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WILL WE EVER LEARN?

Native Forest Council
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Instead of my regular editorial, I'd like to share with you the words of Dr. Glen Barry. He wrote an article recently that sums up some of my concerns and observations on our times, and more importantly, what we need to do. It starts off from a rather gloomy perspective, but offers a way out if we're willing to stand up for what we know needs to be done and stop the epidemic of spineless compromising by all too many of our colleagues.

There Is No Hope? The Earth and Humanity Are Doomed?

Earth Meanders, Dr. Glen Barry in his personal capacity at <http://earthmeanders.blogspot.com> October 9, 2005

Recently I have taken some heat from a handful of readers that take exception with a seeming lack of hope in these writings. Let me explain. My work is prefaced upon two imperatives. Speak truthfully about the Earth's condition, diagnosing the situation using the best possible ecological science and ecological intuition. And propose only solutions of a magnitude likely to be sufficient in providing long-term solutions. What some perceive as self-righteous egoism is in fact indignant truth telling.

It is acknowledged that on many occasions these writings portray a serious global environmental crisis as being largely insurmountable given current thinking. A realistic assessment of the Earth and humanity's situation finds there is no hope if humanity continues on its present course, and bloody little hope unless we pursue and achieve widespread personal and planetary transformations of an unprecedented and unimaginable scale, and soon.

The fact that humanity and the Earth are both critically imperiled has been found by countless studies and thinkers, most of which I have read, from the Club of Rome in the 1970s to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment this year. I have internalized these irrefutable findings and part of my mania - or ecological niche if you prefer - is to emotionally present and respond to the ecological truth that the Earth is in a severe, perhaps unsolvable, crisis. The world was simply not designed to hold ten billion super-predators all consuming at the rate of a fat-assed American.

The quest for ecological sustainability will not be served by half measures or sugar coating the truth. The government will not save you. They will not entertain any policy that undermines the power of the elite. So, for example, they propose technical fixes like burying a bit of our carbon to stop climate change. But given accompanying expansion of coal burning, this would prove wholly inadequate to even begin to address climate change.

Most large environmental groups offer chimerical reforms that promise continued over-consumption through better management. The WWFs of the world tell you that logging the few remaining unprotected primary and old-growth forests a bit more carefully will sustain both ancient forests and the global ecosystem. They are wrong. We can not "have our ancient forests and industrially log them too". Ancient forests are lost forever when consumer products are produced by logging critically endangered forest ecosystems for the first time.

For the Earth and humanity to have a chance we must choose to stop ancient forest logging, reduce carbon emissions by 60%,

make water conservation a global imperative, place under protection large areas of oceans, dramatically reduce human populations and stop consuming ourselves to death. Failure will lead to massive ecological upheavals, collapsing ecosystems and massive human deaths and suffering.

However unlikely, difficult or unpleasant, these are the truths; this is what is required to save the Earth. Knowing the truth regarding the Earth's pending ecological collapse, feeling and moving through the despair, may lead to personal transformations powerful enough to fuel a bright green revolution that transforms society. This is the only way home.

Granted, without hope we are not going to save the Planet. Similarly, without knowledge and true understanding we are not going to know how. False hope only obscures the truth and impedes progress in achieving transformation in humanity's relationship with the Earth of a magnitude necessary for actually achieving long-term global ecological sustainability.

If the depth of your environmental commitment is recycling and sending a yearly check to an environmental organization for band-aid forest and climate policies doomed to failure, you may want to discontinue your association with my own modest efforts.

I do not want to suggest I am not interested in responding to feedback. In response I have decided to truly separate the personal Earth Meander writings from the more mundane but important work of tracking news, providing information retrieval tools and providing basic analysis done by Ecological Internet. I assure the readership that I never purposefully seek out bad news and am eager to report worthy positive developments, and in fact frequently do. But my acknowledged "fast and furious" and sometimes self-righteous style is me, and my work's fundamental organizing principles of speaking truthfully and seeking sufficient solutions will not change.



Contrary to the title of this essay, in fact there is hope. I have always believed that good trumps evil, that the truth will set you free, and that an informed and active citizenry in touch with the Earth shall overcome. But this does not just happen. It sometimes takes a painful long look in the mirror before necessary changes are identified and their implementation commenced.

To those that are truly onboard the ecological sustainability movement, seeking the truth, working through the despair, and committing yourself to the Earth; I suggest that when you look in the mirror you will find the hope you seek. Be the hope. Hope for the Earth will come from an informed, actualized, and mobilized Earth citizenry. Let's make it so.

He's not offering us an easy way out, but what he's suggesting is realistically defined and achievable. Even if it's not enough, we don't need to slow down. We need to stop ALL further harm. Turn around and as rapidly as possible start picking up the pieces and undo the harm already done.

Tim.

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Native Forest Council
PO Box 2190
Eugene, OR 97402
541.688.2600
Fax 541.461.2156
info@forestcouncil.org
www.forestcouncil.org

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Publisher/Editor
Timothy Hermach

Managing Editor
David Porter

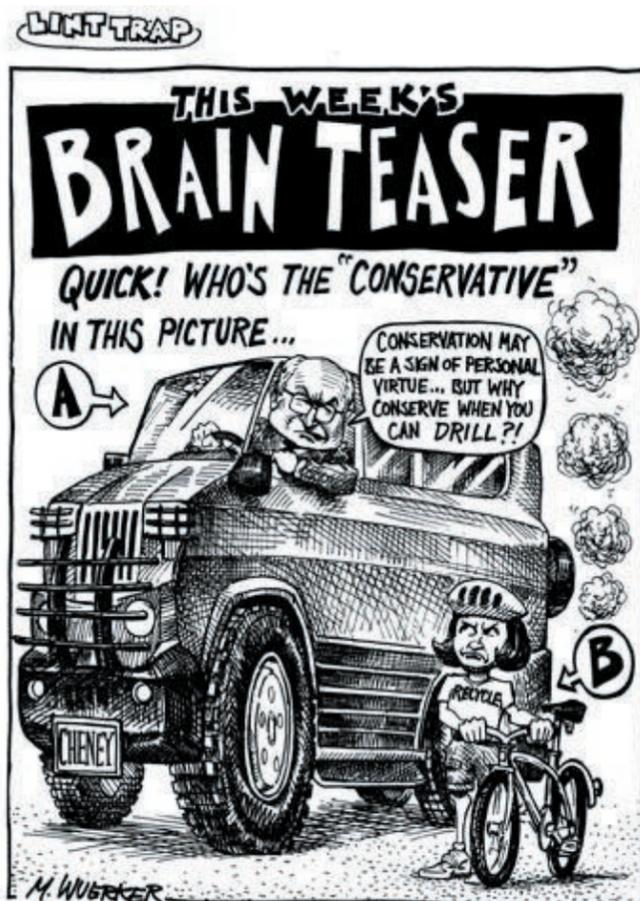
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Jim Flynn
Hope Kincaid

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Funk/Levis & Associates:
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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:
Native Forest Council
PO Box 2190
Eugene, OR 97402



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Native Forest Council

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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Seattle Office

C. David Divelbiss
Seattle, WA
206.783.0728
seattleinfo@forestcouncil.org

Regional Representatives

Margaret Hays Young
Brooklyn, NY
718.789.0038
718.789.8157 fax

Wayne Norton
Gainesville, FL
352.373.8733

Jason Tamblyn
Duluth, GA
678.969.7013

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Aames, IA
515.232.1316

News and Views

NFC Grieves Losses in Gulf Coast

The Native Forest Council would like to express our sympathy for the people of New Orleans and the rest of the Gulf Coast hit by the horrors of hurricane Katrina.

Bush Refuses Foreign Assistance During Worst of Hurricane

As the initial fallout from Hurricane Katrina became evident, and the number of people trapped were being realized, several countries offered to send direct assistance to the city of New Orleans to help mitigate the human suffering. This assistance was offered in the form of food, fuel, supplies, doctors and money.

More than a week passed before the administration finally decided to accept some assistance (though still refusing doctors from Cuba and food and fuel from Venezuela, among others), as well as formally requesting assistance from the European Union.

Protesters Shot at in McKenzie Tree-Sit

Treesitters protesting the Sten Timber Sale in the McKenzie River area east of Eugene, Oregon report that on August 27 an unknown assailant fired shots from a gun at people in the trees, followed by arrows shot on September 10th.

Scientists Say Global Warming Contributing to Intensity of Hurricanes

The September 16, 2005, issue of *Science* includes an article that provides credible links between rising global temperatures as a result of global warming and the intensity of tropical

cyclones. The study found a large increase in the number and proportion of hurricanes reaching categories 4 and 5. These increases have taken place while the number of cyclones and cyclone days has decreased in all basins except the North Atlantic during the past decade.

EPA Proposes Easing Reporting Requirements on Toxic Pollution

The U.S. government wants to quit forcing companies to report small releases of toxic pollutants and allow them to submit reports on their pollution less frequently.

Saying it wants to ease its regulatory burden on companies, the Environmental Protection Agency recently proposed adopting a "short form" that would excuse companies from disclosing spills and other releases of toxic substances if they meet certain conditions.

Endangered Species Act Rewrite Would Cut Critical Habitat Provisions

Congress is considering proposed changes to the 32-year-old Endangered Species Act that would get the government out of the business of setting aside critical habitat for threatened plants and animals. That would eliminate a central element of the landmark law.

The overhaul of the Endangered Species Act was proposed by Rep. Richard Pombo, R-Calif, the committee's chairman.

Pombo's bill also would compensate landowners if the federal government blocks their development plans to prevent negative impacts on species, and would give political appointees the responsibility of making some scientific determinations.

LETTERS

Date: Thu, 10 March, 2005
From: Joan Norman

Dear Tim,

Thanks for the wonderful stay at your office. I met some wonderful friends of yours and we all agree you are the greatest.

As soon as I got home I went to the protest at the Green Bridge at the entrance to the Fiddler timber sale. At 6:45 AM the next morning I was arrested for blocking the Green Bridge, while holding your book "Exposing the Truth" in front of me. The newspaper said that this book was written by THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC!!!!. I'm in the process of informing this STUPID newspaper: The author of this book is Timothy Hermach of the Native Forest Council.

Also I lost 8 years of my life by being arrested. [They said she was 72 when she's 80.] I thought you would like to know this.

Thank you for your hospitality and kindness.

Love,
Joan

From: Novena Underwood
Paris, Arkansas
Date: 13 April, 2005

In January I received a response from the National Geographic to my letter about our National Forests. In that letter were 4 addresses and yours is one of the 4.

I don't usually write these kinds of letters, it's usually family & friends. But this is important to me.

I am dismayed that Bush would open up our National Forests to the loggers and let them deface our beautiful woodlands and destroy our wonderful landscape. Is there anything we people can do to stop this destruction?? Can you help?? or tell me what to do in a big way??

ps. We need to quit sending our wood overseas for one thing.



