



Environment & Society Portal

Suggested citation: LaPietra, Tim, et al., eds., *Earth First! Journal* 19, no. 7 (1 August 1999). Republished by the Environment & Society Portal, Multimedia Library. <http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/7047>

All rights reserved. The user may download, preserve and print this material only for private, research or nonprofit educational purposes. The user may not alter, transform, or build upon this material.

The Rachel Carson Center's Environment & Society Portal makes archival materials openly accessible for purposes of research and education. Views expressed in these materials do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the Rachel Carson Center or its partners.

# Earth First!

Lughnasadh

Vol. 19, No. 7

August-September, 1999

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

\$3.50

## Confrontation in Colorado

BY EMILY WOLF AND  
STEPHANIE TIDWELL

A coalition of forest defenders converged on Vail to stymie Vail Associate's (VA) greed-motivated plans of wanton devastation in pursuit of the almighty dollar. After the EF! Round River Rendezvous in Colorado, about 40 Earth First!ers from around the country joined members of Ancient Forest Rescue (AFR) and the Coalition to Stop Vail Expansion at the "Anti-Vail Resorts" basecamp. July 1 was scheduled to be the first day of cutting, and activists prepared to defend this critical biological corridor.

Moments before the sun peered over the Gore Range of the Continental Divide, several stealthy activists eluded intense security and raised a majestic 30-foot tripod in a strategically located bottleneck on the front side of Vail Mountain. AFR activist Bobcat swung

precariously from the apex, cheerfully determined to stop VA in its tracks.

Immediately, the US Forest Service and VA conspired to call in a "cherry picker" to bring Bobcat down. However, the activists had far different plans for the picker; as it rounded the final switch back approaching the tripod, San Diego EF!er Mookie locked himself onto the axle with a handy U-lock. As Mookie was cut loose from the axle with blow torches, he bravely sang renditions of "We Shall Not Be Moved" in both English and Spanish. When the picker reached the tripod, Emily Wolf locked herself to the basket with a "black bear" lockbox—a miraculous move considering all the law enforcement officers present.

The Cat III Free State was solidified! For five awe-inspiring days the Free State held its ground, as several folks relieved the lockdown and tripod du-



Hard-core road blockade to prevent Vail Associate's ski area expansion and the logging of lynx habitat

ties. Nicole Rosmarino from Rocky Mountain Animal Defense became well acquainted with the intimate parts of the cherry picker, while EF!er Asparagus held down the fort from 25 feet above ground.

In the wee morning hours of July 6, a "batmobile" was erected on the back access to Cat III, effectively blocking all access to the Two Elk roadless area.

continued on page 16

## Savages Strike a Blow Against Capitalism

BY MARK LYNAS

The Group of Eight (G8) Summit, which took place on June 18-20 in Cologne, Germany, is an annual meeting of the world's leading industrial nations: Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States. The leaders of the eight countries come together to coordinate their political and economic policies in order to help grease the gears of globalization. The Summit's neocolonial agenda includes expanding free trade, developing strategies for fighting "terrorism," and the Third World debt crisis. The actions that occurred worldwide on June 18 were a protest against the globalization of capital.

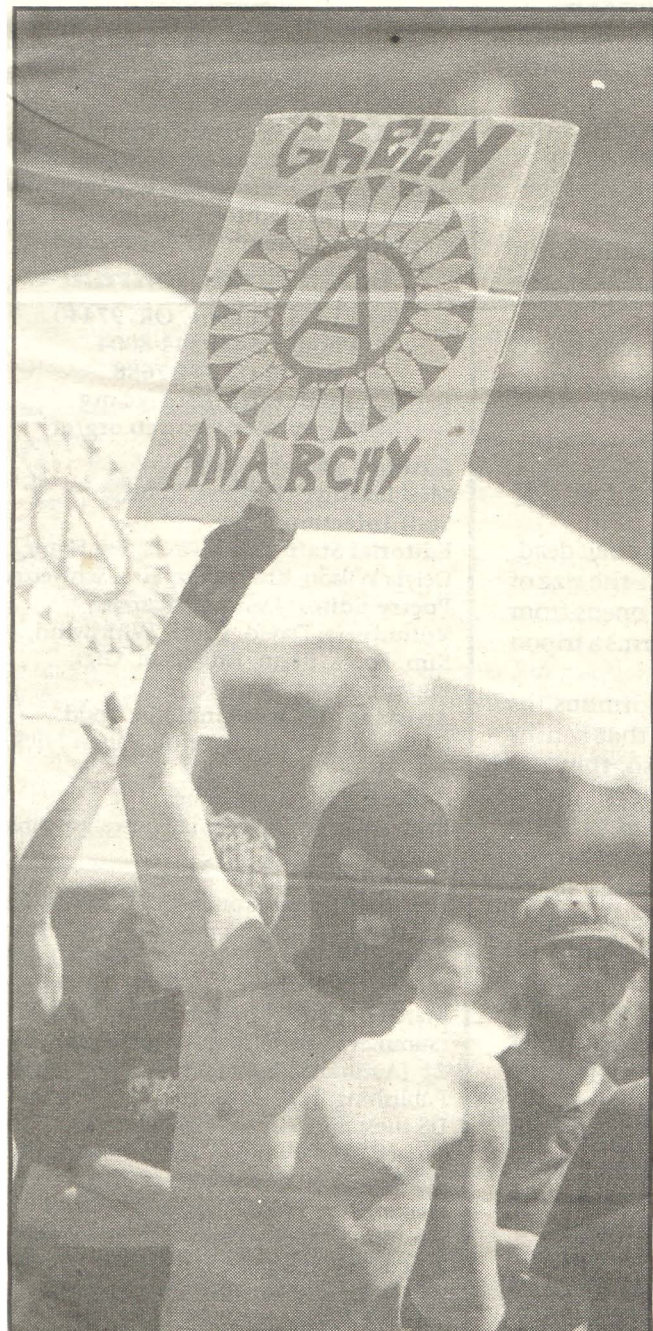
When Mexico's Zapatista rebels surged out of the mountains and jungles of Chiapas to occupy San Cristobal de las Casas, they probably had little idea that their revolt would eventually transform itself into the beginnings of a global revolution.

On January 1, 1994, the ideas were formed which, five years later, would help galvanize an unprecedented coalition of environmentalists, anarchists and reformists to hold a global day of protest on June 18. No one, not even Reclaim the Streets, one of the principal organizing forces behind the United Kingdom's actions, expected the day to end with the financial heart of London looking like a battle zone. As dramatic as that scene was, that's not all that happened that day.

In Nigeria, 10,000 people braved military repression in Port Harcourt to march to the gates of Shell Oil and hear a speech by Owens Wiwa, brother of the executed Ogoni leader Ken Saro-Wiwa. Half a world away in Tel Aviv, hundreds held a peaceful street carnival where torches were lit for the victims of corporate rule.

In Gujarat, Pakistan, union leaders in disguise evaded police cordons to speak at a rally demanding "bread not nuclear bombs." In Minsk, Belarus, McDonald's was picketed by leafleters. In Montevideo, Uruguay, the main square of the town's financial centre was converted into a trade fair covering issues as diverse as education, child labor, consumerism and community radio.

There were street parties all over the world in towns as diverse as Toronto, Los Angeles, Madrid, Prague, Zurich, Amsterdam, San Francisco, New York, Austin (Texas) and Barcelona. In almost all cases, the targets were centers of financial capital. In Geneva 50 protesters washed a few banks with brushes and soap(?), and in Madrid and Vancouver the stock exchanges were blockaded by hundreds of people, including a group of dead wombats in Melbourne.



"Riot on, dudes!"

Photo by Randy Prince

continued on page 7

## The Almighty Salmon

BY AMBER GAYLE

Even an impressive four-foot-long Chinook salmon would look small next to a hydroelectric dam, but in reality salmon are much bigger than the industrial culture that is spreading like a fungus through the valleys of the Pacific Northwest.

Pacific salmon have existed for 10 to 12 million years and have been a prominent feature for perhaps 5,000 in Cascadia's waterways. Their range extends from Korea to the Bering Sea on the west side, and Alaska to Northern California on the east side (though steelhead range as far south as Baja California).

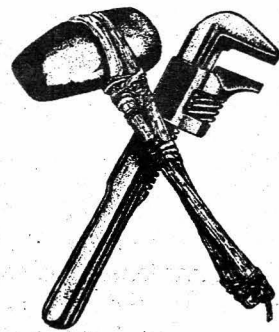
Pacific salmon significantly contribute to the botanical and edible wealth of their bioregion, bringing ocean minerals and food thousands of miles inland to Northwest forests. Salmon made life so abundant for native people that agriculture was unnecessary. Native American author Vine Deloria wrote that the tribes of the Northwest were so well off that trading events focused on regional specialties and unique preparations of salmon, rather than life's necessities. Indigenous people were aware of their good fortune from the generous Salmon Nation; they honored the yearly salmon runs with celebrations, rituals and prayer, and passed down ecological knowledge in stories that communicated how to properly treat salmon and other wild beings.

continued on page 14

# EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

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



## In Search Of Common Sense

"Dink, dink, dink..."

That's the sound of a fruitless endeavor. More specifically, it's the sound of a sledgehammer striking a nuclear warhead in order to display symbolic disapproval of the military-industrial complex. We feel it's also the way Earth First! sounds to the majority of working and poor people in this country.

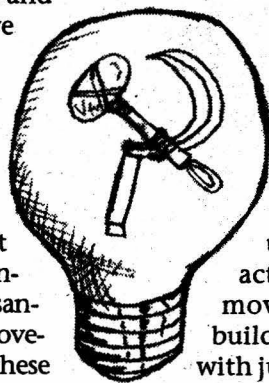
The radical rhetoric that seems to be the flavor of the month for the Earth First! movement is like trying to bake bread before the grains have even been planted. What's needed, if there is truly going to be more resistance to globalization, is a grassroots, broad-based, mass movement that will pose a realistic alternative to capitalism and industrialism. Of course, some people that we have spoken to about this have expressed doubts and cynicism, claiming that "the earth" doesn't have time to wait while we grind away at outreach and community organizing. We think otherwise. In fact, we don't think we have a choice.

The majority of Earth First! debates in the past have centered on side issues such as violence/non-violence and whether or not we should be misanthropic or anthropocentric or whatever. The movement is doing itself a great disservice by retreading these debates while the vast majority of people in this country probably couldn't care less about these ideological trivialities. It is even more ironic that in the middle of these asinine debates our language is peppered with talk of "revolution"—as if any of us have any idea what that really means.

If we are going to talk about "revolution," then we should take a quick look at history. It is the predominantly white, middle class counterculture of the 1960's (i.e., the hippies, yuppies, deadheads) that gave life to environmental movements such as Earth First!. A lot of the 60's style counterculture still lingers around in Earth First! today, such as hippies, drop-out culture, questionable hygienic habits, rampant drug use, polygamy and an emphasis on earth-based or culturally appropriated spirituality.

However, if this movement is to grow, we also have to acknowledge and learn from the struggles of the working class and communities of color that also took place during this time period. It is these struggles that have been overlooked not only by mainstream society, but by many segments of the enviro-activist community as well.

Many of the groups that grew out of the civil rights movement, such as the Black Panthers, the Young Lords, the League of Revolutionary Black Workers, the Brown Berets and white working class radicals, were truly grounded in the day-to-day needs of their communities. They organized and carried out legal and illegal activities not based on rhetoric of direct action, violence or sabotage in an abstract, theoretical context, but for the good of the community. Direct action, sabotage and violence happened, but were not as vital as the free breakfast programs, literacy programs, union organizing, tenant organizing and other forms of outreach and mutual aid that built a movement.



This logically leads into a discussion on race, considering how Earth First! finds its roots more in the predominantly white counterculture than in the grassroots movements of poor and working class people (when we say race, we mean it as a social construct; it is something that society has created, has no biological or physiological basis and has been used to divide people for the benefit of a few). By acting on these sorts of issues, the Earth First! movement can only grow stronger. Earth First! can't build a broad-based ecological resistance movement with just white people; "environmentalism" has to be put in its social context, where issues of race, class and community are always present.

This broader perspective can help us see that despite all of the work it has done, in no way has Earth First! been in any environmental vanguard position. The environmental justice movement, i.e., the people of color and working class environmental movements, has made broad strides in terms of protecting their livelihoods, their communities and, of course, natural ecosystems. Earth First!'s greatest potential lies in the coalition building efforts with folks like these in communities across the country. It's about time Earth First! joined with many of these folks in recognizing the deep relationships between humans and the "environment."

The key to the movement's survival is not making Earth First!'s ideas relevant to the rest of the world, but making the rest of the world relevant to Earth First!

—TIM AND ERROL

Feel free to contact the authors and the Common Sense Ecology Collective at [offeditor@hotmail.com](mailto:offeditor@hotmail.com).

## Earth First! Journal Lughnasadh

August 1, 1999  
Vol. 19, No. 7

The *Earth First! Journal* is published by an editorial staff from within the Earth First! movement. Entire contents are copyrighted 1999. We allow reprinting if credit is given, except for those articles specifically copyrighted by the author. Art, photographs and poetry are copyrighted by the individual artists and permission for use must be received from them.

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

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

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

ISSN 1055-8411 *Earth First! Journal* is indexed in the Alternative Press Index. The *Earth First! Journal* is recorded on microfilm by University Microfilms, Inc.

All correspondence regarding subscriptions, merchandise orders, donations, letters to the editor, articles, photos, graphics, etc., should be directed to:

### Earth First! Journal

POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440

Phone: (541) 344-8004

Fax: (541) 344-7688

E-mail: [earthfirst@igc.org](mailto:earthfirst@igc.org)

<http://www.enviroweb.org/ef>

Business Manager: Jessi  
Merchandise Goddess: Isabella  
Staff Infection: Frog  
Editorial Staff: Tim LaPietra, Jim Flynn, Delyla Wilson, Kris Maenz, Errol Schweizer  
Poetry Editor: Dennis Fritzing  
Volunteers: David, Eddie, Whirlwind, Kim, Ebola, Brian, Dug, Pam, Gigi, Bigfoot, Wyrd, Sax, TK, JB  
Artists in this issue include: Todd (Hyung-Rae) Tarselli, Errol, Vaughn Frick, Kate Hupp  
Cover art by: Karla James  
Back cover by: Macworld Photoshop Bible

### SCHEDULE

*Earth First! Journal* is published 8 times a year on the solstices, equinoxes and cross-quarter days on or about November 1, December 21 (Winter Solstice), February 2, March 21 (Vernal Equinox), May 1, June 21 (Summer Solstice), August 1, and September 21 (Autumnal Equinox) by Daily Planet Publishing, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440. US subscriptions are \$25. Outside the US, surface delivery is \$35 and airmail is \$45. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *EF! Journal*, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440. Application to mail at Periodicals postage rates is pending at Eugene, OR 97401.

Deadline for the next issue is:

**August 15**

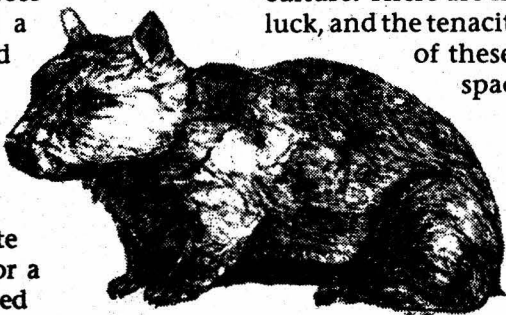


## Fauna Cabala

Fauna. *n.* animal life.

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

Wombat castles are visible even from space. Wombats are marsupials, mammals that broke off from the eutherian (what most folks consider "normal" mammal) lineage over a million years ago. The southern hairy-nosed wombat (*Lasiorninus latifrons*), a 40-60 pound fossorial inhabitant of arid southern Australia, dwells in interconnected burrow systems called warrens. Yet, strangely, the nocturnal creatures—who look like a cross between a hamster, a javalina and a walrus—spatially and temporally avoid each other above, and by all indications, below ground. It isn't known which ecological factors encourage group living. In fact, not much is known about this species, except that because individuals have a metabolic rate that is 64 percent of that expected for a marsupial and 42 percent of that expected



## BY FAITH WALKER

for a eutherian of similar size, they are technically half dead. And that in the Pleistocene their ancestors were the size of Volkswagen buses. And that a mother's pouch opens from the back, so to free her arms for childcare she forms a tripod with her head and hindlimbs.

The spoil mounds of burrows can be enormous, as though bomb-generated. This is one reason that southern hairy-nosed wombats are persecuted. Also, they dig and gnaw through anything in their path: fences, underground cables, cemeteries. Ranchers see them as giant prairie dogs, and Australian aborigines put them on the barbie. Although this species is in much better shape than its close relative, the northern hairy-nosed wombat (*Lasiorninus krefftii*), of which only 80 individuals remain, its habitat has been severely fragmented by agriculture. There are now but five populations. With some luck, and the tenacity they are famous for, the handiwork of these desert marvels will be visible from space long after satellites are defunct.

*The author is currently in the Australian bush studying the elusive southern hairy-nosed wombat, and is thereby battling the eutherian bias that swamps our perception of mammals. She will soon publish "Wombats in the Dust," a sequel to "Wombats Bat Last."*

# A BROADER LOOK AT BIOTECHNOLOGY

BY DJENNI MCGOWAN

Recently, I attended a conference on genetic engineering and the tactics that grassroots anti-genetix activists can implement to halt this technology. As the emphasis shifted from formal presentations to tactics and strategy, I became increasingly dismayed at the reformist agenda being presented. If we are serious about exposing genetic engineering to the public and stopping its uses, a holistic approach must be taken.

Increasingly, I have seen activists focus on anthropocentric agendas such as food safety, the organics industry and seeds. These issues, although important, are ignoring the effects that biotechnology is having on the Earth. Genetic engineering represents a serious threat to biodiversity on this planet. In the last month, evidence has been released that Bt corn (a Novartis product) is fatal to insects in the lepidopteran family (those that grow from larvae to butterfly). Bio-invasion, the intentional release of non-native species, is already the second leading cause of species extinction. Releasing the number of transgenic organisms that we are right now is having a deleterious effect on the planet's biodiversity.

The implications of "Terminator" technology, known by Monsanto as the "Control of Plant Gene Expression," are tremendous. Terminator technology is the ultimate in hybridization; each plant produces sterile seeds forcing farmers to purchase new Monsanto seeds each season. If Terminator rapeseed (canola) pollen cross-pollinates, there could be a massive die off of canola's six wild relatives.

By focusing on human centered issues only, we are doing a great disservice to the animal/insect populations as well as the ecological stability of the world. Strategically, there has been entirely too much energy focused on requesting the federal government to identify genetically engineered (GE) food. If mandatory labeling of GE food was undertaken tomorrow, it would do little to stop the implementation of the biotech agenda. The "life-science" industry is more complicated than most people grasp. Multinationals like Novartis, Monsanto, DuPont and Aventis are involved in pharmaceuticals, food products, DNA collection, consumer "health" products and the genetic engineering of trees. To focus on labeling is shortsighted, reformist and will only strengthen our opposition. The government may eventually acquiesce and label GE food, but the larger industry will not be touched.

The focus on labeling represents a fundamentally classist bias. Labeling food would assist upper-class health food shoppers in buying non-genetically engineered food. Those that could not afford the high price of organic food would suffer as huge groceries stock "conventional" GE food. Recipients of government aid programs would also receive free genetically altered food. In opposing biotechnology we cannot compromise as soon as food is labeled and ignore the class implications.

If we want to confront this industry, we need to do more than shoot for incremental reform. Reformist strategies are excruciatingly slow. The government has been a strong supporter of biotechnology for 15 years. By the time any of these strategies pay off (if ever) we will be at the point at which all of our crops

against this form of food production? The answers to these questions can be gathered by analyzing the political situation surrounding GE in Europe. In England, Germany and other countries activists, farmers, scientists and working-class people are pulling up crops, keeping GE organisms out of their country.

As Earth Firsters, we need to take a biocentric approach. There are numerous radical tactics that can be used to confront these companies head-on. We need large-scale actions that break through the media blackout and sway public opinion. The uprooting of GE crops is imperative.

We need to learn from British activists who engage in both large scale daytime crop destruction and night-time actions. There is more than enough room in the movement for all of these strategies. We can blockade seed boats, squat crops and take over corporate offices. The heads of biotechnology companies have it too easy. While they watch the situation in Europe (which is a huge headache to them), they sit back in America comfortable with the fact that there is not a militant, radical, anti-genetix movement here.

We should prove them wrong and start getting a little rowdy. Pies have already flown in the US as seven people connected with GE (including two CEO's) have received their just deserts. Let's get creative and more confrontational. Many of us in the "PC and Nonviolence as Lifestyle" workshop at this year's rendezvous expressed the feeling that Earth First! has lost its "in your face" confrontational (and humorous) side. Here's a perfect time to regain that lost vigor. We have an industry worth hundreds of billions of dollars that is rapidly trying to patent all life and commodify organisms and the natural world. They are in every city in this country in some way or another. State universities receive huge grants from Monsanto, Dow and Novartis and graciously do their dirty work. GE Crops are in almost every part of this country; just look for the names of the companies near any patch of farm land. There is no shortage of opportunity; just a shortage of action.

*djenni McGowan and the GenetiX Snowball USA campaign can be reached at [gsnowball@angelfire.com](mailto:gsnowball@angelfire.com). They are currently working on a zine entitled "How to find Genetically-Engineered Crops in your Neighborhood," soon to be released.*



may have been altered. By pursuing such limited goals we are pretending that biotechnology is a recent phenomena. Genetic engineering has its roots in industrial agriculture and the Green Revolution. To criticize GE without addressing the follies of industrial agriculture and its effect on the environment is perilous.

Finally, as an anarchist, I have no desire to request the government increase its regulatory power over industry. Letter-writing campaigns, petitions and attempts to increase regulations are reformist and present no challenge to the system that dominates our lives. What if instead of begging for crumbs we demanded an end to this system? What if everyday people were empowered and revolted

## Dear Shit Fer Brains

Send Your Woids of Wizdum to Earth First! POB 1415, Eugene, Oregon 97440; [earthfirst@igc.org](mailto:earthfirst@igc.org)

Dear EF!

I'm responding to Ted Kaczynski's letter in the Beltane issue, where he mocks alliance building by saying, "Imagine how the war against Hitler would have turned out if Allied soldiers had been afraid of 'alienating the Nazis.'" Sorry Ted, but once again, you got the question wrong. The true issue is—imagine whether Hitler would ever have come to power if the German socialists and communists in the 1920s had spent some time worrying about not alienating the middle class! The American middle class today knows damn well that something is deeply wrong in our country. Do we reach out to them, or do we wallow in ultra-radical self-righteousness and leave the field to the right wing?

Protest work without alliance building is futile. The corporations will outlast the radical fringe every time. As Ted K illustrates, the most that isolated radicals

can do is maim a few flunkies while the true decision-makers remain invisible and unharmed. It is only when radical protest tactics are linked to painstaking alliance building—the sort that has been done around the Headwaters/Maxxam campaign—that we are going to change the entire system.

—GEORGE FRANKLIN

Dear SFB,

Rosa Parks' recent Congressional Medal of Honor shows just how far we Apaches still have to go to reach equality in the US.

Recently, an astronomer asked why the Apaches waited until 1989 to complain about the proposed University of Arizona telescope desecration on our sacred mountain, *Dzil Nchaa Si An* (Mount Graham). He argued we never complained when Whites were building things like a road, campgrounds and some summer cabins on the mountainsides from 1890

to the 1960s. He might as well have asked Black people why they waited until 1955 to complain about riding in the back of the buses and getting refused at the lunch counters.

The terrible laws under which our people were imprisoned for practicing their beliefs or holding ceremonies were not removed until 1934. Our Apache sunrise ceremonies were held in remote areas in the shadow of Mount Graham out of eyes of government officials up until then.

The cultural protection laws that would have protected our sacred mountain did not come to pass until the end of this century. Ironically, the University of Arizona, in their million dollar telescope lobbying blitz, bought exemption from those laws when they sneaked a rider through in the final hours of the 1988 Congress.

I guess we Apache will have to follow Mrs. Parks' honor-

able example and sit-in somewhere to save our mountain. We have waited too long for equality and respect for our traditional religious beliefs.

—DELORES JORDAN

SAN CARLOS APACHE RESERVATION

Dear Enviro-Activists:

The next time the powers that be threaten to use pepper spray or ointment at a demonstration, prepare in advance by applying "paralube" veterinary ophthalmic ointment to your eyes before locking down. We use it to keep caustic dips and shampoos from harming our feline and K-9 friends' eyes. Ask a sympathetic vet for some. It's made by Pharmaderm, veterinary division of Altana Inc., Melville, NY 11747.

Keep up the good fight!  
—CHUMBA JUMBPO AND THE FURRY LOVE KITTEN KATS

continued on page 24



# BBB PIES BARRY CLAUSEN

## Earth First! Nemesis Sees Cream

BY AGENT APPLE

Biotic Baking Brigade (BBB) operations are sometimes meticulously rehearsed actions involving extensive reconnaissance of the battleground, comprehensive dossiers on the target and multiple combat scenarios. Other times actions are spur-of-the-moment, seat-of-the-pants affairs that are successful because of good fortune and the rigorous training through which we put our field agents. "Operation: Mid-Snitch," in which the BBB delivered full facial treatment in the form of three pastry projectiles to Earth First! nemesis Barry Clausen, falls into the latter category.

Barry Clausen, mover and shaker of the wise use movement, dedicates his life to spreading misinformation about Earth First! His main motivation appears to be, that, after creating an atmosphere of fear about eco-terrorism, he gets large donations from the wise use movement and profits from his security company that corporations hire to protect them.

The would-be infiltrator appeared at the site of an

anti-logging action that concluded the Earth First! Round River Rendezvous (RRR) in the San Juan mountains of Southern Colorado. Shortly before leaving for the RRR, I was contacted by the General Command of the BBB, Ecotopia Division, who received a request from the BBB, Culebra cadre for some heavy-duty patisseristas to provide security at the action. Agents Frosty and Apple-Mulberry had just finished a training course at our Secret Ovens Practice Range and Headquarters deep within the Headwaters forest. They eagerly accepted the task, left immediately for the Rendezvous, armed to the teeth with the finest pies our ovens could produce.

Clausen, video camera in hand, was recognized while attempting to pry information from a young forest defender at the road blockade. Activists ridiculed him, which sent him scurrying to his car and back to the town of San Luis. As our brave brigadiers followed him at a discreet distance, they concocted a creamy recipe for his just desserts. With little time for culinary perfection, and their luscious weapons left behind at base camp, three pies were quickly acquired at a local shop.

As Clausen snitched away on a pay phone, the pie militants launched a delicious salvo of edible missiles: chocolate, banana-marshmallow and lemon cream... Triple Sploosh! "Mr. Clausen, that's assault!" rang out as the spy was pied. The comment refers to a fantastic Wall Street Journal article showing Clausen as the charlatan he is. The article also covers Clausen justifying his addition of pie-throwing to a file on eco-terrorist incidents by claiming that it's an assault.

A grimacing Clausen frantically pursued the briga-

diers to no avail. They left him a mess but made a clean getaway. He finally appealed to the local police, ranting and raving that "Earth First! got me! They hit me upside the head with a rock and broke my sunglasses!" However, the sight of cream dripping from all sides and his intact, cheesy "I'm undercover—don't fuck with me" shades didn't lend credibility to his case in the eyes of the sheriffs, who were plum tuckered-out from dealing with the biggest mass-trespass they had

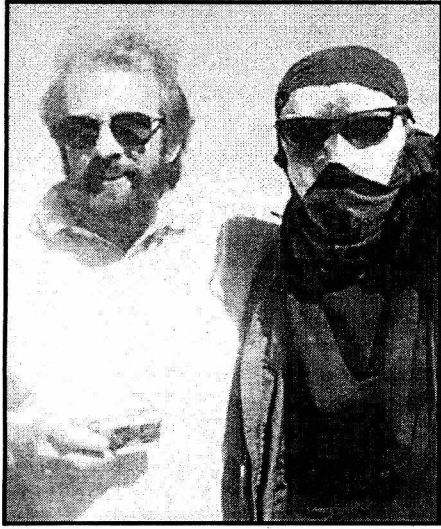
ever seen. A group of EF'ers recognized him and proceeded to heckle and cajole the pie-laden private dick until he was forced into a humiliating retreat. Clausen was overhead, saying "The Earth First! bitches got me!" which, of course, fueled raucous laughter from the assembled crowd. Our Man Barry hung up the phone, towed off and drove off into the sunset in his gray Toyota Camry California License # 4BAS 180, to his "North American Research" office in California.

Agent Frosty issued a crisp warning to any agents of repression in our midst: "As long as spies lie, the pies will fly!"

For more information on Clausen's nefarious career of misinformation, look in the March 2, 1999 *Wall Street Journal* "Clausen's 'Eco-Probes' Draw Suspicion Papers"

An excellent analysis of the Wise Use movement can be found on the CLEAR website: <http://ewg.org/pub/home/clear/clear.html>

"Operation: Mid-Snitch" is dedicated to *Journalistas* Errol and Theresa. Thanks for all the hard and brilliant work, mates. La lucha continua....



Clausen and friend



SPLAT!

Photo by Agent Dinglederry

## A World Away—Ogiek Minority Worries the World Will Forget Their Plight

The Ogiek people have lived from time immemorial in the forests of the Mau Escarpment, Kenya. Traditionally they are a hunter-gatherer people, especially famous as harvesters of honey, which they exchange with their neighbors.

The Tinet Forest is part of the Ogiek people's territory. They occupied it until it was declared a government forest by the colonial government in 1961. Since then they have lived there as squatters subject to constant harassment.

In 1991, the Kenyan government legally allocated 5 acres of forest per family to over 5,000 members of the Ogiek community. Confident that their rights had been recognized at last, they began farming and constructing schools, while still using the forest and gathering honey. But powerful interests wish to ex-

plot the forest for commercially harvested timber.

Faced with renewed harassment and threats of eviction, the Ogiek community went to court against the authorities. On May 13, the Nakuru District Commissioner tried to preempt the case by giving the Ogiek community 14 days notice to leave the forest, threatening to use force if they resisted. Ogiek community leaders met and vowed not to leave the Tinet Forest until the government allocated them land. They obtained an order of injunction from the Kenyan High Court to restrain the local government from evicting their people until the case was heard.

Turmoil and political unrest compete for international attention, so now it is feared that the government of Kenya, international observers and the media might forget the struggles of the Ogiek. It is therefore

even more important that the president of Kenya, Kenyan statesmen and the international community, show solidarity with the Ogiek's plight.

"Land-grabbing, driving indigenous peoples from their ancestral domain, must stop now and forever in Kenya!" reads a sign on the way to the Tinet Forest. Your attention is urgently needed. Please write, His Excellency Daniel Arap Moi at the Office of the President, POB 30510, Nairobi, Kenya; fax +254-2-713979; and to Honorable Francis M. Nyenze, M.P., Minister for Environmental Conservation at Bruce House, POB 67839, Nairobi, Kenya; +254-2-243088; fax +245-2-248349; and to Honorable F.P.L. Lotodo, EGH, M.P., Minister for Natural Resources at Kencom House, POB 30126, Nairobi, Kenya; +254-2-229261; fax +254-2-240163.

## Wolves & Poodles

A rabid poodle pierced by an arrow to the British Broadcasting Corporation, for their gross misrepresentation of direct action against genetic engineering (GE) on the radio soap opera "The Archers." In an episode broadcast on May 13, a farmer's field containing a GE test site was targeted by activists. One of the stars of the show, David Archer, was assaulted by activists in masks when he discovered them destroying the crops. (In reality, over 50 test sites have been decontaminated in the UK. Several of these have been interrupted by farmers, but there have been no violent incidents.) Write to the BBC at POB 2100, London W1A; [feedback@bbc.co.uk](mailto:feedback@bbc.co.uk).

A pedophilic poodle to the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry for using taxpayer money to promote clearcutting in a children's book.

The Bureau released a sinister book entitled, "Let's Talk About Clearcutting—A Forestry Book for Youth." The book closes: "So you see... when clearcutting is done in the right place, in the right way, and at the right time, it can be good for people, good for wildlife and good for the forest." The book can be viewed at [www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/Clearcut/main.htm](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/Clearcut/main.htm).

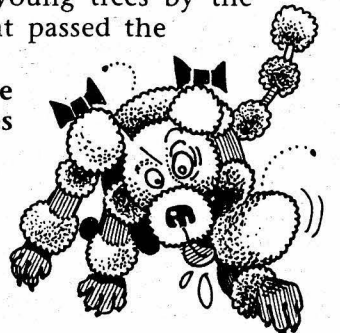
A poodle to the *Earth First! Journal's* editorial collective confirmation process. We'd be hard pressed to find any better way to alienate and humiliate a pair of hard-working, outspoken activists.



A pack of wild young wolves learning to hunt to Mrs. Jackson's 100 seventh graders at Brownell Academy in Gilroy, CA, who wrote in favor of protecting the forests near Fall Creek in Oregon. They sent brutally honest drawings and letters to all the relevant politicians, as well as the Forest Service and the sawmill owners, Zip-O. The letters proved to be so effective, that the Willamette National Forest and Zip-O spent an extraordinary amount of money and effort to spread their enthusiastic lies in response to the students. After a Society of American Foresters member visited the students to explain why it was good to cut down the forest, the children wrote back to tell them that the foresters were still wrong for trying to hurt the treesitters and the ancient forest.

A pack of wolf pups playing in the forest to the 300 school children of Berkeley, CA, who sent a letter to the president of the local state university protesting the indiscriminate destruction of young trees by the lumber companies of California. The president passed the letter on to their Department of the Interior.

A howlin' wolf on top of the food chain to the Deep Ecology for the 21st Century radio series for being a Gold Medal Award finalist in the judging by the New York International Festival of Radio. There were 1,300 entries from 31 countries. A howl also to KPFA radio, Los Angeles, for running the series 13 days in a row leading up to Earth Day and then deciding to run it again.



# Labor and Environmentalists

## A Marriage Made in Heaven or a Marriage of Convenience?

BY KAREN PICKETT

There was something different about our trip to the Maxxam shareholders meeting in Houston this year. For four years, Headwaters Forest activists have been making the trip to Texas to confront Maxxam CEO Charles Hurwitz during the one time he has to be legally accountable, to the stockholders. This year Kaiser Aluminum Corporation, another Maxxam subsidiary, was represented by locked-out workers from several plants.

Maybe it was the 150 burly workers yelling through cupped hands at the Maxxam building, "jump, Charlie, jump!" that made the meeting different. Maybe it was the look of discomfort on Hurwitz's face as he faced a room packed with 300 people, including Headwaters activists, shareholder activists, a northern California rabbi who admonished him for his immorality, the mother of the young activist (David Chain) killed by a Pacific Lumber logger (another Maxxam subsidiary), United Steelworkers of America (USWA) officials, as well as over 200 locked-out Kaiser workers. It was an angry and powerful crowd.

It was the closest collaboration Headwaters' activists have engaged in since loosely allying with Kaiser Aluminum workers after they went on strike last fall. We experienced clashes of culture, styles, process and infrastructure, but the common ground and potential of what we might accomplish by working together loomed larger than those clashes.

