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Forest Voice

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THE WILD TRUTH...

HOW MUCH TRUTH IS LEFT?

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When the Going Gets Tough



Yes, I know that some of us are feeling like aliens in a strange and hostile nation where honor and integrity, principles and ethics no longer matter.

While we are barely beginning to hear about the possibility of massive election fraud involving disenfranchised voters and corrupted electronic voting; while we are wondering if the Electoral College will do anything out of the ordinary when it meets in DC on the 12th of December; and what analysis, if any, will be done about the honesty and credibility of the offshore and secret counting of six million military votes by Halliburton subsidiary, KBR; wondering whether or not voters can persuade the Democratic Party leadership to do anything about these election concerns that could or would assure the general public that they can or should be able to have confidence that America's democratic voting process has not been and is not permanently perverted and corrupted.

Just think about history's many "little people", men, women and even children, who overcame impossible odds to accomplish great things. We consider them heroes today but at the time they were just doing what they knew had to be done and had the courage to do what was, at least to them, the right thing to do.

Just remember the young man in front of the tank at Tiannamon Square who inspired so many.

Just think of the rather sudden and unanticipated fall of the Berlin Wall when a spontaneous and peaceful citizen uprising took place when people stood up and said they would no longer accept the unacceptable status quo.

Just think about Richard Nixon winning re-election only to lose office a year later.

Just think about what happened because Rosa Parks got tired and sat down!

Just think about recapturing the passionate ferocity of a cornered rat let alone that of a protective mother bear.

Where is our once great capacity for profound moral outrage and ferocity, our passionate sense of right and wrong?

Just think that that when the going gets tough, the tough get going. And if it wasn't tough, it wouldn't be exciting, and they wouldn't be interested.

As to what we do now, the future is ours to lose. Democracy is lost unless we work to get it back and then protect it. We seem to have thought that it was okay not to be involved in politics at the local, city, county state, federal levels. That we didn't have to run for office or even help others who did. Meanwhile our adversaries did the organizing work, took over our local school boards, committees, city, county, state and federal governments.

Unfortunately we have been complicit. Epitomized by the League of Conservation Voters and their leadership of representatives from the major environmental groups. Under the direction of Bruce Babbitt and Jim Maddy the LCV some time ago decided to make saving nature merely a partisan issue to help Democrats get elected, even if they were merely less environmentally "evil" than some Republicans. The LCV's "Dirty Dozen" list of political bad guys targeted for defeat, is never the worst of our environmental enemies but the least important, most vulnerable and easily defeated.

The LCV still gives the worst and most extreme members of Congress a free pass. Even though the Tom Delays of Congress are the ones who deserve to be slammed, attacked and destroyed. Why? Because they are ones who are hurting America and all hard working American taxpayers and citizens; Because they are aiding and abetting the cannibalizing of our priceless and irreplaceable national forests, our trees, soil, air and water just so corporate contributors can get quick buck and public subsidy. Because they are the powerful leaders in Congress doing the most harm. Because they have betrayed our Constitution and our Country.. Their implicit policy is to Rip It Up, Tear It Out, Let Our Children Do Without. Money is their one true God. And only the biggest and baddest corporations and the very rich count. Everyone else is dirt.

So lets take back the moral high ground. Lets draw up our simple and undeniable Contract For America, 10 points we can all agree on. Lets support honest candidates and champions for our issues. Instead of quarrelling and fighting each other lets find a line in the sand we can all agree on and take a blood oath if necessary and then fight accordingly with all the ferocity of a protective mother bear. Sooner or later we will win.

No more Sophie's Choices. No more deals. No more sellouts. No more negotiated settlements. No more ethical and moral tradeoffs and compromises. No more fraudulent public land extraction, logging, mining, grazing, drilling. No more third world colony behavior. No more exporting of American jobs and natural resources.

As Molly Ivins said (11.04.2004): *"So, fellow progressives [real conservatives too], stop thinking about suicide or moving abroad. Want to feel better? Eat a sour grape, then do something immediately, now, today. Figure out what you can do to help rescue the country -- join something, send a little money to some group, call somewhere and offer to volunteer, find a politician you like at the local level and start helping him or her to move up. Think about how you can lend a hand to the amazing myriad efforts that will promptly break out to help the country recover from what it has done to itself. Now is the time. Don't mourn, organize."*

- Molly Ivins, 2004.11.04

ORDER YOUR BOOK OF AERIAL FOREST PHOTOS

Every citizen who is talking about Public land issues, national forests in particular should be armed with one of our books of aerial landscape photos of our country's national forests. They are 56 pages of 11x17 images. They expose the industries' lies. They can immediately explain the issue to media, politicians, and community groups. They are invaluable. Order yours now for \$100 including shipping and handling.



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No Thanks
All those who feel it's OK to cut deals that leave us with less native forests and clean water.

Submission Guidelines
We welcome unsolicited submissions that address issues relevant to public lands protection and support the Native Forest Council's mission. If you would like us to return your work, please include a SASE.

Inspired? Incensed? Impressed?
Please write:
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The Native Forest Council is a nonprofit, tax deductible organization founded by business and professional people alarmed by the wanton destruction of our national forests. We believe a sound economy and a sound environment need not be incompatible and that current public land management practices are potentially catastrophic to both.

The mission of the Native Forest Council is to protect and preserve every acre of publicly owned land in the United States.

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News and Views

Studies show Arctic Melting

The long-awaited Arctic Climate Impact Assessment report says the average Arctic temperature has increased twice as much as that of the rest of the world over the past few decades.

The study is the biggest survey to date of the Arctic climate, conducted by 250 scientists from eight circumpolar countries.

Arctic temperatures could leap 7 to 13 degrees by 2100 - roughly twice the global average projected by UN reports. Siberia and Alaska have already warmed by 4 to 7 degrees since the 1950s.

"Earth's climate is changing, with the global temperature now rising at a rate unprecedented in the experience of modern human society," says the report.

Who wins from this? Oil Companies. The Arctic region, particularly offshore, has huge oil and gas reserves, mostly in Russia, Canada, Alaska, Greenland and Norway.

Warmer temperatures would make it easier to drill and ship oil from the Arctic, the report said. It did not attempt to quantify the costs of drilling and shipping Arctic oil and gas, or estimate how high energy prices would have to be to justify drilling in the region.

Blocking Environmental Law suits

Oregon Senator Gordon Smith proposed legislation in September that would end legal challenges to logging of old growth forests in Oregon.

In his fight against "radical environmentalists", Smith has stated that he will do everything in his power to move forward logging in the areas burned in the Biscuit fire of 2002.

For more info on logging the Biscuit, see the article by Forester Roy Keene on page 13 of this issue.

Japan to meet Kyoto Protocol targets by buying rights to pollute from companies in 2006

Japan's government said Monday it will try to meet its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions promised under the Kyoto Protocol on global warming by purchasing the right to pollute from Japanese companies.

The protocol commits 55 industrialized nations to make significant cuts in emissions of gases like carbon dioxide by 2012. Following Russia's endorsement on Thursday, the treaty can go into effect next year.

Tokyo, one of the treaty's biggest supporters, has pledged a 6 percent cut in emissions of greenhouse gases, which trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere and are thought to be a chief cause of global warming. But without major policy changes, Japan's emissions are expected to continue rising.

Effort to save Madagascar rainforest paying off

ANDRINGITRA NATIONAL PARK, Madagascar - In a park that has mountains resembling the Grand Tetons, a rainforest supporting 14 species of lemurs, and a high plateau where wild orchids grow like weeds, the most critical factor in the survival of hundreds of endangered species has been the behavior of humans.