Joan Norman - Farewell to a Heroine

On July 23, legendary activist 80-year-old Joan Norman was killed in a head on car collision on Highway 199 near the California border. Joan is dearly loved and revered by many. The news of her passing sent shockwaves through Oregon and far beyond.



Norman spent a majority of her life as a tireless defender of nature and humanity. She showed again and again that she was not afraid to stand up for what she believed in — even if it meant being arrested and spending time in jail.

Her strength and conviction has been an inspiration to many in the activist community, showing others that it isn't the folly of youth that allows people to risk their own safety and security to stand up for what is right, but the necessary result of living and caring.



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Intern Spotlight

Sara Harkins



Intern Sara Harkins is a 22-year-old student at Lane Community College. Sara is a biology major and working with the Native Forest Council to help focus her biology coursework on sustainability and conservation biology.

Sara wrote the following piece to demonstrate the

differences between "wild" and "not-so-wild" and explain why that makes a difference.

Out of Sight, Out of Mind

What a strange turn evolution has taken. The human race has chosen to close ourselves off from the outside world. We breathe filtered air inside our box houses, step on cold hard floors instead of soil, and travel on dead pavement instead of walking through fields and forests. In our highly domesticated world, we are severed from the interconnected and wild cycles of life. After a few thousand years of suppression of instincts, our wild selves have long been forgotten, so how can we truly understand what is still "wild."

We are the outsiders in the ecological scheme of things, and yet we have all the authority on the fate of the forests and water bodies that all life depends on. People no longer preserve forests, we manage and liquidate them. Naturally started forest fires are stifled even though they have occurred for thousands of years as a part of the regeneration cycle. There has been a lot of controversy over the difference between a wild forest and a tree plantation. Biologically speaking, the soundest habitat for wildlife has shown to be a wild and untouched forest. The term "wild" is defined as, "living in a state of nature; not tamed or domesticated," and, "growing or produced without cultivation or care of man," (Webster's College Dictionary).

Needless to say, that definition leaves out all

thinned forests, especially fiber farms or tree plantations. Definitions aside, those life forms that reside in the forests live in a complex web of which we have only begun to scratch the surface. Somehow humans have decided that they can manage this, generally for profit. A 2006 BLM timber sale project proposed: "up to 2,000 acres are being assessed for commercial thinning to maintain growth and health of developing stands (40 to 100 years old), reduce fuels, and enhance wildlife habitat." The implication of wildlife management is that we control nature and do its job for it. What's confusing about this proposal is that the effects of human activity, thinning, are said to improve the health of the forest. However, thinning a forest takes out all the underbrush in the lower canopy where small animals dwell and eat. A healthy forest needs a multi-layered canopy for a balance of sun/shade and a diversity of plant, animal and tree species. Diversity encourages life in the soil, water and trees because different nutrients are thus cycled in and out of the soil by a variety of life forms. Shrubs, ferns, small plants, mosses, algae, mammals, fish, snails, insects, fungi, protozoa, and bacteria all work together to keep an ecosystem in balance, (Wilderness Society 1986; LCC Forest Biology Texts).

The many layers of forest begin with a lower level of small plants, next is the taller shrub layer, then under-story trees, and lastly the tallest canopy-forming trees. David McClure, the Chairman of the Special Committee on State Forest Preservation for the Adirondack forests commented: "no man has yet found it possible to improve on the

ways of nature. In the primeval forest when the tree falls it is practically dead, and where it falls it is a protection to the other trees. It takes in moisture through its bark and rotteness and diffuses it down into the soil," (The Forest and the Law, NFC). Young trees need decomposed matter to absorb nutrients. Also, fewer trees from thinning means less shade and more solar heat is let in, which can cause, you guessed it, forest fires.

Nature has taken care of itself since before we were just one-celled organisms in the primordial goo of life. We are arrogant to think that we can improve nature; on the contrary, nature can improve us. The closer a preservation pattern is to the natural processes, the better. If we could better understand how we are connected to the natural world, our preservation practices could be improved. That means we will actually step out of our little boxes and go on a trip through a real forest, not just looking at pictures in a book.

What if politicians held forest conferences in actual forests? If we saw our polluted rivers, lakes, and streams that our drinking water comes from, would we be more willing to do clean-up projects or to adopt "do no harm" policies? We are directly connected to clearcuts of oxygen-producing trees and pollution of the water that makes up 70% of our bodies. Let's step off our pedestal of domination and take a closer look at the secrets of life, creation, and interdependence that the untouched nature we depend on for our survival will hold.



Sustainable Fibers: Clearcutting Is Not A Necessity

There are many other sources for fiber than just wood pulp. Many plant and vegetable fibers are more renewable and usually more productive. Along with the recycling of used pulps, these fairly sustainable options could greatly lessen the demand for wood if put more into mainstream use.

"A big paper mill uses energy at the same rate as a small city. Paper mills turn entire forests — a 75 acre clearcut per mill per day — into hundreds of different high performance products by the freight train load" (Natural capitalism pg. 173).

Bamboo - second-most widely used non-wood fiber on the planet

- easy to cultivate and well-known
- fiber is biodegradable in soil and non-pollutant during decomposition; 99.7% of solvents used in production could be recycled
- It takes three years for a bamboo forest to re-establish itself (although care must be taken to preserve wild bamboo habitats in China and Japan)

Esparto Grass - native to Spain and Africa

- fibrous material used for book papers; a little goes a long way
- crops could be harvested yearly and dried
- provides jobs and supplemental income for many who harvest/process it

Flax - used for 2,000 (or more) years as source of linen, rags, cuttings and threads for paper, as well as many other uses

- grows best in temperate climate, such as the U.S.
- can stretch well and doesn't tear as easily as wood fiber

Hemp - in 1690 it was against the law for colonial American farmers NOT to grow this remarkably useful and efficient fiber

- can yield 3-8 dry tons of fiber per acre; four times what an average forest can yield
- grows well in a variety of climates/soils
- is naturally resistant to most pests, so there's less demand for harmful pesticides
- male plant grows quickly and is easy to cultivate
- fiber is long-lasting and biodegradable
- strong fiber for textiles, ropes, mixing with recycled pulps, shavings that are twice as absorbent as wood mulch, fiber board, or even beams
- strong, light fibers can be recycled several times more than wood paper, and can be pulped with less chemicals

Kenaf - herbaceous annual plant that is grown in the U.S.

- plant grows to 12-18 feet in 150 days, and produces five to ten tons of fiber per acre (3-

5 times as much as southern pine trees)

- fibers produce porous, high-strength paper that is more solid in color and thinner in sheets; also used in particle board
- less chemicals used to dissolve plant resin in processing

Abaca/Manila Hemp - the strongest and most pliant fiber can be made from the leaves

- used successfully as a cover crop in former tree plantations in the Philippines
- grows in tropical/humid locations, but could do well in greenhouses
- can prevent erosion and improves water-holding quality in soil, thus less sedimentation in nearby water bodies
- fibers can be recycled, and less energy is used in production than wood

Some other fibers that can be mixed into paper are reeds, cornstalks, rice paper plants, straw, sugar cane stalks, banana fibers, coffee skins, and cigar paper (one ton of tobacco paper saves about 17 trees).

Sources to check out:

Natural Capitalism, 1999 Paul Hawken, Amory Lovins, L. Hunter Lovins
Simplelife Guide to Tree-Free, Recycled, and Certified Papers 1999 Dan Imhoff
www.wholeearthmag.com / www.ecocomposite.org
www.hemp.com / www.flaxcouncil.org
Environmental Bamboo Foundation
International Linen Association
Hemp Industries Association

Organizations Making a Difference



We invite you to engage us in this idea...

Giant corporations govern, even though they are mentioned nowhere in our Constitution or Bill of Rights. So when corporations govern, democracy is nowhere to be found. There is something else: when people live in a culture defined by corporate values, common sense evaporates. We stop trusting our own eyes, ears, and feelings. Our minds become colonized.

POCLAD invites you to work with us to change this.

Let's start with what you and we have learned. Hundreds of small, low-budget groups can stop corporations from poisoning a river, clearcutting a forest, breaking a law, busting a union, or bringing propaganda into a school. This is extremely important. Valiant and persistent organizing has bettered the daily lives of millions, instilled confidence and self-respect, and transformed communities.

When they control our government — officials, judges, police, and the military all paid with our money — they make us into colonized subjects all over again.

But when the joy of victory fades, imperial corporations remain. Slowed in one place, they

pop up in another. They're in our schools, town halls, statehouses, and they're in the U.S. Congress. They block sane, logical transitions in food, energy, transportation, healthcare, finance, forestry and manufacturing. They fund think tanks and universities to frame public debate. They buy obedience and define society's values.

They also instruct and control the government. When they control our government — officials, judges, police, and the military all paid with our money — they make us into colonized subjects all over again. **The United States got rid of kings long ago.** It's supposed to be "We the People" now, or so we thought.

In the 1990s, we began to research and write about corporate, legal and people's movement history. We formed POCLAD in 1994 and since then held over 200 "Rethinking the Corporation, Rethinking Democracy" meetings.

Among other things, we realized that in our prior work we had limited our goals and generally restricted our efforts to regulatory and administrative arenas. Yet corporations never limited their designs and actions to anything. We learned that past movements for democracy **refused to let courts and legislatures define corporations as beyond the authority of the sovereign people.**

POCLAD is not building a big national membership operation. We are nine activists working with individuals and existing groups to launch democratic insurgencies that put corporations once again subordinate to "We the People." We are looking for people experienced in stopping corporate harms who want to rethink organizing strategies, exercise democratic authority at the local level, and strip fundamental powers — such as free speech and due process — from corporations.



Tim Hermach with the Adbusters "Unbrand America" Flag
<http://www.unbrandamerica.org>

POCLAD continues to develop vital research and analysis for the years ahead: reading lists, pamphlets on critical issues, a twice-yearly publication *By What Authority* an anthology on corporations and democracy, videos, powerpoint presentations, and workshops on strategic engagement. We help organizers challenge the mass production and mass marketing of law and culture by artificial entities called corporations. **Help us contest the authority of corporations to govern!**

Call. Fax. Write. Email. Engage us.

POCLAD
PO Box 246
S. Yarmouth, MA 02664-0246
508-398-1145
fax 508-398-1552
people@poclad.org
www.poclad.org



Helping Our Peninsula's Environment (HOPE) is a California-based nonprofit whose mission is preservation and protection of the Greater Monterey Peninsula's

environment and democracy through public forums, debates, town hall meetings, research, analysis, and legal action.

In 1992 Monterey Peninsula activists would have been happy to achieve one victory a year, "but now we win four, five or even six issues in a single evening at local government meetings," says Executive Director David Dilworth.