Our coming together has to do with corporate power. Part of the story of steelworkers and Headwaters activists finding each other involves the "Jail Hurwitz" website ([www.jailhurwitz.com](http://www.jailhurwitz.com)—offering a substantial reward for information leading to incarceration of Hurwitz for his corporate crimes), which Kaiser workers, unhappy with their parent company, stumbled onto when doing research on Hurwitz.

When striking workers first came to activist meetings here in the Bay Area, I was bowled over by parallels between Kaiser Aluminum and Pacific Lumber (PL). Both Kaiser and PL were family-run before being taken over by an outside corporation. In both situations, everything changed overnight—for the environment, for the community, for the workers.

Maxxam not only changed the silvicultural practice

ber, this is how we get strong enough to stand up to them, by coming together."

One of the most powerful ways to oppose, confront and ultimately bring down the multinationals is to ally with the workers. (Rather than recite the litany of corporate ills I will encourage you to read "Compost the Corporations" available from the *EF! Journal*.)

Judi Bari knew the importance of environmental worker alliances and turned me on to the Marxist theory that holds that profit is stolen from the workers when the capitalists in charge pay them less than the value of what they produce. She explained that the flaw in this theory is that the value of the natural resources used to make products is missing from the formula. The so-called "surplus value" that supports the ruling class is stolen not only from the workers, but also from the Earth. Industrialized society has been built on the exploitation of both the working classes and the Earth.

Judi talked about a tremendous growing rage building up from below, from people who are being poisoned in the factories and the mills, injured in the woods, and poisoned in the fields. The disenfranchised are either not unionized or not represented adequately by their unions. The steelworkers' union is something of an exception because it tends to be an in-your-face outfit.

Our collaborative work at the meeting about Maxxam spawned a set of principles for the alliance, called the "Houston Principles," which lay out the basis our coming together. It recognizes the incredible growth of huge corporations not accountable to anyone, and recognizes that while economic and biological sustainability may not be the same thing, common forces threaten both.

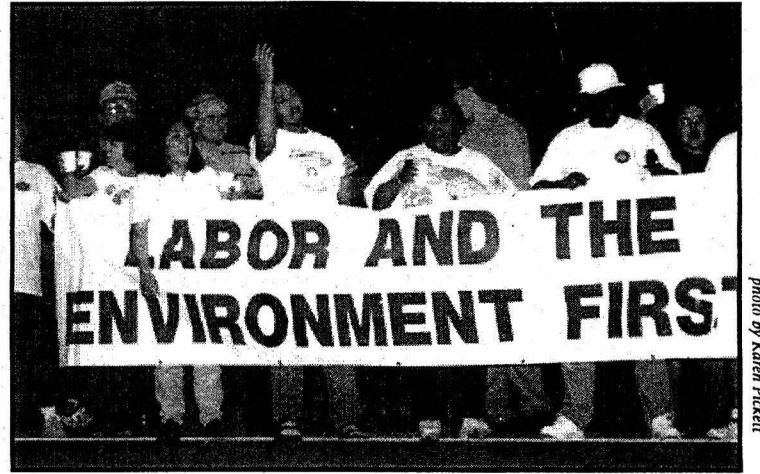
Sure, it could be more "radical," but this is no more about making Earth Firsters out of union card-carrying industrial workers than it is about converting enviros into supporters of industrial activity. It's not about anyone putting aside or compromising agendas in order to come up with a common agenda. That's why this must be an alliance rather than a coalition. It's about seeing that where our agendas overlap is where it becomes clear who the real enemy is, and it ain't each other.

In fact, the United Steelworkers of America (USWA) have an environmental platform of their own, adopted at their 1998 convention as official USWA policy. The platform is based on a recognition that "the world being inherited by our children is threatened by environmental destruction, air and water pollution, and toxic waste..." that "jobs are threatened when corporations refuse to implement environmentally sound policies..." It sees a "direct link between the environment in the plant and the environment outside..." With those beliefs, the USWA resolved to "oppose all attempts by polluters and right-wing politicians... to roll back laws and regulations which protect our health and environment..." and to "fight for progressive environmental legislation, including laws which improve

air and water quality, reduce toxic waste, restrict toxic chemicals... and protect whistleblowers who report environmental crimes."

In addition, the union committed to "educate our members, staff and the public on the interlocking issues of environment, economic justice and human rights, and seek to incorporate environmental issues in all its dealings with employers to protect both jobs and the environment." The commitment to establish a role for workers and unions in environmental activism (their words) was renewed by a report from their "Task Force on the Environment" at their Constitutional Convention in 1990 and has inspired the labor movement.

Allying with Kaiser steelworkers is a unique opportunity to squash the jobs-verses-environment myth



Steelworkers and Headwaters' activists at a candlelight vigil

we have run up against in campaign after campaign. The Earth-raping, profit-mongering corporations created that myth and spread it far and wide to keep us apart. Because they recognize the strength to be found in our alliance, and they fear it. Giving the workers an easy scapegoat keeps the corporations from being blamed for the woes of the workforce.

Corporations have been very successful at misdirecting the workers' anger towards environmentalists. One reason for this is that many timber workers (and others in the extractive industries) can see the threat that corporate mergers and capital flight poses to their jobs, and it's frightening. Fear makes people especially vulnerable to the influence of corporate propaganda.

Most jobs in the timber industry are being lost to mechanization and overcutting, not to our success in saving wild places. In fact, the corporations that control 28 percent of the monetary wealth in the world provide less than one percent of the jobs. It's the small and medium size businesses that provide jobs.

The emerging cooperation is symbiotic. They swell our numbers at rallies and demonstrations. Recently union members submitted 1,000 comments opposing the disastrous Habitat Conservation Plan. Unions also filed suit challenging the Sustained Yield Plan on economic sustainability grounds one day after the environmental group EPIC filed a similar suit on biological sustainability grounds. The media pays little attention to labor issues, so the unions benefit by the added publicity involved in joining with media savvy eco-heads. We also share organizing skills.

But are we going to switch from hugging trees to hugging workers? No. There's still a big chasm between anthropocentric and biocentric world views. But as the forests, streams and the rest of the natural world are the smorgasbord for big timber companies, so the logger and the millworker are the corporations' pawns.

The difficulty of this bond hit us in the face this spring. Wally, a Bay Area carpenter, was inspired by Julia Butterfly's tree-sit. He got his union Local to allocate funds to send her a care package. We worked with them to put the package and a press conference together. Then, within a couple of weeks, the carpenters' union International, at the behest of the timber industry, opposed logging reform legislation we were supporting. That hurt our work. But the irony brought us back to the need to dispel the jobs-verses-environment myth, because the timber beasts got the unions' endorsement by convincing them the reform bills were "job killers," which they clearly are not.

Despite the setback, I'm continually impressed by the fundamental belief in things good and ecological that I've seen in rank and file workers. In response to slack from the International for the care package to Julia, Wally said, "Even if it is a jobs issue, I don't care, because the trees are more important anyway. It was just the right thing to do, to support someone who is doing so much to save the trees."

There are many conflicts and sticky issues, but for me alliances are clearly worth it. Jobs verses environment is a big lie that has hurt us tremendously. Our aims and the agendas of the big corporations are fundamentally opposed and can never be resolved; we have much more in common with the workers. There are no jobs on a dead planet.



Marching through downtown Houston, Texas

from select cuts to clearcuts, greatly accelerating the rate of logging, it also raided the PL workers' pension fund and downgraded worker safety standards. Issues involved in the Kaiser strike included the pension fund and the hiring of non-union and less experienced people for an already dangerous job.

The thing is, Maxxam is no more in the aluminum business for the long term than they are in the timber industry. Their corporate conduct is driven by increasing short-term profits rather than developing sustainable practices, either economical or ecological.

At his first Headwaters meeting, a steelworker who has put in over 25 years at Kaiser said, "When these particular battles are over—our strike and your forest campaign—we need to keep this link. Because as the corporations get bigger and bigger and fewer in num-

# Mexican Eucalyptus—The Perfect Neoliberal Tree

BY GUADALUPE FORES AND ORIN LANGELE

On April 13, the day my friend Steve Bradburn and I left for southern Mexico on an investigative environmental and peace delegation, I noticed this saying on the calendar above my mother's sink: "We are morally responsible for every wrong which we have the power to prevent."

With the generous support of friends and sponsors, Steve and I were able to join Action for Community and Ecology in the Rainforests of Central America (ACERCA) on a fact-finding delegation to the southern Mexican states of Chiapas, Tabasco, Veracruz and Oaxaca. We went to investigate the forest practices of multinational corporations. What we found were plans for mega-projects much larger and more frightening than we ever imagined.

The focus of the delegation was to investigate the social and environmental impacts of global capitalism, or neoliberalism, in Mexico. Neoliberalism refers to the unrestricted free market capitalism that industrial nations and multinational corporations are pushing to exploit more lands and people, with fewer or no environmental and social standards.

Specifically we went to investigate the frightening increase in the number of genetically engineered tree plantations that we'd heard about. We spent three weeks visiting remote indigenous villages and meeting with community leaders and non-profit organizations. We wanted to learn what is needed from the international community to help stop the tide of destruction of indigenous lands and communities.

## The Perfect Neoliberal Tree

In 1997, timber giant International Paper helped rewrite Mexico's forestry laws, making tree plantations possible. Now African palm and eucalyptus plantations are surfacing all over southern Mexico, Central and South America. Eucalyptus has been called "the perfect neoliberal tree." It is well known for sucking all the nutrients and groundwater from the soil, leaving a virtual desert in its path.

In the steamy lowlands of the states of Tabasco and Veracruz, four of us toured the expansive eucalyptus plantations. Planfosur, a Mexican company owned by the US multinational timber giant Temple-Inland, has "rented" what they call "unused" land from the Indians and poor *campesinos*. The company has planted 21,000 hectares of eucalyptus, some genetically engineered. But we were told that Planfosur has "influence" over

of the Isthmus since 600 BC. Carlos told us that one hectare of the isthmus' rainforest has more biodiversity than the US and Canada combined. In the 60's the rainforest was under attack by the World Bank which pumped money into the area for cattle ranches. Then the huge oil boom of the 70's took over and more jungle was lost. Now mega-project plans for the Isthmus of Tehuantepec include more oil exploitation and privatization, a



Neoliberal Nursery—Planfosur's Frankenfarm in Chiapas

four-lane highway and a two-rail bullet train (the rights would belong to multinationals, not the government), almost entirely on indigenous lands. Melissa Burch of ACERCA says, "alongside this transit corridor there are plans for 150 development projects including industrial parks, clothing and textile *maquiladoras*, 400 square miles of eucalyptus plantations, shrimp farms, and tourist initiatives such as airports, golf courses, and marine parks, oil refineries and 24 petrochemical facilities." In southern Mexico there are plans, mostly by Japanese companies, for at least 50 new dams in the Lacandon rainforest in areas now controlled by the Zapatistas.

Another project we discovered was a plan to "Disneyfy" the Mayan ruins from Mexico all the way down through Central

America. We learned of this tourist corridor from one of our contacts in Chiapas; this would be financed by the World Bank. The World Bank gives the countries money, the governments pay for the infrastructure and then the multinationals come in and develop their Jurassic Park-style theme parks without having to pay a dime.

## Where will it end?

Corporations are growing more powerful every year, moving farther beyond the regulation of individual governments or sovereign nations.

First, we must never give up on our quest for peace and justice for the people and the land. Second, continue to join protests and demonstrations including the one planned to coincide with the World Trade Organization's (WTO) meeting in Seattle this November to discuss the "free logging agreement." The International Forum on Globalization is organizing a Teach-In during the WTO in Seattle on November 27th at the Benaroya Seattle Symphony Hall. Join the thousands who cross the line at the SOA gates in Columbus, Georgia, where our tax dollars are used to train Latin American soldiers to torture and murder their own people. As individuals, there is much that we can do but just think what we can accomplish together.

The knowledge that crimes against indigenous people and the environment are being sanctioned by our government and our corporations, morally binds us to speak out and take whatever action or response we feel is appropriate. Demand respect for all living things and the Earth. Show people how they are inseparably connected to the planet and have a responsibility to protect it. Write letters, demonstrate and teach.

For more information, please contact the following groups:

International Forum on Globalization, 1555 Pacific Ave., San Francisco, CA 94109; (415) 771-3394; fax 771-1121; [www.ifg.org](http://www.ifg.org) and Action for Community & Ecology in the Rainforests of Central America, POB 57, Burlington, VT 05402; (802) 863-0571; fax 864-8203; [acerca@sover.net](mailto:acerca@sover.net); [www.nativeforest.org/campaigns/acerca/index.html](http://www.nativeforest.org/campaigns/acerca/index.html) and the International Service for Peace, POB 2415, Santa Cruz, CA 95063; (408) 425-1257; [sipaz@igc.org](mailto:sipaz@igc.org); [www.nonviolence.org/sipaz](http://www.nonviolence.org/sipaz) and School of the Americas Watch, POB 3330, Columbus, GA 31903; (706) 682-5369; [www.derechos.org/soaw](http://www.derechos.org/soaw).

390,000 hectares. At its 7,500 square-foot nursery which includes six greenhouses, Planfosur grows 4.5 million seedlings per year. The Planfosur seeds contain genes from New Zealand, Australia, Southeast Asia and Germany and were bio-engineered by Brazilian scientists. They also plan to use genes from Zimbabwe, Venezuela, Brazil, and Columbia. "Our genetic base is quite wide, so we can play," brags Planfosur. Monsanto is supplying the agro-chemicals, such as FAENA, a glyphosate herbicide like Round Up. First clearcut harvests are planned for 2001, when the wood will be sent to mills and chipped for packaging paper.

Our tour guide for the day was Planfosur's slick PR man and Mexican Mafia wannabe, Avelino Villa Salas. "El Jefe Grande," as we affectionately called him was eager to dispel any misconceptions we had about the integrity of this multinational or about the destructive nature of eucalyptus. He talked with us using state-of-the-art doublespeak so common in our own forest industry, just like something out of a Boise Cascade TV commercial.

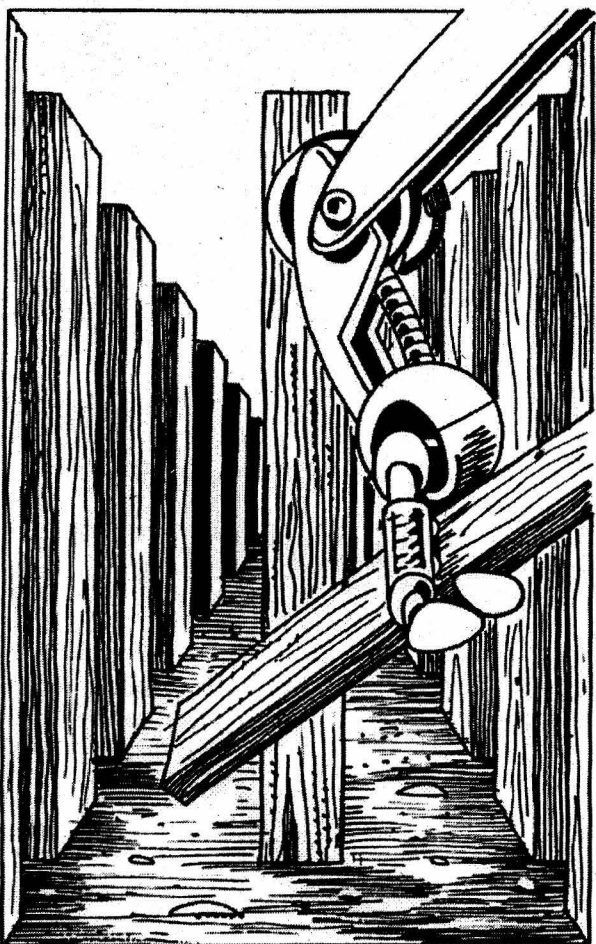
At the age of 8 weeks, the plantation trees are the size of a lead pencil and about a foot high. After only 8 months, the trees are 2 inches in diameter and 15 feet tall. At one year and 7 months, they grow to be 25 feet tall, and at 4 years they are 75 feet tall. Driving between plantations we passed tiny villages scattered with shanty shacks and three military checkpoints, which "El Jefe" assured us were to stop drug traffickers and not to intimidate the Indians or guard the nearby oil refineries.

Fortunately it was after we parted company with "El Jefe" that someone told us about his past employment. Apparently Avelino used to work high up in the Mexican government and has quite a reputation as a slimy operative for the Dark Side. We felt lucky to get away.

## The Isthmus Mega-Project

As we bussed farther up the isthmus the implications of the whole trip began to impress upon us. In the small town of Matías Romero, Oaxaca, we met our most gracious and exuberant contact, Carlos, who works tirelessly on behalf of the environment and indigenous communities. It was Carlos who really put all the pieces together for us and showed us just how far the neoliberal web was spinning out of control.

The Indians have lived in the rainforest jungles



GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOREST OF THE FUTURE.

# The Power of Song

## Movement Musicians, Underpaid and Underappreciated

BY DAVID ROVICS

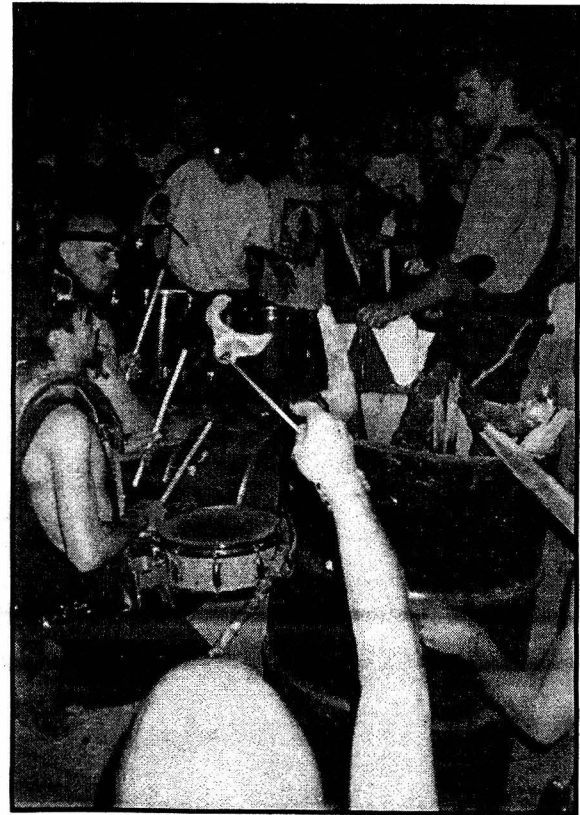
Some people reading this may think, "Music? How frivolous," but please read on. To put together a good conference or demonstration, it is necessary to have good organizers, speakers and press. We need scholars to expose the constant barrage of corporate lies, and progressive teachers and students to educate the young and old. We understand the value of people willing to risk arrest to make their voices heard or those who engage in the many forms of direct action. However, two of the vital roles that are often undervalued by activists are music and musicians.

In the years that I have been a full-time movement musician, playing at campuses, conferences and protests, I have run into a wide range of opinions on the role of music in various activities. I have been told by conference organizers that they have too many speakers for the weekend and no time for music. People organizing protests have told me that the protest was meant to be a "serious event" and that music would be inappropriate. More often, event organizers spend their valuable time and resources putting together a wonderful program of speakers adding

music as an afterthought. I've been told something like, "We're flying in Angela Davis and Howard Zinn and (fill-in-the-blank) to speak at our conference, and we're also having a benefit concert, um, some local band... I can't remember their name." The local band often turns out to be whoever was willing to play for free, and no one's bothered checking out their music to see if they're any good, or what their politics are.

Although music is fun and good for dancing, it can also be so much more. Good music certainly reaches the part of your brain that may not be accessed by a good speech or magazine article, regardless of its political content. But a song that addresses a contemporary issue, or a song that is meant to inspire us to action, can be effective in a unique, visceral way. Good music, especially good political music, can foster a sense of community and togetherness, as well as educating on a gut level.

People might be educated and feel they've benefited from a good Noam Chomsky speech, but my experience has taught me that they are much more likely to leave an event feeling inspired if that speech is followed by an Ani DiFranco concert. And isn't inspiring people to action what we are trying to do? In fact, all large-scale social movements of which I am aware have used music in a central way.



Viva ¡TCHKUNG!

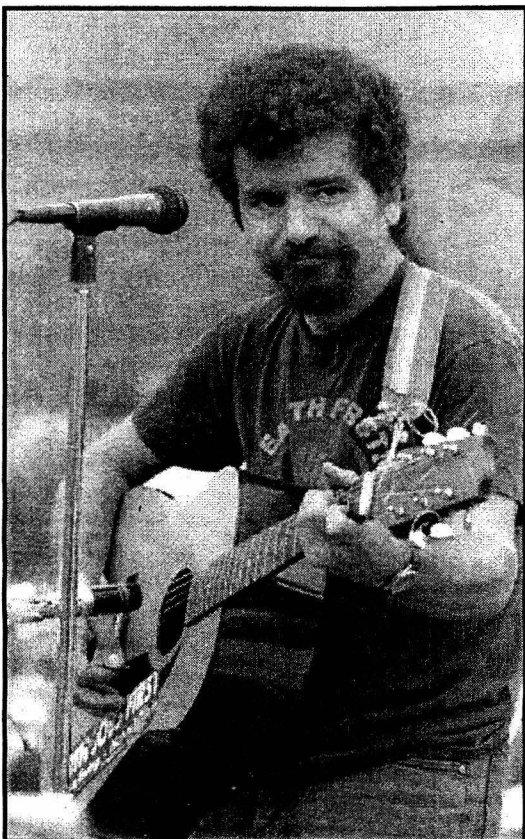
In the old days everybody joining the Wobblies was given a *Little Red Songbook* containing "Songs to Fan the Flames of Discontent." In the '30s, the successful organizers of the Communist Party placed as much emphasis on their "culture department" as on union or street organizing. The movement against the war in Vietnam used "anti-war coffeehouses" as a primary organizing method, with musicians and speakers holding educational and entertaining events in military towns throughout the country.

During the civil rights movement, people sang as they marched towards police lines. Many people have said that if not for the songs, they would surely have turned and run. And in the modern era, I have encountered people who have said that they were first politicized by their parents' Phil Ochs records, their exposure to the punk rock or the rap scene.

In the Earth First! movement today, music plays a pivotal role in maintaining good morale, from professional singer-songwriters like Dana Lyons or Casey Neill traveling around the country, playing the movement "circuit," to the many grassroots activists prolifically putting their thoughts to music wherever there are people struggling to save a forest from being logged or to stop a road from being built.

Let us put as much thought and resources into making musicians a part of our events as we do our speakers. Let us remember the words of the Wobbly minstrel, Joe Hill, who said, "A pamphlet, no matter how well-written, is read once and then thrown away—but a song lasts forever."

David Rovics is a Wobbly and the favored bard of the eco-resistance movement in the northeastern states. His music can be found at [www.davidrovics.com](http://www.davidrovics.com) or from the Journal.



Darryl Cherney



Danny Dollinger



Anne

## BARE BONES

### Tribal Standards Upheld

In an April 28 decision, the US District Court dismissed a lawsuit by the state of Wisconsin against the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Mole Lake (Sokaogon) Chippewa. The suit was an attempt to deny EPA's authority to grant "Treatment as State" (TAS) status to Mole Lake Reservation. The EPA originally granted TAS status to Mole Lake in 1995, to support Mole Lake's sovereign authority to set its own water quality standards under the federal Clean Water Act. The decision reaffirming the TAS status has far-reaching implications for the controversy over the proposed Crandon mine and potentially for other Native American reservations around the country.

The state of Wisconsin disputed Mole Lake's authority, claiming that all navigable waters within Wisconsin could only be regulated by the state.

The district court resoundingly rejected the state's logic and dismissed the suit. Part of the state's underlying argument been that tribal governments in general have neither the technical capacity nor the commitment to environmental protection, and so the EPA should not treat them like states. Yet the federal court decision praised Mole Lake's technical effort in setting its water quality standards and stated that the tribe has stronger environmental protection regulations than those contained in Wisconsin's statutes.

Roger McGeshick Jr., Chairman of the Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa Community, said, "I believe this decision is going to benefit our community and the tribes throughout the US. In the past, history has proven the tribes have been taken advantage of and the outcome of this lawsuit has given our people more strength. Our water quality standards will never be negotiated!"

Although the Crandon mine is not directly mentioned in the legal decision, the proposed mine must now comply with Mole Lake's regulatory authority.

### Federal Staff Told To Overlook Violations

According to documents filed on June 10 by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have been ordered to overlook inaccurate classifications of agricultural wetlands, an order which leaves millions of legally protected vernal pools, marshes and prairie potholes vulnerable to development.

PEER is asking both the USDA and EPA's Inspector General offices to investigate the agencies failure to protect agricultural wetlands and, in particular, what appears to be an official policy of consciously ignoring a colossal number of Clean Water Act violations throughout the country.

According to documents obtained by PEER under the Freedom of Information Act, top EPA officials have issued orders to keep EPA regulators off agricultural lands. In addition, state conservationists within the USDA are issuing directives to weaken wetlands standards in order to avoid enforcement actions against politically prominent agricultural producers.

Yet EPA managers, with full knowledge of the high rates of inaccuracy, directed their own field staff to consider NRCS determinations valid for purposes of enforcing Clean Water Act wetland protection rules and prohibited staff from conducting any review of even the most inadequate determinations.



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: AN INTERVIEW WITH ROBERT BULLARD

BY ERROL SCHWEIZER

*Dr. Robert Bullard is one of the most prominent scholars and activists in the environmental justice movement. For over 20 years, his research has documented the devastating impact that industrial facilities have had on low income communities and communities of color. Dr. Bullard is currently the director of the Environmental Justice Research Center at Clark Atlanta University in Georgia.*

**EF!J:** What is the environmental justice movement?

**RB:** The environmental justice movement has basically redefined what environmentalism is all about. It basically says that the environment is everything: where we live, work, play, go to school, as well as the physical and natural world. We can't separate the physical environment from the cultural environment. The environmental justice movement is trying to address all of the inequities that result from human settlement, industrial facility siting and industrial development. What we've tried to do over the last 20 years is educate and assist groups in organizing, mobilizing and empowering themselves to take charge of their lives, their communities and their surroundings. It's a concept of trying to address power imbalances, lack of political enfranchisement and to redirect resources so that we can create some healthy, liveable and sustainable types of models.

**EF!J:** How have environmental justice groups organized themselves?

**RB:** For the most part, a lot of the small grassroots groups operate from a bottom up model. They don't have boards of directors, large budgets and large staffs, but they do operate with the idea that everyone has a role and is in this together. Environmental justice groups are more egalitarian, most of them are led by women and are more democratic. Not to say they are perfect, but they do bring out the idea that power rests in all of us. When we operate as a collective, that's when we are most powerful—when we move forward as a unit and not necessarily with a hierarchy.

**EF!J:** Has the environmental justice movement come into conflict with the traditional, white environmental groups?

**RB:** There's been a lot of conflict and misunderstanding about what the role of some of the green groups are as it relates to environmental justice and working in communities of color. And what we're saying is that it's just one environment. You're talking about planet Earth, where we live. If in fact we are going to have a global movement for environmental justice, we have to understand what the environment is and what the agendas are. Environmental justice incorporates the idea that we are concerned about wetlands, birds and wilderness areas. But we're also concerned with urban habitats, about reservations, about things that are happening along the US-Mexican border, about children that are being poisoned by lead in housing and kids playing outside in contaminated playgrounds. We have had to struggle to get these issues on the radar of a lot of the large environmental groups.

There's still a lot of progress that needs to be made, because to a large extent, the environmental movement, the conservation/preservation movement, really reflects the larger society. And society is racist. So we can't expect a lot of our organizations not to somehow be affected by that. We're not saying that people are evil and that these organizations are setting out to do harm, but we're saying that we have to educate ourselves and learn about each other. That's what we've been doing for the last 20 years: trying to get a handle on how we can work together in a principled way. In 1991 we had the first national People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, and we developed 17 principles of environmental justice [Ed. note: see sidebar, facing page]. And what we're saying is that we may not agree on 100 percent of the things, but we agree on more things than we disagree on.

**EF!J:** What kind of role has race played in the siting of toxic facilities in this country?

**RB:** Race is still the most potent factor for predicting where locally unwanted land uses go. A lot of

people say it's class, but race and class are intertwined. Because society is so racist and because racism touches every institution—employment, housing, education, facility siting, land use decisions, you can't really extract race out of decisions that are being made by people who are in power when the power arrangements are unequal.

When we talk about what's happening along the US-Mexican border and the health conditions of children and workers, we must understand that it's also related to our consumption patterns, consumption behavior and who has the most money to consume the most. Now, all of the issues of environmental racism and environmental justice don't just deal with people of color. We are just as much

**RB:** First, we have to start early. We have to educate young people that it is their right to have access to open space, green space, parks and the outdoors, as opposed to people thinking that they're supposed to be living in an area where the only park is a basketball court with no net. We have to provide funds to make sure that we get them early on and take them on field trips, take them to a wilderness area, a refuge, a reserve, to a park—a real park—and to integrate this information into our curriculum.

If you talk about people of color, African-Americans for example, we are land-based people. Africans are land-based people. Native Americans are land-based peoples. We have been pushed off the land and now find ourselves in cities, but that doesn't mean that the institutional memory of what the land was to us, how our whole existence was based on community and being tied to the land is gone. I think we've gotten away from that, but the reintroduction of those concepts can be achieved if we make a concerted effort at trying to do that.

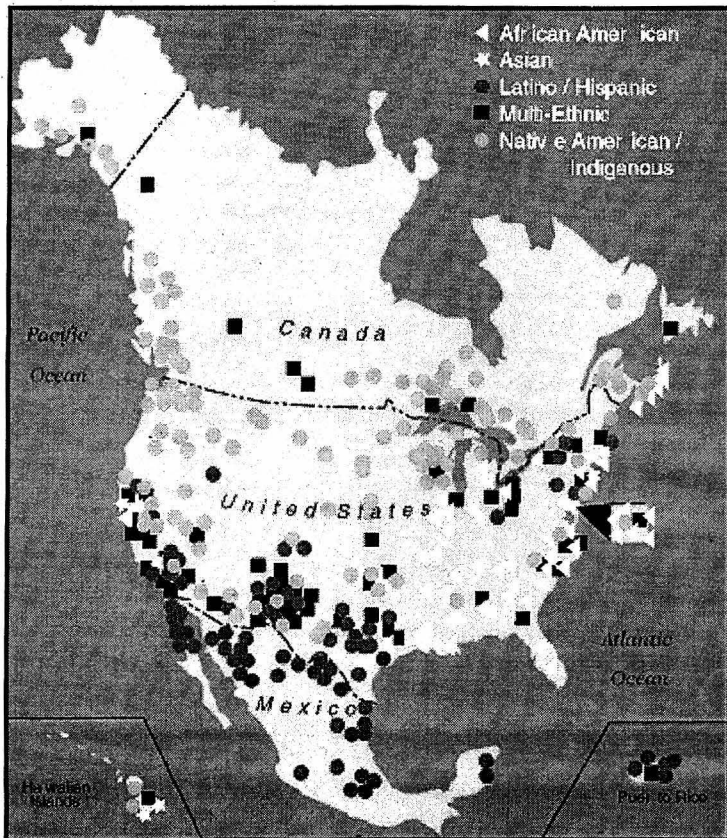
**EF!J:** What is the environmental justice perspective on the population/border debate within the Sierra Club?

**RB:** Well, you know... my position—and I can only speak for myself—is that immigration is not the problem in terms of environmental degradation. If we talk about having no borders and addressing issues of economic justice, we can address lots of the environmental injustices around the world. If we talk about respecting life and respecting people and respecting communities, we can end a lot of the international friction that results from transboundary waste trades and imbalances created as a result of NAFTA. We can do a lot of things and I think this whole anti-immigrant wave is just another wedge that is driven between folks that are organizing and mobilizing. I don't think it will work. This country is changing demographically, and it is scaring a lot of people. The year 2050 is supposed to be the magic year when people of color will be in the majority in this country. So when we talk about these issues, we have to put them in the context of the long term. We need to address things within US borders but at the same time we cannot export problems to areas that we know do not have the capacity to handle garbage, environmental waste, risky technologies and unsustainable development policies. So I think that environmental justice folks are saying that we are going to have to work across borders. Those ties are already there and it is just a matter of making sure that we strengthen them and keep reaching out.

**EF!J:** Earth First! considers itself to be the radical end of the environmental movement. What can EFlers do to further the vision of the environmental justice (EJ) movement?

**RB:** Well, you know, the EJ movement is an inclusive movement. The EJ movement is an anti-racist movement, and I don't think you can get any more radical than fighting racism. Because when you talk about fighting racism, you make a lot of enemies because racism permeates everything. I think Earth First! can really embrace a lot of the environmental justice principles that we have and see that there are a lot of things that environmental justice groups are advocating and trying to implement that cut across some of the issues that you're addressing.

**Dr. Bullard can be reached at the Department of Sociology, Environmental Justice Resource Center, Clarke Atlanta University, Atlanta GA; (404) 880-6911.**



concerned with inequities in Appalachia, for example, where the whites are basically dumped on because of lack of economic and political clout.

**EF!J:** Are you seeing more of a convergence between the traditional, white environmental groups and movements of people of color?

**RB:** We haven't seen a total convergence. What we've seen is a better understanding of the various sides and priorities that are there. For a long time historically, for example, black people in the South were not even allowed to visit state parks, because of Jim Crow and segregation. Then, somehow, we were blamed for not having appreciation for state parks. I mean, it wasn't our faults, we couldn't go to them! So we're finding that as more urban folks get to visit parks and wilderness areas they are able to appreciate that these are national treasures and not just treasures for people that have money to visit them.

And more and more people who are in environmental groups are now beginning to understand that what happens in cities also impacts their lives. So we can't just let cities buckle under and fall into this sinkhole. We have to talk about this convergence of urban, suburban and rural, the quality of life that exists and the issue of urban sprawl. Basically everybody is impacted by sprawl. So you talk about this convergence, a lot of it is happening now, but it has to happen with the understanding that we have to include everybody or it won't work.

**EF!J:** How can you pose these issues to people when organizing in low income and politically disenfranchised communities, especially communities with very little open space or access to natural areas?

**WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT FIGHTING RACISM, YOU MAKE A LOT OF ENEMIES BECAUSE RACISM PERMEATES EVERYTHING.**

# RAGE Against The Waste Dump

BY MELISSA JACOBS

Regional Action Group for the Environment, Inc. (RAGE), was formed in the fall of 1993 to stop the siting of the largest incinerator ash dump in the United States. We are located in the heart of the Genesee Valley in western New York state.

Our group is made up of Native and non-Native people who have spent their lives fighting to protect our precious Earth. I am Blackfoot Indian, my husband is of Seneca blood and with our two children we reside on the ancestral homelands of the Seneca Indians, who are part of the Six Nations Iroquois confederacy.

Our 60 acre farm has been certified organic since 1989 and we teach our children not to pick a berry or break a twig from a tree without asking first, as we want them to realize the right of all life to exist and to be aware of the far reaching consequences of their actions. We live in a com-

munity of approximately 62,000 people where money rules. Livingston County, whose number one industry is agriculture, sits on a vast series of rock salt and brine mines, as well as abandoned oil and gas mines. The largest of these salt mines was the Akzo-Nobel Retsof mine. It was the largest salt mine in the Western Hemisphere, with over 18 square miles of empty caverns; it is the size of Manhattan. It was in these cavities that would store 40 percent of the US' incinerated garbage, mixed with other industrial by-products and brine water from a leaky mine shaft.

