanic rock that comprises it. Tucson itself owes its name to this hill, being a Spanish corruption of the O'Otham word. Tucson's river, the Santa Cruz, historically flowed along the base of Chuk-son, harboring riparian forest and wetlands.

In the early 1900s, students from the University of Arizona desecrated the hill in a bout of school pride by forming a huge, 106-foot "A" from the surrounding rocks. The university has a history of degrading sacred sites, including Dzil Nchaa Si An (Mount Graham) in southeast Arizona, where it built telescopes in the 1980s.

On March 23, Tucsonans awoke to the sight of the "A" painted black—a negative of the usually whitewashed



Allies, Who Aren't

BY RAMBL

The radical environmental movement in the US is losing the next generation of families by labeling family issues as irrelevant and also failing to see how parenting is a part of the revolution and kids are the next revolutionaries. We're frustrated when the movement for social justice steals our ability as mothers to continue to work as organizers and artists, while whining that not enough parents care about social reforms. We're tired of activists wondering where all the parents are when we're sitting at home with no money, no transportation and no childcare. That is why we have formed the Revolutionary Anarchist Mom and Baby League (RAMBL) to address these issues.

While many of us are struggling for daily survival—looking for living wage jobs, affordable housing, quality childcare and healthcare for our families—the indignity from people who *should* be our allies has been particularly difficult. We expect to struggle against the world; we don't expect to struggle in our own community. This article is just a baby step in creating a community that is actively pro-family, pro-kid and pro-woman. In turn, we believe that we are crawling toward creating a more humane and just world.

While the issues raised below impact all moms, those moms who are women of color, queer, young, disabled and/or poor face disproportionately more oppression. Our collective voice in this article reflects experiences of individual RAMBL mothers. Our intent is not to provide your affinity group with a connect-the-dots solution. Rather, our intent is to open your eyes to our experiences. It is *your* responsibility to analyze and change privileged assumptions and exclusionary behavior.

Parenting in Our Scene

When we became mothers, our lifestyle options were reduced. At times, members of our activist community criticized us for utilizing the very few resources available (like welfare), while doing nothing to broaden options for activist mothers or create alternatives that are transformative and empowering for both parents and society as a whole.

It bothers us that people have offered support but have never bothered to follow up. We don't want to have to beg people for help, but we do want offers of support to be real. We're tired of seeing other parents as the only people interested in baby-sitting or childcare.

We also have a major problem with someone who doesn't have kids judging our parenting or methods of discipline, especially while failing to recognize the narrow bandwidth of "acceptable" parenting. A mom is called too lenient if she doesn't publicly castigate her child for "misbehaving" (i.e. talks at a meeting). However, this same mom is called too strict when she "makes" the child say please and thank you.

Sure it's great to use cloth diapers, but as a stressed out single mama, it isn't always possible. Holier-than-thou purist advice about things like diapers is something we can't stand. Instead of commenting on how gross you think it is that a mom uses disposable diapers, why don't you help her get a washing machine so that she can wash reusable diapers? Instead of judging, try taking the burden off of her shoulders.

Responsibilities and Relationships

Being proactive and investing in women before a child is born seems like a good idea. Why isn't equal financial support from a baby's daddy an issue of social justice? Why is a father praised for doing anything with his child, but when a mom spends the same amount of time with her kid, she's criticized for not doing enough?

Our scene fails to hold deadbeat dads in the movement accountable. The unpaid organizing work done by a baby's daddy is viewed by our scene as being more important than caring for his own kid. People have said that because a baby's daddy is an activist, he shouldn't be made to pay child support. Because many don't think of the work that a mother does as important—the invisible work of caring for another person and the wage work she does to survive—no one thinks how the father not paying child support oppresses the mother and her child. Many of us would love to be able to have the privilege of continuing unpaid work as an organizer, too. But most don't have the time or the money to pay for babysitting.

We're tired of our community not recognizing emotional drug or alcohol abuse as valid reasons for ending a relationship. We continually fight against the idea that if we're anarchists then we should stay in a bad relationship in order to make ends meet. If we're really anarchists, we should not stay in a bad relationship in order to make ends meet.

Birth Control and Reproductive Freedom

We wish that there was more information about effective birth control and that the responsibility to pay for and use birth control fell equally on men and women. We feel that the community as a whole needs to respect individual choices about birth control, from Depro Provera and birth control pills to natural family planning methods.

Especially, since there is so much pressure for women to use the natural family planning method because it's "natural" and it doesn't support pharmaceutical companies. At the same time, everyone we know who got pregnant was using this method. This method fails as reliable birth control. It is specifically contraindicated for women who are very young and have unpredictable and stressful lives—like most woman in the scene—because these factors affect the regularity of our menstrual cycles. I wish that the risks of the natural planning method were talked about more openly because this misinformation disproportionately impacts us *grrrls*.

Men need to take an active role in lobbying for male birth control. Where's the goddamn male birth control pill? It's not

okay that men are pro-choice, as long as it's pro-*their* choice. We want the community to support women who chose to be parents *and* women who chose abortion.

RAMBL is working to engage our communities in a deep conversation about what it means to build a sustainable and accessible movement. RAMBL strives to be an actively pro-mama, pro-women, pro-kid organization in a world that is decidedly not. A revolutionary movement in a society that pushes down moms and kids should actively build a safe place for mamas. RAMBL women include: young, poor, queer, in recovery, on welfare, sex workers, going to school, working outside of the home, working at home, dropouts, pro-choice, trying to conceive and those who are "in your face."

We offer workshops and facilitated discussions on creating family-friendly spaces and organizations. We are a political organization fighting for freedom, autonomy and respect for all mothers. Recognizing that our daily survival is critical to our ability to fight for social justice, we are also organizing toy shares, homework and tutoring nights, childcare collectives, family friendly affordable homes and slumber parties. In the future we will be focusing on increasing support for incarcerated mamas.

We'd love to hear from you! For more information, contact RAMBL, 2441 Lyndale Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55405; ramble@yahoo.com.

Power to the Future

BY ANTI CAPITALIST ACTION

In Portland, Oregon Anti-Capitalist Action Community Childcare has been providing free childcare to the greater activist and local community during anti-war demonstrations and direct actions for the past four months.

Community Childcare is revolutionary in thought and action. We are working to create and illustrate community sustainability and to provide a positive and nurturing environment for future revolutionaries. Inside Community Childcare, we build dialogue with children over the many forms of oppression that will continue to affect their lives. We provide a resource to parents in our community who are directly affected by the treachery that is capitalism. We teach revolutionary ideas and actions to children. And we learn revolutionary ideas and actions from children.

Community Childcare does not advocate that children be taken out of the struggle. We believe that children are at the heart of the struggle against capitalism, racism, patriarchy, ho-

mophobia and all oppression. However, we have also seen and experienced the violence and brutality of the police. In addition, demonstrations are often exhausting or boring. By offering a safe environment, Community Childcare allows both parents and children to struggle for a better world.



At past events, we have provided food, activities, art, fun and opportunities for children's voices to be heard in a creative and collective environment. A local alternative day school in Portland has volunteered their space to Community Childcare on weekends and for evening events. Generally, we ask parents to register their children the week prior to an event, so as to ensure we will have enough caretakers on hand. And of course, references for all caretakers are available upon request.

Our long term goal is to find a permanent space in Portland to provide free childcare to working class parents. Simply put, Portland Anti-Capitalist Action recognizes the need for childcare in peoples' lives. Love, revolution, *power to the future!*

We're hoping to see other childcare groups spring up around the world, we'd love to hear from them. For more information, contact ACA Community Childcare, (503) 335-3193; set@dontmesswithtexas.com (subject childcare).

Self - Defense...

BY PIPPI THE RAT

Falling snow and darkness pushed us into the dreaded tarp where smoke clogged the air. This far the action camp had consisted of all night rant sessions and tending to our basic survival needs, but tonight the topic of discussion turned to 24-hour security. Round and round the discussion went: Who would stay up late? How would it affect the rest of us? Finally, I piped up.

"Hey y'all, I'm a self-defense instructor. Why don't I teach a workshop on some self-defense basics tomorrow morning? Then we'll have a better idea how to defend ourselves if anything does go down."

Uncomfortable silence greeted my suggestion. All eyes turned to the unacknowledged "leader" of the camp. In a deep, resounding voice, he replied: "We can't do that here, sister. This is a nonviolent action camp. We can't train people to do things that might hurt a living being."

Did I hear that right? We're sitting around, plotting how to defend the Earth, and we're not willing to raise a hand to defend ourselves? Some shithead shows up with the intent to harm me or my companions, and I am supposed to sit down and peacefully offer my skull for cracking?

Ferrets and humpback whales don't have the same ethical dilemmas that we domesticated apes struggle with. A threatened animal will bare teeth, raise hackles or issue some other warning sign. If this signal is ignored and an attack is launched, an animal will teach you what it means to fight tooth and nail to defend themselves. They will fight until the attack is terminated, and they won't deliver any lectures about Gandhi while they're at it. Self-preservation is an instinct common to all creatures, except for those who have had it civilized out of them.

If the thought of harm to our individual bodies isn't alarming enough to inspire action, certainly a clearcut or an open strip mine won't bring us to our feet. If a person tries to harm us, we have every legal, moral and philosophical right to incapacitate that person and get to safety.

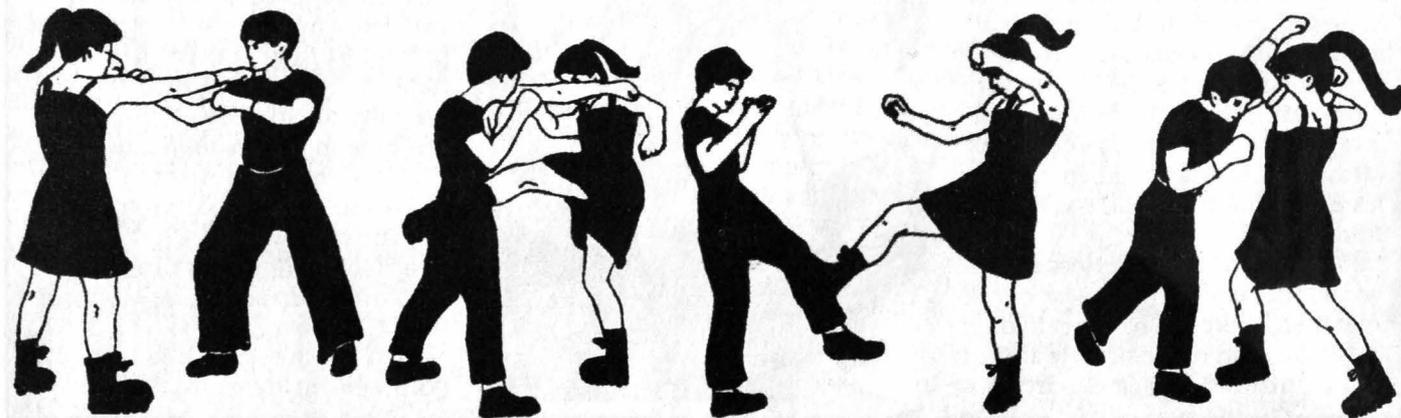
The Earth is worthy of the same kind of defense. We need to react to the desecration of the Earth in the way we would react if we came home and found the landlady strangling

our cat. If we are not passionate about defending ourselves, there is no way we will be able to muster enough courage and determination to defend the Earth against the greedy corporate onslaught, which is threatening her everywhere you look.

I'm not dismissing nonviolence. Nonviolence is a tactic, one of many tools at our disposal. A job is done more easily and efficiently if you use the right tool. Nonviolence may be your favorite tactic, like the Leatherman you keep attached to your belt that comes in handy in a variety of different situations. Still, you're not going to use your Leatherman to hammer in a tree spike. We need to think strategically about these things.

I have been teaching self-defense for a year and a half. Mostly, I teach self-defense for women, although I have taught mixed gender classes. I started teaching women's self-defense because I realized that most of the women I knew and loved had been molested, raped, harassed, assaulted or otherwise fucked with. For a year and a half I worked as a counselor, helping women heal from the trauma of their abuse. Finally, I reached the point where helping women heal wasn't enough. I wanted to make the abuse stop happening. I chose to teach women's self defense.