Dilworth advises those who want to "protect the natural phenomena that makes your heart beat faster — even when you're facing overwhelming greed and power," embrace the legal system and maximize your public participation.

When his organization takes on an issue they show up at every meeting and respond at every comment opportunity. Often they are the only group to weigh in on an issue. Many times they have persuaded otherwise hostile politicians just because their arguments made common sense.

"Politicians — and even some colleagues — criticize us for weighing in on so many issues," Dilworth continues. "Congressman Sam Farr advised me to 'just focus on one issue.' Perhaps this is because we were fighting so many bad things that he was on the wrong side of — including Farr's five years of foot dragging on co-signing the McKinney Leach bill to stop commercial logging in our national forests."

This persistence is joined with Dilworth's belief that "HOPE is effective because we combine the best available science with the most powerful laws." Dilworth's Rule of Environmental Law states that,

"When your heart knows some natural phenomena must be preserved, there is at least one law which protects it."

He contends that roadblocks to success occur because "most environmental groups lack confidence they can win. Worse, environmental science and lawsuits easily intimidate them. Perhaps that's why they avoid conflict and try to reinvent the wheel."

"Get unintimidated," says Dilworth. "There's no reason to be intimidated by environmental science or lawsuits. If you are intimidated by law or lawyers — don't expect any government agency to take you seriously. They'll just smile and ignore you."

"HOPE gives me hope for the future of our Democratic System."
- Tim Hermach

Dilworth offers one way to gain confidence in using our legal system. "Activists need to realize that 'judges are just lawyers in black dresses.'"

He has a term for intimidators. "I call them DREGs: Developers, Resource Extractors and Governments. What few activists understand is that DREGs are scared to death that people will speak out for the public interest — against them. They know they're wrong scientifically, legally and morally. We've got all those on our side. Think of all the falsely misleading names of DREG's greenwash groups. The reckless DREGs lie shamelessly. Mark Twain observed, 'A lie can get half way around the world while the truth is still putting its boots on.' The smarter DREGs understand they must twist the truth around so that black seems white. It's called doublespeak."

Dilworth goes on to say, "most scientists will not speak out, but you can get them to find you the most powerful research." In the end "your job is to put the law and the science together

and make it understandable to the public."

For Dilworth, "the concept is to show others that they can win — even when going up against powerful world-class greed. Sometimes it feels like trying to sip water out of a blasting fire hose, but "you have to fight, even when you know you're going to lose, because you just might surprise yourself."

The plan is working for Dilworth's organization. HOPE has achieved hundreds of environmental and democracy (also known as public participation) successes (107 in 2002), from small to large. The organization is now making international news fighting Clint Eastwood's plan to bulldoze and chainsaw 17,000 trees in the imperiled Monterey pine forest for yet another golf course that he doesn't need.

Eastwood gave a rare public peek at his mean streak when he made the local paper's front page for snarling at Dilworth for protesting Clint's Pebble Beach Company development, "All you're doing is talking, but you're not planting anything. Get in there and plant something."

Some final words of advice from Dilworth: "Fight for what you know is right, hope for the best, prepare for the worst, and expect nothing. You will be delighted to find you regularly win a lot more than you even dreamed of."

To learn more see -- www.ihope.org



A Look at the Current State of the McKenzie River System and the Effects of Continued Logging.

by Forester Roy Keene

Early in the 20th century, the last millennial giants of the Pacific's richest forests were felled. Gone are the 20-foot-diameter cedars and firs, towering spruces, great pines, and nearly all of the behemoth redwoods. Squandered on shingles, planking, siding, and packing crates, none of these great trees have been "renewed."

Lesser trees surviving in the federal forest constitute, by default, today's "old growth." A forest plan created by Clinton's administration, Option Nine, proposed to clearcut over half of these remnant groves.

So it is that in the 21st century the McKenzie River's forests are still being mined for old trees.

Clearcutting old trees and replacing them with insignificant seedlings continues to dominate federal "forest management." The shame is that most these irreplaceable old trees haven't been used for domestic wood products for decades. Purchased for hundreds of dollars and selling for thousands as minimally milled export slabs, federal old-growth timber contributes little to local communities or taxpayers. Meanwhile, the

Office of Management and Budget reports that this foolish logging continues to cost us hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

So it is that in the 21st century the McKenzie River's forests are still being mined for old trees. This goes on at a time when it's streams hurt for lack of large downed logs, wild fires burn hot through plantations and slash strewn slopes, and elk, owl and salmon futilely seek mature canopy.

A good share of the McKenzie's native forests belong to industry, most of it converted into monoculture plantations long ago. This insidious conversion extracts a toll on the watershed that is rarely tallied: the broad and continuing effects of pesticides and fertilizers to support these plantations.

Public Interest Forestry tallied pesticide-use permits issued by Oregon's Department of Forestry over a three-year period. Tens of thousands of acres of the McKenzie watershed are treated with herbicides, insecticides, or fungicides annually, mostly in the private sector. The tally did not include fertilizers, used at least as much, which increase algae bloom, raise stream water pH, and can fatally decrease the oxygen available to fish.

By converting our old growth vestiges into industrial tree farms, the Forest Service increases the "need" for further fertilizers and pesticides in the McKenzie drainage. This archaic and undeclared

impact will increasingly haunt our forests and the health of the humans who live downstream.

Roy Keene has lived and worked throughout the forests of Oregon for 35 years. He founded Public Interest Forestry, an organization dedicated to sane forestry. Roy has served as the Native Forest Council's Forester since 1991.



NFC uses Google Earth to expose logging practices

By Brett Cole

In 2003 and 2004 the Native Forest Council created a series of groundbreaking maps of national forests using aerial photographs from the U.S. Geological Survey. In what became a dauntingly complicated technical endeavor, I took thousands of black and white aerial photos from a website called Terraserver and stitched them together to represent large areas of public land throughout the country, particularly the Pacific Northwest. I then superimposed national forest boundaries, place names, and other information using a combination of GIS, image editing, and page layout software.

The result was incredible — huge, sharp images of entire national forests, showing every clearcut and logging road, with the lakes, mountains and popular hiking areas labeled. These maps showed decisively the tremendous impact that industrial logging has had on the American landscape, and in particularly dramatic fashion the devastating effects of 100 years of logging the mountainous native forests of the Pacific Northwest.

Technology marches on, and in 2005 we have Google Earth. At first glance the software seems like it might be a gimmick, but it is in fact the real deal. The user can browse the entire planet, zooming in and out on images of varying resolution, from fuzzy and garishly colored to highly detailed and natural looking. The images are derived from color satellite photos taken from space, as opposed to the black and white film images used in the NFC's 2003-2004 project.

Google Earth goes several steps farther and provides the user full 3-D control over the view. You can tilt, rotate, and pan the view. You can fly into canyons and soar above mountains. With a flick of the mouse you can zoom out from the Oregon Cascades, spin the globe around, and zoom in on a city park in Tokyo with enough detail to see pigeons on the ground.

And finally, perhaps the most mind-blowing feature of the new Google Earth is its

terrain mapping. Using elevation data, it models the entire surface of the Earth in 3-D, and the resolution of the modeling is incredible. I'm a nature photographer, and I've shot in places like the Canadian Rockies and the Peruvian Andes. Browsing these areas with Google Earth the mountains are stunningly realistic. Every one looks precisely like my recollection of it.

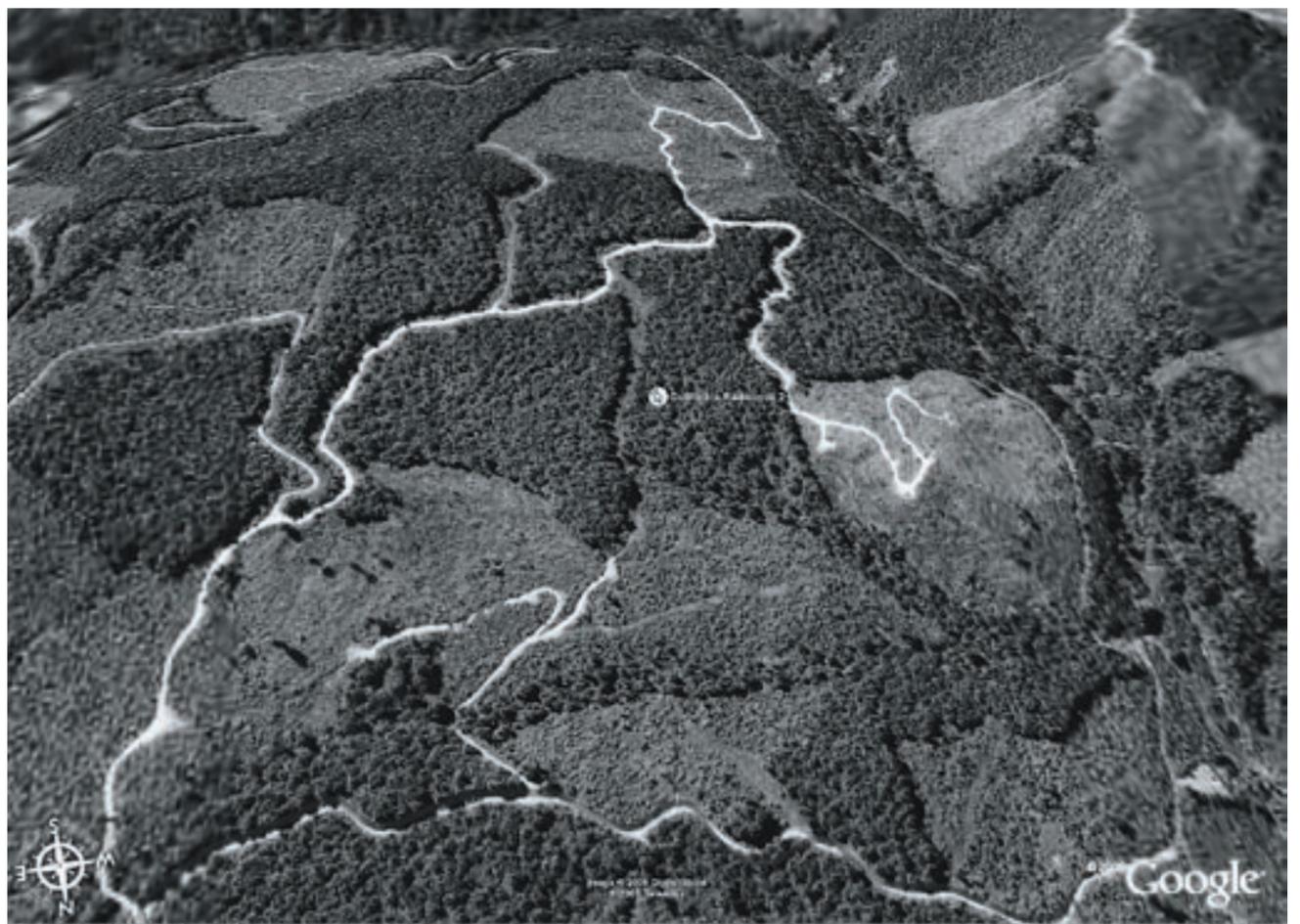
The depressing news is that the view Google Earth shows us is pretty horrible

For the purpose of educating the public about the state of the land, Google Earth is a revelation. Never before has it been so easy to access recent

satellite coverage of the not just the U.S., but other important forest regions around the world, like the Boreal forests of Canada and Russia, and the tropical rain forests of Brazil.