Opposed to this project on all levels, RAGE pledged to resist and fought a loud and public campaign to stop this atrocity. In the fall of 1993, RAGE members were told that the mine was collapsing in several areas that were being used for experimental mining. These areas were able to accommodate the storage of incinerator ash since the rate of salt extraction was sometimes as high as 94 percent. RAGE went public with this information and the company launched a full scale attack on us, turning friends, neighbors and even family members against us.

On March 12, 1994 the mine collapsed in an area located at the lowest point of the Genesee Valley, just under a major tributary of the Genesee River, a large river that flows into Lake Ontario. Two huge sinkholes were formed, filling with water, destroying an Indian burial ground and village, and occupying a twelve acre area that was formerly prime farmland. Wells went dry, houses cracked and roads and bridges sank, closing off traffic from a major transportation route for several years. Dangerous methane and hydrogen sulfide gases spewed out of dry wells and cracks in the earth. Gas

pipelines ruptured repeatedly after the collapse and flooding generated earthquakes during the 18 month span it took the water to fill the mine. Three aquifers drained into the mine's cavities, becoming liquid salt. Over 250 families joined a class action suit and have yet to receive relief from these damages.

What was our local and state officials response to this mess? Although the Chief scientist of the Attorney General's office

called it the "largest man-made disaster in the history of North America unfolding," they decided to do all in their power to develop yet another salt mine, using 53 million taxpayer dollars.

The chosen spot for the new mine was a known Indian burial ground that is documented back 10,000 years. It contains the human remains of Seneca, Tuscarora, Algonquin and other Ongwehonweh who regarded the land as sacred and brought their relations' remains to this ground to be interred in huge effigy mounds similar to the Hopewell mounds in Ohio. The area contains, by New York State's own admission, at least eight sites eligible for National Historic register listing, yet, even though documentation showed the area contained burials, the state kept denying any existed. Archaeological crews were directed to dig where there were no gravesites, carefully avoiding those that were previously investigated so they could claim they found nothing.

RAGE participated fully in the new mine permit process and won the right to hold further hearings on this matter. Commissioner Mike

Zagata of the Department of Environmental Conservation then stepped in and overrode his administrative law judges' decision and granted the mine permit. He ignored all protections for the water, air, earth, burials and any concerns about future subsidence. RAGE filed suit against all of the state agencies and people who were part of the process, and in July of 1997, Akzo's attorney made a payoff offer of \$500,000. We rudely declined and went all the way to the court of appeals, New York's highest court, where we lost our case. Meanwhile, Akzo's parent company in the Netherlands decided not to build the mine but to sell the permit. The land lay idle for nearly two years, yet the State Historical Preservation Office refused to move to protect the land.

In the fall of 1998, a new mining company, American Rock Salt, funded by General Electric (who is notorious for dumping PCB's in the Hudson River), and made up of a local realtor, a slick attorney with ties to the incinerator industry, a New York City land speculator, and a board of directors that reads like a who's who of the waste trade industry, began bulldozing without a valid permit. Over our continued objections the state granted a permit and the company bulldozed through beautiful farmland and ancient burial grounds without any regard for the living or the dead. They have already unearthed 14 sets of human remains and have decimated a native village. The state has allowed this continuing desecration despite protests.

Within a few weeks, Livingston County intends to obliterate another burial site across the street to run water and sewer lines to the mine. A rail spur is being run right through the center of a farm that was taken from a local farmer by



A sinkhole caused by the collapse of the Akzo salt mine.

force. This railroad spur is also being funded by 11.5 million of taxpayer's dollars and is being run across an area riddled with sinkholes from the old mine collapse. The new mine will excavate 10,000 acres and will fill the empty cavities with New York City's garbage, nuclear waste and incinerator ash.

Except for a handful of people, our community has demonstrated its desire to be the dumping ground for waste in the Northeast. Those of us who oppose the dumping have been threatened, have had our property vandalized and have been shot at by agents of the federal government. We desperately need your help. We have run out of money and ideas and have exhausted our legal avenues. Thank you for anything you can do to help keep our ancestors safe in the ground, and our children's land and water free from further degradation and pollution.

Contact RAGE, Inc., c/o Melissa Jacobs, 8546 Rte 408, Nunda, NY 14517; (716) 468-3817. Send letters of complaint to American Rock Salt, POB 172, Groveland, NY 14462-0172; (716) 243-9510.

## Environmental Justice:

- Affirms the sacredness of Mother Earth, ecological unity and the interdependence of all species and the right to be free from ecological destruction.
- Mandates the right to ethical, balanced and responsible uses of land in the interest of a sustainable planet for humans and other living things.
- Calls for universal protection from nuclear testing, extraction, production and disposal of toxic/hazardous wastes and poisons that threaten the fundamental right to clean air, land, water and food.
- Affirms the fundamental right to political, economic, cultural and environmental self-determination of all peoples.
- Demands the cessation of the production of all toxins, hazardous wastes, and radioactive materials, and that all past and current producers be held accountable to the people for detoxification and containment at the point of production.
- Affirms the right of all workers to a safe and healthy work environment, without being forced to choose between an unsafe livelihood and unemployment. It also affirms the right of those who work at home to be free from environmental hazards.
- Protects the rights of victims of environmental injustice to receive full compensation and reparations for damages as well as quality health care.
- Affirms the need for urban and rural ecological policies to clean up and rebuild cities and rural areas in balance with nature, honoring the cultural integrity of our communities and providing fair access for all to the full range of resources.
- Calls for the strict enforcement of principles of informed consent and a halt to the testing of experimental reproductive and medical procedures and vaccinations on people of color.
- Opposes the destructive operations of multinational corporations.
- Opposes military occupations, repression and exploitation of lands, peoples, and other life forms.
- Calls for the education of present and future generations which emphasizes social and environmental issues, based on our experience and an appreciation of our diverse cultural perspectives.
- Requires that we, as individuals, make choices to consume as little as possible of Mother Earth's resources and to produce as little waste as possible; and make the conscious decision to challenge and reprioritize our lifestyles to insure the health of the natural world for present and future generations.

(Adopted at the First National People of Color Environmental Summit, Washington DC, 1991.)

# Lockdown in Seattle

On June 7, Earth Firsters from Olympia and Seattle went into the headquarters of Plum Creek timber company in downtown Seattle. The activists were demanding to speak to Plum Creek CEO Rick Holley about backing out of the infamous I-90 land exchange between the Forest Service and Plum Creek. Three of the activists locked to each other with Kryptonite bicycle locks to be sure that they were heard that day. They were told that Holley, "was out of town that day on vacation." Instead of Holley, the activists were "greeted" by Plum Creek Vice President Bill Brown.

Brown was concerned that the presence of u-locked activists in the lobby would be disconcerting for visiting Japanese clients. Brown offered to meet with the activists in a nearby room. After an hour of discussion Brown agreed to set up a meeting with the group and Holley. No arrests were made at the action although three of the activists remained locked together.

The I-90 land exchange would give 17,000 acres of public land to Plum Creek. The company would acquire rare roadless, low-elevation old-growth forest in

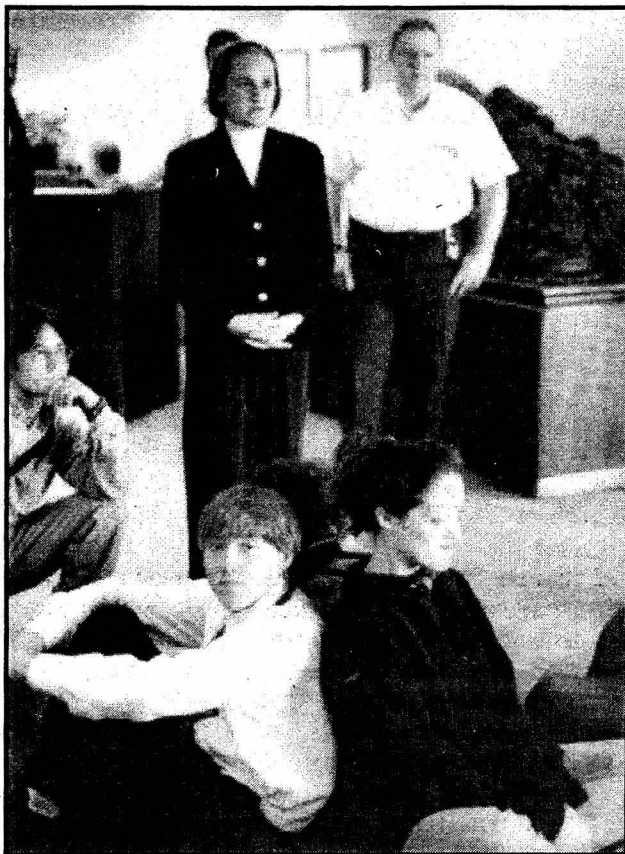
the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The public had very little say in the negotiations for the exchange. This culminated last fall with the passage of Senator Slade Gorton's last minute rider to the omnibus appropriations which

legislated the land exchange. Plum Creek used heavy handed tactics such as threatening to log in sensitive areas to ensure a quick resolution.

Plum Creek is the great grandchild of Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1864, Congress gave Northern Pacific 40,000,000 acres of public land originally taken from the Native Americans. Northern Pacific was to use the acquired lands to build railroads through the west in order to settle the western states. Northern Pacific was supposed to resell the lands back to settlers for \$2.50 an acre. Most of the land was never sold back as Northern Pacific spun off into resource extracting companies, which in turn eventually gave birth to Plum Creek in 1989. Plum Creek is notorious for its logging practices. It currently has more land exchanges in the works than any other timber company.

We are at a critical point right now! Funds exist for the acquisition of sensitive lands through the little used Land and Water Conservation Fund. **NO COMPROMISE!**

Please send letters of support and donations to Olympia Earth First!, POB 11426, Olympia, WA 98508.



EF!ers causing a ruckus at Plum Creek's office in downtown Seattle

Photo by Gray Aire

## Activists Block Road to Eagle Timber Sales Roadless Area Logging Could Start Any Time

In the dark of the night a cargo net was suspended 60 feet above the road using strips of rope no thicker than parachute cord. On July 12, forest activists renewed the non-violent blockade of Forest Road 4614 to prevent the logging of the Salmon Huckleberry Roadless Area, the Old Baldy Trail and the sensitive Eagle Creek municipal watershed near the Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon. In addition to the new blockade, Cascadia Forest Alliance has maintained a tree-sit in an old-growth portion of the sale area since April 23.

The net, capable of supporting activists for weeks, blocks access to a large roadless portion of the Eagle timber sales, adjacent to the Salmon Huckleberry Wilderness Area. The blockade is near the Old Baldy trailhead, a trail that will be lost if the US Forest Service goes through with their plans. The 1,000 acres of forest in Eagle contain 500 acres of unprotected wilderness eligible for addition to the nearby Salmon Huckleberry.

The sales are inconsistent with recent Forest Service policy changes designed to better protect roadless areas and watersheds implemented by Forest Service Chief Mike Dombeck. Yet, the US Forest Service and congressional representatives have been dragging their feet in efforts to cancel the Eagle sales, originally sold under the environmental law-suspending Salvage Rider of

1996. In the past weeks, numerous environmental groups have put pressure on Dombeck and Oregon Senator Ron Wyden to take action to protect the Salmon Huckleberry roadless area and the Eagle Creek watershed by simply canceling the remaining parts of the Eagle sales immediately. Rapidly melting snow in the area means logging could begin any day. The blockades are necessary to "buy time," while members of the public continue to pressure Wyden and other elected officials to take action to save the watershed from the chainsaws.

Based on how much was cut last year and early this year, any further disturbance would seriously degrade water quality and damage the roadless area. The Eagle Creek Watershed Analysis recommended no more than 9.1 million board feet of timber be removed per decade from the watershed to sustainably maintain water quality—roughly what was cut last year and so far this year. Ignoring their own scientists' recommendations, as well as environmental laws, the Forest Service sold 28 million board feet to be cut this summer and next. The agency also failed to perform surveys for a host of rare plants and animals, another significant violation of Clinton's Northwest Forest Plan. Because the sales were sold during the Salvage Rider, none of these issues can be contested in court.

Earlier this year, Vanport Manufacturing, purchaser of the Eagle sales, closed the doors on their Boring, Or-

egon, lumber mill. Vanport has stated it is not opposed to canceling the timber sales, and, because of the mill closure, it is no longer seeking replacement timber elsewhere. Despite this, and the widespread public outcry over the sales, the Mt. Hood National Forest has refused to cancel them and insists that the area must be logged.

**WHAT:** Ongoing blockade to protect the Salmon Huckleberry roadless area.

**WHEN:** Beginning July 12 and continuing until the Eagle timber sales area canceled.

**WHERE:** Forest Road 4614 (Squaw Mt. Road) in the Mt. Hood National Forest about an hour southeast of Portland, near Estacada.

**WHO:** Cascadia Forest Alliance, Earth First! and you!

**DIRECTIONS:** From Portland, follow I-205 south to the Highway 224/Estacada exit. Follow Highway 224 about two miles past Estacada and then turn left on Fall Creek Road. Take the next left at Divers Road and then the next right at Squaw Mt. Road. Follow Squaw Mt. Road for 6.5 miles until a Y in the road.

Keep right at the "Y," continuing on Squaw Mt. Road (Road 4614) for about five miles until the Old Baldy trailhead and our road blockade.

For more information contact the Cascadia Forest Alliance at POB 4946, Portland, OR 97208; (503) 241-4879, fax 235-9976.

## ANTI-FOREST RIDERS

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved an Interior Appropriations bill laden with anti-environmental riders. One rider, Section 329, harkens back to the dark days of the Salvage Logging Rider by suspending key requirements of the National Forest Management Act intended to protect wildlife. In addition, the Senate has proposed more funds for logging and road building in National Forests while slashing funding for road maintenance, watershed improvements, fish and wildlife management and land acquisitions.

The riders of concern are:

- Section 117 which would allow the reauthorization of grazing permits without environmental review.

- Section 320 would impose funding limitations in order to halt the revision of any forest plan not already under revision, effectively delaying National Forest Planning.

- Section 325 would allow ten percent of all road and trail funds to improve forest health conditions. Improvements may include logging.

- Section 327 is designed to create incentives to maximize timber harvest on Alaska's Tongass National Forest.

- Section 328 would prohibit expending any federal funds going towards grizzly bear introduction in Idaho and Montana without the written consent of the states' governors. This could interfere with the management of currently recovering populations.

- Section 329 would provide the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior broad discretion to choose whether or not to collect new information on wildlife on Federal public land prior to revising their management plans or authorizing any ground-breaking management activities.

- Section 330 would divert funding needed to complete the final Environmental Impact Statement in the Interior Columbia Basin.

- Section 335 would permit the Forest Service to contract private entities to perform land management services in national forests in Idaho, Montana and Oregon's Umatilla National Forest. This law has undefined community roles, lacks provisions for oversight and lacks a funding mechanism for the work.

- Section 907 would weaken the 1872 Mining Law to allow certain mining operations to dump more toxic mining waste on federal public land.

Meanwhile, Senator Richard Bryan (D-NV) plans to offer an amendment to the Interior Appropriations to re-prioritize the Forest Service budget away from extractive goals to restoration.

Please contact your senators at (202) 224-3121 and demand they all oppose all of these riders and support any amendments that would reduce or stop the timber sale program.

# Eco-Hypocrites Breach Maine Dam

BY PETER NEILS

"You're either part of the solution, or part of the problem."

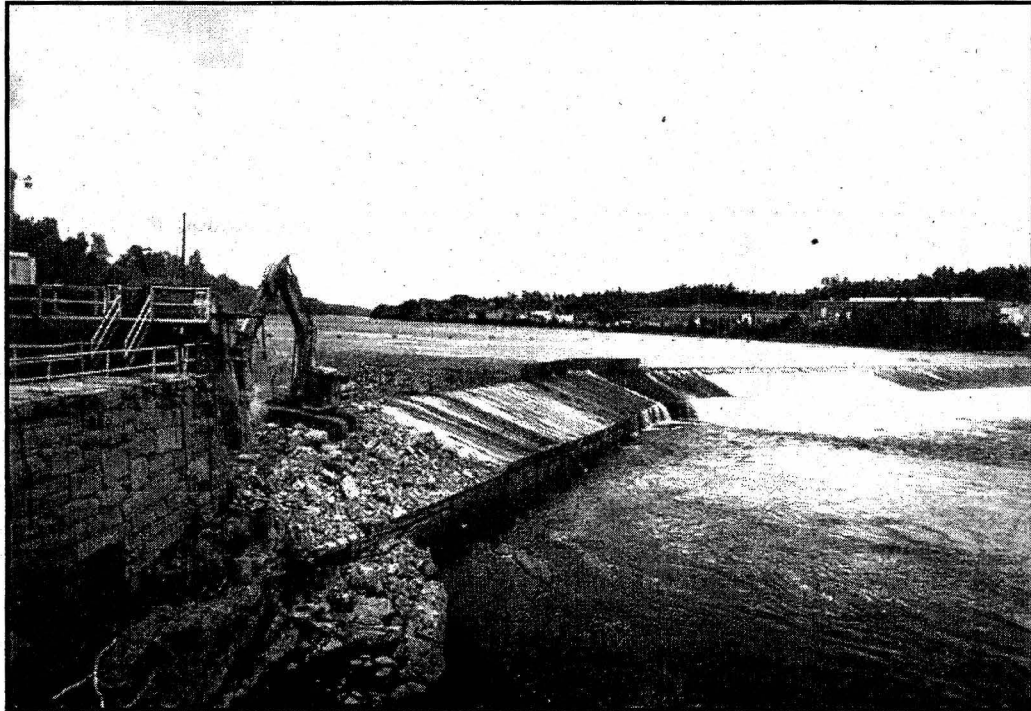
—ELDRIDGE CLEAVER, 1967

At 9:35 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on July 1, the 167-year-old Edwards Dam on Maine's Kennebec River was breached, opening 17 miles of spawning habitat to several species of fish, including sturgeon, shad and, potentially, Atlantic salmon. In 1997 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission refused to renew the private hydroplant's license, determining that the ecological gain from its removal outweighed gains from its continued operation.

Military shipbuilder Bath Iron Works (BIW) is providing one third of the removal cost to compensate for filling nearly 15 acres of prime short-nosed sturgeon habitat at the mouth of the Kennebec River. BIW's fill plans are part of a massive expansion to convert its yard into a land-level facility. One hundred million dollars of the construction costs are to be paid by Maine taxpayers to relieve the strain on the stockholders of BIW's Fortune 500 parent company, General Dynamics.

As early as June, Native Forest Network (NFN) activists Jim Freeman and Peter Neils began receiving e-mails and urgent phone calls from corporate environmentalists from as far away as Washington, DC, pleading with them to not do an action which would disrupt the ceremony preceding the breaching of the dam.

The activists conceded that they had contemplated an action but declined to characterize their putative activity as "disruptive." Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM) staffer Judy Berk con-



Edwards Dam being removed

a fence clearly visible to several hundred people at the assembly. The multi-colored, "BRUCE SELL\$ OUT CRITICAL HABITAT" left little doubt about whether the NFN contingent would be fawning over Babbitt along with the other environmental organizations present.

Bearing posters reading, "HABITAT, NOT BABBITTAT" and "FISH LADDERS NOW, NOT IN 16 YEARS," the intrepid alternative enviros worked the crowd closely shadowed by state and federal security.

Seven NFN volunteers distributed more than 100 leaflets promoting their campaign to eliminate dioxin discharges

tacted the two and said that she was in a position to offer a meeting with Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. The Maine activists found Babbitt's presence particularly onerous in light of his collusion with reactionary Republican senators on S. 1100, which would delay critical habitat designation under the Endangered Species Act, as well as, other rollbacks.

Ultimately the NFN Chapter was offered table space shoulder to shoulder with the usual suspects, way down at the end (by the porta-potties). But the wily Mainers turned the snub into a triumph! Three large banners scalding Babbitt hung high on

from Maine's bleach kraft pulp mills. At the conclusion of the festivities, they moved the "BABBIT SELL\$ OUT CRITICAL HABITAT" banner to the main gate and distributed several hundred copies of the new "Forest Advocate," supporting The National Forest Protection and Restoration Act.

Jim Freeman concluded that Team NFN had maximized the opportunity which the mainstreamers had inadvertently presented to the seasoned campaigners. No one walked out of those gates unaware of NFN's position!

Contact the Native Forest Network at POB 57, Burlington, VT 05402.

## CONSERVING Wild NATURE IN VIRGINIA

BY CHRISTINA WULF

In the spring mountains of Virginia, oxygen is green. We live beneath a breathing blanket of deciduous trees, however ghostly and torn they may be. Standing in the Shenandoah Valley, looking west to the Alleghenies and east to the Blue Ridge, one gazes upon an ancient landscape. These mountains expose some of the oldest rock in North America. Their limestone sediments peel away from the wind and water, feeding richly complex forests from the piedmont to the highlands and beyond. Like a wise grandparent with the vast experiences of a lifetime, Appalachian hardwood forests have evolved in balance with Earth and animal of time.

But times change. This valley bloomed early with human inhabitants—from the Natives who traveled the region to the early Europeans, who settled in what was then considered the "Far West to be as distant from the control of the English throne as possible." The settlers followed the

endless forest, western Virginians inherit the usual degradation of an industrial age; too many clearcuts,

rivers—Potomac, Shenandoah, Calpasture, James and Jackson, Roanoke, Clinch, Holston and the New. Along these rivers industries—farms, foundries, furnaces and lumber yards—have boomed far beyond carrying capacity.

The echoes of the great eastern forest are most audible in the folded lands of western Virginia where the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests encompass some 1.8 million acres.

Along with the memories of an

animal-production factories, sick rivers, sick trees and possibly the most polluted air in the nation.

Human populations are booming as the rural rush sweeps west from big eastern cities, washing a poison tide of strip malls, tract housing and chemical-green lawns over farms and forests.

Here, as in communities across the country, people are gathering together in the name of conservation and restoration. In late April, a National Forest Protection Alliance meeting drew 40 Virginians to the genteel grounds

of the University of Virginia to strategize an end to commercial logging on public lands. The meeting drew people from all corners of the Old Dominion; each of Virginia's eleven congressional districts was represented. We were a diverse group—newcomers & old-timers, high school and college students, retirees and politically-seasoned organizers. For an hour in the morning, we introduced ourselves and spoke of our individual epiphanies—some

moment, imprinted on us, when the wonder of the wild became manifest. It was apparent that the move-

ment to limit human impact is not so much a revolution as it is a reconnection. Tracing our human bloodlines back a brief genetic distance, a handful of centuries, we can re-learn how to live on this Earth in balance with breathing forests and all their inhabitants.

At the meeting, we learned stories of the commonality of care, and how to turn our powerful emotions into political firepower. We learned to lobby from the heart, to organize as a member of a community, and to hold the old-boy network of Virginia accountable.

Then we went to Washington, DC and lobbied our elected officials. We learned that everyone cares about the environment, but no one wants to take political risks. Not yet. Not until we the people show that real conservation is really common sense.

When caring people gather together, a powerful energy is born. Almost every evaluation form from the meeting said, "The best part was the people—meeting other people who care." Every day there are more of us. The movement to conserve wild nature belongs to ordinary folks. The restoration of our home ranges is a joyful but urgent task in which everyone must play a part.

To contact the Shenandoah Ecosystem Defense Group, please contact to POB 1891, Charlottesville, VA 22903; or call (804) 971-1553; sedg@firstva.com.



Cool swirly trees at maple flats

Photo by M.A. Jones

# NAFTA on the Border

BY JULIE LIGHT

CORPORATE WATCH EDITORIAL BOARD

Tecate's coat of arms dubs this Mexican town "Baja California's Industrial Paradise." About 30 miles from Tijuana, the city is home to the Tecate brewery and also houses an industrial park filled with assembly plants, or *maquiladoras*. This "industrial paradise" is one of several Mexican border boomtowns that is part of a global production system. "People say 'Tecate, that's where they make that beer,' but Tecate is fast becoming 'where they make that car, where they make that television,'" says José Bravo, Coordinator of the Border Justice Project of the bi-national Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice.

In Tijuana, residents refer to the border as *la línea*, the line. *La línea* has come to demarcate more than a political boundary. It locates both Mexico and the United States on opposite sides of the coin in a global system of trade and production.

On a recent visit to California, Mexican president Ernesto Zedillo told corporate executives that southern California and Baja, California are rapidly becoming a single economy, which Zedillo optimistically promises will be the most dynamic economic growth area of the world for the next century. California Governor Gray Davis told a town meeting in Los Angeles that, "When Mexico's economy thrives, California benefits. And, when California thrives, Mexico benefits."

Official optimism aside, it is the *maquiladora* that has turned Mexico into California's number one trading partner. Corporate headquarters remain north of *la línea*, while assembly plants are mushrooming south of the border. Corporations reap record profits, while poor and working communities on both sides of *la línea* are consigned to low-wage jobs and environmental health hazards. The US-Mexico border is a microcosm of North-South relations in a global economy where corporations call the shots, and poor nations sell off labor rights and the environment to the highest bidder.

The term *maquiladora* comes from the Spanish word *maquila*, used to describe the payment millers historically received from peasants for grinding corn. The analogy refers to the "value added" to the materials that are assembled on the border.

Foreign companies import machinery and materials duty free and export finished products to the US. Top management is usually foreign, while Mexican subcontractors often supply the labor force. Shiny, modern industrial parks, known as export processing zones in pre-North American Free Trade Agreement days, house scores of factories.

In the 30 years since the first export processing zones opened, nearly a million Mexicans have migrated to the border to work in the *maquiladoras* for as little as fifty cents an hour. Government agricultural policies have made it almost impossible to eke out a living in rural communities and unemployment in the interior is rampant. In the 1960s and 70s the first industrial parks attracted textile companies that employed an almost entirely female workforce. Now some 4,500 foreign companies operate plants that assemble electronics, cars, toys, furniture and medical equipment, and men account for more than 40 percent of the labor force.

The export-processing sector is the only part of Mexico's economy that's booming. More than a million *maquiladora* workers generate about ten billion dollars a year in foreign exchange. But the export boom comes at a price: the global race to the bottom of the wage scale, tens of thousands of workers made ill by inadequate occupational health protections, rampant sex discrimination, and industrial pollution that threatens communities on both sides of the border. "I've had contact with more than one hundred companies (operating on the border), and I haven't found one that respects Mexican labor rights," explains economist Jaime Cota, who counsels *maquiladora* workers on their rights.

The debate around the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) shone a spotlight on these issues. Despite environmental and labor agreements signed after protests by activists from Mexico, Canada and the United States, these problems have not gone away. In fact, they've gotten worse.

Industry executives, like Dale Robinson, former president of the Western Maquiladora Trade Association, assert that Mexicans benefit from jobs and government mandated training and education. "People in the plants have jobs that are helping provide a living for their families," says Robinson. But wages on the border have remained stagnant, ranging between fifty cents and a dollar an hour, since the first export processing zones were opened in 1965. The average cost of living for a family of four is estimated at three to four times that.

"Of course it's not enough to feed a family," comments Cipriana Jurado, Coordinator of the Worker Research and Solidarity Center (CISO) in Ciudad Juárez, across the border from El Paso, Texas. Jurado worked in *maquiladoras* for ten years, from the age of 13, before becoming a full-time organizer. Meanwhile, attempts to organize independent labor unions have met with repression.

Sex discrimination in



the *maquilas* is notorious. Human Rights Watch has documented the widespread practice of testing women for pregnancy as a condition of employment.

Workers who become pregnant are sometimes fired. Women also face sexual harassment, unequal pay for the same work as men and a glass ceiling that prevents their promotion to middle management.

Some women even pay with their lives when they move to the border to find work. There have been 180 murders of young women in Ciudad Juárez over the last six years, most of them *maquila* workers. These murders are a grisly reminder of the social costs of free trade.

Although Mexico has tough environmental laws, enforcement is lax. There is no "right to know" law in Mexico, so workers and communities are denied information about the toxins to which they are exposed. Companies pollute freely, degrading the border. Toxic waste, which should be returned to the US or other countries by law, is often stored on site, posing a health risk to workers and surrounding communities. Border communities report a deterioration of public health ranging from respiratory problems to skin irritations and neurological disorders believed to be caused by industrial pollution.

Occupational health and safety laws also go unenforced in Mexico, where workers are routinely exposed to a range of solvents, glues and other toxic chemicals. Warning labels are frequently in English, making them of little use to a Spanish-speaking workforce. Workers often leave their jobs rather than endure the harassment that demanding enforcement of occupational safety codes would bring.

While political leaders celebrate the economic integration of northern Mexico and the southwestern United States, they fail to acknowledge that the benefits of free trade are not equal. The true winners are not citizens on either side of the frontier, but transnational corporations. If corporations operate beyond borders, so too must the movement that seeks to combat the environmental and human rights violations committed by those companies. Cross-border organizing strengthens links between labor, women's and environmental justice movements internationally. As the victory over the proposed Sierra Blanca nuclear waste dump in Texas shows, the power of bi-national coalitions can be formidable.

The obstacles to organizing on either side of *la línea* are enormous. Activists must bridge the gap in unequal resources, cultural and linguistic differences, and face the slow pace of change. Yet grassroots activists are increasingly recognizing their common interests. Activists are not looking to either the Mexican or US governments to provide the answers. Instead, they are working on solutions that will come from the bottom up in communities along both sides of the border.

The days may be numbered for sleepy-little-towns-turned-boomtowns to remain a paradise for industry. In Tecate, community activists are fighting contamination of the local river by the brewery, the privatization of a public park and the destruction of ancient petroglyphs by a developer. They say their fight has only just begun.

For more information, contact the Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice at POB 7399, Albuquerque, NM 87194; (505) 242-0416.

## Trident Warheads Stopped in Scotland

BY JOHN AINSLIE

A convoy delivering Trident nuclear warheads to submarine bases on the Clyde River the opening day of Scottish Parliament was disrupted by protesters in Scotland. Local people from Buchlyvie village came out of their houses in support of the protest. The anti-nuclear protesters, mostly from the Faslane Peace Camp, attracted a massive police presence. Nevertheless a well-practiced activist leapt out of the Tekmobile resplendent in his sexier than sexy shades (style, man, real style) and sprang a surprise Kamikaze launch blocking the road. He was joined by Si, who'd been hiding behind bushes for hours. Together they blocked the road and stopped the convoy.

At the back end of the convoy, the rest of the Teknopunx sprinted up the road. As the police began to give chase, Aaron leapt at Teknospeed, "death diving" straight between the wheels of a huge war-truck and caused a police Range Rover to skid. Five coppers dragged Dani out from under the first carrier. Eleven arrests later the convoy continued on its evil way.

Billy Woolfe, former chairman of the Scottish National Party said, "Sending these nuclear weapons up here to Scotland on the day of the opening of the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh is rubbing our noses in it, because the parliament has no power to do anything about Trident even though the majority here don't want it. I feel it's more important to be out tracking Trident across the country and registering my protest than to be in Edinburgh."

Meanwhile in Couplort, Scotland, the convoy's destination, Trident Ploughshares activist Ian Thomson was also arrested. He marked the opening of Parliament by beginning to dismantle the Trident nuclear weapons store. His last words to the Teknopunx at Peacecamp were, "I'm off to commemorate the opening of the Scottish Parliament with an independent action of my own—see you later in the cells!"

The arrestees were originally destined for an overnight stay but the jailers couldn't take more than six hours of the charming activist's renditions of musical diversions ranging from "Please Release Me" to Tibetan chanting of "Shut the Fuck Up."

Contact John Ainslie at 0378 267 833, Faslane Peacecamp 0143 682 0901, TeknoPunx2000 0138 277 0877 or 0138 277 6956.

# Women Defend the Bio bío River With the Strength of the Earth

BY MONTI AGUIRRE

"We got together to organize, so we would not be forced to abandon our lands. We never want to leave our lands," said Rosario Huentiao, one of the 12 members of Mapu Domuche Nehuen (Women with the Strength of the Earth).

These women live in the Upper Bio bío in Chile and are at the center of resistance against the 570-megawatt Ralco Dam being built on the Bio bío. The Upper Bio bío is a region of scenic narrow canyons filled with cypress and araucaria pine forests, 100-foot waterfalls which feed the magnificent Bio bío River, and the majestic snowy peak of the Callaqui volcano.

Rosario, Julia, Nicolasa, Berta, Aurelia, Rosa, Irma, Lucy, Maria, Gertrudiz, Francisca and Hilda belong to the Pehuenche Mapuche indigenous group. Most of them are the head of their household. Along with hundreds of others living in this beautiful valley, these women and their families face displacement from the Upper Bio bío Valley because of the Ralco Dam. The women's group came together in 1998 when construction began on the dam which would flood 3,400 hectares of prime agricultural lands, drown native forests and threaten the survival of animal species such as the Andean fox, puma, southern sea otter, blackneck swan and the Andean condor.

Irma explains the difficulties of the group's fight, "The Pehuenche have little political experience, and many of us do not speak or write Spanish. I didn't even know that there was an indigenous law to back us up." The national indigenous law prevents developers from starting construction on projects like Ralco until all indigenous people whose lands would be taken have given their written consent. Irma, who was relocated once before in 1997 for the Pangué Dam—the first of six dams planned for the Bio bío—has not given her consent to be moved for Ralco.

Pangué Dam did not set a good precedent for those who would lose land to dams in the Bio bío region, as the project's resettlement was handled very poorly. The national electricity company, Endesa, did not fulfill the environmental and social obligations of its loan agreement with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) for the Pangué project. Subsequently, Endesa and the IFC worked to cover up two reports (both commissioned by the IFC) which were highly critical of the treatment of the settlers. Although the indigenous law is intended to prevent Endesa from beginning construc-

tion on the project until all affected families have signed authorizations for land swaps, Irma points to the deep tracks of heavy vehicles crossing her land and the rips in the Earth where tractors have torn out trees. She says this is not the first time that Besalco, the Chilean civil works company hired by Endesa, has gone across her land without permission. "Endesa pressures us a lot, I don't know why they are pressuring me to sign the land swap if I don't want to. This land belongs to us."

Of the 83 families whose lands are to be submerged by the dam, eight families have resisted signing away their land. Despite this, five percent of the dam works has been completed. As Besalco trucks go by, billowing clouds of red dust, Sara explains that Besalco wanted to remove a huge rock sacred to the Pehuenches to build the road. "Some Pehuenche ancestors are buried here, and we fought until the company finally moved the road around the sacred rock." Berta, a 71-year-old member of the group, says she ready to take a stand for what is right. "The company is crossing the line. They have no respect for us. They act as if they were the owners of these lands. We are the owners, we have our roots here."

Endesa has made inroads with some families by making promises of jobs and good lands—promises that some believe the company cannot keep. One man who lives in the Upper Bio bío comments, "Many men were conquered by the company when they were offered jobs. There aren't any jobs here. That is why some people are giving away their lands."