Led by its president, the Indian Ocean nation of Madagascar is racing to save an environment as precious and fragile as any on earth. The outcome of this negotiation will determine the survival of some of the island's 13,000 native flowering plants, 316 native reptiles, and 109 native birds. It will also decide whether scientists still have the opportunity to discover new species -- and whether millions of poor people can earn a living from Madagascar's vast ecological wealth.



Russia ratifies Kyoto Protocol

The Kremlin said Putin signed a parliament bill late on Thursday confirming Russia's ratification of the protocol. Both chambers of Russia's parliament approved ratification of the pact last month after Putin pointed the way. The U.N. accord, backed by 126 countries, will formally enter into force 90 days after the Russian ratification documents are filed with the United Nations.

Olympic Park Violating Wilderness Act

Lawsuit to Block Pre-Fabs Being Helicoptered Into Wilderness

Tacoma, WA - Olympic National Park's decision to airlift pre-fabricated buildings into designated wilderness is a violation of the Wilderness Act, according to a suit filed in U.S. District Court in Tacoma

CONTENTS

- 1 **Behind the Beauty Strip**
Executive Director Tim Hermach speaks his mind.
- 3 **News and Views**
The Melting Artic, Blocking environmental suits in Oregon, .
- 4 **Compromise, Hell!**
Environmentalists have given up too much by not being radical enough
- 6 **2003 Annual Report**
- 11 **NFC Eco-Tour Giveaway!**
Native Forest Council and Outdoor Ventures are giving away an Eco-tour on one of Oregon's beautiful rivers. Sign up now!
- 12 **The Davis Lake Fire: An Inevitable Result of Logging**
The Hermach family trapped in the Davis Lake Fire
- 13 **Biscuit Burn Salvage Logging Plan is Harmful**
by Roy Keene



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Compromise, Hell!

Environmentalists have given up too much by not being radical enough

By Wendell Berry

20 Oct 2004

We are destroying our country -- I mean our country itself, our land. This is a terrible thing to know, but it is not a reason for despair unless we decide to continue the destruction. If we decide to continue the destruction, that will not be because we have no other choice. This destruction is not necessary. It is not inevitable, except that by our submissiveness we make it so.

We Americans are not usually thought to be a submissive people, but of course we are. Why else would we allow our country to be destroyed? Why else would we be rewarding its destroyers? Why else would we all -- by proxies we have given to greedy corporations and corrupt politicians -- be participating in its destruction? Most of us are still too sane to piss in our own cistern, but we allow others to do so and we reward them for it. We reward them so well, in fact, that those who piss in our cistern are wealthier than the rest of us.

How do we submit? By not being radical enough. Or by not being thorough enough, which is the same thing.

Protection to the People

Since the beginning of the conservation effort in our country, conservationists have too often believed that we could protect the land without protecting the people. This has begun to change, but for a while yet we will have to reckon with the old assumption that we can preserve the natural world by protecting wilderness areas while we neglect or destroy the economic landscapes -- the farms and ranches and working forests -- and the people who use them. That assumption is understandable in view of the worsening threats to wilderness areas, but it is wrong. If conservationists hope to save even the wild lands and wild creatures, they are going to have to address issues of economy, which is to say issues of the health of the landscapes and the towns and cities where we do our work, and the quality of that work, and the well-being of the people who do the work.

Governments seem to be making the opposite error, believing that the

people can be adequately protected without protecting the land. And here I am not talking about parties or party doctrines, but about the dominant political assumption. Sooner or later, governments will have to recognize that if the land does not prosper, nothing else can prosper for very long. We can have no industry or trade or wealth or security if we don't uphold the health of the land and the people and the people's work.

It is merely a fact that the land, here and everywhere, is suffering. We have the "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico and undrinkable water to attest to the toxicity of our agriculture. We know that we are carelessly and wastefully logging our forests. We know that soil erosion, air and water pollution, urban sprawl, the proliferation of highways and garbage are making our lives always less pleasant, less healthful, less sustainable, and our dwelling places more ugly.

Nearly 40 years ago, my state of Kentucky, like other coal-producing states, began an effort to regulate strip mining. While that effort has continued, and has imposed certain requirements of "reclamation," strip mining has become steadily more destructive of the land and the land's future. We are now permitting the destruction of entire mountains and entire watersheds. No war, so far, has done such extensive or such permanent damage. If we know that coal is an exhaustible resource, whereas the forests over it are with proper use inexhaustible, and that strip mining destroys the forest virtually forever, how can we permit this destruction? If we honor at all that fragile creature the topsoil, so long in the making, so miraculously made, so indispensable to all life, how can we destroy it? If we believe, as so many of us profess to do, that the earth is God's property and is full of His glory, how can we do harm to any part of it?

In Kentucky, as in other unfortunate states, and again at great public cost, we have allowed -- in fact we have officially encouraged -- the establishment of the confined animal-feeding industry, which exploits and abuses everything involved: the land, the people, the animals, and the consumers. If we love our country, as so many of us profess to do, how can we so desecrate it?

But the economic damage is not

confined just to our farms and forests. For the sake of "job creation," in Kentucky, and in other backward states, we have lavished public money on corporations that come in and stay only so long as they can exploit people here more cheaply than elsewhere. The general purpose of the present economy is to exploit, not to foster or conserve.

Look carefully, if you doubt me, at the centers of the larger towns in virtually every part of our country. You will find that they are economically dead or dying. Good buildings that used to house needful, useful, locally owned small businesses of all kinds are now empty or have evolved into junk stores or antique shops. But look at the houses, the churches, the commercial buildings, the courthouse, and you will see that more often than not they are comely and well made. And then go look at the corporate outskirts: the chain stores, the fast-food joints, the food-and-fuel stores that no longer can be called service stations, the motels. Try to find something comely or well made there.

What is the difference? The difference is that the old town centers were built by people who were proud of their place and who realized a particular value in living there. The old buildings look good because they were built by people who respected themselves and wanted the respect of their neighbors. The corporate outskirts, on the contrary, were built by people who manifestly take no pride in the place, see no value in lives lived there, and recognize no neighbors. The only value they see in the place is the money that can be siphoned out of it to more fortunate places -- that is, to the wealthier suburbs of the larger cities.

Can we actually suppose that we are wasting, polluting, and making ugly this beautiful land for the sake of patriotism and the love of God? Perhaps some of us would like to think so, but in fact this destruction is taking place because we have allowed ourselves to believe, and to live, a mated pair of economic lies: that nothing has a value that is not assigned to it by the market; and that the economic life of our communities can safely be handed over to the great corporations.

We citizens have a large responsibility for our delusion and our destructiveness, and I don't want to minimize that. But I don't want to minimize, either, the large responsibility that is borne by government.

The Dissent of the Governed

It is commonly understood that governments are instituted to provide certain protections that citizens individually cannot provide for themselves. But governments have tended to assume that this responsibility can be fulfilled mainly by the police and the military. They have used their regulatory powers reluctantly and often poorly. Our governments have only occasionally recognized the need of land and people to be protected against economic violence. It is true that economic violence is not always

How do we submit? By not being radical enough, which is the same thing.

How do we we have allowed ourselves to believe, and to live, a mated pair of economic lies: that nothing has a value that is not assigned to it by the market; and that the economic life of our communities can safely be handed over to the great corporations.the same thing.



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as swift, and is rarely as bloody, as the violence of war, but it can be devastating nonetheless. Acts of economic aggression can destroy a landscape or a community or the center of a town or city, and they routinely do so.