It's important to remember what you're seeing while using it. While it may seem like a fancy computer graphics special effect — and it is — Google Earth is showing you satellite photos, and they're all recent, none more than a year old. They're a factual, indisputable overall record of the state of America's forests, and in the forest conservation movement that's something hard to come by.

The depressing news is that the view Google Earth shows us is pretty horrible! In two days of browsing I was able to see shockingly bad evidence that made my opinion as a pseudo-expert in the field



Google Earth image showing clearcutting in the Northern California redwoods



Google Earth image showing recent logging in the McKenzie River Valley outside Eugene, Oregon

go from bad to worse.

Starting at home, the view using 2005 satellite photos confirms what people have known for decades now — the forests of Oregon and Washington have been devastated by industrial logging. The Coast Range and Cascades are seas of clearcuts on both public and private lands, with the small federal wilderness areas and state parks standing out like sore thumbs. The steep mountainous national forests in the Cascades have been logged to tatters. Google Earth confirms everything people in the Pacific Northwest have been screaming about for years — huge clearcuts on private lands, rampant clear-cutting on public

lands, mazes of logging roads to nowhere, and above all, the fundamental re-shaping of the land imposed by this legacy of logging.

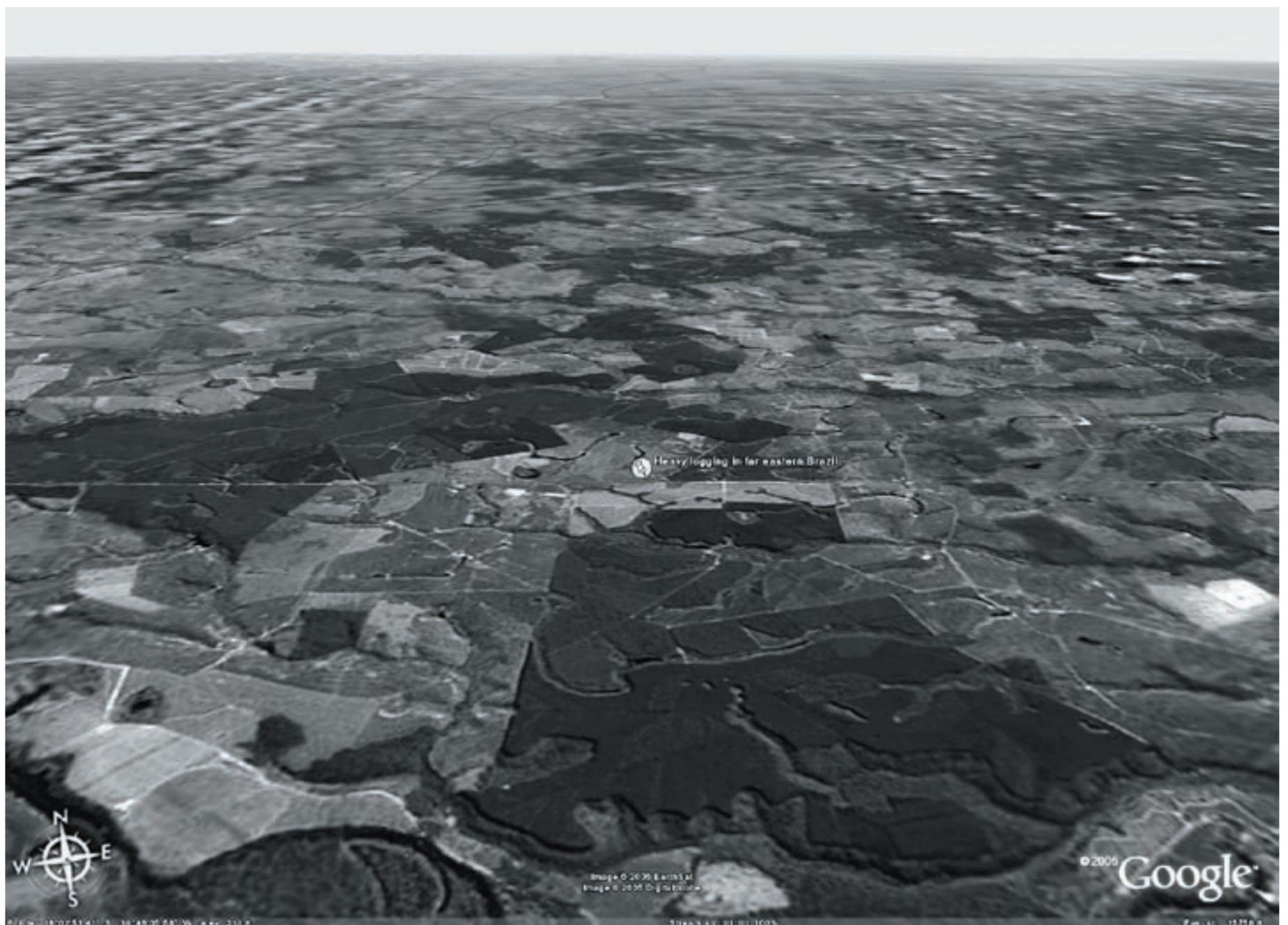
Until now it was exceedingly difficult and expensive for the public to obtain satellite photos of Canada (or the U.S. for that matter), but now they're on Google Earth for all the world to see. More than a decade ago, activists and celebrities rallied the world's attention to large-scale clearcutting on Vancouver Island, in British Columbia. They struggled to get photos and video from flyovers out to the world. With very high-resolution satellite coverage for the much of Vancouver Island, Google Earth lets you fly around every hill and

valley for a truly shocking tour of the worst-case scenario for industrial logging. Over in central B.C. there are veritable oceans of clearcuts covering thousands of square miles dwarfing anything that Oregonians experience.

I've worked in Central America and Peru, but never Brazil. Google Earth has astounding coverage of the Amazon Basin, one of the most heavily satellite-imaged areas of the world. This unending sea of virgin forest is an unbelievable sight from an airplane, and, exploring the region with Google Earth, the viewer instantly realizes both the profound ecological importance of this sea of green and the chance we still have to preserve it. I was able to work up a view hovering near ground level right over the Amazon River, looking far in the distance. With a gentle push of the mouse the camera cruises forwards until you click and stop it. I cruised through the unbroken forests of the Amazon all the way into Ecuador, without seeing a single clearcut. Even with roughly 20% cleared, the Amazon is still there for the saving.

For several years now, the Native Forest Council has been using aerial photography to educate the public and to sound alarm bells about America's public lands. Now the NFC is helping to inspire awareness and action using the newest tools like Google Earth. Visit the NFC website for a special Google Earth resource section, including a large selection of bookmarks that you can download and use in Google Earth to visit many of the places talked about in this article. For more information, visit:

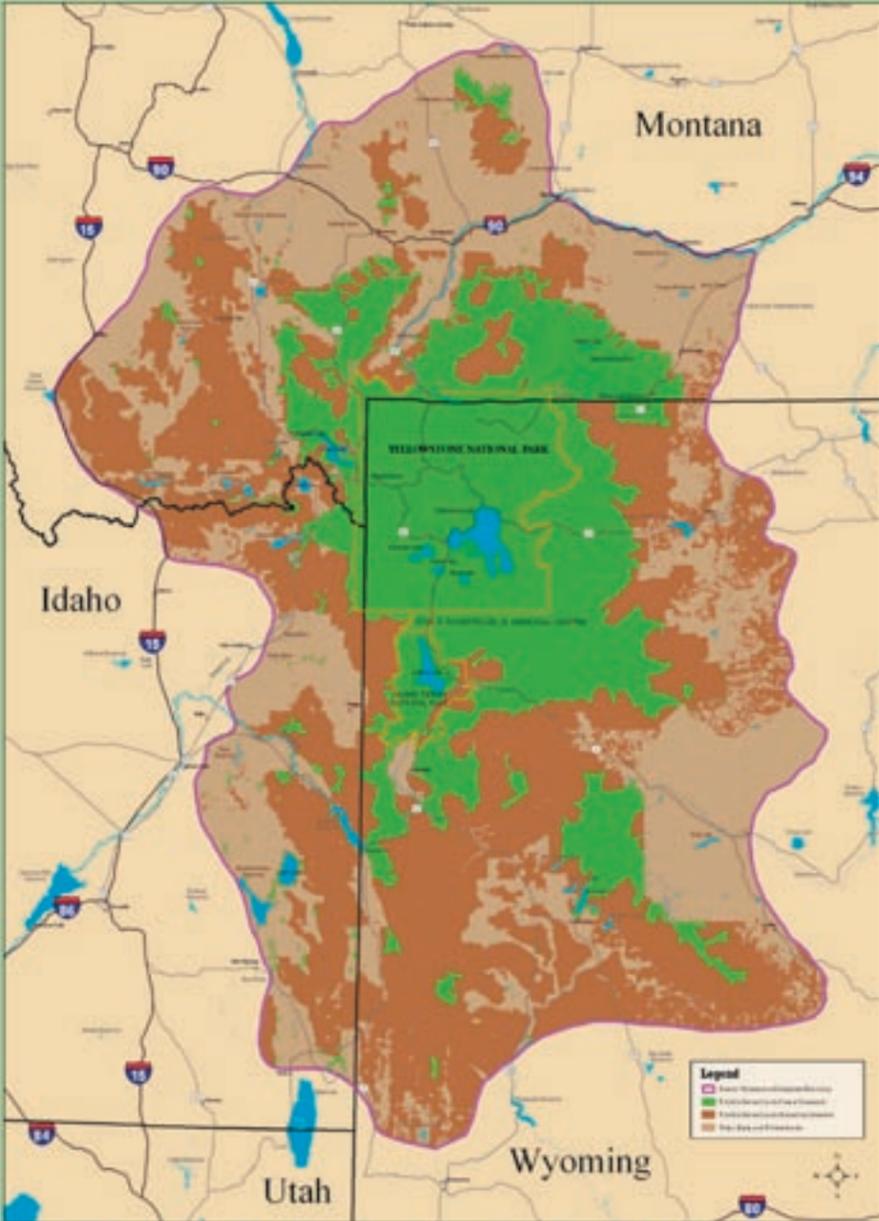
<http://www.forestcouncil.org>
<http://earth.google.com>



A Google Earth image showing heavy logging in Eastern Brazil

GREATER YELLOWSTONE WILDLIFE

Harmed by Livestock Production



Publicly Owned Lands Grazed by Livestock

The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem is truly an extraordinary place—one of the few places in our country where, with the exception of the black-footed ferret, all the species of plants and animals that were here prior to the arrival of Europeans still survive. Wildlife abounds here like nowhere else in the contiguous U.S. primarily because 75 percent of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, or 15 million acres, consists of publicly owned lands.