Please, don't talk to me about the new breed of empowered women kicking ass on TV and in movies. I don't want to see another twiggy, 25-year-old blonde kicking butt in high heels and tight leather pants. Most women will never be model thin, so seeing a model kick butt is not inspiring or empowering; it just reminds us that we are not as thin as she is, not as tall as she is and don't have her clothes or cleavage. These are not real people doing real things.



"You Can't Do That Here Sister"

When I started teaching, I was most excited about the physical techniques, which can be used to great effect by a 10-year-old against a 200 pound thug jacked to the gills on speed. After teaching for a while, I realized that many women will never actually use the physical stuff I teach them, though they will feel stronger and more powerful for having learned it. They will, however, use the verbal techniques I teach them, often on a daily basis. Now I spend about half my time focusing on physical techniques and the other half on verbal techniques and role playing.

I move differently in the world for having trained in women's self-defense. Women who have taken self-defense classes report the same thing: We are more confident, more assertive, and we make better decisions. We know that we can handle whatever the world throws at us. We relate to men differently because we know, deep in our hearts, that if they ever tried to hurt us, we could incapacitate them. We often tell stories in class that we have never shared before. Speaking out empowers us and breaks the silence of shame and denial. We find that we are not alone.

I hope that you guys reading this article are starting to get jealous and want to know how you can get in on the fun. Stopping violence against women is primarily a man's job, because it is primarily men who are abusing women. I had an incredibly abusive girlfriend who almost killed me, so I know that women abuse other women, men abuse other men, and on occasion, women abuse men. However, studies indicate that 90 to 95 percent of domestic violence and sexual assault is male on female. Clearly, if domestic violence is going to end, men need to stop hurting women.

All you well-meaning men out there need to start talking and listening to your men friends about how to

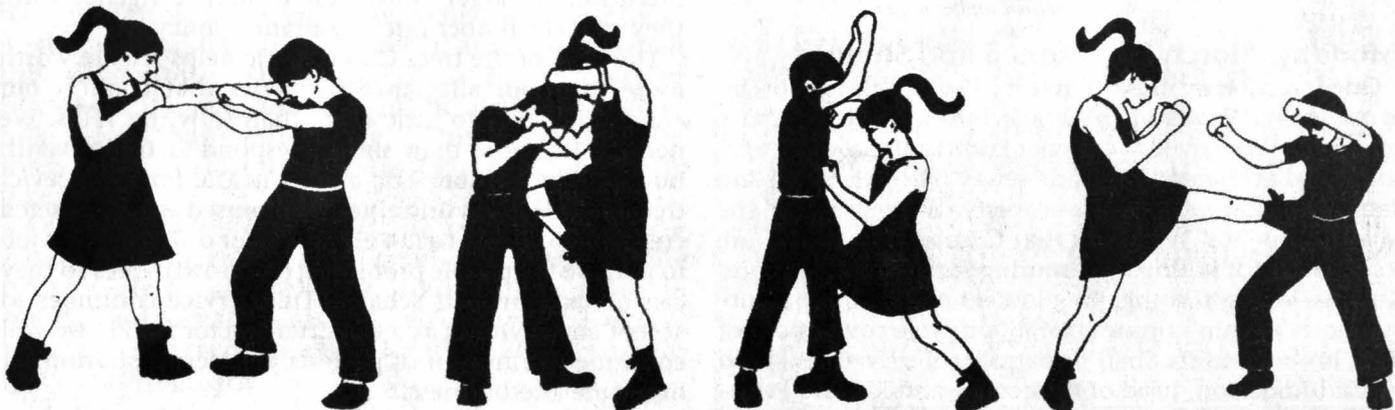
bring this crazy situation to an end. Ask them what they saw growing up, what they have read or seen on TV about sexual violence. Ask them if they have any direct experience with this stuff, if they know any friends who might have been perpetrators in the past or may currently be hurting a woman. Start brainstorming together about how to deal with this problem in your community. Educate yourself.

You may want to jump right in there and help your women friends, too. Mostly we can help ourselves, but if you want to be our allies, here are some tips: Please don't try to teach us self-defense unless you are specifically trained to do so. There are already plenty of power dynamics at work in a relationship between a man and a woman. When a man tries to teach a woman a physical move, she often ends up feeling weaker and less confident.

Encourage the women in your life to take self-defense courses designed for women, not just aikido or other kinds of martial arts. Martial arts courses are great. They improve our physical condition and give us some skills for defending ourselves, but they will not boost our confidence in the same way a proper women's self-defense class will. Bite your tongue if you ever hear yourself saying, "I liked you better before you started learning all of this stuff." Be prepared to lose some of the male privilege you have been carrying around. Just think what a relief it will be to drop that weight and deal with women as equals!

I know some people complain that our focus on "social" issues is weakening our stance on "environmental" issues. Issues of justice are like objects in nature—you try to pick up one piece and find it connected to everything else in the world. Women's self defense is integral to creating a viable radical environmental movement where women and men function with a high level of equality and mutual respect. And for those who practice nonviolence, think of self-defense as self-preservation—all animals have an innate drive to protect themselves from harm.

Pippi the Rat is a crazy, mountain climbing, freedom-fighting grrrl who no longer apologizes for pissing people off. She wants you to learn how to defend yourself.



CANOPY INVASION IN FRESHWATER *continues*

continued from page 5

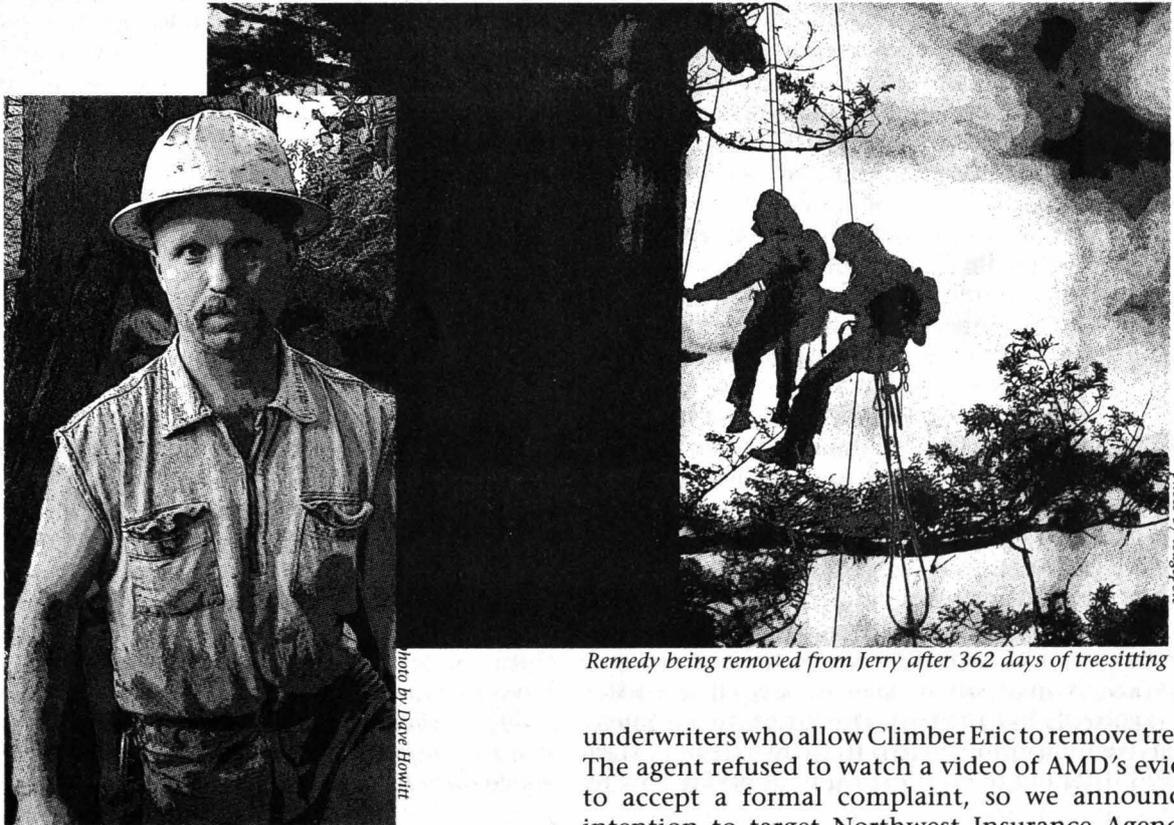
corroborated that they would testify she had committed suicide.

The fact that the destroyers of ancient redwoods already have contingency plans for their next human victims should be a wake-up call for Earth First! and other forest defenders. No amount of positive healing energy directed toward these hired murderers is going to stop them. It's time to hold Climber Eric accountable for all the treesitters he has endangered and for the ancient trees of Freshwater, the Mattole and Gypsy Mountain whose destruction he is enabling. It is our movement's obligation to stop him before PL's ecologically destructive logging results in the death of another activist. Any individual who is making it possible for PL to kill old-growth forests must be a target for our movement.

PL's land manager. When Climber Eric appeared he was visibly distraught—not the confident, controlled person he is when he's protected by his co-workers and police. He rushed up to me and demanded to know what we were doing there. I told him we knew what he said to AMD in the tree and that we weren't going to allow him to enter any tree occupied by a forest defender. The sheriffs led red-faced Climber Eric away to be interviewed by the media that had just arrived.

Taking Out an Insurance Policy

The next stop was Climber Eric's insurance provider, Northwest Insurance Agency. AMD, myself and videographers from the Natural Guard met with a representative and demanded accountability from the legal



Pacific Lumber logger

Remedy being removed from Jerry after 362 days of treesitting

Monday, March 24—Named and Shamed

On March 24, we didn't wait for Climber Eric to show up in our forest. We went to his home, business and insurance company. We arrived at Climber Eric's house at eight a.m. and stood at the end of his driveway. His wife came and demanded that we leave the property. We refused and she called the police. We stated that Climber Eric and PL are responsible for killing and injuring forest defenders, and that we weren't going to allow him to kill or injure anymore. Within minutes, neighbors were coming out of their houses and six Sheriff's patrol cars arrived, followed by Carl Anderson, head of PL security and Richard Pettis,

underwriters who allow Climber Eric to remove treesitters. The agent refused to watch a video of AMD's eviction or to accept a formal complaint, so we announced our intention to target Northwest Insurance Agency until they cancel Climber Eric's insurance policy.

The lives of the trees Climber Eric helps kill are worth more than our allegiance to tactics that comfort our conscience, but do little more than slow the THPs. We need to do more than simply respond at the eleventh hour, when Climber Eric arrives in the forests to evict treesitters. He is an untrained, unlicensed and contracted employee of PL, not a law enforcement officer. It's his job to remove the people protecting old-growth trees so they can be cut down. If Schatz's Tree Service continues to accept employment as a treesitter evictor for PL, we will continue a campaign of protests and demonstrations at his home and business.

A Canopy Perspective on a Ground War

I remember watching the swabbing of pepper spray onto the eyes of Earth First!ers by the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department while in prison in 1998, not long before PL employees murdered our brother, David Gypsy Chain. It's time for the direct action forest protection movement to reevaluate its tactics before another activist is killed. In the meantime, let's use new tactics and strategies that have been proven effective in other direct action movements, especially, the "name and shame" tactic of home demos. Our tactics and strategies have become less effective, once our opponents become familiar with them, as PL has in Humboldt County.

Earth First!'s battle to protect old-growth forests needs to be about more than just building a better lockbox or a bigger slash pile. We need to recognize that we are losing. We need to remember that it's okay to destroy big yellow machinery that is left unguarded in the places they intend to destroy. There is no greater act of nonviolence than an aggressive, nonviolent act that prevents a much worse act of violence from happening. This includes the dismantling and eradication of weapons whose sole purpose is the destruction of irreplaceable biodiversity.

