

The Native Forest Council's

# Forest Voice

Fall 2006  
Volume 18  
Number 4

Defending Nature, Saving Life since 1988

[www.forestcouncil.org](http://www.forestcouncil.org)



## It's Time to Choose

Native Forest Council  
PO Box 2190  
Eugene, OR 97402

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Eugene, OR  
Permit No 310





## It's Time to Choose

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

We need another revolution like we had against King George of England back in the 1770's. A revolution for freedom, liberty & justice and a democratic form of Government. We had it for a while but it's been torn asunder by the corporate cesspool of political corruption, bribery and extortion and their two-party control, where little that is honest or challenges the industry dominated status quo is allowed.

We have our work cut out for us. We're faced with a barrage of calls for us to get along, to cooperate with our adversaries, to lower our expectations and to let the Democrats govern to the "center" (so they may possibly get re-elected in 2008). We have to reject this industry and institutional perspective for losers and fight back. We have to tell the truth and demand what's ethical, moral and right. Nothing less. Who needs Democrats and their many beltway environmental front groups if they are going to just be kinder, gentler versions of the deadly corporate parasites that are destroying nature, sanctity of Life, liberty and justice in America? For me it's just another form of treason and betrayal.

It's up to us. We can either accept the advice and directives from the DC-greens or we can hold the Democrats' feet to the fire. Each and every one of us can pledge to write, phone and visit our elected officials, at the city, county, state and federal level. Better yet, contact the DC green groups and let them know we do not and will not accept any more dishonest band-aid, non-solutions, and that you'll refuse to support them until they develop the backbone to stand up for what's right.

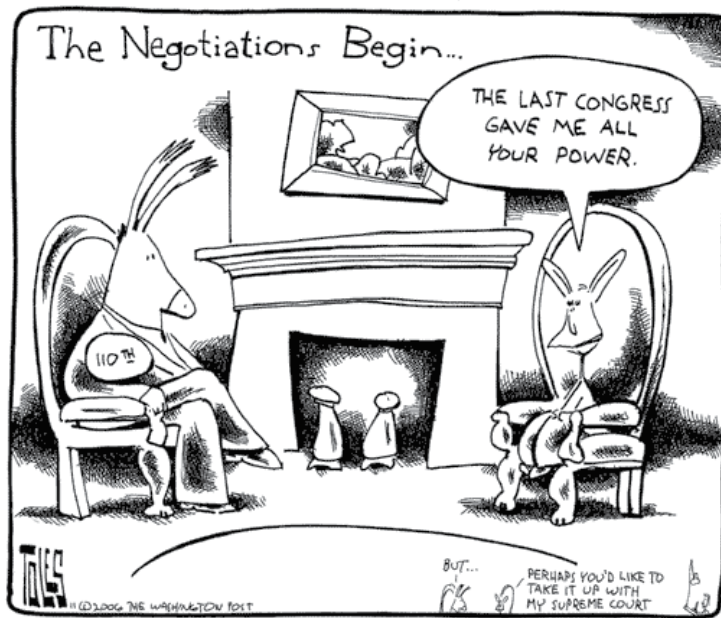
We do not accept that industry has a right to make money even when it causes pain and suffering. We do not and will not accept anything less than real solutions to the many real problems that are doing real harm to nature and humanity. Tell them that **crimes against nature are by extension crimes against humanity** since we depend on nature for our lives. Tell them that we cannot and will not tolerate the continued fraudulent economics and accounting whereby most of the real costs of industry's activities are externalized onto the backs of the American people, uncounted and ignored even when it costs us our jobs, health and well being, even our lives & liberty.

**Remember that if we don't get involved, if we don't do politics – politics will continue doing us.**

Nature can get along fine without humanity, but humanity cannot survive without nature.

But to look at our behavior it's hard not to conclude that either we, or the powers that be, worship one thing and one thing only: money. Not life or creation. They compulsively want money, ever more money, even if in the process they happen to extinguish life on earth. With their continually increasing pollution outputs combined with liquidating or trashing ever more of the country's and world's forests, our planet could end up looking like Mars, completely devoid of life.

"Rip it up, tear it out, let our children do without" is the implicit environmental policy for the White House & Congress (dominated and controlled by industry money, bribery and extortion) and they have continually lied about it. With this election, however, they got a bit of a slap in the face. Throwing out Rep Pombo, one of their most ignorant



and belligerent thugs, is something we can all celebrate. Having a change in leadership and lobbyists should be a good thing. However, I'm afraid the Democrats will be too nice, timid, cowardly or complicit in leaving in place many, if not most, of the destructive, unconstitutional and un-American policies that will wreak havoc for decades unless repealed & dismantled.

I can still remember the 103rd Congress when the Democrats had a veto-proof majority and the Presidency, yet it was the worst environmental Congress ever. Terrified and intimidated by the extreme right's savage little attack dogs, they continually gave in to industry's interests. That Congress was only outdone when the even more treacherous 108th and 109th came along, and all too many Democrats went along for the ride, not challenging Republican policies.

Our goal should be one of zero harm. No more pollution outputs, no more deforestation, nothing that reduces Americans' freedom, justice, life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. We have to re-regulate outlaw corporations, revoke corporate personhood and stop allowing them to define money as "free speech". Corporate money needs to be completely removed from American politics!

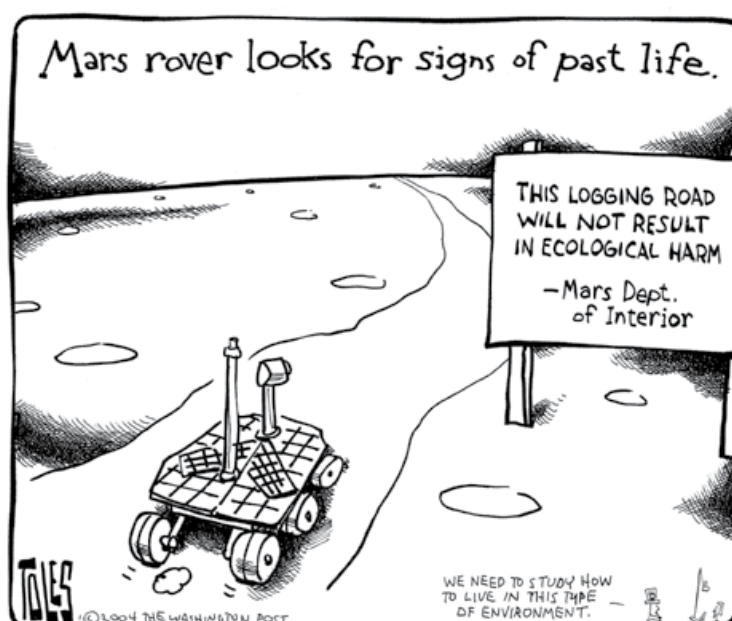
Some insiders will say all that is but a pipe dream, too utopian, idealistic and unrealistic. **I say that big dreams and a vision of a better place are what inspire people and give us all the unstoppable power to sooner or later make it so.** Getting us to abandon the moral high ground and argue over the terms and conditions of our abuse and ultimate demise are what cause 60 percent of Americans to not bother voting.

We have the moral high ground here, AND we have the power. However, when 60 percent of Americans don't vote, when 50 percent of Sierra Club members don't vote, we abdicate that power. I say it's time we stand together and take that power back!

-Tim Hermach



**"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing's going to get better. It's NOT"**  
- Dr. Seuss, *The Lorax*



## Forest Voice

© 1988-2006  
ISSN 1069-2002  
Native Forest Council  
PO Box 2190  
Eugene, OR 97402  
541.688.2600  
Fax 541.461.2156  
info@forestcouncil.org  
www.forestcouncil.org

*Forest Voice* is sent free to members of the Native Forest Council. The cost of U.S. membership is \$35 annually. Bulk orders of the *Forest Voice* are available for \$50 per 100. A complimentary copy is available on request.

All rights to publication of articles appearing in *Forest Voice* are reserved.

