EARTH FIRST!

BELTANE EDITION

May 1, 1986 Vol. VI, No. V

THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL TWO DOLLARS

Earth First! Proposes 16 Million Acres of Wilderness for Utah BLM

The State of Utah contains one of the most enthralling displays of primitive landscapes on Earth. Although Utah has a relatively large percentage of its federal land in National Parks and National Forests, much of the most spectacular, biotically important, and pristine wilderness is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). And in few other places in the United States is so much wildness under attack.

Earth First! has focused on the wild and threatened BLM lands of Utah on several occasions. The BLM's wilderness review process is now coming to a climax and your input in strong support of a *visionary* Wilderness preservation plan is essential. The Utah Wilderness Alliance is recommending that 3.8 million acres of BLM lands in Utah be recommended to Congress for Wilderness designation. They say that their proposal is a pragmatic, politically feasible and defensible one. In other words, they have made many compromises already. The Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, Southern Utah Wilderness Association and other groups are proposing that 5 million acres of BLM land be designated as Wilderness. This proposal is good as *far as it goes*, but is still mired in the desire to appear "credible," to play the Wilderness game by the rules established by the BLM (actually by Exxon, the San Juan County Commission, the livestock industry, and off-road-vehicle dolts). There is little vision in this proposal as well.

But the vision is there. In the land. The redrock canyons, stone arches, hanging gardens of delight, restful copses of cottonwoods beside desert pools, vast empty silence-filled basins and ranges, and thundering rivers have all the magic, all the dreams one could ever desire. They deserve better than business as usual, better than acquiescence in the legitimization of roads that never should have been built, better than collaboration with the storm troopers of industrial tyranny. It is time that we as conservationists reached back to the mythic figures of modern conservation — Bob Marshall and Aldo Leopold — who proposed a 9 million acre Wilderness National Park in southern Utah in 1938. It is time we respond to the BLM's wilderness review not with carefully crafted political pragmatism, but with the love and pain this surrealistic landscape inflicts in our eyes, hearts, and feet. With the sorrow and passion found in the writings of Edward Abbey.

We have tried to devise a visionary Wilderness proposal for the BLM lands of Utah. We are sending it to BLM and we urge you to write in support of it to BLM. After BLM issues its final Wilderness recommendation, the Utah Congressional Delegation, with all the wisdom, thoughtfulness and judgment of a Sherman tank, will begin jerking an entirely inadequate bill through Congress. At that time, the EF! proposal should be complete and we will need to organize strong suppport for it in letters to Congress and through other actions. Stay tuned. The battle for Utah should be as hard-fought as that for the Alaska Lands Bill.

A list of areas and acreages in the Earth First! proposal follows, but several of the areas deserve highlighting.

*ESCALANTE — We propose a 3,000,000 acre Wilderness in *one* unit here, including the Henry Mountains, Waterpocket Fold, Circle Cliffs, Escalante Canyons, Kaiparowits Plateau, Smoky Mountain, Wahweap Canyon, upper Paria River, and Pink Cliffs. In addition to BLM land, this internationally significant Wilderness proposal includes portions of Capitol Reef National Park, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Bryce Canyon National Park, and the Dixie National Forest. Roads to be closed include the Burr Trail and the Hole in the Rock road.



Somewhere in the Escalante. Photo by Dave Foreman.

* DEATH HOLLOW/AQUARIUS PLATEAU — This 750,000 acre Wilderness is primarily made up of Dixie National Forest land including Boulder Mountain and the lake-studded subalpine Aquarius Plateau, as well as BLM's Phipps/Death Hollow WSA. It includes a small already-designated Wilderness Area.

* WESTERN DESERT — We propose several large areas in Utah's Great Basin which will require the closure of a variety of dirt roads. Too often conservationists give short shrift to the austere empty spaces of western Utah. Outstanding huge Wildernesses can be designated here.

* CANYONLANDS — This extraordinary area of 2,500,000 acres includes Canyonlands National Park and portions of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, and the Manti-LaSal National Forest (including a small Dark Canyon Wilderness Area). Features are the Dirty Devil River, the Maze, the Needles, Cataract Canyon, Dark Can-

continued on page 4

Earth First! Recovery Plan for the Grizzly

"The real value of this battle to save the grizzly isn't so much to save the bear. Because if we're going to succeed, we're not going to do it by changing the bear to meet our needs. For the first time in our relatively short human history we're going to have to bend to accomodate the animal. That's good news for mankind. I think the attitude that will facilitate preservation of the grizzly is basically one that comes from the model of the natural world, a model based on tolerance, humility, and a reverence for life." (Doug Peacock, from an interview to be published in *Defenders*.)

In January of 1986, some fifteen Earth First!ers, including sympathetic wildlife biologists, met in the southern Bitterroot Valley to develop a comprehensive Earth First! Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan. Following is an outline of that draft proposal. Your comments are eagerly solicited before we refine this proposal. After finalizing the proposal, it will be published with maps and photographs as a special four-page insert to *Earth First!*. At least ten thousand extra copies of the tabloid will be printed for further distribution. In addition to the presentation of a comprehensive recovery proposal, Earth First! will undertake a coordinated education/legal/direct action campaign to stop the destruction of GRIZ where currently present and to reintroduce GRIZ where currently extirpated. Send your comments on this proposal, notice of your interest in assisting the EF! Grizzly Bear Task Force in any way, and your urgently needed contributions to: Earth First! Grizzly Bear Task Force, POB 7572, Missoula, MT 59807.



Photo by Doug Peacock.

Grizzly Bears are declining in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and the Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear Ecosystem, all but extirpated in several other ecosystems, and totally absent in many other undeveloped regions. The Earth First! Grizzly Bear Task Force recommends the following comprehensive recovery plan:

Two major ecosystems and potential recovery areas

1. Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem
2. Glacier/Bob Marshall Ecosystem (Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear Ecosystem)
3. Potential reintroduction areas

The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan

1. Grizzly Bears are an endangered species in the lower 48 states and will be re-classified from a Threatened species to an Endangered species.

2. Road Closures.

a) Fishing Bridge to Canyon — closed and rehabilitated.

b) Ashton, Idaho, to Flagg Ranch — closed and rehabilitated.

c) Tower Junction to Norris Junction — closed and rehabilitated.

d) Outside the Park only main arterials will remain open for access. All local and collector roads will be closed.

3. Transportation.

a) Complete prohibition of all private vehicles within the Park.

b) Non-polluting mass transit (free shuttle bus system like that in Denali National Park in Alaska) — funds provided by contracts between the Park Service and Park concessionaires.

c) All off-road vehicle (ORV) use — including snowmobiles — within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem will be prohibited.

d) Foot travel only in the Park's backcountry — *no horses*.

4. Elimination and removal of facilities and structures.

a) Removal of Fishing Bridge, Grant Village, and the Jackson Dam (natural water level restored) and rehabilitation of the sites.

b) Ban on construction of any new facilities. The only overnight facilities within the Park will be the Old Faithful Inn and Roosevelt Lodge.

5. Complete protection, including formal Wilderness designation, of all Forest Service, BLM, and Park Service roadless lands within the Yellowstone Ecosystem.

a) Elimination of all sheep grazing allotments within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

continued on page 4

EARTH FIRST!



NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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POB 5871 * TUCSON, ARIZONA 85703 * (602)622-1371

Around the Campfire



By the time you read this, I will be happily sauntering along the trails, canyons and ridges of the Blue Range Primitive Area in Arizona on a ten-day-long walk. I hope you're planning to hit the trail for a long visit back home to the Big Outside this summer. Step outside right now, look at the sky, a flower, a tree — anything not concrete or plastic — and ask yourself if there is any valid reason not to go home in the next couple of months and listen to what the aspens or bear tracks have to say. Howie can't get out of his cage for three months. You can.

I've had an inspiring first four months of 1986 — some 20 speeches from Seattle to Pennsylvania, East Texas to San Diego, addressing everything from wealthy prep schools and the Tucson Rotary Club to the California State Park Rangers Convention and Friends of the River. It did my heart good to hear all those howls out there.

We've certainly gathered up the media coverage the last several months, too. NBC did four-and-a-half minutes on Earth First! on the Nightly News this spring and followed that up the next week with a debate between me and Montana Congressman Pat Williams on the Today Show hosted by Jane Pauley. The ABC affiliate in Phoenix did a four-part series on Earth First! as well. Despite an emphasis on the wild and woolly aspects of Earth First! (ie, monkeywrenching), I thought we received relatively fair and balanced coverage (certainly better than the hatchet job *The Wall Street Journal* did last winter — but then think of all the nightmares that article caused guilt-ridden Freddies).

Of course the media likes to focus on monkeywrenching more than on the less-sensational side of Earth First!. It's up to us — the active participants of Earth First! groups, and writers for this newspaper — to continue to emphasize the equally-important but less spine-tingling part of our broad movement. Two of the best individuals in Earth First! at doing this are George Wuerthner and Reed Noss. The clearest vision and finest practical & theoretical creativity in the environmental movement is in the pages of *Earth First!* and is frequently penned by these two ecological scientists. George and Reed are responsible for two of the most important articles ever presented in these pages which we are proud to present this issue — a grand design for a great ecosystem preserve where the Rockies meet the Plains in Montana, and an equally grand design to recreate a vast forest wilderness in the heart of the deciduous forest biome in the Ohio Valley. Speaking of big wilderness, the most important wilderness issue of the year may be the BLM's draft proposal for Utah Wilderness. If you write only one letter this year on natural diversity, make it to BLM in support of the Earth First! 16 million acre Utah Wilderness proposal. See the article in this issue for details.

Two other essays well worth digesting in this issue are by the controversial and provocative Tom Stoddard, and by the brilliant author of *The Parable of the Tribes*, Andrew Bard Schmookler. Stoddard challenges the sacred cows of bleeding-heart humanists as he discusses the famine in Ethiopia. Schmookler challenges a sacred cow of many Earth First!ers in questioning whether anarchy is a worthy goal.

But let's not completely forget the lurid aspects of Earth First!. Howie Wolke continues to pace the floor of his cage in the Sublette County Jail like a captured California Grizzly waiting to fight a dozen bulls in an afternoon. Unfortunately for Howie, that afternoon will be a long time coming. The cocky little justice of the peace who sent Howie to the box for six months for pulling up survey stakes has grandly announced that he will not be swayed by the many letters calling for Howie's early release. By the time you read this, however, Howie will have done over half of his sentence. From all reports, he is holding up well. He asked me to thank all of you who have written him and to aplogize that he doesn't have time to answer all of your letters if he's to finish his book while in the Sublette Gulag.

Like the cowboys who roped California Grizzlies, the little JP from Pinedale obviously enjoyed corralling something bigger and better than him. That is why he waited seven months (Howie was arrested in June last year) to sentence him this February. He knew that spring was a crucial time for Howie to drum up business for his guide service, and that summer was the time for Howie to lead trips. Although Howie's friends have pitched in with remarkable dedication to hold the office down and do a professional and sensitive job of guiding Wild Horizons Expeditions, Howie's business has been severely injured by his sentence.

You can do two things to help Howie out at this difficult time and to show support for the defense of the wild. One is to buy a "Free Howie" t-shirt for $10 from us in Tucson. See our editorial cartoon this issue for the outstanding art work on the shirt done as a contribution to Howie by wilderness artist Lone Wolf Circles. (Be sure to tell us what size you want.) All proceeds go to the Howie Wolke Legal Defense Fund to help pay his legal bills. But even more importantly, do yourself a big favor, too. Take a vacation with Wild Horizons Expeditions in the stunning wilderness of the Northern Rockies this summer. Write WHE, Box 2348, Jackson, WY 83001 or call (307)733-5343 for a free brochure. It will be a big help to Howie and it will be one of the best weeks you'll ever experience. After August 11, Howie will be back to leading the trips but until then the very capable Larry Campbell or Gary Steele will be acting as guides.

See you at the Round River Rendezvous!

—Dave Foreman



FREE HOWIE

Art work from "Free Howie" t-shirt by Lone Wolf Circles.

SCHEDULE

***Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (June 21 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date: October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1. The newspaper is mailed Third Class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for $10 extra a year. Airmail delivery overseas is available for $20 a year extra.**

USUAL DISGUSTING PLEA FOR MONEY

The Earth First! movement runs on your financial support. We don't need as much as other groups since we are grassroots, volunteer, decentralized and have low overhead. Moreover, you get to select where your hard-earned money goes. Don't send your contributions to this newspaper, send it directly to one of these hard working groups:

***Earth First! Foundation, POB 86, Moab, UT 84532**
(contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible)
***Colorado Earth First!, POB 1166, Boulder, CO 80306**
***Howie Wolke Legal Defense Fund, Box 7058, Jackson, WY 83001**
***Arizona Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703**
***Montana Earth First!, Rt. 1, Box 44K, St. Ignatius, MT 59865**
***Texas Earth First!, POB 7292, University Station, Austin, TX 78713**
***Oregon Earth First!, POB 605, Joseph, OR 97846**
***EF! Grizzly Bear Task Force, POB 7572, Missoula, MT 59807**
***Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**

This fundraising appeal is placed as a service to the Earth First! movement. ***THANK YOU for your support!***

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Beltane Edition
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Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is published by Ned Ludd Publications and is an independent publication within the broad Earth First! movement. It is not the "official" newsletter of the Earth First! movement. Entire contents are copyrighted 1986, but we are pleased to allow reprinting if credit is given, except for those articles, art and photos specifically copyrighted by the author, artist or photographer. *Earth First!* is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this newspaper, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Due to our tight budget, no payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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Roger Featherstone, Special Projects
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Contributing Artists: Canyon Frog, Helen Wilson, Jim Stiles, John Zaelit, Karen Tanner, Mike Roselle, B. von Alten, T.O. Hellenbach, Lone Wolf Circles, Mad Jack, Bill Turk.

Contributing Photographers: David Cross, George Wuerthner, Howie Wolke, Ed Berger, Doug Peacock, Scott Smith.

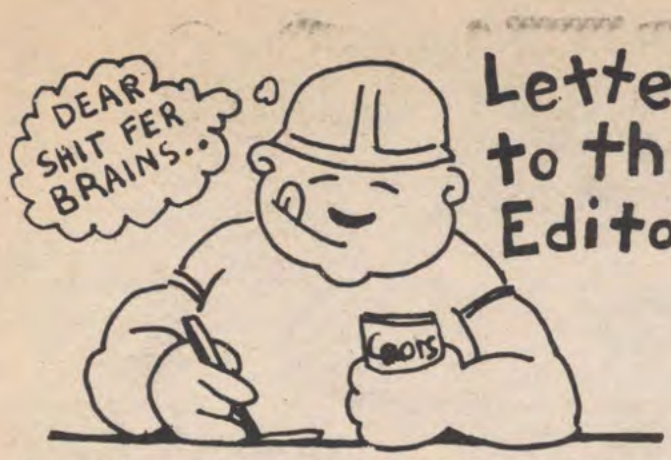
Mailing: Tucson Earth First! Group

ADDRESSES

POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 (602)622-1371: Letters to the Editor, Manuscripts, Art, Photographs, etc. for *Earth First!*; Subscriptions, Changes of Address, Inquiries; Merchandise Orders; Clippings; General Correspondence.

POB 1008, Telluride, CO 81435 (303)728-4301: Poetry, Correspondence with Art Goodtimes.

Please send any newspaper clippings mentioning Earth First! or dealing with subjects of interests to us at POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703. Clippings about monkeywrenching of any kind would also be appreciated. Thank you!



Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Dear SFB,

I am troubled by Reed Noss' letter in the Eostar edition. If Mr. Baker is a jerk, as Mr/Ms Noss implies, and a big enough one to want to pay for advertising in this newsletter, then let him! The movement needs the money. More importantly, I doubt the validity of any cause which is not willing to recognize opposing views. Ideas which may not be in complete accord with our own may strengthen us by helping us cement our own views and be prepared for arguments offered by others. And if Noss does not feel the plight of laboratory animals is important, then I suggest he/she volunteer for lab tests, as the results of poisons placed in his/her eyes would be much more accurate than those obtained from a rabbit's. I'd like to hear what he/she has to say about these cruelties after that. I am tired of the elitist attitude subscribed to by so-called "deep ecologists." They believe in the rights of other life forms only when THEY decide it is important. ALL these issues are important, including the unnecessary cruelties perpetrated by the money-hungry drug and cosmetic industries.

Lastly, Noss' letter smacks of something which I greatly fear, the devil called "CENSORSHIP." If Noss wants to see only those writings which agree with his view, then I think perhaps he would be better satisfied in subscribing to a newsletter published by Ronald Reagan, as he seems to hold the same view of what the public has the right to read and hear. In the words of Voltaire, "I may not agree with what a man says, but I will defend to the death his right to say it." Ditto myself.

—Wintry Sylvan

Editor's reply: We try to operate this newspaper as an open forum for the Earth First!/Deep Ecology movement and welcome a wide variety of viewpoints. We are very successful in receiving that wide variety — so successful that our most difficult chore is winnowing down the material we receive to what can fit into our 36 pages eight times a year. Space given to off-the-wall or non-Deep Ecological views takes space away from the more important material we receive. As editor, it's my final responsibility to select what is printed and what is not. Ron Baker has already been given a great deal of space in these pages to present views which many of us feel do not fit within the broad parameters of Deep Ecology. Instead of continuing to offer his "nature is not perfect" hogwash, I'd much rather make that space available to people who are clearly within the Earth First! camp, regardless of whether I agree with them or not. - DF

Greetings,

While flipping through the channels on my aged TV the other morning, I came upon the familiar face of none other than Dave Foreman. After my partner assured me it wasn't just another acid flashback, I watched a short but worthwhile encounter between Foreman, a representative from Montana (Pat Williams) and Jane Pauley. My first reaction was one of outrage but I soon calmed down and thought . . . what the hell! National exposure of the EF! reason for being. Dave was cheerful and looked out of place in studio 3-B with coat & tie, but pulled it off without a hitch. He clearly stated the reason EF! exists and why we as individuals need to act on what we feel justified to do. He stressed non-violence and safety and I think even Ms. Pauley understood.

Well gang, keep up the good work. Sure hope other aging hippies plus just plain folks caught the show. Mother Earth needs any way to help to get back in balance.

-PP

Dear Dave,

The article by Diogenes in the latest issue entitled "Hierarchy and Grassroots Collide in Sierra Club" upset me greatly. Not only were the facts wrong, but also the impression was given that chapter activists supported the efforts of Dave Brower and associates to make the Club a single issue organization. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Most small chapter activists are dismayed that any faction would attempt to take over the Club and dilute conservation efforts. For example, even one-fourth of the money the Club has spent to defend itself against the suit brought by Brower and Company (later abandoned) would do a great deal to help us achieve a good Nevada wilderness bill. I have always thought of our enemies as being the exploiters — greedy mining and lumber companies — not our fellow conservationists. When we resort to fighting among ourselves, our whole conservation movement is weakened.

Unfortunately, EF! has not seen fit to help with many of the real grassroots campaigns — for example, the Nevada wilderness fight. It is the "establishment" organizations — Sierra Club, Audubon Society, and Wilderness Society — that have donated money and worked openly for wilderness. We do not find it necessary to hide behind false names nor attack our fellow conservationists. We are too busy working on what we believe is important.

Nevertheless, I am sending you my renewal check. It is important to keep track of what EF! is saying and doing, even if you ignore some of the real issues and sometimes abandon truth for sensationalism.

—Marjorie Sill (not a pseudonym)

Editor's reply: As a long time Sierra Club member, I probably would not vote to give peace issues priority for funds within the Sierra Club (other relatively well-funded groups are working on these issues, and someone needs to prioritize natural diversity issues such as the Sierra Club is doing), but I am distressed with the heavy-handed efforts of the Club heirarchy to stifle dissent and discussion within the Club. We would be very pleased to run an article of factual reply to Diogenes' article if a Sierran opposed to funding peace efforts wished to write it. But pretending there is no dissent in the Club is not going to make it disappear.

As far as being involved in the Nevada Wilderness Bill, come on Marjorie, what do you expect us to do? Occupy Vucanobitch's office? There are no real EF! activists in Nevada (and damn few subscribers, for that matter). We're a very small grassroots movement (the Sierra Club has over 250 times the budget we have). We aren't going to barge into Nevada and do something unless we have a grassroots base. We are active — and effective — where we have a grassroots structure. Nonetheless, I daresay that our articles on Nevada Wilderness and other Nevada issues in these pages have encouraged letter writing from non-Nevadans in support of Wilderness in that state. If the national environmental groups were the least bit serious about Nevada Wilderness, they would hire an experienced grassroots organizer who can work with rural people to go into Nevada and help build a broadbased wilderness movement that is lacking more in Nevada than in any other western state. - DF

Dear Dave

The problem of grazing on public lands is not confined to BLM and USFS lands. Included in your important article (Brigid edition) about public subsidies in the West was a rather cavalier suggestion that we let the welfare recipients continue to run their cows on their state lands leases. There are state lands that deserve to be free from cows and sheep, too! I call your attention to grazing permitted on state park system lands and the familiar outrages of subsidy, plant and wildlife destruction. The public needs to know about impacts on state lands, as well.

Please don't toss state lands to the hungry jaws of domesticated critters, or consider state public lands as any less important than the more extensive federal lands which are devastated by private grazing exploitation.

—S.L.

Editor's reply: I'm sorry! -DF

Greetings,

It is heartening to see more coverage of Native American issues in the journal. However, the piece by David Seals ("The Gourd of Ashes," Eostar edition), presents a dangerously distorted picture of the situation at Big Mountain, Arizona. Mr. Seals talks about the Navajo elders "taking potshots at FBI helicopters and Peabody coal pickups . . . " He later states, "They're fingering their deer rifles and scrounging all the .22 shells they can find. It's a tremendously emotional and potentially volatile issue that everyone, on both sides, expects to turn into violence."

The most consistent message that Navago elders at Big Mountain have presented in their struggle for their land is that they are a non-violent people; by planning for violence, they say, you beget violence. They have indicated that they will defend their land at all costs, but theirs is a peaceful path. Seals claims they no longer hope to "work through lawyers and petition our elected representatives," but the elders have stated, "Congress created the law; Congress can repeal it."

By presenting a picture of Big Mountain as an armed camp, Seals is providing Barry Goldwater the justification he wants to send in the National Guard and Federal Marshalls. This portrayal might be expected in mainstream media, especially in coming months leading to the relocation deadline; but it is inaccurate, dangerous, and a distortion of the Dineh way.

Repeal 93-531

—Eric Holle (Big Mountain Support Group, Boulder, CO)

Dear SFB,

One way to get EF!'s message out to more people is by taking advantage of local library systems. Community libraries are happy to plunk down $15 for a subscription; simply tell them *Earth First!* is a conservation journal, just like *Audubon* magazine! This is a tree-efficient, cost-efficient way to spread the seeds of Deep Ecology consciousness across the country.

—Running Wolf, a suburban warrior in Long Island, NY

Dear Friends,

Nearly 50% of the land area of the 11 western states is jointly owned by all Americans, and virtually all of it that can be grazed is grazed every year by private ranchers. Yet, these lands produce only 2% of the nation's beef. About 31,000 private ranchers, subsidized by your taxes, graze their cattle on your land for personal profit. They pay $1.35 a month to graze a cow and a calf — only 35% of the cost of managing grazing on public lands and only 20% of the cost of comparable grazing on private lands. Many ranchers resell public grazing rights for as much as $12 [per AUM] and pocket the profit. But the real costs of this tax-supported boondoggle are overgrazing, destruction of native vegetation, massive soil erosion, depletion and contamination of streams, drastic reduction of wildlife and wildlife habitat, extinction of large predators and endangered species, reduced access and enjoyment of our public lands, and much more. For personal profit, these welfare ranchers are ravaging public rangelands, forests and even wildlife refuges.

Ranchers seized political clout in the early West and have not relinquished it. Today, a handful of western ranchers hold the public lands in their grasp and defy all public interests in those lands. Every effort toward moderation has failed. It is time for us to reclaim our rightful heritage and boot the welfare ranchers off our public land.

If you are tired of being a second-class citizen, 1. stop eating beef for one year, and 2. send copies of this letter to five or more friends. By hitting all cattle ranchers in the pocketbook, we hope the 95% who do not graze public lands will withdraw support from the 5% who do. Eventually, beef from public lands must be labeled at the marketplace. Consumers must be given a choice between private and publicly subsidized beef.

A personal commitment to avoid eating beef is not much of a sacrifice. Already, concerns for health have led many Americans to stop or reduce red meat consumption. Market demand is low and dropping. Still, we are a nation of meat gluttons, our blood vessels are clogged with cholesterol, and we have made the coronary bypass the number one surgical procedure in the US.

Today, physicians limit the use of antibiotics in fear of creating resistant diseases, yet ranchers pump antibiotics into cattle and into us via the burger. Pesticide residues and other toxic chemicals concentrate in beef fat. Ralph Nader warns us that meat inspection is a disgrace, and that the beef industry risks consumer safety as a matter of course.

Stop eating beef and spread the word!

—Nancy and Denzel Ferguson

Editor's note: Nancy and Denzel Ferguson are the authors of Sacred Cows At The Public Trough.

Dear Dave Foreman,

I want to become involved with the Earth First! movement. I learned of EF! the summer before last when my family joined friends in Eugene to stop log trucks at Middle Santiam. Our friends went to jail, but we opted against it, having children along and knowing of the brutality by the police on the previous confrontation. How impressive was the devotion of these Earth First! people! Now we are battling the Forest Service at home in Indiana. The Hoosier National Forest will soon be assaulted by clearcutters and ORVs unless we can get the FS to amend their ForePlan. Nearly all land owners in the area oppose the plan. Testimony has been given by professionals including ex-FS managers, but sound and economical forestry practices get in the way of special interests. Organizations in the Bloomington area are trying to defeat the plan on the legal level, but we are in a poor area, and find it hard to raise cash to fight legally.

We also are not wealthy, living on part-time employment from farm labor, waitressing, teaching, etc. We live in a non-electric log cabin. We recycle and raise our food and home school our home-birthed children. We consider the environment the number one concern. What you have said about Deep Ecology and anthropocentrism seems so self-evident to us, yet seems such a difficult concept for people we talk to. As you say, all the major religions promote the concept of Man first, except "primitive" religions like some Native American ones.

—Dave Ort

Dear SFB,

I am sorrry this is another letter without a check. I know you hear all sorts of excuses, but believe me, we are broke. Poverty stricken is more the definition of our financial situation. In fact we are so broke we had to eat two of my pet ducks last week, so the kids had meat. If you knew me, you would know that was very painful!

Please continue to send me the journal. You all at EF! have really helped me understand a lot about ecology. Can't thank you enough.

—GB (northern Wisconsin)

continued on page 6



Utah's Great Basin wilderness. Photo by Dave Foreman.

UTAH BLM Wilderness (continued)

yon, Labyrinth and Stillwater Canyons on the Green, the Island in the Sky, and the San Rafael Desert. Roads to the Needles, Grandview Point, and Mineral Bottom will remain as corridors. Power boats will be banned from the Colorado and Green Rivers.

* SAN RAFAEL SWELL — Two units of 1,000,000 and 700,000 acres are divided by I-70. The larger southern unit includes a portion of Capitol Reef National Park, and Thousand Lake Mountain on the Manti-LaSal National Forest.

* ARCHES — This 200,000 acre unit includes Arches National Park (with several road corridors) and the surrounding BLM land.

* DESOLATION CANYON — This extremely diverse area of 2,200,000 acres includes Desolation Canyon on the Green River, the Book Cliffs, and the Roan Plateau. The roadless portion of the Uintah Indian Reservation is included. There is adjacent land in Colorado as well.

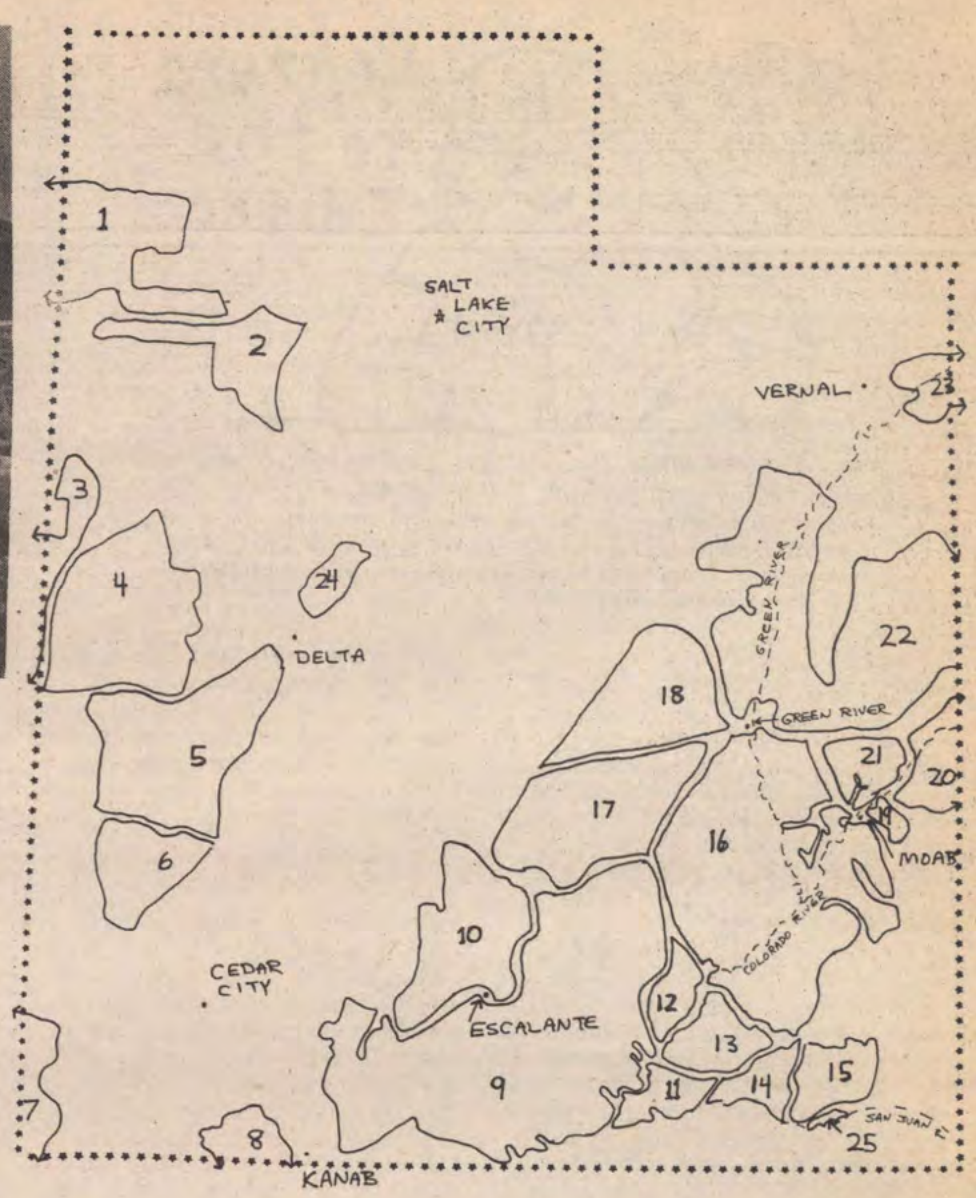
* GREAT SALT LAKE DESERT — One of the BLM's largest roadless areas has been virtually ignored by BLM and conservationists alike because it is "boring" salt flats. Earth First! doesn't think so (in fact our infamous picture in *Outside* was taken here). We propose two Wilderness units here divided by I-80. If, however, the salt flats become Bonneville Lake and close the Interstate, then this should be one Wilderness.

The total Earth First! Utah BLM Wilderness Proposal is approximately 16,000,000 acres, including about 2,500,000 acres of Forest Service, National Park, state, and private lands. All roads should be closed in each unit and other developments removed. The grazing of commerical livestock should be eliminated. Private and state lands should be acquired by the BLM. All areas should be withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the mineral laws.

EARTH FIRST! UTAH BLM WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

1. North Salt Lake Desert* 600,000 acres
2. South Salt Lake Desert* 440,000
3. Deep Creek Range* 200,000
4. House Range 1,000,000
5. Sevier Lake/King Top 1,000,000
6. Wah Wah Mountains South 370,000
7. Beaver Dam Wash* ** 230,000
8. Moquith Mountain* 160,000
9. Escalante 3,000,000**
10. Death Hollow/Aquarius Plateau 750,000**
11. Clay Hills 180,000**
12. Mt. Ellsworth 180,000**
13. Moki Canyon 250,000**
14. Grand Gulch 200,000**
15. Fish Creek 250,000
16. Canyonlands 2,500,000**
17. South San Rafael Swell 1,000,000**
18. North San Rafael Swell 700,000
19. Negro Bill 40,000**
20. Westwater Canyon* 230,000
21. Arches 200,000**
22. Desolation Canyon* 2,200,000
23. Dinosaur* ** 160,000
24. Little Sahara 130,000
25. San Juan River 25,000

Total: 16,000,000 acres



Acreage given only for area in Utah; additional acreage in Nevada, Arizona, or Colorado. Acreages are not exact.

****Includes some National Park Service and Forest Service lands.***

All other BLM WSAs outside of these larger complexes should also be designated as Wilderness Areas.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Your letter in support of the Earth First! 16 million acre Utah BLM Wilderness Proposal will be the *most important letter you write this year.* If you are only going to write one letter for the Earth this year, make it this one. Earth First!ers from Maine to Hawaii must make the BLM aware that there is strong support for a visionary plan to preserve and *recreate* the incomparable Canyon Country and Great Basin Wilderness of Utah.

***Write the BLM of your support for the 16 million acre Earth First! Wilderness proposal for Utah BLM lands.**

***Mention the specific Wilderness Complexes in our proposal if you have time.**

***Tell BLM why these lands are important to you.**

***If you have first-hand experience in any of these areas, tell BLM about it.**

Write to . . .
Bureau of Land Management
324 S. State, Suite 301
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2303

Send copies of your letter to your two senators and to your member of Congress (US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515). Sending copies of your letter to your Congressional delegation is very important because it is Congress that will eventually determine how much of the BLM land in Utah will be protected as Wilderness Areas.

EF! GRIZ Plan (cont)

b) Temporary closure of sensitive backcountry areas to ALL human use — public and administrative. Locations dependent on season, food supplies, etc.

c) Yellowstone Lake and Lewis Lake will be closed to motor boats.

d) Logging seasonally restricted to small post and pole, firewood sales along major arterials in non-roadless areas.

e) Complete withdrawal of all locatable or leasable mineral or energy entry.

f) Recovery of areas back to wilderness within the Yellowstone Ecosystem, including government purchase of private inholdings.

1) Targee National Forest adjacent to southwest corner of Park.
2) Mt. Leidy highlands.
3) Sunlight Basin.
4) Hebgen Lake.

6. Reintroduction of species to Yellowstone Ecosystem.

a) Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf, Mountain Lion, Beaver to Yellowstone Ecosystem.

b) Grizzly Bears to Gros Ventres, Wind River Range.

7. New liability legislation.

a) Visit-at-your-own-risk legislation.

b) Establish limits of tort liability in wild areas.

8. Acquisition of inholdings and adjacent private lands.

a) Swap off all checkerboard lands.

b) Swap, sale, or condemnation of other private inholdings and key adjacent lands.

9. Human-caused bear deaths and related topics.

a) The killing of any Grizzly, for whatever reason, is cause for felony proceedings — all agency personnel included.

b) All Black Bear hunting within the Yellowstone Ecosystem is prohibited.

c) All scientific research will be naturalistic only: no trapping, no radio collars.

d) Helicopters and aircraft must remain 15,000 feet above the terrain — aircraft will no longer be allowed to harass wildlife and disturb Wilderness Areas.

e) Lightning caused fires will be allowed to burn in the Yellowstone Ecosystem.

f) No boating on rivers and streams in the Yellowstone Ecosystem — eagles and otters and Grizzlies have rights too.

The Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear Ecosystem Recovery Plan

1. Road closures:

a) Highway 2 from Columbia Falls to East Glacier — mass transit only.

b) Going-to-the-Sun Highway, rehabilitated to dirt, open to limited numbers of horse drawn rigs.

c) Highway 83 from Swan Lake to Seeley Lake.

d) Closure of all local and collector roads in the Glacier-Bob Marshall Ecosystem.

2. Transportation.

a) Mass transit (free shuttle bus system) for Highway 2 route and the Apgar.

b) Horse traffic only along the North Fork of the Flathead to Polebridge; sled dogs in winter.

c) All ORV use prohibited.

d) Foot travel only in Glacier Park's backcountry.

3. Elimination and removal of facilities, services, structures.

a) Removal of all concessionaire facilities in Glacier Park.

b) Removal of the Apgar complex.

c) Removal of Hungry Horse, Gibson, and Swift reservoirs: bids for the privilege of blowing up the dams — bits and pieces sold as mementos, 25% of prifits for wilderness education.

d) Reclamation of Camas road.

e) Removal of Big Mountain Ski area.

4. Complete protection, including formal Wilderness designation, of all FS, BLM, and NPS roadless lands.

Same as for Yellowstone (5.). Wilderness recovery areas include:

1) Swan Valley.
2) Cut Bank roads.

5. Reintroduction of species.

a) Woodland Caribou into Livingston and Whitefish ranges.

b) Plains Bison on the East Front.

c) Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf throughout the ecosystem.

d) Fishers.

e) Our buddy, the Bog Lemming.

6. New liability legislation.

Same as for Yellowstone (7.)

7. Acquisitions of inholdings and adjacent private lands.

a) Swap off all checkerboard lands.

b) Acquisition of all inholdings along former Highway 2.

c) Acquisition of private holdings along the East Front.

8. Human-caused bear deaths and related topics.

Same as for Yellowstone (9.)

Recommended reintroduction/recovery areas — studies to determine necessary travel corridors for interbreeding populations.

1. Cabinet-Yaak (Montana/Idaho) for united Purcell/Selkirk/Glacier ecosystem.
2. Selway-Bitterroot (Idaho/Montana).
3. Gila-Blue Range-Aldo Leopold (New Mexico/Arizona).
4. San Juans (Colorado).
5. Los Padres, Ishi (California).
6. High Uintas (Utah).
7. Hells Canyon (Idaho/Oregon).
8. North Cascades, Kettle Range (Washington).
9. Siskiyous, Marble Mountain, Kalmiopsis (California/Oregon).
10. Black Hills (South Dakota).

This is an interim proposal. Ultimately, these ecosystems should have no motorized vehicles, no modern developments; and Grizzlies should roam throughout the West.

WHY GRIZZLIES DIE IN YELLOWSTONE

by Tony Povilitis

As powerful and exceptionally healthy animals, Grizzly Bears were never much for dying. Nor did they, or could they, breed in abundance. Among their only concerns were food shortages during bad years, other Grizzly Bears, and sometimes Indian braves. Then the "Wild West" began. People killed tens of thousands of Grizzlies with firearms. Though the epidemic has slowed, the seven hundred or so Bears that remain today are still under the almighty gun.