Remember, we are the warriors who must put the Earth first. We are the last lines of defense for the last wild places of the US. If we back down now, there will be no one else to stop the bulldozers and chainsaws. We will be the ones left to cry when the places and animals we have fought for are destroyed. This movement is not a lifestyle. It's not something to do before you go back to your corporate-controlled college to be trained as a cog in the wheel of the most violent society on Earth. This is a Warrior Society. By calling ourselves the uncompromising defenders of our Earth mother, we are accepting the responsibility to do more than chant, drum and direct healing energy. That's all good stuff, but not the appropriate response from warriors empowered to protect the natural and animal world.

On Sunday, March 29, Freshwater forest defenders celebrated the one-year anniversary of Remedy's treesit and the successful defense of Jerry, which has been reoccupied for the third time. The rain has brought a temporary, yet welcome break from PL's terrorist attacks. Until federal and state agencies do their jobs to protect our natural heritage, the defenders of Freshwater, the Mattole and Gypsy Mountain need your help. A week of assaults has both shaken and strengthened this community. The mood is far from defeatist. Clenched fists and howls filled the air Sunday when folksinger Ethan Miller sang, "This ain't no peace song, this is a declaration of war." PL and Climber Eric take note.

Rod Coronado has been living in Humboldt as a ground supporter for the Freshwater and Mattole treesits. He is currently organizing a direct action campaign against Maxxam/Pacific Lumber and Eric Schatz Tree Service that will not require a nonviolence training.

ECOTERRORIST

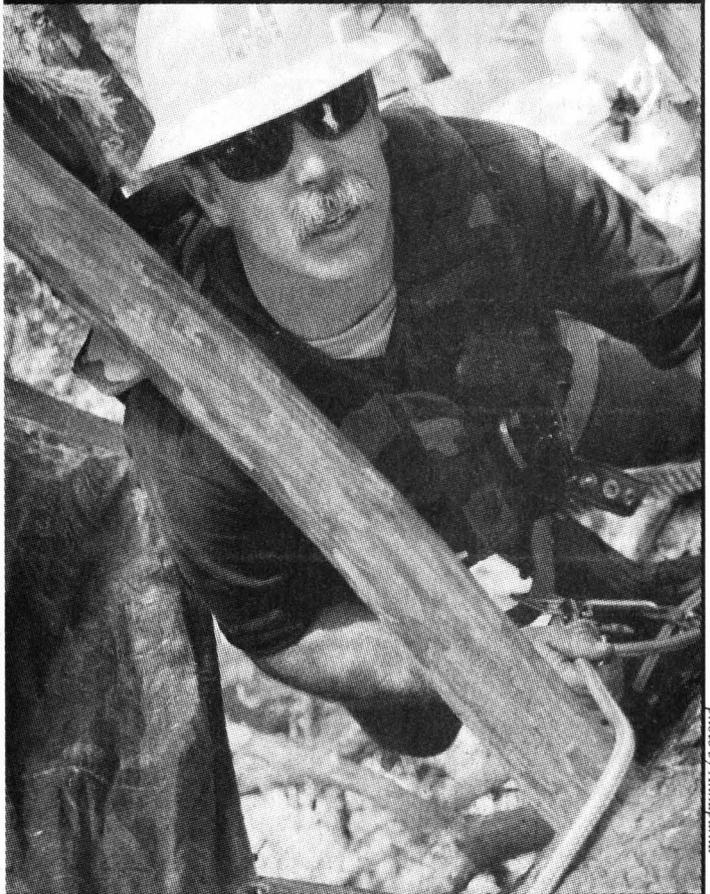


Photo by Amanda Purina

Climber Eric Schatz

Lic #722167
2180 Winwood Lane
Eureka, CA 95503
(707) 443-6644

Write him, call him and visit his home. Hold him accountable for his threatening actions against the Freshwater treesitters and the ancient redwoods. In '92 and '94, Schatz was charged with "willful infliction of corporal injury" for abusing his wife. Now he is extending his violence outside of the home. He must be stopped before another activist is killed.

Snitches Get Stitches?

BY MAHONIA

On the morning of February 20, a young man—and his new friends in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)—provided clear and incontrovertible evidence that he, Jacob Sherman of Portland, Oregon, was a snitch. Sherman's suspected snitchhood had, for several months, been like a bad scent wafting through the Pacific Northwest. Radical folks, being the kindhearted and often overly trusting souls that we are, refused to credit this rumor without proof in hand. Well, folks, it's time to pay the butcher's bill. We can now finally clear the air. Sherman is a snitch.

And What do You Want to Be When You Grow Up, Young Man?

On August 13, 2002, Sherman and three others were indicted for the Schoppert Logging arson. At Schoppert, incendiary devices had been used to damage trucks involved in hauling old-growth logs from the Mount Hood National Forest. Tre Arrow, a well known activist within the Portland community, was among the four indicted and to this day remains nowhere to be found—despite an ongoing, aggressive manhunt launched by the FBI.

Sherman maintained an innocent plea until December, 2002, when he decided to change his plea and cooperate with the authorities. He pled guilty to charges relating to the arson at Schoppert Logging and another arson at Ross Island Sand and Gravel, near Portland. As part of his deal, he gave information indicating that he and the three other defendants planned and carried out the arsons. There is no indication other than Sherman's squealing that the folks he implicated were involved in any underground activity at all. We can only assume that the Feds used a full gambit of interrogation, threats and intimidation against him to extract his cooperation. In exchange for his snitching, Sherman received a sentence of 41 months in federal prison.

At his sentencing hearing on February 20, Sherman expressed his deep regret and apologies to Schoppert Logging and Ross Island Sand and Gravel for the damage he had caused them and for the way that his actions had affected other people. His attorney and witnesses claimed that he felt pressured by the older and "cult-like" leader Arrow into participating in the actions.

A Stitch in Time Saves Nine

For the record, a snitch is one of the worst types of people you could be. By common definition, a snitch is one who has actively and knowingly betrayed and hurt the lives of folks who trusted him with their safety. Trust is a fundamental aspect of any community, and by betraying that trust a snitch has caused grave harm.

Snitching on one's former comrades is an extreme action, which calls for decisive measures from the community—but what measures? In my opinion, a snitch is no longer entitled to basic expectations of safety. As such, it is righteous to hurt them, burn down their house or do similarly naughty things to them. However, just because it would be within the range of ethical behavior to break a snitch's knees with a baseball bat, it isn't necessarily the best idea. On the other hand, we can't simply ignore a snitch and pretend that they simply do not exist.

What Should Jesus Have Done With Judas?

First and foremost, we need to protect ourselves from possible snitches. Our most effective defenses are not reactive measures to be used after a snitch has surfaced, but preventative policies that are constantly enacted. Not surprisingly, these defenses against snitches are the same as our most effective defenses against infiltrators: "security culture" and "conscious trust."

Secondly, if we can do so without causing more damage, we should deal with clear threats to our community—such as snitches and infiltrators—in a just and constructive manner, not merely a righteous one.

This is an A and B Conversation, So SC Your Way Out!

The phrase security culture is thrown around a lot within the radical community. Obviously though, from the Sherman example, we have good reason for doing so. For a complete in-depth description of security culture and how to implement it, check out page 59 of this issue of the *Earth First! Journal*.

The benefits of implementing security culture are readily apparent for both individual activists and affinity groups. First of all, a security-minded person far reduces their chances of getting caught in an "embarrassing" situation. But even if folks still get caught red-handed despite their solid use of security culture, it should still be followed. An imprisoned activist who maintains good security culture while in jail is an

WANTED!



Her careless talk costs lives

activist who isn't ratting on others, and they are likely lessening possible legal consequences for themselves.

On the other hand, if an activist refuses or consistently fails to maintain security culture before, during and after an action, there's a good chance they will be identified and arrested. At which time, they will almost certainly continue to act in an insecure manner. An imprisoned activist who isn't practicing security culture will probably follow one of two paths: unwittingly give incriminating information away, or become a snitch.

Sherman is a good example of this. Not only did he snitch on his supposed affinity group after being arrested, but he consistently exhibited horrible security culture prior to his arrest. According to a FBI affidavit, Sherman made several mistakes. He lied unconvincingly and disposed of incriminating evidence at his family's home. Ultimately, Sherman's parents called the police to report their son's suspicious behavior. Although his parents' information was damaging to Sherman's case, by itself it was probably not enough to convict him. The real kicker for Sherman was the fact that he bragged about his supposed involvement in underground direct action to not only one, but two girlfriends. Both have cooperated with the Feds against Sherman and his alleged affinity group.

One for All and All for One! Or Else 10 Months for Him and 10 Years for Her.

Conscious trust is a simple, yet very important concept. One of the necessary ingredients to any effective direct action group is trust in each other. When we work with others, we trust that they will act in our best interests, respect our boundaries and look out for our personal safety. The requisite level of trust differs greatly depending on the type of action that an affinity group is taking. Working in an affinity group that is marching at an anti-war protest requires less internal trust than a group that is engaged in high-penalty sabotage. It is extremely important for folks to be aware and conscious of how much they trust their affinity group members in relation to the stakes involved in the actions they are taking. If you are engaged in underground direct action, you had better

consciously trust your partners with your very life—by participating in an action with them, you are already doing so.

Once a Snitch, Always a Snitch?

As folks who believe in social justice, the radical community should not duplicate the needlessly murderous and cruel behavior used by profit-driven societies. However, by no means should we cease to defend ourselves or unthinkingly trust those who have shown that they are a threat to our community. Someone who has snitched shouldn't be welcomed back with open arms, but they shouldn't automatically be maimed or put down as punishment either.

A good example of a snitch seeking reacceptance is Justin Samuel. In 1998, Samuel was indicted by a Wisconsin grand jury for releasing mink from fur farms. In August 2000, he pled guilty and snitched out his affinity group. After serving a two year sentence, Samuel has now sent out open letters to the radical community, apparently seeking reacceptance. How should we treat him? Should Samuel automatically be considered a target for sabotage and direct action along with vivisectionists, Pacific Lumber's Climber Eric and multinational corporate executives? Or should we just make sure that Samuel is "really, really sorry" and then invite him along for the next critical mass? I'd say neither.

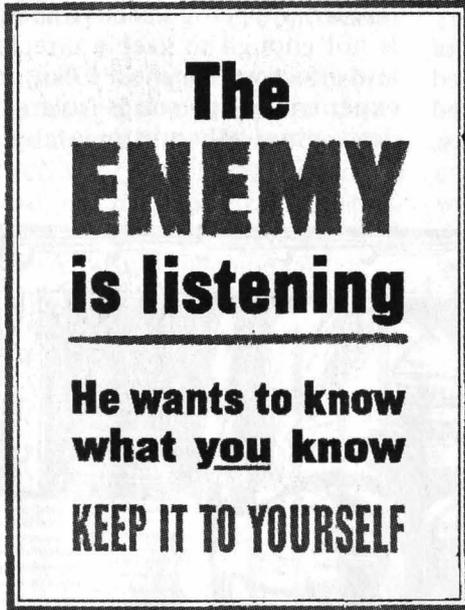
Ultimately, it is up to all of the individuals involved—from the snitch to the betrayed individuals to the community at large—to chart their own paths through the murky ocean of snitchdom. Those involved should consider, among other values, the importance of main-

taining security culture and using conscious trust. This is not to say that each individual needs to come to their decision in isolation. Folks need to communicate with each other and share their ideas and feelings about how to treat a snitch. However, it is important to maintain unity and support within the radical community. A snitch should not be allowed to cause any more harm by creating a schism in the community in regards to their "post-snitch" status.

The first step that a snitch needs to take is to be fully accountable for what they have done. The snitch needs to publicly acknowledge that they made a horrible choice with grave consequences. This is something that Samuel

has yet to do. Until he does so, I think that our community should have nothing to do with him.

continued on next page



Secondly, snitches need to publicly disclose all of the assistance they gave to the "Man." Full public disclosure is actually an important strategy anytime an activist has been questioned individually or privately by the police. The radical community's first indication of Sherman's developing snitchhood was when he refused to communicate with the radical community regarding his grand jury questioning.