The Pehuenche have traditionally been a pastoral, raising sheep and chickens and growing crops. In the summer they take their animals to higher altitude pastures. Berta described her daily life, "We plant and harvest our land... I have peaches, plums, apples, pine nuts, wheat, salmon, the copi-hue tree and other trees." Some people who have signed land exchanges did not plant crops during the last planting season, and as their relocation continues to be put off, they have faced food shortages. In April,



Berta Quintriman and other members of Mapu Domuche Nehuen

after holding a ceremony "to become spiritually strong" as Berta put it, 700 people marched for 35 kilometers to protest construction of the dam.

Students, environmentalists and indigenous peoples' rights supporters from Chile and other parts of the world have come to the area to support the Pehuenche. The volunteers camp outside the Pehuenche houses and help the families in their daily tasks. But most of all they are there to help provide security.

In February, the volunteer camp awoke to shootings at two in the morning. Armed goons shone bright lights at them while ripping off the anti-dam signs posted on a nearby building. The protesters have not been deterred. "The children want their Bio bío. They want their land, they want to be here. I am fighting for the children, for my ancestors who are buried here, for the trees and for the Bio bío," said Berta. Aurelia Marihawar, president of Women with the Strength of the Earth said, "We don't want the dam, we want them to let us live in peace. I am not leaving."

This article was excerpted from World Rivers Review, June 1999. For more information, contact the International Rivers Network, 1847 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703; (510) 848-1155; monti@irn.org.

Mapu Domuche Nehuen is requesting donations to help cover the cost of transportation, phone, materials and food. You can also help by organizing educational events, donation collections, and letter-writing campaigns. They can be contacted through the address above.

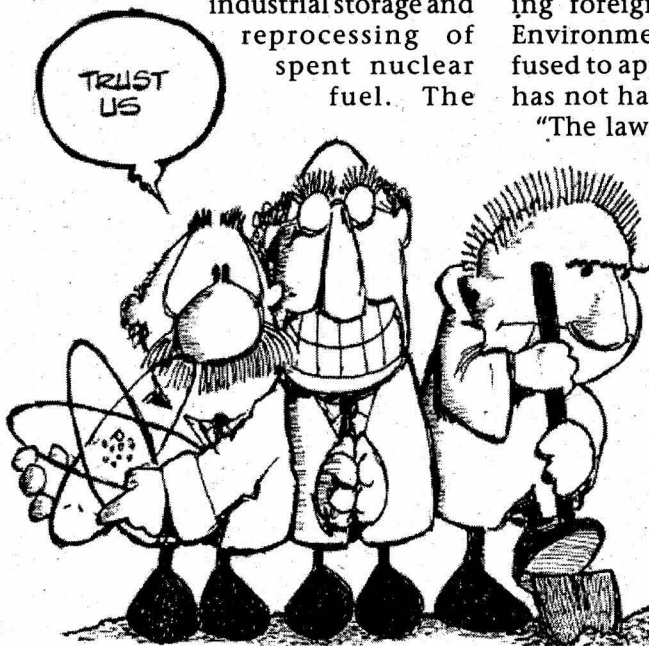
## Mutants March Against the Import of Nuclear Fuel into Russia

BY IGOR BUDRIK

On June 1, the Moscow Youth Yabloko party and the Socio-Ecological Union staged a protest in front of the State Duma, the Russian lower chamber of parliament, against the import of spent nuclear fuel into Russia. The "March of Mutants" was prompted by recent attempts to amend legislation to permit foreign spent nuclear fuel imports into Russia for storage and reprocessing.

In February, the Duma proposed to amend the environmental protection law. The initiative, encouraged by the Ministry for Atomic Energy (Minatom), received support from almost all the Duma factions. Yet the initiative failed after protests by the Duma Environmental Committee and non-governmental organizations.

In late April, a group of Duma members came up with a draft law on industrial storage and reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel. The



law was designed to remove all the legal roadblocks involved in importing foreign spent fuel. The State Environmental Committee twice refused to approve the draft. The draft has not had a public hearing.

"The law stands a good chance of approval by the State Duma if there are no protests," said Andrey Sharomov, leader of Moscow Youth Yabloko party. "Duma members love to have financial backing for the voting, so if there are protests, the chances are still good. However, they would be significantly lower, Yabloko will oppose this law at all levels," Sharomov asserted.

Meanwhile financial backing,

promised by Minatom, is more than tempting for a country with a ruined economy. Adamov assures Russians that spent nuclear fuel collection from other countries is a "\$150 billion business" and a "golden opportunity for Russia."

"If the law is approved, Russia will become an international nuclear dumpsite, while Minatom's bureaucrats and their lobbyists in the Duma will get billions of dollars in their bank accounts," states Vladimir Slivyak, Socio-Ecological Union's anti-nuclear campaigner.

In the meantime, the US based Non-proliferation Trust Inc. has proposed that Minatom collect and ship 6,000 metric tons of spent fuel to Russia.

Please contact the Socio-Ecological Union International, POB 211, 121019 Moscow, Russia; 7-095-278-4642; anc@ecoline.ru.

# Washington State Sells Out Salmon, Big Time!

Timber industry officials stood three deep and shoulder-to-shoulder behind Washington Governor Gary Locke as he signed landmark legislation on June 7 intended to protect loggers from environmental regulations. The officials, who were joined by politicians and some "tribal leaders," clapped and cheered when Locke signed the measure after saying it offered threatened, wild salmon "the highest level of protection... on forest lands of any state in the nation."

Outside the governor's packed conference room, environmentalists lam-

basted the legislation, which guarantees the timber industry the right to cut trees unmolested in exchange for changes in logging practices intended to protect salmon. "This bill is a sell-out to the timber industry, pure and simple," said Dave Mann, president of the Washington Environmental Council. "It gives the timber industry control of future logging rules, gives them a multi-million dollar tax cut and allows them to continue to cut trees too close to streams, threatening salmon and water quality."

Essentially, the Forest and Fish Agreement will allow timber companies to operate for 50 years with impunity in areas considered home to federally endangered or threatened salmon. In exchange, the timber industry must give up \$2 billion worth of timber along streams and rivers and on steep hillsides, and they are expected to rehabilitate logging roads considered a threat to salmon streams. Owners of small timber lots will receive 50 percent compensation from the state for trees left

standing in sensitive habitat. As partial compensation, the timber industry will get a tax break worth \$6 million annually.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is the agency responsible for the recovery of West Coast salmon runs. In hearings on the proposal, NMFS told lawmakers that the agreement would virtually exempt the industry from federal intervention and third-party lawsuits that prevent loggers from damaging salmon habitat.

## THE ALMIGHTY PACIFIC SALMON

*continued from page 1*

It is all too apparent how Euro-American colonization of the Northwest has altered our environment. The dominant human culture is no longer committed to respect and sustainability. This wealthy place, with forests that contain as much biomass as any ecosystem in the world, has been ruthlessly mined of resources that had every potential of being indefinitely sustainable.

Northwesterners with chainsaws, bulldozers, engineering degrees and ambition to accumulate material wealth have not properly venerated our good fortune. Ancient forests, rivers and native animals have been removed by force, encroachment or poison. Now we are faced with the possibility that Cascadia's unimaginably abundant salmon runs may have been decimated to the point of no return. The notoriously reluctant federal government has finally admitted the crisis, listing nine more Pacific salmon runs—ecologically significant units (ESUs)—under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The remarkable loyalty of Pacific salmon to their natal streams has meant ecologically significant genetic differentiation between their seven different species.

Pacific salmon are born in freshwater forest streams and go to sea to enjoy oceanic adventures until adulthood. To reproduce, they return to the streams where they were born. To get there, they may have traveled up to 10,000 miles through the ocean and 1,500 miles up a raging river without eating. Though Pacific salmon may swim together in the ocean, they only spawn with others of their own run, keeping the runs unique. After a run is extirpated, it can take a hundred years before a new run is re-established by the small percentage of fish who explore new territory.

In March 1999, Ozette Lake sockeye, Hood Canal summer run chum, Puget Sound Chinook, Columbia chum, Lower Columbia Chinook, Upper Willamette Chinook and steelhead, and Middle Columbia steelhead were all listed as threatened under the ESA. Upper Columbia Spring Chinook were listed as endangered. These fish join the precarious company of 16 other Pacific salmon ESUs on the West Coast of the lower 48 states, four deferred or proposed listings, and six candidate groups. These new listings are the first to affect a large region with numerous urban centers.

As an endangered species, salmon have a unique constituency of support. There will be costs associated with the institutional and lifestyle changes needed to allow salmon to thrive in a populated area, but Native American tribes, sports and commercial fisherman, newcomers and old timers alike support protection of the ocean-going fish. The salmon's predicament is undoubtedly linked to human well-being, and this support creates some optimism for their survival. But can the Northwest adapt when it is flooded with hundreds of new residents everyday? Can they take action as a bioregion?

The ESA is used by environmentalists because it's the best tool available to keep non-humans in this country from going extinct. Ultimately though, the

ESA is of questionable value. It doesn't stop activities that imperil species before they are in desperate danger, and it's impractical because the cost of such late reforms can be astronomical. Initial careful planning would be more logical, as would legal tools that force unethical developers, industrialists and governments to take more than just profits into consideration. But such laws don't exist or aren't enforced.

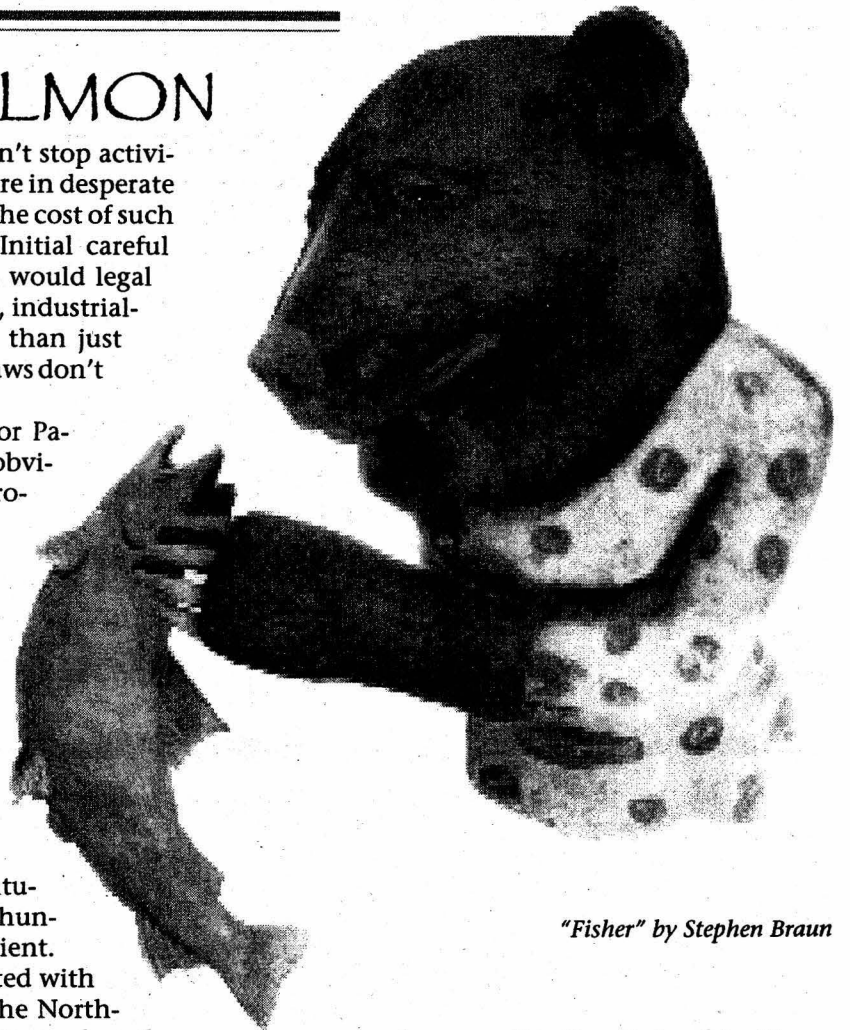
Methods to improve conditions for Pacific salmon in the Northwest are obvious. Dams must go. For years, hydroelectric dams have been identified as the single biggest murderer of salmon, followed by overfishing and habitat destruction due to logging.

Hatchery fish also kill wild salmon, by spreading disease and eating or competing with the wild fish. Hatchery production is often grafted on to otherwise well-planned community restoration projects. With effective habitat restoration, wild salmon will eventually re-inhabit a creek. It may take a hundred years, but humans must be patient.

To begin with, water must be treated with respect. Fall, winter and spring in the Northwest is a long, wet experience. Rain washes the streets of cities and towns and farms into sewers, ditches and creeks, meeting the big waters of the Puget Sound, the Columbia River and smaller salmon-bearing streams and lakes. It is important to reduce ground contaminants because all land is part of some waterway. Fertilizers and pesticides need to be abolished, and petroleum products must be carefully disposed of. Even high concentrations of domestic pet waste near streams creates bacteria that kill salmon. During the Northwest's summer drought, water use in cities and draining of creeks in rural areas must be reduced and regulated.

Will human beings, bioregion-wide, decide to take action to make their habits fit with salmon needs? Seattle Mayor Paul Schell says, "As we work to save the salmon, it may turn out that the salmon save us." This refers to the widespread concern that local beauty is being destroyed by runaway urban and suburban development. Changes that would benefit Pacific salmon would benefit innumerable other native animals and ecosystems, as well as the air, water, aesthetic and recreational values, and everything we hold near and dear.

"Saving the salmon," however, is a painfully anthropocentric way of putting it, and it may be impossible. Rich Nawa, a Southern Oregon ecologist who helped get federal listing for Oregon Coho and steelhead runs, insists that only salmon can save salmon. The minimal mitigation offered to salmon habitat needs is now pathetically unbalanced compared to what humans have done to degrade and destroy their habitat in the last two hundred years. According to Nawa, salmon are evolving quickly in their attempt to survive hu-



"Fisher" by Stephen Braun

man lunacy. On the Columbia River, commercial fishing of Coho in the fall has nearly wiped out traditional upstream runs. Still, salmon that spawn until the winter have managed to survive. Run changes can and do occur within a few generations, changing the potential for survival.

No one really knows exactly what will fix the problem of salmon declines. It is unclear whether our mitigation attempts are having a real effect—salmon exist on a much bigger time scale than we do. When we improve the conditions for salmon, we improve the probability of their survival. But it is arrogant and presumptuous to beat our chests about the good things we've done or will do for salmon. The hydroelectric, timber, agriculture and commercial fishing industries will invariably attempt to circumvent the ESA listing as it starts forcing institutional changes of how we treat the wild.

Nawa speculates that what really might help salmon is the magnitude eight or nine earthquake predicted for Cascadia in the next couple hundred years. Such an event, which in the past caused extirpations of salmon runs by blocking waterways, could unleash nature's power and take out hundred of dams, freeing waterways for salmon. If an impoverished or defunct government was unable to rebuild the destructive infrastructure, all the better.

Imagine a future in which salmon are spawning in the rubble of the Seattle Kingdome. Humans and our concrete structures are temporary. May salmon survive our measly attempts to "save" them and may the Salmon Nations live to flourish and swim in uncountable numbers through Cascadian rivers once again.

# CARE FOR SHRIMP?

BY LAURIE HERGOTT

In this small village on the northern coast of Ecuador, many of the locals depend completely on the sea for their livelihood. I have just spent two hours on horrible roads in the back of a pickup truck, only to have my passage blocked by the existence of artificial ponds built to cultivate shrimp. After an hour of walking in knee-deep mud between the farms, we reached a boat that was able to take us to the community of Bolivar.

As I sit here in this wooden hut swatting flies and dripping with sweat, I listen to the local women discuss the loss of their livelihood as *concheras* (collectors of shellfish). The loss is the result of the shrimp aquaculture which has come with bulldozers, clearcutting hectares and hectares of mangrove forest. Cemeteries have even been dug up for shrimp production.

The women's weathered hands and faces are outward signs of a daily struggle that few in the North can relate to. This is a livelihood that has been destroyed by our consumption. Here in Ecuador, like so many other developing countries with tropical coastlines, the shrimp industry has arrived and expanded, wreaking havoc ecologically, socioeconomically and culturally, using its political and economic power to ensure its expansion.

The same ponds that blocked my access to the community also block the locals daily access to the sea and to major transport routes. Not only has the destruction of the mangroves taken away their food, building materials, and the basis of a productive food chain (on which thousands of aquatic and terrestrial life forms depend), it has also disrupted the natural balance of the coast. The specialized system of stilt-like roots of mangrove trees not only have the unique ability to filter salt water, but also regulate the tide,

protect coastlines from storms, and prevent erosion.

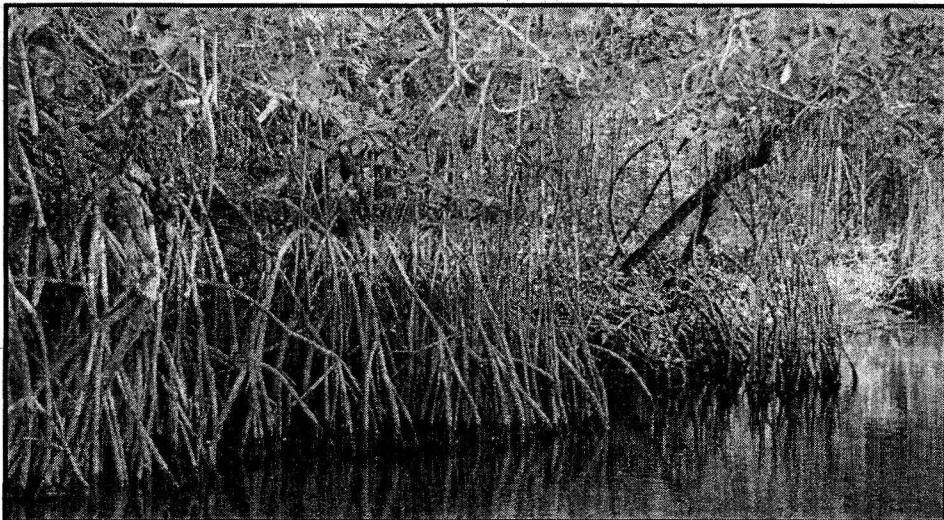
If having their primary resource destroyed and losing access to the sea is not enough, the contamination from the shrimp ponds is yet another blow to the villagers struggle to survive. These aquaculture ponds not only occupy extensive land areas but also require unbelievable consumption of water. Just as other monoculture crops are highly susceptible to disease and pest outbreaks, so is shrimp aquaculture. Farmers rely on tremendously large amounts of pesticides, antibiotics and chemicals. The contaminated water is flushed regularly, discharging concentrated chemicals, shrimp waste and excess food into the sea. Those with small agricultural plots surrounding the shrimp farms often find their land salinized by the ponds, turning once productive farmland into wasteland and leaving groundwater undrinkable.

Meanwhile, we in the North sit back, munching on our shrimp, completely unaware that we cause the problem. Each time we consume shrimp, we not only accept this exploitation, but approve. I don't think I can sum up my feelings any better than the community activist from India, Jacob Raj, who said, "It is a brutal process by which the

protein is extracted from the poor people and the land which is owned by the poor people, and this extraction is to feed the bloated stomachs of the rich. This is certainly a violation of the right to life."

But I am here among these barefoot, partially dressed, malnourished children thinking how easy it is to not eat shrimp. Being in these communities, talking with the people, witnessing their struggle, seeing the powers that they are up against and the extensiveness of the shrimp farms (the ponds stretch as far as my eye can see in what was once mangrove forest) has frustrated me. I am angry that these people, equal to you and I and deserving of the same basic rights, have their lives in jeopardy because of money. I hope people still have enough of a conscience to educate themselves and to act. As one local fisherman put it, "Each shrimp is a teardrop that belongs to one of us. That is how much we have suffered."

I ask each and every one of you to fight against Goliath. The problem is on your table. The solution is in your hands. Shrimp comes from destructive, exploitative operations in developing countries. Don't eat shrimp, don't buy shrimp, don't sell shrimp.



Mangrove swamp forest, prime shrimp habitat

Photo by Michael and Patricia Fogden

## Fishworkers in India Killed by Police for Resisting Aquaculture

In late May, four fisherpeople were killed and 13 injured as police opened fire against fishworkers who had returned to their villages after participating in an anti-prawn action organized by the labor group "Chilika Matsyajibi Mahasangh."

The disparity between rich government-supported shrimp farms and poor fisherpeople in Chilika has been a problem for some time. There is a strong movement, supported by the National Fishworkers Forum and the World Forum of Fish Harvesters, which has steadfastly resisted aquaculture. The local people resist aquaculture because it destroys both their livelihoods and their environment.

Chilika lake, the largest brackish water lake in India, has been used for aquaculture by the local Mafia for years, with the support of local politicians. A Supreme Court judgment in 1996 banned all aquaculture within 1000 meters of the lake and within the coastal zone. The court ordered the demolition of numerous shrimp farms. However, the local government in Orissa has challenged the ruling, so the shrimping continues.

The fishworkers organization, supported by the Supreme Court decision, gave a 24-hour ultimatum to all the prawn farms. The ultimatum lapsed on May 29, and the workers destroyed 11 illegal prawn farms!

Police raided the fishworker's village that night. They mercilessly beat villagers, threw tear gas shells, and fired their weapons without provocation.

During a demonstration on June 5, fishworkers sat on the rail lines at Rambha, Khallikote, Bhusandapur and other stations stopping traffic for 12 hours. At the Bhubaneswar station, 600 women carrying their children stopped the Chennai-Howrah Koromandal Express. Eight trains were canceled.

In the capital, Bhubaneswar, the demonstration was totally successful. Thousands of fishworkers from Chilika and adjacent areas made a human wall in the city, and vehicular traffic was totally shutdown. Shops closed, and office workers left their jobs. Police arrested 2,000 people.

Twenty-five thousand fisherpeople blockaded the main approach road to the Orissa State Capitol on July 2. During the protest, a delegation of workers held talks with the chief minister who reassured the leaders that all aquaculture will be banned in Chilika.

The struggle against industrial aquaculture must continue. To contact the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fishworkers write to NAMP Velankanny, Junction, Valiathura, Thiruvananthapuram 695 008, India; +91-471-50 1376; www.south-asian-initiative.org/wff.

## BARE BONES

Weyerhaeuser Buys MacMillan Bloedel

Weyerhaeuser Inc. recently announced that it has agreed to acquire MacMillan Bloedel Ltd., one of the largest forestry companies in Western Canada, in a deal valued at over \$2.45 billion.

Weyerhaeuser would become the largest producer of softwood lumber and pulp in the world if the deal is accepted by shareholders and regulators. The company employs 35,000 employees in North America, with 5,900 of them in Canada. MacMillan Bloedel, based in Vancouver, Canada, employs 9,500 in North America. Weyerhaeuser's chairman, Steve Rogel, described it as "an excellent, strategic combination."

British Columbia's nationalistic New Democratic Party government, which controls the province's forest resources, could fight the takeover; it has done so in the past.

Spotted Owls Declining Twice as Fast

In a lawsuit filed June 30 in Seattle, the Native Forest Council, Earth Island Institute and Friends of the Brienbush Cascades charged that the federal government's five-year-old forest management plan has failed to stop the decline of the Northern spotted owl. The lawsuit claims that the endangered birds are disappearing twice as fast today as they were before the Northwest Forest Plan went into effect.

Using the government's own 1999 spotted owl study as ammunition, the suit declared the entire forest plan ineffective and demanded a halt to all national forest timber sales.

Within 16 study areas, nowhere has the population increased significantly, and in many places it has dropped sharply.

Forged by President Clinton in 1993, the forest plan sought to set aside enough old-growth forest to halt the decline of the owl, while still providing enough timber to fuel rural economies and keep mills running. The lawsuit charges that federal agencies exploit "loopholes" in the plan to sell more timber. Forest Service officials would not comment on the lawsuit.

Ward Valley Victory, but It's Not Over

The fight to stop the radioactive waste dump proposed for Ward Valley is a step closer to victory. California Governor Gray Davis has just announced that the state will not appeal the US District Court decision to postpone approval of the proposed dump. The governor also announced the formation of a panel to look at alternatives, but the panel is to be headed by a nuclear waste generator employee.

Despite press reports announcing the dump proposal is over, it's not! Governor Davis still refuses to withdraw the state's application to the US Interior Department requesting the valley for the dump. The governor continues to violate environmental justice and keep alive a dump proposal that threatens to contaminate Indian land and the Colorado River, a water source for 22 million people.

Call the governor today and demand the dump be stopped, phone/fax (916) 445-2841. Contact Save Ward Valley at 107 F St., Needles, CA 92363; (760) 326-6267; fax 326-6268; www.shundahai.org.



# ANCIENT FOREST RESCUE AND COALITION TO STOP VAIL, LOCKDOWN FOR THE LYNX



Opie, comfy, rested and ready to stop the bad guys.

photo courtesy of Shingap

continued from the front page

EF!er Opie locked to the upside-down van in one of the most amazing roadblocks ever constructed. The newly expanded Cat III Free State erupted in jubilation! But unfortunately, it was short lived.

Early the next morning, 38 Freddie's and police officers dressed in full camouflage, with flack jackets and bullet-proof vests, raided the Free State. A closure was immediately thrown on the area and seven people were arrested. Among the arrestees was Brian Hansen, a journalist with the *Colorado Daily*. Rosmarino and Wolf, locked with "black bears" to the cherry picker and the truck, were painstakingly sawed free by the local fire department and arrested for blocking a public road and violating a closure order. Three hours

later, Jeff Berman was removed from the tripod and arrested. Two others were also arrested for refusing to leave their friend's sides.

The front side of the Cat III Free State had been dismantled, but the spirit of resistance and the batmobile still faced the weary band of camouflage wanna-be soldiers. The batmobile was a chore to dismantle and our hero Opie maintained his lockdown position until the end. First the United States Fascist Service and the sheriff's deputies were called in. Next, the fire department arrived on the scene in their high tech and oh-so-pricy Hummer, bringing with them enough power tools to

dismantle the military defenses of a small country.

Bit by bit they took the car apart and jack-hammered the concrete "dragon" until they got to Opie's hand. Eight hours later, Opie was finally removed and arrested.

The fight to save the Two Elk Roadless area has just begun. Few wars have ever been won in one battle. This is the war against corporate destruction of our precious wildlands, and we will not be dissuaded. There is an entire summer of protests and actions planned.

Through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), it was learned that VA tried to cut a sleazy deal with the Colorado Division of Wildlife recently asking for a *quid pro quo* agreement, whereby VA would pay \$200,000 towards lynx reintroduction in Southern Colorado if they were released from

all further obligations to protect lynx habitat in the Vail area. This documented proof of the incestuous relationship between Vail and our government agencies has only served to strengthen our resolve to stop the Category III expansion dead in its tracks.

Cat III expansion is a perfect example of corporate greed overrunning our democratic process and destroying our last remaining wildlands and imperiled wildlife. Cat III is home to 72 species of mammals, 202 species of birds, and five species of amphibians. It is also one of the most important tracts of land for the imperiled lynx in the Southern Rockies. The US Fish and Wildlife Services own biologists believe that Vail's expansion could lead to the "ultimate extirpation of the lynx" in the Southern Rockies, yet DC bureaucrats insisted upon pushing forward with the expansion.

Throughout the planning process for this expansion, government agencies have insisted that the lynx has not been seen in the Vail area since 1973, but new FOIAed documents reveal that the lynx was spotted by wildlife biologists in Cat III as recently as 1992, and DNA samples taken from collected hair tested positive for lynx.

We cannot allow VA to destroy the most critical lynx habitat in the Southern Rockies just because they have enough money to buy off government officials. As Ed Abbey once said, "At some point in time we must draw a line in the sand and say, 'Thus far and no further.'" Now is such a time.

To find out more, contact the Coalition to Stop Vail at POB 3155, Boulder, CO 80307; (303) 545-6203; stopcat3@earthnet.net.; www.stopvail.net.

## TAYLOR RANCH — ACTIVISTS AND LOGGERS MAKE FRIENDS

BY RED AT ROCKSTARR

We entered Taylor Ranch in the cool early morning with lockboxes. Two full trailers of scalped logs provided us with action; people quickly locked down. The first reactions by the loggers and drivers were violent and aggressive but we immediately began dialog. It was the first of many hours of frank and honest communications with those who make their living in the logging industry.

We discovered that we were little fish attacking other little fish in our outrage towards what has been done to this land.

Emotions escalated and de-escalated. More and more forest workers came on the scene and, with each, we discussed our issues, their issues and other human activities, such as football, boating and Twister. Law enforcement officers used pain compliance holds and other illegal maneuvers, catching the loggers between a hesitant sympathy for our situation and the prospect of job loss. With six activists hauled away violently, the rest of us had many hours in the hot sunshine,



You can see for miles from up here

photo by Karen Pickett

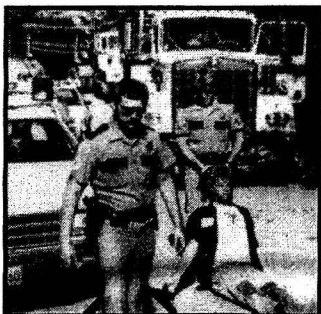
to create bonds which defied obstacles of class, gender and political beliefs.

The action culminated with a teach-in with the loggers and drivers. Emotions were mixed as we discussed the differences between targets, tactics and effectiveness. Taylor, the big boss, was far removed from the logging operation. I would have never imagined myself leaving a successful action walking out the front gate. But I did, along with all the other mass-march protesters and the lock-down group. We made an amazing connection with a segment of the populace that often doesn't see us as other small fish, other workers and other human beings.

Some loggers and drivers at the front gate smiled to activists they had connected with. I even saw one driver hug an activist whom he had assaulted early in the morning. It was the most emotional action I had ever participated in. I never imagined that a logger would see me as a person.

Everyone seemed to love it so the Journal is once again proud to present "Classic Moments In Earth First! History." This article, written by Mike Roselle, is reprinted from 15 years ago, Lughnasadh 1984.

Pyramid Creek, Oregon, July 25: There have been 37 arrests by Linn County Sheriff's deputies since we began our campaign of nonviolent interference to stop logging in the Middle Santiam. In the beginning, on May 5, six people were arrested for occupying a blasting site loaded with dynamite. They were charged with disorderly conduct and released. On June 4, 15 more people were arrested blocking a bridge over Pyramid Creek, taken to jail and charged with disorderly conduct. All except one were released without bail. Sarah Barton remained in the Linn County jail on a fast for eight days to protest the logging. She was charged with a misdemeanor and finally released without bail.



Deputy drags S. Peterson by the hair.

The July 17 blockade of a bridge across Pyramid Creek saw the

first eruption of unprovoked police violence. Protestors were dragged by the beard, hair and had their arms twisted. Seven were arrested, and two of them were released.

On July 18, the five protestors who remained in jail were taken into District Court to be arraigned but were taken back to their cells and charged with contempt of court after refusing to give their names to the judge. They have refused food since they were arrested and have also refused to cooperate with the court until all charges against them are dropped. They have been in custody for over a week at the time of this writing.

Another blockade was held on the Pyramid Creek bridge on July 23. Five were arrested for blocking traffic and charged with disorderly conduct. But, in a suprising twist, three other people were arrested on felony charges of refusing to help deputies load the arrested demonstrators into the patrol car. One of those arrested on felony charges, Paul McAdams, was a reporter for *The Alliance*, a Portland newspaper, who

cited an injured back for not toting blockaders to the paddy wagon. He and the others singled out were taken away even though there were US Forest Service and Willamette Industries employees present who could have been called upon to assist the deputies. It was later revealed that this sleazy scheme was planned in advance by the district attorney and sheriff's department.

Police brutality, trumped-up felony charges, harassment of the media, and clumsy attempts to arrest those considered to be "leaders" are just a few of the Nazi-style tactics being used by Linn County Sheriff's deputies and the Forest Service to break the spirit of this campaign. But to no avail! Never has our commitment been stronger to see this struggle through to a successful conclusion. We will not be intimidated nor will we rest in our efforts to save the great forests of the Pacific Northwest.

For the rest of the story and other interesting history, send \$4 for a back issue; \$400 for all we got.



Deputy on his ass in the dirt after Peterson's hair pulls out.

**EARTH FIRST!**  
LUGHNASADH EDITION  
August 1, 1984 Vol. IV, No. VIII  
THE NO-COMPROMISE ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL ONE DOLLAR

**BLOCKADERS ROUGHED UP  
IN MIDDLE SANTIAM**

# feral

Welcome to a special "blankwall" edition of *feral: a journal towards wildness*. We are a new magazine coming from a biocentric and anarchistic perspective. Our hope is to create a new venue for open dialogue to further the biocentric and anarchist movements in both theory and practice; we are trying to create a path (or many paths) to defend the present wilderness and find the wild side of humans. Since we are new, all the costs of this project come out of mine and my co-editor's pockets, so if you find the ideas expressed in this blankwall intriguing please contact us.

Co-editor  
Chris Kortright

## Born Caged

by Anonymous

I was born in prison. I grew up in prison. Except for brief escapes I have been incarcerated my entire life. This shapes how I think and act. I am so accustomed to my impoverished conditions that I often forget that I am a prisoner. I will never truly know what I have lost. Nor will you.

The function of the prison system is often described in the conservative moralistic terms of "punishment" or in the more liberal (but currently laughable) ideas of "rehabilitation." Don't be fooled. The purpose of prisons is a political one: to maintain order through force. People are isolated from one another and from their community and placed in an artificial environment where every moment and every detail is about exercising control over the individual. Cops, courts and jails seek only one thing and it is not justice, it is obedience.

We are all subjected to a military model of discipline. This is to be expected in a society that embraced the factory with its intrinsic need for time regimentation, compartmentalization and crushing of worker autonomy. Military-style obedience is cultivated by indoctrination (schooling), removal from one's community (the natural world), imposition of authority (teachers, landlords, bosses, police) and finally the threat of leg-irons and the brig. Prison is merely the last stop for the rebel, the non-conformer, the dissatisfied and broken souls in a chain of authoritarian, prison-like settings.

By establishing Indian reservations under the watchful eye of the military, the US government created a type of minimum-security prison with the purpose of isolating and controlling entire populations. ("Domesticating the wild Indian" and thus clearing the way for domesticating the land.) There were no attempts to justify this confinement with the rhetoric of crime and punishment. The European mindset, hell-bent on exerting control and order over the landscape, was too self-consumed to bother much with justifications, unless to shroud government policies in the mutterings of benevolent paternalism. By severing their relationship with the land and by forced schooling of their children, government policy attempted to assimilate the rich diversity of Native cultures into the increasingly bland American melting-pot with the single-mindedness of the Borg on Star Trek.