**Publisher/Editor**  
Tim Hermach

**Managing Editor**  
David Porter

**Research Editor**  
Josh Schlossberg

**Proofreading and Edits**  
Jim Flynn

**Special Thanks**  
Brett Cole  
Jim Flynn  
Funk/Levis & Associates:  
Chris Berner, David Funk  
Marriner Orum  
Sarah Wiltz  
Matt Wuerker  
Charlotte Talberth  
Marcia Hanscom  
Jeanie Mykland  
Deborah Ortuno

**No Thanks**  
All those who feel it's OK to cut deals that leave us with less native forests, soil, air 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 or send an email to Tim@forestcouncil.org.

**Inspired? Incensed? Impressed?**  
Please write:  
Native Forest Council  
PO Box 2190  
Eugene, OR 97402

This publication contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in our efforts to advance understanding of environmental, political, human rights, economic, democracy, scientific, and social justice issues, etc. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the U.S. Copyright Law. In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, the material in this publication is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for research and educational purposes. For more information go to [www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml](http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml).





## 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 must not be incompatible and that current public land management practices are probably 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.

### Board of Directors

Allan Branscomb  
Calvin Hecocata  
Tim Hermach

### Advisory Board

Ed Begley, Jr.  
Jeff DeBonis  
Larry Deckman  
Erika Finstad  
David Funk  
Rev. James Parks Morton  
Lewis Seiler  
Fraser Shilling  
Karyn Strickler  
Ed Dorsch

### President

Timothy Hermach

### Staff

Josh Schlossberg

### Intern

Lidiya Beisembayeva

### Volunteers

Michelle D'Amico  
Samantha Chirillo  
John Borowski  
David Porter  
Mick Dodge  
William Blair

### Forester

Roy Keene

### Seattle Office

Seattle, WA  
206.783.0728  
seattleinfo@forestcouncil.org  
David Divelbiss  
Suzanne Pardee  
Josh Knapp  
Tim Young  
Ananthaswami Rajagopal  
Marc Church

### 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

Kris Moorman  
Aames, IA  
515.232.1316

# News and Views

## Bush Signs AETA Bill

On Nov 27, President Bush Signed the *Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act* (AETA) into law. The bill was passed by the Senate in September, and passed the House days before being sent to the President. In the house, just 6 members were present when the bill was voted on, with Dennis Kucinich being the only dissenting vote.

AETA amends the 1992 *Animal Enterprise Protection Act* which protects animal enterprises from illegal acts committed by animal activists.

The act essentially makes any action that disrupts the commercial activities of an "animal enterprise" a terrorist act.

Civil-rights groups say the bill's vague language could brand activists as terrorists for activities that are unlawful yet non-violent, such as blockades, property destruction, trespassing, and the freeing of captive animals.

[For more information on similar legislation at the state level, see Karen Pickett's article on ALEC on page 13]



## EPA Redefines English Language to Allow Polluting

The Bush administration's EPA recently declared that pesticides can be sprayed into and over waters without first obtaining special permits.

The EPA decision gave the pest control companies what they wanted. It also closely parsed the English language for what the all-important word "pollutant" means. EPA officials concluded that a pesticide, when it's deliberately applied, isn't a "pollutant" under the terms of the 1972 Clean Water Act.

## Pesticides May Have Drastic Effects

Louis Guillette, associate dean for research at the University of Florida, has stated that research provides enough evidence that pesticides put children, wildlife and the ecosystem at risk.

He found abnormalities in sex organs, dramatic differences in egg-hatching rates and hormone levels. Penis size of the animals from the polluted lake was smaller than animals from the less-polluted lake.

## Get Published!

One of the easiest and best ways to get the word out about the threat to our remaining native forests and the need to permanently protect every American's birthright — our public forests, rivers and streams — is writing a letter to the editor of your local newspaper. The letters section is the first thing most people read when they open the morning news, and it is one of the main ways our elected officials find out what issues are important to their constituents. Best of all, it's free.

Native Forest Council staff, volunteers and several of our nationwide associates send out regular letters to the editor to local and state papers, yet most out of state papers won't run our letters. Which is why Native Forest Council is introducing our "Letter Tree," where NFC members across the nation submit monthly letters to the editor.

The first step toward passing Native Forest Council's "Forever Wild Act: Honest and Full Cost Accounting and Zero Cut on Public Lands," is to wake the sleeping masses. We must educate the American public of the life sustaining services — pure water, clean air and a livable climate — provided for us by our forests free of charge, and the need for their genuine and lasting protection. Within a year, our goal is to have at least one NFC member in every state submitting a monthly letter to the editor of their local paper.

Those interested in becoming active and participating in NFC's "Letter Tree" will receive a monthly topic, talking



## National Parks Service Considers Allowing Private Companies To "Bioprospect" In National Parks

The National Parks Service is considering a proposal to allow private companies to own the genetic resources of plants and animals in our parks.

The National Park Service is quietly taking public comment through Dec. 15 on a proposal to allow private companies to "bioprospect" in our national parks -- to commercially mine the genetic resources of plants, animals, and microorganisms.

## White House Sued Over Global Warming

Environmentalists have sued the Bush administration for failing to produce a report on global warming's impact on the country's environment, economy and public health.

The plaintiffs claim the government must complete such a report every four years under the Global Change Research Act of 1990, and that the last report was due in November 2004.

The lawsuit seeks to compel the U.S. Climate Change Science Program to issue the national assessment, which should contain the most recent scientific data on global warming and projections for its future impacts.

## Global Fish Stocks Disappearing

A global study published earlier this month by scientists from a dozen academic institutions in five countries predicts that all of the world's fishing stocks will collapse before mid-century if overfishing and other human intrusions continue at their current destructive pace.

The report, which appeared in the journal *Science*, says 29 percent of fished species — including bluefin tuna, Atlantic cod, Alaskan king crab and Pacific salmon — have already collapsed.

## New Jersey Withholds Toxics Info

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) reports that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has intentionally withheld a list of more than 6,000 toxic sites.

points and a model for each letter. Members are also encouraged to craft their own letters with urgent and uncompromising messages of the need for forest protection and the inevitability of Zero Cut on public lands.

NFC supporters wishing to get involved with the "Letter Tree" program should call our Eugene office at 541-688-2600, email [info@forestcouncil.org](mailto:info@forestcouncil.org), or drop a line to Native Forest Council, PO Box 2190, Eugene, OR 97402.

As an example, the following is a letter to the editor written by the Native Forest Council's Josh Schlossberg. It was published in the Eugene Register-Guard, the Eugene Weekly and the Ashland Daily Tidings.

*"Half of the manmade carbon emissions released into the atmosphere come from deforestation," according to Dr. Nigel Sizer of the World Resources Institute.*

*Any serious attempt to limit the severity of the climate crisis involves not only restricting CO2 emissions (essential!), but also protecting and preserving the forests that store and absorb carbon — effectively cleaning up our mess free of charge.*

*In the United States, our first major step towards combating climate change should be placing our 643 million acres of public lands OFF LIMITS to the destructive and dishonest corporate extraction industries, corrupt government agencies, and bought-and-sold politicians colluding to ravage our living life-support system: our forests.*

Printed on 30% Recycled Paper, 40% Post Consumer, with Soy-based Ink





# Roadless Rule Redux

## Judge Hands Big Greens a Fund-raising "Victory"

by Michael Donnelly

On September 20, Federal Judge Elizabeth La Porte ruled that the Bush Forest Service failed to consider ecological impacts when the administration replaced the Clinton "Roadless Area Conservation Rule" with a state-by-state petition process. The judge's ruling came in a lawsuit filed by the states of New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, Maine, Montana and California and some 20 conservation groups. The ruling effectively reinstates the Roadless Rule. For now.

Despite all the dozens of emails crowing about the "great victory," that immediately emanated from the foundation-dependent professional groups, all the Forest Service must do to reinstate their own state-by-state petition process is "consider the environmental impacts" and then they can continue what they were doing. In fact, it may even come quicker than that as another pro-development lawsuit filed by Wyoming that was once deemed moot by the new petition process is instantly back in play. And, of course, La Porte's ruling is being appealed. The lawyers at Earth Justice (sic) et al. are giddily dreaming endless billable hours.

And, of course, we must look at just what the "great

victory" entails. Suppose it holds and the 11th-hour Clinton Rule stands. Does it really protect roadless areas? No, and it never did. And, staff-driven, DC-catering, Democrat sycophant, email listing, fundraising canvassing professional conservationism is not "grassroots organizing."