Sherman's case should be contrasted with the case of animal and Earth liberation activist Josh Harper's coerced testimony to a grand jury in 2001. After he was threatened with jail time for refusal to appear before the grand jury, Harper agreed to testify before a grand jury in 2001. Harper provided the radical community with a complete list of the grand jury's questions and his responses to them. Thus, Harper maintained the trust of his community in a situation in which he was forced to privately appear before a grand jury.

In addition, the community and individuals may demand that the snitch undertake tasks to prove their sincerity, educate themselves and make reparations for their actions. These tasks will be different from person to person in the community. Of course, it is possible that a snitch will always be working to clear themselves, or that a snitch may never be able to reconcile with some individuals.

Samuel will have to prove himself worthy of trust—or even tolerance—if he ever wants to be involved with the radical community again. For myself, I would demand that Samuel create an in-depth account—written and spoken—of his entire snitch experience. In this account, he would have to fully acknowledge his actions without qualification and completely divulge all help rendered to the government. He would have to forever cease providing information or testimony to the Feds. And he would need to devote much energy to discouraging snitches and to helping others learn from his dire mistake. These tasks would only earn Samuel the right to be present in any radical community spaces in which I had any input, but I still would not really trust him. However, it would be a start. It would be completely understandable if many folks believe that he is never again

worthy of even an iota of trust. In such cases, distrust may only be a small part of the price Samuel will have to pay for selling out his affinity group.

Support our troops!

Members of the radical community need to be mutually supportive of each other. Otherwise, practicing security culture and being selective about with whom one works is not enough to keep a direct action community safe and effective. For most folks, going to jail is a stressful experience. A person is isolated, deprived of their freedom, physically and mentally abused and oftentimes

threatened with a much longer sentence than is likely. This stress is only compounded when an activist is arrested for a serious political action, often for the first time in their life.

Samuel has said that he felt a lack of support from the animal liberation community after his arrest. Of course, in Samuel's case, it wasn't the community that failed him. He made the mistake of cutting himself off. But his fault or not, the effect was the same. Without the support of his community, Samuel felt scared



and isolated. And, he snitched on his affinity group.

Since activists in jail are often placed under extreme pressure from the state to become a snitch, affinity groups need to set up an infrastructure to safely and securely maintain good communication with and support for any member who gets imprisoned. Jailed affinity group members should actively strive to maintain contact with their outside support as well. Affinity groups should make sure that each member has memorized the phone numbers for sympathetic local lawyers, aboveground prisoner support groups and individual supporters. This information is just as vital for a secure and effective affinity group as good security culture and conscious trust. Folks on the inside need the community's help to stay smart, strong and committed to fighting for a better world. Folks on the outside need those on the inside to keep their lips shut.

Mahonia believes in the radical notion that folks should have a say in the decisions which affect their lives. Mahonia is also the scientific name for Oregon Grape, a common herbal immune booster.

Security Culture

The following article was excerpted from *Security Culture: A Handbook for Activists*.

So, what is security culture? It's a culture where people know their rights and, more importantly, assert them. Those who belong to a security culture also know what behavior compromises security, and they are quick to educate those people who, out of ignorance, forgetfulness, or personal weakness, partake in insecure behavior. This security consciousness becomes a culture when the group makes security violations socially unacceptable.

What Not to Say

To begin with, there are certain things that are inappropriate to discuss. These things include: your involvement or someone else's involvement with an underground group; someone else's desire to get involved with such a group; asking others if they are a member of an underground group; your participation or someone else's participation in any action that was illegal; someone else's advocacy for such actions; or your plans or someone else's plans for a future action.

Essentially, it is wrong to speak about an individual's involvement (past, present or future) with illegal activities. These are unacceptable topics of discussion regardless of whether they are rumor, speculation or personal knowledge. Please note: This is not to say that it is wrong to speak about direct action in general terms. It is perfectly legal, secure and desirable that people speak out in support of monkeywrenching and all forms of resistance. The danger lies in linking individual activists to specific actions or groups.

Three Exceptions

There are only three occasions when it is acceptable to speak specifically about actions. The first situation would be if you were planning an action with other members of your small group—your "cell" or "affinity group." However, you should never discuss these things over the Internet, email, phone, through the mail or in an activist's home or car. These places and forms of communication are frequently monitored. The only people who should hear this discussion are those who

are actively participating in the action. Anyone who is not involved does not need to know.

The second exception occurs after an activist has been arrested and brought to trial. If she is found guilty, this activist can freely speak of the actions for which she was convicted. However, she must never give information that would help the authorities determine who else participated in illegal activities.

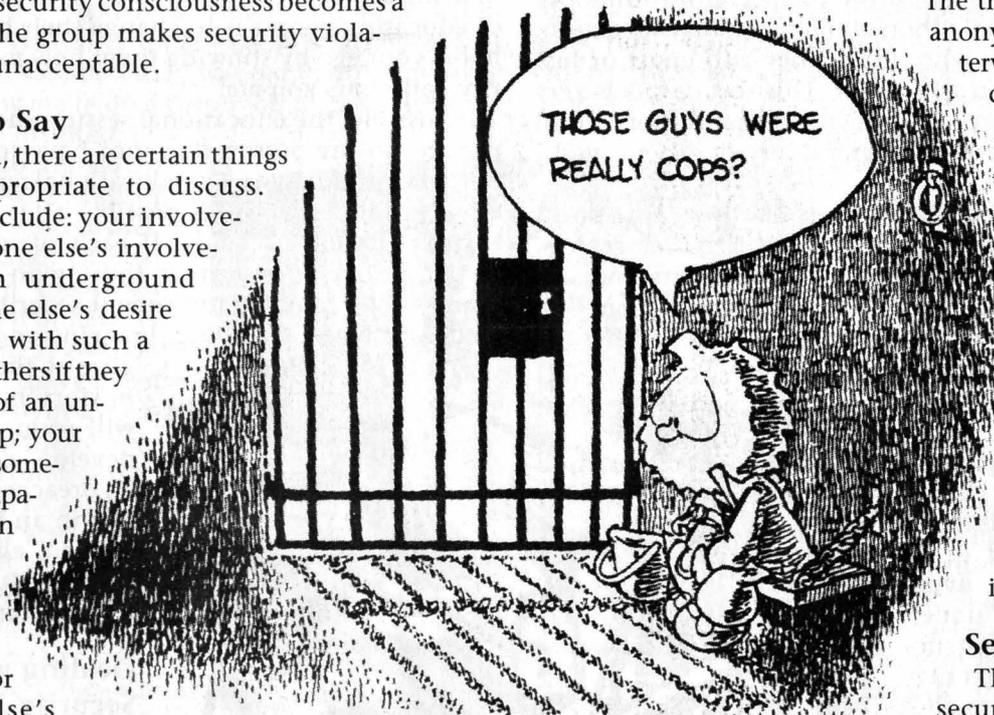
The third exception is for anonymous letters and interviews with the media. This must be done very carefully and without compromising security. Advice on secure communication techniques can be found at security.tao.ca. These are the only situations when it is appropriate to speak about your own or someone else's involvement or intent to commit illegal direct action.

Security Measures

The reason for these security precautions is quite obvious: If people don't know anything, they can't talk about it. When activists who do not share the same serious consequences know who did an illegal direct action, they are far more likely to talk after being harassed by the authorities because they are not the ones who will go to jail. Even those people who are trustworthy can often be tricked by the authorities into revealing damaging and incriminating information. It is safest for all cell members to keep their involvement in the group amongst themselves. The fewer people who know, the less evidence there is in the long run.

Security Violating Behaviors

In an attempt to impress others, activists may behave in ways that compromise security. Some people do this frequently—they are habitually gossiping and bragging. Some activists say inappropriate things only when they consume alcohol. Many activists make occasional breaches of security because there was a momentary temptation to say something or hint at something that shouldn't have been said or implied. In most situations, the desire to be accepted is the root cause.



Those people who tend to be the greatest security risks are those activists who have low self-esteem and strongly desire the approval of their peers. Certainly it is natural to seek friendship and recognition for our efforts, but it is imperative that we keep these desires in check so that we do not jeopardize the safety of other activists or ourselves. People who place their desire for friendship over the importance of the cause can do serious damage to our security. The following are examples of security-violating behaviors:

Lying: To impress others, liars claim to have done illegal actions. Such lies not only compromise the person's security—as cops will not take what is said as a lie—but also hinder movement solidarity and trust.

Gossiping: Some weak characters think they can win friends because they are privy to special information. These gossips will tell others about who did what action. If they don't know who did it, they will guess or just spread rumors about who did it. This sort of talk is very damaging. People need to remember that rumors are all that is needed to instigate a grand jury or other investigation.

Bragging: Some people who partake in illegal direct action might be tempted to brag about it to their friends. This not only jeopardizes the bragger's security, but also that of the other people involved with the action. The people who he told can also become accessories after the fact. An activist who brags also sets a horrible example to other activists.

Indirect-Bragging: Indirect-braggers are people who make a big production on how they want to remain anonymous, avoid protests, and stay "underground." They might not come out and say that they do illegal direct action, but they make sure everyone within earshot knows they are up to something. They are no better than braggers, but they try to be more sophisticated about it by pretending to maintain security. However, if they were serious about security, they would just make up a good excuse as to why they are not as active, or why they can't make it to the protest (that kind of lying is acceptable).

Educate to Liberate

It is fairly easy to spot those activists who compromise our movement's security. So what do we do with people who exhibit these behaviors? Do we excommunicate them from our movement? Actually, no—at least, not for a first offense. The unfortunate truth is that there are numerous security-ignorant people in the movement and others who have possibly been raised in a scene that thrives on bragging and gossiping. It doesn't mean these people are bad, but it does

mean they need to be educated. Even seasoned activists can make mistakes. And that's where those of you who are reading this can help.

We must *never* let a breach in security occur without acting to correct it. If an acquaintance of yours is bragging about doing an action or spreading security-compromising gossip, it is your responsibility to explain to her or him why that sort of talk violates security and is inappropriate. You should strive to educate this person in a manner that encourages him to listen and to change his behavior. It should be done without damaging his pride. You should be humble and sincerely interested in helping him become a more effective activist. Do not maintain a "holier than-thou" attitude. This will inevitably raise his defenses and prevent him from absorbing or using any of the advice you offer. Remember, the goal of educating people is to change their behavior, not to boost your ego by showing them how much more security conscious you are.

If possible, the educational session should be done in private, so the person does not have to contend with potential pride issues. The educational reprimand should also be done as soon as possible after the mistake to increase its effectiveness. If each of us takes on the responsibility of educating those who slip up, we can dramatically improve movement security. Once people recognize lying, gossiping, bragging and indirect-brag-

ging as the damaging behaviors that they are, they will soon end. When we develop a culture where all breaches of security result in an immediate reprimand, all sincere activists will quickly get with the program.

Dealing with Chronic Security Problems

So what do we do with activists who repeatedly violate security precautions even after multiple educational sessions? It's unfortunate, but the best thing to do with these people is cut them loose

and kick them out of our meetings, basecamps and organizations. With law enforcement budgets on the increase and with courts handing down long sentences for political "crimes," the stakes are too high to allow chronic security-offenders to work among us.

By creating a security culture, we have an effective defense against informers and agents who try to infiltrate groups. Imagine an informer who, every time she asked another activist about that person's activity, received a reprimand and an education on security. That informer would get frustrated really easily. If she continued to violate security precautions after being repeatedly educated, they would have grounds for her dismissal. And that would be one less informer for us to deal with!



Ask an EF! Lawyer

He's Working on Your Side!

BY STU SUGARMAN



Hi, there! My name is Stu Sugarman, and starting with this issue, I will be writing a legal advice column in the *EF! Journal*. You might be wondering who the !@#\$\$% I am, and why I would be writing this article. So I figured I'd tell you a little bit about myself.

Once was a marine biologist, working for the Everglades National Park in south Florida. I left the park in 1988, because I wanted to do something that would allow me to do a better job of protecting the natural world. Inspired by lawyers' efforts to shut down logging in the Northwest in the name of the spotted owl, I went to Portland, Oregon and enrolled in the Lewis and Clark School of Law.