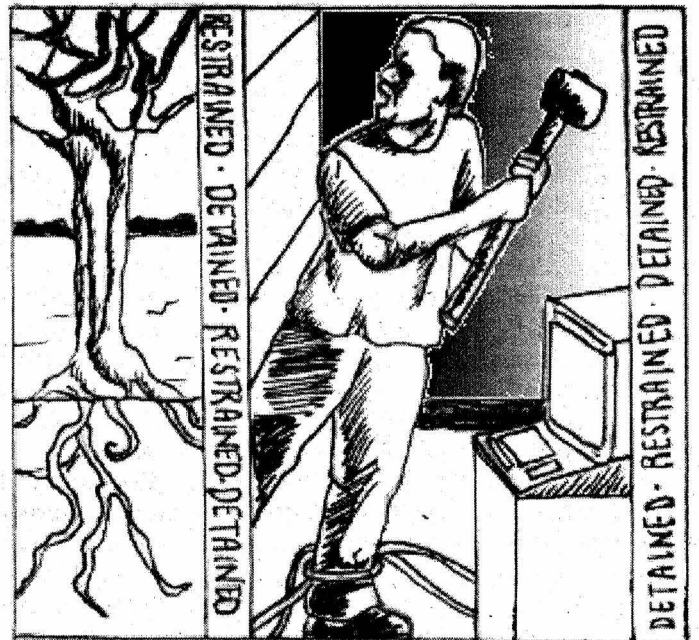
Eventually the colonizers entrap themselves in their systems of oppression. The cities and later the suburbs become cages teeming with humanity but devoid of relationships with other beings. We become isolated from the larger biological community, separated from the natural world which gives context to all that humans do. Prepackaged entertainment designed for individual consumption replaces social events that build community (e.g., kitchen dances, contra dances, barn raisings, festivals community sings). Technology increasingly mediates interactions amongst people and interactions between humans and the natural world. We are trapped in ever more constricting spheres of aloneness, narcissism and pacification.

I first became aware of my status as a prisoner in high school. Subjected to thousands of hours of confinement, sitting at a desk, monitored and surrounded by walls, my compulsion to escape grew uncontrollable like wildfire. I forged countless passes (the administration must have believed that I was a very sickly child) and then I would walk along the still-wild streambanks. I began to sense that if school was prison, then my suburban neighborhood was the prison yard, part of the controlled environment. My rambling walks gave me a taste of freedom, a taste of my kinship with critters other than leashed dogs, potted plants and manicured lawns. But I returned to my domesticated life like a dog who escapes for a run around the neighborhood but comes back when the belly grows hungry. All those years of education hadn't given me any skills for living outdoors.

There are one-and-a-half million Americans behind bars and razor wire. This is the first clue that our society is oriented around incarceration. But each one of us leads a life of imprisonment where schooling is essentially mandatory, followed by compulsory labor in adulthood. This expansive penal colony maintains order in three ways.

First, various levels of confinement have been established. People who don't

a journal towards wildness



follow the rules are stripped of their limited freedoms and moved to a more restrictive institution. Supermax facilities and "the hole" are no more than small concrete boxes, no more than eight corners. A medium security installation allows contact with other prisoners and occasionally with the sun and the wind. A minimum-security installation might even allow contact with plants and soil through landscaping duty or a roadside clean-up crew. Cities allow free association amongst humans and pigeons. Suburbs have fuzziest boundaries where wildness creeps in despite all the pruning, the herbicides and the roadkill.

The second method of maintaining order is by providing limitless distractions. TV is the great pacifier within the prison walls. At decreasing levels of confinement, more associations are permitted but more distractions also exist. The plethora of hobbies, toys, videos, techno-gadgets and consumer junk grows logarithmically with each holiday season.

The third method of maintaining order is by denying prisoners the skills, the means and the attitudes necessary to successfully live outside, so that they will end up back inside. The systems of confinement are thereby perpetuated but without appearing to be overly repressive. Prisoners seem to end up back in prison because of their own desires or shortcomings. This is true for inmates released from prison and equally for each one of us wanting to be released from the grip of techno-industrial society. (Observe the difficulty that even seasoned Earth First!ers experience camping away from vehicles, sleeping outside of tents, venturing away from the campfire, foraging food, exploring the night. How many of us have actually spent an entire season or two in the Big Outside?)

Although all cultures have well-defined social norms that constrain freedom, no other culture has so effectively and drastically isolated its members in a realm of human artifacts, built environment and self-referential lore.

For over half a millennium in the Americas, both colonizers and colonized have

*continued on page 4*

### MISSION STATEMENT

**feral** is a quarterly magazine dedicated to the expansion of *biocentric* and *anarchistic* theory and practice. **feral** promotes *wildness* in all species including humans.

**Biocentrism:** The belief that all living things (including humans) exist for themselves; that they should live and flourish without interference and domination by the human race. A biocentric outlook searches for the wildness in everyone and fights for the tamed and enslaved to go free and feral...

**Anarchy:** Opposition to all forms of institutionalized authority (including domination of the natural world). Promotion of a society based on mutual aid and self-sufficiency. **feral** will not let its discussions and dialogues be hindered by any "isms." We are dedicated to advancing the theories and practice of biocentrism, anarchy and just about anything intriguing; we must break the boundaries of ideology. We move beyond industrialism, reform environmentalism and Marxist-based leftism to explore ideas and communities that bring us closer to a feral (re-wild) existence. Our definitions of both anarchy and biocentrism are vague to enhance diversity, because in thought as in the natural world, diversity is healthier than monoculture.

### SUBMISSIONS:

**feral** accepts essays, poetry, art, fiction, photos, rants, letters, etc. Submissions can either come typed or by e-mail. Submissions may be edited but by giving us contact information we will work with you on the edits. If you want confirmation on whether your piece will be used please send us a self-addressed and stamped envelope. All authors will receive a complimentary copy of the issue in which they appear.

### UPCOMING THEMES:

**feral** #3 will focus on *future visions*; we are looking to explore the different outlooks we all have for the coming years. **feral** #4 will dive into the tantalizing world of *wild sex!*

Use your imagination and join us for a great issue.

**feral:** POB 321, 530 Divisadero SF, CA 94117 [highwater@hotmail.com](mailto:highwater@hotmail.com)

# Biocentrism as a Moral Imperative

by James A. Barnes

Biocentrism: In a way it's a misnomer. If the Christian God of the Middle Ages is dead, and we postmoderns have deemed it unseemly and egomaniacal to place Man at the center of the universe as the pinnacle of evolution, then perhaps it is fitting to eschew ideologies that must place anything at the center at all. Nevertheless, biocentrism remains a more subtle philosophy that accords all living species and (why not?) material creation an equality in existence that we humans have no moral right to trample.

Whatever your beliefs regarding the origins of life and the world, it is obvious that we did not make the creation; therefore simple courtesy demands that it is not ours to destroy. And yet apologists for destruction of the biosphere have long appealed to human consciousness and awareness of self as an excuse for thoughtless abuse of that which is non-self and/or (it is assumed) nonsentient. Again, as the biblical prescription of dominion over the earth has waned in its usefulness along with the Church, this modern, humanist justification for rotten treatment of other living things—the fact that we have big brains—replaced it. Clearly we have here a desire to commit dirty deeds in search of a rationale to make it OK.

Yet self-awareness ought to lead to reflection and mindfulness, not merely serve as a tool for the satisfaction of greed and other lusts. Mind you, greed is good—not in the Randian sense, but as one of a number of base desires that serve as stimuli for an organism's self-sustaining activities, to obtain food, shelter, mates etc. As such, human self-awareness, communication and culture have served us very well indeed. But as anyone knows who has found themselves battling a weight problem, an addiction, or perhaps even the sociopathic effects of overweening ambition, the ability to endlessly satisfy desire creates often more intractable problems than privation.

Where external controls and limits to our desires have been defeated, as is the case for many of us in the rich parts of the world, internal self-control becomes necessary. We are in many ways in a situation comparable to that of an absolute monarch. And being kings, there is no one who will dare to contradict our will or refuse us our most unworthy command. Armies of merchants and servants stand ready to provide us with meaty treats and tasty snacks; the garment industry, whose slaves toil in the most wretched places on earth, presents us with colorful and ever-changing fashions. The most beautiful vistas and rare, unspoiled lands are available for us to build our clean, warm and well-appointed mansions; and miraculous, blinking gizmos and whirring appliances enrich our lives with entertainment and uncomplaining labor. Of course, to achieve these comforts whole nations have had to be put to the sword and whole ecosystems cut, plowed, paved, graded, mined, burned and otherwise converted. And yet we still do not, like the mad tyrant or even a burger-chomping frat boy, foresee the day when the consequences of our excess come home to roost.

The human strategy of evolving maximal flexibility of behavior coupled with maximal problem-solving ability has led us to an unparalleled success—so far. But this flexibility demands from us responsibility, something not asked of creatures who are naturally bounded by limits of competition, behavior or other adaptations. Having self-conscious awareness of one's actions must include the ability to prevent over-saturation of desires, overabundance of one's kind, overuse of the resources upon which one depends and wisdom to practice mercy and respect for other species we might easily destroy. Being relatively unconstrained, we must use our free minds to better foster that which is truly in our long-term best interest. Our genes and our base instincts cannot do this. Since we are capable of foreseeing the consequences of our actions (even if we are often in denial about them), we must exercise ourselves to render those consequences beneficial to all existence.

And why should we do this? To satisfy our own conscience, our ethical sense, our feelings of self-esteem, worth, and right and wrong. A moral compass, culturally determined and imprinted while young, is the only way to a human sensibility of self-control and restraint. Nature may kill us for our acts but it cannot care what we do. Each species that we wipe out or river we destroy regards its extinction with the equanimity of the unaware.

We are free to be as horrible as we like to the biosphere, even to the point of self destruction, just as a person is free to drink themselves to death if they want. Yet a drunk is not free in this society to drive under the influence or otherwise harm innocent people. Likewise, we should not grant humans the right to destroy other species in the course of our folly. The difference is that our non-human victims do not complain, as though drunks were licensed to mow down pedestrians and slaughter other drivers on their way to their own high-speed encounter with destiny. We have to police ourselves.

con't on page 4



One of the last photographs of the Ona of Tierra del Fuego, a now extinct tribe of hunters and gatherers

# The Question of Ideology

by Chris Kortright

What role does ideology play on our path of resistance? This is an important question for the longevity and fluidity of our community (community being larger than EF!, all encompassing the resist to industrialism.) The ideologues on every side will explain that we need a coherent dialectic to follow and that ideology plays an important role in creating a "revolutionary" platform for us to move forward. But is this true? Can insurrection come from external ideas or does it need to come from within us as individuals and our personal connection to the wild.

Can ideology fit into a wild insurrection? To answer this question we must define ideology. Ideology is false consciousness. It doesn't come from within us. It comes from someone else; an idea created from their experience then given to us as a mold. There are many forms of ideology, fitting into every aspect of our lives: capitalism, communism, atheism, theism, humanism, rationalism, in the orthodox branch anarchism and in academic biocentrism. All of these were created outside of us as individuals centering the world outside of our personal experiences.

Because ideology doesn't come from within us, we cannot fully experience or define it in our own words. Often you hear statements like "Marxism says..." or "Biocentrism says..." and "The Bible states...", instead of "I feel..." or "I think..." These external ideas can not be fluid because they are already established in one form or another as "legitimate thought." They are used to justify our actions and ideas. Because we don't trust our own ideas, experiences and desires, we must make them valid by fitting them into an external box of thought. It is because we must fit into this box instead of letting our ideas stand on their own, that ideology becomes rigid and dogmatic. We do not have the ability to change and evolve with ideology because it is not ours. We are a part of it instead of it being a part of us.

This is not to say that the ideologies out there don't have some good ideas mixed up with their dogma. Almost all ideologies can teach us something. They have ideas that can expand our individual understanding of the world. But the important thing is to take these ideas when they fit in with our personal understanding of life and expand them to fit our personal world view. The same goes with sighting individual authors. There is a level of comradery and strength in agreement as long as this agreement is personal. To say "I agree with John Zerzan when he says..." or "I feel that Kirkpatrick Sale made a good point when he wrote..." This is personal, to take a personal idea from a conversation or article we read and apply it to our personal understanding. This strengthens and supports our ideas while keeping them ours. But ideologies such as "biocentrism" or "Marxism" are not individuals. They are abstract ideas. To sight these as "legitimate sources" instead of individuals as personal sources, you keep the dialogue in academic realms instead of personal everyday life.

## Ideology's Effect on Action

If our ideas become rigid and dogmatic in the midst of ideology, what happens to our actions? I answer that our actions become stagnant and ineffective. Factionalizing happens quickly as vicious and ugly fights break out over "moral, correct and right tactics." Just as with our ideas, when we cling to ideology to justify our actions they become rigid and do not flow and evolve as is necessary to be effective.

As long as EF! has existed, there has been an ideological split that has been battling under the guise of "strategy." It again has resurfaced in the last few issues of this paper in the wake of the Vail arson. Will this disagreement ever be resolved? No, not unless each ideological faction splits into its own ideological movement. Or we, as a resistance community, abandon ideological thinking and ideologically-driven actions. The debate of sabotage vs civil disobedience is *not* a strategic debate; it is a ideological/moralistic debate, thus not leaving room for diversity within the community of resistance.

I am not asking "why can't we all just get along?" I understand that there are differences of opinion and I, myself, have very strong feeling on this topic. My opinion is based on my personal experiences, desires and view of efficiency instead of ideology or an external moralism. Because this is *my* understanding and what is right for *me*, I do not judge others (or try not to) for what is best for them based on their experiences and desires. By bringing the debate out of the ideological realm into the practical and personal realm we can have authentic discussions on effectiveness and personal experiences leaving room for our differences.

## Wild Self-theory

If ideology is destructive for our community of resistance, where should we place our ideas? We need to form self-theory based in our own wildness and our personal connection to the wild we have experienced. I do not have the same connections to the wild as my friends who are "desert rats." They prefer hot and dry climates, backpacking in the desert, sage brush and cactus. Just the same they cannot know my connection to the ocean, sharks, sea gulls and raccoons. We respect and understand each other's desire for a free and wild nature and experience. But we can not fully understand each others emotional and personal base connection to the wild.

By creating an ideology around such a personal connection and emotion we sterilize and smother these wild desires, emotions and experiences. Our ideas cannot be presented in any way but thousands of individual ideas networked for a common goal; a wild and free world. Anything short of this is a disgrace to our wild visions and the diverse wildernesses we love and defend.

If we create a resistance community based on a network of self-theorists instead of ideologues and slogans, our actions will be more compatible and more productive. If the ideological lines have been brought down, we can accept each other's actions as driven by our self-theory and desires thus is correct for our individual part of the larger community of resistance. This respect and understanding will help to create a more encompassing and tolerant community towards the diverse tactical choices individuals make. Another strength that will come from actions driven by the desires of individuals and collectives is raw passion. Not to say that this passion is not already there but many individuals feel they need to fit into one "box of

con't on page 4

# How Do We Go Wild: unfinished notes to be discussed and acted upon

by Wolfi Landstreicher

The destruction of civilization - the network of relationships encompassing the state, economy, technology, religion, the family, all forms of authority and control - the overturning of domestication - for me, these are revolutionary aims, guidelines towards a way of living in insurrection against the present. Though expressed negatively, there is a positive vision behind this negation. This positive vision can be spoken of in terms of "wildness." But wildness - especially as an aim for individuals to achieve in revolt against domestication and civilization - is an unknown quality. As an anarchist, I am glad about this. There can be no experts in human wildness, no leaders to take us there (not even the comrade who has lived in the forest for the last fifteen years, viewing it through such civilized ideological lenses as "Nature", "Mother Earth", "the circle of Life", even "wilderness" or "ecological balance" and seeing himself as the judge of who does or does not know "wildness".) For anyone who can read this and are thus clearly civilized beings, wildness is a concept, an idea, which can inspire revolt; but this potential to inspire revolt does not spring from and answer this idea may seem to provide (like any liberatory idea which has not slipped into ideology, it provides no answers) but from the questions it raises, the problems it opens up.

Our exploration of the question of human wildness can, of course, include the examination of what we know about non-civilized people and how they have lived, with the realization that all such knowledge has been filtered through such scientific lenses of civilization as anthropology and paleontology. We must avoid delusions of imitating or "going back to" the way of life of these people. Even if we chose to attempt such an imitation, it would be an imitation of the static image of such a people presented to us by our civilized lenses, rather than a re-living of the dynamic of real natural-social relationships of these people. What is best learned from the examination of anthropological studies of uncivilized people is that people have been able to live and live well without all the supposed conveniences provided by the complex of social and technological systems that is civilization. But again such a realization, free of any ideological frame work, does not provide answers, but raises questions demanding experimentation and courageous exploration of possibilities. I emphasize this repeatedly, because too often the rhetoric of anti-civilization anarchists is full of asceticism and a morality of sacrifice, whereas I see the revolt against civilization to be precisely a revolt against the asceticism imposed by the

institutions of civilization, a revolt against the channeling of desire into production and social reproduction. Within our milieu, there have already been many good explorations of what uncivilized cultures might mean to us. I would rather explore what "going wild" might mean as an insurrectionary practice in the present.

One thing to be learned by the examination of anthropology, history and a careful look at our present is that human beings are extremely variable and adaptable creatures. To speak of a "human nature" in light of what we know of human relations with each other and with the world around us seems absurd. Human beings seem to have few - if any - instincts, and these few, if they exist at all, seem to involve taking the path of least resistance. If this is the case, then "going wild" may well require overcoming our instincts. But the level of variability and adaptability in human beings, indicates that individuals are capable of such an overcoming. The apparent lack of a specific human nature is what allowed human beings to be domesticated, to become civilized beings, but it also opens up the possibility of revolt against this condition, a revolt which could destroy this condition and transform us into something new - because the experiences that we have had as civilized beings would not simply disappear, but would affect what we become. A post-civilization "wildness" would thus not be a return to a pre-civilized past, but an exploration of new ways of relating to the world around us free of the limits imposed by civilization. It's full significance would only be understood at the moment it is created and would change from moment to moment as it is recreated in the dynamic flow of interactions that is the world, especially in it's wildness.

All of this may seem abstract. After all, for the civilized individual, wildness is an abstract concept. It will remain no more than this until one is inspired by this idea - not as an ideal above oneself, but as a conception of how to create one's own freedom - to rise up in active rebellion against their own domestication and against all of the institutions of civilization which impose this domestication. The individual who has been so inspired develops a ferocity similar to that found in many feral creatures - formerly domesticated animals who have gone wild - but the human individual can direct this ferocity at precise targets in a willful insurgence against recognized sources

## NED LUDD WAS RIGHT!

**The machine IS the enemy.  
Smash it without mercy!**

Don't tell me technology is neutral. Every day I wander this city, and every day machines flash lights trying to tell me what to do. Huge tarmac pathways cross my way, upon which gigantic, speeding metal machines move, machines capable of killing me if I cross their path and already slowly suffocating me with their toxic fumes which fill the air.

**WHY SHOULD I TOLERATE THIS INSANITY?  
NED LUDD WAS RIGHT!  
The machine is the enemy.  
SMASH IT WITHOUT MERCY!**

Around me stand tall buildings, - ugly monstrosities of steel and glass and concrete, overpowering in their hugeness and sterility. I dream of them as ruins being eaten by a forest. But for now, these structures - the products of machines - house other machines. Machines on which the lies by which society defines my life - and the lives of everyone - are recorded, and which, with electronic blips and flashes, can transmute the lies and so control our lives.

**I WANT TO SMASH THE LIES!  
NED LUDD WAS RIGHT!  
The machine is the enemy.  
SMASH IT WITHOUT MERCY!!**

And all of this did not appear from nowhere. The roads, the cars, the traffic lights, the skyscrapers, the computers could not exist if, every day, the lives of millions were not eaten up by the factories. Machines control their daily activity, determining their movements, eating up their time, to produce more machines. Their only respite comes when the machines which control them break down - or when they break them down. Then for a moment, they are not machines. Don't tell me technology is neutral - I'm not blind enough to buy that one!

**NED LUDD WAS RIGHT!  
The machine is the enemy.  
SMASH IT WITHOUT MERCY!!**

Can't you see? Each little machine - each car, each computer, each factory, each worker - is not a separate entity, a mere individual tool. NO! They are all cogs in one vast machine, the machine of social reproduction - and if we let them be, we too are cogs, the gears that manufacture society. Will you be a mere cog, a gear, a tool of social order?

**TO HELL WITH THE SOCIAL ORDER AND ITS PHYSICAL BODY: TECHNOLOGY!  
NED LUDD WAS RIGHT!  
THE MACHINE IS THE ENEMY!  
SMASH IT TO POWDER WITHOUT A GRAIN OF MERCY!!!!**

And from the dust, a billion flowers bloom.

con't from page 2

## Question of Ideology

thought" or the other. By expanding the freedom to tactics that we desire in the natural world, individuals will act from the heart. When an action comes from the heart one puts all their effort (and hopefully their intelligence) into the form of resistance they choose.

I live in San Francisco, California, I have chosen not to participate in the Headwaters campaign because of our differences of opinion regarding tactics and participation with authorities. If the individuals engaging in this campaign have chosen this path I cannot tell them they are "wrong." I will engage in dialogue with them, share my ideas and perspective and hear theirs. Since we do not have the same desires regarding tactics. I chose not to work on their campaign, with respect, because the goal to protect the redwoods I un-

derstand. Instead of fighting with them about our differences I found a few individuals with similar desires towards tactics and I work with them. We fight a similar battle on a different front.

Let us tear down the walls of ideology, free our minds and desires towards authentic resistance. For if we are fighting for a wild and free world, free beings interacting and experiencing each other we can not build this world with rules and rigid thought. So, while each of us is fighting to free animals and the land itself, let's remember to also free our desires and our own wildness. Think for yourself and act, but most importantly think while you act!

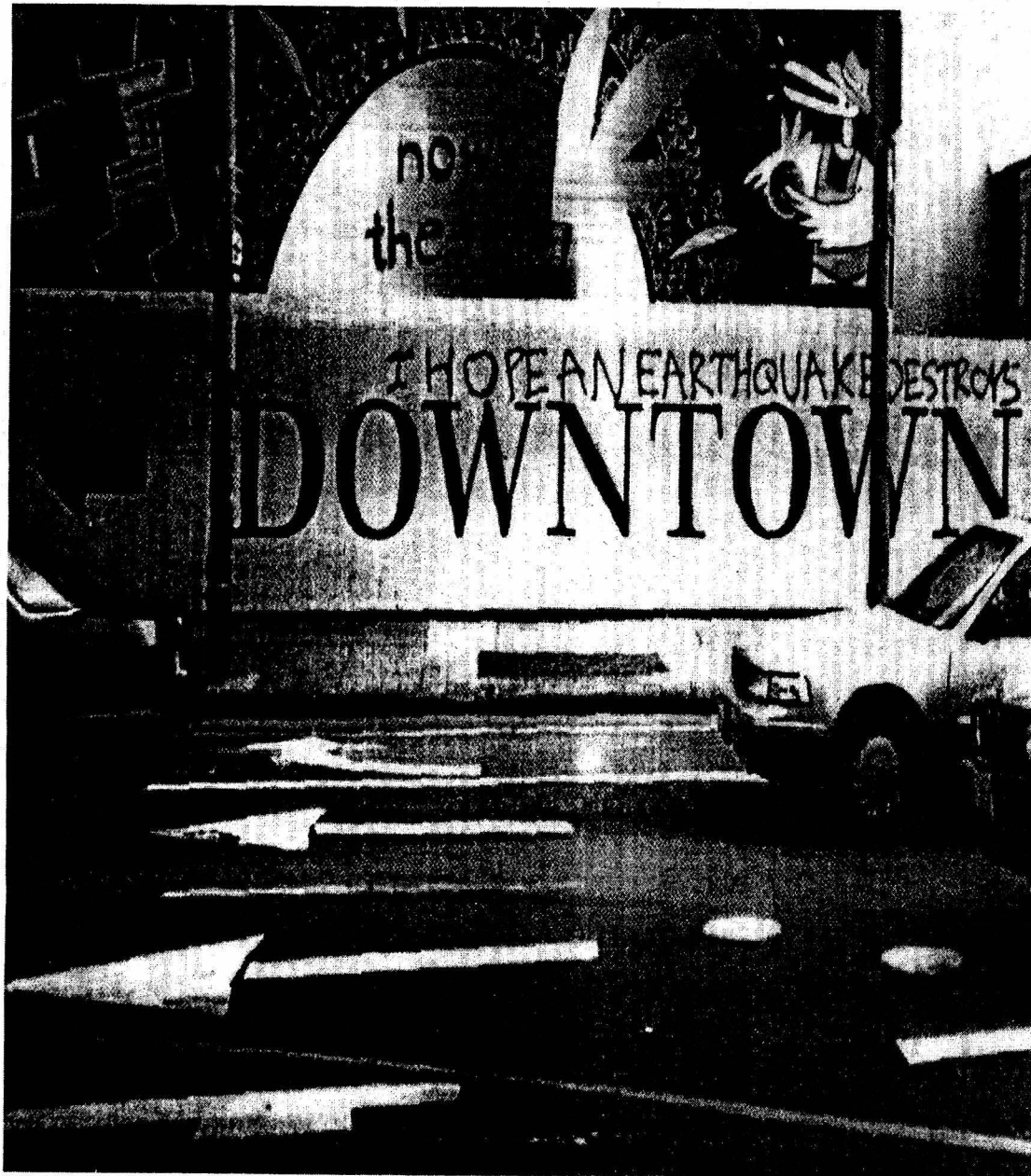
## Born Caged

con't from page 1

been removed farther and farther from the living landscape into more controlled settings. During each one of those 500 plus years, the roads have been pushed deeper into the wilderness, the fences have grown more numerous, the land itself has become more imprisoned in human designs that drain away its diversity and vitality.

I do not wish to belittle the horrid conditions facing those who have been confined to a far greater degree than I, who suffer not just spiritual deprivation but daily psychological brutality. Rather, I want to acknowledge our affinity with those who are spending months, years, lifetimes in a hell composed of nothing but concrete and steel. Supporting prisoner struggles is important work for biocentric anarchists.

We are all in the same sinking oil tanker. Some of us have been confined below decks, while others have free roam of the ship. But it is not where any of us belongs. Life cannot flourish here.



## How Do We Go Wild

con't from page 3

of domestication.

My point here is that for the insurgent against the totality of civilization, wildness is not an answer, not an ultimate solution that we will one day come upon, but rather a question, a problem to be wrestled with everyday. Thus, the practice of wildness must be for us a perpetual experimentation, which incorporates the willful creation of each moment of one's life for oneself and the willful rejection, through destructive action, of authority in all its forms - and thus of domestication and civilization as we know it. Such experimentation will transform us and our ways of interacting with the world around us. Within the context of civilization, this may be the best practical understanding of what wildness can mean for us.

There are no answers here - only questions. But it is by the imposition of answers that we were domesticated and by the most cruel and intense of questioning that we may overcome this and become our unique selves.

## Biocentrism as a Moral Imperative

con't from page 2

Evolution persists in reaction to environmental stimulus, even the holocaust we have created. In the redemption of natural selection, a more strange creation will come in time (and there's plenty of time) to replace the species whose lines we have truncated. But what would have been is gone, a possibility cut short. And only we humans who have knowledge of the past and can guess about the future will grieve in guilt for the lost, whom we have murdered.

As animals with supple brains and nimble hands we will busy ourselves impacting the world's ecosystems for as long as we live as a species. If we are to live as plain citizens of this world instead of mad kings whose subjects (nonhumans and oppressed people) live in fear of our whims, we must choose self-discipline.

In a democracy, all citizens are presumed to be equal under the law. Those persons elected to positions of leadership are considered servants of the people, not their rulers. Neither are they above the law; in fact they must bear more scrutiny than private citizens. In our present ascendancy, we too must take care not to abuse our position of power over the biosphere. We will not always be so strong and will have to live with our legacy.

Thus, biocentrism, that places the needs of all the world's creatures on a par with our own; that forces us to ask ourselves what our actions will do to the least of these, whose claim on life and livelihood is as great as any human's; that requires us to go without some of what we desire so that others will have anything at all; that demands the mutual respect of equals to underpin our dealings with one another; that enjoins us from committing crimes against those of different species from ourselves; that allows us to love our neighbors and fellow citizens rather than destroy them through hatred, or worse, through ignorant indifference.

**FERAL NEEDS  
YOUR SUPPORT:**

- \* Submissions
- \* Subscriptions
- \* Donations



feral: POB 321, 530 Divisadero, SF, CA  
94117 highwater@hotmail.com

# IN DEFENSE OF MISANTHROPY

BY OHM SPECKLED MOONBEAM AND PHIL WERREI

"Tales of a Recovering Misanthrope" by Anne Petermann in the June/July *EF! Journal* serves as a very illustrative example of how guilt-ridden, upper class enviros patronize and romanticize dispossessed peoples in general, and the indigenous of the world and working class in particular, to the detriment of all parties concerned.

The upper class bastions of our movement love nothing more than glorifying the "brown" peoples of the world, who, as every graduate of prestigious east coast universities knows, all live(d) in absolute harmony with nature, talking to animals and dancing around in egalitarian anarchic bliss. Likewise, they love nothing more than tossing around their antiquated Marxist notions of a revolutionary working class that hasn't existed on this continent for more than 60 years. At the same time, our fearless leaders take the silver spoon out of their mouths and with unprecedented historical audacity, try and point the blame for the global situation on all of Northern society, including the ever so shit upon working class they claim to care for so dearly.

Well guess what? Not all indigenous cultures feature(d) "a holistic perspective of oneness with the Earth" or each other. (The poster children of the woo-brained, the Maya, practiced human sacrifice, slavery and genocide up through Spanish colonization and levied incredible destruction on the land around them. In my bioregion, the Klamaths had a knack for slaughtering surrounding tribes, enslaving their women and burning their land.) Furthermore, to suggest that the culpability for global economic pillage rests equally on the shoulders of all Northern society is a tremendous crime against truth and is remarkably indicative of the lack of class analysis in our movement.

A blatant example of how far removed upper class tree huggers are from the realities of the working class in this nation, much less any other, is seen when Petermann states, "So I am enraged when I hear the intolerant assertions that come from the middle or upper middle class activists who demand that we restrict the borders to refugees from the south." Too bad none of the guys down at the mill share her sentiments. Nor the guys on the forestry crews I've worked on. Nor the carpenters, janitors, landscapers, factory workers or any other working class people who have watched their wages drop by more than 50 percent and see a bleaker future on the horizon thanks to additional players in the already tight competition for a finite numbers of jobs. And it sure ain't the bosses of big business who are cussing "them wetback spics" and calling for the borders to be locked down. In fact, the corporations can't wait for hundreds of thousands of desperate (read: easily exploitable) workers to come into northern workplaces on the NAFTA wave. They will work for a third the money in half the conditions and help destroy the already atrophied remains of organized labor in the North. Of course, it is terribly intolerant of the working class not to be benevolent, wanting to give what little economic security we and our families have to *nuestro amigos del Sur*. The upper class people in our midst can feel righteous indignation in their tolerance about uninterrupted immigration as they sacrifice nothing in the deal. Yeah, I know, we are all hypocrites. Our relatives immigrated here (more in chains than the yuppies would like to admit) and we are unwilling to voluntarily switch positions with the thousands of refugees coming up from the economic imperialism of the South. But what the hell else can we do?

I've lived in Mexico, Chiapas, Nicaragua and El Salvador. I understand the plight of the Third World first hand. I lived, worked and slept with the very peoples the upper class heroes claim to represent, and I can honestly say that the working class in the United States is just as fucked by the bowel movements of transnational capital as any *campesinos* in

the south. Rather than blaming intangible "privileged patriarchal ruling elites" while implicitly distributing the guilt for third world oppression universally over northern society and granting a monopoly of suffering to romanticized cultures far away, perhaps we had better examine the effects of the neoliberal model on our own country, our own people and our own communities.

The cogs of global capital are tearing us apart. From the forests of southern Oregon to the jungles of Chiapas, from Flint and Youngstown, to the *Maquilas* of Sonora and Chihuahua, the forces are the same. And the victims are the same. The poor. Unlike the guilt mongering upper crust would like us to believe, the talons of neoliberalism are not actively racist. They do not deliberately seek out brown, red or yellow people to destroy out of some eugenic hatred for divergent gene pools. The forces of global capital most painfully hit the areas that are the poorest and most easily exploitable, be it *Indios* in Chiapas, hillbillies in Appalachia or Southern Oregon, factory workers in Taiwan or peasants in sub-Saharan Africa.

These victims are not so much the victims of what race they were born into, but what class. Not all Mexicans are oppressed Indians trying desperately to flee to the North. Not all Indonesians, Nigerians or Tibetans are wretched victims of genocide. It is high time for our exceedingly well educated movement to stop trying to melt complex issues of gray into tidy black and white answers that appease our own guilty white psyches. Yes, in a number of ways, race and culture are class, but to strictly focus on matters of race while ignoring the overwhelming dominance of class issues in deciding the fate of the world is to levy a discredit to us, to our suffering "comrades" and to the truth.

Rather than romanticizing the "dispossessed of the world" to the point of absurdity while simultaneously scapegoating the oppressed in one's own country, we need to see and act upon the connections we share and not allow the feel-good rhetoric of guilt ridden conciliation to drive more substantial wedges between us.

"Tales of a Recovering Misanthrope" is right about the demographics of Earth First!, but has the reasons wrong. Earth First! is indeed a movement primarily composed of upper middle class and higher white folks who are so removed from the trenches in the war for survival that they can care for trees and fuzzy bunnies. However, neither this fact, nor the fact that the movement as a whole has not reached out to minority groups, justifies the implicit accusation that the movement is racist. Rather, Earth First! has traditionally been concerned with defending the last remaining wild places of our nation, which as a matter of fact, not of choice, tend to be located in extremely rural areas. So why not extend ourselves into more environmental justice issues in cities to help colorize our movement? Because we logistically can't. We can scarcely win the issues we already work on. Not to mention, for many of us concerned with keeping ecosystems and wild areas intact, trying to preserve already annihilated urban ecosystems is fighting something of a lost cause. If this were a perfect world, it would be wonderful if Earth First! had the numbers and resources to launch successful campaigns in both rural and urban areas and could ethically raise the rainbow flag of diversity over its movement. But it can't. We are up against the fucking wall desperately trying to preserve what little of our original planet is left. Every year we watch as our tactics grow increasingly less effective and our favorite ecosystems are hauled off by truck and ship. Are we supposed to back off and allow our beloved lands to be slashed and burned because we feel guilty for being too privileged and too white? Fuck that. I am damn glad that there are a few hundred upper class white kids that can go sit in redwoods for a year and lock down to trucks and cop cars and blockade logging roads.

We should look to other movements for knowledge and experience. We should do our best to align ourselves in solidarity with movements with similar enemies. We should not allow our habits



and attitudes to alienate ourselves from other cultures and movements. But neither should we allow ourselves to get caught up in the racist pleasure of exaggerating the merits of other cultures while simultaneously beating ourselves to death in a fit of masochistic slander and guilt-ridden accusations.

And leave my misanthropy out of it. I am a misanthrope not because I hate AIDS ridden Africans or the Salvadoran *campesino*, but because I see my species, myself and my family included, as one that has been permitted to expand far beyond its means for sustainable survival within an intact ecosystem. My misanthropy comes not from an enhanced version of the "man/nature" split as Anne and Judi Bari assume, but from the fact that I see the interconnectedness between my race and nature and unfortunately, the horrors that excessive humanity has unleashed on it. My misanthropy comes from a negation of the psychotic humanism that has so flooded our movement (since its transition from cowboy hats to dreadlocks) with woo bullshit elevating human beings to something more than animal, something more than part of the natural world.