But a battle is taking place over who controls our publicly owned lands—livestock ranchers or the public. Many ranchers view grass eaten by wildlife as stolen from the mouths of their livestock. In all the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, only Yellowstone National Park and the National Elk Refuge prohibit livestock grazing.

Free Yellowstone!



Excluding these two areas, most of the remaining publicly owned land and nearly all of the privately owned land is available for livestock production. In fact, more cows and sheep graze the public's land than deer, elk, bison, bighorn sheep, moose, pronghorn, and mountain goats combined.

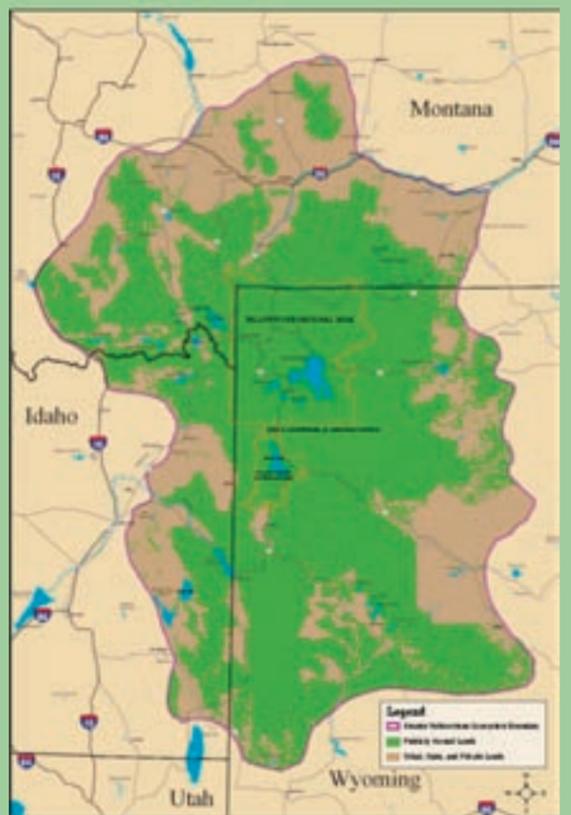
As a result of the livestock industry's domination of the Greater Yellowstone landscape:

- Bison are imprisoned inside Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Those that migrate beyond the Park boundary are hazed back into the Park or are slaughtered by state and federal agencies.
- Grizzly bears and wolves are safe only within the confines of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Outside of these areas, they are captured, tranquilized, relocated or killed if they prey on livestock.
- Bighorn sheep are confined to small, isolated mountain ranges. Bighorns that leave their home range to expand into nearby suitable habitat are killed to ensure they do not mingle with domestic sheep grazing on publicly owned land.
- Pronghorn are forced to negotiate 105 fences twice a year in their 120-mile migration between Grand Teton National Park and their winter range.
- Prairie dogs are shot, trapped, and poisoned. Although this extermination campaign is directed at prairie dogs, it has also decimated populations of the black-footed ferret, swift fox, ferruginous hawk, mountain plover, burrowing owl, prairie falcon, prairie rattlesnake, great plains toad, and many other native species that rely on the habitat created by prairie dogs.

While livestock production on publicly owned land provides a prestigious lifestyle and private profit center for a privileged few, it provides little public benefit. In addition to the negative impacts to wildlife mentioned above, livestock production causes dewatering of streams and destruction of fisheries and riparian habitat; loss of native plant communities and infestations of noxious weeds; an increased potential for disease transmission from livestock to wildlife; and a decrease in small mammal and bird populations.

Livestock grazing comes down to a simple concept: more cows and sheep eating publicly owned forage means less food is available for wildlife, therefore, suppressing wildlife populations below levels that are optimum. Just as ranchers have the right to graze their private land, U.S. citizens have the right to determine whether they want their land to be grazed by livestock at the expense of wildlife. It is time to demand that our government free the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem from the nuisance of livestock production on publicly owned lands by ending this program and managing our land for the public benefit.

Publicly Owned Lands



Big Timber and Big Enviro join forces to Sell-out the Rainforests

An Interview with Ingmar Lee
by C. L. Cook

PEJ News
October 1, 2005

<http://www.pej.org/html/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=33>

"Can we finally stand together now, and start working together against this monstrous, lying, voracious forest-destroying industry/government consortium?!! Can we finally unite behind an uncompromising NO MORE OLD GROWTH LOGGING stance? Can we now go around the world and without fetter, denounce and damage the BC logging industry?" - Ingmar Lee

[Chris Cook] Greetings again, Ingmar; I've just reread your CounterPunch.org piece, "Compromise with a Chainsaw" and the blood boils anew! In reference to your article, I'd like to know the mechanics of the Rain Forest Solutions Project (RSP)?

[Ingmar Lee] It's been impossible to understand the mechanics of the Rainforest Solutions Project (RSP) because it's been an entirely secretive closed circle clique which has not communicated any aspect of its strategies or end-goal vision. It's only been in the last few years that it's begun to come to light amongst the larger enviro-community that a complicated machination between government, industry and the RSP enviros, namely Greenpeace, BC Sierra Club, Forest Ethics and the Rainforest Action Network (RAN) has been going on.

[Chris Cook] These are icons of the environmental movement you're talking about. They've spent years, millions of person-hours by hundreds of thousands. Now, they too are suspect?

[Lee] It is apparent that right off the bat, the enviro's accepted major compromises just to be able to sit at the table with industry, the Weyerhaeuser, Interfor, Western, CANFOR and Norske Skog consortium with whom they've been bargaining. Although the RSP negotiators lost enormously in the Great

Bear Rainforest (GBR) negotiations and have not got a deal which will protect the areas outstanding natural biodiversity, they sacrificed Vancouver Island and the rest of BC's forests in exchange for discussions on the 22 million acre GBR.

[Chris Cook] We both have lived on Vancouver Island for many years, so perhaps our readers can take this as a biased issue, but living on an island, in a geo-graphically finite environment, the effects of industrial sized forestry is all the more stark.

[Lee] Over the past few years, we've seen all forest initiatives being undertaken by the RSP ENGO's on Vancouver Island shut down. The Sierra Club of BC, a long-time fighter for Vancouver Island's forests

It is apparent that right off the bat, the enviro's accepted major compromises just to be able to sit at the table with industry

shut down all of its Vancouver Island campaigns in spite of its head office being located in Victoria. Have you ever seen Greenpeace on Vancouver Island? RAN has got a huge international campaign going against Weyerhaeuser, with the single exception of BC, because of the GBR negotiations. The logging of Vancouver Island has run amok without a peep of complaint from the big groups. The WCWC [<http://www.wildernesscommittee.org>] might send out a print-run of flyers once and a while or a petition here and there, or amass 40-50 people down at the Ledge, [B.C. Legislature Buildings, seat of provincial government, located in Victoria: <http://members.shaw.ca/GlennDell2/GlennImages/LegBuilding.jpg>] but there's been no concerted, organized campaign whatsoever.

It's outrageous that in 2003, a road was pushed into East Creek, the 85th of 91 primary watersheds on Vancouver Island to face the axe, without the slightest complaint from organized enviro. The Vancouver Island marmot is virtually extinct in the wild due to voracious unconscionable logging, and not a single group is there to defend it. In spite of

years of flyers and petitions by the WCWC, clear-cut logging in the Walbran's ancient forests has continued apace and East Creek is being destroyed. The only thing which has put a check on the destruction has been volunteer, anarchist citizens groups and First Nations staging direct-action civil-disobedience blockades.

[Chris Cook] Tactics has always been a big debate within the community of local and off-islanders concerned with forest practices and the environmental situation both here and throughout B.C. The logic of one argument strives for "mainstream" support, so fears alienating possible allies through either direct action, or being seen to support those actions.

[Lee] The RSP compromise-collaborationist approach, combined with funding commitment obligations and charitable status has been devastating to our forests and has completely neutered our once-strong and proud forest-protection community. Volunteer activists are now expected to show up to lick envelopes for fundraising mail-outs at Big ENGO [Environmental Non-Government Organization] offices and shut up while the professionals sit down and talk. Whenever citizens do take the initiative and get out there to directly confront the logging, not only do they not receive a stitch of help from Big-ENGO, but they are denigrated and even sneered at for being confrontational and 'extremist.' Betty Krawczyk rotted in jail for 10 months for standing up to Weyerhaeuser in the Walbran and was ignored, and the peace-loving vegan forest activist Tre Arrow continues to languish in a BC jail, utterly ignored and even castigated by professional BC enviros. He's been branded as an "eco-terrorist" by the corporate media, and if he is deported back to the USA, could well be destined for the American-gulag torture chambers at Guantanamo Bay.

[Chris Cook] British Columbia has an image in the rest of Canada that roughly apes the stereotypes much of the U.S. has of California: A "hang-loose" attitude, essentially Liberal. In the salons of Ottawa and Toronto, we quaint "Left Coasters," in the local parlance, exist in "Lotus Land." But the B.C.



Unknown peak in the Bella Coola Valley, Great Bear Rainforest, Nuxalk Territory, BC.

Photo by Brett Cole. Wild Northwest Photography <http://www.wildnorthwest.org>

political reality is a long way from Berkley.

[Lee] What's also greatly disturbing is how this deal has been manoeuvred in order to accommodate the political ambitions of Gordon Campbell. Let's face it, with the bulk of his election financing derived from Big Logging, the Campbell government is bought lock, stock and barrel. It's so abundantly clear that if Big Logging has bought into the GBR compromise, that Campbell will follow suit. It's not Campbell who calls the shots in the BC forests. Yet with all the current RSP 'down to the wire' "Stand Tall for the GBR ~write the Premier" hype which is blanketing the BC and international media, the compromisers would have the people believe that everybody's on board for the momentous deal except Campbell.

It was expected that he would endorse it in the lead up to the last BC election, to send voters the message that he had "turned over a new Green leaf." But that Campbell political calculus was not to be and he deferred the decision. That was a big mistake, as he really took a beating over his visionless, substance-devoid environmental stance and all his most rampant pro-logging industry MLA's like Rod Visser, Gillian Trumper and Bill Belsey all went down to defeat. Stan Hagen only eked in by the skin of his teeth. It's clear that British Columbia's punished Campbell for his myopic and destructive treatment of the BC forests.