Since I opened my own office in 1992, I have been working as an environmental lawyer, suing the government to protect Portland's last ecosystems from local developers. I am also working to stop clearcutting and to shut down the US Army's dangerous chemical weapons incinerator in eastern Oregon.

Since 1995, I have also been defending environmental activists in criminal court. My clients have ranged from civil disobedience protesters to activists accused of multiple arsons or other crimes punishable by a lifetime sentence. Over the years, I have defended many activists in criminal court, before grand juries and even before a Congressional subcommittee. Most recently, I joined the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society's Antarctica mission against Japanese whalers.

The *EF! Journal* and I think it might help you, the reader, if I were to write a regular column answering activists' legal questions. Of course, I am not interested in knowing your real name—just what's on your mind.

Dear *EF! Lawyer*,

What's the real deal with the identification question? I know that I have to give them ID if I'm driving a car, but what about other times? When do I have to identify myself to the Man? And what is the bare minimum required?

—ANONYMOUS IN ARIZONA

Dear Arizona,

You don't have to give your name or ID to a cop—unless you are driving a car, in a bar or if the cop "reasonably suspects" that you have committed, or are about to commit a crime. If a cop insists on having your name and you don't know why, demand to see an attorney. The cop should then stop asking questions.

If you've been arrested in a protest, the cops and their ilk will put all sorts of pressure on you to tell them your name. Just about everywhere in this country, the Man will have some rule requiring you to give your name. Legally, law enforcement can hold you for around three days—longer over a weekend—before you see a judge, and they will often

threaten to hold you in jail until you do identify yourself. Giving the police incorrect information can be a crime, so you definitely do not want to make up a realistic sounding name that is not real.

It is possible—as has happened recently in Portland, Oregon—that not giving your name may leverage a dismissal of charges in a mass arrest. This tactic is most effective when your entire affinity group decides to use this tactic before the action. Sometimes, police let people out of jail after holding them for a day or more to make room for other prisoners. If the prosecutor lets someone out before determining who that person is first, the Man loses his ability to prosecute that person.

I believe, however, that in a vast majority of cases, the police will hold you until they determine who you are through fingerprint analysis or other methods. They may then hold you until your case goes to trial.

The bare minimum of information you are required to give during or after your arrest would be your first and last name. With that, your identity can probably be located, but it may take some time. Providing your middle name as well as your date of birth and where you are from—if you are from another state—is the most information you need to provide. If law enforcement asks for more information, you can tell them: "I want to see an attorney." Legally, they must stop asking you questions if you invoke your right to an attorney.

Do you have a legal question? Write to the *EF! Lawyer* and you just might read the answer to your question in the next issue of the *EF!J*. Contact Stuart A. Sugarman, LLC, 3430 SE Belmont, #101, Portland OR 97214; blc@hevanet.com (please write "EF! Lawyer" on the subject line).



Don't let the law get you down.

Prisoners in the Struggle: Support Them!

Prisoner and Legal Updates

•Lawrence Pascal, an environmental and indigenous activist in BC, Canada, was released from jail in January.

• Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) prisoners Sarah Gisbourne, Jonny Ablewhite and Gillian Bradley have all been released from prison in England.

•Sonia Hayward has been sentenced to 15 months imprisonment on harassment charges for her involvement in both the SHAC campaign and an anti-hunting campaign. Send letters to Sonia Hayward, KV5943, HMP Cookham Wood, Rochester, Kent ME13LU, England.

•Marco Camenish, currently serving a 10-year prison sentence for blowing up nuclear facility powerlines in the 1970s and '80s, has moved to a new address. Send letters to Marco Camenish, Sennhofstrasse 17, 7000 Chur, Switzerland.

•Nathan Brasfield, who is serving 12 months for a SHAC-related charge of "Theft of Telecommunications Services," has been transferred to a new facility where he will remain for six weeks before he is transferred to prison. Send letters to Nathan Brasfield, 799169, R1-G5, Washington Corrections Center, POB 900, Shelton, WA 98584, USA.

Animal Liberation

•Jennifer Greenberg, #3100201610, Rose M. Singer Center, 1919 Hazen St, East Elmherst, NY 11370, USA. Serving one year for property destruction at the home of a Marsh Insurance executive during a SHAC demonstration in 2001.

•Joshua Schwartz, #3100201611, NYSID #1900738L, EMT, 1010 Hazen St, East Elmherst, NY 11370, USA. Same charge as Jennifer Greenberg.

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

•Benjamin Persky, #1410212600, NYSID #9846577R, George Vierno Center, 0909 Hazen St, East Elmhurst, NY 11370. Serving up to six years for participating in a SHAC protest at which Marsh Insurance executives' windows were smashed.

•Peter Schnell, #99476-111, FCI Otisville, POB 1000, Otisville, NY 10963, USA. Serving 14 months for assembling incendiary devices with the intent to target dairy trucks.

Anti-Globalization

•Rob Middaugh, #T41137 450 13up, ASP, POB 9, Avenal, CA 93204, 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 Reclaim the Streets protest in Eugene, Oregon.



Ecodefense

•Dr. Yurl Bandazhevsky, U1. 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.

•Carol Gilbert, Jackie Hudson and Ardeth Platte, Clear Creek County Jail, POB 518, Georgetown, CO 80444, USA. These three Dominican nuns are facing charges of sabotage and destruction of government property for damaging nuclear missile transport equipment. They each face up to 30 years in prison.

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

•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.

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

Indigenous

•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.

•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.

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 Mahanoy, 301 Morea Road, Frackville, PA 17931, 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.

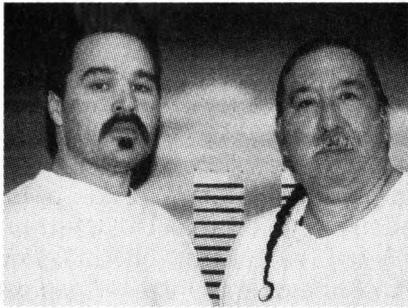


photo courtesy Break the Chains

Chubbuck with Leonard Peltier

Bank Robbery Lives!

BY BREAK THE CHAINS

Byron Shane Chubbuck, also known as "Oso Blanco," is currently serving 80 years at Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary for aggravated assault on federal agents, escape and bank robbery. Chubbuck, referred to as "Robin the Hood" by authorities, was robbing banks to funnel money to the Zapatista National Liberation Army in Chiapas, Mexico, during 1988 and 1999.

After being caught in late 1999, Chubbuck escaped from a prison van in New Mexico and almost immediately began knocking off banks again. Chubbuck, who was well known as a polite and courteous robber, was recaptured in 2001 during a shoot-out with police. The police had discovered his whereabouts after Chubbuck attempted to contact a radio show host to speak about indigenous rights and the treatment of prisoners.

In a 2001 newspaper interview, Chubbuck stated: "I am still able to hold my head up and feel the gratification for my work in a world where money, power and destructive industry are regarded far above humanity, indigenous and impoverished peoples and cultures. I cannot help that I got into my work."

Send letters to Byron Shane Chubbuck, #07909051, US Penitentiary, POB 1000, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048, USA.

Break the Chains is a prisoner support group that provides financial and emotional support and solidarity to political prisoners and revolutionary allies who are imprisoned in the Northwest. Contact Break The Chains, POB 11331, Eugene OR 97440, USA; www.breakthechains.net.

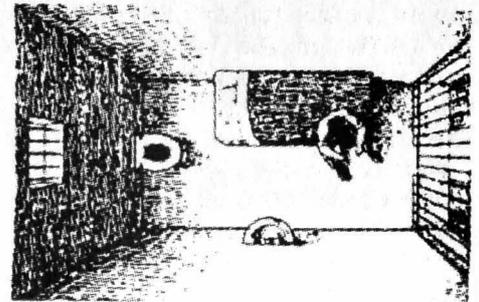
JJ Hicks Targeted in Jail

In February, longtime EF!er Thomas "JJ" Hicks was arrested for drug charges (for growing marijuana) and weapons charges. Since his arrest, JJ—who was active a few years ago with Katuah Earth First!—has experienced unusually harsh conditions. He has been locked down and isolated in an administrative segregation unit. Authorities claim that JJ is on "escape risk/suicide watch." He is only released from his cell once every five days for a 15-minute phone call and shower.

JJ has been approached by US Forest Service Special Agent Jenny Davis, as well as a regional FBI agent and a US Federal district attorney. They offered to drop almost all of JJ's charges if he would give them names of "fellow eco-terrorists" and animal liberationists. They also suggested that JJ could act as an ELF and ALF police informant.

According to JJ, the Feds interrogated him on suspected Earth Liberation Front actions that took place in Colorado, Indiana and Pennsylvania. However, they were particularly interested in linking JJ to an October sabotage of a wood chipping mill in Rutherford County, North Carolina. Authorities have threatened to "stack" JJ's charges and see that he gets a life sentence if he refuses to cooperate. The sabotage, which caused more than \$300,000 in damage, has not been claimed by anyone.

JJ has remained strong and principled in his actions. He needs all the support that our movement can give him. He would appreciate monetary donations for his legal defense fund and also to buy stamps and envelopes. Please write to him and prove that the EF! movement takes care of its own. Send letters to Thomas W. Hicks, McDowell County Jail, 593 Spaulding Rd, Marion, NC 28752, USA. Donations can be sent to JJ Hick's Legal Defense Fund, c/o Katuah EF!, POB 1485, Asheville, NC 28802, USA.



"Free" Needs Support

Earth liberation prisoner Jeffrey "Free" Luers is appealing his conviction and sentence relating to the 2000 arson at Romania Chevrolet and another attempted arson at Tyree Oil Co. in Eugene, Oregon. His friends and supporters are asking that Earth First!ers write letters to the Attorney General Hardy Myers. Significant events for Free may occur in the next few months, and sending a letter now could make a difference in his case.

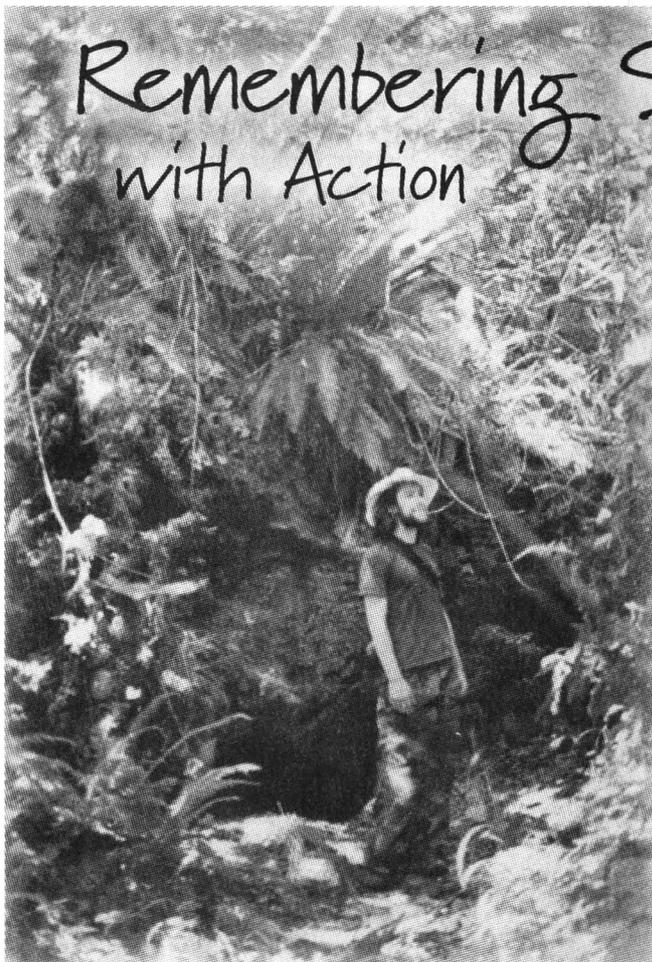
Things to mention in the letter include: Luers' sentence is disproportionate to his charges and is likely due to his politics rather than to the severity of his crime. While on trial, even the state's witness testified that no one was in danger of injury. Luers was sentenced to 22 years and eight months for less than \$40,000 worth of property damage. In comparison, offenders convicted of manslaughter are frequently sentenced to 10 years.