I am a misanthrope because I believe that wolves and tree voles and *Darlingtonia* have as much right to life and liberty as any gun toting redneck, crystal-worshipping dervisher or angry Indian with a ski mask. I am a misanthrope because I hate the fact that my species invented strip mines, clearcuts, fellerbunchers, sitcoms and oil spills. I am a misanthrope because in varying degrees, all of humanity is to blame for the current state of the planet. I am a misanthrope because I hate what the upper class gods of economics have done to my Earth, because I watched three children starve to death in Nicaragua after their parents were duped into having more children than they could support by the infallible Pope. I am a misanthrope not because I hate humans individually, but because I hate the culmination of humanity's imperialism on the natural world. I hate seeing the depravity of underprivileged humans in cities the world over. I hate war. I hate genocide and ethnic cleansing. I hate toxic water and barren hillsides. I am a misanthrope because I love humans as much as coyotes, kitty cats and Pileated woodpeckers and see that the only way for all of the aforementioned to live sustainably is to allow for a drastic decline in the population of the species *Homo sapiens*. I am a misanthrope because I love the Earth and all its inhabitants. I am a misanthrope because I love.

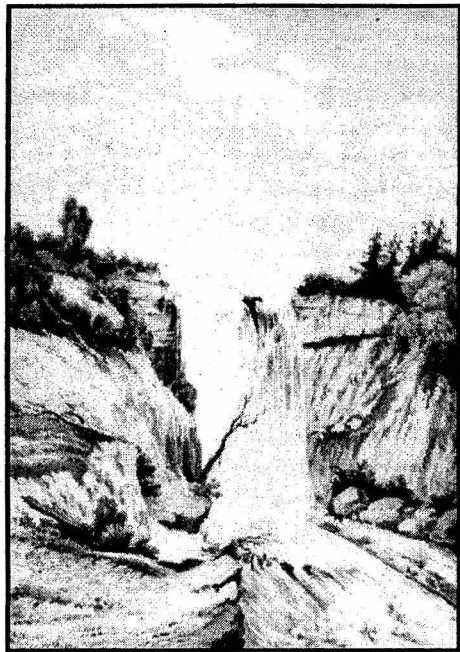
Phil Werrei and Ohm Speckled Moonbeam can be reached c/o Antipathy Youth Ministries, POB 11703, Eugene, OR 97440.

# AGENT PECAN BUSTED!

Agent Pecan, known to close friends as Bob Greenburg, was sentenced July, 2 for pieing Minnesota state Senator Carol Flynn. Greenburg was found not guilty of fifth degree assault but was found guilty of a gross misdemeanor for disrupting the legislature and misdemeanor disorderly conduct for gently pressing an organic vegan lemon coconut cream pie in the senator's face. The senator is an opponent of protecting Minnehaha.

For many years the community has used every legal means to protect Minnehaha Park and Camp Coldwater Spring, a Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota sacred site, from the proposed Highway 55 reroute. In August 1998 activists set up the Minnehaha Free State. In December over 600 police destroyed the encampment forcing the community to set up another camp a short distance away.

Recently a resolution recognizing the significance of the site passed unanimously through committees in both the Republican House and the Democratic Senate. It looked like a possible victory was in sight until Senator Flynn stood



Minnehaha Falls

against the winds of popular sentiment, refusing to let democracy guide the plan for a kinder and gentler Highway 55. Her abuse of power would run 55 through a most beloved park, the birthplace of the state, the last free flowing spring in Minneapolis and sacred sites to Native Americans, the very center and site of creation.

"So I decided to pie her," said

Greenburg, explaining his motivations and mindset, "This pieing was politically motivated and was not done maliciously, but to draw attention through humor and theater to the issues surrounding the reroute of Highway 55, and Carol Flynn's role in this ongoing betrayal of the public trust by our elected officials."

Pecan was sentenced to the maximum 365 days in jail and was given a \$3000 fine for the gross misdemeanor, and the maximum 90 days for disorderly conduct, as well as, \$65 restitution for Carol Flynn's dry-cleaning, 2 years of probation and 150 hours of community service.

Interestingly, the judge then stayed all but 60 days of the jail sentence, but announced that any probation violation would result in serving the remaining 10 months. The judge also demanded that Greenburg pay the cost of the trial, estimated between \$30,000 and \$70,000.

The address of the Ramsey County Correctional Facility is 297 S. Century Ave., St. Paul, MN 55119; (651) 298-5466.

art by Henry Lewis

## Shooting on the Environmental Front

### TEENAGER KILLED ON LUDWIG FARM

Wiebo Ludwig and the members of the Trickle Creek Farm in Alberta have been fighting deadly hydrogen sulfide gas and oil well pollution in the farmland region for the last decade. (See articles in the May and June 1999 issues of the *EFJ*.) They are among a growing group of farmers whose health and livelihoods are being adversely affected by widespread pollution emanating from oil and gas drilling operations. Trickle Creek Farm wrote letters to government officials, made presentations at hearings and made requests to both the Alberta Environmental Protection Ministry and Environment Canada. The farmers asked that the oil industry of Alberta come into compliance with modern environmental protections designed to reduce and prevent harmful emissions from oil and gas operations.

In response to their concerns, Wiebo Ludwig and some Trickle Creek farmers have been charged with mischief and other actions against the oil companies. Recently, Wiebo was arrested for mischief and probation violations. In addition, just two months ago, Ludwig's car was blown up while he was in town.

#### The Shooting

Trickle Creek members are being cast as the villains by the local oil drilling communities. The children of the drillers are being told by their parents how bad the environmentalists are for impeding progress and threatening their oil and gas jobs. It appears that as a result, on June 20

eight teenage children took it upon themselves to harass farm members by driving two pickup trucks onto the Trickle Creek Farm to scare the Ludwigs. The teenagers sped onto the farm at 4 a.m., honking their horns, yelling and squealing their truck tires as they spun around in front of the homestead. On that evening, children were sleeping in tents on the ground near where the trucks were zipping around.

What happened next is not clear. Someone fired three shots at the intruding trucks. One bullet went through the arm of Shaw Westwater, 19, and then struck 16-year-old Karman Willis in the chest, killing her. Her cousin, Jason Willis, told reporters that, "They just pulled into the yard and were being boneheads."

#### Is the Government of Alberta Partially Responsible?

The absence of law renders a civil society lawless. The absence of regulations to protect the public good creates a vacuum which is filled by other actions to protect the public good. Sometimes the alternative actions created by the affected people are not as good as government regulation. This appears to be what is happening in Alberta. As the government lessens its responsibility to protect the environment, and



Wiebo Ludwig

aspollution becomes worse, farmers have been forced to step in to prevent the continued all-out assault on their lands and health by the oil and gas drilling operations.

Premier Ralph Klein attempts to remediate his government's inadequate sour gas and air pollution control reveal the importance of the government acting sooner with greater authority. Had this occurred, it would not have been necessary for Wiebo Ludwig and other farmers to take the law in their own hands. This begs the question, was the inaction of the Alberta government and its enforcement authorities partially responsible for the events leading up to the tragedy, where the situation escalated, resulting in kids trespassing onto private property and threatening families in their homes? And where shots rang out and people were killed? It is up to Alberta to move quickly to improve the environmental standards of the oil and gas industry. It is up to Alberta to enforce the regulations that will ensure that oil and gas, as well as farming and ranching, can coexist with the health of the people.

For more information on this and other the environmental struggles in Canada, subscribe to The Gallon Environmental Letter, 506 Victoria Ave., Montreal, Quebec H3Y 2R5; (514) 369-0230, fax 369-3282; cibe@web.net.

## ECO-TERRORISTS HARASS ACTIVIST IN OBERLIN, OHIO

BY DAVID ROVICS

Josh Raisler Cohn is a student at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, and has been active with the Allegheny Defense Project (ADP) for the past three years. The ADP has been battling against the timber companies that want to turn Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest into a big field of stumps. The ADP has had many recent successes. The efforts of Josh and others have not gone unnoticed by the timber industry, nor by the persons or organization(s) behind the death threats that Josh has been receiving for the past two years.

Harassment of environmental activists is, of course, nothing new in America (read "Timber Wars" by Judi Bari). Josh is one of many people around the country to experience the terror of receiving a photograph in the mail with a rifle site drawn over it. He has been followed, receiving mail detailing his every move. They knew what route he took on an ADP roadshow, where he camped, how long he slept, and what building at Oberlin he entered upon returning to school.

Recent events have escalated beyond threats and intimidation. Someone burned Josh's van, completely destroying it. This was clearly arson; the perpetrator left a plastic gas can on the floor of the van beneath the steering wheel.

It is not known what individuals or organization(s) are behind this or other attacks. It is clear, however, that the persons involved are well-connected. There is reason to believe that the perpetrators are somehow connected to the authorities. In various parts of the United States and Canada, police have pulled Josh over and have demonstrated an eerily specific knowledge of Josh and his activities that they could not have known unless they were participating in a conspiracy of intimidation.

Currently, Josh is the only suspect in the arson, according to the FBI. This is an outrageous accusation, bringing back disturbing memories of the FBI's accusation that *EFJ*'s Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney bombed themselves in Oakland nine years ago.

Josh needs a lawyer, a private investigator and a new van. Please give as generously as possible to Josh, for as the Wobblies eloquently put it, "An injury to one is an injury to all." Send checks to the Allegheny Defense Project, POB 245, Clavion, PA 16214. Make checks payable to Josh Cohn.

# FEDS ESCALATE HUNT FOR THE ALF

BY ROD CORONADO

A silent war of repression is being waged against animal liberation activists across the United States as federal authorities continue their hunt for members of the outlawed Animal Liberation Front (ALF). Over 50 US fur farms have been raided since the ALF resumed its "Operation Bite Back" campaign against the fur industry in 1995, and nearly a dozen suspected ALF activists have been arrested and imprisoned. Three remain underground and one federally indicted young activist was driven to suicide.

The ALF's campaign against the captive-breeding of native North American wildlife on the USA's fur farms has not caused a single human injury, but has inflicted major financial impact on the farms. Literally tens of thousands of mink have been released from their cages resulting in millions of dollars in lost profits and genetically irreplaceable breeding animals.

Responding to the first Operation Bite Back raids in 1991-92, the federal government passed the Animal Enterprises Protection Act (AEPA) in 1993. This Draconian legislation makes it a felony, punishable with up to ten years in prison, to rescue or release animals from the industries where they are held captive or to inflict economic hardship on the operations. Since its passage, the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (BATF) have been spending massive amounts of energy and resources to prosecute and criminalize animal rights activists under the new law.

The US government's campaign of repression has become dependent on its ability to portray the ALF as a domestic "special interest" terrorist organization. Working in a collaborative effort with corporate media eager to protect their advertiser's interests, federal law enforcement agencies have found an effective medium for their campaign of disinformation.

On February 6, 1999, Fox TV's "America's Most Wanted" featured, not its normal menu of violent criminals, but suspected ALF members James Ray Blackmon and Adam Troy Peace. Blackmon is accused of releasing mink from a Utah fur farm in 1996 and Peace is charged with property destruction at the Utah Fur Breeders Cooperative, a feed manufacturer and research facility in the suburbs of Salt Lake City.

The show targeted Salt Lake City's "straight-edge" community, a group of mostly young people who practice a philosophy that eschews alcohol, drugs and animal products in favor of a more respectful world-view that promotes environmental defense and animal liberation. The commentator stated, "Some became vegans, hard-core vegetarians, and turned their rage towards protecting animals."

"America's Most Wanted" intentionally associated Blackmon and Peace with two unrelated assaults and

a murder, though the activists' indictments pertain only to nonviolent ALF actions, leading viewers to believe the young activists are dangerous criminals. After the broadcast, Peace turned himself in to authorities rather than risk law enforcement officers who, thanks to "America's Most Wanted," might justify using deadly force to apprehend him. Blackmon remains in hiding while Peace is out on bail awaiting trial.

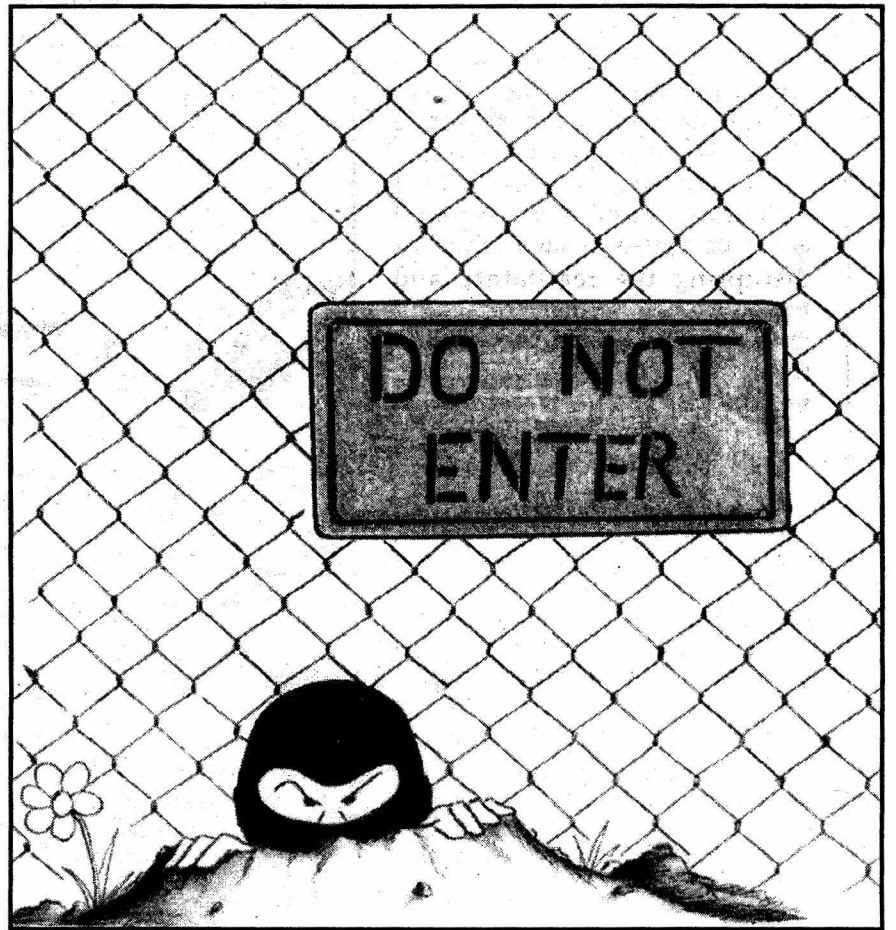
In 1998, Joshua Ellerman became another victim in the hunt for ALF activists. The 20-year-old youth was indicted for a fur-breeders action and threatened with a 35-year prison sentence unless he cooperated with authorities by providing information on the identity of other Utah ALF activists. Ellerman and his younger brother cooperated and the elder brother is currently serving a reduced federal prison sentence of eight years.

The Ellerman brother's information led to the arrest and indictment of 21-year-old Alex Slack, another Salt Lake City animal rights activist, who in 1997 underwent a liver transplant and was later paralyzed in an auto accident. Federal authorities, quick to exploit these tragedies, began pressuring Slack. That intimidation became too much for Alex and on June 29th of this year he committed suicide.

Alex's death is the first human fatality in the war against the ALF. Once more, a nonviolent wildlife advocate and environmentalist has become the victim of a society that criminalizes those whose goal is to respect life.

The war against animal liberationists is not limited to Utah. In Oregon, Wisconsin and Minnesota, federal grand juries are being convened to track down suspected ALF members. In Minnesota, following the April 1999 rescue of 116 animals from University of Minnesota, the state legislature pushed through a crime bill that would not only make it a felony to rescue animals from places of abuse, but also illegal to speak in defense of such actions. Currently, the ALF press office in Osego, Minnesota is the target of the state law and its volunteers have had their computers seized and have been subpoenaed to appear before a federal grand jury.

The criminalization of the ALF should serve as a wake-up call to supporters and participants of underground resistance to ecological terrorism and animal abuse. The strategies practiced by law enforcement agencies today differ little from those



employed by the Thatcher government of Britain in 1980 in its campaign to criminalize the legitimate resistance to British occupation in the north of Ireland by the Irish Republican Army.

All that remains to be seen is whether the struggles for the defense of North America's last wild places and its indigenous humans and non-humans will survive police repression or be intimidated into compromise and submission. Fearing the very real power and growth of the organized youth insurgency that challenges economic forces within American society, federal authorities appear ready to advocate the passage of legislation that targets political activity and sanctions increased police powers while slowly stripping us of our already limited civil liberties.

This is the price we must be ready to pay for our resistance. The animal rights and radical environmental movements must now answer the question proposed by such repression and, like Irish Republicans, create the infrastructure to sustain underground resistance; otherwise, we will continue to witness the criminalization, imprisonment and death of young nonviolent activists ready to risk their lives and freedom to defend wildlife and the earth.

Rod Coronado is an animal rights and environmental activist who spent 3 1/2 years in prison for arson charges as a result of a concentrated FBI investigation, in the early 1990's, of animal liberation activities.

## ALF Suspect's Family Living in Fear

BY ROD CORONADO

During the warm Wisconsin nights of October 1997, Animal Liberation Front (ALF) members released over 3,000 mink from four separate fur farms. On October 28, Sheboygan County Sheriff's deputies pulled over Justin Samuel and Peter Young, after fur farmers suspected they were watching their mink barns. Authorities found items that led to a six-count federal indictment against Samuel and Young 1998. The two were charged with violating the AEPA with the alleged intent to coerce mink farms out of business by inflicting economic loss and damage. "The indictment reflects the determina-

tion of the law enforcement community and my office to address criminal activity designed to curtail or shutdown a lawful industry," said US Attorney Peggy Lautenschlager in Wisconsin's first case of "animal enterprise terrorism."

But Justin Samuel's family says their son is

anything but a terrorist. "His mind and spirit are gifts to all of us—it angers me that he is being forced to be a fugitive and political prisoner because of them," said his father, Bob. Justin entered college at 16 and was a junior in the computer engineering school at the University of Washington when he decided to pursue his animal rights passions.

Samuel and Young are viewed by the FBI as federal fugitives and face years in prison for freeing wildlife awaiting slaughter. Samuel's family has not heard from him for nearly 2 years and are worried about his safety. Federal agents have attempted to intimidate Justin's parents, but they remain resolute in their support of their son. "We would just like to know that he is alive and well, and (for him to know) that we love and miss him very much," laments his father.

To find out how you can help these and other ALF activists contact the ALF support group at Box 69597, 5845 Yonge St., Willowdale, Ontario, M2M 4K3, Canada; naalfsg@envirolink.org.





# 300 WORDS OR LESS! AND NO BULLSHIT, YA GOT IT?!

yo journal crew!

thank you for expanding the political prisoner pages!!! It is a welcome addition that was much needed!

FUCK ALL GOVERNMENTS!!!  
ANARCHY NOW!!!  
TEAR DOWN THE PRISON WALLS!!!

—CRUST@PUBLIC-ENEMY.COM

You people are full of shit. Just because you hate western society doesn't give you the right to tell people how to live their lives. Buildings will still be built, cities will get bigger, more roads will be built, that's life. There will still be plenty of forest for future generations to enjoy, so just calm down. Oh, and tell your women to shave their legs and pits, go to Taco Bell to participate in their "Defeat the Dark Side" contest, and enjoy modern society.

—DAN LONGCORE

Dear politically correct SFB:

I was sickened to read the statement of Wayne Johnson, the Makah whaling crew captain, in which he claimed that the young female gray whale he killed "gave up its life" to the Makah people. What a crock! That whale didn't "give up" her life, any more than a murdered woman "gives up" her life to a man who stabs and shoots her.

Johnson's statement reminded me of similar utterances I've heard in my life about other victims of male violence. They tell us "she wanted it," "she asked for it" and "she deserved it."

It was also sickening to see the *EF! Journal* juxtaposing Johnson's pro-killing piece next to the Sea Defense Alliance's anti-killing piece, giving each point of view equal space, as if they had equal merit.

What next? Will the *Journal* now be giving equal space to "oppressed" loggers, miners and ranchers so they can justify their actions and explain how raping the Earth is an important cultural tradition that makes them feel like big men?

—PATRICIA WOLFF



Earth First! editor,

It was strange to see the "pros" and "cons" about involvement of Earth First!ers with Washington State Aluminum workers on strike in broadening the efforts against the very broad entity of Maxxam. I never imagined there could be a "con." It seemed like a basic breakthrough to unite radical environmentalists with angry segments of the working class.

This direction seems the only promising one for EF! To only do lockdown gymnastics in small numbers, in areas that most people have never heard of, seems a doomed proposition. Doomed for us and the wilderness because unless people are catalyzed to standing up and taking control of their lives along lines of free associations and self management, this disease called capitalism will grind on until all is mowed down and dumped upon.

Without connections into communities who also have gripes against the system, the most painstakingly saved wilderness area, protection obtained through endangered species law, NFS procedure, etc., will be vulnerable to overturn forever into the future. To Capital, whether in 1950, 2000, or 2050, that wilderness is just so much cardboard box material or whatnot, and as it gets "more valuable" as a commodity, Capital will do anything to get it. But if EF! builds support and mutual aid with rebellious working communities the abilities of "the beast" will be knobbed, and eventually, hopefully sooner rather than later, it can be taken down. To insist on absolute Luddite, eco-saint, hunter-gatherer wannabe purity and spurn alliances with others is to seal the doomed fate of our general isolation and any hope at breaking the system of power apart. Take note I'm not talking about formal alliances, especially with a union like the USWA (steelworkers) some of whose top officials regard prison guards as "brothers and sisters," but rather with the people that happen to be or not be in the union but are involved in the struggle. To either praise or condemn the USWA wholly is to illustrate that one's view of the dynamics was taken from afar.

It's a hierarchical, reformist but somewhat oppositionist organization. In Pueblo, Colorado the steelworkers (union and workers) have been fighting near Maquiladora like pay and conditions and lockout. One-on-one the steelworkers themselves are a different story than "their" of-

ten overpaid and unaccountable officials. Unions of the AFL-CIO stripe were carefully cultivated as a compliant junior partner to capital from WWII on. The reason is that the people they claim to represent, the workers, can be so volatile and throw the system into chaos overnight if they chose to. So they're just sophisticated pressure release valves. Don't confuse the union with the workers. The more important thing is the people involved who pulled off a successful (and difficult) series of dock actions against Maxxam with cooperation, planned and spontaneous, from Aluminum workers, dockworkers, IWWers, EF!ers and such.

To me it was a great breakthrough, as is the less dramatic daily efforts of EF!ers in San Luis, Colorado who are making sure to work with the community on mutual goals, understanding and aid. An occasional carload of earnest people from a College town is no substitute in wilderness protection for an aroused and organized community right at, and

claiming a justified stewardship over the site. Engage and dialogue with people to pull the system of hierarchy and exploitation apart. We can't just hide in the wilderness vibing with the trees.

—PETER KALBERER

Greetings Eco-Warriors!

I was moved to write you all a laudatory note after reading in the *Colorado Daily* here in Boulder, CO about the brave and successful direct action in the San Luis Valley!! Thank you all so much for what you do, and do so very courageously. Please forward this note to your activists and leaders of the Taylor Ranch protests.

I am a High Priestess of Wicca, and my little coven has done magick in the past to help out the activists in San Luis. The locals there know about us and believe in what we do to help. We will reinforce the magick there to keep you all safe and help stop the logging. Thank you again and—Blessed Be all of Thee!!

—GWENDYTH ERCE, M. PHIL  
HPs OF THE TEMPLE OF GAIA

Hi EF!

I am writing out of frustration. I agree with the EF! view that we must preserve all of the environment and end the destruction. I, too, am tired of "namby-pamby" passivism that doesn't work. But I don't support hate, because it breeds hate. The lines running across the bottom of the site, I feel, are inappropriate. Who cares what I think? I don't know, but I know that I care about the earth and also about the people on it who do bad things. I am more than leary of being involved with a group

that has more anger than hope and that is how some of the messages sound.

There is another thing that really bothers me and that is the "copulate don't populate" attitude. Like it is bad to have children. That is wrong. The problem is not the population, it is the waste of the North American population. I have three children and I care deeply about the earth. "The Earth has enough for everyone's needs, not everyone's greed." Gandhi

So if EF! believes when they state: "Our actions are tied to Deep Ecology, the spiritual and visceral recognition of the intrinsic, sacred value of every living thing." Then don't discount humans from that value. We are humans, we have made many, too many, mistakes. Let's correct them, not punish each other and ourselves for them. I often have this attitude of rage against people, but it is not helpful at all and seeing it reflected here, lets me know how useless it is. I agree with radical action to end the corporate and capitalistic cancer of the Earth. I would like to be more involved. But I don't want to hate the world while doing so. So be angry sometimes, but don't forget who and what you are.

—KELLI GALLAGHER

Dear Shit for Brains,

Anne Petermann's article in the *Litha* issue really points out how some of us in the movement have shit the bed. Hating people, or talking negative about people insomuch as implying they have no right to exist is such a misguided and soul-wasteful activity. And it does negatively impact our indigenous bros. and sisters too. Thanks for printing it. Now, if we can get off the booze and dope... Hey, as long as we're all thinking, learning and progressing, it'll work out!

Peace & Light to all

—FREEBIRD, KATUAH EF!

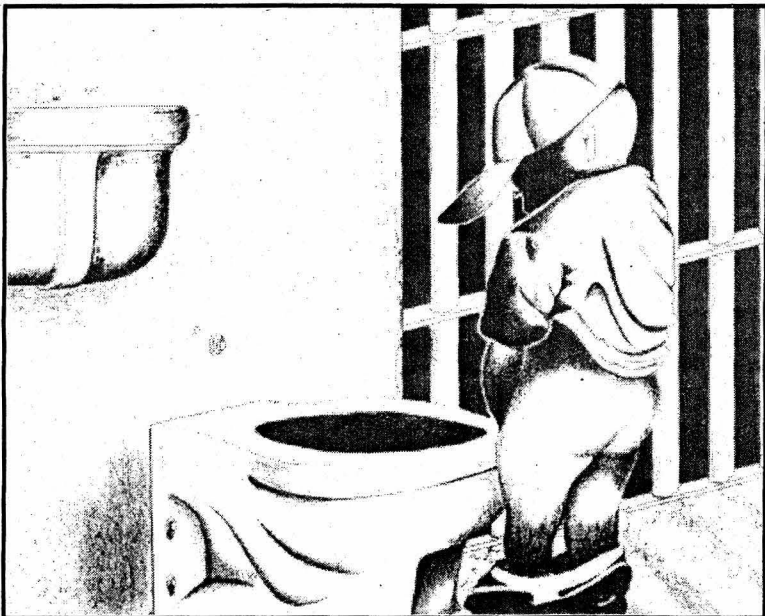
PS, "Classic Moments..." is great—keep em comin'

Dear SFB,

Two articles in the last journal brought up a dilemma that Red Cloud Thunder tries to solve. In "Green Backlash," it says, "The movement has neglected social concerns." In "Recovering Misanthropes," it says "I believe cultural insensitivity stems from privilege. The environmental movement is predominantly made up of privileged people. This is what allows the luxury of being involved... and not worried about daily survival."

"Punk-anarchists" in Eugene have gathered enough momentum for *The Wall Street Journal* to print an article that warns away and intrigues business investors: "...Oregon's second-largest city is a closely watched laboratory for anarchist and law enforcement elsewhere."

For years, the West has spawned a "punk" culture that thrives without money, showers, or rented



shelters. Far from privileged, this social class is neglected, abused, and familiar with society's disgust.

Even though our societal machine produces children who machine gun their classmates, also produced are punk kids that live on a simple concept of almost complete cash-free survival in a gluttonous world.

Want to show the "lower" class your "rules" or "non-violence codes?" Forget it! In our community you show yourself capable of the level of respect that Ancient Elder trees, as well as our impoverished family requires, or those involved will see that you get back to town in the next car. It works!

The "privileged forest activist" often shakes their head and thinks of us with disdain and fear. We are supposedly a nightmare that will discredit the environmental movement. Agreed, we are a nightmare! But Red Cloud Thunder is out to redefine environmentalism as an Anarchist counter-culture that forces absurd behaviour from those who are contrary to the sanctity of life, which includes some privileged EF!ers.

Sincerely,

—MR THUNDER

Sawut de ka (hello) from Thailand

I would like to network with people interested in the protection of rainforest. I have been working voluntarily here in Thailand for four months, our aim being to protect an area of mountainous forest called the Khao Bantat, it is 792,000 rai there are 6.5 rai to an acre. The area has the highest protection status presently recognised in Thailand, but there is no respect for the law. The forest is cut, burnt, built on, encroached on and hunters come from the towns killing wild animals to sell to restaurants. This land is the homeland of the Manik peoples, only around 160 of them remain, they are hunter gatherers living in harmony with the nature.

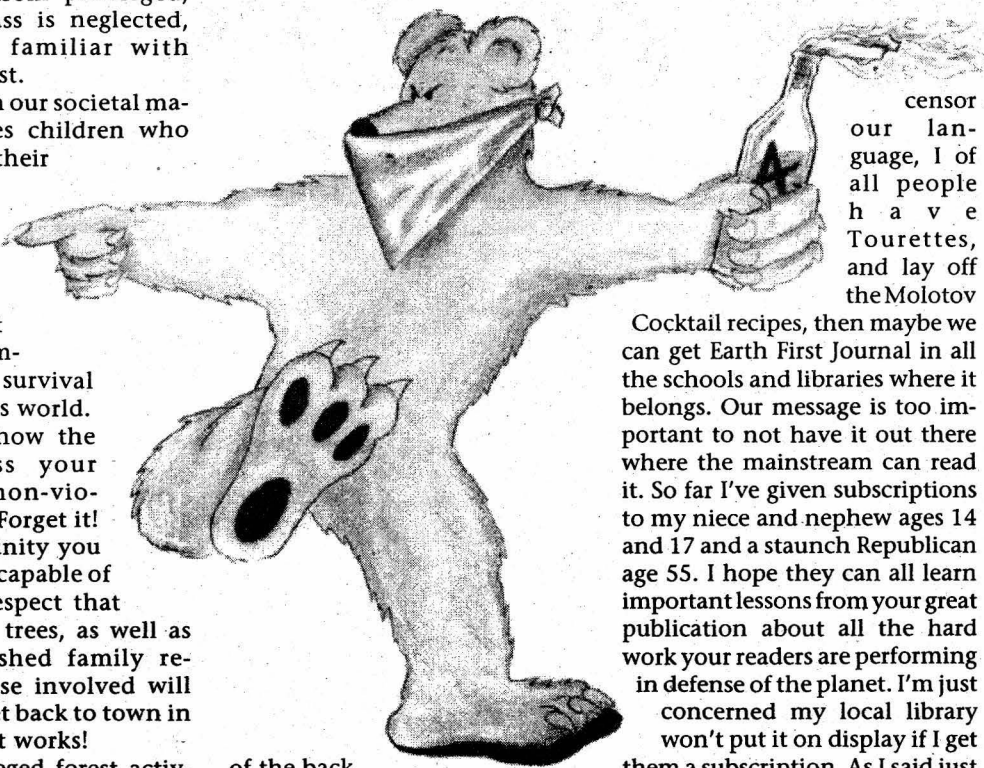
Manik language has no word for war and no word for greed. These people need the forest, they are under so much pressure to change and develop but many of them do not want. THEY ARE THREATENED WITH GENOCIDE.

There is much work needed. Interested?! Do you have any useful contacts or inspiration? If you want to know more please contact me at:

—JANE\_BREEZE@HOTMAIL.COM  
FRIENDS OF PEOPLE CLOSE TO NATURE

To the people of Earth First!

My name is Kei Underforest. I am a student in University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. My friend, Dana Churnes, is in the office in our campus, and knowing the organization for a while. This summer I am back to home in Japan, planning some action, as I am aware that there is no single office in this country yet, therefore, feeling an urgent to establish one to start such a radical activist movements here in Japan, where needed the most, I believe. So, I would really appreciate if you could send me a bunch



... censor our language, I of all people have Tourettes, and lay off the Molotov

Cocktail recipes, then maybe we can get Earth First Journal in all the schools and libraries where it belongs. Our message is too important to not have it out there where the mainstream can read it. So far I've given subscriptions to my niece and nephew ages 14 and 17 and a staunch Republican age 55. I hope they can all learn important lessons from your great publication about all the hard work your readers are performing in defense of the planet. I'm just concerned my local library won't put it on display if I get them a subscription. As I said just a thought.

Thank you for all the great work you do.

Sincerely,

—PRO SE BOB,  
AKA UNCLE WATER BUFFALO

Dear Editor,

In the wake of the Headwaters Deal, I would like to make a few concluding remarks as a citizen who cares. First off, I believe the people of this community, diverse species, and our environment got reamed in this sham.

Why? The priority should have been in saving the 30-plus species that inhabit old-growth redwood ecosystems, many of which are threatened or imperiled: the coho salmon, the marbled murrelet, the southern torrent salamander, and many others. These species may not survive as isolated populations in tiny groves.

Instead of saving endangered species, killing them was legalized via the immorally labeled "Habitat Conservation Plan." Newly discovered endangered species are sacrificed for 50 years (which may, in effect, equal eternity) within the "no surprises" clause.

The Headwaters Forest is (or was) the largest remaining old-growth redwood ecosystem in private hands. Fewer than 5,000 of the 60,000 acres of old-growth are preserved in this backroom deal.

Unsustainable forestry practices; clearcutting, cutting on steep slopes, spraying herbicides in our watersheds, and cutting rare old growth are still OK under this "good deal." The immorally labeled "sustainable yield plan" does not yield (even ostensibly) sustainably until 20 years of overcutting.

Do readers trust a company with more than 300 violations of the Forest Practices Act within the last few years. To act morally, conserve habitat, and yield sustainably? Where million-dollar

of the back issued number, and other materials for me to use for promotions. The first thing I am trying to do is to visit and promote several university campuses bring some positive attentions. Unfortunately, there would be some limitations if I am doing this whole thing all by myself. Do you know some folks who may be willing to help me, or some motivated individuals who might be willing to work with me in this summer. If someone is interested to come and help me, I have place for the ones to stay and I can be a good host, plus I do need some to teach me to organize such things. Well, please let me know what your thoughts are, and give me some advices if you could. Thank you very much. Love and peace.

—KEI UNDERFOREST  
1262 HIGASHIMISONO HAMAKITA  
SHIZUOKA 434, JAPAN  
KUNDERFOREST@HOTMAIL.COM

Dear shit for brains.

Everyone seems to have their own theory about the recent school shootings in Colorado and Georgia. Maybe it's television, maybe it's rap music, maybe it's the parents. Malcolm X once got into a lot of trouble for a statement he made when JFK was assassinated. He said it was "the chickens coming home to roost." The media pounced upon that quote out of context without listening to the rest of what he said. What he meant was when the government creates a climate of violence, Vietnam, that it often comes home. Everyone seems to be drawing causal links to different events, but refuse to address what will doubtless be one of the greatest historical events taking place. The destruction of Bosnia. It's almost as if it's a spot in the American conscious we don't want to look at. What if blowing up hospitals, embassies, buses, civilians, creates a climate of violence. A climate in which children feel violence is O.K. Where is a government which calls bombs the size of Volkswagens "diplomacy" going to find the moral authority to legislate against school violence?