Campbell was saying to his major global wood-product customers that it was now ethical to purchase such product from BC, and the RSP enviro-endorsement guaranteed it.

[Chris Cook] Victoria, Vancouver Island, and the whole of B.C. is an international tourist destination - the old Social Credit Party ads remind: 'Super Natural British Columbia.' - and those visitors lucky enough to connect with the soaring natural world surviving here tend too to feel a responsibility toward it and have mounted huge boycotts against forestry practices here; is that sentiment still strong over there?

[Lee] When I was touring Germany, Denmark and Sweden in November 2003, lecturing on the "Vancouver Island Clearcutting Massacre" I stopped in at the 'Verband Deutsche Papierfabriken' offices in Bonn which is the major conduit through which BC forest products flow into Germany. I went there to plead with the VDP executives to stop purchasing BC forest products derived from ancient forests and I showed them graphic current evidence of what Weyerhaeuser and ilk were doing to our forests. Their response? They pulled out a fax, fresh sent from the Gordon Campbell government, that "all was well in the BC woods because of the momentous RSP/industry/government negotiations which had settled all the GBR issues. The fax even mentioned that the parties had settled on the protection of just 21% of the GBR tract, and now the War in the Woods was over. Campbell was saying to his major global wood-product customers that it was now ethical to purchase such product from BC, and the RSP enviro-endorsement guaranteed it.

So all this nonsense about getting the people to write to Campbell begging him to sign is just a smokescreen to build as much momentum of support for this pathetic deal as possible. The idea is that if Campbell is seen to be balking at signing, then there must be some impressive environmental significance to it. So then when he does sign, the RSP enviro's will claim that they've achieved a monumental victory in bringing on board one of the most ruthless forest-destroying Premiers in BC history.

[Chris Cook] They will have converted the most blatantly pro-corporate agenda this province has yet known?

[Lee] What a horrific bunch of Greenwash bularky! Campbell signed on to the GBR deal long ago, and all this dragging it out is simply to cater most optimally to his political agenda. The foot-

dragging has also allowed the companies to get a major head-start on destroying the area under Campbell's awful 'Forest and Range Practices' Act, and to dither over the as-yet undefined "Ecosystem Based Management" which is just more Greenwash for the destruction of intact primeval forest. Just like the scam of 'variable retention' logging took that wind out of the citizen actions to stop clear-cutting 10 years ago, the scam of compromise-collaborationism between BIG ENGO and the government/industry consortium will buy the industry another 10 years to finish off the GBR. By the time the BC public recognizes how severely they were hoodwinked that magnificent Great Bear Rainforest will have been reduced to another BC steaming stump-field.

The crux of the problem is simple: The GBR deal Greenwashes the further destruction of intact primeval forests. These are the final repositories of the Earth's most magnificent biodiversity. Less than 20% of the planet's ancient forests remain intact and they're going fast.

The solution is simple: NO MORE LOGGING IN ANCIENT FORESTS

[Chris Cook] Thanks, Ingmar; but allow me one further question, please: Recent developments here, and I know you're currently on the other side of the world, but the on-going Canada-U.S. softwood lumber trade dispute is turning. In the wake of the recent disaster in New Orleans and the great need there to rebuild, a growing chorus of industry voices in the United States are clamouring for the ditching of U.S. tariffs long levied against Canadian, and especially B.C. wood imports. What's your understanding of the cross-border dispute, and how does its fate effect the future of British Columbia's forests and the creatures calling those woods home?

[Lee] As far as Canada/USA goes, to anyone who looks, the USA is going down, and once the Chinese call the debt home, and fuel prices double, the crash will make the fall of the Berlin Wall look like a picnic. All around the world, Bush has utterly ruined the already widely unpopular USA 'reputation.' I have hardly seen any Americans at all since I've been on the road here in India, and from the local sentiment, I can see why. Wearing a USA flag anywhere is asking for trouble big time. Even in Victoria, one hardly sees a USA flag on the millions of American tourists who are now swarming to Canada, quite rightly afraid to go elsewhere in the world for their vacations. I take it as a personal duty in Victoria to remind anyone I see wearing the USA flag, that what it represents around the world today is: attack, invade, occupy, torture and massacre, and it says "See Me, ~I'm in total support of George W. Bush and his global domination agenda."

No ethical or sane American will wear a USA flag outside the United States.

[Chris Cook] Canada is so tightly tied to the United States: They're our biggest single trading partner by far, and "we've" invested so much time and effort drawing up trade agreements it seems improbable that this country would ever take a stand against American trade, or their odious foreign policies.

[Lee] Canada absolutely must tear up the quisling Mulroney NAFTA scam, and shut off all the southbound oil, water and forest spigots. If we must sell our resources instead of keeping them around for our grandchildren, there are many ethical places around the world that will pay just as much or more.



Google Earth Map showing the Great Bear Rainforest

[Chris Cook] It's just come across the wires: Campbell has not, and says he will not sign on to the deal all those environmental groups have spent so much energy crafting, after all.

The crux of the problem is simple: The GBR deal Greenwashes the further destruction of intact primeval forests.

[Lee] And now we see that Campbell hasn't signed the [GBR] deal after all, although the ever-compliant RSP, grovelling once again, has extended his contract by another two weeks!

Therefore if Gordon Campbell has refused to endorse the "Great Bear Rainforest" 'consensus' reached between the RSP and the logging industry, that has to be because that's what industry told him to do!!

Today's [Oct. 1, 2005] non-announcement is a huge coup for the logging industry, which will have gained 7 years of complete acquiescence from the RSP groups to gut and destroy Vancouver Island and other forests around BC without complaint, and to get a big head start on trashing the GBR. Campbell's non-endorsement of the deal will further set back the agreed-to 2009 'compliance date' by which time GBR loggers were to have switched from clear-cut destruction to some vaguely defined EBM logging system.

It's as rotten as that folks, - the GBR discussions tied down the most powerful voices in ENGO, sat them down behind closed doors for 7 years, sucked millions of dollars out of the movement, neutered direct forest activism, and seriously divided the environmental community.

Weyerhaeuser, Interfor, CANFOR, Norske Skog, Western and their Gordon Campbell lackey has ruthlessly backstabbed their RSP partners and the central coast First Nations.

Today was Campbell's deadline, but the only people celebrating at the Champagne Party are logging corporations and their government lackeys.

Can we finally stand together now, and start working together against this monstrous, lying, voracious forest-destroying industry/government consortium??!! Can we finally unite behind an uncompromising NO MORE OLD GROWTH LOGGING stance? Can we now go around the world and without fetter, denounce and damage the BC logging industry.

Or how much more lying, expense, scamming, grovelling and embarrassment are the RSP groups willing to endure, and expose our community to, over this dreadful, rotten deal?

Disgusted all around, Ingmar.

To learn more about forestry and other ecological issues on Vancouver Island and British Columbia, check out Ingmar Lee's writings on PEJ.org.

Ingmar Lee is a Vancouver Island environmentalist, whose activism encompasses Nanaimo's toxic watershed, the too few wild places left on the island, and the protection of its endangered wildlife. He's been a loud and persistent voice for change across all media, an unflinching critic of corporate irresponsibility and government's refusal to fulfill their duty to the people of British Columbia and future generations. He's a graduate student of Asian and Environmental Studies at the University of Victoria, currently studying in India. Ingmar spent more than two decades working in the coastal woods of British Columbia as a tree-planter, and estimates he's planted more than a million trees.

Chris Cook hosts Gorilla Radio, a weekly public affairs program, broad/webcast from UVic. He also serves as a contributing editor to PEJ News. This e: mail exchange took place between late September and early October 2005. Interview questions are 'post-write' insertions, included to create a conversational flow.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:
Northwestern Division
Regional Integration Team

APR - 7 2004

Mr. Tim Harmack
Native Forest Council
P.O. Box 2190
Eugene, Oregon 97402

Dear Mr. Harmack:

This is in response to your October 20, 2003 letter to Senator Ron Wyden regarding the planting of hatchery salmon and trout in Oregon waters. I apologize for the delay in responding. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers funds several hatchery programs in the State of Oregon. The fish hatcheries are authorized and funded as mitigation for impacts from the Corps' construction and operation of water resource projects throughout the State. The programs we fund include 7 hatcheries, which are operated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. It should be noted that some of the hatcheries also receive funding from other non-Corps sources for fish production programs.

The Corps mitigation programs include the release of juvenile spring and fall chinook, coho, summer steelhead and resident trout into Oregon waters. By signed agreement between the State and the Corps, all spring chinook, coho and summer steelhead smolts raised and released with Corps funds are marked with an adipose fin clip. This has been the case for over four years. Resident trout going into waters where listed winter steelhead smolts may be incidentally fished are also marked so harvest impacts can be monitored and evaluated. At this time, one-hundred percent marking of fall chinook released is not possible because of the large number of juveniles released and because the fish are too small to be safely marked. In order to have some type of statistical reference, Corps funded hatchery production of fall chinook (all of which are released in Columbia River waters) have a representative sample marked with an adipose fin clip plus a coded wire tag so stray rates can be monitored.

If you have more detailed questions regarding the Corps funded program please contact Ms. Deborah Chenoweth, Chief of Operations Division, Portland District, P.O. Box 2946 (OP), Portland, Oregon 97208-2946.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. Caver, Jr., P.E.
Deputy Director of Civil Works

Unmarked Hatchery Fish Used to Justify Increased Cut?

By William Blair

The negative affect in perpetuity on Pacific Northwest fish runs caused by hatchery fish production may be calculated in the BILLIONS of lost fish.

The letter above shows us that the Army Corp of Engineers, among others, are well aware that hatchery fish are being released into our rivers and streams unmarked. For all practice purposes, these fish **become** "wild fish" in the eyes of the public, and the law. This also inflates the numbers of "wild fish" returning to rivers from the ocean, leading us to believe that endangered fish are having "record runs."

Calling unmarked hatchery production fish "wild fish" means that timber production under "suitable harvest, thinning, fire recovery, restoration, [and] healthy forest initiatives" can be increased. The unmarked hatchery production fish are counted and conveniently reported as wild restoration stocks in habitat conservation planning. As an indicator specie for sustainable forestry, this means that operational goal values are working.

The practice of not marking hatchery production fish creates an artificial surplus of fish returning to collection stations. The surplus fish eggs distributed to aquaculture operations are generally sold "off the top" [surplus quotas of fish and their eggs are set prior to and regardless of the strength of the returning fish run]. While the agency and media spokespersons claim crisis, un-spawned adult salmon lay dead under Oregon and Washington dams and at the fish intake channels into hatcheries.