I debated whether to take another shot at the lame Clinton Roadless Rule given that so many underpaid actual grassroots activists who do the real heavy lifting have somehow bought into the Great Roadless Victory. And, I don't want to add to their sense of disempowerment. But it's high time we quit the charade — time to quit laying sod while claiming that we've planted and grown a lawn. The Roadless Rule was instituted by Clinton the very last day he was in office. If it really did anything and if it really mattered, well, then why was it done as Bubba went out the door?

Of course, it was to set up just this dynamic "Greenwash for Democrats," lots of fundraising possibilities a la "ANWR is threatened" (again) and



a full employment act for eco-lawyers. So, here is my original analysis of the Roadless Rule and the inevitable efforts of the Bush administration to brush it aside and carry on with the same sort of road building and ancient forest liquidation that the Clinton administration conducted for, oh, seven years, eleven months and 30+ days.

# From Roadless to Clueless... The Great Stillborn Eco-Victory

by Michael Donnelly

"Roadless, roadless...moonlight dancing on a fresh clearcut"

- Apology to Paul Simon

The email lists were abuzz V-E Day with articles and post-mortems on the Bush Administration's new offensive in their War on the Earth. The dumping of the toothless Clinton "Roadless Area Conservation Rule" and installing of a "New" Roadless Rule barely went noticed by the general populace. Far more newspapers editorials appeared (most against the BushCo move) than news stories about it and virtually no real analysis as it's pretty hard to explain how one "rule" that didn't protect anything is now replaced with another that will also do nothing to stop industry's rapacious raids on our last public-owned wildlands. I'll give it a try.

Big Labor quickly weighed in quickly of course; in support of Bush. And, the Big Greens? Already the "send us your money to defend the Clinton Roadless Rule" campaign is in full swing. The National Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the League of Conservation Voters, the Heritage Forests Cam-

paign, Trout Unlimited and the rest of the Democrat Greenwash cabal now call the new measure "The Treeless Rule" in their pleas. (Poll-tested labeling, for sure.)

**it's pretty hard to explain how one "rule" that didn't protect anything is now replaced with another that will also do nothing to stop industry's rapacious raids on our last public-owned wildlands**

### Historic

Back in 2000, the Big Greens unveiled their Pew Charitable Trusts-funded Heritage Forests Campaign (HFC). In a *New York Times* piece that year, professional enviro HFC Director Ken Rait announced that Pew funding "will ultimately include more than \$4 million in spending."

In a telling portent, Rait gloated about the "proud moment" a few months later when the out-going Clinton finally put his Roadless Rule in place. In a piece he wrote at the time, Rait crows, "The scope and scale of what we have done is truly historic." Yet, in the very first ten words he brings up the fact that "it (the roadless policy) is threatened," the most honest words he musters.

caglecartoons.com/español

Gee. Ya think? Clinton unveils the plan literally at the last moment (safely after even its weak provisions would have applied to his administration — the one that gave us the "Salvage Rider") on January 12, 2001; just eight days before Bush was inaugurated!

And, yes, that "threat" has subsequently worked quite well as fundraiser,

as Rait et al. are still on the foundation dole, keeping their jobs longer than the stated reason for the jobs itself lasted. (Does this losing team ever change the line-up?) The slick HFC website still claims: "This reasonable and well-balanced rule protects the last remaining wild and intact 58.5 million acres of National Forests and Grasslands from road construction and most logging, drilling, and mining."

### The Seven-Year Ditch

And, just what was the scope and scale of this great victory? The falsely titled piece "Clinton Preserves Pristine Roadless National Forests" from 2001 had this revealing series of observations:

"[George] Frampton, (Clinton's Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks and former president of the Wilderness Society, 1986-1993), dismissed charges that the roadless policy is too extreme, noting that it does contain provisions for thinning trees to reduce wildfire risks, and for restoring forest health.

Frampton downplayed the rule's effects on timber harvesting activities in the Tongass National Forest, noting that certain timber sales already in the "pipeline" in that forest will be "grandfathered in" under the new roadless policy. The grandfathering clause, Frampton said, will ensure that there will be a steady supply of timber from roadless areas in that forest for the next seven years.

**most logging of pristine forests has occurred in these threatened areas during the short lifetime of the Roadless Rule**

Timber sales slated for roadless areas in other national forests will also be grandfathered in under the new policy, but only if they have been finalized with a record of decision, Frampton said.

Well, they didn't even have to reach the end of the seven-year "pipeline" before the paper tiger was jettisoned. In the end, it "preserved" nothing but Al Gore and his successors' pale-green eco-credentials and the jobs of a gaggle of Democrat Greenwashers — as intended.





## Where the Trees Are

Notably, the Roadless Rule never DID take into account millions of acres of what are known as “uninventoried roadless areas,” generally lower elevation with bigger trees and greater biodiversity and closer to existing road networks they can be easily accessed. The vast majority of the 58.5 million acres Rait claimed he historically protected are higher elevation, with less commercial timber (by a 1 to 10 ratio by some estimates) than the uninventoried lands.

**when was the last time any of Opal Creek’s successful grassroots defenders was asked to be a decision-making part of any of these grand, foundation-dictated schemes?**

Outside of Alaska’s Tongass National Forest (gee, why was it “grandfathered?”), most logging of pristine forests has occurred in these threatened areas during the short lifetime of the Roadless Rule, as could be expected. As Willie Sutton would

note, “That’s where they keep the big trees.”

Most other recent public lands logging has been in those other areas the Big Greens loudly claimed Clinton protected (the so-called Late Successional Reserves of the Northwest Forest Plan) which were to be set aside for spotted owls and other dependent species, but quickly become a Big Timber free-fire zone once burned by Nature or, more likely of late, the usual “Light it, Fight It and Log It” arsonist.

### The 40 Pieces of Silver Lining

While the self-serving authors of the “Environmentalism is Dead” fund-us-instead grant proposal are dead wrong when it comes to actual citizen activism, they are certainly on to something when it comes to what passes for an “Environmental” lobby as represented by the Big Greens and their Big Oil foundation funders (any wonder why the Big Greens don’t seriously take on Peak Oil?). For them, it’s all about funding and not causing pain/providing cover to the Democrats. The actual living environment has become, like news content in your local paper, just the filler for advertisements.

In a “movement” that consistently rewards mediocrity and punishes competence (when was the last time any of Opal Creek’s successful grass-

roots defenders was asked to be a decision-making part of any of these grand, foundation-dictated schemes?), this is no rout, as it brings with it a fundraising godsend on the “scale and scope” of James Watt. (Why change the losing line-up if the dough continues to rise?)

Joined with the recent rout on oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge — the number one fundraiser and “top issue” for the Big Greens for over a decade now — and the surrender on post-fire “salvage” logging, the thrashing on the impotent Roadless Rule will bring on a one-two-three punch of online pleas and glossy mailers. It is a veritable fundraising Klondike — to be strip-mined at least through the defeat of Hillary “Finishing the Job on the Roadless Rule” Clinton’s 2008 presidential run.

---

***“It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment.”***

**- Ansel Adams**

---

# Wake up: The Environment is a Personal Issue

by Alan Farago  
The Orlando Sentinel

You don’t know whether to laugh or cry, reading in newspapers that the public ranks the environment as a low order of concern.

Let me tell you when the environment is the No. 1 concern: When you discover your cancer could have been caused by contaminants in drinking water or that your child’s learning disability was due to overexposure to mercury.

Most public opinion polls don’t ask the question this way: If you had a serious illness and knew your breast or prostate cancer was due to decisions by legislators on the environment, would you be more or less inclined to cast your vote for the environment?

In that case, every single voter in America is an environmentalist.

These days, in Florida, if you are a real-estate agent near coastal estuaries, or a homeowner where sinkholes are popping up around you, if you work near a beach where algae blooms made your eyes water or make you feel like puking, you should vote the environment. Right?

What if your child had asthma? The worst hours of my life were spent walking the hallway with my infant son hacking and wheezing on my shoulder — wondering if he would breathe through the night — this feeling of helplessness, of powerlessness, all traced to the harm we do the environment and to ourselves.

**You can always wait to vote for the environment until you or someone you love gets a terminal illness.**

Ah, you ask: Where’s the proof?