—CHRIS IRWIN

Dear Earth First:

Just another stupid idea from the guy who went to Federal Court on whether the word controversy means controversial under NEPA. If we were to self

violations bring \$5,000 fines?

Charles Hurwitz will get nearly half a billion dollars which he is siphoning away from the debt-ridden Scotia Pacific Limited Liability Co. into the debt-free Salmon Creek Properties.

The corporate-owned mass media has parroted Maxxam/Pacific Lumber Co.'s public relations propaganda while politicians put a feather in their cap. As corporate domination of our lives increases, our quality of life decreases.

—DAVID ROSS

Dear Editors:

Nature, Time and CNN have all reported that wind blown pollen from Monsanto's Bt corn has been killing the caterpillars of monarch butterflies that feed on milkweed growing near corn fields. How could anybody do this?

The answer may be found in a half forgotten tale of N. Hawthorne, "Rappaccini's Daughter." Hawthorne called it fiction but through my studies I believe the story to be true, and furthermore though written in 1844-46, Rappaccini is still alive! A homeopath and plant scientist, he carefully developed hybrid, poisonous plants in his garden from which he concocted elixirs for treatment of his patients. The scent of these plants killed insects. His daughter, raised with the plants, was the only one who could be in close contact with them. If she touched normal human flesh, ever so lightly, she left a bruise. Natural plants wilted at her touch.

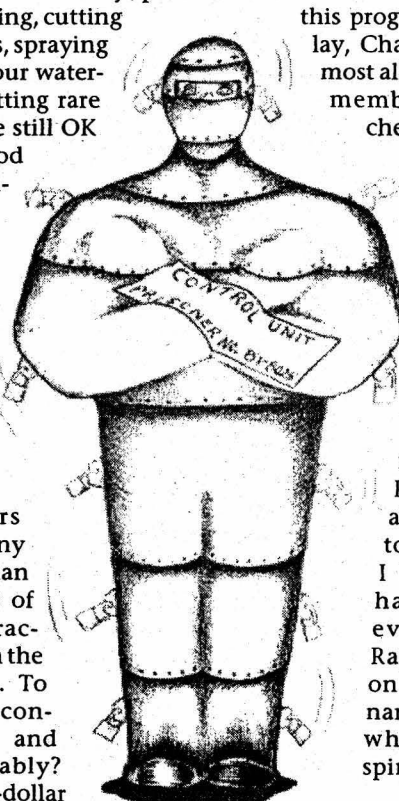
It is a little known fact that Rappaccini started a corporation in his home town of Padua, Italy. He named it the Monsanto Corporation. Having to flee Italy due to the unfortunate and untimely demise of two patients in an experiment, he arrived in this country. His company has been known by many names but he finally settled on an anglicized version of his original name.

In this century he has concentrated on pesticides, herbicides and genetically altered crops. He brought us agent orange, as one outstanding example. He is now poisoning butterflies! His primary project is his "Toxic Feed the Children" campaign. His goal is to immunize children to his toxic food so they will feed on it exclusively and become poisonous to all natural life forms. Grown products of

this program are Tom Delay, Charles Hurwitz and most all CEO's and board members of petrochemical companies.

If nothing untoward happens to me, I will report back to you additional findings of my research. I think Dr. Frankenstein has taken a bad rap regarding Rappaccini foods and I would like to clear his name. I hope, soon, to have immutable evidence of Rappaccini's war on nature and the names of politicians who are co-conspirators.

—SID BRIDGES



Dear Biscuit for Heads,

Litha 1999 brought the exciting news of the creation of the latest EF! splinter group: Women in Love with Danny Dolinger, WILDD. Finally, an outlet for the longing masses. Er, half of us anyway...

Never to be left behind, we Men In Love with Danny Dolinger (MILDD) have formed a support group of our own. All men who celebrate Danny's supple hands and sensitive gaze are encouraged to join.

Danny, you blow us away!

—DISTELLA PANCAKE  
CHARTER MEMBER OF  
MILDD (MEN IN LOVE WITH  
DANNY DOLINGER)

I'm no saint-but I'm tired of all these stupid, ignorant self righteous business elites murdering our Earth for their profits. the next generation—if there is one—should not suffer from our callousness. Please send me how I can get involved.

Thanks

—WILL ZUNIGA

Dear friends,

Mitzy, my canine companion, was run over by a pick-up truck and killed on December 30, 1998. Fortunately, she was asleep when hit, and did not suffer. As some of you will remember, she was an old dog, two days short of her 13th birthday. She went way back in the movement.

At her first Rendezvous at the Big Lost River, in 1986, little Mitzy got lost. In the daytime at RRR she would join in the general trouble-making, and with my guidance make her way back to camp for dinner. But one evening I couldn't find her, nor had she crossed the stream and walked through the woods to our tent on her own. The next morning I found her by my car, curled up against the cold but alive and well, waiting for me.

Two years later she kept me from getting lost. On an autumn night hike out of the Ventana Wilderness, my flashlight faded, flickered and died. I had walked in the morning before, but had to hurry out the next day to make the midnight shift at my job. There was no moon, and clouds covered the stars. But Mitzy sniffed out our trail from the day before, and for the next several miles I followed the bright white fur of her neck all the way to the car. I got to work on time.

Indeed, Mitzy domesticated me. When money was short and rent was high in Santa Cruz, I thought about following a friend's example and living in a cave, troglodytic. But I knew my pup wouldn't be able to keep a secret about where we lived, and would not be able to keep from wandering, so I stayed in town. Over her last year and a half, in the Gila, she slowed down a lot. Her hearing went out in one ear and she was only able to "hike" a few hundred yards at a time. But up to the last she still took an active interest in life. I miss her, wish she were alive. She's planted in my yard, between native grasses and an exotic tree. Half wild. Half domestic. That's how we lived.

—MICHAEL ROBINSON

## BARE BONES

### China Bans Logging, Massive Imports Expected

As part of a plan to manage forest resources over the long run, China has imposed a ban on logging in selected state forests. By the end of 1999, the ban is expected to extend to about 53 million hectares (130.9 million acres), which represents more than 60 percent of China's forests. The ban will create an annual shortfall of nearly 15 million cubic meters (6.36 billion board feet) of lumber, which is about one-fourth of the current supply. The US Embassy in Beijing expects the policy, coupled with an increasing demand for wood products in China, to significantly increase lumber imports to China in the near future.

### Ottawa Police Sue Pepper Spray Manufacturer

The Ottawa-Carleton Police Service Board is suing Defense Technology Corporation of America claiming that the pepper spray they manufacture may not be as harmless as advertised.

The legal action against Defense Technology, one of the largest suppliers of pepper spray to law enforcement in North America, is in response to a lawsuit filed against the police by a pepper spray victim. Jean-Paul Gravelle is suing the police department over an incident in which his apartment was entered, and he was sprayed by constables. He was not the man that the police were looking for. His lawsuit claims that he continues to suffer from bronchial asthma and reactive airways dysfunction syndrome as a result of the spraying.

The police have drawn Defense Technologies into the suit, alleging that any injuries sustained by Gravelle are the fault of the manufacturer. They were under the understanding that the pepper spray was harmless, so if injuries were sustained from its use, the legal responsibility lies with Defense Technology.

### The San Pedro Flows Onward

American Rivers has named the San Pedro River the fourth most endangered river in the United States. The San Pedro is the Southwest's last undammed river but is being sucked dry by the US Army's Fort Huachuca and uncontrolled urban sprawl. An international team of scientists concluded last year that the river will run dry if current pumping levels continue.

Following its designation as the nation's first Riparian National Conservation Area and the removal of all cattle from 45 miles of river, the San Pedro has the Southwest's largest functional riparian forest. It supports two-thirds of all North American bird species (400), the world's second highest diversity of mammals (82 species) and 43 species of reptiles.

The Southwest Center filed its third lawsuit against Fort Huachuca to keep the military base from killing the river. The suit charges that the base has not completed an environmental impact statement as it promised a federal judge in 1996. On the basis of that promise, the judge dismissed an earlier lawsuit by the Southwest Center calling for an environmental review. The base has repeatedly violated its legally binding promise because of fears of closure or downsizing.

# Dare to be Submerged: Locals Resist Narmada Dam

The tribals and farmers in the Narmada Valley in India launched a "Satyagraha" (Insistence on Truth) on June 20 against the unjust submergence and displacement caused by the controversial Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP), risking their lives as the waters rise behind the dam. Hundreds gathered for the Satyagraha, coming from all over the country to participate in the renewed mass action. The Satyagraha will continue during the entire monsoon season. The people have organized a Youth Camp and a foot march. And from July 4 to 12, there was a fast against the injustice and destruction of their lives, resources and rights.

The Satyagraha was inaugurated in Domkhedi, Maharashtra, on June 20 in the presence of the veteran Gandhian activist, Siddharaj Dhadda. He reiterated the need to fight against the destruction of natural resources and violation of human rights in the name of development. He favored community control over natural resources like water, land and forests and the importance of localized production, along with distributive justice, as a way for sustainable and egalitarian development.

Villagers reasserted their determination not to leave their lands under the threat of the submergence. They pointed out that the decision to oppose the dam and the displacement was made by them after much experience and deliberation. Many of the those who left have been returning to their original villages.

People decided to resist the submergence due to the raising of the dam height from 81.5 meters to 88 meters. The Supreme Court, through an interim order in February, allowed the height of the dam to be raised. The raising of the height of the dam would submerge practically the whole tribal area. It would affect about 2000 families in the valley. The Narmada Bachao Andolan (Save Narmada Movement) has raised the issues regarding the dam, including cost-benefit, environmental, economic and social equity issues. However, the court did not take these facts into account and instead chose to allow the construction of the dam.



Indian villagers building new housing for the many families moving into the area being submerged

As Satyagraha entered its 12th day, more and more people from the Narmada Valley and around the country arrived in the villages of Jalsindhi and Domkhedi, the centers for the protests against the Sardar Sarovar Dam. The atmosphere was charged as the Satyagrahis (nonviolent protesters) got into various activities, and as rains upstream caused the river to rise. Rallies were taking place in adivasi (tribal) villages which were ready for the battle.

Hundreds of men, women and children marched to the police camps in the villages of Bharad, Nimgavan and Domkhedi (all villages in Maharashtra

*By the time you read this, the dam water will have started to cover their houses and fields...*

on the south bank of the Narmada). The police, few in number, expressed helplessness in saving the people if water submerges their homes. In a few places, the police camps will be submerged before any homes go under.

On July 4, people came from the mountain ranges on either side of the Narmada, and the villages of the Nimad agricultural plain at the up-

stream end of the Sardar Sarovar submergence zone, and from throughout the country for a mass meeting before the beginning of an eight day fast by a cadre of Satyagrahis.

On June 29, 50 activists began a journey by foot and boat through the rugged Satpura ranges from the village of Manibeli near the dam site and the Gujarat-Maharashtra border, to Domkhedi. This Jeevan Yatra (March for Life) included representatives from many parts of the Narmada Valley and other states. The marchers engaged in mobilization and public awareness programs in all major Narmada-side villages and reached Domkhedi on July 3 after covering about 16 of the 33 adivasi villages affected in Maharashtra.

As the actions in the valley intensify, the rains upstream flood the valley foot by foot. In a couple of weeks time, the dam water will start to cover the houses and fields of many families, up to 60 villages in three states. The injustice of the system and the falsehood and insensitivity of the state will be countered by the determination and commitment of the people to save their lives, livelihood and the rich Narmada Valley at any cost.

Compiled from accounts by Association for India's Development, aid@vsnl.com. For more information, see [www.narmada.org](http://www.narmada.org).

## New Wise Use/Enviro Coalition Takes Aim at Flagstaff's Forests

BY DAVID ORR

What do the World Wildlife Fund, Grand Canyon Trust, The Nature Conservancy, and People for the West have in common?

They are all member groups of the Advisory Board of the Grand Canyon Forest Partnership (GCFP), a collaborative group based in Flagstaff, organized by the Grand Canyon Trust, and funded in large part by the Ford Foundation.

The GCFP has proposed to log 100,000 acres around Flagstaff, Arizona, over the next decade in order to reduce fire risk and restore ecological health to the forest.

The Advisory Board of GCFP consists of the City of Flagstaff, Arizona Division of State Lands, Northern Ari-

zona University, Arizona Public Service (electric utility), Stone Forest Industries, The Nature Conservancy, People for the West, The Wilderness Society, World Wildlife Fund and the Grand Canyon Trust. (Why wasn't the Ford Foundation on this list?)

People for the West (PFW) is one of the largest and best-organized wise-use groups in the US. In recent months, PFW re-named itself "People for the USA" ([www.pfw.org](http://www.pfw.org)). At public hearings last month on Utah wilderness re-inventory, PFW/PFUSA was highly visible organizing opposition to wilderness protection for federal public lands.

GCFP has formed a three-person "Grand Canyon Forest Foundation" (GCF) to enter into "Memo(s) of Understanding" with the Forest Service

and make contracts for timber sales to timber suppliers. GCFP's board consists of Geoff Barnard (executive director of Grand Canyon Trust), Jim Babbitt (relative of Bruce Babbitt and member of Grand Canyon Trust's board), and Don Augenbright (no affiliation listed).

The role of the GCFP is to cut and market wood from this timber sale. The first units are adjacent to a designated wilderness area occupied by several imperiled species, including the Mexican spotted owl, Northern goshawk, flammulated owl, bald eagle, and tassel-eared squirrel.

[ed. note: GCFP is headed by Brent Kincairn, famous for sell-out partnerships with industry and the Clinton Administration.]

# RIOTS, DEMONSTRATIONS AND REVELRY

continued from front page

Unsurprisingly, press coverage of the June 18 protests has been almost entirely negative. Coverage in the United Kingdom focused almost exclusively on the riots, with the tabloid *The Sun* printing pictures under the headline: "Savages."

In reality, the June 18 events were the apex of a very wide and entirely open global movement. This was largely sparked by the Zapatistas, who held two "encuentros" (meetings)—one deep in the Lacandon jungle of Chiapas in 1996 and the second a year later in Spain—to which delegates from countless different groups converged. They sought to highlight not just the symptoms of poverty, landlessness and environmental collapse, but the causes as well, such as free trade, corporate control and capitalism.

**The next globally coordinated protest will be from November 30 to December 3 during the World Trade Organization's 3rd Ministerial Conference in Seattle, Washington.**

In February 1998, a third international meeting, People's Global Action Against Free Trade and the World Trade Organization, was held in Geneva. It was attended by 400 people, who represented activist groups and social movements from 71 countries. Six months later, as the Global 8 (G8) met in Birmingham, 200,000 Indian peasant farmers in Hyderabad marched to demand India's withdrawal from the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Through People's Global Action, an organization without offices or a paid staff, a global movement has begun to crystallize. Ironically, its formation was assisted by the invention of that most paradoxical spin-off from the computer age, the internet. As the realization dawned that global finance could only be

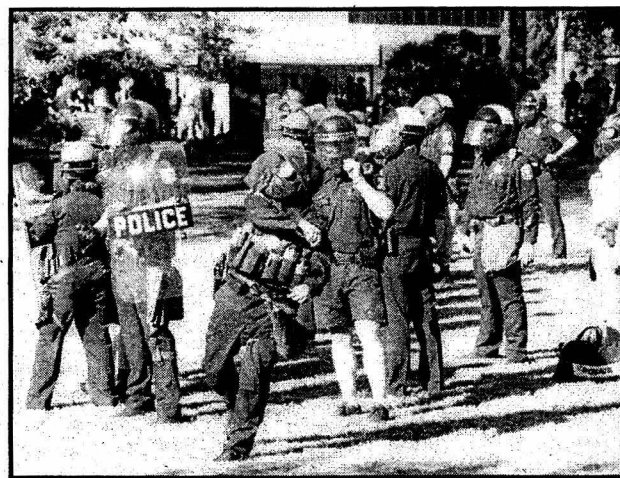
challenged through global resistance, the internet proved an ideal medium through which to organize.

Across the "Third World," direct action seemed to promise a new way forward. The million-strong landless peasants movement in Brazil didn't just lobby the government for land reform, they occupied empty ranches and brought the land back into use to provide for the hungry. An estimated 150,000 people have been resettled through direct action in Brazil, far outstripping meager government anti-poverty programs.

In the run-up to the latest G8 Summit, which began in Cologne on June 18, a group of 500 farmers from India and Nepal toured Europe in an Inter-Continental Caravan, holding protests and making links with European activists. In the UK the farmers visited a genetic engineering test site which had been cleared by activists and converted to organic agriculture.

"We have come here to build bridges between people who want to reclaim their future, to disobey the institutions that run the current, self-destructive system of global economic, political and military governance, and to take their own power in their hands in order to construct a different world," wrote Professor Nanjundaswamy, leader of the Karnataka State Farmers Association, as the G8 Summit got underway.

**On June 18 there were actions on every continent, nearly 130 events in 41 countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India (actions in 25 states), Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Malta, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, South Korea, Scotland, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United States, Uruguay, Wales and Zimbabwe.**



Eugene (Oregon) officers before realizing they're downwind

As we head into the new millennium, two powerful forces are on a global collision course. On one side, a powerful coalition of multinationals, financiers and rich-country governments are pushing for stricter free trade rules and an intensification of economic globalisation. From the other side, millions-strong social movements across the Third World are uniting with activists in the West to demand an end to poverty and the unsustainable exploitation of the Earth's environment. There can be no compromise between these two competing forces—their agendas are utterly irreconcilable. And as the two worlds collide, the riots in London on June 18 may come to be seen as a small foretaste of the upheavals yet to come.

## AGAINST THE GLOBALIZATION OF CORPORATE GOVERNMENT

### JUNE 18 DAY OF ACTIONS

Some highlights of the international day of action:

#### Gujerat, Pakistan

The march against Pakistan's nuclear tests ended with several organizers arrested, tortured and remanded in prison, possibly facing the death penalty. The procession broke through the police cordon to tour parts of the city. Masked union leaders, who had gone into hiding, were present despite the authorities being ready for them on every street corner. After the march, a protest was held outside the district court, and while speeches were being made, several hundred police charged in with tear gas to arrest about 60 people. Seven remain inside, all officials in various unions, charged with the Pakistani equivalent of high treason.

#### Senegal, Africa

Anti-child exploitation was the theme. Six hundred people assembled to hear speeches and see sketches performed by local youth.

#### Zurich, Switzerland

About 300 people—that's a lot for this small provincial town—occupied a construction site in a part of Zurich which is being redeveloped similar lines to London's dock-lands. It was a really great atmosphere—the best party for years. Two bands played, along with a rave and a screening of the Reclaim the Streets film.

#### New York, New York

For nearly two hours, 500 costume-clad protesters took over the streets, tying up traffic in New York City's financial district and rallying in front of the New York Stock Exchange on Wall Street. Five people were arrested as they attempted to chain themselves together around a large sculpture of a globe and another 32 for blocking traffic while taking over the streets.



A festival of resistance

#### Boston, Massachusetts

More than 100 activists joined in a "Carnival Against Capital" in front of Bank Boston in the city's financial district.

#### Toronto, Ontario

Over 2000 cyclists, dancers, pedestrians and protesters participating in a big, beautiful street party.

#### Minsk, Belarus

The ecological group "Ecoresistance" and "Chyrvony Zhond" picketed near the McDonald's in the center of Minsk, the city's most public place. The action was held without a permit.

#### Barcelona, Spain

Two groups closed two main streets in Barcelona in the morning, with one group, in Sant Andreu Town, recreating a beach with swimming clothes and towels, and giving fried potatoes to people driving to work. Later, about 100 people occupied a street. Still later, 700 people joined in Plaza Universitat to Reclaim the Streets.

#### Eugene, Oregon

Twenty people were arrested and eight police were injured in a five-hour downtown riot that saw bank and corporate

#### Montevideo, Uruguay

The Montevideo Network occupied the main square of the Old Town (the financial center) and set up a new type of trade fair targeting capitalism.

#### London, England

It was possibly the best riot in London since the Poll Tax riots. The cops lost control of the situation and got a good beating, and various corporations were trashed. The city was covered in graffiti. Every time you were with a large mob thinking, "this is great, all these people," you'd turn the corner and there would be an even larger crowd creating mayhem.

#### Bayelsa State, Nigeria

About 10,000 people from across Nigeria joined a "Carnival of the Oppressed." After a brief speech by Dr. Owens Wiwa, younger brother of the slain Ogoni nationalist Ken Saro-Wiwa. The demonstrators also blockaded the gates of Shell in Port Harcourt. There was dancing and singing in the streets, bringing Nigeria's petroleum capital to a standstill.

#### Washington, DC

At least 600 people formed a human chain around the US Treasury Department.

#### Geneva, Switzerland

Accompanied by drums, 50 people washed major banks in the center of the city with ladders, brooms, packing-cloths, much water, soap and lather. That evening, 100 people blocked the streets.

#### Glasgow, Scotland

Five hundred people participated in an unauthorized march which wound its way through the city center for several hours.

#### San Francisco, California

Over 700 people danced, drummed and rode bicycles while performing and protesting for three hours in a festival of resistance.

#### Seoul, South Korea

Two hundred people gathered for a rally, then biked to the Myung Dong Cathedral.



We shall not be intimidated

#### Amsterdam, Netherlands

About 50 activists demonstrated in front of the Amsterdam stock exchange.

#### Desterro, Brazil

The 12-meter-high clock placed in the center of the city, built by the media giant "Globo Network," was stained with red paint to symbolize the blood of indigenous people shed. The clock is intended to celebrate 500 years of "discovery."

#### Bordeaux, France

A group of 50 took a ramble around 20 local banks. At each bank, they carried out a symbolic occupation, demanding that the branch managers send faxes denouncing neo-liberal economic policies.

#### Cologne, Germany

After a month of action, participants from all over Europe were stopped by police before entering the subway to the city center, where many were beaten up and 30 arrested. Five hundred people on the way to the parade were similarly surrounded and detained. The following day's big march through the city attracted about 10,000 people, including a large Kurdish contingent. Other successful actions included the invasion of a police compound where several vehicles were damaged, and a demonstration by Iranian women outside a cathedral while world leaders were having a service said in their honor.

#### World Wide Web World

In solidarity with Mexico's Zapatista communities, the Electronic Disturbance Theater launched an international blockade of the Mexican embassy in London. Eighteen thousand people from 49 countries joined the computer call to point their internet browsers at the Mexican embassy's computer system using a program which sent multiple reload commands to the website, clogging it up for the day.

# ATTN: FBI ACTION ALERT

BY MIKE CASSIDY AND WILL MILLER

Recently, a member of the peace and social justice community in Vermont was called by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The agent attempted to question the activist about the arson of the Vail resort last October, about Earth First! (whether or not Earth Firsters were violent), and about any contact this person might have had with members of the local indigenous community, the Abenaki. In light of this latest incident in the FBI's well-known harassment, it seems like a good time to review and reflect upon the history of the FBI counterintelligence program (COINTELPRO) and the threat it poses to everyone in this country.

## COINTELPRO: A Brief History

(Much of the information below is taken from Brian Glick's book, *The War At Home: Covert Action Against US Activists and What We Can Do About It*. It is an excellent source for detailed information on the history of domestic covert action.)

The existence of the COINTELPRO program was exposed in 1971, when secret files from an FBI office in Media, Pennsylvania, were released to the press. That same year, publication of the "Pentagon Papers" launched formal and lengthy inquiries into government intelligence and covert activities involving the FBI, CIA, US Army intelligence, the White House, the Attorney General and local and state law enforcement.

In the FBI's own words, the purpose of COINTELPRO is to "expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit and otherwise neutralize" specific groups and individuals. Its targets included the American Indian Movement, the Communist Party, the Socialist Worker's Party, black nationalist groups, the Students for a Democratic Society, and a broad range of anti-war, anti-racist, feminist, lesbian and gay and environmental groups, along with Martin Luther King, Caesar Chavez, the National Lawyer's Guild, and the American Friends Service Committee.

To organize and sustain the movements working for fundamental social change, we need to learn how to deal with domestic covert action in ways that minimize its interference. Although covert action will be adapted to changing social and technological conditions, lessons can be learned from their methods.

## Lessons from COINTELPRO

- **Infiltration.** Federal agents and informers do not merely spy on political activists; their main purpose is to discredit and disrupt. Their presence serves to undermine trust and scare off potential supporters. They also exploit this fear to smear genuine activists as agents.

- **Psychological warfare.** False media stories are leaked and bogus leaflets are published in the name of targeted groups. Agents forge correspondence, send anonymous letters and make anonymous telephone calls. They spread misinformation about meetings and events, set up pseudo movement groups run by agents and manipulate or strong-arm parents, employers, landlords, school officials and others to cause trouble for activists.

- **Harassment through the legal system.** Officers have given perjured testimony and presented fabricated evidence as a pretext for false arrests and wrongful imprisonment. They have discriminatorily enforced tax laws and other government regulations and used conspicuous surveillance, "investigative" interviews and grand jury subpoenas, in an effort to intimidate and harass dissidents and silence their supporters by making them appear to be criminals.

- **Extralegal force and violence.** The FBI and police threaten, instigate and conduct break-ins, vandalism, assaults and beatings to frighten dissidents and disrupt their movements. In the case of radical Black and Puerto Rican activists (and later Native Americans), these attacks, including political assassinations, were so vicious and calculated they can only be accurately called a form of official "terrorism."

## Checklist of Essential Precautions

- Check out the authenticity of any disturbing letter, rumor, phone call or other communication before acting on it.

- Keep records of incidents which appear to reflect COINTELPRO-type activity. Evaluate your response and report your experiences to the National Lawyer's Guild, (212) 627-2656, and the Center for Constitutional Rights, (212) 614-6464. Share this information with others in your community.

- Deal openly and honestly with the differences within our movements (race, gender, class, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, personality, experience, physical and intellectual capacities, etc.) before the FBI and police can exploit them.

- Don't try to expose a suspected agent or informer without solid proof. Purges based on mere suspicion only help the FBI and police create distrust and paranoia. It generally works better to criticize what a disruptive person says and does, without speculating as to why.

- Support activists who come under government attack. Don't be put off by political slander, such as recent attempts to smear some opponents of government policy as "terrorists." Organize public opposition to all FBI witch hunts, grand jury subpoenas, political trials, and other forms of government and right-wing harassment.

- Cultivate relationships with sympathetic journalists willing to investigate and publicize domestic covert operations. Let them know when you are harassed. Since the FBI and police thrive on secrecy, public exposure can undermine their ability to subvert.

- Don't try to tough it out alone. Don't let others fret and suffer by themselves. Make sure that activists who are under extreme stress get the help they need (someone to talk with, rest, therapy, etc.). It is crucial that we build support networks and take care of one another. Isolation is the enemy.

- Above all, do not let our movements be diverted from their main goals. Our most powerful weapon against political repression is effective organizing around the needs and issues which directly affect people's lives.

## When an Agent Knocks:

*You do not have to talk to FBI agents, the police or any investigators. You do not have to speak with them at your house, on the phone, on the street, if you've been arrested or even in jail. Only a court or grand jury has legal authority to compel testimony.*

*You do not have to let the FBI or police into your home or office unless they show you an arrest or search warrant that authorizes them to enter that specific place. If they do present a warrant, you do not have to tell them anything other than your name and address. You have a right to observe what they do and make written notes, including the agents' names, agency and badge numbers. Try to have other people present to be witnesses and to take notes too.*

*Anything you say to an FBI agent or other police officer may be used against you and other people. These law enforcement professionals question people on a daily basis and are very skilled at getting information. Attempting to outwit them is very risky. You can never tell how a seemingly harmless bit of information can hurt you, someone else or other organizations. The best advice is to say "no" if the FBI or police try to question you, on the phone or in person.*

*Lying to an FBI agent or other law enforcement officer is a crime. Giving them information may mean that you may have to testify to the same information at a trial or before a grand jury.*

The FBI or police may threaten you with a grand jury subpoena if you don't give them information. But, you may get one anyway, and anything you tell them will be the basis for more detailed questioning under oath. If you do get a subpoena, you may be able to successfully fight it with the help of a lawyer. Contact the National Lawyer's Guild or sympathetic local attorneys for help.

*Don't be intimidated by agents saying, "We know what you have been doing, but if you cooperate it will be all right." This is a common ploy. They would arrest you if they had solid evidence that incriminated you. If you are arrested, tell them you will talk with them only with your lawyer present.*

If you are nervous about simply refusing to talk to them ("I'm sorry, but I don't speak with the FBI."), you may find it easier to tell them to contact your lawyer. Experience has shown that once a lawyer is involved, the FBI and police usually pull back since they have lost their power to intimidate.

*If you are contacted by police or the FBI, take notes and keep careful records of what they say and do. Get their names and their agency's name. Tell others they contacted you. Make sure people know what to do and where to call for help.*

There must be an atmosphere of support within and between movements in order to thwart the government's attempts to discredit, disrupt and divert our efforts.



Arsonized meatpacking plant replete with boarded up windows

## ALF Celebrates Mother's Day in Eugene, Oregon

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) claimed responsibility for a fire that destroyed a two-story office building, shipping dock and refrigeration building at a Eugene, Oregon, meatpacking plant on May 9. The ALF communiqué stated, "In honor of Mother Earth and all the cows who have their babies stolen from them to help furnish the meat and dairy industries, the ALF chose Mother's Day 1999 to pay a visit to Childer's Meat Company." The fire caused an estimated \$150,000 in damages. The communiqué concludes, "As long as companies continue to operate and profit off of Mother Earth and Her sentient animal beings, the ALF will continue to target these operations and their insurance companies until they are all out of business."

# LEONARD PELTIER

## FROM PRISON TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD

BOOK REVIEW BY EUGENE D. JOHNSON

If you had to decide that you would only read one book for the rest of your life, "Prison Writings: My Life Is My Sundance," by Leonard Peltier (edited by Harvey Arden, published by St. Martin's press) should be that book. In Peltier's words, "I have decided the time has come for me to write, to set forth in words my personal testament—not because I'm planning to die, but because I'm planning to live."

Editor Harvey Arden said the book had been rejected by over 30 different publishers. "All of the editors loved the book, and said it was a book that needed to get published, but the management decision was always 'no.' ...there are a lot of people who don't want this book to be published," Arden said. The main reason is probably because it gives the American judicial system and the FBI a black eye.

The project started when Arden asked Ron Lesard, a lobbyist for the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, if Peltier had a book. When Arden discovered that Peltier did have a book, he offered to publish it. He would receive snippets and essays from Peltier, edit them and send them back. Peltier could only read the edits when he'd meet with his lawyers. Information went back and forth in this manner until the book was complete.

Many of the writings are Peltier's damning critique of the American penal system, "The Hole, with which I've become well acquainted at several federal institutions these past 23 years, having become something of an old-timer... remains, in my experience, one of the most inhuman of tortures. A psychological hell. Thankfully, I'm out of there right now." Peltier was frequently beaten before being thrown in the Hole. "I've been treated no worse than many other prisoners; better than some. At least I'm alive."

Some of Peltier's writings are more philosophical, "Be thankful you weren't cursed with perfection. If you were perfect, there'd be nothing for you to achieve with your life. Imperfection is the source of every action. This is both our curse and our blessing as human beings. Our very imperfection makes a holy life possible... We're not supposed to be perfect. We're supposed to be useful... My life is a prayer for my people."

However, this is not a book that will leave you feeling flowery and sweet. It will move you to stand up against injustice. It is a book that will change your views about life and the lives of future generations. After reading this book, you will wonder whether or not we should even have prisons for the guilty—let alone the innocent, such as Leonard Peltier.

Peltier has serious health problems, but the prison refuses to let the Mayo Clinic take care of a degenerative disease he has in his jaw. "I have terrible headaches much of the time. I lost 80 percent of the vision in my left eye from a retinal hemorrhage I suffered years ago. I'm also told I've tested positive for hepatitis B." Peltier deals with the pain as well as possible, "When the pain screaming in my jaw gets too bad, I just close my eyes and think of Sun Dance. That helps. My body may be locked in here, but my spirit flies with the eagle."

After reading this book, it'll be almost impossible to remain complacent to the horrific injustices enacted by our government, both here and abroad. This book is a hard-core dose of a reality we all need to be aware of.

As long as we remain complacent and allow Leonard Peltier to languish in prison, we are giving our United States government permission to do the exact same thing to ourselves, our children and our grand-children. As long as our government chooses such horrific methods of dealing with the people at large, we will have to fight the battle against injustice for generations yet to come.

Arden told me on the phone that Peltier recently had a dream that he was "standing in the Oval Office with a large group of Indians." I hope that this dream will come true. If Leonard Peltier is freed, it will not only add to my hope, it will add to the hope of the world. Purchase the book from the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, (785) 842-5774; the money goes directly to helping Peltier. The book should also be available in stores soon.

### ECO-ACTIVIST HAPPY MEAL



MUSIC REVIEW BY KIMBA WOLFE

Seth's politics, philosophy and raw, angry emotion strikes the match to burn down the house of neo-liberalism. His infamous acoustic/punk style is blended with a violin, saxophone, congas and other instruments to create a sound as strong as the issues the lyrics speak of. Recorded on first take, *The First Snack* flows as freely as it does around the fire at an Earth First! gathering. The spoken word on *Soul Killer*, which is taken from *Life Is The Toll Road Of The Soul Killer* by Jim Washburn, will strike a chord deep within anyone who has lived in southern California or any other metropolitan area. You can feel Seth's frustration with the punk scene listening to songs like *Apathetic Hipster Youth*, sentiments that anyone can relate to if they have spent too much time in a scene where people claim political beliefs but do not act on them. Between songs about the Dineh, nuclear waste issues and the plight of the honeybee, the radical viewpoints expressed tap into, the rage within your soul and gets listeners ready to fight. Whatever genre you may be into this album is the perfect addition to any collection. So give into consumerism, support your radical musicians, and order it from the *Journal* today. (To order *The First Snack* CD, send \$12 and the form on page 33).

## DEAR NED LUDD

*DEAR NED LUDD is an irregular feature in the Earth First! Journal for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the Earth First! Journal necessarily encourages anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD. Send us your questions.*

Dearest Neddie Luddite,

I had the craziest dream... that elves turned the power off on a major powerline near Niagara Falls. Then a famous celebrity sat on a platform, hanging from the powerlines over a deep gorge. This got me wondering: how much weight are powerlines designed to hold? Would you have to shutdown the power on both ends? How would they get you down? The elves would face felony charges, but what about the "innocent" celebrity who they conned into sitting there?

Just dreaming... and wondering. I'm afraid to wish too strong... sometimes.

*Ned responds:*

Ah, dreams of powerlines. They are a critical and often overlooked weak link in the infrastructure of Babylon. Powerlines can be violated, but only with technical savvy and good timing.

First of all, please understand that safely "turning power off" so that some wingnut media slut could sit on high-power transmission lines would require the same legal risk as sabotage with little feasible success. These powerlines would hold plenty of weight, but they would have to be "turned off" via circuit breaker, short or break in the line at two locations—the nearest substation or generation facility on both ends. High winds and/or an impossible resupply would be your only ticket off that hot seat...

High winds are the most common source of power outages. Usually two lines slap together and short out. Powerlines may sag in high heat, causing contact between them. This could also occur if a metal chain, antenna or other conductive material was connecting two lines. A powerline can be severed if something falls on it or a tower falls. Weather extremes provoke high usage, weakening the power grid. When transmission facilities are interrupted by storms or system malfunctions, other parts of the grid must carry increased power INSTANTANEOUSLY. If too much power is transferred, the systems shutdown and blackouts result. Civilization slows down, and species on the brink get a chance to survive.