In the Yellowstone area, at least 48 Grizzlies have been illegally shot to death since 1975. Hunters killed 14, outfitters 9, sheepherders 5, and other armed persons (of unknown status) 20. Of hunter-related kills, at least half were committed by Black Bear hunters. In two cases, Bear carcasses were reported with claws and/or hide removed.

Theoretically, the Grizzly population could survive if illegal killings were the only cause of death. Unfortunately, the playground mindset has joined the shootist mentality in placing Griz between a rock and a hard place. Since 1975, an additional 29 Grizzlies were eliminated by management officials, largely to "protect" their recreational clientele (12 from Yellowstone Park, 9 from National Forests, and 8 from the towns of Cooke City, Gardiner, and West Yellowstone). At least five other other Bears were killed by vehicles, and four were accidently killed by researchers.

In summary, here are mortality rates for Grizzlies in the Yellowstone area, based on data since 1975: 4.4 bears per year — illegal kills; 2.6 — management actions; 1.8 — unknown or natural cases; .8 — road kills & research; for a total death rate of 9.6 bears per year. With as few as 200 Grizzlies or less remaining, these rates are excessive. According to a recent computer model, recorded Grizzly deaths should not exceed 4-5 bears per year if the population is to recover.

The death rate could be quickly brought down if people would stop shooting Grizzlies on National Forests around Yellowstone National Park (where 88% of the illegal kills occurred). This can only be achieved by a ban on firearms, as is the case in the Park. It would be a tough pill to swallow. Many would not readily put aside their guns even to save Grizzlies. True outdoors men and women would, but wimps wouldn't.

The other part of the solution is to start sharing Yellowstone with Grizzlies. Stop building new roads, campgrounds, "recreational villages," and other places of conflict between Bears and people. Pull out development from prime Bear habitat — like the Fishing Bridge area in Yellowstone Park. We've already taken more than our fair share.

Dr. Tony Povilitis is director of Campaign for Yellowstone Bears, a wildlife professor at the University of Colorado and one of the leading experts on Grizzlies.

Sen. Alan Simpson — Enemy of GRIZ

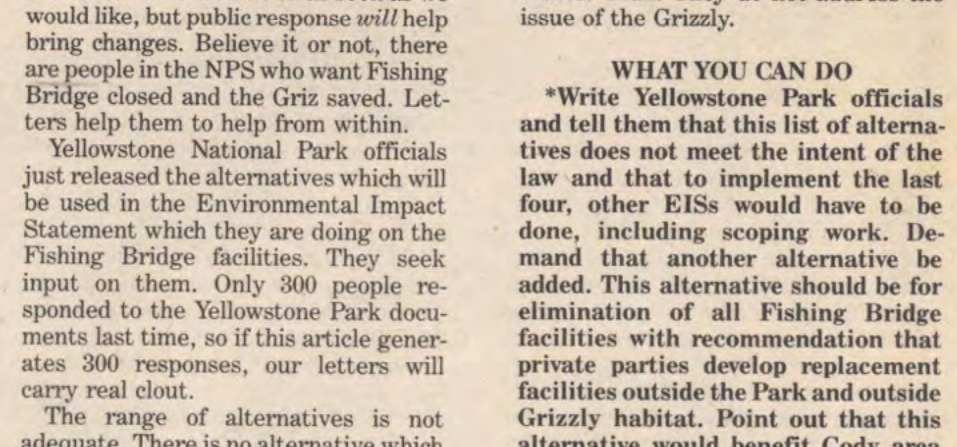
by Arthur Dogmeat

Yellowstone Park officials blame Wyoming Senator Alan Simpson for blocking an Endangered Species Act agreement to remove a campground and RV park from Grizzly Bear habitat at Fishing Bridge. To help Yellowstone's Grizzlies you should write to your US representatives and tell them Simpson shouldn't be allowed to use his political muscle to interfere with a legal and biological process. Tell them Fishing Bridge should be closed.

Under the agreement, the National Park Service and US Fish & Wildlife Service traded the campgrounds at Fishing Bridge for condos at Grant Village. Simpson could have blocked the trade during the public comment period on the June, 1979, Grant Village Environmental Assessment, or during the public comment period on the March, 1981, Environmental Assessment and Preferred Alternative. He didn't. Instead, Simpson waited until the Park Service spent $10 million on Grant Village and then, in 1983, he blocked the Fishing Bridge closures scheduled for 1985. He blocked them by making the Park Service write a Fishing Bridge Environmental Impact Statement that won't be completed until 1987 — two years after Fishing Bridge should have been closed.

Although conservationists are suing the Park Service and the USFWS for breaking the agreement to close Fishing Bridge, Simpson — not the Department of Interior — may be the culprit. Your representatives can save the government and the conservation community a lot of legal fees by putting political pressure on Simpson. His request for an EIS is totally unreasonable. Tell your representatives you want Simpson to explain why he didn't oppose the closures until after the Park Service built Grant. A massive letter writing campaign may do as much for Yellowstone's Bears as a million dollar lawsuit.

Dogmeat is a popular delicacy among wealthy people in the Philippines and other Asian nations, and the subject of controversy between animal defenders and local elites.



Earth First! protested Ski Yellowstone in 1985.

Action on Fishing Bridge

by Randolph T. Restless

The shit is going to hit the fan within the National Park Service over mismanagement of the Yellowstone Grizzlies. It will not be as dramatic or as soon as we would like, but public response *will* help bring changes. Believe it or not, there are people in the NPS who want Fishing Bridge closed and the Griz saved. Letters help them to help from within.

Yellowstone National Park officials just released the alternatives which will be used in the Environmental Impact Statement which they are doing on the Fishing Bridge facilities. They seek input on them. Only 300 people responded to the Yellowstone Park documents last time, so if this article generates 300 responses, our letters will carry real clout.

The range of alternatives is not adequate. There is no alternative which calls for the removal of all facilities at Fishing Bridge. This violates the dictates of the National Environmental Policy Act. The alternatives presented are:

A. No action. All facilities at Fishing Bridge would be retained.

B. The RV park and campground would be moved to a new location only 10 or so miles away. All other facilities except the visitor center would be removed and/or relocated.

C. The RV park would be moved to Grant, and the campsites would be distributed throughout the park, including creating new campgrounds. The store, gas station, repair shop, employee housing, visitor center, etc. [no, they don't yet have a football stadium in Yellowstone Park] would remain at Fishing Bridge.

D. The RV park would be moved as in B. above. Campsites would be distributed as in C. above. All other facilities except the visitors center would be removed and/or relocated.

E. Most facilities would remain at Fishing Bridge but a fence would be constructed around the place. The campground would be redesigned. Increased management actions would be implemented to reduce human/bear conflicts.

The choices above do not meet the understood intent of the Yellowstone Master Plan. They do not address the issue of the Grizzly.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

***Write Yellowstone Park officials and tell them that this list of alternatives does not meet the intent of the law and that to implement the last four, other EISs would have to be done, including scoping work. Demand that another alternative be added. This alternative should be for elimination of all Fishing Bridge facilities with recommendation that private parties develop replacement facilities outside the Park and outside Grizzly habitat. Point out that this alternative would benefit Cody area businesses, as tourists would spend money on Cody businesses rather than on California concessionaires. Send comments to: Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, P.O. 168, Yellowstone NP, WY 82190.**

***This is the summer of action in the Yellowstone area. If you can spare time, beginning about the end of May, to participate in actions for the Griz, we want to hear from you. Montana EF! and others plan actions to draw national attention to the Fishing Bridge issue. If you can be in Jackson, Wyoming; West Yellowstone, Montana; or Livingston, Montana; on or before May 23, write us immediately. If you can come to Yellowstone this summer, or if you can coordinate support actions in your area, write us. If you have a bear suit we can use, send it to us or bring it with you. Write now: Randall T. Restless, c/o POB 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715. Include your phone number and address.**

Randall Restless has long been an indefatigable Grizzly activist.



Gila Wilderness in New Mexico. Prime area for grizzly reintroduction. Photo by Dave Foreman.

Egg-Sucking Dawgs in Army Corpse of Engineers

by Red-Cockaded Woodpecker

How bad does a bureaucracy have to be before it behooves us to blast it? Earth First!ers have long known that the Farce Service is that bad. What about the Army Corpse of Engineers? Dam-fighters have been ridiculing it for years. Now, George Russell of Texas has publicly called them to their faces "egg-sucking dogs."

The Army Corpse opened its flank to George's name-calling by charging forward on one of the most absurd projects in its blotched history — the proposed Rockland Dam on the Neches River, in East Texas. The Neches flows serenely and scenically through 80 miles of mostly hardwood forest from east of Palestine to Steinhagen Reservoir. The Corpse has obtained authorization to drown 126,000 acres of this forest and free-flowing stream. In spite of the fact that the region already has storage for twice as much water as is needed through the year 2030, the Corpse persists in its "studies."

It held a meeting on January 24 to receive public comments. In typical Army Corpse style, it held the meeting in remote Woodville on a Thursday night (instead of a weekend when people from cities could have traveled there). Nevertheless, 16 opposition groups, including Earth First!, produced a crowd which outnumbered dam supporters ten to one.

It was in this setting that George Russell made his caustic statement. And the audience roared with pleasure. The local press printed almost every word he said, including the name-calling. The Corpse paid little heed to the voice of the public. It went right on with its game, including a request to Congress for $450,000 to begin designs for the dam. But Representative Charles Wilson, in whose district the dam would lie, followed with a public statement that the dam would not be built so long as he remains in Congress.



Hardwood bottomland along the Neches River. Photo by Dave Foreman.

The following is a transcript of part of George Russell's comments:

"Already this country is nearly bankrupt, and why? Port barrel boondoggles. . . .

"East Texas is half covered up with dams already! We got enough water to drown everybody in the universe right here in East Texas!

"This dam ain't gonna cost no $700 million dollars. It's gonna cost a billion or two billion . . . .

"This boondoggle is not only going to cost YOU tax dollars. It's going to cost your children and your grandchildren and your great grandchildren. And before it's paid for, it'll be silted up.

"How many of you folks live over here in East Texas ever seen an egg-sucking dawg? Why how many of you folks that's seen an egg-sucking dawg could train that dog not to suck eggs? Nobody.

"Well let me tell you something about the Corps of Engineers. They's a gang of egg-sucking dawgs!

"And it grieves me because I wore an Army officer's uniform for four years. Proudly. To serve my country, defending it. But these guys aren't defending our country. They're tearing it apart with bulldozers and dams. They're taking this man's land from him. They're taking your hunting from you. And they're taking your tax dollars from you. These are the same people that sell you hammers for $197 and screwdrivers for $59.99, and dams for a billion dollars.

"And let me tell you something about these egg-sucking dawgs. They'll come up here and they'll say — and look at their record all over the country sucking eggs — 'Well, we're just studying this,' and here's this cage full of fat hens and fat eggs, and they're drooling and salivating and they say, 'We're not necessarily for this, for sucking eggs. You know, we're neutral. We just want to know IF you want us to come suck these eggs.'

"[T]his is the only way they get promotions. I know this; I was in the Army; it's the same game. A dam builder ain't gonna make general if he don't build a dam, is he?

"I'm also the Forest Practices Chairman of the Lone Star Sierra Club, which is a citizens group of over ten thousand members in Texas, and the Lone Star chapter executive committee voted to oppose the Rockland Dam. I'm also a member of the Walker County Historical Commission. This is our sesquicentennial year, and we have lost a great deal of our heritage already through impoundments: our cemeteries, the graves of our ancestors, are being flooded by these government folks coming down from Washington and flooding us out. We're losing our log cabins; we're losing our hardwood trees, we're losing our fishing and our hunting habitats, and we're not gaining nothing except a handful of folks in the real estate business, and summer part-time workers and the rest of us folks is gonna suffer and pay for it.

"Well, it sounds to me like, Peyton Walters [aide to Congressman Charles Wilson present at hearing], when you get out of this thing go tell Charlie Wilson there's only two folks spoke for this thing, and so far 15 has spoke against it!"

Red-Cockaded Woodpecker is an Texas ecological activist of a rare and vanishing breed.

The Great Exchange Slithers Along

By Leon Czolgosz

The so-called "Interchange," the massive land swap between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, re-surfaced in February when the Reagan Administration submitted the "Federal Lands Administration Act of 1986" to Congress. Most people thought the "Interchange" a dead issue; when the original proposal was made in January, 1985, massive public opposition, ranging from environmentalists to ranchers to small-town chambers of commerce, led the agencies to back off from their original intention to exchange the lands as a strictly administrative matter, without benefit of public hearings or enabling legislation. (See "The Great Exchange," *Earth First!*, Eostar and Beltane issues, 1985).

After a series of public hearings were held across the West last year, nothing much had been heard of the "Interchange" until the announcement in February. The new proposal appears to be much scaled down; in fact, it resembles the old proposal minus just those areas which generated the *most* public controversy last time. Where the old proposal involved the exchange of about 35 million acres between the two agencies, the new one involves an estimated 25 million acres, to wit: 14.8 million acres of existing BLM land will be transferred to the Forest Service and 9.4 million acres of existing Forest Service land will be transferred to the BLM, for a net gain of 5.4 million acres by the Forest Service. In addition, the proposal would give the Forest Service responsibility for subsurface mineral deposits on its lands; at present BLM is responsible for all subsurface leasing on both FS and BLM lands, while the FS is only responsible for surface management of its lands.

Among the lands missing from this year's proposal which were present in the old one are: (1) Virtually all of Nevada's National Forest lands, which were to be axed last year, until a virtual firestorm of protest — this, mind you, in the state that gave birth to the Sagebrush Rebellion! — caused the Administration to pull in its horns; (2) The Prescott National Forest in Arizona, which was to be abolished and turned over to the BLM under the old proposal — this met with almost universal opposition from the town of Prescott, with the result that the current proposal gives additional BLM lands *to* the Prescott NF; and (3) Oregon's O & C lands, which are presently managed by the BLM for maximum timber production under a formula which gives most of the revenues to the local communities. The old Interchange proposal would have given these lands to the Forest Service, which caused great local anxiety; as a result, under the present proposal the BLM retains almost all of the O & C lands.

The proposed legislation does specifically mandate that all designated Wildernesses would remain as such, despite transfer from one agency to another. It also states that Wilderness Study Areas would remain WSA's until Congress either designates them Wilderness or releases them. In cases where a WSA is transferred from one agency to another, the new managing agency would continue the study, if it is not complete. And there *would* be many Wilderness Areas and WSA's affected by this proposal. A partial listing: The Pine Mountain Wilderness in Utah, now part of the Dixie NF, would be transferred to BLM. The Santa Teresa and Galiuro Wildernesses of Arizona, now part of the Coronado NF, would go to the Safford District BLM, as would Mt. Graham, which contains a WSA and all of which is seriously threatened by massive development. (See "Astronomers Assualt Mt. Graham, *EF*, Litha,1985, and Mt. Graham article this issue).

Several National Forests would still be abolished under the new legislation, and others would be severely cut back. In New Mexico, the Cibola National Forest would become history, with Mount Taylor going to BLM and the rest of the Forest divided between the Santa Fe and Lincoln National Forests. All of the National Forest lands in southern Idaho would go to the BLM. In Utah, the La Sal Mountains, near Moab, and the Abajo Mountains, near Monticello, now part of the Manti-La Sal NF, would be transferred to BLM.

Of course, the Administration's rationale for the Interchange is that it will save money. In fact, the whole idea is one of the recommendations of the Grace Commission, that bunch of corporate types whom Reagan appointed to advise on ways to trim the Federal Government. The Administration comes up with impressive figures on how much money the land exchange will save (although "implementation" will cost 21 to 24 million dollars); within five years 53 to 56 million dollars will be saved. It's hard for the cynic to find the source of these savings — while here and there a ranger station or district office will be closed where today the agencies' responsibilities overlap, by the Administration's own figures only 350 jobs will be eliminated in both agencies, nationwide. The cynic may wonder what the *real* purpose behind the Interchange is. And indeed, there does appear to be a sinister intent behind the legislation. In the draft bill introduced into the House, there is wording which will permit the Secretary of Agriculture to *sell* — yes, that's right, sell — any of the newly acquired National Forest lands (formerly BLM lands). In other words, 14.8 million acres of lands now in the public domain will be available for sale to the private sector. As for the 9.4 million acres of lands that are now under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service but which will go to BLM, the legislation states that "*if these lands are in blocks of 10,000 acres or more, they will be designated 'Conservation Areas' and will be "unavailable for disposal.*" But the boundaries of these "Conservation Areas" can be changed administratively, so presumably even these lands could be sold with a bit of judicious juggling. So it appears that the "Interchange" is indeed a stalking horse for "privatization," as many of its opponents have suspected all along. Interestingly enough, the "handout" which both agencies are giving to people who inquire about the exchange says *nothing* about the possibility that any of these lands might be sold.

What You Can Do

The Federal Lands Administration Act of 1986 has been introduced into the House of Representatives (HR 4303) but has not yet been introduced into the Senate. Write your Representative (House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515) saying you oppose this blatant scam to sell off our public lands by subterfuge. Send a copy of the letter to your Senators (US Senate, Washington, DC 20510).

Letters (cont)

Dear Editor,

For years there has been an unfortunate tendency for people living in a harsh climate in the US to move to a more comfortable climate. If this continues the overpopulation which results will make formerly desirable locations untenable. Parts of Florida, Oregon, Arizona and the Los Angeles area are prime examples of endpoints of such migration.

Local efforts to stem the tide of immigration at best only have small effects on land developers and politicians. But there is better method: turn off the flow of people at its source. Experiment has shown that letters to editors of northern newspapers can affect people's plans. Lists of daily newspapers in Minnesota and Wisconsin were obtained from Ayres Directory (found in any library) and letters to the editors of each (about 60 papers) were written from Arizona pointing out the undesirable effect of overpopulation on air quality in cities in valleys and water shortages resulting in plans to ration water. Letters and calls to the writer indicated that this little campaign affected plans of people to move to Arizona.

Anyone living in an area threatened with overpopulation should consider using Ayres Directory for addresses of editors of newspapers in the states from which migration comes and then initiating a letter writing campaign to start the accurate rumor that to move to the new location is a mistake. —Pleasant Air and Pure Water

continued on pg. 8

Memories of a Tree Climber

by r. dendron

My bed sways in the breeze. Sunshine warms my face and relaxes my body to the point of lethargy. No city air could bring my lungs such joy. So many close companions here. I've never felt such a belonging. This wonder can't be reconstructed, defined, manipulated or sold. Wait a minute, it seems it can be sold and manipulated to death by those with the arrogance to think it can be imitated. They have defined its meaning and its value — economically.

No, I can't be at ease. Within the hour I will be tortured by the whine of chainsaws. There is nowhere to go. I have taken an oath: to die with this tree if I must. I have witnessed the bodies of the 1000 year-old giants being severed. My heart is repeatedly ripped from my being, and smashed on what was once the forest floor. Surely the trembling of the Earth will shake sense into those committing this monstrosity, or by the pure might of my rage and pain, they will realize.

I want others to know what I have learned in this ancient forest. Economics have no place here. Governments, hierarchies, monopolies, patriarchies all mean power over others. That language is not spoken here. This is the school and playground of our children. There is knowledge here of natural medicines which can cure pains that drugs created. Here, wounds of the soul can be healed. Agriculture? What desire for power could make one want to improve this perfect balance. These old growth forests are our air, water, food, sanctuary, and our future.



A doomed old growth Doug Fir's view of cops arresting tree huggers. Photo by Mike Jakubal.



Photo by Mike Jakubal.

An old growth Doug Fir's view of tree huggers.

Some of us in Oregon live by this knowledge. We have stopped the landrapists at times, and we have taken away their power of fear. Economically they have paid. These exploiters must learn the ways of Earth. We cannot make them do this, but we will place our bodies in this path of destruction. Here in Willamette National Forest, we will succeed!

r. dendron last summer tied herself from her perch high in a Doug Fir to trees around her such that if any of these trees were cut she would be pulled down to her death; they didn't cut.



Murdered old growth Doug Fir in the Cathedral Forest. Photo by Mike Jakubal.



Mike Jakubal pours sawdust from murdered trees of Millenium grove in the Willamette National Forest, Oregon, on desk of Deputy Regional Forester in Portland, on April 4, 1986. Despite efforts by mainstream conservation groups to get a restraining order in Federal Court against the logging of the oldest trees in Oregon, the day before a Federal Judge was to hear the plea, Willamette Industries in connivance with the Willamette National Forest felled all the trees. Full story next issue.

Ent Lovers Arise!

by William Bird Mounsey

The continuing Saga of Gandalf the Grey: Two years ago, Gandalf warned of the threat to the Goldenbough-Quiverleafs (Aspen) by the Burarum (Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service). At that time, the BLM proposed to slaughter Aspen so more water would flow into the Colorado River, and the FS proposed to save the Aspen by cutting them down and turning them into waferboard. With the deflating of the oil shale bubble, the BLM plan may be back on the shelf, but the FS plan is going great guns.

This time, Gandalf writes in the vernacular of the present. He fears that the language of Middle Earth may be but faintly understood by the present generation of Earth First!ers.

ENT LOVERS ARISE!

The Forest Service and Louisiana Pacific Corporation — the tree buggering, road building bastards of the boonies — are at it again! Susan Anderson's recent *Earth First!* article presented the FS-LPC figures on how many acres of Aspen now exist in Colorado, the percentage of trees 80+ years old and by their standards in "decline," and how many acres they must cut down every year to save the Aspen from extinction.

As usual, there is something fishy in the FS-LPC figures. They say that without their help Aspen will disappear in 20 years — all 2,000,000 acres of Colorado's Aspen dead. But, they say, if 5800 acres a year are cut and made into waferboard the Aspen will be saved. They would cut from the 75% of today's 2,000,000 acres that they say are 80+ years old. Now, if 5800 acres are cut yearly for 20 years, we will then have 1,384,000 acres of 100+ year old (and presumably dead) Aspen and 116,000 acres of stumps. Will cutting 7.7% (116,000 acres) of today's 1,500,000 acres of old Aspen save them? And what will have happened to the other 500,000 acres of today's trees that are less than 80 years old? In 20 years one-fourth of them will be over 80 years old and in "decline." So, in 20 years we end up with 1,509,000 acres (1,384,000 + 125,000) of dead or dying Aspen, 375,000 acres of Aspen under 80 years old and 116,000 acres of stumps where we may have Aspen sprouts — if we have kept the sheep and cattle out of the forest for 20 years.

To save the trees, Louisiana Pacific will have built four polluting waferboard plants the size of their Montrose plant, and will have made millions of dollars from their operations. Taxpayers will have shelled out millions of dollars for logging road and timber sale costs. We will have several hundred more miles of roads among the stumps and less than 500,000 acres of healthy Aspen — one quarter of today's total stand.

What would happen if the FS-LPC saviors kept their waferboard cutting saws off the Aspen? The natural succession of growth on most Aspen-producing land goes something like this: Starting with grass and forb vegetation, Aspen seedlings start growing as do root buds from adjacent clone groups. As these trees develop, seeds from coniferous trees drift in, augmenting seeds dormant in the ground, and conifers appear among the Aspen. The conifers need the broken shade of Aspen, and young Aspen need the sunlight which they continue to get as older Aspen die. For a while the stand is mixed, but eventually the balance swings and conifers predominate.

Thick stands of conifers are vulnerable to fire. When fire occurs, the ground cover reverts to grass and forbs, Aspen start growing and the cycle starts anew. Fire clears the overstory for Aspen growth and also prepares coniferous seeds, especially Lodgepole, for growth. Thick conifer stands are also vulnerable to insect kill which can take the place of fire in removing the overstory. Without fire or insect kill, the cycle takes longer. Eventually, however, conifers are thinned by crowding and age, openings appear in the forest and patches of Aspen again appear.

So it's all tied together (surprise!), but the FS-LPC Savior of the Aspen Cartel is trying its best to unravel it (surprise!). No natural, non-cataclysmic phenomenon will cause Colorado's Aspen to become extinct, but the FS and LPC could take us a long way in that direction, and the Actor in the Whitehouse will take us all the way.

So warns Gandalf the Grey

William Mounsey is a long-time EF!er living in Ever(?)green, CO.

Acid Rain Threatens Boundary Waters

by Kevin Proescholdt

The nation's only lakeland Wilderness — Minnesota's sensitive Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) Wilderness — is threatened by acid rain. This one million acre enclave along the state's northeastern border with Ontario currently sustains acid deposition at levels which may now be eliminating organisms in the area's food webs. State hearings currently underway will determine whether the BWCA will survive as a healthy ecosystem or end up like acidified lakes in the Adirondacks and Scandinavia.

The BWCA is the largest Wilderness east of the Rockies except for Florida's Everglades. It contains over 1000 sparkling lakes and hundreds of miles of rivers and streams. Towering stands of virgin red and white pine stand guard over canoe routes once paddled by the French *voyageurs*. Rare and endangered species find home in the area: the last viable population of eastern Timber Wolves in the lower 48 hangs on in the BWCA's forests; Bald Eagles nest in abundance; and rare species like Pine Marten, Fisher, and Lynx prowl the woods.

The BWCA is also one of the most embattled Wilderness Areas in the US, facing threats even before Teddy Roosevelt created Superior National Forest in 1909. Huge roadbuilding plans were defeated in the 1920s, and the Forest Service designated the canoe country as its second Wilderness in 1926. (The Forest Service, of course, ignored many of its protective policies through the decades.) A scheme to build a series of huge dams ended when Congress passed legislation in 1930 to protect BWCA's shorelines from water level changes and logging. Harry Truman ended float plane flights over and into the area in 1949 with an unprecedented airspace reservation.

The 1964 Wilderness Act included the BWCA as an original unit in the National Wilderness Preservation System, but included special compromise language — for only the BWCA — to allow continued logging and mechanized travel. In 1978, Congress ended logging and mining in BWCA and restricted motorized use. (But continued to allow some motorboat use on designated routes.)

Now, the BWCA faces a new threat — acid rain. The Boundary Waters contain Minnesota's most sensitive areas to acid deposition. The Reagan stonewall on acid rain at the federal level could have doomed the BWCA, but Minnesota acted on its own to try to protect the BWCA Wilderness and other sensitive areas including adjoining Voyageurs National Park.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) began formal rulemaking hearings in late January to establish an acid deposition standard to protect Minnesota's resources. These hearings will continue until at least early May, and letters are needed — from Minnesotans and non-Minnesotans alike — to insure the selection of a strong acid deposition standard.

The MPCA has identified areas in Minnesota sensitive to acid rain damage. The BWCA region has much at risk:

*Over 2200 Minnesota lakes, and about one-fifth of the state's surface area — including BWCA — are sensitive to acid rain. These lakes and their watersheds contain such low levels of calcium carbonate and other buffering agents that they cannot absorb much acidity without damage to lake ecosystems.

*The BWCA forests now endure acid deposition at levels which may be leaching away important nutrients needed by plants for healthy growth. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources testified in the hearings that additional stress caused by acid rain could have far more serious impacts on Minnesota's forests than earlier believed.

The MPCA's proposed acid deposition standard, 11 kilograms of wet sulfate per hectare per year (about 10 pounds per acre per year), is lower than the 20 kilogram level advocated by Northern States Power Company, the state's largest utility and biggest source of sulfur dioxide; but the agency's standard will not be low enough to protect the BWCA's lakes.

The Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness and other environmental organizations working against acid rain in Minnesota (Sierra Club, Izaak Walton League, National Audubon Society) have given the following reasons for advocating a more protective standard:

*Biological damage: MPCA designed the 11 kilogram standard on a water chemistry basis to prevent total acidification of a sensitive lake over a ten year period. Research by scientists such as Canada's David Schindler (one of the premier ecologists in North America) shows that biological damage to an aquatic ecosystem — the elimination of organisms in food webs — occurs long before lakes "acidify."

*Episodic events: The agency's standard does not address the problem of episodic events that suddenly send large amounts of acid into lakes. These episodic occurances include the rush of acids accumulated over winter into sensitive waters during spring snowmelt, and the sudden influx of acids during a particularly acidic rainfall.

*Mercury contamination: MPCA acknowledged in its recent study, "Fish Mercury in Northeastern Minnesota Lakes," that acid rain may be leaching and mobilizing the mercury which later accumulates in fish tissues. Yet MPCA did not deal with the mercury contamination issue in devising the 11 kilogram standard.

*Margin of safety issues: MPCA's standard also did not factor in other margin of safety issues. For example, it does not take account of dry acidic deposition.

Kevin Proescholdt is Executive Director of Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness. For more info on threats to BWCA, contact him at 1313 Fifth St. SE, Suite 327, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Write to the administrative law judge handling the acid rain hearings before the hearing record closes on May 20, 1986. Even if you can't get your letter there by May 20, write anyway; the hearing record will likely be extended. Letters from outside Minnesota will have equal impact. Include the following in your comments:

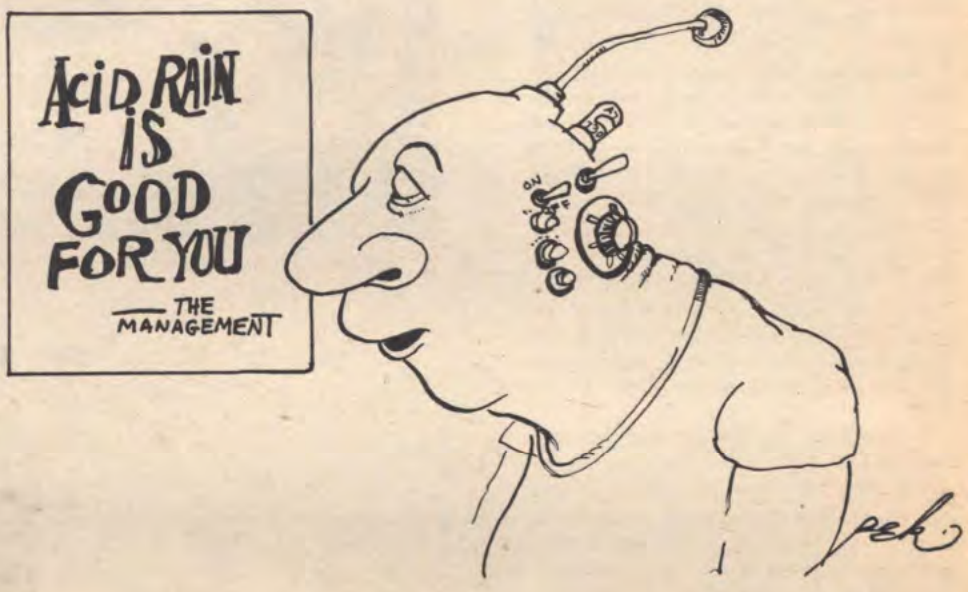
1. The importance of wilderness and especially Minnesota's unique BWCA Wilderness. Mention why BWCA's resources are important to you, for reasons such as the need to preserve natural ecosystems, the restorative powers of wilderness for people, enjoying wildlife, etc.

2. The proposed MPCA acid deposition standard is not strong enough to protect Minnesota's sensitive resources. The National Park Service has testified that a standard of nine kilograms per hectare per year is needed.

3. Minnesotans and non-Minnesotans alike are willing to pay a little extra in electricity bills to reduce acid rain. MPCA estimated that the acid rain control plan in Minnesota will cost the average Northern States Power residential customer just $1.36 per month and the average Minnesota Power residential rate payer only $.49 month.

4. Minnesota should continue to take the lead nationally in acid rain control. Even though MPCA research indicates that 75-90% of Minnesota's acid rain originates in other states and provinces, Minnesota should control its part of the problem. The proposed reductions match those required of Minnesota under most proposed national acid rain legislation.

Write now to: Allan Klein, Administrative Law Judge, 310 Fourth Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55415.



Acid Rain Update

by Roger Featherstone

For the last four months, Arizona Earth First! has actively worked to stop acid rain in the Southwest. Arizona Earth First! and GASP held an Acid Rain Strategy conference in Oracle last January. This conference was made possible by grants from the Earth First! Foundation and the Threshold Foundation. The conference was attended by sixty-five people, representing ten groups. It led to the creation of a coalition working on smelter issues in the region. The coalition is being called GASP (Groups Against Smelter Pollution). Several important programs came out of the conference.

One was an education campaign, centering around an Acid Rain Road Show. This show hit eleven cities in March. George Callies of Greenpeace, and Roger Featherstone and Stephanie of Earth First! did the tour which featured singing and poetry by Stephanie, a slide show by Roger, and speeches by George and Roger. We also sold a new acid rain t-shirt (designed by Lone Wolf Circles) and other EF! trinkets. We still have a few t-shirts left (see ads at back of journal). The road show went well. The audiences were good and much information was shared.

Another campaign created at the conference is to take place during International Acid Rain Week, which is April 19 to 26. Several events are planned. Colorado Earth First! is having a demonstration in Denver on April 19. It will be innovative, as are all Colorado EF! demos. Arizona EF! and local Oracle activists are having a demonstration at the Magma smelter in San Manuel on April 21. This will feature guerilla theatre. Smokestacks will battle to the death with critters and trees. Greenpeace plans several events in Phoenix for the week, but, as of this writing, plans are not final. GASP will do a series of "Burma-shave" signs at the Phelps-Dodge smelter in Douglas, as well as selling hits of oxygen to participants of a national bicycle race being held in Bisbee. These events will be history as you read this, but next issue we may run a piece on how they did.

These events are helping to bring acid rain into the limelight here in the Southwest. The smelters in this area emit over 70% of the sulfur dioxide released in the Intermountain Basin (the area east of the Sierra Nevadas and west of the Rockies, north of Sonora, Mexico, and south of Canada). The Phelps-Dodge smelter operates without pollution controls and has consistently violated federal clean air laws and refuses to clean up. The Magma smelter also operates without pollution controls. These smelters are creating serious health problems for trees, animals, asthmatics and ordinary people. GASP's work is already paying off. Arizona's Governor Bruce Babbitt is now asking the EPA to deny Phelps-Dodge the permit to operate in violation of clean air standards. It looks like the EPA may do this, but we are not holding our breath.

Arizona EF! is now backing away from acid rain work. With other Arizona actions coming up, we need to leave acid rain work in the very capable hands of the other GASP groups and spend more time in other fights.

Letters (cont)

Dear Dave,

In the last issue of the journal there was an article on the immobilization of trains in Osaka and Tokyo. There has been much misunderstanding about this incident. Shortly after the incident occurred, Bill Devall sent me a newspaper clipping about it. At the top was written the question, "Ecotage?" My answer was, "Unfortunately, no."

Indeed this incident showed the vulnerability of technological society; the Japanese press emphasized this aspect. We in the Green movement have noted the significance of this incident: 1) high tech society is not secure, and 2) it can easily be disrupted or paralyzed. However, it is necessary here to see the incident from the point of view of those who perpetrated it. They are certainly not green; they are as red as ripe tomatoes. The reason they stopped the trains is to demonstrate their opposition to the proposed privatization of the national railway system. Since they are not against trains nor technological society, one may rightly doubt their sanity in choosing to demonstrate their opposition in this manner. Their driving ideology of Marxism (i.e., state capitalism) demanded that they do something to stop privatization, and since mindless violence is their creed, they ended up destroying what they claim to save.

There are lessons for us to learn from such incidents, but we must not forget to view them in context.

—Rick Davis (Japanese EF! contact)

Greetings!

We just had a big DOE hearing on nuclear waste disposal in Ashland, and the sparks flew. Over 1300 people in attendance with a unified message — no dump and stop production of wastes.

I'm glad you're printing information on the internal struggles at FOE and Sierra Club. They don't tell their members much until things are falling apart. The quotes from the Club Executive Director were particularly interesting — what a mushhead!

-Wisconsin

Dear SFB,

I just finished letter writing for the requests in the Eostar edition. Twenty-four letters will go in tomorrow's mail dealing with ecological issues. I urge all who receive *EF!* to pay attention to all requests for letters and write! I attended a seminar in our capitol building at which one of our senators told how much influence letters have on decisions. They do gain the attention of US representatives and senators. It isn't in vain that we go through the journal, finding information needed to express our opinions. The senator told us that she pays close attention to letters written in long hand.

—Charlotte Neyland (Kansas)

P.S. Thanks to those who wrote letters to save Cheyenne Bottoms.

continued on page 13

BIG Wilderness for Los Padres





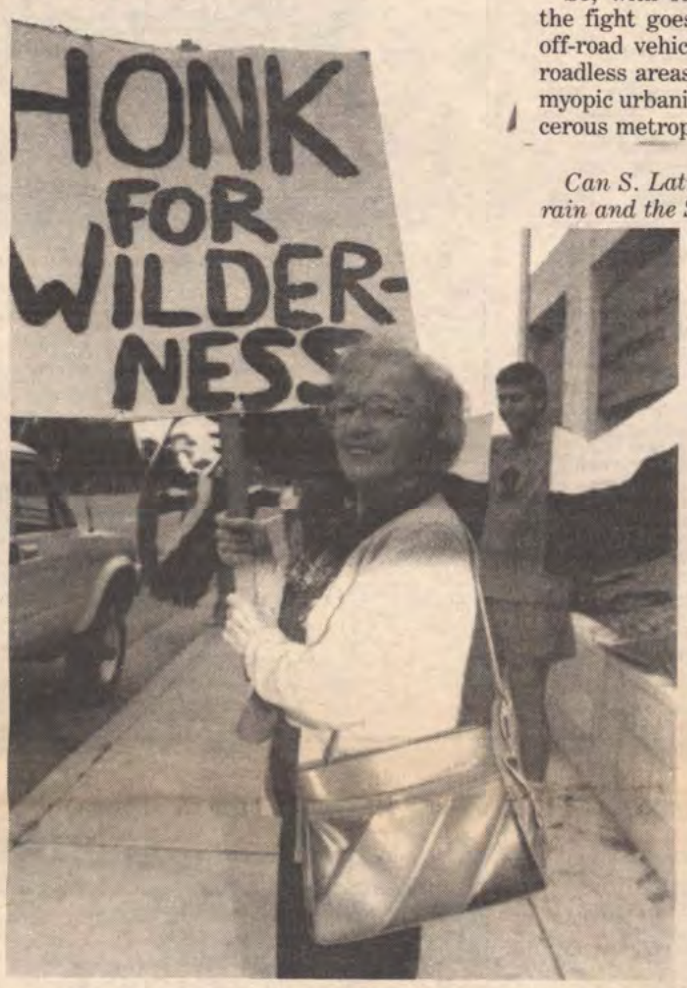
by Can S. Latrans

Big Wilderness in southern California? You betcha! What else could motivate twenty Earth First!ers to converge on the Los Padres Forest Service Headquarters in Santa Barbara at 6:30 AM dressed up as Condors and Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards?! Freeway motorists were first greeted with a 90-foot banner attached to an overpass proclaiming "S.B. WILDERNESS: THINK BIG. EF! Down the road, motorists were further jolted out of their morning slumber by sign-toting California Condors and Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizards (species chosen because of the danger of their extinction in the Santa Barbara area). Signs reading "Honk for Wilderness," "Have to Have a Habitat," "Big Birds Need Big Wilderness," and "Earth First!" met with a nearly continuous stream of honks. A few motorists, not satisfied with a three-second drive-thru course in local environmental issues, pulled over to be filled in on the purpose of this action. An EF! leaflet stated our goals as follows:

1. Pressure the Forest Service into closing the Big Pine Mountain Road which divides the 150,000 acre San Rafael Wilderness from the 90,000 acre Dick Smith Wilderness. This dirt road is currently used by off-road motorcycles which are a disturbing intrusion in these two Wilderness areas.