On a “1 percent chance” that a threat will be realized, the United States is charging in a trillion-dollar investment to hunt for terrorists like needles in a haystack. So much for proof.

Why do naysayers on the environment demand more evidence than polar ice caps melting in Greenland, or the effect of endocrine disrupters on life in its developmental stages, or poorly regulated chemicals in new construction materials that can trigger severe respiratory illness?

Better to run, now, like a bat out of hell to vote out politicians and legislatures that support special interests fudging data, controlling government agencies or writing legislation to their own benefit.

You can always wait to vote for the environment until you or someone you love gets a terminal illness.

**I’m going to vote out of office every politician who allowed my drinking-water supply to be contaminated or my springs, rivers and aquifers to be ruined**

You can always wait until you are curious enough to do a little research and discover there are too many causes to attribute cancer to a single reason, and then dig deeper and discover how little funding there is from government to search for causes traceable to the environment. And then you can further find that the government charged with protecting your health, safety and welfare has erected barriers that allow no one in or out except those with the special pass to rotate between government agencies and jobs with special interests.

I try to breathe calmly when I read news reports that say, “Environmentalists seek relevance in campaign.”

Is the link between poorly regulated pesticides and Parkinson’s relevant to you? Or is it relevant to you that Florida doesn’t have enough agency staff to keep up with development in coastal wetlands — even when there is evidence that sea-level rise will make the equity in those investments vanish like sand poured on a beach by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers?

If that is too abstract, imagine yourself cradling a child whose skull has gone soft from leukemia or an infant deformed by toxics ingested by mom or dad, and imagine that the people you elect to federal office are in the process, right now, of tearing down our most important laws protecting your health, the diversity of species, the clean air and clean water you need to survive.

They go from place to place with public meetings and catch-phrases like “cooperative conservation” to drum up public support for policies that are putting

your health and environment at accelerating risk.

In the Florida legislature, they claim to support sustainable energy while moving forward to allow new, polluting coal-fired power plants with old technology.

Asked that way, not only am I going to vote for the political candidate who fully funds research to find problems before they explode in our faces, I’m going to vote out of office every politician who allowed my drinking-water supply to be contaminated or my springs, rivers and aquifers to be ruined.

Imagine, for a moment, that what you see on the impaired surface of our waters is a perfect reflection of our government.

And vote accordingly. Above all else, do vote.

Alan Farago of Coral Gables, Florida, writes about the environment. He can be reached at [alanfarago@yahoo.com](mailto:alanfarago@yahoo.com).

---

***“We say we love flowers, yet we pluck them. We say we love trees, yet we cut them down. And people still wonder why some are afraid when told they are loved.”***

**- Unknown**

---



# Planting New Forests Can't Match Saving Old Ones in Cutting Greenhouse Gases

by Andrew C. Revkin

A new study has cast doubts on an important element of a proposed treaty to fight global warming: the planting of new forests in an effort to sop up carbon dioxide, a heat-trapping gas. The research concludes that old, wild forests are far better than plantations of young trees at ridding the air of carbon dioxide, which is released when coal, oil and other fossil fuels are burned.

**The research concludes that old, wild forests are far better than plantations of young trees at ridding the air of carbon dioxide**

The United States and other countries with large land masses want to use forest plantations to meet the goals of the proposed treaty. The study's authors say that any treaty also needs to protect old forests and that, so far there is no sign that such protections are being considered. Without such protections, the scientists conclude, some countries could be tempted to cut down old forests now and then plant new trees on the deforested land later, getting credit for reducing carbon dioxide when they have actually made matters worse.

The analysis, published in the journal *Science* (September 22, 2000) was done by Dr. Ernst-Detlef Schulze, the director of the Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry in Jena, Germany, and two other scientists at the institute. Several climate and forestry experts familiar with the work said the study provided an important new argument for protecting old-growth woods. They say

the study provides a reminder that the main goal should be to reduce carbon dioxide emissions at the source, smokestacks and tailpipes.

In old forests, huge amounts of carbon taken from the air are locked away not only in the tree trunks and branches, but also deep in the soil, where the carbon can stay for many centuries, said Kevin R. Gurney, a research scientist at Colorado State University. When such a forest is cut, he said, almost all of that stored carbon is eventually returned to the air in the form of carbon dioxide. "It took a huge amount of time to get that carbon sequestered in those soils," he said, "so if you release it, even if you plant again, it'll take equally long to get it back." Negotiators are to meet in November to settle on methods for staving off a predicted warming that could disrupt ecosystems, harm agriculture and cause sea levels to rise, eroding coasts. The negotiations are taking place under the Kyoto Protocol, an agreement that was signed by more than 100 countries in 1997 but has not yet been ratified. It sets goals for cutting greenhouse gas emissions starting in 2008 but includes few details on how to achieve them.

**Centuries would have to pass until newly planted trees built up such a reservoir underground**

The United States, Canada, Russia and other countries have been pressing to achieve as much as half their greenhouse gas reductions not at the source but by using "sinks" like forests to remove carbon dioxide. In the last round of talks, which took place in Lyon, France, some countries were still

seeking treaty language that could allow some new planting to occur on land that was recently cleared of old forest and get credit for greenhouse-gas reductions, said Mr. Gurney, who attended the talks as an observer. David B.

Sandalow, an assistant secretary of state who was the chief American delegate in Lyon, said that the treaty drafts so far could theoretically allow such a practice but that the United States was seeking to prevent this. "We're committed to protecting old growth and finding ways to address this issue," Mr. Sandalow said. The German study, together with other similar research, has produced a picture of mature forests that differs sharply from long-held notions in forestry, Dr. Schulze said. He said aging forests were long perceived to be in a state of decay that releases as much carbon dioxide as it captures.

But it turns out that the soils in undisturbed tropical rain forests, Siberian woods and some German national parks contain enormous amounts of carbon derived from fallen leaves, twigs and buried roots that can bind to soil particles and remain for 1,000 years or more. When such forests are cut, the trees' roots decay and soil is disrupted, releasing the carbon dioxide. Centuries would have to pass until newly planted trees built up such a reservoir underground. New forests are fine as long as they are planted on land that was previously vacant, Dr. Schulze said, adding, "but there has to be a focus on preserving the old growth."



[Editor's Note: Although it is not possible to put a specific monetary value on our priceless and irreplaceable native forests and the life sustaining benefits they provide, we must address the fact that the US Forest Service and BLM currently place NO VALUE WHATSOEVER on our forests in their inventory accounting.]

## Canada's Forests Worth Uncounted Billions?

by Dene Moore  
Canadian Press

MONTREAL — The environmental work of Canada's boreal forests in purifying air and water and the tourism dollars they generate are worth at least \$93 billion a year, says an economist.

That value should be taken into account when making decisions about logging, mining and other industrial activity that affects forests, Mark Anielski urged delegates at the National Forest Congress in Lac Leamy, Quebec.

"It'll change the way decisions are made," said Anielski, an Edmonton-based economic consultant who specializes in sustainability.

Canada is home to one-quarter of the world's forests.

Boreal forests regulate the climate by capturing

and storing an estimated 67 billion tonnes of carbon in Canada alone — a job worth \$1.8 billion, based on the price of carbon emissions from the global insurance industry.

The water filtration and erosion control function of boreal peatlands is worth \$77 billion, and forests also generate billions in tourist spending.

That work is worth at least \$160 per hectare, but it's not recognized in national income accounts or the country's gross domestic product, Anielski said.

"As an economist, I know that what we measure we pay attention to," he said. "The point of all this is these other assets we don't value, and therefore we don't pay attention to them in general. At the very least, accounting is about taking inventory and knowing what you've got."

He said a market valuation wouldn't rule out logging or oil development.



"We're not saying that timber harvesting should stop. What we're saying is that we need to pay attention when we go into the forest, that we don't damage the system so that we face a potentially very high cost down the road."

Anielski will recommend industry, government, aboriginal and international delegates at the three-day congress support a "natural capital accounting system" that will guide land use planning, resource management and economic development in the future.

Barry Weito, chairman of the Cana-

dian Forestry Association and the congress, said companies, governments and aboriginal groups are all looking for a more integrated approach to land use.

Industrial land users want a sustainable and integrated land management plan and have been moving for some time to take into account the intrinsic value of the land in development decisions, he said.