Please send letters to Hardy Myers, attorney general, 400 Justice Building, Salem, OR 97310, USA. To write to Free directly, address letters to Jeffrey "Free" Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310, USA.

Anti-War Prisoners

The past two months have been full of direct action against the US war in Iraq. Many charges resulting from the protests are still unfolding and could be dropped. If you know of anti-war protesters who face felony charges or prison time and who want to be listed in the next *Earth First! Journal's* prisoner page, please email information to: gilamonster@earthfirstjournal.org.

Remembering Sparrow with Action



Sparrow in the Willamette National Forest

BY FRIENDS OF SPARROW

Our friend Sparrow—aka Carson McCann—took his own life on March 11, in a place that he cherished, near people he loved and who loved him back. He passed away at the start of a week-long gathering in the forests of Cascadia.

A kind and gentle individual, Sparrow fought hard to defend ancient forests and to foster a deeper relationship with the Earth. He was especially involved in surveying for rare species like the red tree vole. Sparrow spent countless hours climbing trees to search for vole nests, and he was dedicated to teaching people how to climb ropes safely, so they could carry on this important work.

Sparrow had many friends that considered him family, and who shared great love and support for him. Those of us who knew Sparrow will never forget him—the twinkle in his cool blue eyes, his calm tone and amazing spirit. He was a loyal friend, passionate and dedicated to changing the

world. Sparrow was a revolutionary—politically, emotionally and spiritually. He will always be a part of the forest and will forever be inside each of us, affecting our thoughts and actions. Now that Sparrow is at peace, we must carry on with where he left off.

Following Sparrow's death, his ashes were placed throughout the forests comprising the Straw Devil Timber Sale—one of his favorite places on Earth. In his memory, the forest defense community in Cascadia recently erected two treesits and a road blockade to defend this precious and rare old-

growth ecosystem in Oregon's Willamette National Forest.

Straw Devil is one of many egregious ancient forest timber sales slated to be logged this season. It encompasses 100 acres of predominantly old-growth forest and contains dozens of red tree voles. The US Forest Service is required by law to protect the red tree vole under the Northwest Forest Plan, but it has blatantly refused to protect 32 nests found here last Summer by Sparrow and a citizens' survey team.

Any attempts to log this forest will be akin to a declaration of war and will be considered an audacious attempt to desecrate the sacredness of this forest. One thing that we are sure of is that the forests in the Straw Devil Timber Sale will never be logged. It is a sacred place.

To learn more, contact Cascadia Forest Defenders, POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440; (541) 684-8977; forestdefenders@tao.ca; www.forestdefenders.org.

From Piece Movement to Peace Movement

continued from page 11

Bush regime has been stunningly public about its vision of a "Pax Americana"—its code word for US global military domination.

In light of this new level of ruthless honesty, we can't afford to just be talking about Iraq. More than 150 countries around the world have some sort of US military presence—from fighting "terrorists" in the Philippines to protecting US oil installations in Colombia. These troops are doing the dirty work of corporate globalization by suppressing the backlash that it has created and making the world safe for resource extraction.

DASW's efforts provide some stepping stones to bridge the gap from an isolated "piece" movement toward a true "peace" movement—a holistic intersection of groups struggling for justice, democracy and ecological sanity while collaborating to confront the entire US Empire, Inc. This means not only tackling the war in Iraq, but also the war at home: corporate rule, the assaults on civil liberties and communities of color, the war on the poor and, of course, the ongoing war on the natural world.

Hopefully by the time you read this, we'll still be holding the empire in check, and the showdown between global civil society and the US war machine will be moving more onto our terms.

But even if we don't stop this war, let's make sure that our brothers and sisters around the world know one thing: A hell of a lot of us inside the belly of the beast weren't going along quietly. This war will not be waged in our name but only over the collective weight of our bodies thrown onto the gears of the US war machine. Silence is agreement and peace is an idea that demands action. And you know what they say about empires—the bigger they come, the harder they fall. See you in the streets!

For more information, contact Direct Action to Stop the War, (415) 820-9649; www.actagainstawar.org.

Patrick Reinsborough is a San Francisco-based direct action organizer and co-founder of the smartMeme project. Check it out at www.smartmeme.com.

announcements

Biodevastation 7

May 16-18 · St. Louis, Missouri

The May 2003 Biodevastation Gathering will be a cutting edge event defining links between environmental racism and the biotechnology industry. The Gateway Green Alliance is working with the Organization for Black Struggle in St. Louis to make this happen. Subtitled "A Forum on Environmental Racism, World Agriculture and Biowarfare," the event is organized around five main panels: crop contamination and the threat to indigenous agriculture, corporate greed and environmental racism, biowarfare, globalization and food imperialism, and the international threat to farms and farmers. Featured speakers will include Vandana Shiva, Mae-Wan Ho, Anuradha Mittal and Percy Schmeiser.

On May 20, there will be a peaceful and publicly visible activity featuring non-GE food and a major rally at the site of the World Agricultural Forum in downtown St. Louis.

For more information, contact (314) 353-8176; mralen@mprsnd.org; www.biodev.org.



WAF Convergence

May 18-20 · St. Louis, Missouri

An anti-globalization convergence will coincide with the World Agricultural Forum (WAF), scheduled for May 18-20 in downtown St. Louis. Every two years during the WAF, the biotech industry, Western scientists and US officials meet in order to try to coerce the global South into accepting corporate control over food and fiber through the sale of genetically modified organisms. Missouri Resistance Against Genetic Engineering (MoRAGE) is calling for action at this year's WAF!

Farmers and activists from all over North America will attend Biodevastation 7 and actions at the WAF. Some will go to the WAF site on May 18 to demand that their concerns be heard. Others will rally in downtown St. Louis.

MoRAGE will also have people speaking on the alternatives to the globalization of agriculture.

For more information on WAF actions, contact (314) 771-8576; www.worldagforum.com.

Bicycle Caravan Across the Cornbelt · May 19-June 19

Following the World Agricultural Forum, the "Caravan Across the Cornbelt" will bicycle from St. Louis, Missouri to Washington, DC, where the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) will hold its annual convention in June.

The Caravan will be a month-long bicycle spectacle covering more than 1,000 miles, featuring puppet shows, presentations, speak-outs, freak-outs, clown acts and music. All concerned citizens, clowns, puppeteers, bike riders, messengers, farmers and eaters of food are invited to bring a bicycle and join the ride! For more information, contact caravan@ifairtrade.net.



Idaho Wolf Expedition August 10-22

Join the Wilderness Awareness School and the Nez Perce Tribe for a wolf tracking expedition in central Idaho that will combine traditional native methods with cutting-edge GPS technology. Days will be spent following wolf signs through high forests and meadows. Nights will be spent relaxing around the campfire, discuss-

ing wolf conservation. All experience levels are welcome. For more information, visit www.wildernessawareness.org.

..... Video Release

The Fellowship of the Ring of Free Trade

Now, for the first time ever, the hidden prophecies of J.R.R. Tolkien's classic epic, *The Lord of the Rings*, are decoded in an accurate video re-edit of Peter Jackson's motion picture. *The Lord of the Rings*—once thought to be merely a story of the archetypal struggle between good and evil—has been found to contain astute prophetic messages about the impending crisis of capitalist modernity. *The Fellowship of the Ring of Free Trade* includes subtitles of the decoded dialogue and the true identities of the story's characters.

Don't wait to view this six minute video that reveals what your heart knew all along. As you laugh out loud to this rediscovery, the call to action is re-ignited and your inner collectivist hero stands tall in response. You don't have to be a Tolkienite to be inspired by this video revelation. To hear this message from Middle Earth, contact the folks at lordrings@riseup.net. You can also view it online at www.passionbomb.com/video/ringfreetrade.htm.

announcements

Plan Z: A Strategy Conference for Organizers of All Genders June 1-7 · Ida, Fairieland, Tennessee



WANTED: BAD ASS ORGANIZERS

Calling all visionaries, feminists, rabble rousers, revolutionaries, radical and gender queers, and people of all identities committed to working together and dedicated to dismantling this patriarchal capitalist system.

Last year we started to create a cohesive network of organizers. We want to continue broadening and building by solidifying old ties and forging new ones. This year, we plan to further challenge the meaning of feminist space. And we hope to learn from each other's differences and experiences, and feed off one another's knowledge and creativity, while respecting all voices.

Ida is 243 acres of hills, hollows, creeks, caves and gardens in oh-so-scenic Tennessee. At last year's conference, we worked on making the space accessible. We will provide outdoor camping space, with a limited amount of indoor beds for people with special needs. We will serve three vegan meals a day, provide professional childcare and an American Sign Language interpreter will be available. In order to provide adequate accommodations, pre-registration is required.

For more information, contact Plan Z, POB 8462, Columbus, OH 43201; (301) 529-2355; planz@ziplip.com; planz2002.tripod.com.



Austin Anarchist Black Cross Literature Catalog

Austin ABC has more than 80 pamphlets, zines and publications available covering a wide range of topics, including prison issues, community autonomy, women in prison, anarchist history and theory, animal liberation, feminism and the Black Liberation Army. Tapes, patches, t-shirts and posters are also available. All literature is 100 percent free to prisoners and available to those on the outside for reasonable rates. For a catalog, write to Austin ABC, POB 19733, Austin, TX 78760; austinabc@hotmail.com.

It's Time For a New Anarchist Cookbook

It's time for a new anarchist cookbook. Not for making food or bombs, silly—this one's for activities. We're putting together a collection of how-to pieces on everything from tabling and wheatpasting to street confrontations and more unusual endeavors. The idea is to compile information from experienced "activists" (ugh, what a terrible word!) and place it in the hands of, well, everyone else!

We've posted some sample recipes on our website in hopes that everyone who knows more about this stuff, or has some other perspective, will tell us what we've forgotten to include.

We are also hungry for *your* contributions. If you have a recipe for action that you'd like to share, please do! All that we ask is that it be a recipe that you have personally taste-tested, if you know what we mean.

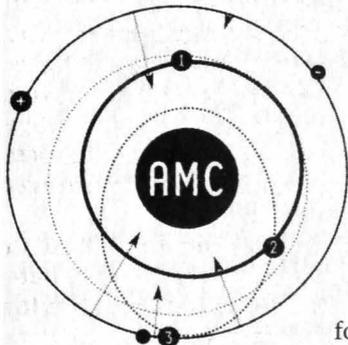
Deadline for submissions: May 2003. For more information or to send submissions, contact POB 4964, Louisville, KY 40204; jamie@enemy-combatant.org; www.enemy-combatant.org/cookbook.html.

Allied Media Conference

June 13-15 · Bowling Green, Ohio

Corporations that are motivated by profit control most of the news and entertainment that is available to the public. Luckily, there is a growing movement of people publishing truly alternative, independent media in almost every community.

From June 13-15, hundreds of artists and media makers will convene in Ohio to celebrate each other's work and to strengthen alliances. What started as a conference for zine writers and small presses has grown into a full weekend devoted to creators and supporters of independent radio, music, TV, web, print, movies and more. This year, the conference is focused on using independent media to change our world. If you know how to do that or you want to learn, you belong at the Allied Media Conference.



For more information, to register or to find out about low-cost housing, contact Allied Media Conference, POB 1225, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402; (419) 494-6850; amc@clamormagazine.org; www.alliedmediaprojects.org.

Earth First! Northwestern Rendezvous

May 23-27 · Southern Oregon

Join us this Memorial Day weekend for the EF! Northwest Regional Rendezvous in the Klamath-Siskiyou mountains in southern Oregon. It'll be a weekend of education, action and fun as we get ready to face a heated Summer of forest defense in the Pacific Northwest. The NW Rendezvous is the official kick off of Cascadia Summer.

The weekend will be full of workshops, strategy sessions and skillshares including climbing and ropes, natural medicine and birth control, global justice, coalition building, prison support, primitive skills, Siskiyou geobiology, wilderness/city medic, legal, corporate campaigning, nonviolence and so on.