Dear Ned Ludd,

We are about to do a platform sit between two skyscrapers. The distance is about 200 feet and we plan on using half-inch steel cable to support 300 pounds of gear and a "talking head."

Is this safe? Where is the greatest stress? How far will it sag? Also, if you know any smart, brave women under 100 pounds, please have them post a letter in the *Journal* soon. We need back-up sitters... and a few more support folks (with impeccable references!)

PS. What's the highest reach of firetruck ladders in Portland, Seattle or San Francisco? Here we come...

*Ned Responds:*

Heeyahh! nothin' like being ambitious, but half-inch cable? My balls hurt just writing this. What's wrong with arborplex? 5,400 lbs. tensile (working load 540 lbs.—that is, what the stuff can handle day in, day out). 600' costs about \$250 from Sherrill [arborist equipment/supply (800) 525-8873 for a catalog]. It doesn't stretch much, about 1.7 percent under a 400 lb. load and weighs less than 7 lbs. per 100'. You don't even want to think about how much 200' of half-inch steel weighs.

The greatest stress will be at the anchor points, and for that matter, what are you anchoring on? Make sure it is good, bomber freakin' bulletproof! And I don't know about the booms in the big cities, but here in the southern Willamette the big one goes about 75' vertical.

## JOIN A FESTIVAL OF RESISTANCE

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA  
AUGUST 6-12

Join thousands planning to expose and oppose Aerospace North America, the largest aerospace arms trade show in North America. Five hundred corporate exhibitors do business with government, military and industry delegates from 80 countries. Shutdown the war machine! Aug. 6-Commemorate Hiroshima; Rock Against Prisons. Aug. 7-Oppose Imperialism conference; Reclaim the Streets street party. Aug. 8-Prisoner Justice Day, 11 a.m. demonstration; Under the Volcano, Canada's largest political arts festival. Aug. 9-Nagasaki never again 507 years of indigenous resistance. Aug. 10-12 Shut down Aerospace North America, Vancouver Convention Center. For more information or to sign up as a speaker, artist, instructor or volunteer, please contact Under the Volcano/Anti-War Machine at POB 21552, 1850 Commercial Dr., Vancouver, Coast Salish Territory, BC, Canada V5N 4A0; volcano@tao.ca; www.tao.ca/~volcano.

## SHUT DOWN THE ARMS TRADE CONVENTION

WHERE MERCHANTS OF DEATH AND  
WAR MONGERS GET BUSINESS DONE

## Help Protect the Great Bear Rainforest

We are seeking any stories that you might have detailing Weyerhaeuser's forest abuses, either in the United States, Canada or internationally. Please send any information to Susan Holmes, Sierra Club, 116 John St., New York, NY 10038; (212) 791-9291; fax 791-0839; susan.holmes@sierraclub.org.

## NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AUGUST 14

### Against Commercialization, Privatization, and Increased Motorization of Public Lands

Wild Wilderness needs your help to send an irrefutable message to the Forest Service, the BLM, Congress and the President, that industrial strength recreation is not an acceptable use of public lands. To accomplish this objective, we intend to work with groups from all across America to turn Saturday, August 14 into a major National Day of Protest.

In the next millennium, will Americans enjoy free access to pristine forests, deserts, mountains, rivers and streams, or will wild nature be developed into recreational products and sold to those with thick wallets or those most willing to buy access? The answer to this question will be decided in the next few months, and you can play a major role in determining the outcome.

In 1996, Congress began a test to determine whether people were willing to pay to visit public lands. This program, called the "Recreation Fee Demonstration Program" (Fee-Demo), was developed in partnership with the American Recreation Coalition (ARC). ARC is a trade association which primarily represents motorized recreation. ARC also represents numerous companies that are eager

to construct and operate privately-owned recreational facilities on public lands managed by the Forest Service and other federal agencies. Current laws restrict such private undertakings, strictly limit the fees which may be charged and attempt to exert some minimal level of regulation upon motorized wreckreation. ARC is industry's vehicle for getting around all of these obstacles.

In recent months, over 100 environmental organizations, outdoor recreation groups, state and local governments have called for an end to the highly unpopular Fee-Demo program. Bipartisan legislation, called the "Forest Tax Relief Act of 1999" has been introduced to immediately eliminate this program from all national forests. Yet even with all this opposition, the land managers who stand to gain from charging recreational fees are telling Congress that people actually like to pay them.

For information, contact Wild Wilderness, 248 NW Wilmington Ave., Bend, OR 97701; (541) 385-5261; ssilver@wildwilderness.org; www.wildwilderness.org

## World Trade Organization Plans, Plans, Plans

International forest protection leaders announced a global campaign to derail World Trade Organization (WTO) plans to write trade agreements that will threaten the world's forests at the upcoming WTO Ministerial. The announcement followed a forest protection summit that included activists from fourteen countries including forest products-exporting nations Indonesia, Chile, Brazil, Mexico, New Zealand, Canada and Russia, where the bulk of the Earth's remaining old growth forests are located, and from heavy forest products-using countries Japan, the United States and the European Union. Each group will bring pressure to bear on the WTO, from lobbying governments to demonstrations in the streets of Seattle when the WTO meets on November 27. To get involved contact Rainforest Action Network, 221 Pine St. #500, San Francisco, CA 94104; (206) 427-5128; ranmedia@ran.org.

Other WTO protest plans include a Teach-In organized by The International Forum on Globalization (IFG), to be held in Seattle. The event will take place at the Benaroy, a Seattle Symphony Hall, a few days before the WTO meeting. Most of the Teach-In will be free to the public. It will focus on the problems of economic globalization and, specifically, on the activities of the WTO and other international agreements and institutions. Panels of speakers will address the current failed economic model and focus on areas such as agriculture, the environment, human rights, labor rights, consumer rights, food safety, public health and more. Please contact The International Forum on Globalization, 1555 Pacific Ave., San Francisco, CA 94109, (415) 771-3394; fax 771-1121; www.ifg.org.

## *Inhabiting the Land*

A CONFERENCE ON CULTURE AND ECOLOGY

FEATURING: WES JACKSON

PRESIDENT OF THE LAND INSTITUTE

HOCKING HILLS, OHIO, SEPTEMBER 10-12

THE BUCKEYE FOREST COUNCIL AT (740) 549-6400

## Chiapas Media Project

The Chiapas Media Project is seeking participants for their next delegation to indigenous communities in Chiapas, Mexico August 7-17.

The Project has scholarships available for youth of color (ages 18-29).

The Chiapas Media Project (CMP) provides tools and training that enable marginalized indigenous communities in Chiapas to create their own media. Working bi-nationally, CMP provides video cameras, editing equipment and media technology training to communities in Chiapas.

Our delegations offer participants the chance to learn about and directly experience life in the Indigenous communities of Chiapas. These delegations demonstrate solidarity with the people in the communities by delivering video cameras and computers. Delegates travel with Mexican and indigenous trainers who oversee community-based workshops in video production and/or computers.

If you speak Spanish and have experience with video production or computers, you can participate in the courses. Otherwise, delegates will be incorporated into the life of the community. No experience with video equipment or computers is necessary to participate in a delegation. In all cases, you have a unique opportunity to learn first-hand about day-to-day community life in Chiapas. You share the struggles and dreams and return to the US with a broader understanding of the lives of indigenous Chiapanecos.

The delegation costs \$400 plus airfares. This covers ground transport (the most expensive part), lodging and most food. Students and youth of color are eligible for scholarships.

## PROJECT VIDEOS

"Tour '99 is the latest release from the indigenous video-makers in the autonomous regions in Chiapas. The video includes 3 parts. The first is a description of the Media Project and the various on-going programs that they sponsor—human rights monitoring, women's workshops and computer workshops.

The second part is an in-camera edit made by people in El Trabajo Autonomous Municipality about their sugar cane collective. The third part, entitled "Año Nuevo 1999" ("New Years 1999"), was filmed in Ejido Morelia and features exclusive video footage of the most recent New Years' celebration there. The video was shot and edited by videomakers from the community of San Andres Sakamch'en.

Also available is "The Bad Harvest" a four-minute snapshot that documents how 1998's severe weather, intensive militarization and a lack of technical assistance have affected crops in the Chiapan highlands. It tells a poignant story of poverty using first hand testimony from several indigenous communities.

"Now we cannot work because we are afraid of the army," laments a young woman who traces a large part of the problem to the military presence throughout the state.

The video is a co-production of indigenous youth who are learning video skills through the Chiapas Media Project and professional video producers from Mexico and the US.

Tour '99—\$20

The Bad Harvest—\$15

Set of 2—\$30

Send checks to:

Chiapas Media Project 4834 N. Springfield  
Chicago, IL 60625; (773)583-7728;  
cmp@vida.com.

## 2nd Nuclear Free Northeast Action Camp

Dummerston, Vermont, August 20-28

Last year's first such endeavor drew 500 people to the week-long camp of workshops, seminars and trainings. Last year's camp concluded with a rally and civil disobedience action at the Vermont Yankee nuclear reactor where 21 people were arrested.

The camp is part of the growing Nuclear Free Northeast campaign, which is working to close atomic power reactors. Already, four major commercial reactors have permanently shut in the region: Yankee Rowe, Connecticut Yankee, Maine Yankee and Millstone-2. But several other reactors are troubled from both safety and

economic standpoints.

"This year, we are extending our campaign geographically to include all of New York State, including the Indian Point reactors, and New Jersey, including the Salem, Hope Creek and Oyster Creek reactors," said Debby Katz, president of Citizens Awareness Network (CAN), a grassroots organization with offices in Massachusetts, Vermont, New York and Connecticut.

The camp is being sponsored by CAN, The Nuclear Information and Resource Service and The Ruckus Society.

Contact CAN at (413) 339-5781; can@shaysnet.com; www.nirs.org.

## RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK 11th ANNUAL RAINFOREST ACTION CHAUTAUQUA

BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA, AUGUST 18-23

Come to a gathering of the grassroots rainforest protection movement in the beautiful heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains at the edge of Pisgah National Forest just 20 minutes from Asheville, NC. Join us for campaign strategy sessions, skills trainings, issue briefings, activist community building and of course plenty of fire pit fun and lakeside leisure. Chautauqua is a fun, rejuvenating and empowering forum for activists to share their skills, reflect on our work and identify the ways we can build stronger movements for ecological sanity and justice. Don't miss one of the biggest and most productive yearly gatherings in the international forest protection movement.

For more information contact the Rainforest Action Network at 221 Pine, 5th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104; (415) 398-4404; rags@ran.org; www.ran.org.



16TH ANNUAL TWIN OAKS WOMEN'S GATHERING

## Women: Celebrating Ourselves in Community

August 27-29

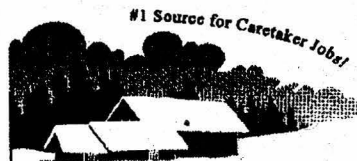
Music • Drumming • Camping • Swimming • Workshops  
Dance • Sweats • Mud Pit • Singing • Games

Sliding scale \$40-\$140, contact Twin Oaks Rd., Louisa, VA 23093; gathering@twinoaks.org; (540) 894-5126, fax (540) 894-4112.

## Green Anarchist

Available for \$2 from  
Uncivilized Books, POB  
11331, Eugene, OR  
97440, USA

LIVE RENT-FREE, WORLDWIDE



The Caretaker Gazette is for those who would like to live rent-free and caretake properties worldwide. Published since 1983, subscribers receive 600+ property caretaking opportunities each year.

Subscriptions are only \$27/year. The Caretaker Gazette, Box 5887-EF, Carefree, AZ 85377. (602) 488-1970. www.angelfire.com/wa/caretaker



## On Indian Land

On Indian Land is an American Indian issues newspaper covering topics of importance to indigenous peoples of North America, including treaty, land, and sovereignty rights, religious freedom, and political prisoners. Subscription rates for 1 year/4 issues are:

\$12 (individual)

\$20 (institution)

Make check out & send to:

Support for Native Sovereignty  
PO Box 2104, Seattle WA 98111



## CONCERNED SINGLES NEWSLETTER

links compatible,  
socially conscious  
singles who care  
about the earth,  
the environment,  
and a healthy society.

Nationwide • All ages • Since 1984

Free Sample: Write Box 444-EF,

Lenox Dale, MA 01242;

call (413) 445-6309;

or browse <http://www.concernedsingles.com>

# UNITED KINGDOM EARTH FIRST! SUMMER GATHERING

AUGUST 18-23

Since 1992, the Earth First! Summer Gathering has been a space for all activists involved in environmental direct action, from around Britain and further afield, to come together, learn new skills and plan campaigns. The 1999 gathering, in East Anglia, should have plenty to interest and inspire you, whether you have been active for years or are just starting out.

During the four day gathering there will be hundreds of workshops and discussions focussed around networking, skill sharing and campaign planning. For details on the location please send a self addressed stamped envelope to EF! Gathering Map, Cornerstone Resource Centre, 16 Sholebroke Ave., Leeds LS7 3HB; gathering99@iname.com; www.eco-action.org/gathering.

## American Radical Gathering

Athens, Georgia, September 18-19,

A conference to build a 21st Century movement of resistance through nonviolence. Contact the 1999 American Radical Gathering, c/o Micheal Collins, 1137 South Milledge Ave. #9, Athens, Georgia 30605; (706) 543-3026; AmRadGathering@hotmail.com; www.homestead.com/amradgathering

## CULTURE AND ANIMALS FOUNDATION 14TH ANNUAL COMPASSIONATE LIVING FESTIVAL OCTOBER 1-3, 1999 RALEIGH, NC

- ▶ Featuring Howard Lyman, Joanne Stepaniak, Richard Ryder, and other great speakers
- ▶ With inspiring, informative presentations on veganism, fur, direct action, students' rights, the history of animal rights, cats, dogs, and animals as spiritual teachers
- ▶ Plus gourmet vegan meals!

FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE OR CALL:  
CULTURE AND ANIMALS FOUNDATION  
3509 EDEN CROFT DRIVE  
RALEIGH, NC 27612  
TEL (919) 782-3739  
FAX (919) 782-6464



## the Nuclear Resister

information about  
& support for  
imprisoned  
anti-nuclear &  
anti-war activists



- Action reports & future actions
- Prisoner support info
- International resistance news
- Writings from jail
- A network for nonviolent direct action

\$15/year  
(US\$20 Canada, US\$25 overseas)  
**ASK FOR A FREE SAMPLE ISSUE**

POB 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733 USA  
nukeresister@igc.org



## Who Says You Can't Change the World?

Check out *E/The Environmental Magazine* and learn how you can make a difference in your world!



Whether you want to simply "green up" your own personal lifestyle — or join in efforts to clean up oceans, save wildlife, or eliminate pesticides from our food — *E* will inform and inspire you 6 times per year!

*E* covers the "big" issues, like global warming, the state of our oceans, and the impacts of growing population — all with contact information so you can plug into efforts to turn the tide. PLUS, *E*'s "Green Living" departments will provide you with loads of information and ideas for living more in harmony with the Earth.

"Where have I been to miss such an outstanding publication?"

— Dean Whitehead, West Hollywood, CA

**SEND FOR A FREE TRIAL ISSUE TODAY!**

**YES!** Send me my FREE trial issue of *E/The Environmental Magazine*. If I like it, I can subscribe for one year (6 issues) for only \$19.95. If not, I'll just return the subscription invoice marked "cancel" and return it to you. The FREE issue is mine to keep with no cost or obligation to me.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

AS9830

*E* Magazine, P.O. Box 2047, Marion, OH 43305

**For Faster Service Call 1-800-967-6572!**





# ARMED WITH VISIONS



## RAPPACCINI'S GARDEN\*

Hallowed is the corn pollen  
to the tribes of the Southwest  
Sprinkled in holy ritual to  
assure the fertility of earth

Such are the ways of worship  
of the natural man  
Respect for the forces which keep the  
world in balance between life and death

Now, a vile genetic alchemy has transformed  
golden grains of pollen into particles of doom  
in rowed fields of man made blight  
to be tiny agents of death in wind powered flight

Caterpillars feeding on milkweed poisoned  
The formation of the chrysalis now  
nature's faded dream  
The miracle aborted of the Monarch's angel flight

While the Rappaccini Corporation counts  
the silver earned by nature's betrayal  
Profit by any means its game  
heedless of the world awaiting

the Monarchs that never came

—Sid Bridges

\*from N. Hawthorne's Rappaccini's Daughter



## HUMANURE INSTEAD O' SEWERS

The wild is no place for fecophobes  
The air and earth are teeming with microbes  
We face our shit here  
We sniff it, touch it  
Stir it, eventually eat it

Shitting with a view of mountain peaks  
Letting out plops in between leaks  
Shitting in the midst of a thunder shower  
Feeling the pleasure and the power

Squatting and squeezing  
Grunting while releasing  
The way Life intended  
Along with the Circle,  
My spirit is mended  
It's a basic human need  
Colons and conscience emptied



Shit shoot shat  
"My friend broke open a coyote scat"  
I stepped in bear shit in my bare feet  
Got a good look at what the bears eat  
Lots of berry seeds It even smelled sweet  
A perfect system  
The cycle's complete

—Mike Devereaux

all rights reserved to the authors



Clear as cut glass  
& just as dangerous



So the critters are meeting, having conversation  
Planning the fate of the human damnation  
Here's the proposal,  
Dodo Bird corporation will develop  
Suburbville, grow a forest, kind of a "landfill"  
The humans' homes are in the way  
Their stores, roads, the places they play  
and the humans themselves are in question today  
"They're nuts, let's eat 'em," the squirrel chipped in  
The crow said "let's peck 'em all in the shins."  
"Y'all are so croooooool, hoo hoo hool, dont you care?"  
The people, they all need to live somewhere."  
These were the words of the wise spotted owl.  
The coyote grimaced, and let out a howl  
The redwood tree watched w/scorn & a scowl  
"Fuckin' liberal" said the wolf, with a growl  
"Let's hunt 'em awhile, thin 'em out" said the deer  
They've been nicely fattened on twinkies & BEER  
(pound 3x) order order order said the bear  
we need to develop more living space there  
clear cut the suburbs, clean up the air  
growth, growth, growth, more trees lakes & spaces!  
I'm so sick of malls, and freshly scrubbed faces

Besiiides—it's not like humans are endangered or anything.  
"yeah" said the skunk "who cares what they think  
They have no power, no votes & they stink"  
"They stink, let's roll in them" barked feral dog  
"or sink 'em up to their neck in the bog"  
"We're from the MASCARA Club" said some flies,  
"Please may we propose this compromise?"  
"we know the humans are a bunch of brats  
but they still deserve some habitat  
just leave some houses, a few per acre  
and maybe a place they can worship their maker  
Then they'll be OK, and won't seem so brutal  
it's not like we're asking them to be feudal."  
"good idea, everyone wins" said the feral human."  
"The fit will survive, a la Charly Darwin  
we'll dirt fill their pools, bulldoze homes, put up forests  
put some in zoos and museums, for the tourists."  
"OK, so it's settled, their party is over  
we're reclaiming their land to forests, and clover.  
And leave 'em some fragments, so they won't feel so scammed  
Now, next on the agenda, about that big dam...

—T. Handy Loon  
7.98 RRR Umpqua

Send poems to: Warrior Poets Society, ASUC Box 361, Berkeley, CA 94720-4510

# POLITICAL PRISONER DIRECTORY

## MOVE 9

Michael Davis Africa, #AM4973, SCI Graterford, POB 244, Graterford, PA 19426-0244, USA  
 Edward Goodman Africa, #AM4984, SCI Camp Hill, PA 17001-0200, USA  
 Janet Holloway Africa, #006308, SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Avenue, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238, USA  
 Delbert Orr Africa, #AM4985, SCI Dallas, Dallas, PA 18612, USA  
 Janine Phillips Africa, #006309, SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Avenue, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238, USA  
 William Phillips Africa, #AM4984, SCI Dallas, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612, USA  
 Charles Simms Africa, #AM4975, SCI Graterford, POB 244, Graterford, PA 19426-0244  
 Debbie Simms Africa, #006307, SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Avenue, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238, USA  
 Merle Austin Africa (R.I.P.)

## Black Liberation

Mumia Abu-Jamal, #AM8335, SCI Greene, 1040 East Roy Furman Highway, Waynesburg, PA 15370-8090, USA  
 Russel Maroon Shoats, #AF3855, SCI Greene, 1040 E. Roy Furman Highway, Waynesburg PA 15370-8090, USA  
 Sekou Odinga, 05228-054, Box 1000, Marion IL 62959, USA

Sundiata Acoli (C.Squire), #39794-066, POB 3000, White Deer, PA 17887, USP Allenwood, USA  
 Ojore Nuru Lutalo, #59860, CN-861, Trenton, NJ 08625, USA  
 Albert Washington, #77A1528, CCFMain, POB 2001, Dannemora, NY 12929-2001, USA  
 Anthony Jalil Bottom, #77A4283, POB 338, Napanoch, NY 12458, USA  
 Dr. Mutulu Shakur, #83205-012, POB PMB, D-Unit 105, Atlanta GA 30315, USA  
 Herman Bell, #79C0262, POB 51, Comstock, NY 12821-0051, USA  
 Marshall Eddie Conway, #116469, Box 534, Jessup, MD 20794, USA  
 Hanif S. Bey (B. Gereau), #96544-131, POB 8500 ADX, Florence, CO, USA

## Native Sovereignty

Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA  
 Robert H. Wilson (Standing Deer), #640289, Pack One Prison, Route 3, Box 300, Navasota TX 77869, USA

## Anti-Imperialist

Ray Luc Levasseur, #10376-016, POB 8500 ADX, Florence, CO 81226-8500, USA  
 Richard Williams, #10377-016, 3901 Klien Blvd., Lompoc, CA 93436, USA  
 Jaan Karl Laaman, #10372-016, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA  
 Thomas Manning, #10373-016, POB 1000,

Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA  
 Sylvia Baraldini, #05125-054, FCI Danbury, Pembroke Station, Danbury, CT 06811, USA  
 Linda Evans, #19973-054, Unit A; 5701 8th St, Camp Parks, Dublin, CA 94568, USA  
 Marilyn Buck, 5701 8th St., Camp Parks, Dublin, CA 94568, USA  
 Bill Dunne, #10916-086, POB 1000, Marion, IL 62959, USA  
 Larry Giddings, #10917-086, POB 1000, Lewisburg, PA 17837, USA  
 David Gilbert, #83A6158, POB 51, Comstock, NY 12821-0051, USA  
 Yu Kikumura, #09008-050, POB 8500 ADX, Florence, CO 81226-8500, USA

## Puerto Rican Independentistas

Alejandrina Torres, #92154-024, FCI Danbury, Pembroke Station, Danbury, CT 06811, USA  
 Alicia Rodriguez, #88972-024, Unit B, 5701 8th St., Camp Parks, Dublin, CA 94568, USA  
 Jose Solis Jordan, #08121-424, 71 West Van Buren, Chicago, IL 60605, USA (awaiting transfer)  
 Elizam Escobar, #88969-025, Box 1500, FCI El Reno-Unit1, El Reno, OK 73036, USA  
 Oscar Lopez Rivera, #87651-025, Box 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808, USA  
 Adolfo Matos, #88968-024, 3901 Klien Blvd., Lompoc, CA 93436, USA  
 Ricardo Jimenez, #88967-024 A-2, Box 33; Terre Haute, IN 47808, USA

## EARTH FIRST! PROJECTS AND CAMPAIGNS

Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers Video Project  
 POB 7941, Missoula, MT 59807  
 (406) 728-0867; cmcr@wildrockies.org  
 www.wildrockies.org/cmcr  
**Direct Action Fund**  
 POB 210, Canyon, CA 94516  
 (925) 376-7329; fax 631-7958  
**End Corporate Dominance**  
 HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830  
 (541) 468-2028  
**Northeast Forest Practices Campaign**  
 POB 4101, Portsmouth, NH 03802  
 noreastah@acadia.net  
**Sea Defense Alliance**  
 POB 400, Williams, OR 97544  
 sedna@cdsnet.net  
**Warrior Poets Society**  
 ASUC Box 361, Berkeley, CA 94720-4510  
**Zero Extraction on Public Lands**  
 EF!, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440

## For more information:

**Direct Action Defense Fund**, POB 57357 Tucson, AZ 85732-7357, USA; (520) 795-5171  
**North American ALF Support Group**, Box 69597, 5845 Yonge St, Willowdale, Ont M2M 4K3, Canada  
**Earth Liberation Prisoners Zine:**  
 www.geocities.com/RainForest/Jungle/1664

# Earth First! Trinkets and Snake Oil

## T-SHIRTS

### No Fucking Compromise

White on black. S, M, L and XL for \$12, XXL for \$15

### Arm And Hammer Wrench

White on yellow. S, M and L for \$15

### Earth First! Fist

Black fist on willow or olive or green fist on unbleached. S, M, L and XL for \$12 and XXL for \$15

Two-color, green and white fist on black or multi-colored fist on black or forest green. S, M, L and XL for \$15 and XXL for \$17.50

### Earth First! Tools

Black on natural. S, M, L and XL for \$12

### Eagle

Black on natural. S, M, L and XL for \$12

### Visualize Direct Action

Black and white on natural. S, M, L and XL for \$12



### Cotton Caps

Desert camo, adjustable band \$12



### Fist Patch

Quality 3-inch patches \$3

### Tools Bandana

Unbleached 100 percent cotton, slogans printed with non-toxic ink, \$3

### Monkeywrench Pendant

12" necklace, sterling silver \$15  
 One post earring \$10  
 One dangle earring \$10  
 Lapel pin \$10

### Rubber Stamp

Sturdy wood-block stamps from unfinished scrap lumber  
 EF! fist or tools \$5

### Hemp Wallet

Tan with black and green fist and black lettering, specify wording "Greed Kills" or "Earth First!" \$10

### Hemp Cap

Tan with black and green embroidered fist, black lettering, adjustable size \$14

### Window Sticker

3-inch EF! Fist, 4 for \$1

## BUMPERSTICKERS

### Most are \$1

- American Wilderness: Love it or Leave it Alone
- Another Mormon on Drugs
- Copulate Don't Populate
- Darwin (words inside fish)
- Devellopers Go Build in Hell
- Don't Like Environmentalists? Put Them Out of Work
- Dream Back the Bison, Sing Back the Swan
- Earth First!
- Eschew Surplage
- Fight the Power
- Hayduke Lives!
- I'd Rather Be Monkeywrenching
- If Your Pecker Was As Small As Mine You'de Need a Muscle Wagon, Too (on non-removable paper, \$.50 each)
- I'll Take My Beef Poached, Thanks

- Love Your Mother, Don't become A Father
- Love Your Mother, Don't Become One
- Native (with Earth graphic)
- Nature Bats Last
- Not Politically Correct
- Pay Your Rent, Work for the Earth
- Question Technology
- Real Men Don't Shoot Wolves
- Real Men Get Vasectomies
- Resist Much, Obey Little
- Save the Dammed Salmon
- Save the Wild
- Stop Clearcutting (on non-removable paper \$.50)
- Stop Public Lands Ranching
- Stop the Forest Service, Save Our Wild Country
- Subvert the Dominant Paradigm
- Thank You for Not Breeding
- Think GLOBally, Act Locally
- Visualize Industrial Collapse

## Earth First! Merchandise Order Form

#	description	color	size	price

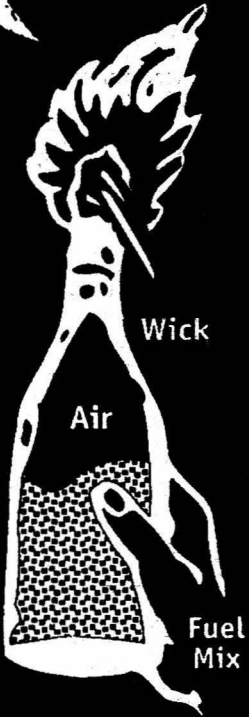
TOTAL \$   
 foriegn orders add 15%

Name   
 Street   
 City  State/Country  Zip

Make checks payable to the Earth First! Journal.  
 Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Questions? Call (541) 344-8004.

Send to: EF! Merchandise, POB 1415, Eugene, Or 97440 USA

# TCHKUNG!



## THE MOLOTOV COCKTAIL

1. Fill bottle just over half full with flammable liquid (gas/petrol, kerosene)
2. Add thickening agent (crushed styrofoam, palm oil, dish soap, etc.) until bottle is two-thirds full
3. Plug bottle with fuel soaked rag
4. The air in the top third of bottle causes explosion on impact
5. Light and throw!
6. For further instructions see new CD!

# INCITE

## A Soundtrack For Post World Insurrection

New musical and propaganda release from Post World Industries!  
Available thru EF! Journal at activist prices!  
And at record stores everywhere!

## Join the Student Movement for Environmental Justice

THE RADICAL STUDENT MOVEMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS ALIVE AND KICKING ASS! SEAC IS A STUDENT-RUN, STUDENT-LED NATIONAL NETWORK OF PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS DEDICATED TO UPROOTING ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICES THROUGH ACTION AND EDUCATION.

Creating a New Culture  
CHECK OUT SEAC'S MOVEMENT MAGAZINE: THRESHOLD. IT CONNECTS STUDENT AND YOUTH ACTIVISTS WITH ARTICLES, ACTION ALERTS, REGIONAL UPDATES, CONTACTS, CALENDARS OF EVENTS, AND MORE!



CONTACT THE SEAC NATIONAL OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
HTTP://WWW.SEAC.ORG  
215-222-4711  
215-222-2696 (FAX)  
SEAC@SEAC.ORG  
PO Box 31909  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19104

## Breaking Free video magazine

Tired of mass media bias against Eco-Warriors? So were we! Breaking Free Video Magazine is a VHS periodical documenting direct action against those who destroy the earth and it's creatures!  
**Issue #1 Available Now**

Order your copy of Breaking Free for \$10 + \$3 Shipping and Packaging. Add \$10 + \$1 shipping for each additional copy up to 5. Contact us for bulk rates.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **Aquarian Productions**

Visit our website at:  
<http://www.efn.org/~joshua>

P.O. Box 50486  
Eugene, OR 97405

## NO COMPROMISE!

The Militant, Direct Action Magazine of Grassroots Animal Liberationists & Their Supporters

Every issue is jam packed with ALF action updates, interviews with activists, useful how-to information, commentary, news and reports from grassroots groups around the world. *No Compromise* is written by activists for activists.



*No Compromise* is published quarterly.  
Back issues are \$2 each.

Phone: 1-800-604-5427  
E-mail: [NoComp@waste.org](mailto:NoComp@waste.org)  
[www.nocompromise.org](http://www.nocompromise.org)

Checks should be made payable to Animal Rights America and sent to:

**No Compromise**

PO Box 5236, Old Bridge, NJ 08857  
[ ] \$15 Subscription [ ] \$20 Outside US  
[ ] \$10 Low income [ ] \$\_\_\_\_\_ Donation\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\*Animal Rights America is a federally recognized 501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization - all donations are fully tax deductible.



## Turn Your Phone Into An EarthPhone!

You make the call: Do you want your telephone bill supporting obnoxious corporate ad campaigns, or *Earth First! Journal*?

With our Affinity Long Distance service, every time you make a long distance call, 5% of your charges go to *Earth First! Journal*.

We offer you a choice of rate plans: 15¢/minute all the time; 10¢ off-peak/25¢ peak (Mon.-Fri. 7-7); or 10¢ all the time (10¢ plan has \$5 monthly fee if usage is below \$30). Also, low rates for in-state calls and business phones; calling cards; etc.

More information: Steve Freedkin, 510-644-2778, [Steve@InternetAddress.com](mailto:Steve@InternetAddress.com), or on the Web at: <http://home.sprintmail.com/~sfreedkin/affinity.html>

## How 'bout a subscription to Earth First!, the Radical Environmental Journal?

clip and send to:

Earth First! Journal, Subscriptions, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440 USA



- \$500 LIFETIME SUBSCRIPTION
- \$25 Regular Rate
- \$20 Low Income/Non-Profit/Library
- \$35 Anonymous Envelope (1st class)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DONATION

- \$35 Surface Mail, International (US\$)
- \$35 Air Mail, Canada or Mexico
- \$45 Air Mail, International (US\$, no foreign checks)
- \$45 Corporate or Law Enforcement Rate

Subscriber Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

### Credit Card Orders

Visa/MC (circle one)

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

The Earth First! Journal subscription list is confidential and never traded. If you use an alias, make sure that the post office knows that you, or someone, is getting mail at your address under that name or it may not be delivered.



# Earth First!

August-September 1999  
Lughnasadh

\$4.00 Canada  
\$3.50 US

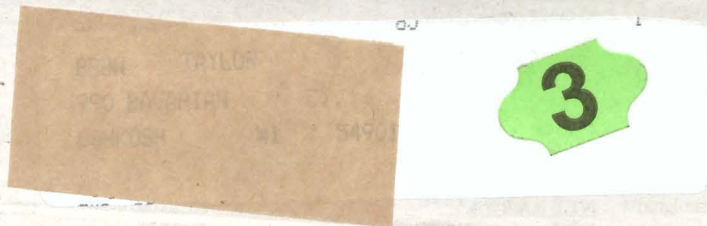
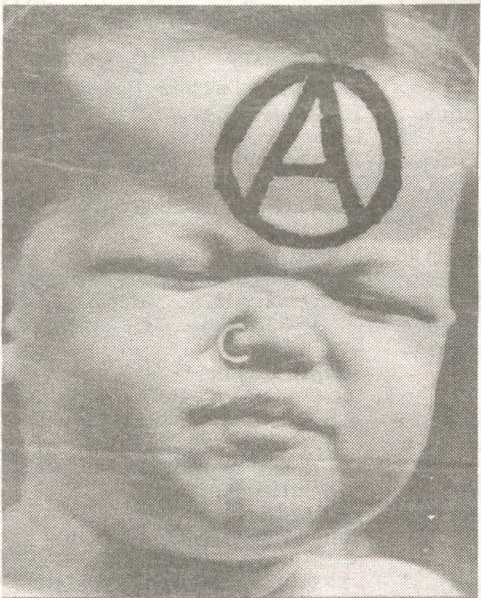


NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

Earth First! Journal  
POB 1415  
Eugene, OR 97440 USA  
*Address Service Requested*

## PERIODICALS

Postage Paid at Eugene, OR 97401



### Innards

June 18 Global Uprising.....	1	The Power of Song.....	7
Lynx Independence Day.....	1	Robert Bullard Interview.....	8
Common Sense Ecology.....	2	Eagle Creek Defense.....	10
A Broader Look at Biotech.....	3	NAFTA and the Border.....	12
BBB Creams Clausen.....	4	Women Rise Up for the Bio bio.....	13
EF!/Steelworker Coalition vs. Hurwitz.....	5	Defending Misanthropy.....	21
Classic EF! Moments.....	5	Minnesota Pieing Update.....	23
Frankenfarms in Chiapas.....	6	Narmada Satyagraha.....	26
		When An Agent Knocks.....	28
		Leonard Peltier's Sundance.....	29



A red check mark means your subscription has expired. Time to renew.