**The point of all this is these other assets we don't value, and therefore we don't pay attention to them in general**

"(We) have been moving to make sure that we are preserving and protecting and managing the other values that are out there beyond what just might be timber or oil and gas," Weito said.

An official accounting system would help define that value, he said.

"There are some inventories that need to be done and updated."

**"Economic advance is not the same thing as human progress."**

**- John Clapham, A Concise Economic History of Britain, 1957**



# Logging Releases Greenhouse Gases

by Rachel Kleinman  
The Age

Native forest logging in parts of Australia releases as much greenhouse pollution as putting 2.3 million new cars on the road each year, an environment group says.

The Wilderness Society recently renewed calls for the Bracks government to restrict logging to plantations after the British *Stern Review* identified deforestation as a major cause of climate change.

Australian National University fellow Dr. James Watson, a Wilderness Society lobbyist, said Government figures showed that 8,995 hectares of Victorian forest and woodland were logged in the past financial year. That amounted to 9.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions, the equivalent of 2.3 million new cars, Dr. Watson said.

**They cannot be seen to be seriously addressing dangerous climate change without also stopping logging in old-growth forests**

But Environment Minister John Thwaites' spokesman said there were "vastly differing scientific opinions about the impact of logging."

The Australian government plans to release a report next year that evaluates logging in catchments [watersheds] against economic, social and environmental criteria, the spokesman said.

Dr. Watson said recent government initiatives to tackle climate change were welcome but were not

enough. "They cannot be seen to be seriously addressing dangerous climate change without also stopping logging in old-growth forests and water catchments," he said.

Clearing trees releases back into the atmosphere carbon that has been stored, often for many centuries. Dr. Watson said it took up to 150 years for new trees to absorb the carbon released through logging of old trees.

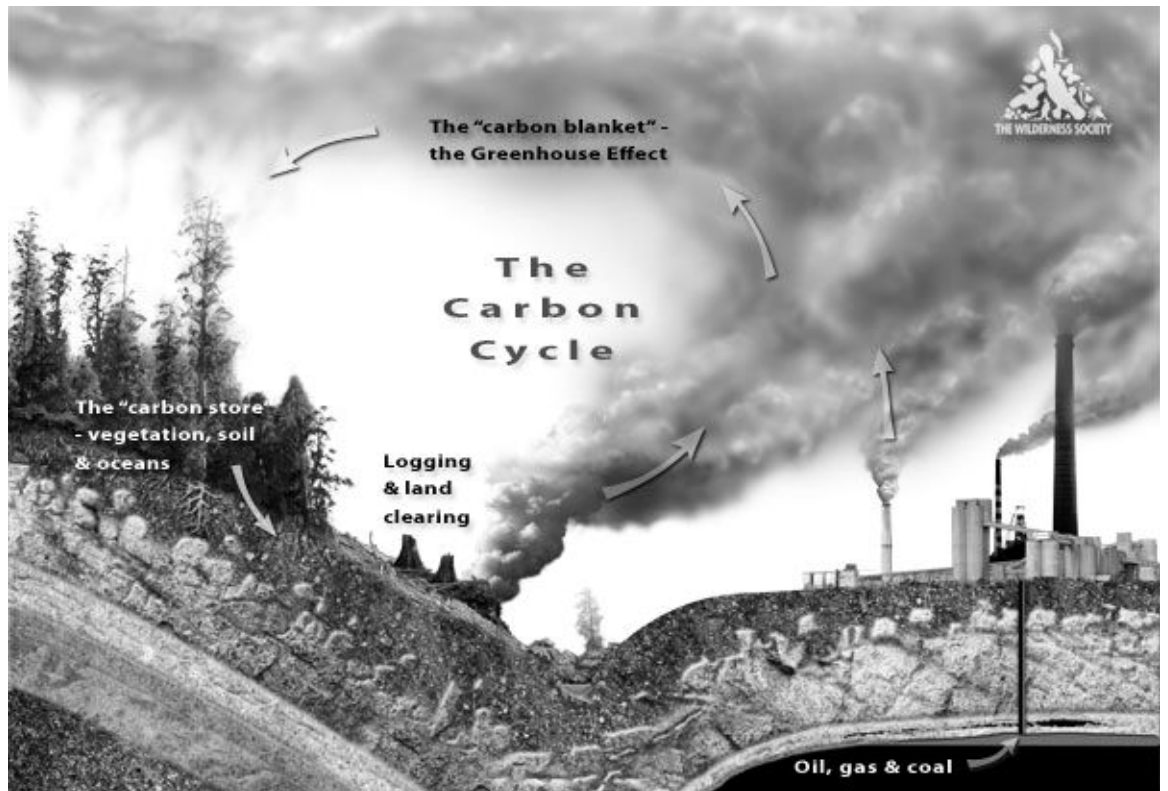
In February 2002, the Australian government's "Our Forests Our Future" policy committed to a 31 percent reduction in logging across the state's native forests. There is no date yet for a new Labor

policy on logging.

Former chief economist of the World Bank, Sir Nicholas Stern, in a report commissioned by the British government, said emissions from deforestation were responsible for about 18 percent of global greenhouse emissions — more than that of the global transport sector.

"Action to preserve the remaining areas of natural forest is needed urgently," Sir Nicholas said.

His report said that 8,000 years ago 50 percent of global land surface was covered by forest, compared with 30 percent now.



## A Risk of Total Collapse

We would be foolish to take for granted the permanence of our fragile global civilization

by Dylan Evans

Is it possible that global civilization might collapse within our lifetime or that of our children? Until recently, such an idea was the preserve of lunatics and cults. In the past few years, however, an increasing number of intelligent and credible people have been warning that global collapse is a genuine possibility, and many of these are sober scientists, including Lord May, David King and Jared Diamond — people not usually given to exaggeration or drama.

The new doomsayers all point to the same collection of threats: climate change, resource depletion and population imbalances being the most important. What makes them especially afraid is that many of these dangers are interrelated, with one tending to exacerbate the others. It is necessary to tackle them all at once if we are to have any chance of avoiding global collapse, they warn.

**it is worth remembering that in the years preceding the collapse of their civilization, the Mayans too were convinced that their world would last forever**

Many societies — from the Maya in Mexico to the Polynesians of Easter Island — have collapsed in the past, often because of the very same dangers that threaten us. As Diamond explains in his recent book, *Collapse*, the Maya depleted one of their principal resources — trees — and this triggered a series of problems such as soil erosion, decrease of useable farmland and drought. The growing population that drove this overexploitation was thus faced with a diminishing amount of food, which led to increasing migration and bloody civil war. The collapse of the civilization on Easter Island followed a similar pattern, with

deforestation leading to other ecological problems and warfare.

Unlike these dead societies, our civilization is global. On the positive side, globalization means that when one part of the world gets into trouble, it can appeal to the rest of the world for help. Neither the Maya nor the inhabitants of Easter Island had this luxury, because they were in effect isolated civilizations. On the negative side, globalization means that when one part of the world gets into trouble, the trouble can quickly be exported. If modern civilization collapses, it will do so everywhere. Everyone now stands or falls together.

Global collapse would probably still follow the same basic pattern as a local collapse but on a greater scale. With the Maya, the trouble began in one region but engulfed the whole civilization. Today, as climate change makes some areas less hospitable than others, increasing numbers of people will move to the more habitable areas. The increasing population will make them less habitable and lead to further migration in a domino effect. Huge movements of people and capital will put the international financial system under strain and may cause it to give way.

In his book *The Future of Money*, the Belgian economist Bernard Lietaer argues that the global monetary system is already very unstable. Financial crises have certainly grown in scale and frequency over the past decade. The southeast Asian crisis of 1997 dwarfed the Mexican crisis of 1994 and was followed by the Russian crash of 1998 and the Brazilian crisis of 1999. This is another example of the way globalization can exacerbate rather than minimize the risk of total collapse.

This would not be the end of the world. The collapse of modern civilization would entail the deaths of billions of people but not the end of the human race. A few Mayans survived by abandoning their cities and retreating into the jungle,



where they continue to live to this day. In the same way, some would survive the end of the industrial age by reverting to a pre-industrial lifestyle.