The Klamath-Siskiyou is one of the most biologically diverse and geologically complex regions in the world. Straddling the border of northern California and southern Oregon, this bioregion is home to the largest intact blocks of roadless wildlands remaining on the West Coast.

For specific site information or any other questions, contact Mazama Forest Defense, (541) 482-2640; mfd@mazamaforestdefense.org; www.mazamaforestdefense.org.

EASTERN FOREST DEFENSE CAMP

June 16-23 · Southeast Ohio

Calling all people ready to act on behalf of our great Eastern forests!

In this training camp, we will focus on our evolving arsenal of nonviolent direct action tactics. We are looking for folks from the Northwoods (Great Lakes and New England), Central Appalachia, Southern Appalachia (Katuah!), the Great Coastal Swamps, the Piedmont, the Pine Barrens, the Allegheny (Cumberland) Plateau, the Ozarks and the Midwest to join us in southeast Ohio as we share skills, techniques and ideas for defending our forests.



Planned workshops include: tree-sits and tree climbing, structural climbing, blockades (including tripods and bipods), field kitchens, field survival, communications, banner making, campaign strategy, media messaging, police and actions, security culture, movement in woods, local flora, fauna, lore and more! For more information, visit www.athenscommons.org/actioncamp.

Massasauga Earth First! Action Camp · June 13-15 · Michigan

Come out and get prepared to fight for the water and land that surrounds us! The weekend will be filled with skill sharing, workshops, strategy sessions and networking opportunities. Skill sharing workshops will include: blockade techniques, climbing and other action how-to's. We hope to spawn a Summer of hell for those corporations who are desecrating the Earth through the theft of the water, such as the Ice Mountain Water Bottling Plant. We are also focusing on the Detroit Water Department, which is denying people access to water and moving toward privatization.

For more information, contact POB 44173, Detroit, MI 48212; (313) 410-4155; massasaugaef@yahoo.com.



Mattole Forest Defenders Release New Videos

For the past three years, the Mattole Forest Defenders (MFD) have struggled against Maxxam/Pacific Lumber's (PL) logging of the largest privately owned old-growth Douglas fir forest in California.

Throughout the Mattole campaign, a diversity of tactics have been utilized, including on-the-ground interference, road blockades, treesitting, worker outreach, equipment lockdowns, banner hangs and more.

There are two new action packed and informative videos about the Mattole campaign. *Mattole Resistance 2002* is a 20 minute documentary of the past year's actions. The other video is the five minute *Mattole Alert, A Call to Action*. To get a hold of these videos or to join the resistance, contact Mattole Forest Defense, (707) 825-6598; mattoleforest@ziplip.com.

GREEN ANARCHIST GATHERING JULY 10-13, 2003 · PENNSYLVANIA

Join us for a green anarchist gathering this Summer in Pennsylvania. The gathering will have two focuses: teaching wilderness skills, and giving a contextual and practical basis for green anarchist theory/action.

It is important for green anarchists to have our own convergences instead of having a few workshops at other gatherings. We are hoping that the conference will foster detailed discussion, debate and experience. However, this conference is not for "green anarchists only." We hope people will take this chance to learn more about wilderness skills, the green anarchist critiques and to develop stronger alliances to further insurrectionary action.

We are currently taking any help we can get. We are in desperate need of funds, equipment, a field kitchen, publicity, people who can help with skills workshops, ideas for discussions, organizers and any suggestions.

For more information, contact Black and Green, POB 835, Greensburg, PA 15601; bandgnet@yahoo.com; www.blackandgreen.org/gath.html.



EARTH FIRST! DIRECTORY

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Arizona Wildlands Museum
POB 24988, Tempe, AZ 85285
Flagstaff Activist Network
POB 911, Flagstaff, AZ 86002
(928) 213-9507; flagact@infomagic.net
Phoenix EF!
2238 N 24th St, Phoenix, AZ 85008
phoenixef@excite.com
Tucson EF!
az_earth_first@hotmail.com

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POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516
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Fairfax Action Team
POB 393, Lagunitas, CA 94938
North Coast EF!
POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518
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Peninsular Ranges EF!
POB 4738, Irvine, CA 92616-4738
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POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061
(831) 425-3205; cruzef@cruzio.com
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3124 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley, CA 94705
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(415) 722-1846; smartmeme@riseup.net
Sonoma County EF!
POB 7544, Santa Rosa, CA 93107
(707) 523-1229

COLORADO

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POB 3204, Durango, CO 81302
Tim Haugen
POB 81, Gulnare, CO 81042
Wilderness Defense
POB 1008, Telluride, CO 81435-0101

FLORIDA

Alachua EF!
POB 1638, Alachua, FL 32616
(904) 462-3374
Big Bend EF!
POB 20582, Tallahassee, FL 32316
Lake Worthless EF!
POB 961, Lake Worth, FL 33460
(561) 547-6686; littleprince1@juno.com
Gainesville/Ichetucknee EF!
c/o CMC, 1021 W University Ave,
Gainesville, FL 32601
(352) 373-0010
Stone Soup Collective
1020 S Orange Ave, Orlando, FL 32806
(407) 999-7700

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POB 608, Athens, GA 30603

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3400 W 111th St #154, Chicago, IL 60655
(773) 258-0575; friends@enteract.com
Shawnee EF!
913 S Illinois Ave, Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 549-7387; harvest827@aol.com
The Brokedowns/Elgin Food Not Bombs
308 South St #15, Elgin, IL 60123
(847) 931-9054;
thebrokedowns@thebrokedowns.com

INDIANA

Boxcar Books and Community Center
310A S Washington St, Bloomington,
IN 47401
(812) 339-8710; boxcar@boxcarbooks.org
Buffalo Trace EF!
POB 3503, Bloomington, IN 47403
Kekionga EF!
1015 W Creighton St, Fort Wayne, IN 46807
Solidarity Books
860 Virginia Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46203
(317) 822-8004; solidaritybooks@yahoo.com

KANSAS

Tornado Alley Resistance
(913) 461-8583
MAINE
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People's Free Space
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Lawrence Grassroots Initiative
c/o Berstein Bookstore, POB 43, Lawrence,
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(978) 688-3569

Mass Direct Action
POB 484, Somerset, MA 02726

MICHIGAN

Massasauga EF!
POB 44173, Detroit, MI 48232
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Lost Cause Collective
POB 237, Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 228-7074;

lostcausecollective@hotmail.com

POPULAR POWER

POB 374, Traverse City, MI 49685

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POB 16075, St Paul, MN 55116

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(612) 450-9178; paarise@mtn.org
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wanderingaia@onebox.com
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(314) 772-0322

Pink Planarians

POB 7653, Columbia, MO 65205
(573) 443-6832

Ray O. McCall

Rt 1 Box 89, Mtn Grove, MO 65711

MONTANA

Wild Rockies EF!/Wild Rockies Review

(406) 961-0171; dinswyrd@yahoo.com

Yellowstone EF!

POB 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715

NEBRASKA

Environmental Resource Center

205 N Mears, Chadron, NE 69337
(308) 432-3458; buffalobruce@panhandle.net

NEW JERSEY

Green Vigilance

46 E Monroe, Mt Holly, NJ 08060
(609) 265-0392

NEW YORK

Foghorn

POB 889, Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

(516) 288-2688

Love Canal EF!

(716) 282-7777

May Day Infoshop

151 1st Ave New York, NY 10003

(212) 777-8169

OFF!

SUNY, Binghamton, NY 13902-6000
(607) 777-2050; offeditor@hotmail.com

Project Harmony

216 W 122 St, New York, NY 10027

(212) 662-2878; haja216@aol.com

Wetlands Preserve

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(212) 947-7744;

adam@wetlands-preserve.org

NORTH CAROLINA

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croatanef@ziplip.com

Katúah EF!

POB 1485, Asheville, NC 28802

(828) 225-0814

katuah@buncomb.main.nc.us

Mountain Eco-Collective

Warren Wilson College, CPO Box #6238,

POB 9000, Asheville, NC 28815

Rustic Revolt

112 Barricuda St, Moyock, NC 27958

(252) 662-2878

Uwharrie Earth First!

4433 ELG Road, Efland, NC 27243

bison12@wildmail.com

NORTH DAKOTA

Unci Maka Uonihanpo (Honor

Mother Earth)

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treeeyes@westriv.com

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Hock-Hocking EF!

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(740) 592-2581; shaman2b@frognet.net

Lake Erie EF!
2233 Parkwood, Toledo, OH 43620
POPLAR

POB 571, Athens, OH 45701
poplar@ecologyfund.net
OREGON

Blue Mtns. Biodiversity Project/
End Corporate Dominance Project
HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830

Cascadia Forest Alliance
POB 4946, Portland, OR 97208
(503) 241-4879; cfa@spiritone.com

Cascadia Forest Defenders
POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440
(541) 684-8977; forestdefenders@tao.ca
Kalmiopsis EF!

POB 2093, Cave Junction, OR 97523
(541) 592-3386; lukas@cadsnet.net

Mazama Forest Defense
1257 Siskiyou Blvd 1158, Ashland, OR
97520

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Antoinette Dwinga

POB 495, Carnegie, PA 15106

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Katúah EF!/Roadkill Faction
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Wild Tennessee EF!

WildTennessee@aol.com

TEXAS

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POB 820872, Dallas, TX 75382

EF! Austin
2900 Lafayette St, Austin, TX 78722
(512) 478-7666

East Texas EF!
Rt 1 Box 2120, Point Blank, TX 77364

Houston EF!
PO Box 66282 Houston, TX 77006

UTAH

Wild Wasatch Front
864 W 700 St, Brigham City, UT 84302

VERMONT

Biodiversity Liberation Front
POB 57, Burlington, VT 05402

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Direct Action Network
POB 95113, Seattle, WA 98145

Olympia EF!/Cascadia Defense Network
POB 11426, Olympia, WA 98508

Seattle EF!
POB 95113, Seattle, WA 98145
(206) 568-7110; sea-ef@scn.org

Shuksan Direct Action
POB 1327, Bellingham, WA 98227
shuksandirect@hotmail.com

WISCONSIN

Liberated Zone Infoshop
308 Nelson Hall-UWSP, Stevens Point, WI
54481

Madison EF!
POB 1042, Madison, WI 53703
(608) 262-9036

WYOMING

Teewinot EF!
POB 1588, Wilson, WY 83014
(307) 690-6961; teewinotef@wildrockies.org

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Car Busters

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*More than 30 Earth First! and radical ecological
direct action groups exist in the "United Kingdom."
There are also a number of other anarchist/revolu-
tionary groups and projects. For a list or for general
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environmentalrescue@yahoo.co.uk

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In Defense of the Earth

Towarzystwo Ekologiczne,
"W Obronieziemi" Dominika Baryla,
ul. Limanowskiego 138/42 91-038, Lodz
48-42-653-38-16; goral@tewoz.most.org.pl

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Rainbow Keepers

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Earth Action!

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Green Korea United

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Younji-Dong, Jongro-Gu, Seoul

82-2-747-8500; greenkorea@greenkorea.org

SPAIN

Environmental Workshop

IES Xelmirez I, 15701 Santiago

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Morgan Larsson

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Rainbow Keepers (five local groups)

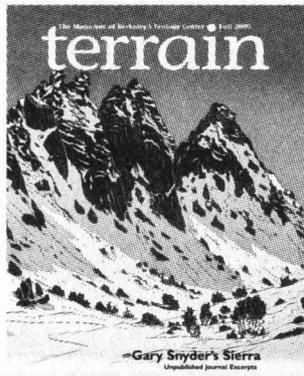
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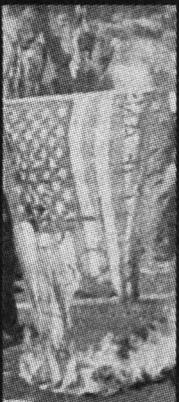
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WTO Biotech in Sacramento

Mobilizing for Food, Forests, Land and Freedom!