One of the recent 'bench' marks of mixing hatchery fish stocks includes U.S. District Court Judge Michael Hogan's decision to treat hatchery and wild fish the same. The court handlers fully understood that all increased forest, water, air and geographical impact standards could be rolled back if the hatchery salmon, an indicator specie, were counted into "wild stock" assessments. Comingling the hatchery/wild fish accounting was used to bolster "sustainable development." To cover for de-listing, a block of unmarked hatchery fry, smolt or broodstock fish are merely planted in a specific stream index. The presumption is that the local habitat conservation plan or recovery measure is a success. On the McKenzie River, you can "catch & release" an unmarked hatchery fish touted as a wild "red side" trout.

Planting small fry in dammed regulated river systems is stupid science at best. The odds against

fry making a successful exodus to the ocean are poor. The scientific abuses are exacerbated by the state licensing and regulating recreational sport fishing derbies and "recycle fish" programs on endangered runs in partnership with Northwest salmon and trout clubs.

To add insult to injury, Treaty Indian fishers are forced to accept hatchery surplus fish at hatcheries, rather than fish at usual and accustomed fishing places as affirmed by U.S. District Court Judge Boldt in 1974. The hatchery mindset ends with the state's position that surplus fish and eggs sales are "good for the state government's economy." For every act of pollution it is said there are subsidies, and this holds true in the "facade of efficiency" surrounding the fish hatcheries, recovery and restoration.

William Blair is an auditor for *Infraspect Environmental Sciences & Community*.



Unmarked Hatchery Fish in Dexter Rearing Pond, Willamette River, Oregon. Photos - W. Blair / R. Grubb

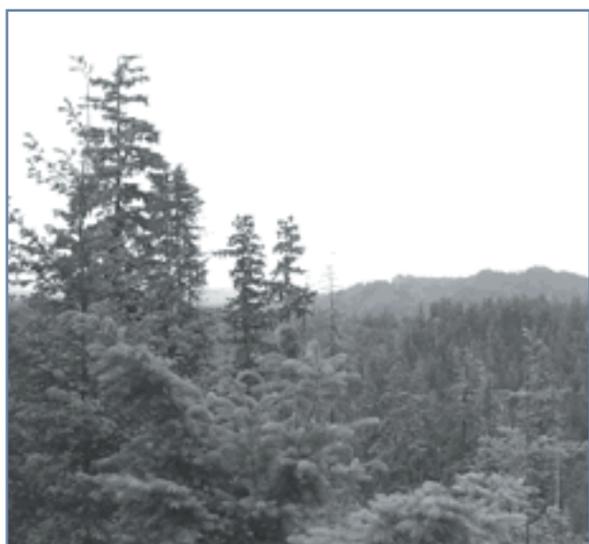
Stark Images and the Truth: A Lesson from the Biscuit Debacle

by John Borowski

Think about these two realities for a moment. The brutal images of death in New Orleans could frame an ecological and social discussion of urgent priorities needed to guarantee social and environmental sanity for our children. On the other hand, the Bush administration warning news outlets that photographs of the dead are forbidden. Why? Think it over.

The headlines of the Metro section of the Oregonian (8/29/05) read "Poll: Restore Scorched Forests." "A survey finds about 75% of Oregonians favor logging wildfire areas and planting seedlings, issues long debated." How could a survey find results that are so diametrically opposite to the cries of forest activists to leave these "burned" areas alone? Think it over. Truth is often most obviously found in imagery: be it the unnecessary death of American citizens because of wetland destruction and their social class or the stumps of giant, healthy trees removed in the name of "fire restoration." Images of both, shown to even the most average of citizens, stir emotions and conjures up immediate questions.

On behalf of the Native Forest Council, I spent the last six months creating a PowerPoint production, images that are intended to open the flood gates of public outrage and action. The images that are indelibly etched in my mind are the scenes we found at the Fiddler timber sale in the Siskiyou National Forest. During the first week of August, activists Justin Rohde and Lisa Shelton of the Siskiyou Project gave me directions to several timber sales at the Biscuit site. On a clear Sunday evening, we arrived and camped out on the boundary of a wilderness area. The forest was beautiful, some of it burned by a natural tool of succession, yet magnificent all the same. Simply put: fire is natural



and needed. We were in the midst of Fiddler timber sale, a process that the general public has been told is "remedial." The morning light illuminated an area of complex forest reduced to tatters. My words can do no justice to describe the outright destruction, eroded soils, and butthered remains of a natural forest. What I couldn't describe verbally is transformed into timeless reality by my camera. One look at these photographs shatters all the myths of restoration, leaves no doubt of the lies of politicians and some in the Forest Service, and begs an enormous query to every forest activist. Why aren't we using these photographs to ignite a firestorm of citizen cognizance and action?

Ground zero at the Fiddler site sits next to the Babyfoot Lake trailhead. My friend Michael and I surveyed a steep hill, denuded of trees with shattered fragments of trees everywhere. How would Mother Nature repair such a pillaged remnant? Even driving slowly, fine dust, the soil that took thousands of years to form, filled the air. Ironically, on the edge of the site, a sliver of natural forest stood, seemingly daring "salvage boosters" to wake up and smell the Ponderosa pines. It was burned, it survived, and nature had done its job. Step out of this little slice of paradise and we felt the temperate climb a good 20 degrees. You cannot describe this destruction, because the reader cannot view an image that now stays with me forever.

We took picture after picture, testament to a saga of timber Public Relations and missed Public Relations on the behalf of ardent forest defenders. In several pictures is the sign to the Babyfoot trailhead. This was a pleasurable stroll into a 352 acres "Botanical Preserve." Law and a punishable offense forbid logging and collecting plants in this preserve. Yet, we saw stumps? Late in August, the Forest Service would admit that between 10 and 17 acres of this area had been "mistakenly logged." In the day and age of GPS and sophisticated science, the illegal logging of one tree should be viewed as a disaster: here, somewhere between 250 and 300 trees were taken. Where were the front-page photographs in the Oregonian, USA Today or the NY Times? Small articles in newspapers often buried several pages deep do not and will not awaken comfortably numb citizens.

Journalists and poll takers can't remember a story that has awoken the American conscience like the New Orleans flood and Hurricane Katrina. Photographs of dead Americans, most of them poor, have outraged citizens. The images of elderly black men and women languishing in the squalor of the New Orleans Convention center without water and food will stay with many forever. Even



Copyright by Matt Wuerker.

news reporters from the Fox News Channel speak openly and almost intelligently of the folly of destroying some 1,900 square miles of wetlands in Louisiana in the last 70 years. The environmental and social equity shortcomings of the Bush regime are now captured in photographs that can be pulled up again and again to shatter their lies and their excuses. These photographs are now part of a visual history.

The Native Forest Council urges all activists to use visual imagery as a catalyst of change. Photographs do not lie. Photographs often do not need an accompaniment of verbiage. They are worth a million words. We as caring environmentalists, citizens, parents and humans must share these photographs. They must enter the media, schools, civic groups and churches. Every politician, be it local, state or federal, must be asked about deforestation and the big lie of "remedial logging," and these questions must be accompanied with the irrefutable evidence of photographs. We can accompany the often-confusing questions about ecological principles with the clear and concise story of photographs. I want to see photographs of the Fiddler timber sale on the floor of the U.S. Senate, on the Larry King Show, and on television advertisements.

We are in the fight of our lives: peak oil, escalating extinction, frightening climate change. We must go on the single biggest public relations offensive ever mounted, armed with photographs. Just like the Bush folks at FEMA: industry will try to force a "black out" on visuals that are too real. When those attempts are breached, try to "picture" the change we can force.

Children for an HONEST Education Campaign update

by John Borowski

The Native Forest Council wants Americans to know that tree farms are not forests and that it is past due to discuss the tragedy of short rotation forestry and converting national forests into monocultures.

The HONEST Education Campaign is now releasing, "Forests Are Not Tree Farms," a detailed look at forest succession, the ecological pitfalls of monocultures, and the ecological ramifications of industrial logging. This 175-slide PowerPoint presentation can walk a teacher, citizen activist or civic minded taxpayer through forest succession, the differences between "tree farms" and forests, posing the question, "why are we squandering national forests in the name of fleeting profit?"

Scripted for easy use and meaningful discussion, "Forests Are Not Tree Farms" has incredible shots of old-growth dependent wildlife, aerial shots of massive clearcuts and compares the succession of a native forest to a tree plantation. The 1000-year journey of how red alder forests evolve into climax western hemlock forests is presented in a clear and concise fashion. Teachers can access

an additional study guide with helpful hints and emphasis on "how to" organize a lesson or lessons around this production.

Contact NFC's Education Coordinator John F. Borowski at jenjill@peak.org to receive your free CD and study guide. You can fill in the coupon

below for additional information. Forests are the Earth's watersheds, wildlife reservoirs and airsheds. These pictures can equip citizens and their children to force a national dialogue on how to protect our nation's 200 million acres of national Forests and shatter the myths of how tree farms are forests!

Mail this coupon to PO Box 2190, Eugene, OR 97402

I AM INTERESTED IN THE HONEST EDUCATION CURRICULUM		
Please send me more information:		
Name:	_____	
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Native Forest Council

2004 Annual Report



For over 90 years, the message of “equal rights for women” rumbled through the halls of our government. Sometimes loud and sometimes faint. Year after year, a slow process of education gave light. Finally, in 1920, lawmakers heard the people and passed the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote.

For decades now, the message of “Protect Our Environment” has echoed through the halls of our government. Sometimes loud and sometimes faint. In 2004, the booming drums of war and global terrorism has made the sound of our words faint.

We know from history, however, that it is imperative to keep our message of UNCOMPROMISING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION in the ears of our media and lawmakers. Year after year, the slow process of education WILL ultimately give light.

In 2004, thanks to your support, the major focus of Native Forest Council was the process of this education through media opportunities, the development of curriculum, aerial maps and PowerPoint presentations being presented to hundreds of outlets and thousands of people nationally.