Such damage is justified by its corporate perpetrators and their political abettors in the name of the "free market" and "free enterprise," but this is a freedom that makes greed the dominant economic virtue, and it destroys the freedom of other people along with their communities and livelihoods. There are such things as economic weapons of massive destruction. We have allowed them to be used against us, not just by public submission and regulatory malfeasance, but also by public subsidies, incentives, and sufferances impossible to justify.

We have failed to acknowledge this threat and to act in our own defense. As a result, our once-beautiful and bountiful countryside has long been a colony of the coal, timber, and agribusiness corporations, yielding an immense wealth of energy and raw materials at an immense cost to our land and our land's people. Because of that failure also, our towns and cities have been gutted by the likes of Wal-Mart, which have had the permitted luxury of destroying locally owned small businesses by means of volume discounts.

Because as individuals or even as communities we cannot protect ourselves against these aggressions, we need our state and national governments to protect us. As the poor deserve as much justice from our courts as the rich, so the small farmer and the small merchant deserve the same economic justice, the same freedom in the market, as big farmers and chain stores. They should not suffer ruin merely because their rich competitors can afford (for a while) to undersell them.

Furthermore, to permit the smaller enterprises always to be ruined by false advantages, either at home or in the global economy, is ultimately to destroy local, regional, and even national capabilities of producing vital supplies such as food and textiles. It is impossible to understand, let alone justify, a government's willingness to allow the human sources of necessary goods to be destroyed by the "freedom" of this corporate anarchy. It is equally impossible to understand how a government can permit, and even subsidize, the destruction of the land and

the land's productivity. Somehow we have lost or discarded any controlling sense of the interdependence of the earth and the human capacity to use it well. The governmental obligation to protect these economic resources, inseparably human and natural, is the same as the obligation to protect us from hunger or from foreign invaders. In result, there is no difference between a domestic threat to the sources of our life and a foreign one.

It appears that we have fallen into the habit of compromising on issues that should not, and in fact cannot, be compromised. I have an idea that a large number of us, including even a large number of politicians, believe that it is wrong to destroy the earth. But we have

powerful political opponents who insist that an earth-destroying economy is justified by freedom and profit. And so we compromise by agreeing to permit the destruction only of parts of the earth, or to permit the earth to be destroyed a little at a time -- like the famous three-legged pig that was too well-loved to be slaughtered all at once.

The logic of this sort of compromising is clear, and it is clearly fatal. If we continue to be economically dependent on destroying parts of the earth, then eventually we will destroy it all.

Hope Notes

So long a complaint accumulates a debt to hope, and I would like to end with hope. To do so I need only repeat something I said at the beginning: Our destructiveness has not been, and it is not, inevitable. People who use that excuse are morally incompetent, they are cowardly, and they are lazy. Humans don't have to live by destroying the sources of their life. People can change; they can learn to do better. All of us, regardless of party, can be moved by love of our land to rise above the greed and contempt of our land's exploiters. This of course leads to practical problems, and I will offer a short list of practical suggestions.

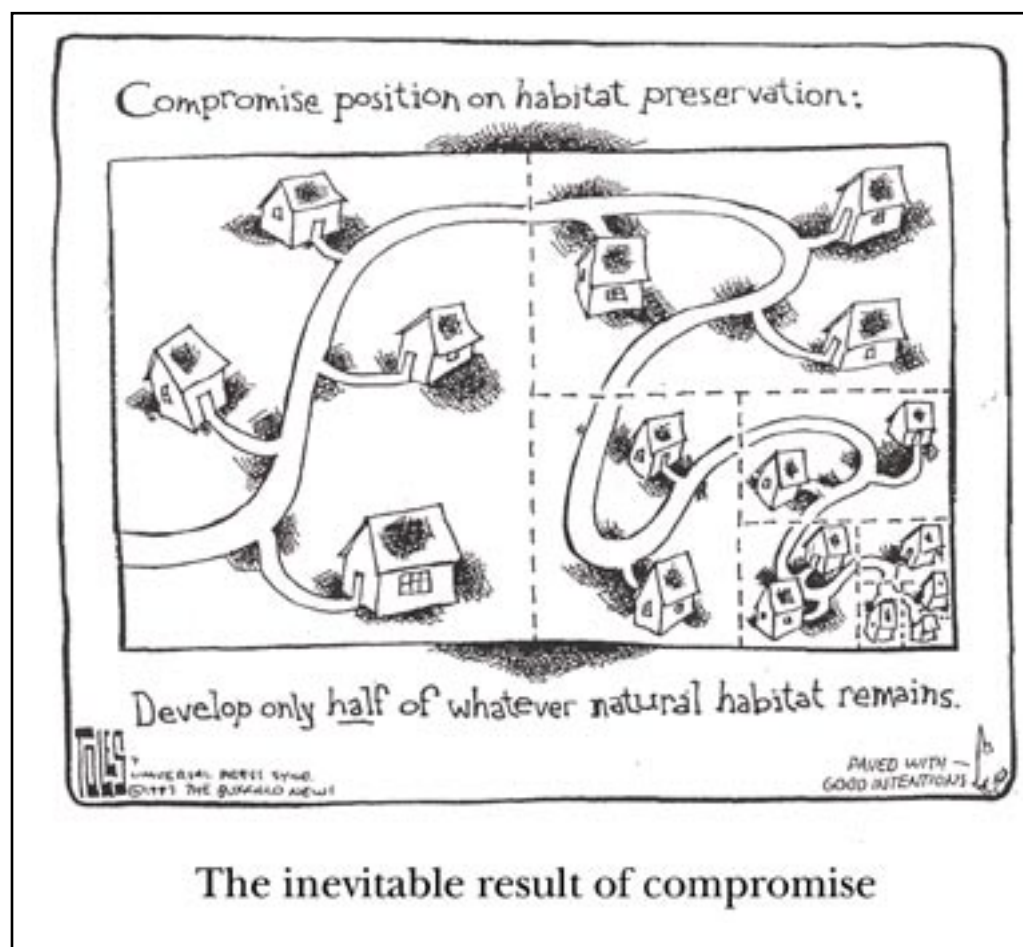
We have got to learn better to respect ourselves and our dwelling places. We need to quit thinking of rural America as a colony. Too much of the economic history of our land has been that of the export of fuel, food, and raw materials that have been destructively and too cheaply produced. We must reaffirm the economic value of good stewardship and good work. For that we will need better accounting than we have had so far.

We need to reconsider the idea of solving our economic problems by "bringing in industry." Every state government appears to be scheming to lure in a large corporation from somewhere else by "tax incentives" and other squanderings of the people's money. We ought to suspend that practice until we are sure that in every state we have made the most and the best of what is already there. We need to build the local economies of our communities and regions by adding value to local products and marketing them locally before we seek markets elsewhere.

We need to confront honestly the issue of scale. Bigness has a charm and a drama that are seductive, especially to politicians and financiers; but bigness promotes greed, indifference, and damage, and often bigness is not necessary. You may need a large corporation to run an airline or to manufacture cars, but you don't need a large corporation to raise a chicken or a hog. You don't need a large corporation to process local food or local timber and market it locally.

And, finally, we need to give an absolute priority to caring well for our land - - for every bit of it. There should be no compromise with the destruction of the land or of anything else that we cannot replace. We have been too tolerant of politicians who, entrusted with our country's defense, become the agents of our country's destroyers, compromising on its ruin.

And so I will end this by quoting my fellow Kentuckian, a great patriot and an indomitable foe of strip-mining, Joe Begley of Blackey: "Compromise, hell!"



It is true that economic violence is not always as swift, and is rarely as bloody, as the violence of war, but it can be devastating nonetheless.