2. The creation of a BIG Sespe Wilderness. Covering 320,000 acres, the Sespe *is the largest unprotected roadless area* left in southern California. It is the home of the endangered Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard, recently reintroduced Desert Bighorn Sheep, and the last five wild California Condors. With increasing pressure for oil and gas leases within this roadless area, now may be our last chance at visionary protection.

The reaction of the FS to the fifteen Condors, two Lizards, and numerous sign-toting EF!ers was surprisingly positive. Several of us were invited into the Forest Supervisor's office for a discussion concerning the goals of our action and our grievances with current FS policy in southern California. Media response was also very positive. We were covered on two local TV networks, three newspapers, and a radio station.



So, with our first action behind us, the fight goes on — the fight against off-road vehicles, oil and gas leases in roadless areas, an oil pipeline, and the myopic urbanization of this already cancerous metropolis. Whew!

Can S. Latrans is an expert on acid rain and the Sespe wilderness.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Write to the Forest Supervisor and ask for the closure of the Big Pine Mountain Road (#9N11) to all motor vehicles. Also ask for the creation of a 320,000 acre Sespe Wilderness. Write to: Forest Service/Supervisor's Office, Los Padres National Forest, 6144 Calle Real, Goleta, CA 93117.



Photos by Roland Knapp

California's Magic Mountain: San Bruno

by David D. Schmidt

San Bruno Mountain is on the San Francisco peninsula, just south of the city limits, a mighty island of green rising from a surrounding sea of asphalt, extending over 3600 acres. Overlooked by developers in the mad rush of urban expansion that has characterized the San Francisco area since the Gold Rush, and at first unnoticed by environmentalists, the Mountain was "discovered" by both in the mid-1970s. On it, biologists have identified 19 rare and endangered species. These include the San Francisco Garter Snake; the Mission Blue, San Bruno Elfin, San Francisco Silverspot, and Bay Checkerspot Butterflies; a moth; a bee; and a dozen wildflowers and shrubs. San Bruno is also inhabited by Raccoons, foxes, weasels, owls, rabbits, newts, eagles, and many other noble creatures. Unfortunately, this biological treasure stands on some of the highest-priced acreage of the Bay Area.

After a decade of legal wrangling over the federal Endangered Species Act, attorneys for the developers/destroyers, government agencies, and a dissension-wracked environmental group signed a compromise agreement which they hailed as "historic," but which will probably condemn many of the Mountain's threatened species — perhaps all of them — to extinction. Now that legal appeals have been exhausted, the environmental activists who have weathered the struggles are no match for the bulldozers already gouging the Mountain's flanks.

The Mountain's leading human ally, David Schooley, has issued a plea for help. One glimmer of hope has appeared in the form of a bill in the California legislature to issue bonds for park acquisition throughout the state, S.B.1717. Letters are needed encouraging state legislators to co-sponsor the bill and make sure that San Bruno Mountain will be on the acquisition list (write legislators at State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814). If the park bonds bill passes by this summer it will be on the statewide ballot for voter approval in November.

The bond issue, even if approved, may take effect too late for some parts of the Mountain. On the northeast side, earth-moving machines were mauling dozens of acres this past winter to build a connecting road between two larger highways. The South San Francisco City Council voted last year to allow bulldozers to carve hundreds more acres on the southeast side into a huge stairstep pattern overlooking a planned commercial development. Voters petitioned for a referendum, but legal technicalities have delayed the vote until June 3. Meanwhile, Schooley has been seeking a legal injunction to prevent any destruction prior to the election.

His latest plan to keep the bulldozers at bay involves an environmental "pledge of resistance" he is urging activists to sign, committing themselves to various levels of volunteer effort to save the Mountain. The first level commits the signer to write five letters a month to public officials, or spend five hours a month on other Mountain-saving work. The next level commits signers to five hours a week of activity, and the third level commits signers to be on call for emergency demonstrations, including possible human blockades of bulldozers. The latter commitment hearkens back to the American Revolutionary "minutemen" of two centuries ago.

In the San Francisco area, where environmentalists seem to be everywhere, only a few have made saving San Bruno Mountain their priority. Unless greater numbers turn out to help Schooley — and fast — they won't know what they've got until it's gone.

If you'd like to volunteer, or take a tour of the Mountain, call Schooley at 415-467-6631. For more info, contact David D. Schmidt, 4607 Connecticut Ave. NW #719, Wash., DC 20008 (202-387-8030 or 364-2402).

David Schmidt is a free-lance writer who grew up in San Francisco, but is now in DC. On a visit to his old home, Schmidt accompanied Schooley to San Bruno Mountain. "What impressed me most was not seeing the endangered species," said Schmidt, "but the Banana Slugs, those denizens of the redwood forest. Have you ever seen Banana Slugs in an urban area? Clearly, this is a very special place."



San Bruno Mountain

The Earth First! Directory

The Earth First! Directory lists the contact points for the international Earth First! movement. It is divided into three sections: 1) National EF! offices in the United States, and international contacts; 2) Active EF! Chapters or Groups; and 3) Contact persons where there is as yet no active EF! group. If you are interested in becoming active with the Earth First! movement, contact the folks listed for your area.

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is an independent entity within the international Earth First! movement, and is not the newsletter of the Earth First! movement. It does, however, provide a forum for Earth First!ers around the world. This directory is provided as a service to independent EF! groups.

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WEST VIRGINIA
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Bob Kaspar
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Glen Haven, WI 53810
(608)794-2373

Hank Bruse
548A Honeysuckle Lane
Madison, WI 53713



Pioneer conservationists Roscoe and Wilma Poland were honored by the California State Park Rangers Association at their annual convention this March. Dave Foreman was the closing speaker of the convention and National Park Service Director William Penn Mott was the keynote speaker. Photo by John Mott.



Austin Acts on Rainforests

by Barbara Dugelby

It was a first for Texas Earth First!. It was first for the Southwest. On April 9th and 10th, Austin EF! sponsored a Tropical Rainforest Symposium, held on the UT campus. The Symposium, entitled "Killing the Rainforests: A Call for Action," brought in renowned conservationists David Brower of Earth Island Institute, Randy Hayes of Rainforest Action Network, and EF!'s own Dave Foreman; along with rainforest ecology experts Dr. Larry Gilbert of UT; Humberto Suzan of Tamaulipas, Mexico; and Jim Nations, researcher and expert on Central American rainforest destruction.

The two evenings of informative, inspiring, and at times fiery talks sparked energy in those who attended, alerting them of the need for a grassroots response to the world's rainforest crisis. For dedicated EF!ers the event refueled the "green fire" that Dave speaks of in his spine-chilling, heel-kicking presentation. One of the most important things to come out of the symposium was the realization that Austin and the surrounding area carry great potential for serious rainforest action. There are many motivated individuals ready to help, excellent scholars and organizers, and a concerned public ready to be informed. EF! Austin is committed to further educating the public of the extent and implications of rainforest destruction and possible solutions, through public lectures, films, letter-writing campaigns, local boycotts, and demonstrations. Anyone interested in being a part of our "Southwest Call For Action" contact EF! Austin at POB 7292, University Station, Austin, TX 78713.

Barbara Dugelby merits immense praise for organizing this successful symposium. She will fill the shoes of David Orr as EF! Austin contact and organizer as David leaves Texas — hard shoes to fill, but Barbara will do it (not to suggest, of course, that she has big feet).



MOVING? SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS!

Earth First! Back In New Mexico

by Brad Lagorio

The newly-formed Albuquerque Earth First! group met during the first week of April, as a follow-up to the EF! and Greenpeace Acid Rain Road Show. (Thanks Stephanie, Roger, and George!) Twenty people attended the potluck, and while searching for direction for our actions our common commitment emerged to protect the values of wild lands, plants and animals, AND TO ACTION! We plan to start with public and publicized "clean-up" actions in natural areas around Albuquerque to develop our group (tribe) cohesiveness and to build credibility (as well as a larger following) in the Albuquerque area. Soon you will read in this journal about our exploits when we take on the big boys.

To contact Albuquerque EF!, write or call: Brad Lagorio, 2405 Meadow SW, Alb., NM 87105 (505-873-0299). For carpooling to the RRR from Albuquerque area, contact Joanne McEntire at 505-345-6109.

Babbitt the Rabbit Condemns Mt. Graham

MT. GRAHAM DEIS DUE OUT



by Anger Birdman and Ursa Power

Mt. Graham DEIS Due Out

The long awaited Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed Mt. Graham Astrophysical Area should have been released to the public by the time of this printing. Officials from the Coronado National Forest in Arizona targeted "late March or early April" for completion. We expect additional delays, however. Everyone should get on the list to receive a copy (at Steward Observatory's expense) by calling the Forest Circus at 602-629-6483. We do not know if the costly document will be mailed to all of the 1000 letter writers (plus contless petition signers) who have expressed an opinion on the planned atrocity.

Many informational gaps can be expected in the DEIS, which is the product of a cursory six-month investigation by the University of Arizona's Office of Arid Lands Studies. A spokesman for Arid Lands admitted they were encouraged to produce a study that was even "faster and dirtier" than was finally agreed upon.

Holes and unanswered questions notwithstanding, the DEIS will bear out criticisms the opposition movement has made with regard to the multitude of severe impacts. They include ". . . possible violations of the Endangered Species Act by destruction of critical habitat for the Mt. Graham red squirrel, the Apache trout and *Erigeron pringlei* [mountain fleabane]; conflicts with the Coronado National Forest Plan for the Pinalenos by degrading or harming the populations of bear, twin-spotted rattlesnakes, white-tailed deer and other fauna; partial degradation of the relict Pleistocene forest, including three high mountain cienegas that have Federal protection; pre-emption of the public's recreational land use as proposed in the Coronado Forest Plan, especially a change in recreation value from primitive/semi-primitive to developed campsites with 'urban' astronomical pockets; major conflicts with the CNFP visual quality objectives, especially foreground vistas on the summit; possible removal or relocation of two cultural sites that have been proposed for the State and National Register; increased fire risks; possible pre-emption of scientific knowledge of the bear and squirrel population and Pleistocene climatic change; pre-emption of some huntable acreage; pre-emption of a semi-wilderness, southeastern Arizona mountaintop within a regional context in which mountaintops have become a scarce recreational resource, especially near urban centers."

It is both amusing and infuriating to read the section in the Arid Lands' DEIS which was prepared by the Steward Observatory to attempt to justify their "need" for Mt. Graham. A spokesman for Arid Lands admits his office had "nothing to do with this section . . . we will not vouch for its veracity, either."

We cannot guess how much buncombe from Dr. Peter Strittmatter and the Steward Observatory will be accepted by the Forest Disservice and printed as fact. It is rumored that the FS intends to consider neither Mt. Graham's natural uniqueness nor its astronomical suitability as a factor in its decision making process. That position would leave the FS vulnerable to legal challenges. If questions of astronomical suitability and need are not answered in the EIS, the premise of the proponents and the entire EIS process becomes moot.

Steward Observatory's section in the Arid Lands' document is propaganda under the guise of science. Details are ignored, and nebulous footnotes cited with no traceable sources.

The aggressiveness of these star-gazers is exemplified by their ignoring a recent decision of the Safford Ranger District of the Coronado National Forest to disallow snow-plowing of Route 366 and Forest Road 507 until unknown impacts and liabilities are described. Both roads are needed by the astronomers for travel to their test facilities on High Peak, but have traditionally been closed in winter due to snow. Undaunted, the astronomers circumvented the FS and obtained a permit from the State Department of Transportation to plow the road, against Forest Circus recommendation. We are investigating the legality of this action. It is no wonder that Steward Observatory is viewed with contempt by much of the astronomical community across the US. One astronomy department head from a major institution summed up the feeling of many this way, ". . . your distrust of the Steward Observatory is neither unwarranted nor unique . . . . they are well known in our discipline for their intimidating and ofttimes unscrupulous tactics [to attempt to] . . . dominate the field."

It is time for action at all levels against these public land exploiters. Call Steward Observatory (602-621-2288) and demand a copy of their Mt. Graham Site Development Master Plan; give them a piece of your mind. Read in the plan of their 25 huge structures, asphalt superhighway complete with traffic control lights, expandable 100 person dormitory, underground and overhead power lines, aerial tram, etc.; all requiring restrictions on public access. We will be expected to pay $5 to take a shuttle tour bus past the locked gate to view their 2000 square foot, 30 foot tall mirror vacuum coating facility, amply stocked with barrels of hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, potassium hydroxide, cuperic sulfate, and ethoxyethanol.

Visit the area and view the test equipment and diesel-soaked shanty camp already in place on High Peak. Visit the Forest Disservice and express yourself! Send comments on the DEIS to the Freddies. Wear T-shirts and sport bumper stickers from the Coalition for the Preservation of Mt. Graham. Contact Arizona EF! to find out what you can do to help stop this disgusting project now!

Babbitt Condemns Mt. Graham

Arizona's lame duck Democrat governor Bruce Babbitt (who is actively courting national environmental groups in his bid for the presidency) surprised both sides in the Mt. Graham International Observatory issue by endorsing the proposed development. His approval of the grotesque project came against advice from his aides and agencies such as the State Land Department and the Game and Fish Department.

Babbitt was paying bills in Graham County when he announced support for the abomination. Graham County Godfather Hank Gietz and other Gila Valley power brokers have been in bed with the Steward Observatory, deluding others with fantasies of economic prosperity that would result from the exploitation of the county's stupendous natural landmark. Figures yet to be released will not only pop that fantasy, but will demonstrate that the grandiose desecration will actually become a tax burden for impoverished Graham County.

Babbitt, one month prior to his announcement of support, had, in a letter to an opposition leader, assured us that he would take no position until he had read the Environmental Impact Statement. In an apparent loss of memory, "Babbitt the Rabbit" contradicted his own written statements. This political stumble may be the final coup de grace to the politician's career. No liberal Democrat with aspirations for the White House can afford to have an environmental skeleton in the closet as big as Mt. Graham.

Earth First! is calling on all who oppose this monstrosity to hit the governor and the following politicians with letters of outrage! Urge your representatives to study the soon-to-be released draft EIS and ignore all of Steward Observatory's whitewashed drivel. Remind them that 150 Black Bears, 65 Mountain Lions, 300 Red Squirrels, 10 Spotted Owls and populations of Apache Trout, Twin-spotted Rattlesnakes and Mountain Fleabane need Mt. Graham to survive; that the proposed observatory would severely impact the last remaining 700 acre stand of relict Pleistocene spruce-fir forest in southern Arizona.

Please write or call: Bruce Babbitt, Governor, 1700 W Washington St., Executive Tower, Phoenix, AZ 85007 (602-255-4331); representatives Morris Udall (202-225-4065; undecided on Mt. Graham issue), Jim Kolbe (202-225-2542; supports observatory), John McCain (202-223-2635; position unknown), Bob Stump (202-225-4576; position unknown), and Eldon Rudd (202-225-3361; position unknown), each at US House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; senators Dennis DeConcini (202-224-4521; supports observatory), and Barry Goldwater (202-224-2235; position unknown), each at US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; and your Arizona state senator and representative, State Capitol, 1700 W Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85007 (toll free 1-800-352-8404).

Anger Birdman and Ursa Power are long-time natives of Mt. Graham and its environs.

Grand Canyon Uranium Mine Update

by Ned Powell

Our battle to stop the Grand Canyon Uranium Mine has passed a bureaucratic milestone. May 1st marked the end of the public comment period for the draft EIS on this absurd plan. A mere formality, of course — the Freddies never were interested in hearing public opinion. They made it clear, from page one, that the mine proposal would be approved, although for legal reasons they collected comments on which haul route to use and minor details concerning the powerline corridor.

Once again the legal process is just a parody of public servants listening to the wishes of the American people. Leonard Lindquist, Supervisor for the Kaibab National Forest, limited the scope of this comment period to issues like: How many deer fawning areas should we disrupt? (The mine site is in the middle of one area, haul route option #1 runs next to, or through all five fawning areas in the region.) How many of the three Antelope fawning areas should be penetrated by uranium ore trucks? How about Elk calving areas? Should we truck this ore across an Elk migration corridor? Should we disrupt the forest or should these huge ore carriers be routed through Flagstaff? Does anyone care what effect this will have on wild Turkeys or Black Bear? How can we hide this operation from tourists? Doesn't it feel good to help the local economy? The real issues were never addressed.

Stay tuned, amigos, the fight isn't over yet. If you want to get involved contact AZ EF! (Donations are needed.) Arizona EF!ers will be discussing this and other issues at a Memorial Day gathering on Mt. Graham and at the RRR in Idaho. Y'all come.

While the legal process is a sham, letters do still make a difference, and deadlines shouldn't preclude us from sending comments. So, write in opposition to the Grand Canyon Uranium Mine to: Supervisor Leonard Lindquist, Kaibab National Forest, 800 S 6th St., Williams, AZ 86046.



Photo by Jacobson.

USDA FIRES ANTI-HERBICIDE RESEARCHER

by Ann Carr

When it comes to firing, the USDA (Agriculture Department) is notorious for cutting out the livewood — the creative noncomformist who is viewed as a trouble-maker by his or her administrators. Several years ago they fired the chair of a committee studying organic farming as an alternative to high-cost and environmentally-destructive petrochemical agriculture. This article is about soil scientist Bob Dixon, who was fired last fall at a time when his was the most widely acclaimed research in the USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS). He is the inventor of the land imprinter and land imprinting, a machine and process for revegetating overgrazed rangelands without use of environmentally destructive wide-spectrum herbicides. Dr. Dixon's axing and his supervisor Howard Morton's strong vested interest in the herbicide industry is no mere coincidence.

Bob Dixon chose long ago to devote his career to arresting soil erosion. After considering the importance of topsoil as a vital habitat for all terrestrial life, Dixon concluded that rampant soil erosion on a global scale was humanity's number one problem. After all, the collapse of many ancient civilizations is attributed to uncontrolled soil erosion. Dixon takes a broad view of topsoil. It's not just a mixture of mineral and organic matter, but is a living entity dependent on mutually creative processes for growth and survival. That is, terrestrial plants and animals create their topsoil habitat which then functions as a fertile site for creative evolutionary processes. Thus, as the thin mantle of topsoil thickens with time due to activities of living organisms, it not only can support an increasing number and diversity of such organisms, but also can provide room for the products of hybridization and genetic mutation. On the other hand, topsoil erosion consists of two interdependent and overlapping steps: death of the living organisms (or topsoil death), and translocation of remaining organic and mineral matter through the forces of wind, water, and gravity.

Land imprinting evolved over many years. Dixon, early in life, began connecting the topsoil erosion problem with a malfunction in the infiltration system of soil; which is the process by which rainwater penetrates the soil surface to replenish soil and groundwater reservoirs, and in turn to feed plant roots and springs. If rainwater could infiltrate as fast as it fell, there would be no rainwater runoff to erode the soil. Furthermore, if all the rainwater soaked in to support flourishing vegetation, there would be no hard soil surfaces and thus no wind erosion. Dixon observed that virgin prairies soaked up rainwater where it fell, thereby providing the vital moisture required for flourishing plant and animal communities and for thickening the mantle of topsoil. But when these prairies were over-plowed, over-cowed and more recently over-Dowed, the soil surface became increasingly smooth and sealed with resultant decreases in rainwater infiltration and corresponding increases in rainwater runoff and topsoil erosion. Bob conducted research to verify these observations, and to confirm the need for soil air to be vented to make room for the infiltrating rainwater.



A rolling rangeland imprinter operating on severely overgrazed land near Tombstone, Arizona. The resulting angular depressions in the soil surface funnel rainwater, litter, seeds, and topsoil together where they can work in concert to germinate seeds and establish seedlings. Photo courtesy of Ann Carr.

We now know how Dow, Cow and the Plow upset the infiltration process so that rainwater runs off carrying topsoil with it as it moves downslope to build devastating floodwaters. But what good is this scientific knowledge unless it is put to use? That was the message Dixon received from his USDA administrators in the 1970s. He knew that to apply his infiltration concept in the best way would require new farm tools because conventional digging and plowing equipment broke down soils' infiltration systems, and he knew that development of new tools would infringe upon the domain of his colleagues in agricultural and mechanical engineering. Nevertheless, in 1976 he developed a unique approach for land treatment which he called land imprinting, using USDA-ARS machine shop facilities to fabricate a prototypic rolling rangeland imprinter.

Bob Dixon's invention of the imprinter fortuitously coincided with a drought in the western US and the need for new methods to stretch limited rainwater. Seizing the opportunity, USDA's Information Staff in Oakland issued a nation-wide news release stressing the ways in which land imprinting could soften the punch of the drought. A huge amount of publicity ensued as many newspapers, farm magazines, TV channels, etc. elaborated on the initial USDA release. Dixon's colleagues at the USDA-ARS Southwest Rangeland Watershed Research Center showed resentment and jealousy over the publicity showered upon the land imprinter and Dixon. One staff member tried to discredit Dixon by spreading the word that Dixon did not use experimental controls in his research. Another staff member started taking credit in publications for the development of imprinting. Operating funds for the imprinting research began to disappear mysteriously. Thus, in early 1980 Dixon requested a transfer across Tucson to another USDA-ARS research group, the Aridland Ecosystem Improvement Research Unit, headed by Howard Morton.

Dixon learned too late that his new supervisor was being subjected to much negative publicity in a series of articles by Jane Kay in the *Arizona Daily Star* concerning his use of experimental herbicides over large acreages of the Buenos Aires Ranch. This negative publicity contrasted sharply with the positive publicity that land imprinting was getting. This contrast may have motivated Morton to seek to get rid of Dixon and the land imprinting threat. Get rid of Dixon he did, but only after five years of abusive and punitive actions which amounted to severe harassment.

In addition to abusive actions against Dixon — such as suspensions without pay, pay reductions, AWOL charges and grade demotions — Morton attempted to discredit land imprinting through rigged experiments. Morton and his assistant Jerry Cox conducted land imprinting research in Arizona and Mexico using substandard equipment and operating procedures to prove that land imprinting has no merit. Not surprisingly, performance was also substandard. They are now trying to publish their data.

Up to the time Dixon joined Morton's staff, he had never received a performance rating of less than satisfactory. Since becoming a USDA Soil Scientist in 1960 he had risen from GS 7 Grade, Step 1 to GS 13, Step 7. After 20 years of success, Dixon suddenly became a failure because his research threatened Morton's comfortable entrenchment in the petrochemical industry.

During the five years that Dixon was being harassed, Morton enjoyed the somewhat reluctant support of USDA administrators and the wholehearted support of the petrochemical industry; whereas Dixon had the support of ranchers and many other land managers and environmental organizations including Sierra Club, Audubon Society, Northern Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, Defenders of Wildlife and Friends of the Earth. In this five-year period, 60 articles appeared worldwide on land imprinting.

On the day he was fired, or involuntarily separated as the USDA calls it, Dixon applied for an early retirement annuity to pay his living expenses and to establish a non-profit organization, The Imprinting Foundation. This Foundation will be directed to achieving sustainable Earth culture. He feels we've only scratched the surface in the field of land imprinting in particular and permanent agriculture in general.

The USDA once again has chopped out the livewood and left the dead. Howard Morton now presides over the remnants of the USDA land imprinting research. The fox is babysitting the chicken.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Write your members of Congress, encouraging them to ask for an investigation of Dixon's firing by USDA.

Ann Carr is an ecologist living in Tucson. Persons interested in helping The Imprinting Foundation can reach Ann at 602-795-6008.

FOUR AIR-EARTH INTERFACE PROCESSES

1. Desertification

2. Infiltration

3. Imprintation

4. Revegetation



Saguaro after herbicide treatment. Photo by Dave Foreman.

USDA POISONS SAGUAROS



by Ann Carr

It has recently been discovered that the USDA, in 1982, killed Saguaro Cacti and Paloverde Trees (the Arizona State Tree and Flower) in the lower Sonoran Desert foothills under the guise of "conducting revegetation experiments" for the petrochemical industry. According to the warped wisdom of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS), target plants such as the Mesquite and Creosote bush had to be killed as a first step to the reintroduction of perennial grasses in severely overgrazed rangeland.

In a 60-acre experiment, the ARS bulldozed a large area of lush Sonoran desert for an aircraft landing strip in preparation for aerial application of a killer chemical, Tebuthiuron, to snuff the life out of the native vegetation in order to encourage growth of succulent grasses to feed the Sacred Cow. Typically, overspray killed beyond the 60-acre boundary. The ARS was successful in destroying not only the target plants of Mesquite and Creosote, but also virtually every living organism in the area shown in the photos.

A single application of the herbicide Tebuthiuron has created a silent spring, summer, fall and winter for three consecutive years. This ecological violation pushed back the natural plant succession to the starting point of an unstable community of annual grasses. Perennials lost from the plant community include Saguaro, Paloverde, Barrel Cacti, Creosote, Mesquite, Ironwood, Whitethorn Acacia, Catclaw, and Bursage. Mistletoe along with the cryptogamic crust of algae, fungi, lichens and moss were also lost.

The local rancher is currently investing in an extensive revegetation project to offset this intensive damage to the land. Land imprinting is being applied on this dead desert with hope that residual chemicals do not surface to prevent native vegetation from growing again. We hope that Tebuthiuron didn't contaminate the groundwater; the devastation lies in the area of Tucson's water supply.

Herbicide treatment is traditionally the first step in restoring perennial grass to rangeland. However, land imprinting adds perennial grasses without destroying the existing ecosystem. The cost of imprinting is only $20 per acre including a good seed mix. A 10% strip treatment lowers the cost to just $2 per gross acre. Unfortunately this new relatively benign method of treating rangeland is still bypassed in favor of the destructive wide spectrum herbicide Tebuthiuron. New technologies such as land imprinting can't compete well against the promotional campaigns of the multibillion dollar petrochemical industry.

Texas Freddies Display Their True Colors

by Aunt E. Loap

In late April, Texas Earth First! took to the Forest Supervisor's office in Lufkin to protest Forest Service management practices, namely clearcutting in National Forests and pinebeetle clearcuts in East Texas Wilderness Areas. The Freddies' reaction was one of ignorance, disrespect, and even physical violence! Nine picketing EF!ers were refused entrance to Supervisor Mike Lannan's office, and denied any response to questions presented to the Forest Service the day before the protest. They were rudely escorted off the floor where Lannan's office is located, and as a few EF!ers paused on the way out to purchase forest maps, they were ordered by public relations man Hal Glassman, to "get out." One of the EF!ers received an unsolicited shove into a door, hurting his arm. Glassman then lit a cigarette and threatened to blow smoke at the group if they did not leave!

Later in the *Lufkin Daily News*, Supervisor Lannan was quoted as saying that there was no conflict about which the protestors could complain. After all, "the Forest Service had not cut timber from a Wilderness Area in about a month." (!) He also claimed that "statewide representative of Earth First! David Orr," had commissioned a representative to negotiate the "organization's" interest in the forest management plan. (David was not able to join the protest; apparently the FS was trying to use this to discredit the action.) Obviously, EF! needs to spend more time clarifying our "interests" and "proposals" (demands) to the Freddies in Lufkin and in Washington. EF! Texas is planning to visit Lannan once again on Tuesday, May 27. This action will follow a "wilderness think-tank campout" from May 24-26 (Memorial Day weekend). We seek people from Texas and surrounding states to join us for this enlightening, emphatic, and enjoyable occasion. For more information contact: Barbara Dugelby, c/o EF! Austin, POB 4272, University Station, Austin, TX 78713 (512-467-1404); or Red Wolf, c/o Rt. 3, Box 113, Cleveland, TX 77327 (713-592-7664).

Letters (cont)

Dear SFB,

Arthur Dogmeat would like to explain a few facts to folks who wrote to Yellowstone Park with questions about the SS Watt. Yellowstone Park officials answer complaints about the SS Watt by saying, "Huh? We don't have a deluxe houseboat called the SS Watt." That's brilliant. Before explaining why I didn't call the SS Watt by its proper name, let me say that Park officials know damn well the SS Watt and the Anna are one and the same. But Park officials can't explain why public funds have been wasted on this pimp boat. Park officials don't want to admit congressmen get free rides on the Anna, and that the contract between the NPS and TW-Services gives the government a profit motive. They avoid these issues by saying they don't have a houseboat called the SS Watt.

This evasiveness typifies Park Service attitudes toward public concerns. It takes months and sometimes years to get simple yes or no answers from the NPS. As a responsible journalist I wanted to find out the real name of the SS Watt, when it was purchased, and how much it cost. But I didn't have enough patience to battle bureaucrats for years to get this information. I made up the name SS Watt. I apologize.

But I implore you to make the NPS respond to your concerns about the SS Watt or the Anna or whatever the name of that floating whorehouse is. Here's an example of how much your letters count: In an article about Yellowstone's winter-use plan, I mentioned that the NPS provided hot tubs and big screen TVs for Park visitors. Lots of angry EF!ers told the NPS this was inappropriate; and sure enough, the latest draft of the winter-use plan says hot tubs and big screen TVs are inappropriate in National Parks and will be eliminated. Your letters changed that.

The SS Watt is inappropriate too. The TW-Services/NPS contract is turning the park into a playground for fat cats. You can change that too. Send more letters to Yellowstone and send copies to your representatives. (See articles this issue for addresses.) Write to me if you want more information. And again, I'm sorry about any confusion I created by calling the Anna the SS Watt.

—Arthur Dogmeat
Box 7572, Missoula, MT 59807

Dear Friends,

The energy of EF! is powerful, righteous, and effective. I want to talk here about spiritual energy — the yin that completes the circle. I realize that spiritual energy may be dismissed by those who feel direct physical energy is the only way. Yet, tuning in to the energy of the Goddess, our Mother, and collectively willing the accomplishment of her healing is complementary to the physical actions of EF!

At the 1985 RRR, I met several people interested in this aspect of Earth healing, and we participated in a circle and healing ritual. The roots of this ritual are ancient, with a Native American core, and involve calling in energy from the four directions. Spiritual energy is not a concept that needs indoctrination or concern about whether the energy is raised correctly. The desire to merge and raise energy is all that's necessary — learn as you go. Most important, trust yourself. Trust that the Goddess reveals her needs in a positive and healing way, and trust that you will receive the energy and let it flow through you for the intended purpose.

People all over the world, especially women, do such rituals. For longer than history, women have been practicing Earth rituals. This has frightened people so much that these women, and men participants also, have been murdered in vast numbers, as in the burnings that have transpired over centuries.

People have panicked out of their minds, and regard practicing pagans as devils. They impart power to pagans that is greater than any power we ourselves could raise. But people, use it! If fundamentalist religious types think pagans have that much power, then we do!

I don't know if Goddess-Mother-Earth ritual fits into the Earth First! scheme of things. After all, it is its "own thing." Perhaps I'm just sensitive to the way the patriarchy has crushed everything in its path — anything that stands in the way of the senseless drive for power "over" — people, animals, nature, Earth. Everywhere the drive for power is overwhelming. And then Mommy comes along with a catastrophe to help us all regain perspective.

I have less and less tolerance for "making do" with bandaid approaches to Earth's problems within the existing power structure and format. And I'll bet there are a bunch of people nodding their heads and saying, "Yeah, we know what you do; we do it too!" Because I can raise energy. And so can you. And together, that energy we raise is power, to help protect and heal the Earth. First!

—Desert Crone

Greetings,

I read with interest the article by P. Kahn entitled "Last Stand on Boggy Creek." As to Kahn's question of where was the Sierra Club, I ask where was EF! Austin on such local issues as the Hill Country Roadway Ordinance, which will restrict development in the environmentally sensitive Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone on which Austin depends for its clean water? Or the Austin Transportation Study which threatens to re-create Los Angeles in Central Texas? The Club is prepared to sue in federal court to stop this boondoggle. Will EF! join this fight with their "meager resources?"

The Sierra Club in Austin consists of 2000 members, of which about 30 are activists. This small group is called upon to do such unglamorous tasks as attending city council meetings, serving on citizen advisory boards, testifying at public hearings, etc. While this isn't as fun as chaining oneself to a tree and appearing on the six o'clock news, it is much more effective in the long haul.

The point of this is that environmentalists are becoming an endangered species and can't afford to adopt a "holier than thou" attitude toward people whose goals are the same. We face too many problems from the predators in Washington and our state capitols to be turning on one another.

With no animosity,
—C.A. Siller (Austin, TX)

Dear Dave Foreman,

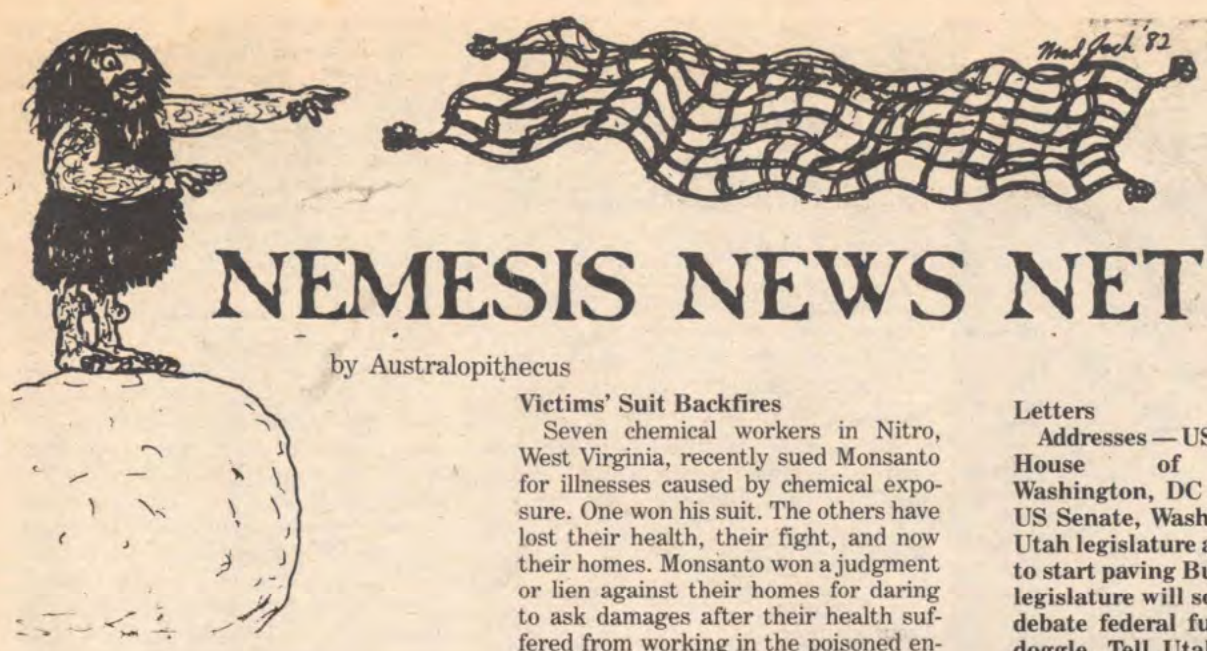
Hierarchy and grassroots frequently collide in the Sierra Club and it's not always bad news. Occasional collisions help keep the Club on track and at the forefront of environmental issues. No other national environmental organization does as much for grassroot activists or listens as closely to them as the Sierra Club.

Your recent article on the nuclear war controversy grossly misrepresented the Club's attempt to work on peace issues without taking resources away from equally important campaigns such as wilderness protection, toxic waste, and nuclear waste.

There is not strong grassroots support within the Club for making nuclear war the #1 priority. A small cadre of activists, primarily centered in the Bay Area, has decided they speak for the whole Club. This group of activists has torn apart the Bay Chapter in its recent elections pitting committed volunteers against one another. These "activists" are out-of-touch with grassroots environmentalism in most parts of our country. They waste energy on getting the Sierra Club to adopt "priorities" through meaningless petition drives and silent vigils at Club board meetings. They have no idea what it's like to speak out for wilderness in a hostile rural community. They don't understand what it's like to be represented in Congress by Steve Symms, Mike Strang, or Don Young instead of Ron Dellums or Sala Burton. Because they don't understand these things, they believe the battles are within. Instead of fighting the nuclear threat, they fight the environmental bureaucracy. They are masters of political infighting instead of fighters in the trenches. For all the resources they put in their "fight" to get the Sierra Club to adopt nuclear war as a priority, they could have been out leading the fight on the issues.

People need to realize that once the Department of Energy locates a high-level nuclear waste site, the nuclear loop is complete. The lack of an acceptable waste site is the final limiting factor on our nuclear merry-go-round. It sickens me to see *Earth First!* wasting precious space to cover a non-issue. When I think of all the roadless areas we're losing and the recent nuclear test in Nevada, I wonder why these "activists" aren't out there harassing the Forest Service or blockading the Test Site.

—Bikini Atoll



NEMESIS NEWS NET

by Australopithecus

East Fork Gila Attacked

The Gila Fish & Gun Club has invaded the area of the East Fork of the Gila River, in New Mexico's Grant County, placing survey stakes for their planned road providing access to the East Fork. Fortunately, alert unknown citizens met the onslaught by pulling the stakes. Gun club members intend to build their own road through the Gila National Forest in an undesignated pocket surrounded by Wilderness. The stake pulling has delayed but not stopped their plans.

Miner Wants Road in RNR

An independent miner, Jim Collord, has submitted a proposal to the Payette National Forest to build a road into Idaho's Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness (RNR). Payette Freddies are writing an EIS evaluating the putrid proposal. Collord wants to build or reconstruct 13 miles of road, nine of it in Wilderness, to gain motorized access to his unpatented (not privately owned) Golden Bear claims, 46 miles northeast of McCall inside the Wilderness. Collord is seeking patents from the BLM for his claims. Should the Payette NF grant Collord his permit, a dangerous precedent would be set, as this would be the first acknowledged road built within an established Wilderness. The 1964 Wilderness Act allows "reasonable access" to mining claims if the wilderness character of the affected area remains intact. Write in opposition to any roads or mining within the RNR or any Wilderness to: Earl Kimbal, Krassel Ranger District, POB 1026, McCall, ID 83638.