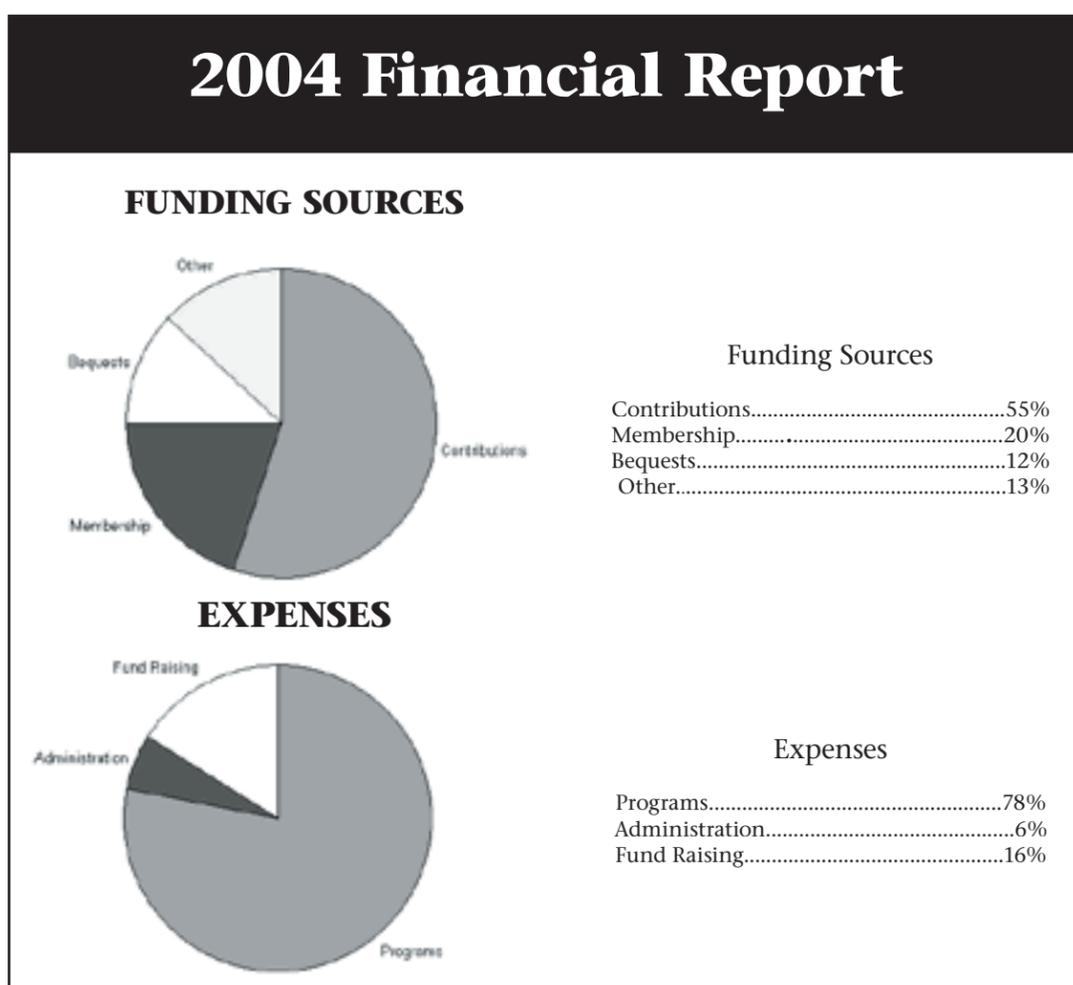
With this focus on people, we also attended and spoke at conferences, met with people of all ages, economic groups and persuasions and worked to get the word out and inform our fellow citizens of the dishonesty and damage that’s being done to our public lands in our names.

The Seattle Chapter of the NFC expanded its campaigns beyond the House members to Washington’s Senators to make sure they listen to the concerns and solutions of those who support NFC’s efforts. Tireless work and extraordinary member support have ensured that true environmental protection has a voice in Washington State.

Working hard to protect and defend the forests that the American Public pays taxes on every year, the Native Forest Council has sent its message all over the country to save and appreciate the natural areas we have for more than just their monetary value. We depend on these forests for clean air, clean water, food, shelter, and overall well-being. Thousands of other life forms live in our forests, and we cannot survive without them. The more people who speak up, the more acres of forest can and will be protected for future generations. The voices are growing, and they will continue to grow until they are heard.

For two decades, Native Forest Council has kept the voice of our environment ringing through the halls of government and with your future support our voice will turn into a mighty shout that will finally preserve the last of our wild and native lands and begin to recover those we’ve lost.

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



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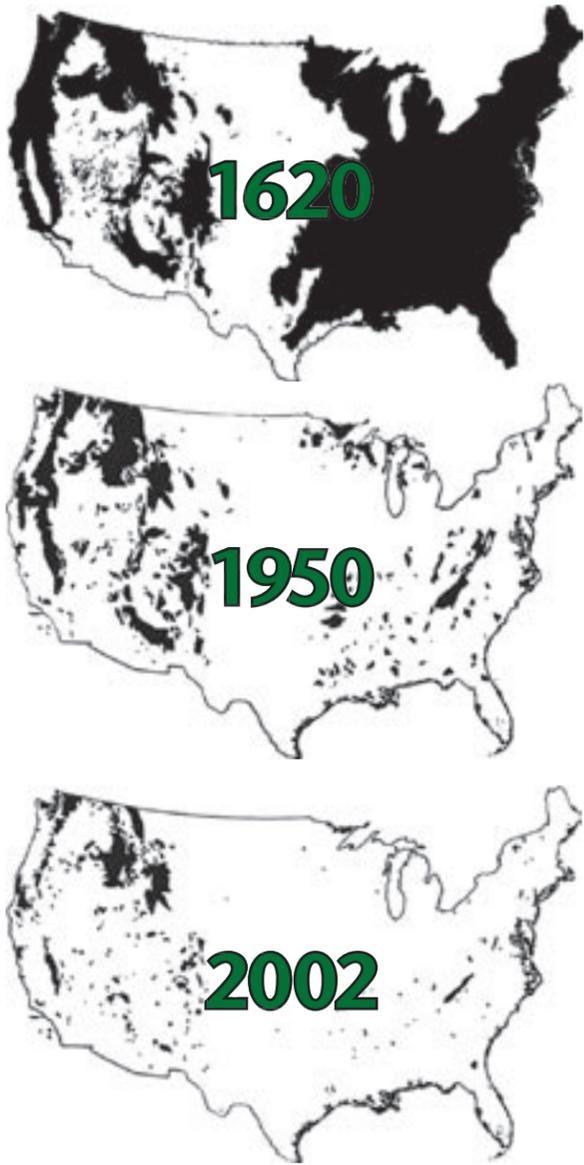
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Allan Hikida	David Kochmer	Jonothan McKee	Louis Plough	William Singer		
Kristin Hill	David Kochmer		Lisa Polec	Suzanne Skinner		
Carol Hilton	Dean Koga		Cynthia Pomianek	Paula Slater		
	Peter Kok		R.T. Prehn			
	Rand Koler					
	Richard Kolpa					
	Stephen Konz					



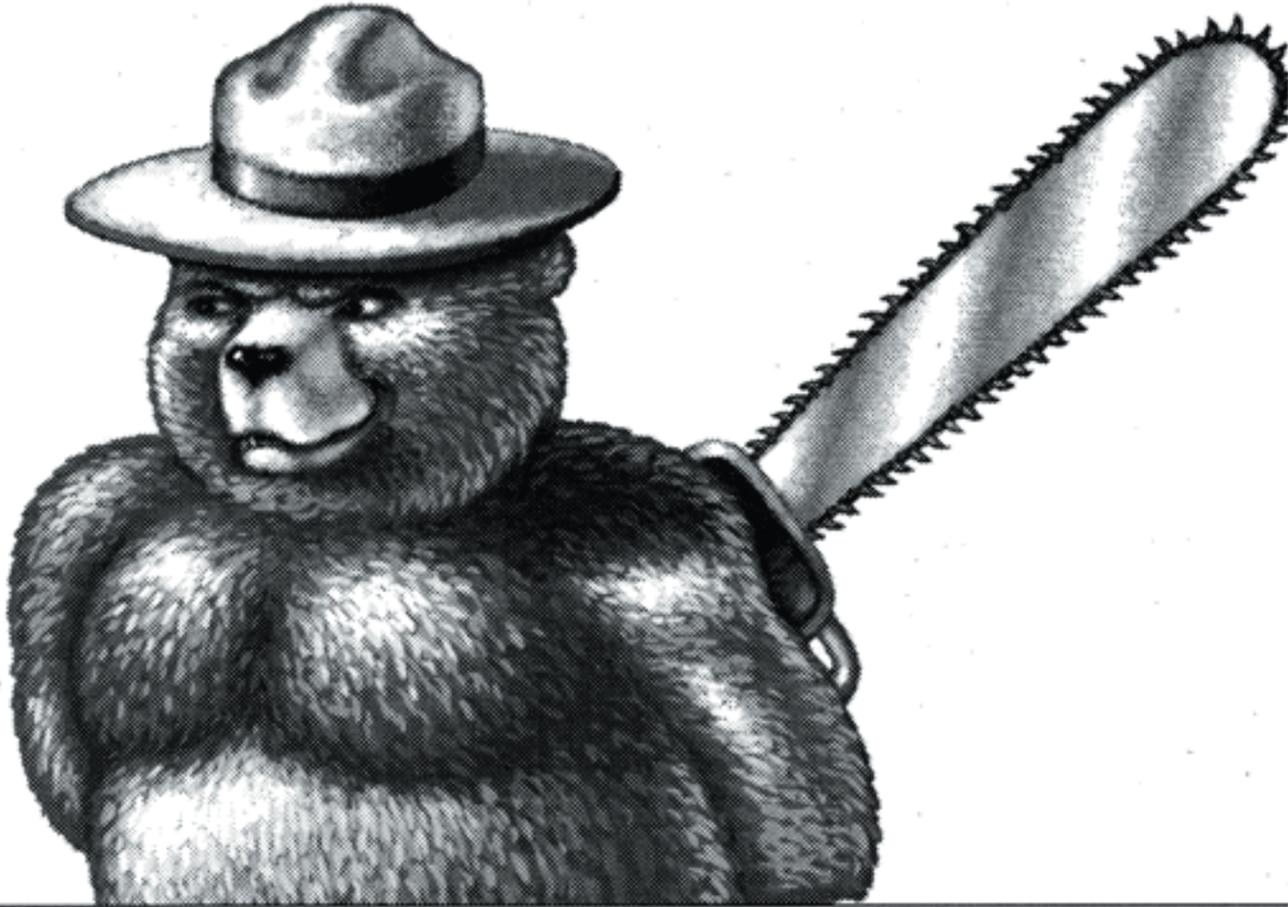
Save Our Disappearing Native Forests



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



There's a bear in the woods,
and he's destroying our heritage.



courtesy of Americans for Ancient Forests

Say it ain't so, Smokey.

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!

- \$25 Student/Limited Income
- \$35 Advocate/Basic annual membership
- \$50 Supporter
- \$75 Contributor
- \$100 Conservator
- \$500 Sustainer
- \$____ David Brower Circle
- \$1000 Patron
- \$5000 Benefactor

- I'll pledge a monthly gift of \$_____
 - Send me a monthly reminder
 - Bill my credit card
 - Please deduct my monthly gift from my checking account.
- I'm sending a signed and voided check. I understand deductions may be stopped or adjusted at any time.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

My check is enclosed.

Please bill my VISA

MasterCard Discover

Card number _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

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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 1,000 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.