And, finally, we need to give an absolute priority to caring well for our land -- for every bit of it. There should be no compromise with the destruction of the land or of anything else that we cannot replace.



Native Forest Council

2003 Annual Report

The Native Forest Council had an incredible upsurge in donations by individual donors in 2003.



Amid the campaign chaos in 2003, we at the Native Forest Council had to fight hard to get our simple message out—save what’s left of our public lands!

We’ve sent our message out at both the national and local level, attending conferences, speaking on local issues, giving interviews to the local and national press, publishing aerial photographs of our national forests, articles and the Forest Voice, working on legislation to protect public lands and continuing to work on environmental education for our nation’s students and teachers.

NFC Founder and President Tim Hermach, along with NFC members and volunteers, have attended conferences around the country as well as right here at home in Eugene, Oregon. Tim has been speaking on a local level, speaking out against salvage logging on Oregon’s Biscuit Fire and for the protection of the Mckenzie River Watershed, which provides Eugene’s water.

Tim has given interviews to national and local press on issues ranging from the U.S. Forest Service’s squandering tax dollars on logging, to corporate crime, to how logging fuels wildfires (read about his frightening personal experience with fire on page 12).

On the publishing front, NFC Advisory Board member Karyn Strickler and Tim Hermach’s expose, “Liar, Liar Forests On Fire; Why Forest Management Exacerbates Loss of lives and Property” was published on CommonDreams and Counterpunch, and was chosen as an editor’s choice by Crisis Papers. In 2003 we also completed our aerial photography project, compiling thousands of aerial photos of our national forests, clearly displaying the level of destruction on national forests on a grand scale. We sent books of these compilations around the country, to members of Congress, Senators, and national media, and have created a browser for them on our website. NFC has also continued to publish and distribute the Forest Voice. (You’ll find Karen and Tim’s expose, the aerial photo project as well as past issues of the Forest Voice on our website: www.forestcouncil.org.)

On the legal front, NFC was part of a coalition that successfully blocked, in Federal Appeals Court, a construction project in California’s Yosemite Valley, which would have damaged the river that runs through the Valley. We have also continued to fight for sane and just laws to protect our public lands.

NFC members and programs have been moving forward in environmental education—John Borowski, NFC Advisory

Board member and high school teacher, has been giving eco-tours to students and using the Forest Voice in class and teaching students to think for themselves. Informative lesson plans are still available on our website (www.forestcouncil.org) for teachers everywhere to combat environmental greenwash.

We at Native Forest Council have been working hard to get out our clear and simple message, and reached many people—our base of grassroots supporters grew last year by approximately 30 percent! A big thanks to all who have supported us in these difficult times to keep going in the fight protect and preserve every acre of publicly-owned land in the United States.

For more information, go to www.forestcouncil.org or call our Eugene office at 541.688.2600.



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NFC Seattle Chapter: Working Hard to Save What's Left

By C. David Divelbiss
Outreach Director, Seattle Chapter

In 2003, the Native Forest Council's Seattle Chapter has taken significant steps in outreach, drastically expanding our supporter base and reaching more people than ever before with NFC's clear and simple message: protect our public lands.

Seattle citizens have been receptive to our message. Many of them have agreed that we must take a stand against the environmentally destructive compromises made between the Green mainstream and the Bush Administration's logging, mining, drilling and grazing cronies.

We have focused most of our efforts on furthering the Wild Forest Sanctuary Act (formerly called the Forever Wild Act), which would ban all extraction from federally owned public lands, and on the Honest and Full Cost Accounting Act, which would insist the Forest Service give an accurate economic inventory of Public Lands.

This year, we have identified more than 1500 Native Forest Council supporters and generated 4500 public comments in Seattle and its surrounding communities this year.

Thanks to hard work by Benefit Organizer Joshua Knapp, we hosted a festive spring benefit concert featuring allies "At the Spine," and "Happy Savage." We have also appeared with other organizations at other venues, such as Dance Bush Out of Office, hosted by volunteers for MoveOn PAC.

Though we have been successful with the traditional audience, we are also planning future events that target different demographics to make sure that we reach a wide variety of the Seattle public. We have begun an active search for supportive foundations and business supporters,

spearheaded by Seattle Business Coordinator, Ananthaswami Rajagopal "Raj."

We are working hard to recruit new canvassers and volunteers in the fight to save what's left. Since last year, the staff has grown significantly, allowing us to do outreach in nearly all of the urban Seattle neighborhoods. Next year we will begin outreach in Seattle's suburban and rural communities.

Ultimately, our goal in Seattle is to continue nationalizing and maintain momentum in the fight to protect our public lands. Seattle's environmental community makes the city a 'must have' in the fight against extractive industries. We in the Seattle Office would also like to thank all members for their support. In the fight for every acre, every individual REALLY counts!

To contact the Seattle office, call 206.633.6043.

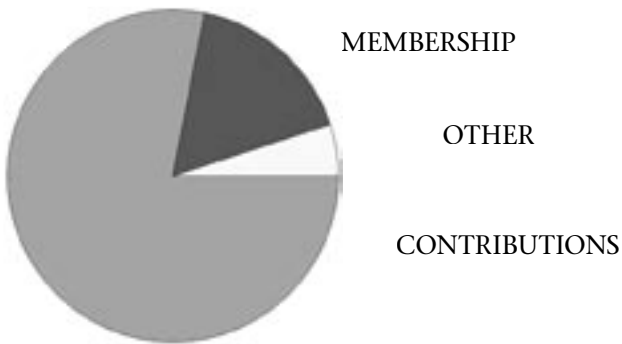
Suzanne Pardee directs the Seattle Office, which is staffed by Outreach Director, C. David Divelbiss and Organizers; Joshua Knapp, Marc Church, Ananthaswami Rajagopal, Steve Kennedy-Williams, Amy Groesbeck, and our Intern, Somer Goulet. The current crew would not have been possible without the hard work of past Canvass Co-Director(s), David Estafen and Dan Frymire, as well as Volunteer Maple Breitbach and Canvasser, Robert Goddard; all of whose outreach helped to acquire the current crew.



Seattle citizens have agreed that we must take a stand against the environmentally destructive compromises made between the Green mainstream and the Bush Administration's logging, mining, drilling and grazing cronies.