BY LULA

From June 23-25, the World Trade Organization (WTO) will be stopping in Sacramento, California, on the way to its summit meeting in Cancun, Mexico. During the Sacramento Ministerial Conference and Expo on Agricultural Science and Technology, US Secretary of Agriculture and former Monsanto attorney, Ann Veneman, will highlight the importance of chemicals, irradiation and biotechnology in the global food supply.

Trade, agriculture, science, technology, environment and health ministers from all the member nations of the WTO, as well as US congresspeople and industry experts are invited to attend the exclusive Sacramento event. In response, a call to action is being sounded for people from the US to converge on Sacramento. Disrupting the meeting is a strategic move for a democratic and ecologically sound future.

Biotech and food companies are currently peddling wares like biopharmaceuticals (plants with drugs engineered into their genetic makeup), irradiated food and genetically engineered (GE) trees, fish and wheat. These corporations will have the opportunity to book meetings with key trade and agriculture officials. Industry professionals will be showcasing their services and products at the Technology Expo, which will run concurrent with the conference.

In the past, the WTO has held "mini-ministerials" during the months leading up to the main ministerial summits. This pattern is now repeating itself before the fifth WTO ministerial in Cancun this September (see *EF!* March-April 2003). The mini-ministerials use an exclusive and non-transparent process to set the agenda for the main WTO meetings, thus giving corporations and countries from the global North the upperhand.

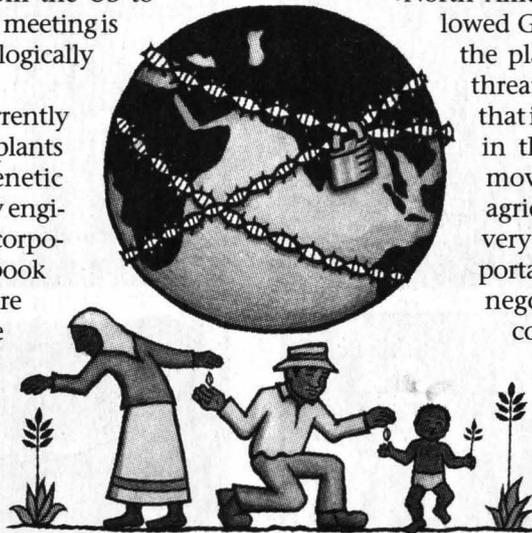
Although the Sacramento meeting is not being touted as an official mini-ministerial, its purpose is clearly aligned with the agenda of the WTO Cancun meetings. Agricultural trade liberalization under the Agreement on Agriculture has become one of the most contentious issues of the WTO. US and European Union agriculture subsidies are distorting the market and flooding developing countries with cheap food that competes with locally grown crops. The internal discord within the WTO over these subsidies, as well as negligent regulations regarding GE crops, could be the linchpin to derailing the whole WTO process.

The Agreement on Agriculture is understood by many movements in the global South as one of the most egregious elements of the WTO because it impacts decisions on workers, land, water use, food and forests. Industrial timber harvesting, pesticide spraying, cash-crop export models of food production and genetic engineering have had enormous negative

consequences on poor people and the Earth. Industrial agriculture is riddled with mythologies that misdiagnose the world hunger problem as being an issue of quantity rather than distribution. The process of industrial agriculture is claimed to be cheap and healthy, when in fact it is heavily subsidized and broadly undertested. The plague of pesticides is now compounded by GE crops and the corporate ownership of patents on life forms, which are proliferating via free trade and US aid.

The African nations of Mozambique and Zambia recently refused US food aid because the grain could not be guaranteed to be GE-free. This comes after traditional strains of maize in southern Mexico were found to be contaminated with GE corn last year. Mexico is the global center of maize diversity, where it has been cultivated for millennia. Now, because the

North American Free Trade Agreement has allowed GE corn from the US to flood Mexico, the planet's wellspring of corn varieties is threatened by GE contamination. All corn that is grown in Mexico is now unfit for sale in the EU, due to the strong European movement against GE crops. It is clear that agricultural issues have put the WTO on very shaky ground. One of the most important deadlines in global agriculture trade negotiations passed in March without coming to an agreement. Leading negotiators admitted frustration and suggested that the missed deadline could disrupt the WTO Cancun agenda.

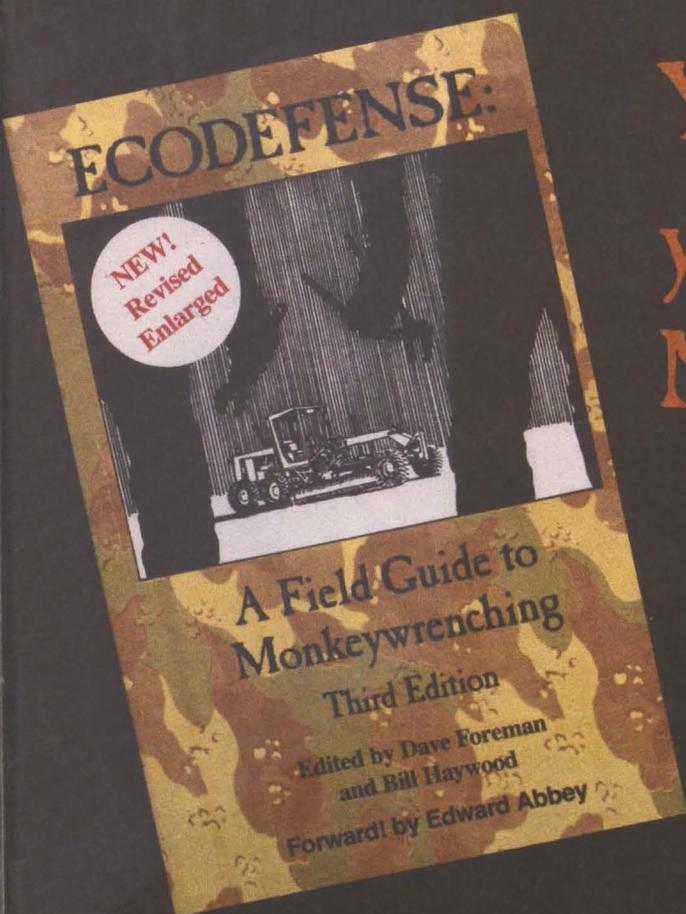
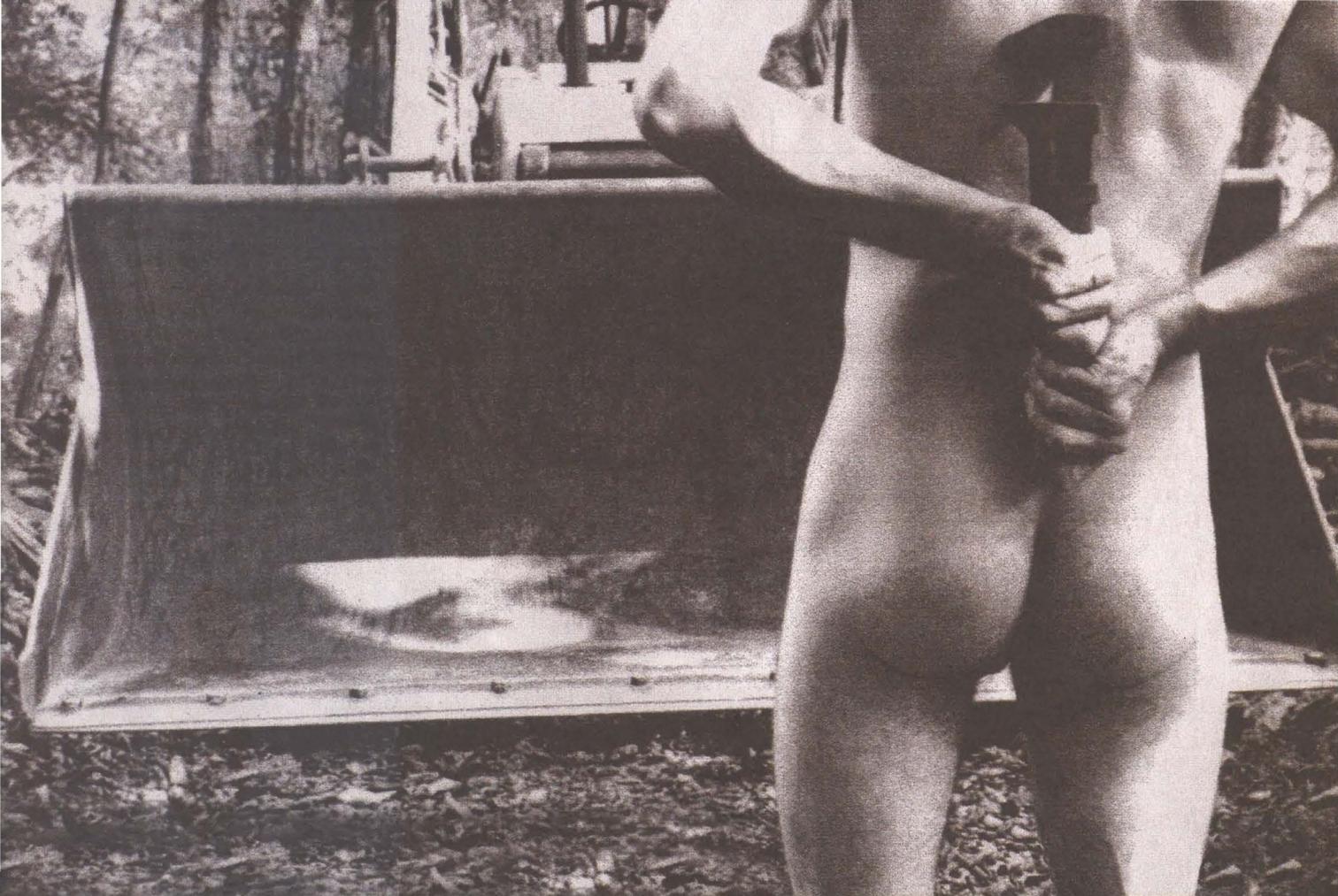


Blocking the Road to WTO Cancun

The Sacramento ministerial is a strategic opportunity for social and environmental movements to stop trade liberalization and new trade agreements from being implemented, such as the Central American Free Trade Agreement and the Free Trade Area of the Americas. While mass protest and mobilization will surely manifest in Cancun, it is important to remember that WTO Cancun is not an isolated target. Points of power and influence—such as the Sacramento meeting—must be identified leading up to the Cancun ministerial and beyond. In Sacramento, we can confront the policymakers. A strong presence of resistance will have enormous repercussions on all trade agreements.

As I write this, small-scale organic farmers, parents, students, elders, local business people and peace activists are planning to take to the streets during the Sacramento ministerial. Come join us! For more information, check out www.biodev.org; www.fas.usda.gov/icd/stconf/conf_main.htm. For protest details, tune into West Coast Independent Media Centers, www.sf.indymedia.org; www.portland.indymedia.org; www.rogueimc.org.

Lula is a concerned and active resident of Cascadia. She was recently in southern Mexico at a time when a campesino union busted down the doors of the Mexican Congress on horseback, burning sombreros in protest of new NAFTA regulations.



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2. Cut the stencil out. The key to doing this well is practice. Make a trial print on paper.

3. Wear clothes that don't stand out and that have big pockets to hold a can of paint.

4. Next you need something to carry your stencil in: a folded up newspaper, pizza box, bag, etc.

5. Early evening and late at night are good times to work. Most likely, by the time anyone figures out what you are doing, you'll be gone. Don't stay on the same street for too long.

6. Have a partner be on the lookout for cops. A boy/girl pair can be good cuz you can look like an innocent couple.

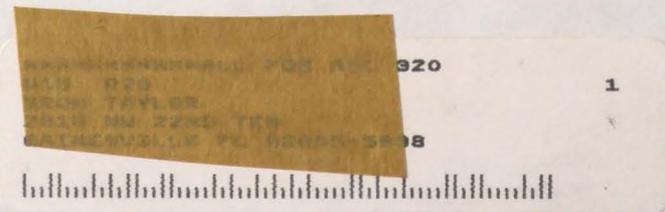
7. The most important guideline is to start out small. Stick to sidestreet before stenciling on office buildings. Go for it!



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