MT Timber Machines Besieged

"Vandals" caused over $12,000 of damage to logging equipment in the Jack Creek area near Big Sky, Montana. The forest defenders burned a truck with a skidding boom and damaged four other heavy machines. The equipment belongs to three contractors working for Plum Creek Timber Company. The gas and wood fire burned so intensely that it totaled the truck and erased all tracks of the defenders. Environmentalists have long been complaining about the 40 square miles of logging tracts owned by Plum Creek in the area of Jack Creek, in the Madison Range south of Spanish Peaks Primitive Area.

Chemical Plants Emit Toxic Gas

It is not only our waters that are befouled by chemical makers. A survey requested by Representative Henry Waxman (D-CA) has found that most chemical plants routinely emit huge volumes of toxic materials into the air. Yet the EPA has set national pollution standards for only five toxics — asbestos, benzene, vinyl chloride, mercury, and beryllium. Toxic releases are heaviest in Kentucky and West Virginia.

North Pole Enveloped in Pollution

Air pollution from Europe, the Soviet Union, and North America now blows north each winter in such great quantities that by March an area in the Arctic as big as North America is covered with smoke and haze to elevations as high as 18,000 feet. Meteorologists fear that this Arctic air pollution could disrupt climates worldwide. So those of you hoping to escape foul air by moving north had better reconsider; even at the North Pole you'll be entombed in poison air four months each year.

Victims' Suit Backfires

Seven chemical workers in Nitro, West Virginia, recently sued Monsanto for illnesses caused by chemical exposure. One won his suit. The others have lost their health, their fight, and now their homes. Monsanto won a judgment or lien against their homes for daring to ask damages after their health suffered from working in the poisoned environment. Judge John Copenhaver ruled against the workers, and ruled that Monsanto was entitled to $300,000 as reimbursement for its legal fees. If this suit stands, a dangerous precedent will be set. Chemical companies and other wrongdoers will be able to do anything and expect no recourse.

Nova Scotia Doused by Bt

Nova Scotia's provincial government plans to spray 60,000 hectares (150,000 acres; three times the area sprayed last year) of forest with the biological pesticide *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (BTK or Bt) to kill spruce budworm. Bt is being described by the government — and accepted by many environmentalists — as a benign alternative to chemical pesticides, which consists of "a naturally occurring bacterium." Chemical sprays have not been widely used in Nova Scotia to control budworm, but they have been administered heavily in New Brunswick for decades without eliminating budworms. Nova Scotia is setting a trend in its adoption of Bt as an alternative to chemical poisons. Ontario and Quebec have recently chosen to commence use of Bt. Fortunately, not all ecologists are falling prey to this technological fix. At a meeting of the Pictou Municipal Council on March 3, 1986, David Orton and other ecologists gave convincing testimony against Bt spraying. The following statements are taken from their testimony:

Bt is not a "pure" biological control but contains various additives in its commercial preparations — carriers, solvents, emulsifiers, stabilizers, etc. . . . Additives are considered trade secrets by the manufacturers and are not publicly revealable to those who will be using or receiving the Bt spray.

Bt also kills the larvae of some other moths and butterflies, apart from the spruce budworm larvae. (There are reported to be over 10,000 species of moths and butterflies in North America.) It is known that some of these moths and butterflies defoliate what are considered weeds, others act as pollinators of plants. The claim that Bt does no harm to non-target organisms is false. The larvae of moths and butterflies are an important food source for some birds. Birds are a natural insect control and are the main predators of the spruce budworm.

The type of forestry being promoted in N.S. (clearcutting, even-aged management, aiming for plantation forests) facilitates and enhances the "problem" with the spruce budworm . . . . (C)lear cutting, the favored cutting method of the pulp and paper industry, actually promotes the natural regeneration of increasing areas of balsam fir, the most liked food for the spruce budworm. This holds true for Nova Scotia and across the country. The ecological role played by the spruce budworm in the past, has been to kill off the mature fir-spruce forest and thus to regenerate new growth.

For information on this problem, contact: David Orton, R.R. #3, Saltsprings, Pictou County, Nova Scotia, Canada, BOK 1P0.

Bt will also be sprayed extensively in Oregon, unless budget cuts stop the federal funding of the Oregon Agriculture Department's spray program. Its use in Oregon appears less ecologically dubious than its use in Nova Scotia insofar as it is being used against an introduced species — the gypsy moth — rather than a natural species. Nevertheless, ecologists should be on guard.

Letters

Addresses — US representatives: US House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; US senators: US Senate, Wash., DC 20510; *The Utah legislature approved $1.7 million to start paving Burr Trail. The federal legislature will soon hold hearings to debate federal funding of this boondoggle. Tell Utah and federal legislators to oppose Senator Garn's legislation to upgrade Burr Trail, and tell them you want the Burr Trail area kept wild and undeveloped.

***BLM's Wilderness recommendations for northwest Colorado are grim — one 36,000 acre area called Diamond Breaks near Dinosaur National Monument to be protected; seven WSAs in the Little Snake area to be left open to land despoilers. Comments should be sent to BLM, 455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625. Comments are also needed on the National Park Service's proposals to "improve" Dinosaur National Monument by upgrading and expanding the Monument's roads and in other ways promoting increased tourism. Tell the NPS that you want the Monument to remain wild and seldom trodden and that its roads should be closed, not expanded. Send comments to Supt. Joe Kennedy, NPS, Box 210, Dinosaur, CO 81510.**

***The proposed Coors brewery continues to threaten Virginia's Shenandoah National Park. Coors is now up for a second round of state and EPA permits. Please write letters strongly opposing the Coors brewery, and even more strongly opposing the accompanying can manufacturing plant, to US Representative Jim Olin, and US Senators Paul Trible and John Warner. Tell them that the permits should be denied because of resultant pollution of the Shenandoah River and Chesapeake Bay, and damage to the Park. For more information, see R.F. Mueller's article in the Litha '84 edition.**

***The Sierra Club has asked environmentalists to write to their senators urging them to support the Senate equivalent of H.R.4350, a bill which would add portions of five rivers (Cache La Poudre River, CO; Saline Bayou, LA; Black Creek, MI; North and South Forks of the Kern River, CA) to the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System.**

***Write to Superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936 in opposition to proposed developments in undeveloped portions of the A/H area, near Lake McDonald.**

***Write to your senators asking them to cosponsor S.1368, a bill to ban shipment of padded-jaw or steel-jaw leghold traps.**

***The 32-acre Sweeden Swamp in Attleboro, Massachusetts, has been temporarily saved by Region 1 of the EPA in a unique veto of the Army Corps of Engineers' permit to Pyramid Companies to replace the wetland with a shopping maul. Pyramid, which has the support of the Reagan administration, is lobbying to overturn Region 1's recommendation. EPA Administrator Lee Thomas will soon decide the fate of Sweeden Swamp. Write immediately to Thomas (EPA, 401 M St. SW, Wash., DC 20460) telling him not to yield to the pressure of the Corps and Pyramid and to seek to preserve Sweeden Swamp and all US wetlands.**

***Ask your representative to cosponsor H.R. 2952, to ban US importation of products made from Red, Eastern Gray, and Western Gray Kangaroos. Largely due to US consumers, Australians plan to slaughter 2.7 million kangaroos this year to convert the animals into shoe leather, pet food and various frivolous items.**

***Write to Alaska's governor William Sheffield (State of Alaska, Pouch A, Juneau, AK 99811) asking him to stop all killing of wolves. Last year in Alaska, 1029 wolves were legally killed, mostly for "management" (to eliminate hunters' competition for moose) or sport.**

***Tell your legislators that funds for Animal Damage Control programs should be eliminated, whereas funds for enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act should be restored. Reagan wants to eliminate the Animal Welfare Act funds of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS, an agency within the Agriculture Department), while giving ten million dollars to APHIS to kill predators. (Federal predator slaughter has been shifted from the Interior Department to USDA.)**

***Object to Coca Cola about their plastic/aluminum can, which will wreak havoc on can recycling efforts in the US. Also object to Coca Cola about their plans to convert Belize rainforest to citrus groves. Call toll free 1-800-GET-COKE or write: Bryon Dyson, Coca-Cola, PO Drawer 1734, Atlanta, GA 30301.**

***Ask US senators to support S.1747 and S.1748 and US representatives to support companion bills H.R. 2957 and 2958. S.1748 & H.R.2958 — the Biological Diversity Bills — would provide $10 million a year from the US Agency for International Development (AID) to protect biological diversity in developing countries. S.1747 & H.R.2957 — the Tropical Forest Bills — would prevent AID from supporting developments, such as roads, cattle ranches and dams, which destroy rainforests.**

Flathead Plan Appealed 37 Times

Flathead National Forest Supervisor Ed Brannon described as "discouraging" the fact that environmentalists have issued 37 separate appeals to the Flathead's disastrous Forest Plan. (See Gary Steele's article, last issue; and write to EF! in Tucson for a copy of Montana EF!'s scathing appeal.) Thirty-six appeals were sent to Northern Region Forester James Overbay, and one to Forest Service Chief Max Peterson, who will rule on the appeals. Flathead Brannon commented on the appealing environmental groups, "I'm really glad sometimes that these groups aren't given nuclear weapons."

Seabrook Monkeywrenched

In late February, while New Hampshire's Seabrook nuclear power plant officials tested their emergency warning system, "vandals" felled two 60 foot poles — in Rye and Hampton — which held sirens which would sound in the event of a plant accident. Other Seabrook poles elsewhere were sawed part way through. Plant authorities now plan to improve security for their siren network of 140 poles by sheathing them in metal or "spiking" them with steel; and are offering a $1000 reward for the arrest of the aggressive plant protesters. The damage to Seabrook totals $30,000; the new security measures for the poles will add thousands to the cost of the monkeywrenching incidents. Seabrook is conducting tests to satisfy federal requirements that it complete an emergency plan before receiving a permit to run the plant. One-third of the New Hampshire and Massachusetts communities within Seabrook's ten mile radius have refused to take part in the tests. Seabrook bureaucrats plan to complete the plant late this year.

Billboards Groups Lobby

Despite objections throughout the US by numerous citizens, billboards are still going up faster than they are coming down. Billboard lobby groups, such as the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, have spent (often through their PACs) millions of dollars in recent years to block local ordinances against billboards and to weaken the 1965 Highway Beautification Act. This Act, banning billboard construction outside commercial and industrial areas, has largely been ignored. Indeed, legal opposition to billboards — even if it succeeds in banning new billboards — leaves the existing obnoxious signs standing. Creativity is called for.

TRIBAL LORE



New Paper On Public Lands

The non-profit educational corporation Utah Public Lands Research has just published its first issue of an excellent new paper called *On Public Lands*. This paper will provide in-depth coverage of environmental issues on public lands, especially those in Utah. The first issue featured fine articles dealing with the BLM's disastrous Utah wilderness study, regulations allowing minerals development on WSAs, BLM's failure to protect its WSAs and other key topics. To subscribe to *On Public Lands*, send $10 for one year (11 issues) to Utah Public Lands Research, POB 510863, SLC, UT 84151-0863. Free sample upon request.

Permaculture Course Offered

The Permaculture Design Course for people planning to work in the Third World, held in Washington State, June 14-29, 1986, will cover: sustainable resource use, low energy food production, agroforestry, fuelwood and charcoal production, integrated livestock systems, windbreaks, sociological factors; $460 includes food, lodging, and course materials. For info, write: PINA-Third World Course, 6488 Maxwelton Rd., Clinton, WA 98236 (206-221-3979).

Fossey's Work To Continue

The gallant efforts of Dian Fossey — recently murdered by poachers in Africa — to stop poaching and save the Mountain Gorilla will be continued through the Digit Fund. Contributions to save the Gorilla can be sent to this small non-profit organization: The Digit Fund, c/o Rane Randolph CPA, POB 25, Ithaca, NY 14851.

Conservation Award Granted Annually

Nominations are open for the Celia Hunter Award. The Award was established by the Trustees of the Alaska Conservation Foundation in honor of their chairperson for the past five years. The purpose of the award is to encourage a volunteer activist in Alaska who has given exemplary service to the environmental movement by carrying on Celia's tradition of sensitive and persistent environmental advocacy for protecting Alaska. A special grant of $1000 will be given to an Alaskan organization in the name of the award winner. Nominations for the award should be sent to the Alaska Conservation Foundation, 340 G St., Suite 201, Anchorage, AK 99501; send before November 1, 1986. This award honors a pioneer Alaskan conservationist who was the principal organizer 25 years ago of the first grassroots group in the state, The Alaska Conservation Society, and who has since that time worked faithfully in the movement without pause. Celia was President and Executive Director of The Wilderness Society during the time that Dave Foreman, Bart Koehler, Jim Eaton, Tim Mahoney, Debbie Sease and other currently prominent environmentalists worked for that organization. Dave Foreman has called Celia Hunter, "the most inspiring person for whom I've ever worked, and one of America's great living conservationists, along with Mardy Murie and Dave Brower."

AESF Saves Asian Wildlife

The Asian Elephant, Tiger, Asiatic or Biblical Lion, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Indian Rhino, and many more species in Asia face imminent extinction largely due to slaughter for ivory, horns and skins. The Asian Elephant Survival Foundation is a leading group in the fight to save Asia's wildlife. Members of AESF receive *Elephant Magazine*, the journal about nature and humanity in Asia. AESF writes:

Nowhere on Earth has an animal played a more crucial role in civilization and culture as the Asian elephant. Mythologically the elephant underlies Asian life: elephants hold up the world, one sired the Buddha, and Ganesh is joyous elephant god of Wisdom and Knowledge among Hindus. Literally, the Asian elephant built civilization. Admired by all cultures as a gentle, intelligent and generous creature, the Asian elephant is disappearing because of ivory poaching and deforestation.

The situation in Nepal is especially acute. Present estimates are less than 50 elephants compared to estimates of several thousand sixty years ago. The trend throughout central and southeast Asia has led some experts to predict that the Asian elephant could be extinct in twenty-five years . . . .

[T]he Russian Academy of Science has verified that a zoo Asian Elephant can say at least 80 phrases . . . . The Asian elephant is one of the biggest brained creatures close to dolphins, orcas, and humans (comparing brain to body weight).

The lion of western and eastern civilizations alike is not from Africa but Asia. The lion of Hercules, David and the Bible, symbol of nations from England and France to Iran, survives today in west-central India. Unlike the still widespread African lion, the Asian lives only in the Gir Forest, where it is endangered with less than 300 surviving.

Tigers live only in Asia where they are endangered along with the beautiful snow leopard, denizen of the Himalayas, the elegant cheetah, the prehistoric Indian rhino and the dhole, India's wild dog made famous by Kipling. And of course the endangered panda.

To help save Asia's wildlife and to become a member, send $25 to Asian Elephant Survival Foundation, Sierra Nevada College, 800 College Dr., Incline Village, NV 89450.

Wayne-Hoosier NF Group Forms

Eastern ecologists concerned with the plight of Indiana's Hoosier National Forest and Ohio's Wayne National Forest (administered under one supervisor) have formed a group called Protect Our Woods to seek to stop the Forest Service's disastrous plans for the Wayne-Hoosier. The FS Wayne-Hoosier Plan calls for: 55 miles of Off Road Vehicle trails in "Little Africa"; clearcutting 80% of the woods in the next 120 years, with clearcuts of up to 30 acres; reduction of the oak and hickory content of the forest; and construction of five miles of road per square mile of forest. Letters of complaint should be sent to congresspersons, Indiana's governor, and especially: Harold Godlevske, Supervisor, Wayne-Hoosier National Forest, 3527 Tenth St., Bedford, IN 47421; and Larry Hensen, Regional Forester, Eastern Reg., 310 W Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203. To help Protect Our Woods, contact: Andy Mahler, R 3, Paoli, IN 47454 (812-723-2430).

***Green Letter* Expands**

Green Letter, the excellent Green news bulletin put out by Jerry Gwathney and friends, has begun encompassing within its pages the Committees of Correspondence news. Now subscribers to *Green Letter* will receive worldwide Green news plus news from the US Green movement's Committees of Correspondence — the regional Green networks which are trying to make Greens a force in US politics. The bulletin has also joined forces with the non-profit Tides Foundation. To obtain *Green Letter*, send a tax-deductible donation to Tides Foundation/Green Letter, POB 9242, Berkeley, CA 94709.

Local EF! Newsletters

At least two Earth First! local groups are publishing newsletters and we encourage more to do so. Local EF! newsletters inform EF!ers of letters that need to be written, and they help generate actions. Any EF! groups that begin publishing newsletters, please place us on your mailing list, so we know of your actions and can make note of you in *EF!*. The Bay Area EF! newsletter is produced largely by one of our most active organizers — Karen Pickett. To join the efforts of the Bay Area EF! and to obtain their newsletter, contact Karen at POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516 (415-376-7329). Santa Cruz EF! publishes a newsletter which is well worth its $5-$20 subscription cost. To join in Santa Cruz EF!'s actions and to obtain their newsletter, write: EF!-SC, Box 651, Capitola, CA 95010-0651. Subscribers to *Earth First!* do not automatically receive local EF! group newsletters in their area. You must directly contact the local group to be placed on their mailing list.

The Santa Cruz EF! winter '86 newsletter featured a fine article on 'shrooms, portions of which we will here use (the article, not the 'shrooms):

Recently a new phenomenon has made its way to Santa Cruz — wild mushrooms dried or fresh for a high price. The problem with these products is that the price you pay doesn't reflect what the ultimate price is for these culinary delicacies. [C]ollecting wild 'shrooms has become a big business.

There are small mushroom collectors and there are the big operations with big buses that deliver a hundred or so collectors to the forest for a day of collecting. The scene of these big operations is the National Forests of the Pacific Coast from the Canadian border to Central California. Without any regulatory machinery in place, these big operators have declared open season on mushrooms, especially Chanterelles, Morrels, Cepes, and other rare edible varieties. The Forest Service, which is supposed to regulate the commercial uses of National Forests, has turned a blind eye to this "industry" with no requirements, licenses, control, or study.

Mushrooms are a fungus and reproduce in two ways. Underground is the domain of the largest part of the whole fungus organism, the mycelium. Consisting of minute hair-like threads called hyphae, the mycelium is spread out like a mat in the decaying vegetable litter that forms on the forest floor. The mycelial mat grows constantly out at a slow rate as long as there is a layer of moist litter to support it. Occasionally a deer or other animal will spread a portion of the mycelial mat to a new area, but the main mechanism for long distance propagation is by means of spores. At certain times, especially following rain, the fungus will send up fruiting bodies carrying the spores, the mushroom caps that are the object of the collector. It is paramount that the mushroom be picked before it releases the spores because most mushrooms decay rapidly after releasing the spores. The consequence is that the picking of the mushroom prevents propagation of the fungus. The second problem with picking the mushrooms is that to get to the mushroom the collector has to walk on the forest litter layer. The impact of the collector's boots destroys the fine hyphae of the mycelia. This occurs at a time when the litter layer, and the supporting soil horizons below, are in their most delicate state — damp from the very rains that cause the fungus to fruit. There isn't any way to pick the mushroom without damaging the mycelium.

The only way to prevent losing rare mushroom species is to take away the profit. The Forest Service can prohibit the collection of wild mushrooms, but only by removing the incentive can the destruction be halted in the forest.

Earth First! suggests that you not buy wild mushrooms and ask your grocer to not buy them from collectors and distributors. Write letters to the Forest Service and demand that commercial collection of wild mushrooms be prohibited. Also, since a significant portion of wild mushrooms are dried and shipped overseas, a letter to your Congressperson requesting a ban on the export of wild mushroom products is also a good idea. If you happen to be in the woods following a rain and notice a big bus with Northwest Wild Mushrooms, Inc. or something similar painted on the side, I don't have tell you what to do to the tires and the oilfiller spout. (Article by Drew Truid.)

AFRICA IN CRISIS: THE CAUSES, THE CURES OF ENVIRONMENTAL BANKRUPTCY; Lloyd Timberlake;1986; New Society Publishers (4722 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143); $9.95 paperback plus $1.50 postage for first copy, .40 each additional; 224pp.

Lloyd Timberlake and Earthscan (International Institute for Environment and Development) have produced a sobering book titled *Africa in Crisis*. This book effectively explains the causes of the current famine in Africa, showing how ecological problems have led to the drought upon which the massive starvation is blamed, and led to the suffering in 1985 of 10 million environmental refugees. In brief, Timberlake attributes African starvation to the following factors: 1. overpopulation; 2. lack of appreciation for the wisdom of the native peoples of Africa and their traditionally ecological modes of existence; 3. misdirected and self-serving "aid" from developed countries; 4. African governments which seek to increase the wealth of the urban elite at the expense of the rural poor; 5. pressure from multi-lateral development banks and the governments of both the undeveloped and the developed nations to promote production of export cash crops rather than staple foods; 6. overgrazing; 7. deforestation; 8. destructive water development projects; 9. civil wars; and other related political, social and ecological crises, all of which are inseparable and mutually reinforcing problems. Timberlake makes it clear that alleviating the African crisis, if it can be done, will require stopping population growth, replanting trees, helping native peoples organize themselves back into communities and cooperatives, and trusting these peoples' traditional lifestyles while helping them adapt their lifestyles to a severely degraded environment.

Africa in Crisis is, unfortunately, written from an anthropocentric perspective; but it contains warnings which ecologists have tended to overlook — at the expense of Africa's wildlife. For instance, Timberlake warns against adopting the Western park tradition of setting aside certain areas of land to be used for human recreation but not subsistence. He wrote, "The result of applying such [Western] rules to African parks is the bizarre situation in which Africans are hired, trained and armed to guard African parks to keep out African people, for the benefit of both the protected animals and the foreigners who come to see them — and of course for the tourist revenue, which goes into government or hotel bank accounts, not to rural people." Perhaps the lesson to be learned is not that parks are incompatible with native peoples' needs, but that African wildlife and wilderness can only be saved if human population is reduced, the Western concept of parks is adapted to the African situation, and native peoples are allowed to maintain traditional modes of subsistence or in some way derive material benefit from parks.

In conclusion, *Africa in Crisis*, despite its standard anthropocentric flaws, is well worth reading if only to remind us that the destruction of Earth is upon us.

Reviewed by Australopithecus.

PRIMAL ENLIGHTENMENT

By Tomas White & Erle Black

People here-a-bouts have read Gary Snyder's, "Smokey The Bear Sutra," and things have not been the same since. Dark figures have been seen slipping through the forests with odd metal spikes and hammers performing strange rituals, chanting in low tones, "Drown Their Butts, Crush Their Butts, Drown Their Butts, Crush Their Butts." Talk is going around about "sunny spots" and "pine trees," and "highest perfect enlightenment," and frankly some folks think it a bit strange. Butt not us. We have seen him and we know.

He emerged from the impenetrable forest bearing True Knowledge, and we knew at once he was one reborn, One who IS primal enlightenment! He cracked a broad smile, but said not a word. There was no need. We looked at him and we saw our true selves. Over his earthly head he bore the (surprisingly un-ethereal) crown of true enlightenment, and his heart chakra shone red (neck) with love for Earth, and its spilled blood. We followed him into the forest and learned strange rites — hugging trees, pulling stakes, and others too secret to disclose. But we do share a picture of the Great One so that others may know him as he truly is, no longer stripped of his bear dignity by oppressive and ignorant Cruids (who worship humans and sacrifice trees to false gods). He is no longer a Forest Service symbol of fire suppression, but now seeks only Freddie suppression.

In our part of the Pacific Northwest a team of Freddies have unmercifully, with cruid intentions, marked beautiful, living trees with yellow paint, undoubtedly for their future destruction by the teeth of a chainsaw, with a fat, tobacco chewing killer at the throttle. When dust falls on the towering trees causing ominous shadows, and dark silhouettes, the Freddies will move toward their crummy. They will hear a faint sound, slowly becoming louder as it echos through the trees, "Drown Their Butts, Crush Their Butts, Drown Their Butts, Crush Their Butts . . . ."



SMOKEY THE BEAR SUTRA

Once in the Jurassic, about 150 million years ago, the Great Sun Buddha in this corner of the Infinite Void gave a great Discourse to all the assembled elements and energies: to the standing beings, the walking beings, the flying beings, and the sitting beings — even grasses, to the number of thirteen billion, each one born from a seed, were assembled there: a Discourse concerning Enlightenment on the planet Earth.

"In some future time, there will be a continent called America. It will have great centers of power called such as Pyramid Lake, Walden Pond, channels such Columbia River, Mississippi River, and Grand Canyon. The human race in that era will get into troubles all over its head, and practically wreck everything in spite of its own strong intelligent Buddha-nature."

"The twisting strata of the great mountains and the pulsings of great volcanoes are my love burning deep in the earth. My obstinate compassion is schist and basalt and granite, to be mountains, to bring down the rain. In that future American Era I shall enter a new form: to cure the world of loveless knowledge that seeks with blind hunger; and mindless rage eating food that will not fill it."

And the showed himself in his true form of SMOKEY THE BEAR. A handsome smokey-colored brown bear standing on his hind legs, showing that he is aroused and watchful.

Bearing in his right paw the Shovel that digs to the truth beneath appearances; cuts the roots of useless attachments, and flings damp sand on the fires of greed and war;

His left paw in the Mudra of Comradely Display — indicating that all creatures have the full right to live to their limits and that deer, rabbits, chipmunks, snakes, dandelions, and lizards all grow in the realm of the Dharma;

Wearing the blue work overalls symbolic of slaves and laborers, the countless men oppressed by a civilization that claims to save but only destroys;

Wearing the broad-brimmed hat of the West, symbolic of the forces that guard the Wilderness, which is the Natural State of the Dharma and the True Path of man on earth; all true paths lead through mountains —

With a halo of smoke and flame behind, the forest fires of the kaliyuga, fires caused by the stupidity of those who think things can be gained and lost whereas in truth all is contained vast and free in the Blue Sky and Green Earth of One Mind;

Round-bellied to show his kind nature and that the great earth has food enough for everyone who loves her and trusts her;

Trampling underfoot wasteful freeways and needless suburbs; smashing the worms of capitalism and totalitarianism;

Indicating the Task: his followers, becoming free of cars, houses, canned food, universities, and shoes, master the Three Mysteries of their own Body, Speech and Mind; and fearlessly chop down the rotten trees and prune out the sick limbs of this country America and then burn the leftover trash.

Wrathful but Calm, Austere but Comic, Smokey the Bear will illuminate those who would help him but for those who would hinder or slander him,

HE WILL PUT THEM OUT.

Thus his great Mantra: Namah samanta vajranam channda maharoshana

Sphataya hum traka ham mam

"I DEDICATE MYSELF TO THE UNIVERSAL DIAMOND

BE THIS RAGING FURY DESTROYED"

And he will protect those who love woods and rivers, Gods and animals, hobos and madmen, prisoners and sick people, musicians, playful women, and hopeful children;

And if anyone is threatened by advertising, air pollution, or the police, they should chant SMOKEY THE BEAR'S WAR SPELL:

DROWN THEIR BUTTS,
CRUSH THEIR BUTTS,
DROWN THEIR BUTTS,
CRUSH THEIR BUTTS

And SMOKEY THE BEAR will surely appear to put the enemy out with his vajra-shovel.

Now those who recite this Sutra and then try to put it in practice will accumulate merit as countless as the sands of Arizona and Nevada,

Will help save the planet Earth from total oil slick,

Will enter the age of harmony of man and nature,

Will win the tender love and caresses of men, women, and beasts

Will always have ripe blackberries to eat and a sunny spot

under a pine tree to sit at,

AND IN THE END WILL WIN HIGHEST PERFECT ENLIGHTENMENT

thus have we heard.

—Gary Snyder (1969)

Eating As If Nature Mattered

by Art Dingle

You may know that the automobile industry is the largest single manufacturing and processing concern in the US, but did you know that the meat industry is a close second? American meat interests use over one-third of the Continental US for their business, and are rapidly spreading their destructive practices throughout Central and South America. The meat industry may be the single greatest enemy to ecologists, yet it is also probably the easiest to overcome. How? Change your diet.

Before you die-hard meat-eaters grumble about how "everything dies to feed something else," listen. I won't talk about animal rights, personal health or international economics. But I will ask that you stop buying commercial animal products for the following "ecological" reasons:

Domesticated Animal Production is Ecologically Inefficient and Destructive

1) Land Use: The most efficient known methods of human food procurement are hunting and gathering, and Mayan agriculture, neither of which is much practised today; certainly not in the Americas or Western Europe, where flesh-eating consumers have destroyed entire continents to support one of the most inefficient food systems imaginable.

Nearly all the meat Americans eat was fed, when it was an animal, a diet of processed foods. Even "grass fed" beef is usually fattened for weeks or months (called "finishing") on grains before slaughter. Much of this food (30 to 80%) is usable by humans, e.g. corn, soybeans, oats, barley. The ratio of protein input to protein output in food animal production varies from 4 to 1 (in milk and eggs) up to 25 to 1 in beef. Combining these figures with ones given above, we see a loss of humanly usable protein of up to 76%.

If we cut out the "middle-man" in this food chain, huge areas that are now monocultures of grains and legumes could be freed for "re-naturalization." Presently, over half of all our tilled and harvested land is used for animal feed crops. If this "resource" were no longer needed, we would find a reduction in needed farmlands of about 50%. That could mean more wetlands, hardwoods, and prairies. (Unless one thinks of feeding the world, but that's a different myth.) I strongly support the dramatic EF! Wilderness proposals for the West, and hope for comparable proposals for the East. Reclamation on such a grand scale will certainly require the virtual elimination of the modern animal industry as we know it.

Modern animal production is also wasteful in terms of energy consumption and return. The best animal enterprise returns only about 35% of the fossil fuel energy investment in the form of food energy, while the poorest of the five major plant crops returns 328%! Considering all the problems associated with burning fossil fuels, e.g. acid rain, greenhouse effect; these figures speak for themselves.

2) Land Abuse: What about range-fed animals? Three problems come to mind: removal and/or destruction of indigenous species, overgrazing, and abuse of water sources. Most of you know about these issues, so I won't dwell on them. Suffice it to say that before livestock move in, native predators and large herbivores are destroyed by settlers. Then cattle destroy the flora, turning prairies into scrub-lands and semi-arid places into deserts. As the land dries, deeper wells are dug, dams built for irrigation, and goats may eventually be brought in to finish what the cattle have left. Livestock grazing is contributing to the accelerating spread of the Sahara Desert. The US beef industry is being blamed for the deforestation of Central and South America. In this country the tale is nearly as grim: from Big Bend to Bismark, Kansas City to Reno, the land will never be the same.

A few years ago, I stood in west Texas watching tumbleweeds. The land seemed empty, yet a few miles away was one of the biggest feedlots in the world. Suddenly in the dry wind I heard the cries of wolves, buffalo, golden eagles, pumas, prairie dogs, burrowing owls, ferrets, foxes and a thousand flowers that went unnoticed (at least by the whites). The demise of all this can be directly related to cattle and sheep interests, and other animal industries. (I have a horrible vision of the last wild red wolf being shot by a goddamned turkey rancher.)

Domesticated Animal Production Is A Major Source of Pollution

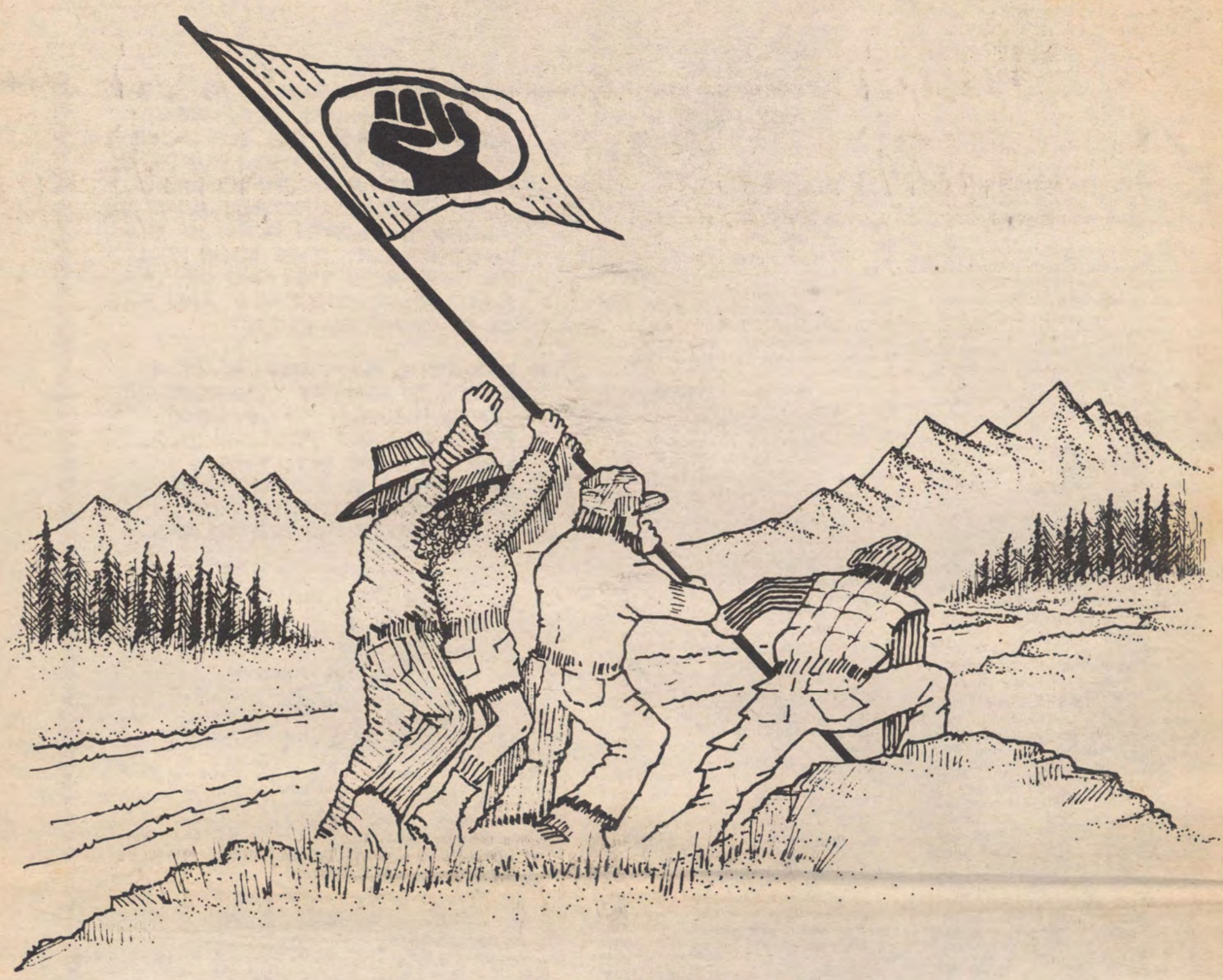
1) Animal Wastes: In the US alone, there are over two billion tons of animal wastes annually. That's ten times the amount of the same product from human sources. Much of it is good fertilizer; unfortunately only about half of it is used so. The rest ends up in lakes, ponds, rivers, ground waters, oceans, i.e., the same places human wastes go, but generally without sewage treatment. I'd bet that one-half to two-thirds of fish kills in US waters are caused by agricultural runoff, mostly from feedlots.

2) Industrial Pollutants: The modern animal industries require enormous amounts of fossil fuels, metals, rubber, etc. to carry on. Trucking interests, farm equipment manufacturers and utility companies are greatly and sometimes entirely dependent upon the animal industry.

3) Chemical Pollutants: It would take quite a list to enumerate the chemical pollutants associated with the animal industry. From the pesticides sprayed on feed crops, and the herbicides used to control "weeds" on range and pasture, to the feed-additives, hormones, antibiotics, and preservatives pumped into the animals, the list would be endless.

4) The least obvious pollutive aspect is the mental pollution resulting from an artificial food system that alienates humans from other animals by placing them entirely at our disposal, enslaving and consuming them by the billions annually. This attitude carries over to our relationships with all life-forms: plants, waters, our Mother Earth, and each other.

continued on page 21



EARTH FIRST !

7th annual

ROUND RIVER RENDEZVOUS

June 30 to July 6 , 1986

NORTH FORK BIG LOST RIVER
CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST

IDAHO

ROUND RIVER RENDEZV



Let's keep Idaho the rare gem she is
Undiscovered in the rough
When they try to cut and polish her
We'll have to say you've got enough.
-The Braun Brothers

In what promises to be the most exciting reunion of the year, the seventh annual Round River Rendezvous is less than two months away! Earth First!ers from around the country and beyond will gather in the Challis National Forest in Idaho. Encircled by peaks of ten and eleven thousand feet, the North Fork of the Big Lost River should provide a site with cold swimming holes and superb hiking through the red fir forests.

Come and sing along with Bill Oliver ("Mr. Habitat" himself) or dance a little Idaho swing. If swimming, birding, hiking or bagging peaks aren't too distracting, you can heighten your knowledge and involvement at one of the many in-depth workshops throughout the week. The amazing Sagebrush Patriot Rally will be held on the 4th of July as we celebrate our continuing fight for freedom and justice for all (people, forests, animals, rivers . . .).

Of course, no fee is required for you to attend the Rendezvous, but it is far from free to pull together. Currently, funding for the '86 RRR budget looks slim and grim, folks. The Earth First! Foundation will gladly accept your spare change, savings bonds, inheritances, etc. . . .

As last year, people will park & camp scattered around. We'll have a central campfire. We'll gather briefly in the morning each day. Monday through Thursday, we'll have scheduled workshops, hikes, etc. The schedule stays tentative to allow for late arrivals of workshop leaders, for additions of other (new) workshops and continuation or repeat of workshops due to popular demand. If you want to add a workshop/event/whatever, write it in on the schedule posted at the Rendezvous. The schedule will be finalized each day before the morning gathering, then announced and posted. There will be some type of a central area for the schedule and other information.

Each morning, immediately following the gathering at the fire circle, parents and children desiring childcare for all or part of the day will meet to exchange information, say howdy, choose workers and other important essentials.

There will be campfires every night, probably with a "featured' singer, then with the usual jams, singalongs, etc. Tuesday night we'll have a barbeque. Bring your own meat and a dish to potluck. Friday is the Sagebrush Patriots Rally with speakers, musicians, poets; essentially the only performer/audience event of the Rendezvous. Saturday and Sunday are more or less reserved for workshops that are outgrowths of the prior several days, in other words, whatever people want to do. There'll be a library with information on natural history, and services in the nearby towns. If you have car trouble on the way, don't give up. Make a sign that says RRR and try hitchhiking. It worked last year.

There is a variety of information readily available about this part of Idaho. Here's a couple of suggestions:

Forest Service map: East Half, Challis National Forest; from Challis N. F., USFS, Challis, ID 83226, or the Freddie office in Ketchum, $1.00

Bird List, Mammal list, etc. also available from above addresses. Ask for information pertaining to either Challis Forest or Sawtooth region.