2003 Financial Report

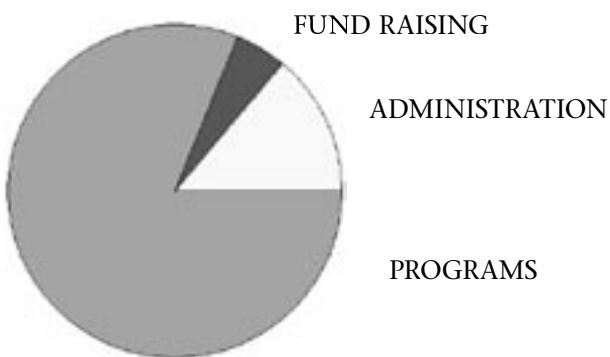
FUNDING SOURCES



Funding Sources

Contributions.....	78%
Membership.....	17%
Other.....	5%

EXPENSES



Expenses

Programs.....	81%
Administration.....	5%
Fund Raising.....	14%



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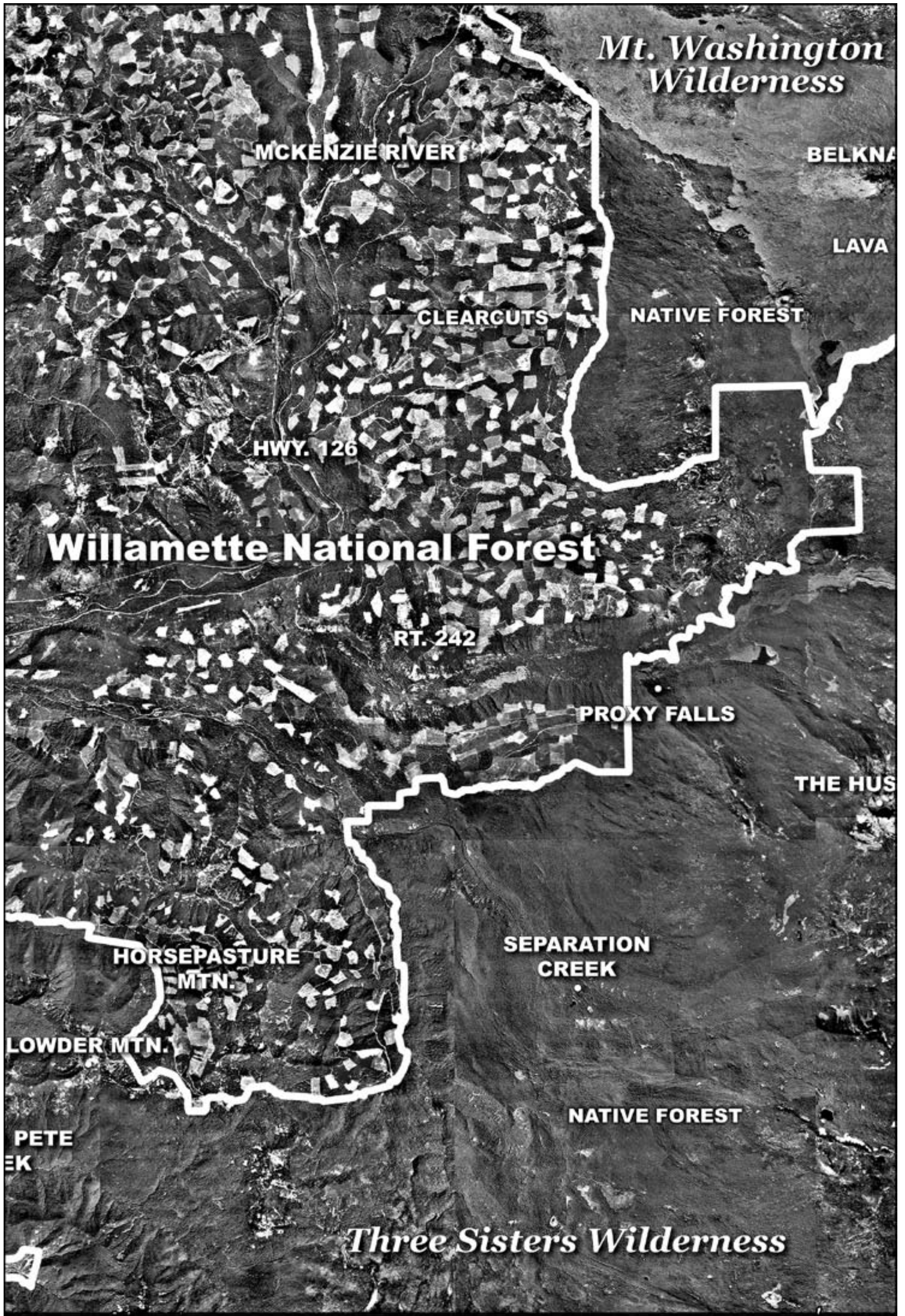


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Donald Allen	John Brown	Becky Crosby	Cynthia Fester	Craig Hanson	Andrew Jessup and Heidi Powell
Jefferson Allen	Steven Brown	Derek Crothers	Anita Fieldman	Dean Hardy	William and Sara Johnson
Derek Allender	Terese Brown	Shawn Crowley	Deborah Filipelli and Michael Sanders	Anne Hardy	Robert Johnson and Karen Boelling
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Stephanie AlterJones	Maggie Brunger	Joseph Czerniecki	Eric Flamm	Rebecca Harris and Keith Duffy	Richard Johnson
Genevieve Amundson	Henry Bruse	Judith da Silva	John Forese	Chris Harrison	Paula Johnson
Steve Anders	Maxie Bryant	James and Barbara Dall	Sara Forness	Jeffrey and Karen Hart	Timothy Johnson
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Frank and Kim Anderson	John Bulliard	Joseph and Barb Danko	Demis Foster	Robert and Lois Hartwig	Martha Johnson
Elizabeth Anderson	Moffett Burgess	Helen Darrow	Janet and Eric Fout	Libby Harvey	James Johnson
Steve Anderson	Sharon Burns	Brian Darsey	David and Pamela Fox	Catherine Hastie	David Jones
Michael Anderson	Chuck Burr	Dwight Davenport	Gladys Fox	Susan Haugen	Karen Josephson
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Oceania Angels	Karen and Stephen Busch	Paul and Mary Davis	Jeannette Franks	David Head and Nancy Trent	Corwin Joy
Crystal Angels	Bill Buswell	Kim Davis	Robert and Rebecca Franzoia	Patricia Heaphy	James Joyce and Vicky Davies
Sidney Arnold	Christine Butler	Faren Davis	William and Louise Freedman MD	Grant Hegerberg	Marureen Kamali
Patricia Atkinson	Emily Button	Judy Davis	Elizabeth Freese	June Heilman	G. Dawson Kamiski
Peter Axelrod	Susan Buttram	Romalee Davis	Alberta Freidus	Monique Heineman	Judith Kappeler
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Joe Balcuinas	Lance Campbell	Susan Dedrick	Lester Gamet	Hugh Hendrick	Anna Keesey
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Marissa Baratian	Dale Carlson	Peter Dempsey	Roger and Rebecca Garrett	Ron and Voncille Henry	Steve Kelly
Joanna Bargerion	Karen Carlson	Carl Deuker	G. M. Gauderoy-Demombynes	George and Carol Hermach	Steven Kent
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Eleanor Berke	Lucas Clara	Robert Dun	Phyllis Goodman	Steven Hoberecht	Kenneth Kopecky
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Bjoern Mannsfeld	Christopher Ohlweiler	Matthew Riley	Michael and Heidi Silva	Benjamin Tobias	Starla Wilcox
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Robert Mattila	Susan Owens-Grinker	Richard Rofsky	Robin Smith	Trees For The Planet	Jay Williamson
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Andrea Medina	Christopher Peters	Jean Salmon	Bill Stephens		
Mausmi Mehta	Carol Peters-Manning	Ian Salsberg	Chuck Stephens		
Kathleen Melhuse-Snider	Florence Peterson	George Salzman	Guy and Edith Sternberg		
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Timothy Miller	David Pippin	Sue Schauss	Jim Stoltz		
Aaron Miller	Louis Plough	George and Janet Schemm	N. Stewart Stone		
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	Premena	Erich Schimps	Karyn Strickler		
	Donald and Diethild Price	Paul Schipper	David Stroud		
			Thomas Struhsaker		





Willamette National Forest, Oregon

THE DESTRUCTION OF YOUR PUBLIC FORESTS BY THE TIMBER INDUSTRY AND THE FOREST SERVICE



Howard Pinnock

A Valued Friend of the Native Forest Council

At the age of 97 Howard Pinnock has seen a lot of Oregon and a lot of Oregon change. Born in 1907 in Blackwell, Oklahoma Pinnock moved with his family to Eugene when he was just three weeks old. He has lived in Oregon ever since.