The enormity of such a scenario makes it hard to imagine. It is human nature to assume that the world will carry on much as it has been. But it is worth remembering that in the years preceding the collapse of their civilization, the Mayans too were convinced that their world would last forever.

Dylan Evans is a senior lecturer at the University of the West of England [www.dylan.org.uk](http://www.dylan.org.uk)

**"Because we don't think about future generations, they will never forget us."  
- Henrik Tikkanen**



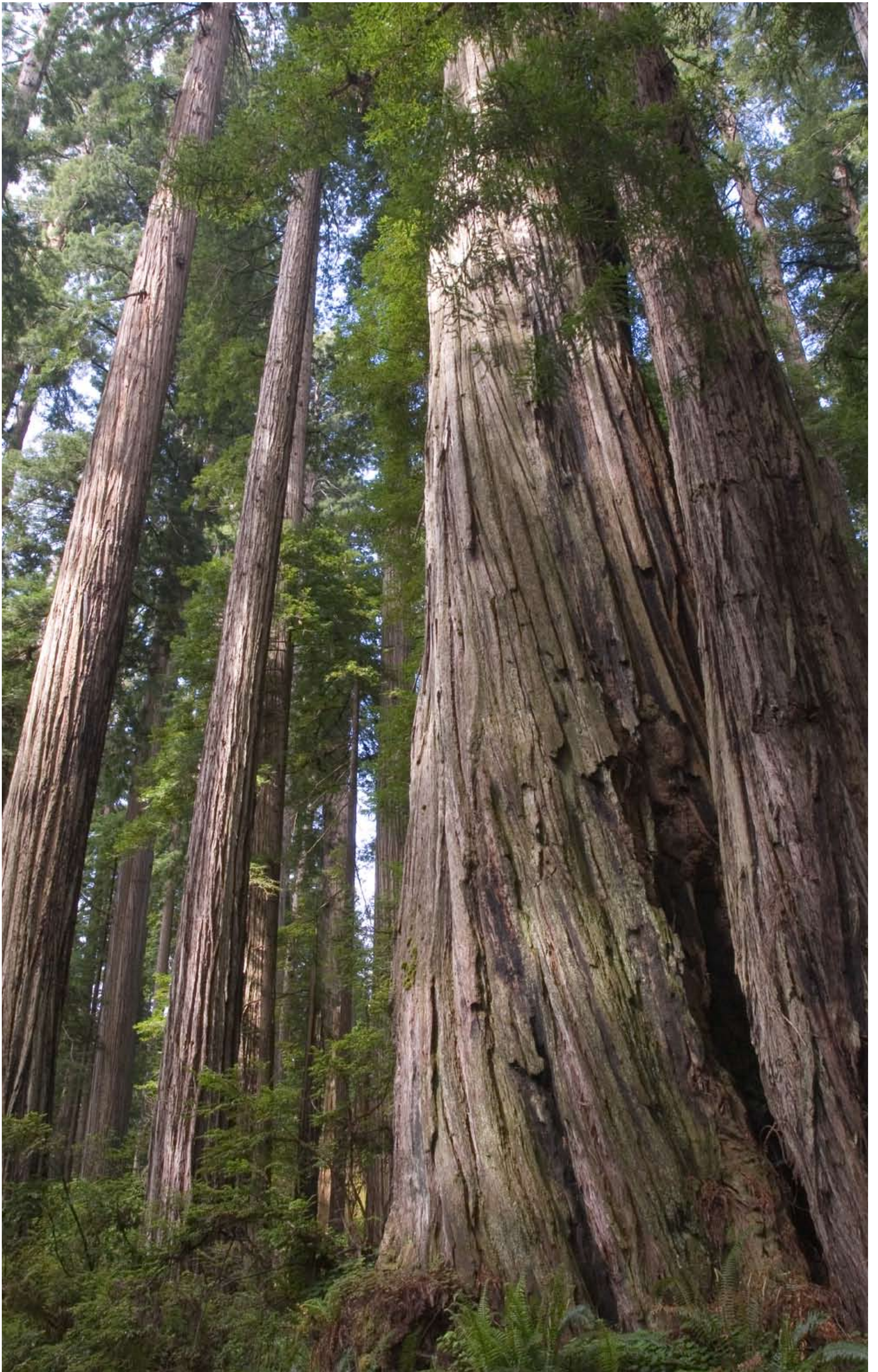


Photo: Brett Cole — Wild Northwest Photography [www.wildnorthwest.org](http://www.wildnorthwest.org)





# It's Time to Choose!



Contact your elected representatives and demand that they support Zero-Cut and Forever Wild Legislation!



# Inspired by the Arctic: Chad Kister

by Josh Schlossberg  
Native Forest Council

Every once in a while an individual comes along whose hard work, dedication and passion remind us that any one of us has the power to change the world. Author, filmmaker, adventurer and activist Chad Kister is one of these people. Kister's work on the issues of climate change, deforestation and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge has inspired thousands of Americans and compelled several of our most pig-headed lawmakers to sit up and take notice.

Born in Ohio in 1970, Kister credits his environmentalist grandmother for introducing him to the beauty and wonder of the natural world. Then a teenage Eagle Scout, Kister traveled to the southwest and witnessed for the first time the savage destruction of our national forests. He's been a devoted advocate for the planet's last wild places ever since.

**What people want to see are forests, not clearcut destruction**

Kister won the National High School Journalist of the Year Award and received a full scholarship to Ohio University, where he studied journalism and environmental studies. He was also active in the peace, animal rights, and anti-biotechnology movements on campus.

Using the money he earned as a paperboy in high school, Kister funded his first trip to Alaska. Since a single airplane food drop would've cost as much as the entire trip itself, Chad chose to live off the land instead, and spent a year and a half preparing for the journey, learning about edible wild plants, catching and preparing fish, and other survival skills.

In the summer of 1991, Kister started out on a 700-mile hiking and rafting expedition across the coastal plain and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the subject of his book *Arctic Quest*. Equipped with a 90-pound backpack and an inflatable raft to cross the many rivers and lakes he would encounter, his journey began at Prudhoe Bay, the hub of oil development on Alaska's North Slope.

As Kister planned to live solely off native fish on his journey, he brought little food along with him. To his horror, Kister soon discovered that the combination of oil pollution and gravel dredging had all but eliminated fish populations. For three weeks Kister subsisted on nothing but berries, roots and greens, until he reached the Canning River — the border of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. In the pure, clean waters of the Canning, Kister began catching fish and was able to fend off starvation and continue his travels across the

Coastal Plain.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is the heart of an ecosystem that covers 100 million acres, the size of California. Since oil companies have already developed 95% of Alaska's North Slope, Kister insists it is "not only reasonable, but very necessary" that the remaining lands be permanently protected.

Both wildlife and native peoples depend on the coastal plain for their survival. The Gw'ichin people, the subject of Kister's film *Caribou People*, have been living off the land for the past 30,000 years — with 7,000 Gw'ichin people in 17 villages reliant on the vast herds of caribou. In fact, the caribou are so essential to the Gw'ichin's way of life, they refuse to set foot on their birthing grounds, which they call "the place where life begins." The future existence of the caribou, as well as the people and wildlife that depend on them for a food source, is directly threatened by rampant oil development.