Sawtooth Tales, by Dick d'Easum

History of Sun Valley Both available locally

Topo maps: Meridian Peak - RRR site

Others that are adjacent: North Fork Big Lost River; Herd Peak; Herd Lake; Bowery Peak; Bowery Creek; Ryan Peak

What you can do to help:

Offer your services to the ride coordinator in your bioregion.

If you've got some space in your car for the last hundred miles or so, offer to pick up people at nearby airports (Denver, Salt Lake City, Boise, Idaho Falls)

If you're bringing kids, let Michelle Miller know.

On your way to the RRR, pick up hitchhikers with an RRR sign.

At the RRR, volunteer on one of the many "committees."

Pick up firewood on the way to the site.

Definitely Bring:

This page (there will be no additional flyer sent out)

Camping gear for a week

Clothes for warm, sunny weather

Clothes for cold, wet or dry weather

This high country has a reputation for low tempetures, tall stories, and dramatic incidents. It was on a remote fork of Lost River that a rainbow trout wearing earmuffs was caught on the Fourth of July. Temperature range: could be sunny and 80 degrees all week, could snow on us (unlikely but has happened), could rain. Remember the high elevation and the northern latitude.

Water jugs (no potable water at site)

Food and cooking gear — we'll again have the communal campfires, not individual ones

Something for the Bar-B-Q Tuesday night — your own meat (or whatever) and an item for the potluck

High spirits

Bring if you can or want to:

Firewood (pick it up on the way in)

bicycles (dirt roads near RRR)

Tarps — in case of rain so the workshops, etc. can go on.

Movie projector

Since the RRR budget is so slim, our future EF!ers are in dire need of a few items. Please bring any of these (or anything else you can think of) to donate or lend to the Rendezvous childcare: old funky canvas tents; tarps; ropes(for swings); rolls of newsprint; books; costumes; musical instruments; scissors; paint, paintbrushes; any art items; yarn, tape, glue; any other junk and doodahs . . .

You need not be a parent to contribute!

Please leave the yappers, howlers or other assorted beasties at home (or be prepared to restrain them). *This is not in reference to childcare!*

All of us traveling to the Rendezvous will have quite a positive impact on the local economy. Let's exercise some of our economic muscle. As you travel through Idaho and spend money at various places, tell them you're environmentalists. Why don't we reward those businesses that have helped us in our battles?

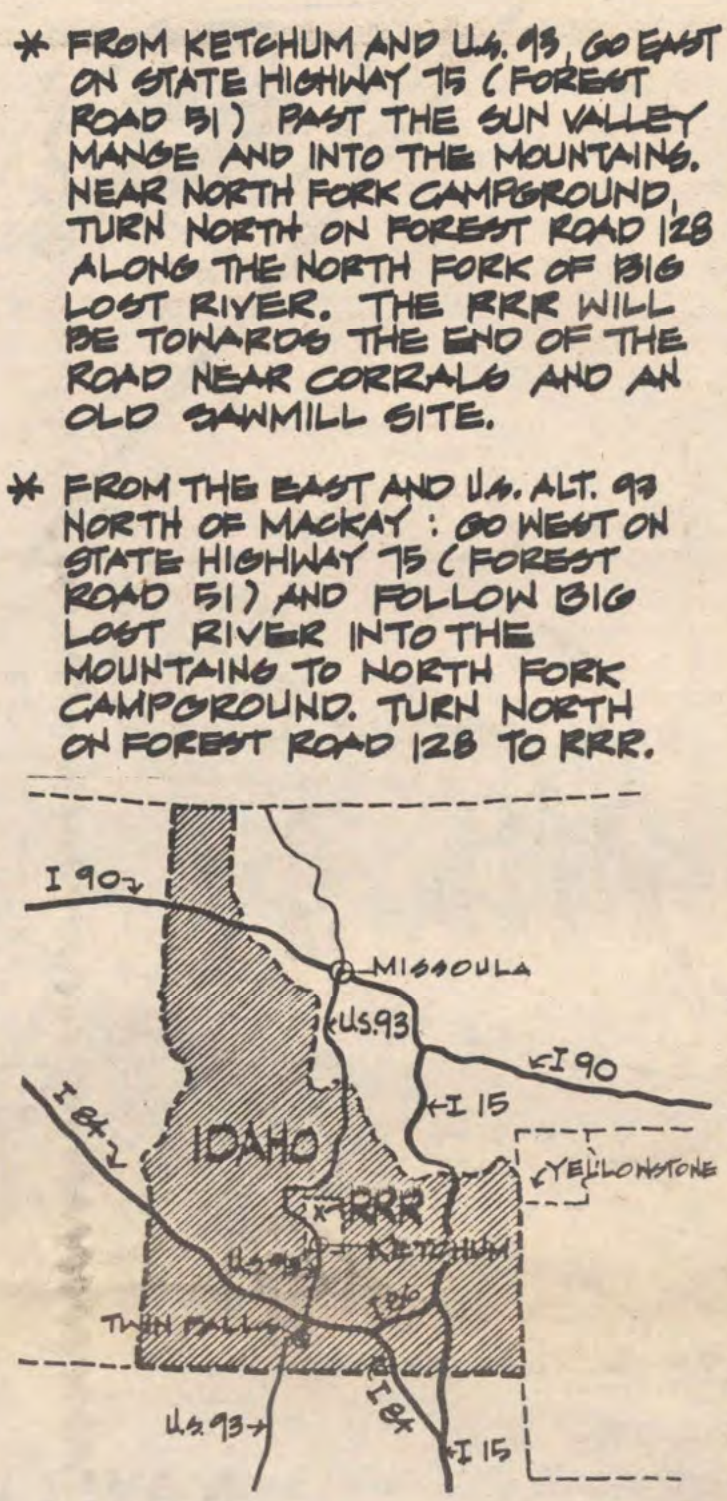
Places in Ketchum to patronize because of their support of local environmentalists:

Gerry's Mini-Mart (also has cheapest gas in town) (Warm Springs & 10th)
Coffee Grinder (4th & Leadville)
Louie's (331 Leadville)
Backwoods (outdoor gear)
Silver Creek Outfitters (outdoor gear)
Photographics (film)
Sun Inn (motel)

Do **not** patronize:
Snug (outdoor gear)
Wood River Motel
Sun Valley Co. (gas & all)

* FROM KETCHUM AND U.S. 93, GO EAST ON STATE HIGHWAY 75 (FOREST ROAD 51) PAST THE SUN VALLEY MANSE AND INTO THE MOUNTAINS. NEAR NORTH FORK CAMPGROUND, TURN NORTH ON FOREST ROAD 128 ALONG THE NORTH FORK OF BIG LOST RIVER. THE RRR WILL BE TOWARDS THE END OF THE ROAD NEAR CORRALS AND AN OLD SAWMILL SITE.

* FROM THE EAST AND U.S. ALT. 93 NORTH OF MACKAY: GO WEST ON STATE HIGHWAY 75 (FOREST ROAD 51) AND FOLLOW BIG LOST RIVER INTO THE MOUNTAINS TO NORTH FORK CAMPGROUND. TURN NORTH ON FOREST ROAD 128 TO RRR.



Come to the Round River Rendezvous and bring your vision of an Earth honored and revered rather than poisoned and mutilated. Bring your ideas and dreams, your passion and your anger and put them to constructive use. A question was put out by Dave Foreman at one of the workshops last year asking how Earth First!ers view the movement. Are we a tribe that gathers once a year for rituals and bonding, or are we like seeds, widely dispersed to grow and flourish? Certainly, the Rendezvous personifies both of these: We renew acquaintances, cultivate bonds of friendship, and usually indulge in a sacred beer ritual or two. The Montana camp impressed us (I won't say how!) with their spirited chanting last July. We are also seedlike — as the knowledge and inspiration we gain comes home with us and spreads out like so many blackberry bushes along a creek. Each person that attends the Rendezvous is truly a leader in the movement, a warrior in the fight to protect our Mama.

Join us among the red fir and white pine when we gather this July. See you at the Rendezvous!

SCHEDULE OF EVE

Monday, June 30
Hikes
Natural History Hike
EF! Foundation

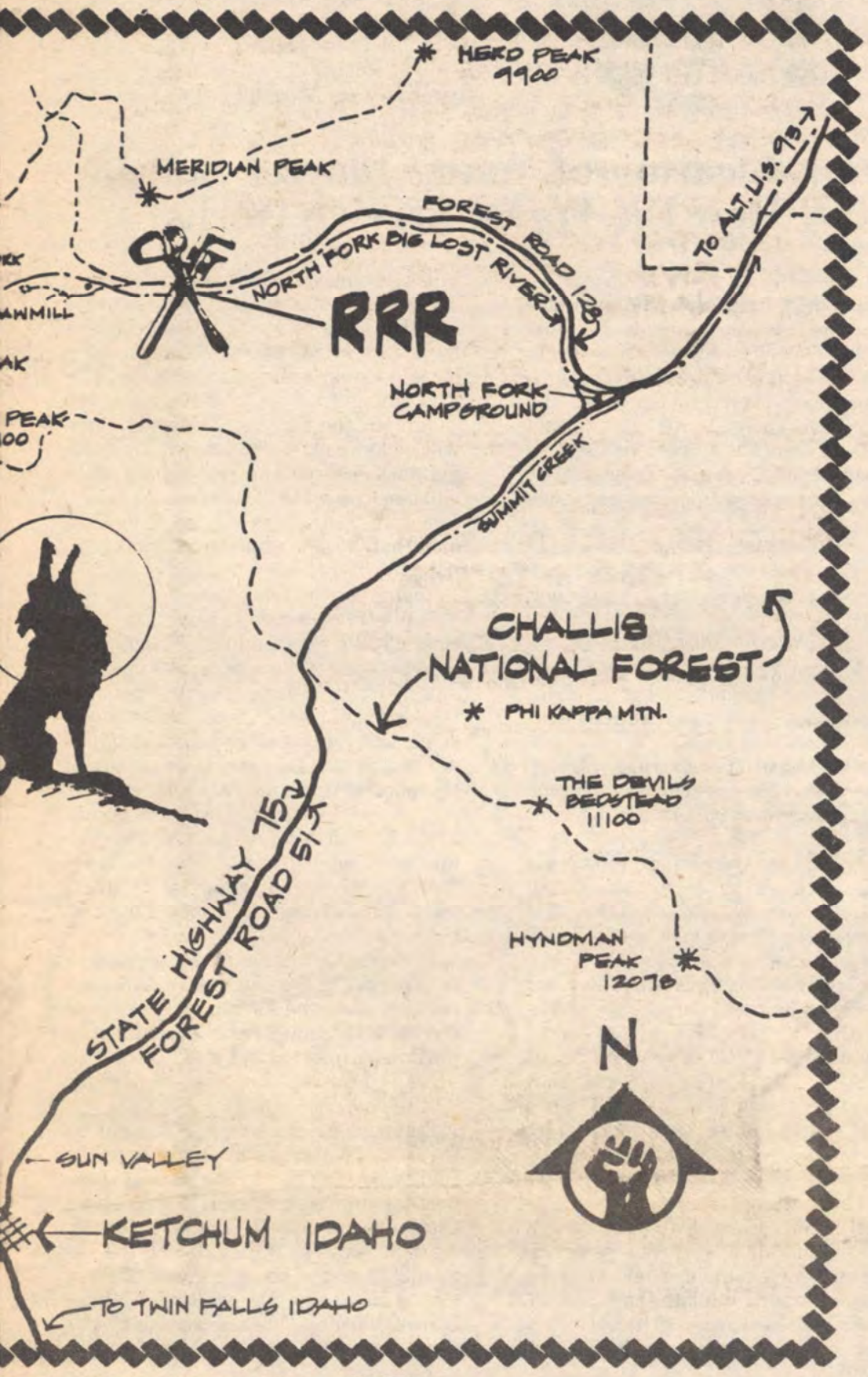
Tuesday, July 1
Non-Violent Direct Action
Media
Guerrilla Theater
Clean Air/Acid Rain
Forest Planning/Forest Service
Natural History Hike
Over-Population
Bioregionalism
Tree Climbing
Barbeque (*bring your own meat and a potluck dish)*

Wednesday, July 2
Local Group Organization
Local Group Caucus
Regional Group Caucus
EF! Foundation
Fundraising
Natural History Hike
Paper Monkeywrenching
Deep Ecology



Jamming around campfire at '85 RRR.

VOUS ..... In The Heart Of Idaho



CARPOOL COORDINATORS

ALASKA

Mavis Muller
Box 2607
Homer, AK 99603
907-235-5345

ARIZONA

Helen Wilson
Rt.14, Box 488H
Tucson, AZ 85743
602-744-3215

Grisle
POB 1525
Prescott, AZ 86302

CALIFORNIA

Michelle Miller
Box 38A, Cohasset Stage
Chico, CA 95926
916-345-4746

Tom Skeele
POB 272
Yosemite, CA 95389
209-372-4441

Jeff Hoffman
2128-A Woolsey
Berkeley, CA 94705
415-549-9534

San Diego:
Pam Hillock
(619)457-2458
Van Clothier
(619)481-6784
Claude Mathis
(619)942-8069

COLORADO

Luke & Kathy
Box 241
Boulder, CO 80306
303-449-4048
(school bus for 20-30!)

Wolf Needs Riders!

Our art hero, Lone Wolf Circles, needs riders to accompany him to the 86 RRR in Idaho. He'll be leaving from southern Colorado in late June and has room for three passengers. Contact Lone Wolf Circles, Box 711, Duration Ranch, Reserve, NM 87830.

IOWA

Jennifer Baum-Noah
1003 Arlington Ave. #1
Davenport, IA 52803
319-322-0541

KANSAS

Charlotte Neyland
613 Elm
Coffeyville, KS 67337

MASSACHUSETTS

Greylock
c/o Patti's Hair Port
614 Tyler St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

MISSOURI

Sue Skidmore
1364 S. Plaza
Springfield, MO 65805
417-882-2947

MONTANA

Gary Steele
Rt.1, Box 44K
St. Ignatius, MT 59865
406-745-3212

NEW MEXICO
Steve Marlatt
c/o 3957 Westview
Las Cruces, NM 88005
505-526-9380

NEW YORK
G. Mark Bromley
c/o Manitoga
Hudson River Nature Center
Garrison, NY 10524

WASHINGTON

Terry Graves
POB 704
Spokane, WA 99210-0704

George Draffan
POB 95316
Seattle, WA 98145

Or contact your local EF! group or contact.

ENTS

tentative and sure to change

Thursday, July 3
Deep Ecology
Redneck Women's Caucus
Natural History Hike
Environmental Eurythmics
Costume Making
Grazing
Grizzlies
Old Growth Protection
Wild Rivers
Utah BLM Wilderness

Friday, 4th of July
SAGEBRUSH PATRIOT'S RALLY
Dave Foreman
Marcy Willow
Ned Fritz
Stephanie Mills
Jasper Carlton
Jeri McAndrews
Lone Wolf Circles
Art Goodtimes
Bill Oliver
Johnny Sagebrush
Glenn Waldeck
Cecelia Ostrow
Greg Keeler
Jonathan Richmond
Jim Stoltz
Wobbly Bob Phillips
We are not advertising any expected celebrities

Saturday, July 5
Environmental Eurythmics
Natural History Hike
Deep Ecology
Round River Rendezvous '87
More workshops as arranged

Sunday, July 6
More workshops as arranged

Sierra Nevada College would like to announce that college credit will be available for attendence at the Round River Rendezvous '86.

Instructor, Rick Foster, MEd, Chairman of the Dept. Science, Director of Environmental Sciences will be in attendence.

Units to include:

Environmental Science (ENS) 351 Critical Analysis of Env. Issues 3 sem. credits

Environmental Science (ENS) 255 Landscape and Wilderness Studies of West (Idaho) 3 sem. credits

Tuition: $135.00 per class

Sierra Nevada College is accredited.

for further information write: Sierra Nevada College, Rick Foster, Ch. Science Dept., P.O.Box 4269, Incline Village, NV 89450-4269, 702-831-1314, 916-581-7766



Getting acquainted at '85 RRR. Photo by Ed Burger.

CHILDCARE REGISTRATION

Yes, I am planning to bring my children to the '86 RRR

# of children Ages Date arriving?

Parents area of interest in helping with the children

Your ideas for activities

include your name and address, do I need to contact you?

Anything else I should know?

Thanks for your help, Michele, Box 38A Cohasset Stage, Chico, CA 95926, 916-345-4746

View from the Outhouse

Suggestions for Possible Regression

by Robert Streeter



Everyone in the Deep Ecology/Earth First! tribe has encountered the following scenario: You're sitting around a campfire or in someone's living room talking about environmental issues. After much discussion, someone who desires more involvement asks, "How can I help?" Is it enough to loan them your copy of *The Monkey Wrench Gang*, suggest letters to write, involve them in demonstrations and give addresses of environmental groups? Hardly. The threats to wilderness, and indeed, to the very existence of life on Earth have reached a crisis level that demands a more encompassing response. The profound connections between our daily lifestyles and their deadly environmental consequences must be made, and the tough, long term solutions suggested. It is not enough to send twenty bucks or two thousand bucks to an environmental group and go about a middle-class lifestyle. It may ease the conscience, but the net effect on the planet remains negative.

I'm not demeaning even the smallest efforts to heal the environment, but if we hope to actually reverse the destruction of the planet, each of us needs to take a hard look at our lifestyles. Nearly every threat to the environment, including nuclear war, can be traced to the "high" standard of living of the consuming masses in all industrialized nations. Until we regress in our daily activities to an ecologically responsible level, all the laws, letter writing, donations, demonstrations, monkeywrenching, etc., will only slightly delay the biotic collapse of our planet. The same old battles will be fought with predictably devastating results. The root cause of acid rain or nuclear weapons, clearcuts or hydroelectric dams, is not an elite few, but rather, the masses who pay for the finished products. As long as we, the people, continue supplying the economic incentives for these products, the atrocities will continue.

The following suggestions are offered to those who ask (and those who don't), "How can I help?" They are just a few methods for reducing our participation in the military-industrial complex, and they can be thought of as acts of environmental advocacy equally as important as letter writing, civil disobedience, etc.; perhaps more important. The key is embracing the desperately needed lifestyle changes and accommodating as many other tactics as possible, with the goal of ending our own involvement in the problem.

- Stop paying war taxes. Resist all or a portion of your federal income tax. Income tax began in the US in an effort to pay for World War I. There was little compliance at first, but as the power of the IRS grew along with the military budget, non-compliance became (and still is) anathema for most. Income tax remains a means for financing past, present, and future US wars, with approximately 60% going for military purposes. Paying federal income tax is a direct way in which you support war and the preparations for war. Wilderness and war don't mix well, particularly nuclear war for which taxpayers are now preparing us. There are many imaginative methods of protesting, including rather safe (for the taxpayer) and annoying (for the IRS) methods for the beginning tax resister. Write: Con$cience and Military Tax Campaign - US, 44 Belhaven Rd., Bellport, NY 11713.

- Reduce your use of banks ("temples of property"). Banks play a vital role in facilitating our "unlimited growth" economy. Keep a minimum balance for check cashing privileges, but otherwise don't let them use your money, and don't use theirs. Staying out of the money economy as much as possible will help guide us into a steady-state economy. Bartering avoids the exchange of cash and is open to more people than you might think. Make a proposal. Use your imagination. The less money we earn and use each year, the better off we and our planet will be.

- Begin reducing your dependence on electricity (and other utilities), with the final objective of unhooking totally. Our species has been around for eons, and amazingly, in the span of a few decades, electricity has come to be considered a necessity for survival! Ask the acidified ecosystems of the Northeast, or Glen Canyon, or Black Mesa if they feel electricity is needed for their survival. Life without it nurtures a heightened awareness of self, family, and the surrounding environment, breathing life back into all three while making life more real and deeply satisfying. Explore alternative forms of energy as only a stepping stone to unhooking from the major utilities, since most alternatives (like photovoltaics) are still based on non-renewable resources. The ticket is discovering the intrinsic beauty in doing without, and repairing the Earth/human bond.

- Stop patronizing large supermarkets, which typically sell only the poisoned food of industrialized farming and show no regard for an organic, bioregional approach to food production. Find a local food cooperative where organic, local food can be bought in bulk, or form a buying club with friends if there's no established cooperative (That's how most cooperatives begin.) Consider the how and where of what you eat; e.g., should Americans be eating bananas? Hell no!

- Don't participate in "the malling of America." Stay away from those farmland fouling, wetland wasting empires (and national chains of any type, like fast food) which are destroying the more ecologically sound, locally based business communities, and the character of once rural landscapes.

- Recycle newspaper (stop buying those monstrous Sunday papers), glass, ferrous metals, aluminum, motor oil, plastic (boycott this ubiquitous plague), and anything else with a market. Say no to unnecessary bags when buying something. You'll get a kick out of the check-out person's perplexed response, and have an opportunity to enlighten them with this: Recycling a ton of paper saves 17 trees and from 70 to 100 gallons of gasoline. Start a compost pile for food and organic wastes. Even if you don't use the compost, it's better than taking up the limited space of landfills.

The list is endless. My point is to engage people in conversations which demonstrate the connections between lifestyles and the environmental threats they pose, to wilderness and otherwise, and then suggest changes at the source of most threats (our lifesyles) as well as the letter writing, direct action, etc. Discussing lifestyles is a sensitive subject, but it can have a positive response if done in a caring, supportive manner; there is no room for arrogance or self-righteousness.

Getting out of this mess will take generations, one step at a time, the same way we got into it. Hopefully children raised without electricity will carry on that practice with their own children, and regress in other ways from the consuming, industrial lifestyles of their ancestors. Meanwhile, career conservationists whose effectiveness depends on gas, electricity, and other bad habits, should continue. They are buying us precious time. But a significant number of people must take steps in demonstrating a sustainable lifestyle based on renewable resources. Regaining our vision of a homesteading, self-reliant ethic will eliminate the centralized, specialized, military-industrialized society that so threatens our planet, and will finally return us home.



THE GRIZZLY DEN

by Howie Wolke

The Education of Young Ranger Smith (or, How the Forest Service Works)

An old drinking buddy who currently works for the Boondoggle National Forest told me of a recent staff meeting, which included the Forest Supervisor:

Supervisor: Well, gentlemen, the Holier Than Thou Church of Reverend Sum Dum Goon has applied for a special use permit on our forest. They want to build a crematorium so they can burn babies of inferior races. They want to build the crematorium and associated powerplant in the Foolish Freddie Roadless Area. The plan could be controversial. I'd like your input.

Planner: We can mitigate!

Biologist: We'll have to map all the migratory routes and calving areas for elk and moose. Perhaps a seasonal closure of some kind.

Timber Beast: The new road will help us access some nearby commercial timber which is decadent and overmature.

Soil Scientist: The proposed site looks to be on a slump prone slope, but perhaps if we move it to the other side of Goosestep Creek we could avoid major problems.

Public Relations Specialist: I've got it! We won't let them burn babies on the Sabbath!

Young Smith: Wait a minute! This is disgusting! My God, didn't you hear what Supervisor Clone just said? They want to burn babies alive in order to generate power! It's immoral!

Supervisor: Well, our country does need the energy.

Recreation Specialist: You know, Smith, immorality is in the eye of the beholder. For example, some of those crazed environmentalists think our annual dirtbike race across critical Grizzly habitat is immoral. But it isn't. It's multiple use.

Young Smith: Yeah, but . . . .

Planner: We'll send the interdisciplinary team into the field tomorrow. That way, we can begin to work on the EA. Let's get the paper in motion!

Young Smith: I protest! Listen, you've got to . . . .

Supervisor: Son, I know you're new in the agency, but if you want to have a successful career you'd better learn to be a team player. Don't rock the boat.

Planner: Look, it's our job to provide a wide range of multiple use benefits for the American public. Name an activity and I guarantee you that somebody isn't going to like it. We always get caught in the middle. Reverend Goon will be unhappy about some of the mitigation measures and the Sahara Club will moan about the loss of another roadless area. Both sides will be mad at us, and that is how you know that we're doing our job.

Young Smith: Yeah, but . . . .

Timber Beast: Sure. Look, we have clearcutting, stripmining, roadbuilding, ski resort development, oil rigs, dirt bike races, four-wheeling, thousands of cattle, dams, water diversions, and various other activities which kill, maim, damage, or destroy part of the natural environment. That's multiple use, and without it we'd all be out of work. Hell, we even have Wilderness Management.

Young Smith: I know all that. I learned it in Forestry School. But don't ya think . . . .

Planner: Be a team player, Smith.

Supervisor: We can expect some opposition from the human rights groups and the goddamned environmentalists.

Timber Beast: Dingbats!

Supervisor: Let's do this one strictly by the book.

Planner: We can have the EA out by the first of March, followed by the public review period prior to the signing of the decision notice on April 1. If the Sahara Club doesn't appeal the decision by April 30, or even if they do and the Regional Forester doesn't grant them a stay, I don't see why we couldn't have babies burning by mid summer. The road engineers can begin their survey tomorrow.

Supervisor: Then we're all in agreement?

Young Smith: Well, if you're absolutely certain about the mitigation.

Planner: We can mitigate ANYTHING!

Supervisor: Then it's settled. We'll be the first Forest to have a baby burning power plant. What an opportunity! Good day, gentlemen.

An Immodest Proposal

By John Seed

Proposal from the Rainforest Information Centre to the Pacific Regional Meeting of the International Year of Peace Committee, Bangkok, August 1985:

There are thousands of groups around the world working in the cause of peace for human beings. This leaves a niche waiting to be filled — a group is needed to sue for peace on behalf of the other ten to fifty million species with whom we share Earth, and it is with this in mind that we address this meeting.

While we too sincerely wish for peace for humans, we recognize that the many groups struggling for peace may not succeed. The myriad species are non-combatants in our ancient human quarrels. On their behalf we make the following proposal:

We propose the careful and systematic substitution of species-specific weapons for our present arsenals of broad spectrum weapons such as nuclear bombs and indiscriminate chemical agents. If they were ever used, these precision weapons would only knock out one species, leaving the rest of the biosphere intact.

We could carefully substitute these fine-tuned biological weapons for our indiscriminate weapons in such a fashion that we never for a moment surrender our ability to kill every human being on the planet 4000 times over — that is, the security of having a balance of power between the superpowers would not be threatened by such a move. Biological weapons would be cheaper than our present nuclear arsenals, and suitable bacteria and viruses have already been developed. All that would be required is a crash program to mass produce them followed by a careful, step by step substitution.

Then, if by chance all of our efforts at peace were to fail and the button did get pressed, at least we would go to extinction knowing that a green and living planet was left behind, a planet that could certainly once again throw out something as complex as human beings in the blink of a few million years. We feel that the compassion demonstrated by so aiming our weapons would definitely be salutary for humans, and indeed would decrease the likelihood of the button ever being pushed.

John Seed is our Australian correspondent and one of our foremost experts on rainforests.

Animal Rights Vs. The Wilderness

by Karen DeBraal

"Here Ethel! Suuuiii! Here she comes!" squealed the pig researcher. And sure enough, crashing through the chaparral of Pinnacles National Monument, trotted Ethel, an inquisitive feral pig who decided that some people were A.O.K. — for a tummy scratch anyhow. Ethel was a juvenile pig who made friends with two pyschology researchers studying the behavior of feral pigs. Since I was working at Pinnacles, I assisted them with their research. With the help of Ethel (who began bringing her buddies on her friendship forays), the researchers managed to habituate 15 juvenile pigs to human research activities. These pigs were as lovable and intelligent as any dog.

Unfortunately, feral pigs wreak havoc on wilderness. Their destrictive activities are well documented at Volcanos National Park in Hawaii, in the Smokey Mountains of Tennessee, in Marin County of California, at Pinnacles and in Australia. Adaptable and hearty, feral pigs breed prodigiously and the multiplicity of swiney snouts rototilling through fragile soils and delicate plants upsets the ecological balance of our National Parks. The pigs hog food rightfully belonging to native species and they also muck up waterholes, making the water unfit for native animals.

This same situation — a fascinating non-native animal destroying an ecosystem — is seen with wild burros, goats, and other introduced species. The question is, what do humans do to rectify the sorry situation they began? Do burros, pigs and goats possess rights? Can wilderness and non-native species both be saved? Do ecosystems possess more rights than a pig?

The usual route for management agencies to take is to kill the offending animals — it is the cheapest and quickest way to end the problem. The rights of the offending animals aren't considered; the ecosystem simply comes first. Animal rights advocates disagree with this school of thought. They pour money into "Adopt-a-Burro" type programs. These programs are costly, involve long periods of time, and don't make a lasting dent in the non-native populations. And sometimes they don't work to the animals' benefit either — in one situation, goats were moved off an island and they all took ill and died. Theoretically, if live-trapping, adoption programs were successful management agencies couldn't reasonably be against them.



Karen DeBraal and friends.

However, might not all the money poured into saving a goat be used more wisely if it were channeled into saving a rare or endangered species? Perhaps if our society possessed different priorities, the issue of money and how to spend it would be moot. Money would abound for wilderness ecosystems and feral species.

The situation, as it now stands, usually pits conservationists against animal rights advocates. One might think that a wilderness advocate — someone devoted to saving things — would feel that non-native animals have rights too. In fact, many conservationists, like Ray Dasmann, do feel this way but try to stay away from these explosive issues. The majority will say that the ecosystem is most precious and must be protected, regardless of the rights of a few goats. This attitude can be noted by looking at environmental organizations — very few cross over into animal rights . . . the issues are too explosive, too emotional. The question of the rights of feral species is not mentioned in environmental journals. Some environmental organizations of a radical bent attempt to cross the line between the two camps — Defenders of Wildlife wants to ban leg-hold traps and let wild horses roam the plains of America. Earth First! discusses both sides of the animal rights issue. Greenpeace approaches the issue from the perspective that wild animals shouldn't be clubbed to death or slaughtered for our dubious benefit. The stance taken by these groups often procures them the label of "emotional."

The issue of emotionalism is addressed by Marti Kheel, in her book, *The Liberation of Nature — A Circular Affair.* Kheel believes that all animals are equal, whether they are cows or rare species, and states that a lack of emotionalism in viewing their rights is typical of hierarchical thinking. She says that if reason and emotion were united, sensibility would result. Keeping her philosophy in mind with regards to to the feral animal problem, ecologists are thinking along hierarchical lines, when they automatically say, "Shoot 'em," as an answer to the problem. If they began to think along less hierarchical lines, by looking at ecosystems and feral animals equally, they would rearrange their methods of problem solving.

Animal rights advocates are willing to do this. According to Dasmann, people are willing to spend vast amounts of money on saving feral species, evidence being the "Adopt-a-Burro" program. If these sorts of programs could be truly effective, this issue might be resolved with a minimum of fuss. But the programs would have to grow enormously, as efforts to save feral animals would require tremendous resources.

This issue, now beginning to be discussed by some environmentalists, has yet to specifically addressed by the large environmental organizations. While it is easy, from an ecological standpoint, to say that ecosystems must be preserved at all costs, the rights of the feral animals shouldn't be brushed aside any longer. These creatures hold rights too — and it isn't their fault that they ended up in their current position. People ought to consider this when they begin to look for remedies to the situation. Solutions do exist, if people rearrange their priorities and begin to solve problems in non-hierarchical ways.

Karen DeBraal, a California EF!er, in this article followed up her previous article on the damage to Pinnacles by pigs. Additional thoughtful short essays on this thorny problem will be considered for publication.

Civilization Act

by George Wuerthner

Our present methods for protecting wild lands are missing the entire concept of wilderness, that is to be unbounded, free and somewhat unknown. When we place a name on a wild, roadless area and define it with boundaries we have already taken away from its wild nature. Also in managing " wilderness" we tend to think in terms of our civilized, structured minds even though dealing with something that is unstructured in the formal sense.

I offer this alternative approach to wild land protection: the creation of "Civilization Areas" rather than Wilderness Areas. We ought to have a Bitterroot Valley Civilization Area instead of a Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Using the tools and structures of civilization we can define the limits of humanity's growth, the boundaries of its use areas. Then, by default, the remainder of the land automatically becomes wilderness.

Instead of surrounding our wilderness by civilization, let us surround our civilization with wilderness. It is a different way of perceiving the world and might even change our relationship with it. So I have written a Civilization Act to replace the presently used Wilderness Act.

We can preserve wildlands and provide for development by the resource exploitation interests with the creation of "Civilization Areas." Their establishment is a practical solution to the wilderness "problem." Civilization, unlike wilderness, depends upon definite boundaries and operates on timetables, permits and the regulations of activities. Humans do not create wild land with a survey line, any more than they create a blue sky with a weather report. They can only recognize and validate the existence of wilderness. We fail in our manipulation of natural systems because the linear principles of civilization govern our relationships with wild things. Instead of delineating where wilderness is allowed to exist, it would better serve Earth if we protected the civilized areas of the US by defining and limiting the places where the works of humans are substantial and unnatural conditions prevail. The creation of "Civilization Areas" would benefit present and future generations as tangible examples of unstable ecosystems.

I must stress the importance of swift action with regards to the formal establishment of definite boundaries of all civilized lands before we lose our monuments of civilization to the grizzly bear, wolf and the untamed forces of nature. With this in mind I submit the "Civilization Act" for the consideration of the American People and the US Congress in hopes that it is quickly accepted as an equitable solution to the deposition of public lands.

THE CIVILIZATION ACT

To establish a Civilization Preservation System for the permanent good of the whole people, and for other purposes. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.

Section 1 This act may be cited as the "Civilization Act."

Civilization System Established Statement of Policy

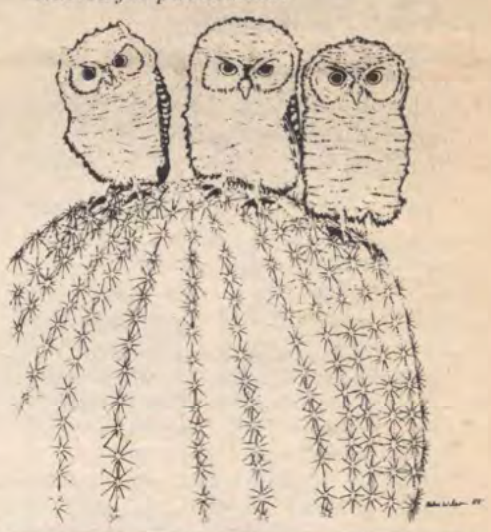
Section 2 (a) In order to assure that an increasing population of wildlife, accompanied by expanding wilderness areas and growing nonmechanization, does not occupy all areas designated for protection in their unnatural condition, it is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of civilization. For this purpose there is hereby established a Civilization Preservation System to be composed of federally owned areas designated by Congress as "civilization areas," and these shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the people in such manner as will leave them impaired for future use and enjoyment as civilization; and no federal lands shall be designated as civilization areas except as provided for in this act or by subsequent Act.

(b) The inclusion of an area in the Civilization Preservation System notwithstanding, the area shall continue to be managed by the Department and agency having jurisdiction thereover immediately before its inclusion in the System unless otherwise provided by Act of Congress. No appropriation shall be available for the payment of expenses or salaries for the administration of the Preservation System as a separate unit nor shall any appropriation be available for additional personnel stated as being required solely because they are administering areas included with the Preservation System.

Definition of Civilization

(c) A civilization, in contrast to those areas where man and his own works do not dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are trammeled by man, and where man himself is a resident who remains. An area of civilization is further defined to mean in this act an area of developed Federal land retaining its civilized character and influence, with permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its unnatural conditions and which, (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of man, with the imprint of nature's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has few opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an impaired condition; and (4) may also contain social, structural or other features of scientific, educational, nonscenic, or historical value.

George Wuerthner writes regularly for ***Earth First.***



EATING (Cont)

I don't believe our present situation (on the brink of rapid ecological, or immediate nuclear, disaster) will improve through a dramatic social or political event. The future is ensured only by those persons willing to make that individual revolution (to paraphrase Frost) and live as if the future were already here. This cannot be pursued recklessly, as Earth couldn't handle (?) everyone running out to become hunters and gatherers, yet. But, right now, you can stop a destructive worldwide industry simply by refusing to buy its unnecessary product. Massive boycotts could be the biggest monkeywrench of all. No compromise!

Art Dingle is an Oregon activist who believes in the superiority of a hunting and gathering existence and claims that our most vital relationship to Gaia is through food.

Ed. note: Since Art didn't suggest any alternatives to commercial meat consumption for those who don't want to eschew all meat-eating, we have a few: 1. Buy direct from small organic farms. 2. If you hunt, hunt "pest" species such as feral pigs, starlings, Norway rats, grasshoppers, or locusts. 3. Find and eat fresh road-kills. 4. Poach public lands cattle and sheep.
-JD

SCHMOOKLER ON ANARCHY

by Andrew Bard Schmookler

Dear Australopithecus:

You are uneasy with my arguing, in *The Parable of the Tribes*, that at the core of the problems of civilization is anarchy, while some people that you respect argue, rather, that something akin to anarchy is the solution. I appreciate your inviting me to respond to the position of an anarchist like Murray Bookchin. You have also articulated the position to which you wish me to respond. Here, in a nutshell, is my understanding of it: Organic societies — including the original human societies and various other communities appearing in nature — tend to be "spontaneously formed, non-coercive and egalitarian." The world took a bad turn with the creation in human societies of hierarchies, including the state and male dominated institutions. The hierarchical state brought about the various evils of civilization. We would be better off, therefore, if we could return to "ecological, stateless, communal-based societies." [Ed. note: Australopithecus thinks we would benefit by returning to such primal societies; Bookchin appears to favor combining the positive qualities of primal societies with the latent positive qualities of modern society.]

I share that primitivist appreciation of the more synergistic structure of natural societies. Where I differ from the above summarized position is in how the origin of evil is to be understood (e.g. the evils of war, tyranny, ecological destructiveness), and therefore in how these evils are best remedied.

The anarchist position suffers from a basic logical flaw: in trying to explain evil, it can't escape the problem of the Prime Mover. On the one hand, the State is the source of evil. On the other hand, the State is itself evil. So what is the source of the evil of the State? Anarchists, who live in societies where evils are accomplished through political systems, mistake the symptom — the state — for the cause, which is the failure to control power.

Anarchists want us to break up political powers, back to a multitude of small and self-governing communities. But the human species tried that experiment — up until 10,000 years ago. And the rest, as saying goes, is history. We had the situation the anarchists desire at the beginning, yet history unfolded into a nightmare nonetheless. What will have changed this time to prevent the groovy many from being brought under the dominion of the ruthless few?

Only if we understand what happened the first time — how the egalitarian anarchy of primitive hunting and gathering societies evolved/degenerated into the tyrannical and belligerent power structures that have bloodied our history — will we have a chance to truly overcome the problem of power. That is what *The Parable of the Tribes* attempts to do. [Ed. note: This excellent book is now available in paperback from Houghton Mifflin for $9.95.]