How have things changed in 97 years of development? Howard remembers driving milk cows across the Ferry Street Bridge to his grandfather's ranch as a young teenager. In the days before pavement he recalls seeing water wagons following the mountain roadways of Yellowstone, spraying water to keep the dust down during the hot summer months. The corridor from Eugene to Portland wasn't always flat either. "There used to be potholes and you'd see ducks and geese in all these potholes," Pinnock says.

The town of Goodpasture was once not a town at all but a wide expanse of open farm land. Logging has changed significantly too. Once the domain of handsaws and donkeys, the industry now relies on trucks and chainsaws. Even the weather has changed. "We used to have a lot of snow in the winter and we just don't seem to have it anymore," he says.

Politics are different too. As one who voted for both Republican and Democratic presidents, Pinnock watched this year's election with disgust. "I think it stinks," says Pinnock. "There is so much money spent and it goes on for months and months and you get fed up with it and want to throw it all out the window after awhile."

However, he says this will probably be the last time he has to endure such a dishonest presidential election.

Never give up, keep working, and you'll live a good life.

-Howard Pinnock

NFC Eco-Tour Giveaway!

River company Outdoor Ventures has offered to give away a free rafting eco-tour for a Native Forest Council supporter and up to 11 friends! We asked Outdoor Ventures Guide and Native Forest Council Volunteer William Blair a few questions about Outdoor Ventures and the trip giveaway:

Tell us about Outdoor Ventures.

Outdoor Ventures is a river company that provides educational services to boaters and rafters throughout the Pacific Northwest. We are based in Oregon and Washington. Our guides are exceptionally knowledgeable about the environment and of course, safe boating on the river.

Why is Outdoor Ventures offering river float trips to NFC supporters?

The Native Forest Council has diligently fought for real protection of wild native forests. The NFC refuses to compromise things that shouldn't be compromised. Outdoor Ventures looks to ethical organizations that can demonstrate the application of honest sound science to river and forest management, community reinvestment, and respect for environmental standards.

How does the river float trip benefit people?

Taking people out on our beautiful Pacific Northwest Rivers allows them to experience the river and the riparian forests first hand, allowing them to form their own bonds. Plus, it's fun!

When and where will the river rafting trip occur?

The Native Forest Council river float is scheduled for the summer of 2005. The daylong trip will be on one of Oregon's beautiful rivers. Two white water rafts will carry up to 12 passengers through pools, riffles and classified whitewater rapids. Lunch will be provided by the Native Forest Council.

For more information on Outdoor Ventures, visit:

<http://www.RiverTraining.net>



"Sometimes, if you stand on the bottom rail of a bridge and lean over to watch the river slipping slowly away beneath you, you will suddenly know everything there is to be known."

-Winnie the Pooh

Sign up for Native Forest Council's RAFTING ECO-TOUR GIVEAWAY

One lucky winner will receive a FREE guided trip for up to 12 people on one of Oregon's wild rivers with *Outdoor Ventures*.

Fill in the following information and mail to: Native Forest Council, PO Box 2190, Eugene, OR 97202
Drawing will be held March 1, 2005. All entries must be received by February 15, 2005.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

- All guests are required to read and sign a notification of risks prior to the actual trip.
- No purchase or donation required to be eligible.
- Native Forest Council will NOT trade or sell your name or information to ANYONE.
- Transportation and lodging costs are not included.

The Davis Lake Fire: An Inevitable Result of Logging

How corporations cannibalizing public assets for a quick buck nearly killed my family.

No one told us that as they removed these priceless publicly-owned trees they also removed shade, and as a direct and immediate consequence 12 inches underground the soil temperature was increased by 20 degrees in the heat of the summers.

The blazing heat created a suction so strong that it ripped trees up by their roots and threw the rescue jet ski 300 feet up in the air. My family and I were told that even if we had paddled to the middle of the lake, there would have been no oxygen left to breathe and we would not have survived the fire storm.

For 50 years my family has been camping at Davis Lake in the Deschutes National Forest, 30 miles SW of Bend, Oregon. Last spring my mother and father, wife, two sons and I could have died there when we were trapped by a forest fire in the East Davis Lake Campground--a forest fire that was an inevitable consequence of too much dishonest, if not cannibalistic, logging.

Over the years, my family has watched as the once magnificent east side forest, teeming with fish and wildlife, was desecrated by a plague of logging and clearcutting that steadily crept across the forest, always removing the oldest and largest, most fire-resistant and most valuable trees first and leaving the forest ever hotter, drier, and more flammable.

In retrospect, my lack of alarm in the 50 year ago period may be understandable. This type of logging was happening everywhere. Less than 5 percent of our native forests remain standing. It's just the way things were from the time we were small children. We were assured, even in grade school, by both the giants of the timber industry and the Forest Service, that the logging was sustainable, renewable, replaceable, and all around good for the forest and the people.

They lied on all counts, with potentially deadly consequences.

When my 13-year-old son, Ben, looked up from his fishing rod and spotted a finger of dark smoke rising straight up in the sky near the campground, I told him not to worry; it was probably nothing. But it turned out to be something, and after packing up and discovering the access road blocked by flames, we found ourselves trapped. We drove back to the lake shore, as far from the trees as possible, and waited, watching the fire close in around us.

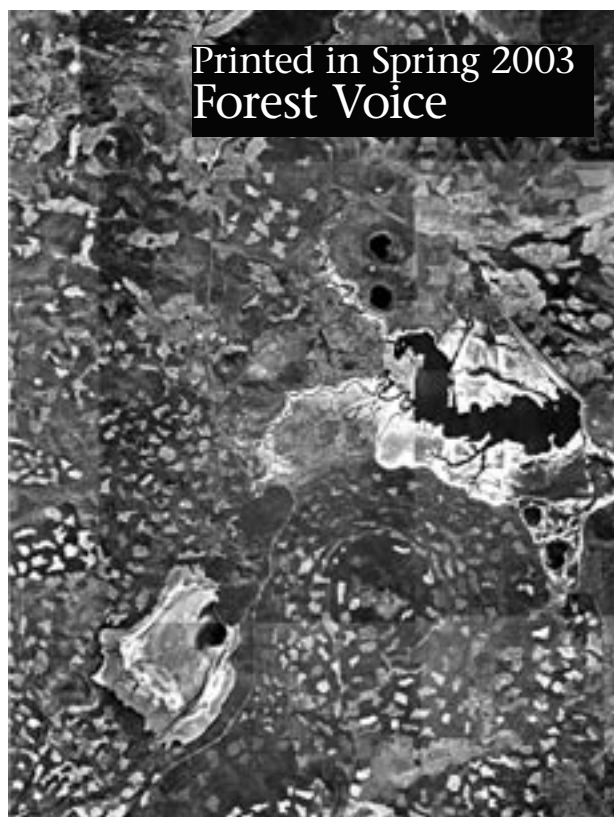


Photo taken by Tim Hermach from the stream where he and his boys were fishing before the fire.

Lies. No one told us that those Ponderosa Pines, many hundreds of years old--the ones they cut down--were products of nature's fire regime. That they were generally immune to fire, provided vital shade, water & soil benefits, and were irreplaceable. No one told us that as they removed those priceless, publicly-owned trees they also removed shade, and as a direct and immediate consequence, 12 inches underground the soil temperature was increased by 20 degrees in the heat of the summer. No one told us that thousands of miles of logging roads act as hot furnaces and wind tunnels through our forests, worsening the impacts of forest fires. These were lies we discovered for ourselves on that hot day in May.

Interestingly enough, earlier that year in the Spring 2003 Forest Voice, the Native Forest Council had just published "before" and "after" aerial images of the Davis Lake area. (See below and check our website, www.forestcouncil.org, for more.) We compared the national forest as it was in 1955 to what it became in 1995 (shown to left), from relatively untouched native forest to a checkerboard of destructive clearcuts. From these photos, we discovered that the fire that trapped my family and me burned mostly where they had logged.