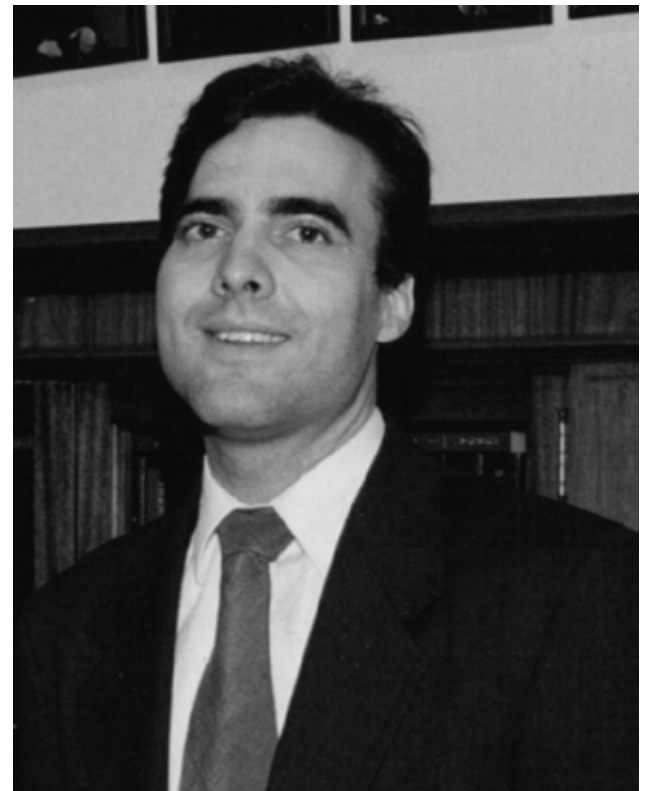
Kister is also a fierce advocate for our nation's forests. In 2004 Kister visited Alaska's Tongass National Forest which, despite the onslaught of intensive logging over the last several decades, still contains the largest tracts of pristine forests left in the United States. While in the Tongass, Kister kayaked up the rivers and creeks, encountering gray whales, seals and the clearest water he had ever seen. Even tiny streams, Kister noted, were packed with tens of thousands of leaping salmon, all dependent upon the native forests. Yet to this day, logging continues at a breakneck pace.

It makes no economic sense to strip these forests from the face of the Earth, says Kister, when both the fishing and tourism industries each net ten times the income for the state of Alaska than the timber industry. "What people want to see are forests, not clearcut destruction."

**Even tiny streams, Kister noted, were packed with tens of thousands of leaping salmon, all dependent upon the native forests**

Kister fiercely disagrees with environmentalists who are willing to sell out vast portions of our national forests in order to protect a few selected parcels. He firmly believes in Zero Cut on public lands, and feels that using taxpayers' money to subsidize the destruction of our own forests is "absolutely insane." Kister also has a harsh word or two for the massive disregard of life shown by the timber industry, as well as for the kickback-accepting politicians who facilitate the liquidation of our nation's forests, the foundation of life on this planet.

The last thing we should do, says Kister, is to "re-



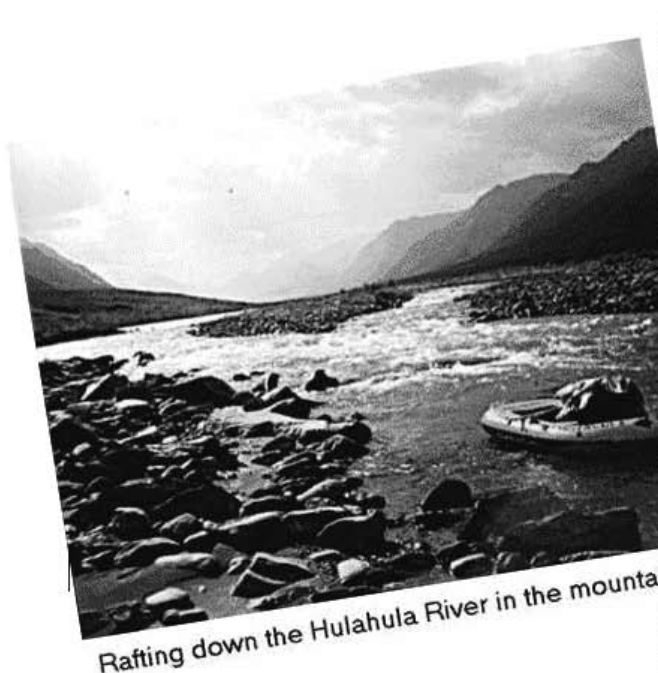
duce the value of the people's forests by public lands logging."

Another issue at the forefront of Kister's activism is the climate crisis, the subject of his book *Arctic Melting*. Through his trips to the Arctic, Kister is a first-hand witness to the effects of climate change, personally recording a 20 degree increase in maximum summer temperatures over 14 years.

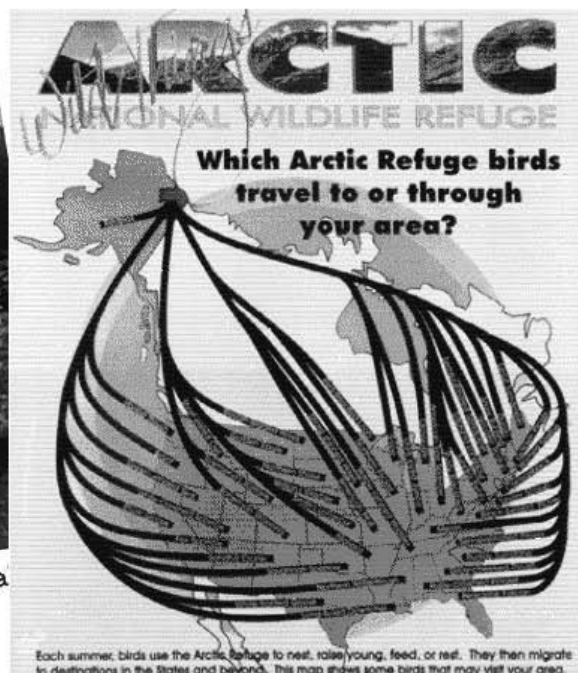
One of the most devastating effects of climate change in Alaska is the melting of pack ice floating in the ocean. Historically, the ice has been within 15-20 miles from the shore, doubling in size every winter. Phytoplankton, the main food source for innumerable species of fish and birds, live on the bottom of the ice. Polar bears use the ice for hunting grounds, while walrus depend on the ice to rest after diving to the bottom of the ocean to feed on clams.

Because of climate change, the pack ice is now up to 300 miles out in the ocean! The result is the decimation of phytoplankton, which sends a ripple of death up the food chain, contributing to the demise of polar bears, which die of exhaustion when they are unable to make the long swim out to the ice. Studies predict the extinction of the polar bear to occur as soon as 2050.

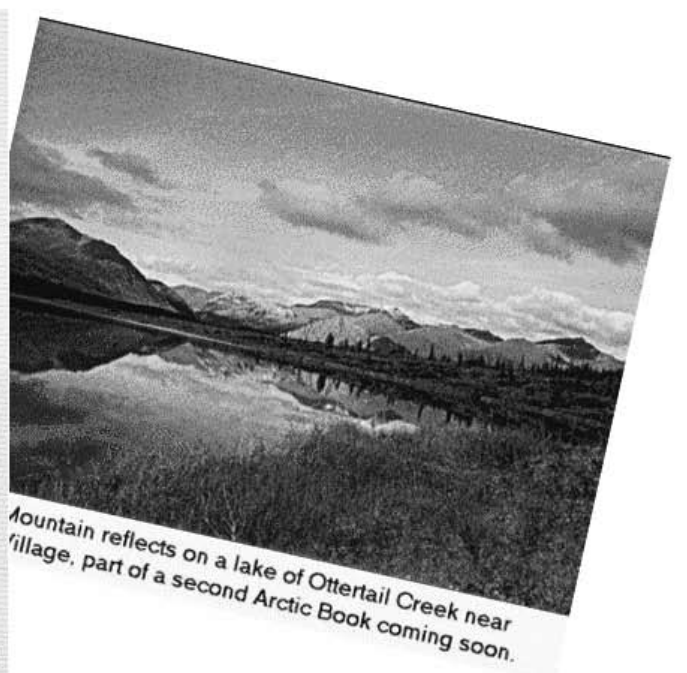
The higher temperatures are also melting permafrost, resulting in miles of shoreline soil crumbling into the sea, often with native villages along with it. The situation had become so dire that two Chuckchee villages with populations of a few hundred people had to be relocated, at a cost of \$1 billion. The costs of moving some of these other threatened communities — with populations of several thousands — will result in even more astounding costs. While industry complains of the costs of lowering greenhouse emissions, they



Rafting down the Hulahula River in the mountains.



Each summer, birds use the Arctic Refuge to nest, raise young, feed, or rest. They then migrate to destinations in the States and beyond. This map shows some birds that may visit your area.



Mountain reflects on a lake of Ottertail Creek near a village, part of a second Arctic Book coming soon.

From Chad Kister's "Arctic Quest" slideshow presentation, recounting his trek across Alaska's coastal plain and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.



ignore the much greater costs that come from doing nothing.