The first point that needs to be made is that anarchy is not what existed before the rise of civilization. True, there was no hierarchical power structure, but there was governing order. The patient process of natural selection molds an order that is governed closely and well. There is no ruler in this lawful order, for the law of nature is part of each separate creature. Each follows only its own law — pursuing its own ends — but this law and these ends are part of a harmonious natural order.

Anarchy, in the sense of action ungoverned by any lawful order, becomes possible only when a creature has the creativity to bring its cultural development across the threshold where it can begin to invent its own way of life. The sovereign actors of civilization are ungoverned in a way that nothing in the previous history of life has been. If we look at one single actor, it looks like freedom; but if we look at the system as a whole, what we find is anarchy. This unnatural condition of anarchy, far from being our salvation, has been at the root of the torment of civilization. Let us look at anarchy.

The special evil of anarchy is that it brings evil to the fore. Why do we send out the National Guard when a disaster disrupts society's order? It is not because we are all looters waiting for a chance to pounce. But it only takes an uncontrolled few to terrorize the many. We see this problem manifested in Lebanon — the Lebanese have lacked an effective force to hold the violent ones among them in check. When historical circumstance undermined the foundations of Lebanese political order, the ruthless few were loosed from the abyss of the ensuing anarchy to rise to the top. Warlords selected from a struggle for power could then come to rule the destiny of thousands.

Anarchists paint nice pictures of how everyone will behave when the evil state is abolished. But why believe these pictures? Many believed Marx's nice pictures that once capitalism was overthrown, the state would wither away; but the Gulag shows what happens when you mistake the symptom for the disease.

I am not saying that people are evil, but that it is vain to hope that all will be good. What the parable of the tribes says is that if you have anarchy, unless everyone is good the special evils of power and domination will spread through the system like a contaminant. Unless one is "so far gone in Utopian speculation" (in Madison's fine phrase) as to believe that every community will be immune to unnice ambitions, before embracing anarchism one should ask: in the absence of any overarching governmental structure, what happens if an outlaw community arises?

"Imagine a group of tribes living within reach of each other. If all choose the way of peace, then all may live in peace. But what if all but one choose peace, and that one is ambitious for expansion and conquest? What can happen to the others when confronted with an ambitious and potent neighbor?" This is the question I ask in my book, and then I answer: there are four alternatives, none of them good. They are: destruction of the weaker society; its transformation and absorption; its withdrawal from the area; and its successful self-defense, which regrettably requires imitating the aggressor to get a comparable level of competitive power.

The state is but a symptom of the fundamental problem, which is anarchy. Power is necessary for social survival, and hierarchy has enhanced power — from the emergence of the chiefdom, through the rise of the kingship, to the far-reaching tentacles of the nation state. (Male domination is also a symptom of the inescapability of the struggle for power: When groups are beset by external threats, greater power and status inevitably go to the protectors. The evils of patriarchy are to be seen not as the evils of men, but as the evils of having to maximize social power.)

The struggle for power, and the selection for the ways of power, have condemned civilization also to that other evil: environmental destruction. A society cannot survive the long run unless it survives the short run. To survive the short run, it must have power enough to resist potential aggressors. Much of power comes from harnessing nature, and the maximal immediate power seems to be yielded by practices that are destructive in the long term. A society, therefore, whose own exploitation of nature cannot be sustained over the long term, can render unviable other societies whose practices are ecologically sound (though less productive of competitive power). (What is happening today in the Amazon — the displacement of ecologically sound cultures by the powerful but ecologically unsound — is typical of the social evolutionary process of the past 10,000 years.) Civilization has thus been like a mad dog — sick to the death, but able to infect the healthy with its disease.

All this leads to the very unanarchistic conclusion that if we want to eliminate these evils from human practice, we had better create sufficient government to control the free play of power. This means that if we do decentralize civilization into smaller communities — which I think would be a good move in many ways — there should be at the same time a world order sufficient at least to keep would-be conquerors from entering that time-dishonored profession. And since the biosphere is a globally interdependent web, that world order should be able to constrain any of the actors from fouling the earth. This requires laws and means of enforcement.

At the minimum, a world order needs to protect communities from the unjust intrusion of others in the form of war and environmental degradation. Whether this order should go further — as in some kind of global bill of rights to protect individuals from injustice within their communities — is a question of a different sort. I believe in cultural diversity, but I am not sure I'm willing, in the name of that value, to make disasters like Jonestown a purely "domestic" matter.

The solution to our problems requires structures to govern the play of power. Admittedly, government is often simply an embodiment of the corrupt rule of power; government is often only warfare in static form, with the strong standing with a foot on the neck of the weak. But tyranny does not support a case against government. On the contrary, tyranny is the form of government to which the anarchic struggle for power gives rise. Only when the operation of power is strictly governed can justice result. Only government can restrain power in the interests of other values.

Government is a paradox, but there is no escaping it. This is because power is a paradox: our emergence out of the natural order makes power an inevitable problem for human affairs, and only power can control power. [Ed. note: True; our fall was our "emergence out of the natural order."] It is fortunate for us that the framers of the US Constitution understood this paradoxical problem: that is why we in this society, for all its glaring imperfections, can freely discuss the evils that the play of power produces around us, and freely search for solutions.

If you want to know how terribly difficult it is to solve the problem of power through setting up good governmental structures, ask us Americans. But if you want to know how profoundly nightmarish the problem of power can be in the absence of a governing order, ask the Lebanese.

Sincerely,
Andrew Bard Schmookler

Andrew Bard Schmookler is one of the best ecological thinkers in the US, and we strongly recommend his book.

Ed. note: We encourage a discussion in our pages on anarchism, the state and its relation to environmental destruction, and visions of future ecological societies. We would especially appreciate receiving letters or essays from some of the deeply ecological writers, such as Dolores LaChapelle, Schmookler, Bookchin, Starhawk, Karen Warren, Ed Abbey, Bill Devall, Joanna Macy, Michael Cohen, Gary Snyder and George Sessions.

Northern Lights, Washing Machines and Icelandic Roads



by Christoph Manes

Iceland dangles from the Arctic Circle like a sheet on a clothesline. With the clear air and the frozen nights, the Northern Lights are particularly intense here. I saw them the other night for the first time, and it was none of that "like a shimmering curtain" affair you usually hear described, but a long illuminated streak that stretched from horizon to horizon — a florescent rattlesnake, so to speak. It undulated and shed lavender scales from its green body. Then it coiled and struck and despoiled itself into a thousand dancing slivers.

It was quite a performance for a February night. I wandered around the deserted streets of Reykjavik, following the Aurora Borealis until it disappeared into the artificial lighting of the cemetery. Maybe I looked a little foolish, dressed in pajamas, staring straight up and bumping into trashcans, freezing to death. But nobody was around to smirk, since they were watching the Icelandic equivalent of Johnny Carson. Nobody except the Northern Lights — the face of Odin to northern folk of heartier times — and I believe they looked kindly on the attention I gave them.

Monkeywrenching can be fun. But in Iceland there's nothing much to monkeywrench. No condemned forests in need of spikes, no bulldozers crapping out zoocidal highways. But providence finds a way! My landlady — a cheapskate up to her neck in real estate — dislikes me and wants to get rid of me so she can swindle tourists come spring. So deep is her aversion, she said I couldn't use the dryer in the basement anymore; it was broken. Of course, that didn't stop her from using it. Well, I happened to have a good-sized spike I brought from the States for sentimental reasons, and I thought, what the heck, if she says the machine is broken . . . . It was nothing less than poetic justice.

On the off-chance that you, Fru Ragnarsdottir, are a subscriber to *EF!*, your dryer can be made operable again by carefully removing a long metal object from the main gear.

Icelanders lament that Icelandic roads are no roads at all. I had a chance to test this paradox driving out to Gullfoss — "the Golden Waterfall," which was scheduled for damming until a public outcry prevented it. Halfway there, in my rented four-wheel-drive Subaru, I began to bog down in snow and muck and mire. And this was on the main highway! I checked my maps. Yes, this was it. Finally, when I came to a sign saying 14% grade and saw before me a minor glacier instead of a road, it struck me with the clarity of a zen koan: This was a road that was not a road. It was on the map, it had signs, but it didn't let you and the tourist hordes breeze up to Gullfoss for a snapshot and a beer. A road that was not a road . . . . A sadder but a wiser man, I turned back.

I've suggested to several Icelandic engineers that they get jobs with the Army Corps of Engineers reconstructing American roads along Icelandic lines. We need their know-how. We need a Transportation Department with the profound and thought-provoking slogan: American roads — no roads at all. With the sensible distaste for asphalt of the Icelanders and a little Nordic mysticism, we could make America wild again.

Christoph Manes hopes to be back from Iceland in time for the 1986 RRR.

To Permit or Not?
Bill Haywood vs. Rainbows

Recently, in Arizona, the Forest Service and sheriff's deputies busted up a gathering of the Rainbow Family in the Coronado National Forest because they had not gotten the required permit. The Rainbow Family took the case to court and a Federal Judge overturned the permit requirement for them. The Rainbow Family then held a gathering of several hundred people next to the Galiuro Wilderness Area without a Forest Service permit. Several conservation groups, including the Sierra Club, objected to the site location, the fact that slit trenches were being used instead of portapotties, and the fact that the Rainbow lawsuit would set a dangerous precedent for large gatherings on National Forests without the Forest Service being able to regulate them. A local newspaper, The Tucson Citzen, *called our office in Tucson to get our opinion. Bill Haywood, who took the call, expressed concern over the circumventing of the permit process. We later discussed the issue over the phone with members of the Rainbow Family and invited them to present their point of view. Their statement follows, along with a response by Bill Haywood. We invite your comments, as well as comment from the US Forest Service on the justification for the regulations.*

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AT EARTH FIRST!

Concerning the matter of the Rainbow Family's refusal to accept a permit for our gatherings, it must first be noted that we side with Earth First! in almost all other instances: Many Rainbow Family People are members of Earth First!. We have participated in many daring and brilliant EF! projects — blocking log trucks attempting to leave wilderness logging sites in the Pacific Northwest; journalistically exposing Temec poisoning of the coral aquifer in Florida; campaigning (long ago) for mandatory replanting of logged forests; protesting strip-mining without environmental rehabilitation — these are only some of the "long trails" we have walked together.

Each year, the first week of July, we hold an annual Gathering (and recently smaller regional gatherings in different seasons) attended by peace activists, back-to-the-landers, utopian planners and dreamers, co-op members, alternative energy enthusiasts, and ordinary citizens from around the world.

We do this absolutely free with no commercial intent, on public land, in the spirit of being one family and expressing the truth that humanity is *not* so fouled up! — that we can be together in harmony.

Part of this is our relation with the Earth — before we leave we aerate the soil of all compacted areas; we re-seed high use zones; we disappear every trace of human activity down to the smallest piece of cellophane; we recover all footpaths with brush; and we truck out not only all our garbage and recyclables, but also 30 or 50 *years* worth of garbage from previous users. The rains bloom the seeds and it is soon impossible to tell that we were there. There exists much documentation from ourselves, the press, and the Forest Service's own reports that backs up this account of our naturalization efforts. There aren't any exceptions.

Now for the legality of the situation: We have consistently signed binding agreements with public land agencies on the major points of environmental concern: traffic and parking, water protection and use, fire safety, soil and foliage preservation, sanitation, and cleanup/land rejuvenation. This has been done through an "Operations Plan" or through "Letters of Agreement." We have no objections to these forms of relation between the public agencies and the public.

Now comes the FS with a new (June, 1984) regulation that *requires* groups assembling for the purpose of expressing their ideas (religious, ecological, philosophical, political, etc.) to go through a permit signing process (and pay a fee!), but exempts groups which do not have "expression of views or judgments" at their heart. So a group of 1500 fraternity brothers needs no permit to spend a weekend camping and drinking beer, while 15 EF!ers on an outing where any ecological issue is discussed are required (under the current rule) to sign a permit and pay a fee!

Clearly this regulation is *not* designed to protect terrain or wildlife. It's designed to regulate and inhibit groups whose ideas run counter to prevailing prejudices.

There already exists a host of laws under which the government may prosecute anyone who desecrates the forest ecology. This new rule reinforces neither the FS's authority nor ability to protect the environment. It merely opens endless doors for FS personnel to discriminate against groups whose ideas they find objectionable. EF!ers should read this rule (36 CFR 25 1 & 2 61 as amended) carefully.

The Rainbow Family has not accepted, and will not accept, a permit under this rule. Neither should Earth First!. It sets a bad precedent for bureaucratic control of ideas. We have signed legitimate documents — whereby the FS receives guarantees of our adherence to environmental stipulations — in Idaho, Michigan, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, California, Missouri, and Arizona. In California (where 25,000 of us gathered in July, 1984) we followed a stringent Operational Plan, leaving the site in flawless condition; two days later the Forest Service let 15,000 cattle overrun the area we had so delicately naturalized. Another time, after we left an area in near-pristine condition, the Forest Service moved in heavy equipment to make "rip-rap" for railroad grades out of the mountainside on which we'd camped.

The permit process has been used to try to get us to encamp at sites inadequate for our water or land needs; it has been used to inhibit us by attempting to charge outrageous bonds or insurances, to stipulate unrealistic or unnecessary sanitary demands, *all* in order to obstruct us from gathering at all! Don't be so naive as to think that these techniques won't be used to counter you.

Lastly, the permit carries with it a fee, which is ultimately a form of taxation. The government has no right to tax in any way the right of the people to free peaceable assembly. This is exactly what the Founders meant when they put the First Amendment first!

Earth First! should consider these things carefully before making judgments on the merit of the Forest Service's rules. Again, the Rainbow Family has never objected to environmental guarantees and criteria; but we object, as free people, to the discriminatory processes of Forest Service rejection/acceptance of permission to assemble.

Inspect the site where we have just been. You cannot find a trace of where we were. Although the Forest Service allows overgrazing of the area still — and the animals defecate in the surface water (!) — the Forest Service, seemingly so concerned about every twig we walk on, issues permits in the same area for truckloads of *green* cordwood to be cut!

— Garrick Beck

Editor's reply: Since I'm the individual who caused this unfortunate (and rare) disagreement with the Rainbow Family over their recent regional gathering at High Creek in the Galiuro Mountains (I was quoted in the *Tucson Citizen* as objecting to their holding of the gathering without a permit), I'll try to offer a slightly different perspective. I greatly respect the Rainbow Family, and I am aware of their deserved reputation for leaving places in pristine condition when they leave. What I objected to was the *precedent* of holding a large event, unregulated, in such a sensitive area as the Galiuros. And the Galiuros *are* , despite the abuses of grazing and woodcutting tolerated by the Forest Service, one of most biologically important areas left in the Southwest.

It was unfortunate that the article quoted me as if I were a spokesperson for Earth First!, and not as an individual who just happened to write for the *EF Journal*. I should have realized that journalistic license would do that to my remarks, and should have been more cautious. But I did correctly state what the policy of EF! is in regard to our own gatherings (i.e., the Rendezvous) on National Forest lands. And that is to comply with regulations, however irritating they may be, wherever possible. To do otherwise would be hypocritical, since we make frequent use of government regulations (such as appeals) to compel the Forest Service to protect the environment where they are legally required to do so.

Now I am outraged by infringements on free speech as much as anyone else, and I am well aware that certain elements in our society would like nothing better than to squelch all dissent. And the regulation in question here should probably be overturned. But the fact remains, that even before this legislation was passed, the FS had the authority, under other regulations, to require "Special Use Permits" for any large, organized activities on National Forest Lands. It is exceptional that they never previously required permits of the Rainbow Family — that is undoubtably a tribute to the Rainbow Family's high reputation for not abusing the land. Earth First! was required to obtain a special use permit for the Round River Rendezvous at Little Granite Creek in 1982, and that was well before the legislation we're talking about was enacted.

As a philosophical anarchist, it's ironic that I'm defending government regulation here (but then wasn't it Emerson who said that consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds?). But the unfortunate fact is that there are lots of people who aren't so enlightened as the Rainbow Family or Earth First!ers, and if we were to go back to the situation that existed prior to the establishment of the National Forests (i.e., no regulation) the results would be tragic. Believe it or not, the FS was originally established as a *conservation* agency. During the first few years after the original "Forest Reserves" were established, there was neither grazing nor logging allowed on National Forest lands. Unfortunately, the preservationists (Muir) eventually lost out to the utilitarians (Pinchot), and grazing, logging and a host of other abuses were introduced into the National Forests. Despite this, the Forest Service was still predominately conservation-oriented during its first few decades, and its present corruption (which I'll be the first to acknowledge) is largely a phenomenon of the last 30 years. But the alternative to FS regulation is unacceptable, given the numbers of greedy, uncaring people out there. We *do* need to reform the Forest Service, and turn it back into the truly protective organization it once was. But that's another story.

Speaking strictly for myself, I ask — if Earth First! were to refuse to accept regulation in holding the Round River Rendezvous, what standing would EF! have in filing an appeal on a timber sale, or petitioning the Forest Service not to allow a dirt bike race in a sensitive area? Yes, organized dirt bike races *are* normally subject to the special use permit requirement, even though they may not involve the expression of political, religious or philosophical opinions. And I also seriously doubt that the assembly of 1500 fraternity brothers in a National Forest, for a weekend, would pass without serious regulation.

I sincerely regret any misunderstanding that my remarks have caused with the Rainbow Family, and I wish them success in their efforts to overturn any regulations designed to restrict free speech. But I still believe that the necessity exists for some sort of regulation (including, in some areas, the use of a permit system) of large-scale, possibly environmentally harmful, activities on public lands. Remember, most people are not as environmentally conscious as we are.

— Bill Haywood

Coffeepot (continued)

have a stove-equipped camper, back it in and get water heating. If not, set up a folding table (stacked orange crates do just fine), and get your stove going. Have one person put up signs; while the other sets out coffee, cookies, and a good-sized donation jar. Toss in a little money for good luck.

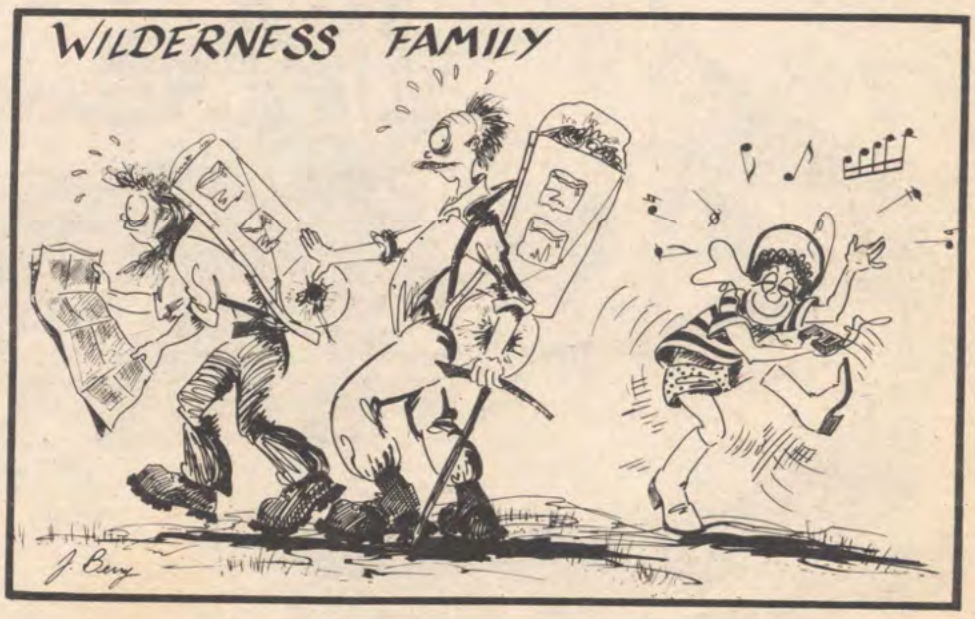
Don't feel disappointed when folks make a beeline for the restroom, ignoring your coffee stand. They'll see the signs you've placed on restroom doors. On the way out, they'll eyeball you, and if you don't look downright scary they'll amble over. Ask them the obvious: "Coffee?" As you hand them coffee, give them your statement on environmental issues and then give them a leaflet. Be cheery but brief. Your leaflet will do a lot of explaining for you.

Nearly everyone coming to your stand will scrabble around in their pockets and plunk the resulting change in your jar, unasked. Occasionally someone will ask, "How much?" The best answer is, "Any donation at all will be fine. Or nothing!" You'll be amazed how quickly the money piles up.

In our various coffee stand endeavors, there's been nary a murmur of protest from the various state and county authorities who patrol the rest areas periodically. Why should they? It's a public service. In fact, serving coffee at rest areas is a fine way to work off community service sentences if you've been ordered to do some.

So get out there and pour that java! In addition to keeping sleepy drivers awake at the wheel, you'll make that extra dinero you need to travel long distance (we made $80 one weekend) and you'll get your local environmental issue across to a wide variety of people you'd probably never have run into otherwise.

Ron Huber has probably spent even more time near the tops of huge threatened Doug firs than he has spent at coffee stands.



The Rocky Mountain Front — An American Serengeti



by George Wuerthner

Crashing headlong into the prairie like the bow of a ship, the serrated, snow speckled peaks of the Rocky Mountain Front ply the rolling waves of the plains. For over a hundred miles between Glacier National Park on the north and Rogers Pass to the south, this interface between mountain and plain presents an unbroken mountain barrier. Geologically, the peaks are part of the Overthrust Belt, a giant slab of Earth which slid eastward forty or more miles over the older rock formations constituting the Great Plains. The parallel ridges are like leaves of a book tilted up on edge, with each east facing ridge presenting a ragged cliff, while the gentler back slopes rise skyward like a slanted tabletop. Nestled on cliff faces are the eyries of the Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon, and the rare Peregrine Falcon.

During the last Ice Age, glaciers scoured the limestone ridges carving broad U-shaped valleys and bowl-like cirques. In some places glaciers advanced far onto the prairie and left behind a jumbled assortment of moraine ridges and meltwater kettle ponds. These ponds today are important migratory waterfowl resting and breeding grounds. In spring and fall these waters are thickly blanketed with a wide assortment of ducks, geese, and swans. Their raucous calls and the whistle of their wings adds to the wildness of the scene.

Rivers and creeks begin on the Continental Divide in the Bob Marshall Wilderness and carve magnificent canyons through the ridges. The names of these waterways are as poetic as the land itself: Sun, Teton, and Two Medicine Rivers; Birch, Deep and Dupuyer Creeks. Each has deep jade green pools and translucent blue waterfalls hemmed in by rocky gorges and full of trout.

Once thousands of Bison roamed along the base of the mountains where today cattle and sheep graze. The Great North Trail, the main migration artery of the early human inhabitants of North America, skirted the apron of these peaks, and later the Blackfeet and other Indians would drag their travois down this trail leaving ruts still visible in the rocky prairie soil.

It was likely once the richest big game hunting ground in the American West, and at the coming of white people was controlled by the powerful Blackfeet Indians. Here lived the Bison, Bighorn Sheep, Mule Deer, Elk, Grizzly, Wolf, and Mountain Goat. The Blackfeet were known as the fiercest of the plains Indian tribes. They had no allies and needed none. They jealously guarded their hunting grounds that lay in the shadow of the mountain wall. During the trapping era, few mountain men ventured into the heart of Blackfeet territory, and only a smallpox epidemic in the 1840s defeated the tribe, not the cavalry.

When the Blackfeet were driven onto a reservation and the Bison exterminated from the plains, the ranchers moved up these rivers and grazed their livestock beneath the peaks. They began fencing the prairie, exterminating the Wolf and driving the Grizzly back into the peaks. The valleys of the Sun, Teton, and other rivers were as good for cattle as they had been for Bison. The location of the Front in the rain shadow of the high peaks of the Continental Divide contributes to grazing potential. By the time storms pass over the mountains, much of the moisture has already been dumped and as a result the area is frequently snow free during much of the winter.

The native grass species, unlike many other grass species, retain most of their nutritional value even after they cure. An Elk or Bison, and as ranchers later learned, a cow, can gain weight in winter while feeding on these grasses alone. Supplemental hay was only necessary for livestock in the harshest of winters — winters when there wasn't a chinook.

Chinook supposedly means snow-eater in some Indian language. In winter when the northern plains are locked in snow and ice, a warm air mass will build, west of the Continental Divide. As pressure mounts behind, it pushes over the high peaks and rushes down onto the plains, expanding as the pressure is released on the downward slope of the mountains. This increases its capacity to hold moisture. When a chinook comes, the temperature rises rapidly, sometimes changing from 40 below to 60 above in less than 24 hours. The wind speed grows to gale force and magically, within a day, a foot or two of snow will disappear exposing nutritious, sun-cured native grasses below.

The further one gets from the mountains the less frequently chinooks occur and the more limited their snow eating abilities. A Bison herd which remained in the mountain shadow could count on two chinooks in an average winter to clear away snow and keep prairie grasses available. The Indians knew this, and tolerated the almost constant winds and the extreme climatic conditions for here they could find all of their needs: game, clear rivers, cool mountain valleys into which to retreat during the hot summer and sheltered river bottoms to pass the winter.

Before the rancher, the Grizzly and Wolf knew about the chinook also. Bison herds sustained Wolves in large numbers. Chinooks usually guaranteed an early green-up for plants along the mountain margin and out into the plains along river bottoms. Here deer, Elk and Bison concentrated to forage on the new shoots. Wolves must have had easy pickings at these "natural stockyards." With the Wolves were the Bears. Swamps and seeps — the remnants of partially filled glacial lakes — provided Bears with important spring forage plants and an occasional Bison or Elk carcass, killed by Wolves or perhaps the Grizzly itself.

In fall the Front provided the Grizzly with an abundant source of high protein food in the widespread Limber Pine which clung to the windswept battlement of ridge, hogback and peaks. Limber Pine nuts provided a nutritious nut crop to fatten on between meals of Wolf-killed Bison or Elk. The Front was premier Grizzly country. It still is. This is the only part of the Grizzly's range were the population may actually be increasing from a low induced by the ranchers' Grizzly management technique — which involves a shoot first, ask questions later attitude toward any Bear outside the mountain valleys. The prairie/mountain interface is much better Bear habitat than the nearby moutains. Bears living here experience higher birth rates, greater weight gains, and traits associated with high nutritional levels. To have productive Bear populations, their use of the plains is essential.

Back from the prairie the valleys are a mosaic pattern of Aspen, Doug Fir, and Limber Pine groves interspersed with large, golden tan, densely cloaked, bunchgrass meadows. On the moister areas, where snow may lie longer, grows rough fescue. It would be hard to find a better big game winter range than exists here. Many of these grasslands are in excellent range condition.

Today, although diminished by competition with livestock for winter range on the prairie margin, these valleys still harbor some of the most productive wildlife herds in the lower 48 states outside of a National Park. Along the Front are over 1000 Bighorn Sheep, the largest herd in the US; 16,000 Mule Deer, the second largest herd in the US; 3000 Elk; Mountain Goats; Whitetail Deer; Moose; Grizzly; Mountain Lion; Lynx; and in recent years, the Wolf has been reported here. Besides the big game there is a host of small mammals, from the Pika, Wolverine, Marten, and weasel in the mountains; to plains mammals like the Whitetail Jackrabbit and Richardson's Ground Squirrel. There is an amazing diversity of birds, from Tundra Swans and Sandhill Cranes to Rufous Hummingbirds. In the Rocky Mountain states, there is no comparable area for wildlife diversity and ecosystem completeness. The Rocky Mountain Front and nearby plains have the potential of being the North American Serengeti.

But not all is smooth sailing in big game paradise. The Overthrust Belt which creates such a beautiful skyline may harbor oil and gas. Seismic exploration has occurred over nearly the entire Front. (Several years ago oil companies tried to gain access to the Bob Marshall Wilderness for seismic exploration.) Several successful gas wells have been tapped at Blackleaf Canyon near the Teton River. In the Two Medicine area just south of Glacier Park are several proposed drill sites, including the Hall Creek site which lies less than three miles south of Glacier Park and the Goat Mountain site which is 15 miles further south. Both would require upgrading existing roads and developing new roads. Both would destroy the wild character of this nearly 100,000 acre roadless area which is but a small part of the entire 400,000 acres of wild country existing along the Front. Lewis and Clark National Forest officials assume oil and gas development must go forward, and merely give lip service to concerns of wildlife.

Both well sites are within occupied Grizzly and Wolf habitat. Both are Threatened or Endangered Species and as such the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is supposed to encourage their recovery. Yet the FWS ruled that drilling would not jeopardize the Grizzly or Wolf. Even if this were true, which is not likely, how can drilling, road building and a general increase in human activity encourage endangered species recovery? Once again, federal agencies assume that oil and gas development must occur. Their only role in protecting endangered species, as they see it, is to ensure that no worse case scenario affects these animals.

Chevron Corporation plans to build 16 miles of roads for the Goat Mountain site, perhaps as early as this summer, and hopes to drill in 1987. Lewis and Clark Forest officials have decided not to fund a wildlife habitat inventory for the Goat Mountain site, instead opting to let Chevron conduct its own habitat analysis. Clearly, letting the company determine the habitat needs of wildlife creates a conflict of interest. The Badger-Two Medicine area has been described by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks biologists as the best Grizzly habitat along the Rocky Mountain Front. Regardless of the mitigating measures imposed by the FWS, the road access will likely increase the already heavy poaching. (Poaching is a major problem in this area adjacent to the Blackfeet Indian Reservation; the area is already a "black hole" for bears. Almost any Grizzly which uses the Badger-Two Medicine for its base is shot. Biologists say the area's habitat could support an immense Elk herd if poaching were controlled.)

These wells, if developed, would require a gas sweetening plant near East Glacier, Montana. These plants have been known to blow up, exposing wildlife and humans to deadly hydrogen sulfide gas.

Wilderness designation for the Lewis and Clark Forest's Badger-Two Medicine area is complicated by Blackfeet Treaty Rights. The tribe has wood cutting and access rights to the area from old treaties. Some Blackfeet feel the treaty includes mineral rights and are interested in signing lease agreements with the oil companies. These tribal members oppose Wilderness designation because they want to assert their control over the area. Some other tribal members strongly support Wilderness designation on general principles. Whether the tribe has authority to influence land management on these public lands is open to debate and no one, including the Montana Congressional delegation, wants to confront the tribe. Who wants the bad press of being against Indian Treaty Rights? No matter what the treaty says, it will appear that once again the white culture is trying to cheat the Indian. Whether this is the case or not, many tribal members would interpret such a move within this context. Some of the Montana delegation have said they will not consider Wilderness designation unless the tribe formally asks for Wilderness. Recently, due to numerous letters from wilderness supporters, Representative Pat Williams has reversed his original stand in opposition to Wilderness for this area



and plans to work toward the inclusion of the Badger-Two Medicine in the Montana Wilderness Bill due out this year. (Pat Williams may not be an avid wilderness supporter, but he is open to the idea and should not be castigated by EF!.)

South of the Badger-Two Medicine region, in the vicinity of the Teton River, Grizzlies have begun to move down from the mountains and out onto the prairies in ever greater numbers. They follow the river bottoms where there is cover and food. Several Bears were sighted this fall 25 miles from the mountains close to the communities of Dupuyer and Choteau. Some local ranchers are irate. Many claim the safety of their families and livestock were threatened. Some want to shoot any bear they see, which they can't do legally because the Bear is an Threatened Species. Some, no doubt, do it anyway, following the three S's approach to bear management: shoot, shovel, and shut up. One outspoken rancher estimates twenty Grizzlies were killed illegally along the Front last summer alone. Three ranchers are suing the government, claiming the Endangered Species Act unfairly constrains their ability to protect their property. One of these ranchers, Ira Perkins, grazes his sheep on Forest Service lands within prime Grizzly habitat and has resisted efforts to shift or discontinue his grazing allotments. (*Editor's note: Some Front ranchers, on the other hand, are quite content to live with the Grizzly and report no difficulty.*)

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is also opposed to the present listing of Grizzlies along the Front as an Endangered Species. They feel it limits their ability to manage Grizzlies. Fish and Game spokespersons claim that this inability to manage an Endangered Species is the reason they also oppose reintroduction of Wolves to Yellowstone or any place in Montana. These agency people, like the ranchers, have only one idea of what constitutes management — being able to shoot the animal.

The entire Rocky Mountain Front is immediately adjacent to the Bob Marshall Wilderness complex. From a wildlife perspective it is the most important part of the Bob Marshall-Glacier-Waterton ecosystem. In addition, it is exceptionally attractive for recreation. The chinooks clear away snow in the lower mountain valleys early in the spring, so the valleys are among the first places one can hike each year. The numerous gulches and canyons ensure a myriad of areas to explore. The gentle terrain of the valley floors invites even the less physically fit to explore the region.

The Front was broken down into a number of roadless areas during the RARE II process, and several of these areas received the highest rating for their Wilderness suitability by the Forest Service during its wilderness evaluation process. Nevertheless, the Lewis and Clark Forest, which manages most of the Front, has not recommended any areas for Wilderness classification. The Montana Congressional delegation is divided over the issue. Senator Max Baucus has strongly supported Wilderness designation for the entire Front. Senator John Melcher and Representative Ron Marlenee have opposed Wilderness designation. Montana's other Representative, Pat Williams, has sought to break the deadlock with a compromise which would designate some Wilderness and some "Special Management Areas." Special management as defined by Williams would prohibit oil and gas development, logging and mining, but still allow roaded recreational access. Williams sincerely believes this is essentially Wilderness designation and is confused by opposition from conservation groups. Wilderness supporters see special management as a can of worms and want nothing to do with it. If the Front is the best wilderness in Montana, then why not make it Wilderness? Thus the first goal is to get Wilderness designation for the entire Front, and in particular the Badger-Two Medicine.

Because of big game values, Montana has invested heavily in acquiring some key winter ranges adjacent to the mountains. Nevertheless, private landowners still control most of the important winter habitat, particularly during harsh winters. Much of the area between the mountains and Highway 89 where the communities of Augusta, Choteau, and Dupuyer lie, is a patchwork of public and private lands. Important as the Front is as wildlife habitat, it is still incomplete. Even if all the mountainous area was designated Wilderness, wildlife habitat needs would not be met by the present public lands. In the long term, conflicts between ranchers and wildlife — not only Grizzlies and Wolves, but deer, Bighorn, and Elk — will continue to dampen potential population growth and habitat utilization.

To have Grizzlies, Wolves, large Elk herds, and Bison back on the plains, we need to remove the ranchers. Therefore, I recommend the establishment of a Great Plains Wilderness Preserve which would include all lands from the foot of the mountains eastward to Highway 89. This region would be joined to the existing Glacier-Bob Marshall Wilderness system to recreate a magnificent five million acre preserve. I see this as a long-term project taking years to complete.

As ranchlands become available for sale, the government would buy the property and combine it with existing state and federal public lands. When most or all the private lands were bought, Bison, Swift Fox, Prairie Dogs, Blackfooted Ferrets (if there are any left) would be reintroduced. Once again Grizzlies and Wolves would be welcome on the plains.

The scientific value would be immense. There is no place left in the US to study ecological relationships, wildlife grazing interactions, and the effects of large predators on big game within a major grassland ecosystem. Much study along these lines has been done in Africa, but we missed our chance here 100 years ago. It's time to recreate this ecosystem once more, and the Front is the best place to do it.

The psychological value would be even greater. Just knowing such a huge wild place existed, where you could ride pack animals out of a border town like Choteau for a two month excursion across the plains and into the peaks, would be of immense national value. One could camp beside the Sun or Teton and hear the bellowing of Bison mingled

continued on page 27

RECREATING WILDERNESS IN THE OHIO VALLEY

by Reed Noss



Photo by Dave Foreman.

The heart of one of the greatest biomes on Earth. Turn to the map in E. Lucy Braun's monumental *Deciduous Forests of Eastern North America* (1950), and seek the center of this great forest region. You will find it in the Ohio Valley, where the states of Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia come together. Here, at its heart, the eastern deciduous forest was "mixed mesophytic," a diverse collection of broad-leaved trees unrivaled on Earth.

Prior to the Pleistocene, deciduous forest (called the "Arcto-Tertiary" forest) was continuous across most of the temperate latitudes. Climatic changes and the formation of barriers such as deserts and mountain ranges gradually dissected the Arcto-Tertiary forest into three major remnants, in eastern North America, western Europe, and eastern Asia. The largest and richest of these remnants, and the one that persisted until most recently under human ruthlessness, was in North America, with its heart in the Ohio Valley.

Native Americans and early European explorers alike stood in awe of this great forest. In 1805, the French botanist Francois Andre Michaux wrote, "In more than a thousand leagues of the country over which I have traveled at different epochs in North America, I do not remember having seen one to compare with the (Ohio Valley) for the vegetative strength of the forests." But then the destruction of this biome began. Deforestation that took centuries to complete in Europe was telescoped into just one or two human generations in North America. Today, though fairly large expanses of second and third growth forest remain in the margins of this biome (primarily in New England and southeastern Canada), most of the region has been fragmented into small woodlots surrounded by urban and agricultural land. The heart of this great forest is barely throbbing.

I wrote about this devastation in *EF!* (Eostar, 1983) and proposed a "Deciduous Forest Ecosystem Preserve" to straddle the Ohio River in Ohio and Kentucky, centered on the 60,000-acre Shawnee State Forest in southern Ohio. Satellite photos confirmed that this is the largest remaining block of forest in the Ohio Valley. The area is also interesting because of rare species and unique community types, such as prairie openings on promontories. I proposed interconnecting existing public lands, acquiring much more land, closing roads, ecological management to mimic natural disturbance regimes, and reintroducing large predators. The following is an update on the fate of this proposal.

Ohio conservationists are generally wimpy, content to focus on mainly anthropocentric concerns like toxic wastes and recreational issues. They have not aggressively called for control of sulfur dioxide emissions in the Ohio Valley, nor have they supported restoration of large tracts of land. Tiny nature preserves seem to be enough for them. So when I went to the Sierra Club, the local Audubon chapter, and Friends of the Earth (FOE) for support for the deciduous forest ecosystem preserve proposal, they wrote it off as "too idealistic." FOE Ohio was interested, but Don Pierce of the Midwest Office of FOE butchered an article I wrote for the *Midwest Earth Advocate*, and allowed only that FOE would "study the proposal" (which they never did). Meanwhile, as an employee of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, I failed to get anyone at the administrative level (except my boss) to take the proposal seriously. It seemed to be getting nowhere until Chuck Olson, Director of the Ohio Field Office of the The Nature Conservancy (TNC), told me they wanted to put this proposal on the ground! Ohio Stewardship Director Jora Young proposed the first phase of land acquisition to enlarge TNC's "Edge of Appalachia" preserve system, west of Shawnee State Forest. Chuck flew me back to Ohio this February to help plan the interconnection with Shawnee, and devise strategy for further phases of the original proposal (road-closings, predator reintroduction, land acquisition in Kentucky, etc.).