Thus it is beyond ironic to have our own lessons brought home to us in the frightening reality of being trapped in that very area as a forest fire started and spread to more than 20,000 acres of the logged national forest.

Luckily, for my family and me there was a happy ending. Thanks to cell phones and a very rapid and professional response from the local Sheriff and Forest Service fire response teams, after a wait stressful wait of 2 hours, my family and another were extracted in a 30 minute window as the fire moved on and before the winds reversed it back through our campground, when the fire storm tore up trees from the ground and removed the original rescue jet ski from its resting place, ten feet from where my wife, kids, parents and I had been waiting at the edge of Davis Lake.

Lies have consequences.

For more aerial photo compilations like the one at left, see our website at www.forestcouncil.org.

Davis Lake is the lower left lake.

They lied on all counts, with potentially deadly consequences.



Native Forest Council

STUMPS DON'T LIE



Biscuit Burn Salvage Logging Plan is Harmful

By Roy Keene

The Biscuit burn: If only we could scour it with tractor, truck and helicopter, log off every big charred tree, and fill the units with hammered earth, slash and failed plantations. Then, "It could be green and full of life, again."

This is the agenda hidden in the timber industry's campaign promoting the "rehabilitation" of a rare forest - a forest partially burned by a wilderness blaze the media called the "gentle giant," an old, resilient forest rejuvenated many times by fire.

The industry's advertisements (the word "logging" is not used once) claim that without "rehabilitation, forest restoration may take centuries."

In reality, the burned forest was restoring itself even before the fires of 2002 cooled. I was there days after a hot backfire lit by the U.S. Forest Service blasted through my old homestead. Woodpeckers flitted from smoking trees to gnarled snags still standing from 1938's fires. Oaks re-sprouted, a bear browsed new grass and wild pigeons fed on seed fall. Rehabilitation was already visible.

I recently led a Washington Post reporter on a tour through a proposed Biscuit salvage unit. Soil-stabilizing, nitrogen-fixing shrubs that set the stage for the next forest had taken hold. Native conifers were robustly sprouting.

The reporter didn't understand logging economics, but to me, as an experienced timber cruiser, this unit was a jackpot for savvy purchasers. The Forest Service had grossly violated its own riparian setbacks to facilitate logging the moisture-loving, high-value trees such as sugar pine and Port Orford cedar. Furthermore, the Forest Service's volume estimates appeared suspiciously low. And, contrary to the whining over value lost to decay, most of the scorched trees were sound.

Equally dishonest "hazard tree" removal along the scenic Illinois River road illustrates how heavy-handed logging damages a recovering burn. Hundreds of trees, few of them threatening, have been yarded over fragile duff and emerging conifer seedlings. If such destructive logging is conducted along the most toured road in the Siskiyou National Forest, how will tens of thousands of less visited acres fare?

Adding economic insult to ecological injury, the public will pay for logging the Biscuit just as we did for the futile fire-fighting (after throwing \$30 million into the blaze, it was rain that subdued it). Logging the Siskiyou's last big burn, the Silver Complex, was estimated by the Government Accounting Office to have cost taxpayers \$700 to \$1,100 per acre. Logging the Biscuit will be more costly, even by the Forest Service's optimistic estimates.

The Bush administration's approach to fighting forest fires and promoting salvage logging is similar to its war on terrorism. Expensive, ineffective frontal attacks are sold as crucial to our safety. Then comes the post-fire logging, which usually only increases fire hazard. Neither of these actions safeguard the home front. "Rehabilitation" is aimed at extracting resources. The costs are grossly underestimated. Large corporations and



bureaucracies emerge as the big winners.

Logging the Biscuit fire area is an exercise in political plunder, not in democracy or prudent forest management. Hundreds of millions of dollars in public resources will be sold at a fraction of true value to timber corporations as a reward for the millions they have given to President Bush's campaign. This potential windfall explains their expensive ads attempting to sell logging as "rehabilitation."

Driven by myth and fear, the Bush administration's war against forest fire is becoming increasingly deceitful, profitable only for a few, expensive for most, and woefully ineffective at protecting our forests.

Roy Keene of Eugene is a restoration specialist, real estate broker and volunteer forest ecologist for the Institute of Wildlife Protection and was a forester for the timber industry.



In reality, the burned forest was restoring itself even before the fires of 2002 cooled.

Logging the Biscuit fire area is an exercise in political plunder, not in democracy or prudent forest management. Hundreds of millions of dollars in public resources will be sold at a fraction of true value to timber corporations as a reward for the millions they have given to President Bush's campaign.

Fiscal Ruin on the Horizon

By David S. Broder
Washington Post
Sunday, October 17, 2004

The Concord Coalition, whose leadership includes prominent Republicans, says that with realistic assumptions but no change in policy, the federal debt will swell by a staggering \$5 trillion in the next 10 years.

It's not true that people in Washington can't agree about anything. Across the policy spectrum, there's a clear recognition that the present path of budget-making is unsustainable -- in fact, ruinous.

The Concord Coalition, whose leadership includes prominent Republicans, says that with realistic assumptions but no change in policy, the federal debt will swell by a staggering \$5 trillion in the next 10 years. The liberal Economic Policy Institute says that a "budget train wreck" lies ahead. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office warns that it looks as if "substantial reductions in the projected growth of spending or a sizable increase in taxes -- or both -- will probably be necessary" to avoid fiscal disaster.

The agreement extends everywhere except where it is most important -- to the rivals for the White House and to the members of Congress.

President Bush and his opponent, Sen. John F. Kerry, blithely assert that they will cut the budget deficit (a record \$413 billion in the current year) in half within four or five years, but they are purposely vague on how they will do it.

Meanwhile, Congress has retreated further and further from any pretense of fiscal responsibility. When they went home to campaign last week, the lawmakers executed what Stan Collender, a prominent budget expert, called a "triple dive." They recessed "having failed to pass the fiscal 2005 budget resolution, all but four of the 13 regular 2005 appropriations and a needed increase in the limit on the national debt," so the Treasury can sell bonds to our creditors.

"This three-part failure," Collender said, "is the best evidence yet that Congress has become either unwilling or unable to deal with the federal budget. It has abrogated its fiscal responsibilities at every step in this year's debate except when the decisions -- like a tax cut -- were politically easy."

Tax cuts they can do. With bipartisan majorities, they passed a \$143 billion bonanza for corporations of every sort, shortly after extending what the lawmakers were pleased to call a "middle-class" tax cut of \$146 billion. You might be surprised to learn, as I was, where that "middle class" tax relief actually goes.

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and the Urban Institute-Brookings Institution Tax Policy Center, households in the middle 20 percent of the income scale -- the "middle class" -- receive only 9 percent of the benefits. Their average saving will be \$162. Those in households with incomes from \$200,000 to \$500,00 will be \$2,390 better off.

It is important to remember that these latest tax cuts are all being



financed with borrowed money -- money that at some point will have to be paid back. That was the point made by Pete Peterson, the former Nixon administration secretary of commerce, in a terrific piece that business reporter Paul Solman did for PBS's "NewsHour With Jim Lehrer" the other night.

Noting that today's deficits will burden future generations, Peterson said, "The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world it leaves to its children. And as I think about the concept that we're slipping our own kids and grandkids a check for our free lunch, I say we're failing the moral test."

Morality aside, there's the little matter of piling up even more IOUs instead of the savings that will be needed to finance the retirement and health care costs of the 77 million baby boomers now approaching retirement. That responsibility ought to weigh heavily on everyone running for federal office, but it is hard to find a campaign where it is being discussed with any degree of candor and realism.