TNC is initiating a campaign to raise funds for this project. Cooperation from state and federal agencies is critical. The boundaries of Shawnee State Forest must be enlarged; more of the forest must be designated as Wilderness (about 7000 acres already are); and most of the roads running through the forest must be closed. A habitat corridor between Shawnee and the Wayne National Forest (a severely fragmented system at present) must be established, and land use surrounding the preserve complex must be regulated to create an adequate buffer. Black Bear and Bobcat are rarely reported in the area and should be reintroduced soon, but this can only be accomplished by the Ohio DNR's Division of Wildlife. Wolves and Panthers should be reintroduced later, when the system is nearer completion and present threats (i.e., roads) are eliminated. Land acquisitions across the river in Kentucky must be planned at once.

Support for the Deciduous Forest Ecosystem Preserve is urgently needed. TNC operates effectively by discreetly buying land. Therefore, a large amount of publicity about the project would be harmful at this time (landowners might get nervous about a "takeover," and raise their land prices or refuse to sell). However, people interested in restoring a whole ecosystem in one of the grandest but most insulted biomes on Earth can do the following:

1. Donate money to the "Edge of *Appalachia*" campaign of the Ohio Field Office of TNC, or inform them of potential donors. Write or call Chuck Olson, The Nature Conservancy, 1504 West First Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 (614-486-6789).

2. Put pressure on the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to expand the boundaries of Shawnee State Forest, designate more of the area as official Wilderness, and close roads within the forest. Also urge that Bear and Bobcat populations be reestablished within the forest. Stress the statewide, regional, and national ecological significance of this area. Write Joseph J. Sommer, Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Fountain Square, Columbus, Ohio 43224.

3. Visit the area, hike the trails, and understand more deeply the significance of this ecosystem, why a bigger, better protected preserve is necessary. Real wilderness has disappeared from the eastern deciduous forest biome, but it can and must be recreated! Mobilize the wimpy Ohio community to this end, and make it the major priority of Ohio Earth First!

Reed Noss is one of the leading eastern ecologists, and is continuing to work to restore the Ohio Valley even though he has had to relocate to Florida.

OH, WHAT A WONDERFUL FAMINE!

by Tom Stoddard

We are collectively horrified by the ghoulish process of drought and starvation devastating the equatorial belt of Africa. Everyone wants to relieve the problem and stop it from happening again. We all want the hammering images of bald children, bloated bellies, stick-like arms, and fly-covered sores to disappear. Each of us has a solution to the problem. For most it is flying in food, medicine, and clothing: a bandaid for cancer. For others it is expanding agriculture and industry: the planting of more cancer, for it is an already overburdened land. Some are trying to read Mother Nature's message of how we humans must live on Earth if we want to have an Earth worth living on. If we read the message properly and follow its prescription we may someday look back at the 1985 famine and say it was a historical turning point. It may be a message many of us don't want to hear. It will probably shake the foundations of our cherished totems and taboos. We had better listen for the hoofbeats of the coming apocalypse. We humans are the problem and we alone can solve it. It we listen carefully, throw the chains off our fettered minds, and commit ourselves to strong action, then we may be able to turn the tide. Indeed, this could be a wonderful famine . . . .

. . . If we learn that deforestation causes the weather and ecology of an area to change radically; that desertification follows deforestation. The island of Crete was once heavily forested with pine and spruce, but during the Venetian rule of the 12th-14th centuries the trees were harvested to build ships to increase the wealth and power of Venice. Crete today is semi-arid, allowing only a few plants — like the hardy olive tree — to grow. The deforestation lesson is one humans have known for centuries, yet it amazes us as it happens today. We do not want to recognize our ineptness in forecasting the devastations we cause. East Africa and Ethiopia are only the latest examples of our madness.

. . . If we stop the massive soil erosion taking place throughout Earth. Because of crop production on marginal lands, overgrazing, monoagriculture, excessive irrigation, over-intensive farming, and deforestation we are clogging our waterways with billions of tons of topsoil. The US government is working to accelerate this process with expansionist programs including crop subsidies, marketing orders, and development loans here and abroad. All nations on Earth cater to immediate human needs without concern for future results. On a recent visit to China I noted the process of terracing further and further up hillsides, moving further and further out into the wilderness to bring every inch of land into production. Everywhere on Earth we are cocking the gun for massive land failure and starvation.

. . . If we can move humanity out of the cave of superstition, ignorance and habit. We cannot continue to put individual human lives ahead of the future of Earth. Twits who plead for money or goods for human needs often say, "The cost of millions is worth it if it saves just one human life." In fact some inane expenditures haven't saved one human life, but have played on humanitarians' emotions, in that they are supposed to save hundreds of people. One recent example is the earthquake proofing of all California schools at a cost in 1985 dollars of twenty-five billions. This included areas that have never and probably never will have an earthquake. Yet, in California never has a child died in a school in an earthquake. We must reassess the enormous amount of resources we fritter away on hardened crooks, misbegotten fetuses kept alive with expensive equipment by a senile President, and comatose old folks whose life is spent but whose residue is kept alive by a greedy medical profession. Human life has limits on its value and we must define it. A good starting point for a definition might be that each human must be capable of supporting herself or himself and her or his offspring from the fruits of her or his personal labors.

. . . If we learn to respect the value of tropical belts of rainforests. We cannot continue to rip them asunder at the rate of 27 million acres a year or 50 acres per minute for the sake of a few marginal crops. If present trends continue, Earth's most complex ecological system and its greatest diversity of flora and fauna soon will be gone forever.

. . . If we preserve our wetlands in our bays, deltas, swamps, bogs, waterways, flood plains, and tidal marshes against the ravages of development. Water and wetlands are the cradle of life — the beginning of far reaching food chains. We cannot continue to damn, drain and fill. Our seas cannot continue as the great cleanser for pesticide runoff, sewage, garbage and atomic wastes.

. . . If we convince all environmental organizations that most of their concerns are directly related to human population and that including the population problem in their programs and publications is fundamental to advancing their cause. These organizations discuss habitat destruction, pollution, poaching, monoagriculture and other issues as if they were not related to the human population explosion. Human overpopulation is the principal problem. If we begin to solve it many other problems will disappear. No group involved in environmental problems should publish an issue of their publication without at least one article about population problems.

. . . If governments realize that accelerated development always means ecological deterioration. Development will create a wasteland populated by masses of humans afflicted by drought, pests, turmoil and famine. The Reagan Administration policy is, "there is no overpopulation only underdevelopment." We must stop the madness of developed nations providing funding for undeveloped nations to rape their resources. We are throwing drowning nations rocks to help them swim.

. . . If we stop taking the overflow population from overpopulated countries. Accepting their overflow encourages them to maintain high birth rates. We must stop discouraging them from making hard choices which defy religious authorities, taboos or traditions. Taking the overflow population by legal and illegal immigration also accelerates development in our country. Immigrants are among the most prolific breeders on Earth. We cannot solve social and economic problems of Latin America and Asia by degrading our portion of Earth. It will only perpetuate destruction on an international scale.

. . . If we learn to live more modestly, consuming less resources, and not expect a rise in our standard of living every year. We must find the quality of our lives in ourselves, in others, and in nature; not in more geegaws and electric carving knives. We must stop the ultimate welfare cases, the Inheritors. Queen Elizabeth II epitomizes the Inheritor. She was born into a totally artificial world of the royal household's making. She inherits country estates of thousands of acres of prime land, castles, mansions, art treasures, stocks and assets in many foreign lands. She is given a grand living allowance by the British people; yet she and her family have never earned a dime (sixpence) of their wealth. It was handed to them by a gullible body politic. In the US we allow great family wealth to be passed from Mellon to Mellon and DuPont to DuPont without much complaint. Wealth is concentrated in fewer and fewer hands, and the majority of wealth is inherited. According to Lundberg (*The Rich and the Super-Rich*, Lyle Stuart, Inc., NY 1968) one-third of one percent of the families in the US owns 32% of our investment wealth. *Forbes Magazine* reports that the upper 10% of our population reaped 29% of all income in 1969 rising steadily to 33% in 1984. These inheritors too should learn to live by the measure of how much they work.

. . . If we stop listening to the solutions of idiots who for reasons of revelation, visions or sacred text tell us to do the opposite of what is needed. The Jerry Falwells, recent popes, leaders like Mao Ze Dung, and fuzzy headed politicians like RR have promoted human breeding and tried to stop efforts to alleviate the population problem. It's irksome to see Catholic priests bleating on TV about OUR crime of allowing people of Africa, Asia and Latin America to starve when we have so much. It seems the prophets of unrestricted population growth are deliberately creating a problem so they can rush in to demonstrate their leper licking talents ministering to the dying bags of bones who are desperate for food and medicine. If we follow their advice and save the starving millions, we set the stage for greater catastrophe. Religious leaders are not the only false prophets; Mao preached that a high birth rate was to be the salvation of China. It is not well known because the Chinese are secretive about it, but we think several million Chinese starved when their breeding policy combined with drought to cause famine. Their current severe birth control program is a necessity. Those who promote human breeding are the arch villains of famine past, present and future.

. . . If all nations stop the insane jingoistic war preparations which will one day annihilate us all. More than enough has been said on this subject. Two suggestions I add. One, immediately stop all US military aid to countries where it serves primarily to prop up oligarchies consisting of self-serving inheritors. And two, every country reduce their arms budget 10% per year until it is 10% of the current budget and convert the savings to preserving their wildlife and wilderness.

. . . If we take a realistic look at human sexuality and find ways to change existing patterns. We could encourage changes by promoting the acceptance of homosexuality in theocracies and Third World nations, especially Latin America and Africa. Because it is unacceptable in most nations, they force the homosexual into a marriage and child producing role s/he abhors. Let homosexuals be. We might promote sexual alternatives such as oral and manipulative. People might try it and like it instead of the missionary position. Even occasional use of different types of sexual activity would help to reduce the birth rate somewhat. At least we should begin to have open and candid discussions about these and other methods and their potential for helping solve the population problem.

. . . If we confine public and private foreign aid to stopping the human population explosion. We should encourage all nations, including our own, to have a negative population growth. At least since World War II the American public has been fed a line of crap about sending foreign subsistence aid along with medical and technological assistance. Yet, the subsistence, medical and technical aid leaves recipients in fine fettle for the thing we all think of when we are well — sex. Usually no education has followed improved nutritional care and medical facilities, and these healthier bodies procreate rapidly. Food with health programs exacerbates population problems. For example, CBS recently reported that 48.5% of Haitian children die before they are five years old. Haiti is grossly overpopulated and is the model of a country headed for ecological disaster. Imagine what would happen if we sent them health care facilities to extend the life span of everyone. It would increase the severity of the coming disaster. Instead we should provide family planning programs, free condoms and THE PILL, abortion hospitals, vasectomy clinics, explicit birth control pamphlets, and birth control classes in all schools at all levels. I suggest that to impress the need on our deluded federal administration we all send a letter to RR demanding that the only foreign aid be birth control aid and enclose a birth control pill, condom, IUD, or diaphragm with the letter. Send one to the pope too.

. . . If we learn to cherish flora and fauna. Every species has a right to exist without the threat of extinction from man. Humans are not the ultimate life form. In all the writings I have read in the popular press about famine in East Africa, not one has mentioned any impact on wilderness or wildlife. If an animal doesn't provide meat, cheese or skins; or flora provide grain or fibers it is considered useless to us. African flora and fauna is disappearing with hardly a whimper from us.

. . . If each of us does what s/he can to stop the population explosion. At present rates eighty million more humans arrive on our planet every year. We should: Limit our procreation to one child per couple. Discourage artificial means of birth production like surrogate mothers, artificial insemination, fertility clinics, test tube births, and all other medical methods of increasing human population. Support birth control groups like Zero Population Growth, Planned Parenthood, National Abortion Rights Action League, and the Population Institute. Inform ourselves about population problems. For example, know that Istanbul has grown from one million to six million people in the past twenty years despite government measures to reduce growth. Know that 98% of Latin Americans are Catholic and 68% of Catholics are Latin American. Know that we are borrowing heavily from a future at the cost of future human misery. The ultimate solution may lie in mass triage where whole human populations are left to die to save Earth from becoming a wasteland. We must convince our government to stop trying to save every birth defect born at enormous cost in money and resources where allowing death would be an act of compassion. We must change our slogan from Save The Children to STOP THE CHILDREN.

. . . And finally, if we stop asking Earth for more and more, and start asking more of ourselves. Then we can say it was a wonderful famine.

Tom Stoddard is a former bank vice-president who abandoned capitalism in favor of ecology.

Ed. note: Tom is right. Human overpopulation is a fundamental problem, and ecological periodicals should run more articles on the problem and its many manifestations. We encourage our readers to think of creative ways to combat overpopulation and to send us letters or articles on the subject.



MIKE FROME ON CONSERVATION

by Michael Frome

Environmentalism is not concerned simply with solving problems of our own time, but rather with foreseeing the future and caring for it. I can't think of a better legacy to leave for tomorrow's generation than open options in the use of land and resources. Thus, I have continually asked my readers and students to join in commitment to protect and perpetuate our most precious heritage, the American earth.

There is always hope as long as there is a cadre of people, or even a single individual, with commitment and conscience and a willingness to stand in defense of nature. The odds are formidable, but that only heightens the sense of challenge, and the reward from exercising the courage to face it.

Our globe is only a small planet. Surrounded by the infinite space of the universe, we are all joined together: all of us, the "civilized" and "primitive" of humankind, together with birds, mammals, fish, plants, all derived from common origin and facing a common future. I read of how the unenlightened poor through insensitivity are destroying nature's resources, but in visiting Africa and Latin America I place responsibility elsewhere.

I consider, for example, the case of three game-bird poachers caught setting snares along the fence of a nature reserve in Africa. They worked for a nearby farmer. While poaching had always been a way of obtaining extra meat, it had lately become even more important since their wages had not kept pace with rising food prices. Thus this question: Who is to blame, the poacher, the farmer, or the advanced external society for creating such a demand for red meat that prices no longer can be afforded by the poor?

Certainly the poor destroy natural environments, as part of their battle to survive, but affluent societies pose at least as great a threat. Through insatiable demands for consumer goods, we not only push food prices out of reach of the poor, but create a demand for goods with massive consequences to land and people. The Karroo region, covering one-third of South Africa, has been subject to escalating exploitation by domestic stock for more than 150 years — to produce wool and mutton for local and overseas markets. Overgrazing has transformed a once productive environment to near desert, but shall we say the farmers alone are to blame?

The "Hamburger Connection" is the term applied to the process whereby Central American beef ranchers convert forests to grasslands for beef production, largely to sustain appetites in affluent North America. Not only are tropical forests decimated, but profits from it all go to a handful of wealthy ranchers, while local peasants eat less meat per capita and are pushed into marginal areas so that cattle ranches can be extended.

The only possible and lasting solution to many of the world's environmental problems lies in reduced consumer demand. The US, with all our science, sentiment and expertise, can lead the way as a model for the world. We have nothing to lose, everything to gain through a more efficient and healthful life-style. The frugal use of diminishing natural resources should be the personal goal of those who care, as the first step toward acceptance by the nation. We must alter the life-style that makes us enemies of ourselves and reassess the value system by which we confuse superconsumption for a high quality of life.

Idaho furnishes a choice illustration. All of this state's resources are natural — majestic mountains, pure water, clean air, grand scenery, and decent, intelligent people. The people are the most important resource, for they hold the power to either conserve or destroy all the rest.

Which shall it be? I pray that Idaho will not allow itself to be lured into bartering its quality of life for any quantity that could result in deterioration of the environment. The protection of high elevation lands ensures protection of watersheds, wildlife and fisheries habitats, and indigenous flora. Soils in the highlands aren't sufficiently deep, stable or fertile over large enough areas to justify extensive road building, intensive timber management, or other forms of exploitation. But qualities that make these areas a liability for production make them natural for human enjoyment.

If an industry, whether new or old, will enhance the quality of life in general, then it should be welcomed. On the other hand, if it pollutes a stream or the air, we don't need it. If it defaces a mountain, we cannot tolerate it.

If Idaho is to plan the development of a tourist industry, it must first develop the method to call a halt when growth has reached maximum efficiency, the point at which resources are used but not abused. Never have penalties been as devastatingly tragic as those experienced in areas of unplanned growth. Idaho is singularly blessed with the rare opportunity to view the mistakes made by other, more developed states and to avoid them.

I hope that education may contribute to this process. All education is not in the classroom; the best of it is away from the classroom. All of life is learning and the whole world a classroom. John Muir wrote that he left the University of Wisconsin for broader studies in the "university of the wilderness," while Walt Whitman contemplated universality in a blade of grass.

"But let children walk with Nature," wrote Muir, "let them see the beautiful blendings and communications of death and life, their joyous inseparable unity, as taught in woods and meadows, plains and mountains and streams of our blessed star, and they will learn that death is stingless indeed, and as beautiful as life, and that the grave has no victory, for it never fights. All is divine harmony."

Muir wrote those lines after sleeping in a cemetery in Georgia during his thousand-mile walk to the sea. We all ought to sleep in the cemetery sometime and listen to the voices there. I see myself with a group of students spending the night, quietly, without a lecture or lesson, and next morning each one reporting the messages that came to her and him, from cemetery sounds and stillness. I feel that I should teach in the out-of-doors classroom, absorbing divine harmony as the basis for restoring harmony to human society.

All being is learning. Thus learning is being. My learning is the search for the ancient, lost reverence and passion for human personality, joined with the ancient, lost reverence and passion for the earth and its web of life. This is best achieved through simple, direct contacts with nature, unencumbered by superfluities. The extent to which people flock to the most attractive scenery emphasizes the human desire to perceive the marvels and mystery of unspoiled nature. But this in itself is not enough, more like a superficial physical activity, incomplete without the connection to mind and soul.

In the old days everthing necessary for campers' comfort and survival they had to provide for themselves; it was part of the culture, demanding but invigorating. Today the trick seems to be to spend enough money so that everything is done for you, with mechanical contrivances and conveniences of indoor life at home adapted to outdoor life away. There is scant emphasis on self-reliance or on the need to respect the environment of nature. Trampled vegetation and exposed tree roots are common sights, proving that recreation can be as damaging as road building, logging, mining or grazing. Little wonder, when recreationists scarcely recognize their campsites to be alive, delicate and fragile.

I'm not sure that "professionalism" makes too much difference, not when it derives from narrow technical training and computer-bred rules and regulations, rather than from consistent and continuing field experience and a reverence for life. In autumn 1985 the Forest Service invited me to participate in a management workshop in the Pecos Wilderness of New Mexico. As it happened, a staff writer for the *Albuquerque Journal*, Nolan Hester, was along. "If rangers are to understand the wilderness and its users," began his subsequent account in the paper, "they must head for the hills and take to the woods. For a week, they leave desks and uniforms behind, carry backpacks, sleep outdoors, get wet."

But then, disillusionment. As Hester continued:

"Heading up the trail, the image of the woods-wise rangers is quickly shattered. For many, this is their first real hike in years. They huff and puff even though an outfitter has already packed in their food . . .

"Everything from trail construction to firefighting, air pollution and campsite abuse gets debated during a series of trailside stops led by agency specialists. The rangers debate the exact pressue a cow's foot exerts on a meadow — such details are the currency of ranger conversations.

"Yet they cannot name shrubby cinquefoil, a common Southwestern plant. And there is little talk of the surrounding country's sheer beauty."

Of course they can't identify plants without commercial value, except perchance as unwanted weeds, or perceive natural beauty. It's not in the parameters of their training, either in the agency or in the vocational technical schools from whence they came. They deal in closely defined linear patterns and statistics, rather than in poetry. The analytical type of thinking of western science may have given us power over nature, but it has smothered professional technicians in ignorance about themselves as part of it.

Wilderness is the heart and soul of America. All our art, literature, poetry derives from the natural world. I began to consciously feel that way in my instant of truth around a campfire 25 years ago. I need the wilderness as a source of personal enrichment and enlightenment, and as a place to be with students where we may learn together fundamental lessons about natural resource husbandry and about ourselves. "We can be ethical," as Aldo Leopold wrote, "only in relation to something we can see, feel, understand, love, or otherwise have faith in." Or to cite Carl Rogers, the behavioral psychologist, in his definition of heuristics: "a passionate, highly personal, self-searching commitment to inner truth — a disciplined but intuitive search that explores, by every possible subjective means, the essence of personal experience, thus generating personal truth . . . ."

For what shall we, as individuals and as a generation, be remembered in time? Environmentalism is concerned with foreseeing the future and caring for it. Our greatest gift will be not in a record of devouring resources for ourselves, but in earth preserved and protected, the more of it the better: the redwoods yet standing in California; the wild rivers flowing in Idaho; clean oceans supporting the whales; clear blue skies across America where eagles fly; an Africa and Alaska supporting migrations of the herds. And they will say of us, "Verily, *that* was an educated generation."

Michael Frome has been one of America's foremost environmental writers and historians for four decades, and is currently a visiting professor at the University of Idaho.



Rocky Mountain Front (cont)

with the bugle of Elk and the howl of Wolves, as the early explorers heard. America would once again have its own Serengeti — a place where the original ecosystem would be intact and complete.

To buy all this land would likely cost 100 million dollars — far less than the cost of one space shuttle. This is a small investment to recreate a lost paradise. To generate the money for such a purchase and others like it, I have two suggestions. 1. Direct solicitations of money from citizens and corporations, just as has been done for the Statue of Liberty, would raise funds. If 229 million can be raised for Miss Liberty, certainly we can raise funds for a wild ecosystem as much a symbol of our country as New York's statue. 2. Congress should impose a tax on all outdoor related gear, books, and equipment. Like the present tax on firearms and fishing equipment, this tax should be specifically allocated for wildlife habitat acquisition throughout the US. In this way citizens pay for the acquisition of wildlife habitat and hence have a right to help determine how funds are spent.

Under the present system, whereby nearly all Fish and Game departments are funded by sportmen's dollars, concern for wildlife other than huntable species is usually lacking. Most Fish and Game departments are not concerned about ecosystem stability unless it benefits hunting, trapping, or fishing. One cannot expect this bias to change until the method of funding wildlife research and habitat needs is also changed.

During the homestead era, many important wildlife areas became private ranchlands. To maintain wildlife populations in the long run, particularly for the larger wildlife species, we need to buy back critical lands as they come up for sale. There ought to be places in America where the original fauna can again play its ancient role in prime habitat. One place should be here along the Front in the shadow of the mountains along the Sun, Teton and Two Medicine Rivers.

To become involved with efforts to save the Front or for more information write: Montana Wilderness Association, Box 635, Helena, MT 59624; Badger Chapter, Box 8374, Missoula, MT 59807; Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance, Box 181, East Glacier Park, Montana 59434. Immediately write the Montana Congressional delegation, particularly Pat Williams (House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515) and John Melcher (US Senate, Washington, DC 20510), asking them to support Wilderness for the entire Front including the Badger-Two Medicine area. Write a short letter to the Lewis and Clark NF, Box 871, Great Falls, MT 59403. Tell the FS that you oppose any oil and gas drilling anywhere in the Front and in particular the Badger-Two Medicine. Ask to be placed on the mailing list to be kept informed of current events. Just a single paragraph letter can go a long way toward realizing a Great Plains Wilderness along the Front.

Montana biologist George Wuerthner continues to write some of the most important essays in the ecology movement. He is now working on a grazing article.

Ed. note: Just before we went to press, Goerge sent us word that the Blackfeet Indian Tribal Council has announced its opposition to Wilderness designation for the Badger-Two Medicine area just south of Glacier. George's sources fear that the council opposes Wilderness because it hopes to gain control of the area from the Forest Service and then lease it to oil companies.

REVIEWS

***Gathering the Desert* by Gary Paul Nabhan; University of Arizona Press; 1985; $19.95 cloth; 206 pp.**

If you like deserts, read *Gathering the Desert*. This book is a scientific yet poetic look at plants of the Sonoran Desert and how they have long been used "as calories, cures, and characters" by native peoples. Nabhan, a leading expert on wild Sonoran edibles, explains that of 2500 vascular plants inhabiting the Sonoran Desert, 425 are edible, and 25 have been cultivated since prehistoric times. Nabhan focuses primarily on 12 of the most useful species — reminding the reader, however, that these plants have value that transcends their usefulness to humans.

Gathering the Desert serves as an important plea on behalf of growing foods which are naturally adapted to the desert rather than raising energy and water intensive crops as we are now doing. Nabhan convinces us that we would benefit by returning to simple foods and medicines from plants such mesquite, prickly pear, and creosote bush, gathered in the wild. Lastly, Nabhan makes us aware that desert areas are rich ecosystems in need of preservation. If this excellent book has a weakness, it is that it is too gentle in its criticism of present abusers of the desert. We must not forget deserts in our eagerness to preserve forests. We need both intact forest ecosystems, described so eloquently by such writers as Catherine Caufield, and intact desert ecosystems described with equal eloquence by Gary Nabhan.

Reviewed by Australopithecus

Gathering the Desert *is available from Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 for $21 postpaid hardcover.*

GOOD WILD SACRED; Gary Snyder; 1984; Five Seasons Press; Madley, Hereford, England; 32 pp.; available by mail from Way of the Mountain Center, POB 542, Silverton, CO 81433; $5 plus .69 postage.

No commas — it's the same: good wild sacred. Gary Snyder begins with his own land in the Sierra Nevada of Alta California and says that since the original people there were all displaced or destroyed during the gold rush, "we have no one to teach us which parts of that landscape were once thought to be sacred, but with much time and attention, I think we will be able to identify such sites again."

After an overview of the destructive, dominant Western European approach to land, Snyder tells of hopeful new trends in the world which may help natives hold on to the last remnants. In California former Governor Jerry Brown created the Native American Heritage Commission specifically for California Indians. Some Indian elders were "charged with the task of locating and protecting sacred sites and graves. This would avoid in advance confrontations" with public land managers. The white Christian founders of the US were not thinking of the land when they guaranteed freedom of religion, but "interpretations by the courts, and the passage of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978, have gradually come to give native practices some real status. 'Sacred' virtually becomes a new land-use category." Concerning Australia, where Snyder visited sacred sites in the company of tribal elders, he says that the Australian Bureau of Aboriginal Affairs has "hired some bilingual anthropologists and bush people to work with elders . . . to identify sacred sites and map them. Everyone hopes that the Australian government really means to declare such areas off-limits before any exploratory team ever gets near them." Another hopeful sign that Snyder sees is "the growing popularity of the Earth First! organization" and the fact that the "temples of this movement are the planet's remaining wilderness areas."

The most sophisticated system ever developed for aligning human structures to the natural power points of the land in order to create the energy flow that we humans label "sacred" is called *feng-shui* by the Chinese. This energy is not fuzzy mysticism. It consists of such things as the piezo-electric quality of quartz, positive and negative ions, etc. — these are all modern scientific labels for particular aspects of something much bigger than any of these terms. For years I tried to find out why there were no written facts about methods used by *feng-shui* masters. Finally, reading a true story in volume four of Joseph Needham's *Science and Civilization in China*, I found out why. The story is a good example of the long history in European countries of associating natural lands with the devil. The scholarly Italian Jesuit, Matteo Ricci, famous in the West for his love of things Chinese, was an early missionary to China. The Chinese emperor, appreciating his knowledge of the stars, made him court astronomer. Yet, he remained a Christian missionary also. Whenever he converted anyone he had them burn all pagan books. Unfortunately, in 1602 he converted Li Ying-Shih, a distinguished scholar particularly skilled in *feng-shui*. In Ricci's words: "He had a rather good library and it took him three full days to purge it of books on subjects prohibited by our churchly laws . . . all of these, amounting to three trunks full, were committed to the flames. . . ." Needham, continuing his account of Ricci and the *feng-shui* books, states that he "did not disbelieve in it; he considered it diabolical." This particularly angers Needham because, as he says, "It is to be feared that some of the most interesting facts about the development of one of the most important of all scientific instruments have perished forever." It was when Needham learned that China had developed the compass 600 years before Europe that he began his life-long study of China. Masters of *feng-shui* developed the compass for their work with sacred land energies.

But, as Gary Snyder reassures us, we can re-learn where the sacred spots are. According to Gary, "These spots are seen as points on the landscape at which one can more easily enter a larger-than-human, larger-than-personal realm." He further defines 'sacred' when he says it "refers to that which helps take us out of our little selves into the larger self of the whole universe." He devotes several pages on how to begin. Most important, "continue to live in a place, to not move away, and to continue walking the paths and roads." Some part of your livelihood must also come from your place — even if only berry picking or mushroom hunting. Elsewhere Snyder has called this connecting with "the sacramental energy-exchange, evolutionary-mutual-sharing aspect of life." Snyder also suggests giving children the space and time to "experience bonding to place." Near the end of the book he writes:

"Goodhearted environmentalists can turn their back on a save-the-wilderness project when it gets too tiresome and return to a city home. But inhabitory people, Peter Nabokov says, will 'fight for their lives like they've been jumped in an alley.' Like it or not, we are all finally 'inhabitory' on this one small blue-green planet . . . . It's clearly time to turn away from economies that demand constant exploitation of both people and resources, and to put Earth first!"

As befits a book about sacred land, Snyder's book is beautifully done — tan cover with green and blue title, set in simple, elegant Monotype Bembo and hand tied. The perfect book for allowing your deepest feelings about the land to be shared with others.

Reviewed by Dolores LaChapelle, author of ***Earth Festivals*** *and* ***Earth Wisdom.*** *Her newest book,* ***Sacred Land, Sacred Sex: Rapture of the Deep*** *is due off the press in November.*



BUILDING THE GREEN MOVEMENT; Rudolph Bahro; New Society Publishers (4722 Baltimore Av., Philadelphia, PA 19143); 1986; $9.95 paper; 211 pp.

Building the Green Movement is a collection of translated interviews, speeches and writings given by Bahro between November, 1982, and June, 1985. The quality of the pieces varies greatly and some of them should have been abbreviated or omitted; but given the great insights of Bahro, the book is well worth reading.

Bahro is one of the deepest and most radical thinkers in the Green movement. Indeed, Earth First! activist Dixie Dalton aptly said of Bahro, "he is to the European Green movement what Dave Foreman is to the US environmental movement." Like Foreman, Bahro is a powerful, outspoken, radical, and controversial speaker and leader, and thorn in the side of his movement. Bahro's ideas are much in line with EF!'s philosophy. Bahro, but not all European Greens, believes that industrial civilization as we know it — "industrial capitalism," the system of all the developed world including so-called communist states — must collapse. To work for reforms to improve the system — as traditional "left liberals" do — is usually counterproductive because it props up a system which we should undermine. Bahro says we should do anything which speeds the collapse of industrial capitalism. This includes direct action (Bahro does not mention monkeywrenching but the tenor of his condemnation of industrial capitalism suggests that he would appreciate it); withdrawing all financial support of multinationals; and establishing self-sufficient, spiritually-based communes.

Bahro, being German, is excessively verbose at times, but the patient EF! reader will admire Bahro and his deeply ecological world view. Readers will not, however, be impressed by his praise for Bhagwan of Rajneeshpuram — the commune leader recently forced out of the US after his corrupt practices and horde of Rolls Royces were revealed. No doubt Bahro regrets his praise of Bhagwan, and one suspects that Bahro's eagerness to see the downfall of industrial capitalism (an eagerness almost equal to that of Foreman and other EF!ers) leads him to be too uncritical in endorsing counter-cultural movements, not all of which are ecological and healthy alternatives to the "Big Machine."

Bahro's history within the West German Greens (*Die Grunen*) has been spectacular. Arriving in West Germany after being released from an East German prison in 1979, Bahro quickly became a leader in the newly formed Greens. The controversy surrounding Bahro, with his relentless refusal to compromise and endorse alliances with liberals, reached its peak in 1984 when Bahro compared the rise of the Greens to the rise of the Nazis prior to World War II. Bahro was not praising the Nazis — he favors ecological anarchy, not totalitarianism — but of course the media blew his statement out of context. Subsequently, as many Greens drifted toward realpolitik, Bahro became disenchanted with their reformist tendencies. Finally, in June 1985, Bahro withdrew from *Die Grunen* when they failed to take a stand against all animal experimentation. Bahro claims that not only is animal experimentation cruel, but it is also one of the major pillars supporting industrial capitalism, and thus must be condemned altogether.

To conclude, we recommend *Building the Green Movement* not because it is a flawless book, but because it contains many fine ideas of one of the greatest Greens.

— Reviewed by Australopithecus

The Work of Peter Matthiessen

by Rick Bruhn

Traditional people the world over have much to teach a spiritually crippled race. . . . We must feel awe again if we are to return to a harmonious existence with our own habitat, and survive; we must consider this life essence that is all about us, manifesting in each moment — the music of the stars, the color of the wind, the dead stillness between tides at the dead of night, the birds, the trees, sea pearls and manure, the moment-by-moment miracle of our existence.

— Peter Matthiessen, ***Indian Country***

Since the end of World War II, and especially in the past twenty years, ever more people in the US have become aware of the spiritual impoverishment of our mass consumer culture. We have seen increasingly vigorous appeals for a significant alteration in the way we see the world and our place in it. Ideas have varied greatly on just what form these changes should take, but all attempts at a new perception involve a recognition that humans are a part of, and dependent upon, an interconnnected whole that is greater than ourselves. Gregory Bateson, in his book *Mind and Nature*, notes that "we are beginning to play with ideas of ecology, and although we immediately trivialize these ideas into politics or commerce, there is at least an impulse still in the human breast to unify and thereby sanctify the total of the natural world, of which we are." The merit of Bateson's thought is probably enough to excuse his inadvertent ethnocentrism — there are plenty of "human breasts" here in North America in which resides the tradition of a holistic or organic view of humans' place in the world. Also, since Bateson wrote this passage, we have seen in Deep Ecology an approach that goes far beyond merely playing with ideas of ecology. Nevertheless, holistic vision is a comparatively new development in the mainstream of Euro-American culture, and it has found one of its most striking literary articulations in the work of Peter Matthiessen.

Matthiessen's position as a naturalist and an extraordinary writer has made him an ideal advocate of environmental and cultural awareness. He has long demonstrated a deep understanding of the natural environment, and has associated this increasingly with a sympathy for the life-ways and insights of traditional peoples. As he has joined these elements in his work, they have emerged as an ever more forceful denunciation of the Ameropean world-view and environmental destruction that results from it. These themes converge in his latest work, *Indian Country*. What Matthiessen proposes in this book is a more and more prominently recurring idea in environmental writings: the call for a complete re-envisioning of our place in the natural order — the call for a new religion.

Matthiessen's journey to this place in *Indian Country* has been remarkable, physically and spiritually. In 1957, he set off to wander the world. He traveled the backcountry of the Americas from Point Barrow to Tierra del Fuego, and visited wild regions of every continent, save Antarctica. These travels resulted in his first three books of nonfiction. Three years of study went into *Wildlife in America* — incredibly, the first comprehensive history of the European and Ameropean impact on North American wildlife. The work Matthiessen had done to compile *Wildlife in America* left him bitter — the book's title page includes the following quote from the book of Jeremiah: "And I brought you into this country, to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when ye entered, ye defiled my land, and made mine heritage an abomination." Matthiessen's dismay at the destructiveness of European culture is apparent throughout *Wildlife in America*, and his unconcealed anger carries over into all his subsequent work.

His next book, *The Cloud Forest*, appeared in 1961 and was Matthiessen's first venture into a literary form that he would continue to use with great success up to the present; that is, travel literature. The book is an account of Matthiessen's 1959 journey throughout the South American wilderness. It is like all Matthiessen's nonfiction work in its scrupulous research and exquisite description.

In 1961 Matthiessen went with the Harvard-Peabody expedition to New Guinea to study the Kurelu, a small warlike tribe that had previously been uncorrupted by modern contact. This was Matthiessen's first extensive experience with a traditional people, and his unique approach to them as a subject is a key to understanding the sensitivity

THE POETICS OF DEEP ECOLOGY
Part 3: Poems by José

by Lone Wolf Circles

Unfortunately for many aspiring poets, good poetry is not cute and clever phrases carefully stacked in a deliberate array. Good poetry bursts out of the subconscious in spite of our restraints, in those rare electrified states. It is then that pure image, lessons stripped down to their cutting edge, arc through us from an essence greater than us. Where they touch the paper they burn their image indelibly as if scorched by lightning. It is the perfect moment, lost forever if you looked away. For no deliberate manipulation can make up for it. Temporal; fragile in this way. From "Cryptogam" in SANDSTONE:

One foul footprint
of bulldozing vibram
could crush this
fragile fortress of soil, this
scab of life on sand
that wind would bleed away.
Thirty years to build this half inch high
symbiote civilization,
enough composted crust
to nest and hatch
some cheat grass seeds
and cheat the breeze
of this mound of sand
surrounding its sprouting juniper.

It is perfect passion that defeats mortality, transcends our forgetfulness. It isn't enough for it to take us part way, for anything less than all the way is still nowhere at all. From "Like Storm Crows. . ." in FINDING THE SKY:

Surveyors are in the orchard
They see Medusa thru the transit.
The farm was plowed
for the last time
brutally
field, pheasant, corral and quail,
framed in suburb curb.
Its sloughs flooded with fill.
Its black soil buried
by dumptruck cortege.
The old barn is burning itself,
a grey monk in weathered robes.

When the clouds lift, there remains "poem," its gift. From "Coyote and the Cloud Children":

Muzzle in moss he remembers again
the sky dream —
of spawning clouds
their thunderous mating
lightning joy
as they journey east,
thinks how he lives
off their liquid children
while salmon travel with them
and how on cold mornings
they gather in his breath.

This, in the wonderful little book COYOTE MEETS KAFKA, where our beloved trickster steps out of the backs of our minds (where he is always hidden) and messes with our limited sense of reality. The coyote, like the warrior poem and the pointed-word, still battles for our attention, our focus, our sacred planet:

Apache/Zulu/Arands
native hunters
evolved in dreamtime
slaughtered by euranglos
and their farmer's
unearthly god
heaven's invasion claimed
prairie/veldt/outback
replaced hunter's prey
with christian sheep
coyote/jackal/dingo
haunt flocks of
this ape turned herdsman
refuse to surrender
the pagan earth.

Poems set to stalk the mundane preconception that is suffocating our potential as a species and our very planet. Poems with a bounty on them, hung upside down on fenceposts by irate ranchers of supposed civility, taken to court for extremism, men's daughters hidden away from poem's honesty.

The above titles are available from Compost Press, 1581 Downington Ave., SLC, UT 84105.



he would later demonstrate in his treatment of Native Americans. The resultant book, *Under the Mountain Wall: A Chronicle of Two Seasons in the Stone Age*, describes the daily life of the tribe by detailing exclusively what the Kurelu said and did, but never presuming to explain their thoughts or motivations.