It would be nice to pretend that once next month's election is out of the way, the winners will buckle down and address this crisis. But both Collender and Philip Joyce, a George Washington University professor, suggest that the whole budget-making process in Congress may be on the verge of breakdown.

As Joyce put it in an article for a forthcoming scholarly journal, "The failure of the Congress to agree on a budget resolution for three recent fiscal years -- 1999, 2003 and 2005 -- suggests that the budget process may be at a crisis point, and this crisis may be exacerbated by the uncertainty associated with the cost and the duration of the war on terrorism. If a consensus is not reached on a goal for fiscal policy, the budget committees and the budget resolution are in danger of becoming irrelevant."

This would be a dangerous time to lose the best tool for dealing with our fiscal mess.

davidbroder@washpost.com

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Dispelling the myth that the environmentalists are destroying American jobs and resources



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- Our best wood is exported to Japan and Europe
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- 1/2 of the volume in our nation's dumps is reusable but wasted wood fiber.
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- Forever Wild / Forests Forever
- Corporate Death Penalty

Reconciling Outsourcing, Transparency in Legislation, and Honest Forest Sanctuary

Never before in history have the citizens of the United States been faced with such a mass of evidence to support outsourcing reform, transparency in legislation and the establishment of forest sanctuaries. Parks, preserves, reserves, monuments, environmental easements, conservation easements and setbacks have become mere commercial storefronts. These matters must be brought forward on the public agenda: 1) reconcile the outsourcing of jobs, livelihoods and resources belonging to the American people, 2) Mandate clear, concise, and honest language in each and every legislative Initiative, Referendum, and Act, 3) invoke legislation that protects Wild Forests as Sanctuaries from dishonest management, extraction and litigation schemes. The scientific community is at odds, confused and dismayed at the aggressiveness of current management schemes that are hurdled through the "goal posts of greed," with reckless indifference toward the earth's biosphere and people whose lives crucially depend upon its health. Each and every community member is compelled to break the veil of deception surrounding "environmental management."

The Export Reconciliation Act provides sound export legislation to achieve revitalization of community based wealth, capital, personal incomes, viable domestic jobs, public revenue, environmental resiliency, and fair consequences for "outsourcing" and "in-sourcing" labor and industry that supplants domestic businesses and income.

Transparency in Legislation Act prohibits attaching a rider to a bill, act, initiative, measure, regulation, and/or plan that is out-of-kind, defeats the spirit, intent,

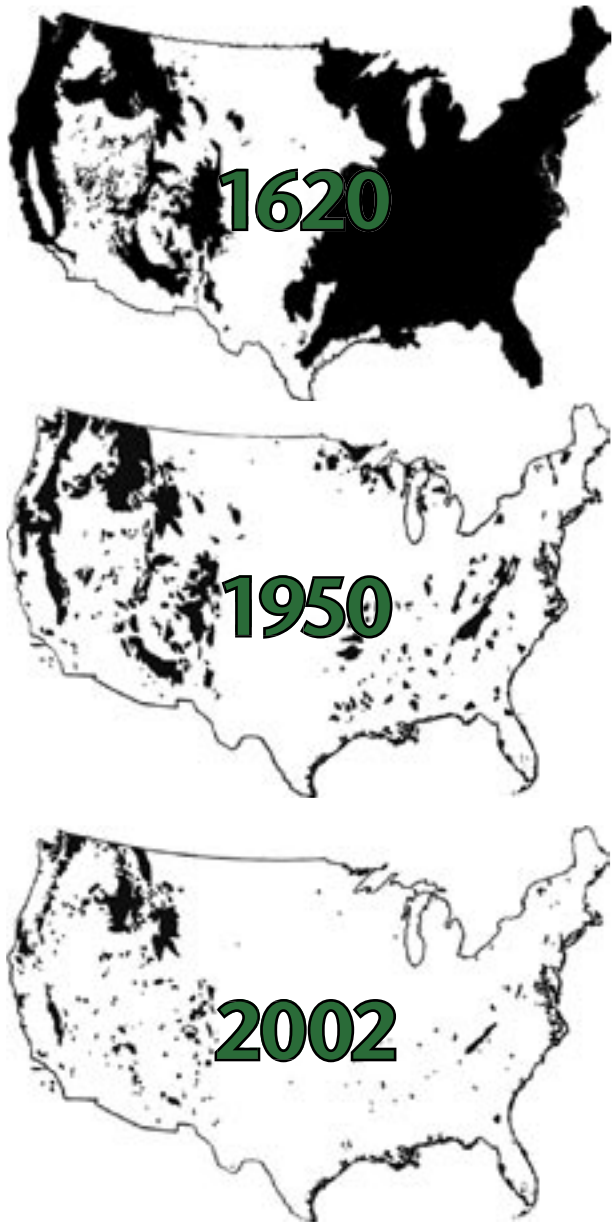
fixity and meaning of other legislation. It promulgates penalties and consequences for misleading, deceptive, and preemptive agency administrative public law rule making.

The Wild Forest Sanctuary Act sets aside wilderness areas, that prohibit all extractions of water, minerals, soil, timber, specialized forests products from the last remaining wild forests, and de-certifies sustainable managed forest status and management rights that are not demonstrating actual sustainable natural conditions in forest recovery projects and sustainable forestry production.

The acts, promulgated in concert with one another, defeat the ruthless aspects of outsourcing the jobs, livelihoods, and wealth of every small community, while creating real consequences and penalties for fake, fraudulent and duplicitous legislation and management measures. The Act stops the change of America's wild forests into arbitrarily negotiated "assets" belonging to foreign cartels, whose ambition and fortunes are based on the radical exploitation of the American wilderness. Compromise, capitulation, mitigation, and mediation of standards have become the calling cards of the regimes that take all and offer a token back.

The Native Forest Council calls upon every responsible business, agency administrator, credible labor organization, and voting citizen at large to financially and personally support the promulgation of these unique and powerful initiatives. Saving the wild forest is saving you. "The wild forest is the truth, but how much truth remains?"

Save Our Disappearing Native Forests



A native forest is a self-regenerating forest that has never been cut or planted by humans.



Little more than 100 years ago, our national forests were first opened to logging. Since that tragic decision, 40 million acres of national forest ecosystems have been clearcut. The worst part? We're paying them to do it. The destruction of our nation's forests, rivers and streams—a living life-support system that gives us clean air, soil and water—costs taxpayers billions annually. But logging on national forests provides just 4 percent of the nation's timber. A ban on public lands logging would not affect the nation's timber supply. It would, however, preserve our nation's last remaining natural treasures.

YES!

I want to help save the last of America's National Forests. Here's how I can help:

Mail to:
Native Forest Council
PO Box 2190
Eugene, OR 97402
www.forestcouncil.org
info@forestcouncil.org

Sign me up!

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Along with your tax-deductible contribution, please check one of the boxes below:

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Stay Informed. Join the Native Forest Council and receive a free subscription to the Forest Voice!

The Forest Voice is filled with stories of the effort to save the last of our ancient forests. Less than 5% of these once vast forests remain and they're being cut down at the rate of 185 acres per day. Trees that took 1000 years to grow are destroyed in ten minutes. Each year enough of these trees to fill a convoy of log trucks 20,000 miles long are taken from Northwest forests alone! The informative Forest Voice will keep you up-to-date on the latest news and unmask the lies and greed of the timber industry in their multi-million dollar effort to cut the remaining old growth trees. Join now and save the last of the ancient trees for our children.