With *The Cloud Forest* and *Under the Mountain Wall* Matthiessen established his reputation as a writer of travel literature and natural history. In later years he would be invited on expeditions and safaris to wild regions of Asia and Africa. In all cases, from *The Tree Where Man Was Born* to *Sand Rivers* to *Snow Leopard*, Matthiessen describes the deterioration of the natural environment and of traditional life-ways under the pressures of human overpopulation and commercial exploitation. But never does he lapse into the "strange places, strange creatures, strange peoples" *National Geographic* style that has characterized so much travel writing. (I can find no indication that Matthiessen has ever published in *National Geographic*, despite an impressive publication history in other journals — surely a point in his favor.)

During the '60s and '70s Matthiessen also continued to write novels, but his fiction in this period falls in line with his travels and other writings. In 1965 he completed his fourth novel, *At Play in the Fields of the Lord*, a book that combined his growing concern for native people and his troubled familiarity with the forces that destroy their environment and culture. The novel is set among the Niaruna in the Amazon jungle, a people threatened by the encroachment of Western civilization. Western society is represented by four fundamentalist missionaries intent on "saving" the tribal people, and a local politico who seeks any excuse to destroy them. On the side of the Niaruna stands an embittered North American Indian, alienated by the long oppression of his own people, who wants to vindicate his heritage by becoming one of the Niaruna and leading them to victory against bombs and the Bible.

In 1969 Matthiessen seemed to break with previous patterns in his writing when he published *Sal Si Puedes: Cesar Chavez and the New American Revolution*. Here Matthiessen documented the struggle of an oppressed minority, the migrant workers of the US, and their continued abuse by government and industry. This book grew out of Matthiessen's increasingly activist political posture. He attacked not only the interests of the powerful, but the apathy of the mainstream; at one point he observed that "most good Americans, like 'good Germans,' have managed to stay unaware of inhumanity in their own country."

Throughout the '70s Matthiessen became more outspoken in his criticism of the values of Ameropean society, in the manner he had begun in *Sal Si Puedes*. His attitude is well summarized in an article he wrote for *Audubon* in 1975. As he crossed the Jersey Meadows by train, Matthiessen said:

In the autumn twilight, the chemical-colored sky was a dire warning, and still we clung to the gross national product and gross national pollution. The prospect for the republic seemed as blurred and gritty as the view from the train window, yet in this waste lay a worthy, sane solution to our plight. The mighty and exhilarating tasks of restoring the human environment, the rivers and cities, this blighted sky itself, would also restore a sick economy and the pride in a great nation. Why didn't we insist on it? Where was the Spirit of '76 that threw out a decadent leadership in the time of the Revolutionary War? Instead, it appeared, we would sit back (as I sat back now, in mute rage and apprehension) and watch these leaders of no vision or nobility — the union and corporate profiteers and their cronies in office — lead the country farther down the path of phony patriotism and pumped-up progress toward the usual solution to hard times, another war.



In the '70s and '80s, Matthiessen's long-time interests — traditional peoples and the natural environment — combined with his policial disenchantment and found a focus in the social and environmental plight of Native Americans. *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*, published in 1983, traced the rise of the American Indian Movement (AIM) and the battle AIM has fought against the government and huge energy companies to stop the destruction of Indian lands. The book is exhaustively researched and documented, and perhaps because of this it has been the target of an extensive smear campaign by government and industry, who would rather not see the record of their injustices in print. In fact, Matthiessen is the defendant in nearly fifty million dollars of lawsuits brought by government agents, and while the accusations against him have no merit, the pressure and threats of further lawsuits from the government have scared Matthiessen's publishers away from continuing to print the book.

Meanwhile, Matthiessen has written another book on the environmental destruction of Indian lands that is a culmination of the themes and skills he has developed in his career. *Indian Country* is a journal of Matthiessen's travels across the US in which he documents cases of the government/corporate conspiracy to encroach upon the sacred grounds of Indian tribes: from the Everglades to the lands of New York's Mohawks to the military playgrounds in the Great Basin to the monstrous travesties of the Black Mesa strip mines to the "North Central Power Project" of the Black Hills.

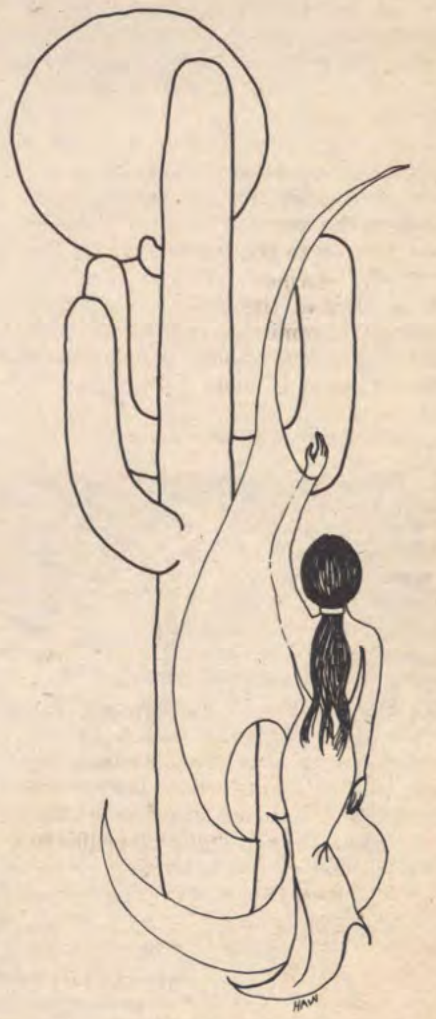
Matthiessen makes it clear that the rapacious destruction he documents is the inevitable result of the Ameropean world-view, in which there is no longer a genuine sense of anything being sacred. There is no longer anything in mainstream American culture that is above exploitation for commercial purposes, and in such a value system the natural environment is the greatest casualty. He contrasts this with the ways and beliefs of Native Americans, and finds in the latter the inspiration for a new way of seeing for all of us. *Indian Country* is Matthiessen's most direct and eloquent appeal to Ameropeans to embrace an alternative world-view; one that we might best pattern after the example given us by the first North Americans.

To those who argue that there is no way our "advanced civilization" can go "back" to such a view, Matthiessen responds:

We can no longer pretend — as we did for so long — that Indians are a primitive people: no, they are a traditional people, that is, a "first" or "original" people, a primal people, the inheritors of a profound and exquisite wisdom distilled by long ages on this earth. The Indian concept of earth and spirit has been patronizingly dismissed as simplehearted "naturalism" or "animism," when in fact it derives from a holistic vision known to all mystics and great teachers of the most venerated religions of the world.

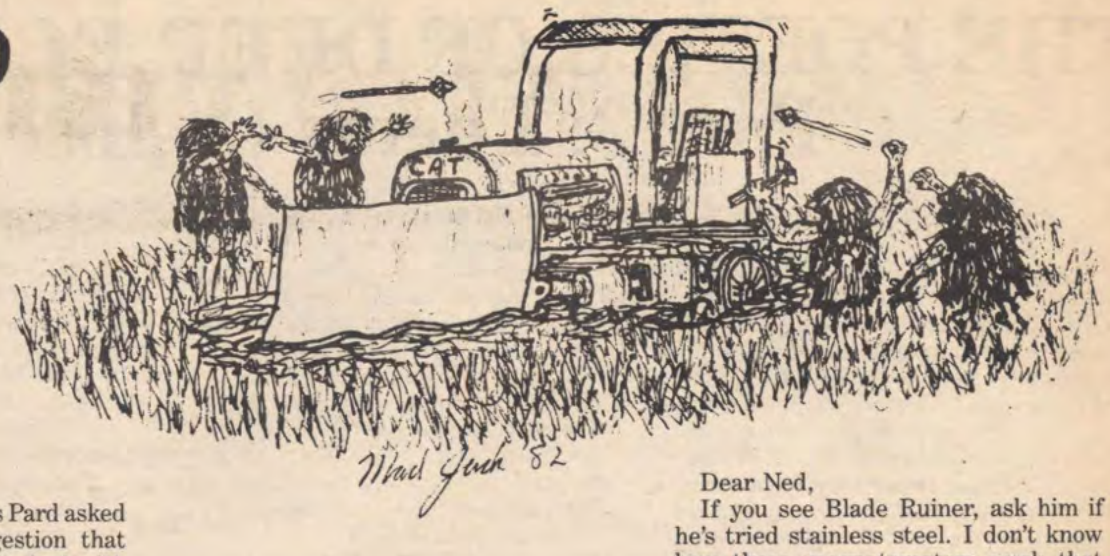
Ultimately, Matthiessen insists, it is imperative that we do not "dismiss those attitudes as something archaic, picturesque, to be pushed aside by that lunatic insistence on 'progress,' on 'growth,' on gross national product, that is destroying the land and air and water, the wild animals and plants, the countryside, small towns and small business and small farmers, not to speak of quality and craftsmanship, birdsong, silence, night, and the very soul of man."

Rick Bruhn is an ecological historian living deep in the heart of Texas.



DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.



THE OUTLAW'S BIBLE: HOW TO EVADE THE SYSTEM USING CONSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY; E. X. Boozhie; Circle A Publishers, 8608 E. Hubbell, Dept. 45C, Scottsdale, AZ 85257; 325pp.; paper; $12.95 postpaid.

"*The Outlaw's Bible* is not just a book for lawbreakers. It is for all people who undertake to seriously learn about the 'legal rights' supposedly available under the U.S. Constitution." — from the Forward by Avi Naftel.

We received a complimentary copy of this book, and have all perused it with interest. Now, since most people out there engaging in illegal acts don't want to get caught (the exception being those engaged in civil disobedience) there is probably an all-too-human tendency *not* to plan for that possibility. This is unfortunate, because if someone (a monkeywrencher, let's say) is arrested without having prepared for that eventuality, they are apt to voluntarily give away their constitutional rights to the authorities, making conviction all the more likely. And as the reader of this book will find, your constitutional rights are few enough — damned few, as a matter of fact. It is the author's contention that the American justice system exists only for the benefit of the ultra-rich, and as you read these pages you will begin to suspect that, contrary to the media image of "lenient" courts, the judicial system has been working overtime since 1790 to *lessen* the constitutional protections afforded to the average citizen.

The author concentrates principally on the protection afforded by the fourth, fifth and sixth amendments to the U.S. Constitution, which respectively guarantee (in theory, at least) a person's right to be immune from unreasonable search and seizure, to be free from having to testify against himself or herself, and to have confidential communications with a lawyer. But in practice, the courts have over the years created an almost Byzantine system of exceptions to, and ramifications of, these basic constitutional protections. While the author agrees that it would be impossible for the average person to be completely versed in the complexities of our legal system (there are 7 *million* books on law in the Library of Congress), it is his contention that by following a few basic rules, a person can reduce the risk of arrest, and if arrested, can maximize the likelihood that he/she will not be convicted.

These basic rules are summed up in what Boozhie calls "The Ten Commandments." The author cautions, "For those who make their living by breaking one law or another, it's safe to predict that inevitably they're going to get caught and punished . . . no set of rules can guarantee that you'll never get caught, but if you consistently follow these you'll shift the odds immensely in your favor, and avoid making the needless mistakes which have resulted in the destruction of so many lives."

Reviewed by Leon Czolgosz .

Dear Ned,

In the Eostar edition Taos Pard asked for comment on the suggestion that Clorox and Drano be used to deal with the metal posts of large signboard. This will not work — at least not in any reasonable length of time nor with any reasonable amount of the two chemicals. However, the mixture of powdered aluminum and iron oxide called Exoweld or Thermite — used for the welding of heavy steel, such as railroad rails, by the aluminothermal process — may well do. Taos Pard should contact a supplier of heavy welding materials, preferably where he or she is not known, to get the mixture plus an igniter and sheets providing instructions. A clay dam will be needed. I suggest the dam at the foot of the posts. Even if the operation does not cut through the posts it may weaken them so they have to be replaced, or soften them enough to cause them to bend over. A pre-experiment using a length of heavy steel may be worthwhile. The burn takes only 25 - 35 seconds and the temperature can reach 5,000 deg. F. The same method might serve to burn through wooden signposts.

Others speak of the problems of spiking trees. I suggest they look up an industrial construction supply house to see the powder cartridge (about .22 cal.) guns used to fire staples into solid steel beams to anchor electrical and plumbing conduits. These guns can be loaded so as to fire the steel staples many times before reloading and they should be usable to mess up a tree so that a saw will certainly strike one or more. They should go far enough into the wood to be undetected and difficult or impossible to dig out if detected.

—Adenoid P. Tonsil

Dear Ned,

I was reading a newspaper article the other day about those "war games" that so-called survivalists like to play. It seems that they like to stalk each other through the woods and "shoot" each other with pistols. Only instead of using real firearms they use CO2 (carbon dioxide) powered guns that shoot a paint pellet.

I checked with my local gun shop, and they stock these guns. There's a CO2 pistol, .62 calibre, for about $100. It will fire a paint pellet 100 to 150 feet. There is a rifle for about $150. And for those who want something cheaper, there's a blowgun (in both a 2' and 4' model) for $26-$30.

What if someone shot these at billboards? The paint pellets probably only leave a small splotch, but once someone perfected their aim, just a few well-placed splotches could have an incredibly artistic effect on a billboard. You might check these toys out at a gun shop (the ones that cater to survivalists are best — most big cities have at least one such shop). Remember, if you plan on using your paint gun for anything other than innocent war games, make sure no one knows who you are when you make your purchase.

—Billboard Bandit

Dear Ned,

Here's a cheaper variant of the "paint bombs" for billboards described in *ECODEFENSE*. This method was used by a buddy of mine to trash cigarette billboards. His method was to make paint grenades out of styrofoam drinking cups, to wit: fill a cheap (soft type) 8 oz. or bigger styrofoam cup with a mixture of about 1/2 water-based paint and 1/2 water. Then press on tight the plastic cap. The caps to these cups have a small breather hole in them (used for the straw) — seal this hole with a dab of silicon cement. When throwing the grenade it is imperative that the bottom end of the cup point toward the fingers . . . otherwise the G forces of acceleration might act before the cup makes contact with the intended target. No one pays attention to billboards; one can drive around and cover the town (dusk seems the ideal time), then sit back and watch the fun.

—The Phantom Grenadier

Dear Ned,

If you see Blade Ruiner, ask him if he's tried stainless steel. I don't know how these magnetometers work that you're trying to fool, but if they only detect magnetic objects (as the name implies) then you're in luck. Stainless steel is not magnetic.

—Ridge Runner

Dear Ned Ludd,

Howie Wolke's arrest should send a message to monkeywrenchers: Don't get caught! I would like to see more safety measures in these pages. Here's one:

Survey stakes are coated with a transparent substance which rubs off onto hands and shows up under a florescent light. I have a friend who was up to her tricks in the woods, was stopped on her way out by police, and forced to expose her hands to a florescent light. Luckily she had worn dark cotton gloves and had left them on survey stakes with the middle fingers extended. Narrowly escaping arrest, she returned home to conduct an experiment. She rubbed her hands on fireplace kindling (survey stakes) and exposed them to a florescent light. Sure enough, the incriminating paint lit up on her hands like a neon "guilty" sign.

Dark cotton gloves are good insurance for most of our field work. They are cheap, impossible to trace, and keep paint off fingers. They also don't leave fingerprints.

-Dangerolopithicus



Money in Your Coffeepot



by Ron Huber

If you're like most eco-activists, more than once you've been prevented from traveling to a demonstration or public hearing by a shortage of the old long green. Here's a quick and easy way to make dollars and get your point of view about local environmental issues across to a wide spectrum of humanity.

Just pull into a rest area along one of the many interstate highways crisscrossing the US and set up a Free Coffee! stand. Donations from grateful travelers can average $10 per hour. A free coffee stand can be as simple or elaborate as you wish. Here in Oregon, we've used everything from slick hot food-mobiles to a noisy Coleman stove on the trunk of a car. Either way works equally well. You'll want to make preparations ahead of time:

*Location and Timing: Select a rest area midway between two large cities, or between a city and a major recreation area. Traffic will be heaviest on weekends. Most traffic will be heading toward a recreation area on Fridays and early Saturdays, and back toward the city late Saturday and Sunday, so select your site accordingly.

*Visuals: Prepare large, easy to read signs: one to greet incoming traffic, one for each bathroom door, two more for the sides of your vehicle. These signs will bear the mystic mantra FREE COFFEE. Make more signs with a clear statement of your local issue, to be posted where visitors read them while sipping coffee. Bring handouts detailing your issue clearly and dramatically, and include a phone number and address where they can obtain further information.

*Coffee Supplies: A two burner stove, two coffeepots, cups and stirring sticks, instant coffee, cream, sugar, cookies or pastries, water and a small container to refill your water container from the restroom sink.

*Operating Your Coffee Stand: Get there early. Park directly between the men's and women's restrooms. If you

continued on page 23

ARMED WITH VISIONS



A COYOTE TALE

She had picked Coyote up just west of Flagstaff as he held his right hand out hitch-hiking and gripped with his left his old suitcase filled with fresh love letters. Said he was headed out to Second Mesa to see a pregnant lady he knew

She laughed too much, talked the same, and referred always to her car as Prince. As it happens, the old heap was a Plymouth four door Valiant, so he also called it Prince (though he thought it rather silly).

The girl claimed to be an Apache princess movie star, but he already knew she was just from Mescalero. After all, he did recall having met her at a recent cocktail party out in Hollywood in California. That's when he overheard her tell some bad guy that she'd be heading back home when she got her unemployment. So he knew just when and where to be on highway 40 going east.

After sleeping several hours (while she talked) Coyote awoke to ask her why she'd picked him up. She continued rattling on but what she really said was: "I'm attracted always to bald men or to young men whose hair has turned too white too early and of course, to great big furry tails." (She had a fantasy-on-her-mind look.)

By Winslow she was feeding him 'bout anything he wanted (and taking care of tips) as he laughed and flirted with all the ladies -- waitresses and customers alike.

As they drove north out towards the highway, she slowed the Prince to let a couple rednecks, in their white new pickup truck, pull out in front of them. They heard the insult echo "you goddamn Indians."

She drove on about a mile down the road. Then Coyote made her stop the Prince. He jumped out howling and shouting out in clear pure English, "why don't you all go back to Europe?"

Now it was dark except for fullmoon light and she was driving him to his destination in exchange for a look and feel of his pair of solid turquoise dice which had been carved (he claimed) by a Navajo medicine man in exchange for some love potion.

On that lonely north-bound road inside the Dine' reservation boundaries, Coyote saw a big MacDonalds' hamburger sign he didn't like. He thought, "how do these Indians here allow it?"

He requested that she turn around and stop. Coyote left her singing to her radio on the roadside.

He climbed off, slammed the Prince's door, made his way through barbed wire, sand and brush, and came upon (or underneath) the sign. (It looked four times smaller from the road.) So he said a little prayer.

He began to pull and shake the huge posts holding up the MacDonalds' hamburger sign until he heard it crack out loud. He kept on a-shaking and a-pulling 'til it came a-crashing down to his own size.

Once on the sand-ground, he ripped it all apart, then hesitated for a moment, shaking off the sweat and smiling at the moon, and quickly did a fast war dance, complete with song. He howled to himself while looking at the big moon and pissing on the sign.

He found the woman back at the Prince still singing at the radio. He asked her to drive on, then leaned over and whispered, "just had to take a piss."

LORENZO
Sonora



MARTHA
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SPEAKING TO THE ANIMALS

Colleagues, let me warn you:
At any moment,
A dinner plate may fly out of the sky
And strike you dead. There are handbags
That would leave your naked musculature
Drying in the breeze. Oh, I remember

When I and mine
Were what the weather was! But now
The rain is a breakfast juice,
My hearing goes to waste, the earth
Grows lines I cannot see. Listen:
The streams babble in Japanese. *Time*

Has begun to exist, my friends. We may lose
The loud spring, the sometimes bloody claw.
And how will the world be let?
Receiving this sky,
A gray monotony, they choose
Who have not chosen, yet.

Millipede
Tucson

STANDING ALONE

Standing alone
dreaming
on every corner
magic swirls through me and
the streets with jazz
undercurrents

Oh streets
Believe the sky
can open
for everyone

Tony Seldin
Vagabond

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CULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, AND THE CURRICULUM: Aniaktuvuk Pass and Gates of the Arctic NP; Rayk Barnhardt, UAF Dept. of Rural Development and former director of the Center for Cross Cultural Studies; $1375; July 31-August 9.

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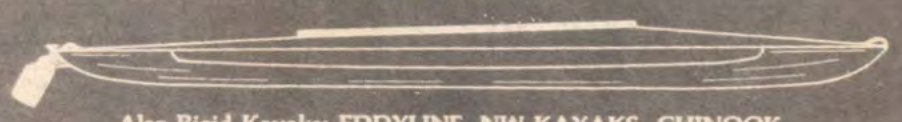
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BACK ISSUES

Yes, back issues of *Earth First!* are available for $2 apiece (to cover our postage and handling expenses). Some of the early issues are already out of print and numbers are running low on others, so order those you wish now.

YULE Dec. 21, 1981 (Vol. II, No. II) First Earth First! Road Show; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas; EF! Preserve System; Many early photos of Earth First!.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1982 (Vol. II, No. III) Earth First! by Dave Foreman (reprinted from *The Progressive*); letters from *Progressive* readers; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas.

EOSTAR March 20, 1982 (Vol. II, No. IV) Mardie Murie Interview; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; EF! meeting in Eugene.

BELTANE May 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. V) Little Granite Creek Drilling Controversy; GO Road; John Crowell; Western Civilization by Chim Blea; Monkeywrenching Seismo Crews; Jail: A Primer.

LITHA June 21, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VI) Little Granite Creek; Moab Roads a BLM WSA; Chim Blea on Babies; Dinkey Creek & McKinley Sequoias; What To Do as an EFler; Caribou in Maine.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VII) Rendezvous at Little Granite Creek; Dustrud Resigns as *EF!* Editor; Gary Snyder on Violence; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Little Granite Survey Stakes Pulled.

MABON Sept. 21, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VIII) ***Out Of Print***

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1982 (Vol. III, No. I) BLM Rotten in Utah by Clive Kincaid; Ed Abbey on Books & Gurus; Bob Marshall's 1927 Inventory of Big Wilderness; Dear Ned Ludd/Closing Roads; Foreman Runs for Sierra Club Board; Mama Rue on Samhain; Bill Devall on Nuclear War; Foreman on Endangered Species & Wilderness; How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal.

YULE/BRIGID Dec. 21, 1982 (Vol. III, No. II) Salt Creek Blockade; Nightcap Blockade in Australia; Bisti Mass Trespass; Howie Wolke on *Real* Wilderness; Ned Ludd/Closing Roads; Foreman on Primeval Wilderness Management; Bill Devall on Earth Bonding; Foreman on Books; Ed Abbey on Pigs; Mama Rue on Yule; Wilderness & the Bible; Juniper Chaining in Utah; Bisti.

EOSTAR March 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. III) Franklin River Blockade in Australia; Salt Creek Blockade; GO Road and Bald Mt Road; Chim Blea on Domestication; Howie Wolke on RARE III; Bisti Circus; Deciduous Forest Ecosystem Preserve; Nightcap Blockade Photos (Australia); EF! White Cloud Wilderness Proposal(Idaho); Ned Ludd/Cutting Torch; Howie Wolke on the Wilderness Act; Road Show Diary; EF! in Sonora; Spurs Jackson on Books; Ed Abbey on The Big Woods; Navajo Sam; Nagasaki Johnson on Tactics; Mama Rue on Eostar; Creative Littering.

BELTANE May 1, 1983 (Vol. III, No. IV) Bald Mt Blockade; GO Road; Howie Wolke on Moderation; EF! Wyoming Wilderness Proposal; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Maze Tar Sands; EF! Smashes Earth Last!; Ned Ludd/Helicopters; California Desert Sellout by BLM; Otter G'Zell on Whales; Mama Rue on Beltane; *Reenchantment of the World* Review; John Seed on Australia Rainforest Direct Action; Bigfoot Interview.

LITHA June 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. V) Wilderness War in Oregon; Bald Mt Blockaders' Personal Accounts; Mama Rue on Summer Solstice; EF! Wilderness Preserve System and Map; Head of Joaquin on Utah; EF! Glen Canyon Demonstration; Franklin River Victory in Australia; Ned Ludd/Radios; GO Road Stopped; Reform of the Forest Service; Ed Abbey on Conscience of the Conqueror.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1983 (Vol. III, No. VI) Bald Mt Road Stopped!; Round River Rendezvous; Marcy Willow: You; Chim Blea on Population Control; Photos of EF! Glen Canyon Demo; The Endangered Rainforest by John Seed; Watt Enters Coyote (A Greek Tragedy) by Marc Brown; John Seed on Anthropocentrism; EF! and Dignity; Mama Rue on Lughnasadh.

MABON Sept. 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. VII) ***OUT OF PRINT***

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1983 (Vol. IV, No. I) Sinkyone Redwood Blockade; EF! National Forest Campaign; Rainforest Burgers by Roselle; Bald Mt in Retrospect; EF!: The First 3 Years (with many photos); Howie Wolke on the Forest Service; *Conservation Biology* review; The Battle of Salt Creek (an epic poem) by Marcy Willow; Watt's Last EIS.

YULE Dec. 22, 1983 (Vol. IV, No. II) Forest Service Attacks Wilds, National RARE II Suit, DARN Report, Wolke on the Forest Service; EF! Utah Wilderness Proposal; EF! Ishi Wilderness Proposal (California); How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal; Ed Abbey in Utah; EF! Black Rock Desert Wilderness Proposal(Nevada); Sinkyone Struggle; Greenpeace in Siberia; *An Ecological & Evolutionary Ethic* Review; Coors "Beer;" Chim Blea on the Humanpox; Ned Ludd/Vehicle Modifications.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. III) Oregon RARE II Suit; EF! Idaho Wilderness Proposal; Tuolumne; Forest Service Arrogance; Ned Ludd/Smoke Bombs; Head of Joaquin on Trapping; Coors in Shenandoah.

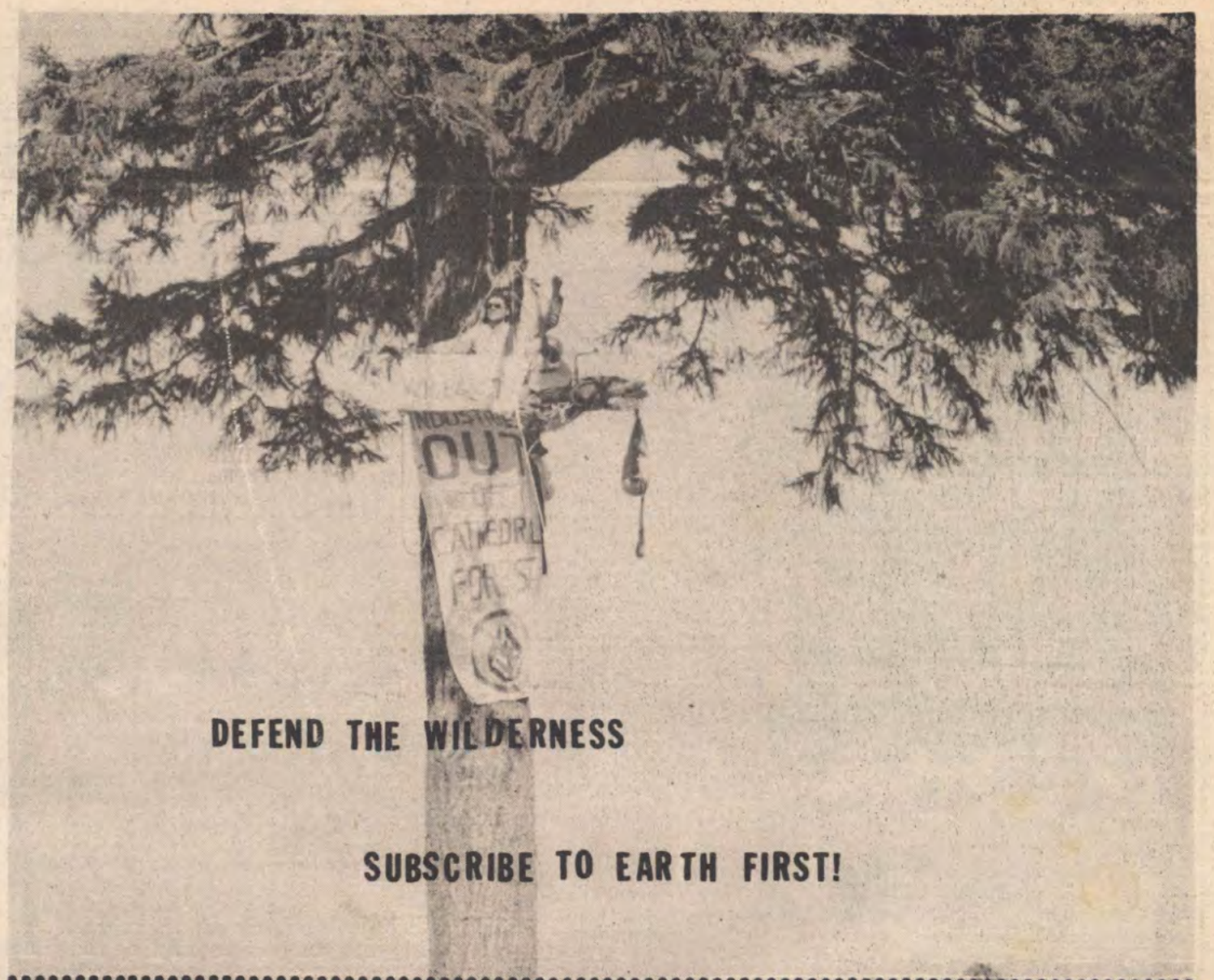
EOSTAR March 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. IV) Burger King Protest; Shipwrecked Environmentalism; Solomon Island Rainforest Action; Bald Mt Road Crumbles; Southern Utah Wilderness; Dave Brower/Muir's Disciple by Bill Devall; Ned Ludd/Tree Spiking & No Evidence; Mama Rue on Enlightenment; 1984 Road Show; Photos of Daintree Buried Protestors.

BELTANE May 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. V) Cabinet Mts Grizzlies & Mining; Forest Service Appeals Form; Wolke on the Role of EF!; EF! Owyhee Wilderness Proposal(Idaho, Oregon & Nevada); Angel Dusting Grizzlies; Middle Santiam; Colorado Recreation Dollars; EF! Arizona Wilderness Proposal; Arctic Wildlife Refuge Violated; Bolt Weevils; Devall on the Australian Environmental Movement; Ned Ludd/Survey Stakes & Disabling Vehicles; Deep Ecology & Reproduction; Save the Tuolumne Rally.

LITHA June 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VI) Middle Santiam Blockade; Chim Blea on the Big Outside; Cabinet Mts & Grizzly; Coors in Shenandoah; Saguaro National Monument Mine; Murder on Key Largo; Burger King Demonstrations; Daintree Rainforest; Ned Ludd/Rising & Falling Birds; EF! Protests Canyonlands Nuke Dump; *Sterile Forest* Review; Basic Principles of Deep Ecology; Sinkyone Continues.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VII) Middle Santiam Blockade; EF! Occupies Montana Senator's Office; North American Bioregional Congress; Round River Rendezvous; Montana on Civil Disobedience; Petroleum Conflicts with Wilderness Analyzed; Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Forest Service Part 1 by Bobcat; Sacred Cows; Foreman on Professionalism; Hunting Wild Life; Devall and Sessions on the Books of Deep Ecology.

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1984 (Vol. V, No. I) EF! Occupies Regional Forester's Office (Oregon); Bardesty Avengers Spike Trees; Old Growth R ; "What Do You Expect To Accomplish?"; Cop .. d on Bald Mt; Your Taxes Destroy Rainforest; Down (With) The Amazon; Green Politics; Elfbusters; Roxby Downs in Australia; Wilderness — the Global Connection; Ned Ludd/Water & Machines; Forest Service Appeal Form; Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Forest Service Part 2 by Bobcat; Direct Action by Devall & Sessions; Gary Snyder: Song of the Taste; Beyond Sacred Cows; Stiles in Defense of Dogs.



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YULE Dec. 21, 1984 (Vol. V, No. II) Texas Wilderness Logged; 30,000 Miles of Road in RARE II Areas; Bridger-Teton Forest Supervisor; Alaska: Kadashan, Denali, & Johnny Sagebrush; Middle Santiam Trials; Japan Grizzly; German Nuke Dump; Chipko; Solomon Islands Rainforest; Daintree Rainforest Buried Protest; Environmental Professionalism Discussion; 1984: Wilderness Boom or Bust?; A National Range Service; Non-Game; Devall on Whither Environmentalism?; Cecelia Ostrow on Deep Ecology; Hardesty Mt Tree Spiking; Ed Abbey on *Ecodefense*.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1985 (Vol. V, No. III) Meares Island; Military Land Grab in West (Supersonic Overflights); Mission Symposium; FS Employment Tyranny; National Park Mining; Florida Panther; Shooting Wolves from Air; Cathedral Forest Petition; North Kalmiopsis; Criticizing the Environmental Movement; End of the Yellowstone Grizzly?; In Defense of Western Civilization; Stop Planting Trout; Ned Ludd/Bigfoot.

EOSTAR March 20, 1985 (Vol. V, No. IV) Rocky Mountain Gas Drilling; EF! Gives DOE Nuke Waste; Montana Wilderness Demos; Yellowstone Grizzly Management; Texas Demo; Rainforest Report; Swedish River; Wayne NF; Southern Utah; King Range; Arctic NWR Desecrated; Joseph Canyon; John Day Mining; Great Exchange; Acid Rain; In Defense of Humor; Wolke on Hunting; Nagasaki on Symbols & Lifestyles; Biocentrism of Western Civilization; Ned Ludd/Advanced Billboarding.

BELTANE May 1, 1985 (Vol. V, No. V) Yellowstone's Watergate, Snowmobiles in Yellowstone, Alabama Wilderness, Denali Mine, Grand Canyon Mine, Middle Santiam, Welfare Ranchers, Great Exchange, Welcome to Earth First!, Critters Protest Bighorn NF Plan, RNR Management, Beaverhead NF, Pine Beetles, African Parks Poisoned, Real Environmental Professionalism, Dark Side of Wilderness, Review of *Fragmented Forest*.

LITHA June 21, 1985, (Vol. V, No. VI) Road Frenzy, Tree Climbing Hero, Old Growth Actions in Oregon, EF! Guide to NF Planning, Aircraft in Grand Canyon, Mt. Graham Observatory, Jarbidge Elk, Hells Canyon, Grand Canyon Mine, Rainforest Insert & Ten Questions, King Range, Mike Frome on Fat Cat Conservationists, Review of *Meeting the Expectations of the Land*, Review of *In the Rainforest*, Strategic Monkeywrenching, Advanced Tree Spiking, Tyrone (WI) Nuke.

LUGHNASADH August 1, 1985 (Vol. V, No. VII) Battle for Millenium Grove, 3 Bears in Yellowstone, Oregon Overview, Montana (Hall Creek Well, RARE II bill, Swan Range Motocross), Yellowstone Bison, Mike Frome on Yellowstone, Washington Rendezvous, Ozark NF, Stikine River Dams, Mogollon Rim Logging, Salmon River, Mt. Rainier Shit, '85 RRR, Dreaming Big Wilderness, Jeff Sirmon, Tree Spiking & Moral Maturity, Deep Ecology & Life Style, Blade Ruiner: Tree Pining, Wolke Busted, Fire Stops Logging, Hands-On Forest Planning, Valve Lapping Compound, Lone Wolf on Animal Music, Reviews: *Emerald Forest, Green Politics, Chuang Tzu, Interntl Envir. Policy.*

MABON September 22, 1985 (Vol. V, No. VIII) Arizona EF! (Overview, Mt. Graham, Grand Canyon Mines & Helicopters, Cliff Damn, Coconino Roads), Texas Wilderness Logging, Militarization of the West, Nevada Wilderness, France Sinks Rainbow Warrior, Notes from a Maturing Tree-Hugger, Utah BLM Wilderness, Gila Wilderness, Stikine River, Florida Wilderness Recovery, Eastern Forest Preserves, Natives & Natural Peoples, Ecological Decay/Political Violence, Blade Ruiner: Ceramic Spikes, Lone Wolf on Country Music, Reviews: *Who Speaks for Wolf, Seeing Green, Parable of the Tribes, Natural Alien.*

SAMHAIN November 1, 1985 (Vol. VI, No. I) Battle for The Bear, Mt. Graham Scopes, Clockwork Grizzly, Ski Yellowstone, Grant Village, Montana EF! Climbs Marais Pass Monument, Hells Canyon Logging, Austalian Woodchipping, Colorado Water Diversions, Environment & Peace, Stein Valley (BC) Logging, Louisiana-Pacific Strike, Camel Cigs Against Rainforest, Carole King on Idaho Wilderness, Rainforest Insert, Mann Creek (ID), Wild Horses, Second Thoughts on Fire, Blade Ruiner: Ceramic Spikes II, A Cop on Security, Lone Wolf Circles on Poetry, Recommended Periodicals, Reviews: *Cry Wolf, Meares Island, Earth Wisdom.*

YULE December 21, 1985 (Vol. VI, No. II) Highjacking of FOE, Colorado EF!, Texas EF!, EF! in Southern California, Bay Area EF!, Maine (Big A Damn, Straight Bay Damn), Sinkyone, Congress on Griz, Pinnacles Pigs, SS Watt, Japan, British Columbia Wilderness Logging, Thinking Like a Rainforest, Big Mountain Relocation, Australia Update, International Rainforest Conference, Blade Ruiner: Quartz Tree Spikes, Trapping, Wolves & Moose in Alaska, Bioregional Approach to Wilderness, Montana Sellout, Spotted Owls, Lone Wolf Circles on Indian Music, Reviews: *Turning Point, Nuclear Battlefields, Declaration of a Heretic, Death of Nature, American Hunting Myth, Parable of the Tribes* reply.

BRIGID February 2, 1986 (Vol. VI, No. III) Cutting the Tongass, Dian Fossey, CO EF!, '86 RRR, Gallatin NF, Oregon Update, Colo. Aspen, Calif. Condor, Desert Eagles, Hall Creek Protest, Bruneau Snail, Bleeding Utah, EF! Acid Rain, Texas Boggy Creek, Designer Genes, Seed in India, South Moresby, World Rainforest Report #5, Foreman on Cowboys, Stoddard on Death, Feb. Pagan Festivals, Wuerthner on Forest Fire, Technology & Mountain Thinking, Spiking Refinements, Lone Wolf Circles on Gary Snyder, Stephanie Mills: RRR Thoughts, Reviews: Books on Mountain Lions and Grizzlies.

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