Even fanatical planet-plunderer Alaska Senator Ted Stevens acknowledges the reality of climate change. Unfortunately, as Kister points out, Stevens doesn't realize that means we need to stop burning fossil fuels and stop exploiting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

As one of the more outspoken advocates for the Arctic Refuge, it was only a matter of time before Kister came head to head with the senator. As luck would have it, Kister was visiting Barter Island the day Stevens was flying in for a community meeting. Kister made sure to attend the event.

Before the meeting, Kister approached Stevens, shook his hand, and informed him that he had just flown in from the Arctic Refuge, and that Stevens needed to make it a priority to protect it. Stevens exploded in a rage: "Son, I've been working to open that area [since] before you were born!"

At one point during the meeting, the Senator claimed Congress had "promised" him drilling in the Arctic Refuge. To this outright lie, Kister started shaking his head. Immediately, Stevens looked over, stopped the meeting and shouted: "If you don't stop shaking your head, I'm gonna have you removed from this meeting!" Not wanting to risk the confiscation of the Caribou People video footage he had in his possession, Kister stopped shaking his head.

**While industry complains of the costs of lowering greenhouse emissions, they ignore the much greater costs that come from doing nothing.**

While the destructive logging and monstrous development of our few remaining wild areas continue at an alarming pace, Kister's opinion is that the negative effects of climate change are an even greater threat to the health of the planet. He refers to studies stating that climate change is likely to cause the extinction of 30 percent of terrestrial animals, something not even the rapacious timber industry is capable of doing.

Kister realizes the government is aware of the threat of climate change, yet is disturbed by the lack of action to combat it. He cites a 2004 Pentagon report which states "climate change is a much more serious threat than terrorism," likening it to the tipping of a canoe, a process which starts gradually, but eventually turns into a violent upheaval. The Pentagon makes specific references to droughts, hurricanes, famines, and wars all likely to come about due to climate change. Yet they offer no solutions.

When asked whether humanity has already trashed the Earth beyond the point of no return, Kister reflects that there will always be life on this planet, but the key is to "maintain some of this incredible diversity the planet has evolved over 3.5 billion years." Kister believes we are at a pivotal time in history, where our actions (or lack of action) will decide the fate of future generations of humanity and life on Earth. Climate change is "unquestionably the biggest issue of our time," says Kister, who predicts the phenomenon to become one of the "central guiding principles of government and industry."

Despite being a repository for all this alarming and downright depressing information, Kister doesn't intend to give up the struggle any time soon. In fact, for every critique, Kister has a solution.

While the United States makes up only 4 percent of the world's population, it produces 25 percent of the greenhouse gases. Kister says we must demand the government take a leading role in the immediate reduction in the emissions of greenhouse gases, the first step being the signing of the Kyoto protocol. Additionally, we need to be making use of existing technologies such as 80 mpg cars.



On a personal level, Kister suggests opting for mass transit or bicycle travel instead of using a vehicle. Additionally, the simple act of keeping vehicle tires pumped up can save gasoline.

Kister is a strong advocate for switching over to renewable solar and wind energy, which do not require fossil fuels or create greenhouse gases. We need only use a fraction of south-facing rooftops, Kister states, to effectively harness the power of the sun, while the states of North and South Dakota alone have four times the wind resources for all of the United States' energy needs, including transportation.

Kister also believes it absolutely necessary to stop cutting down our remaining carbon-storing forests.

A crucial part of the puzzle, according to Kister, is the creation of thousands of more dedicated activists throughout the world. While he admits climate change awareness to be spreading, Kister doesn't think people truly understand its significance, and it's vital that more energy (both human and fossil fuel) be devoted to coming up with and implementing solutions.

**climate change is a much more serious threat than terrorism**

Climate change activists need to make better use of mainstream media and public demonstrations to broadcast the seriousness of climate change to the world. Kister suggests that individuals join local and national environmental organizations,

contact elected officials, circulate petitions, and write letters to the editor. "The beauty of activism," Kister muses, "is there are so many ways to do it."

Kister's healthy perspective of optimism and realism can be summed up in a phrase, "We might not always win, but we cannot afford to give up, because nothing less than our survival is at stake." With passionate and dedicated people like Chad Kister out there in the world, we just might have a fighting chance.

For more information on Chad and the natural areas he's worked to protect, visit [www.arcticrefuge.org](http://www.arcticrefuge.org)

**People tend to focus on the here and now. The problem is that, once global warming is something that most people can feel in the course of their daily lives, it will be too late to prevent much larger, potentially catastrophic changes.**

**-Elizabeth Kolbert  
The New Yorker**



Photo: Chad Kister



# If Only Gay Sex Caused Global Warming

## Why we're more scared of gay marriage and terrorism than a much deadlier threat.

by Daniel Gilbert

No one seems to care about the upcoming attack on the World Trade Center site. Why? Because it won't involve villains with box cutters. Instead, it will involve melting ice sheets that swell the oceans and turn that particular block of lower Manhattan into an aquarium.

The odds of this happening in the next few decades are better than the odds that a disgruntled Saudi will sneak onto an airplane and detonate a shoe bomb. And yet our government will spend billions of dollars this year to prevent global terrorism and ... well, essentially nothing to prevent global warming.

**The fact is that if climate change were caused by gay sex, or by the practice of eating kittens, millions of protesters would be massing in the streets.**

Why are we less worried about the more likely disaster? Because the human brain evolved to respond to threats that have four features — features that terrorism has and that global warming lacks.

First, global warming lacks a mustache. No, really. We are social mammals whose brains are highly specialized for thinking about others. Understanding what others are up to — what they know and want, what they are doing and planning — has been so crucial to the survival of our species that our brains have developed an obsession with all things human. We think about people and their intentions; talk about them; look for and remember them.

That's why we worry more about anthrax (with an annual death toll of roughly zero) than influenza (with an annual death toll of a quarter-million to a half-million people). Influenza is a natural accident, anthrax is an intentional action, and the smallest action captures our attention in a way that the largest accident doesn't. If two airplanes had been hit by lightning and crashed into a New York skyscraper, few of us would be able to name the date on which it happened.

Global warming isn't trying to kill us, and that's a shame. If climate change had been visited on us by a brutal dictator or an evil empire, the war on warming would be this nation's top priority.

The second reason why global warming doesn't put our brains on orange alert is that it doesn't violate our moral sensibilities. It doesn't cause our blood to boil (at least not figuratively) because it doesn't force us to entertain thoughts that we find indecent, impious or repulsive. When people feel insulted or disgusted, they generally do something about it, such as whacking each other over the head, or voting. Moral emotions are the brain's call to action.

Although all human societies have moral rules about food and sex, none has a moral rule about atmospheric chemistry. And so we are outraged about every breach of protocol except Kyoto. Yes, global warming is bad, but it doesn't make us feel nauseated or angry or disgraced, and thus we don't feel compelled to rail against it as we do against other momentous threats to our species, such as flag burning. The fact is that if climate change were caused by gay sex, or by the practice of eating kittens, millions of protesters would be massing in the streets.

The third reason why global warming doesn't trigger our concern is that we see it as a threat to our futures — not our afternoons. Like all animals,

people are quick to respond to clear and present danger, which is why it takes us just a few milliseconds to duck when a wayward baseball comes speeding toward our eyes.

The brain is a beautifully engineered get-out-of-the-way machine that constantly scans the environment for things out of whose way it should right now get. That's what brains did for several hundred million years — and then, just a few million years ago, the mammalian brain learned a new trick: to predict the timing and location of dangers before they actually happened.

Our ability to duck that which is not yet coming is one of the brain's most stunning innovations, and we wouldn't have dental floss or 401(k) plans without it. But this innovation is in the early stages of development. The application that allows us to respond to visible baseballs is ancient and reliable, but the add-on utility that allows us to respond to threats that loom in an unseen future is still in beta testing.

We haven't quite gotten the knack of treating the future like the present it will soon become, because we've only been practicing for a few million years. If global warming took out an eye every now and then, OSHA would regulate it into nonexistence.

There is a fourth reason why we just can't seem to get worked up about global warming. The human brain is exquisitely sensitive to changes in light, sound, temperature, pressure, size, weight and just about everything else. But if the rate of change is slow enough, the change will go undetected. If the low hum of a refrigerator were to increase in pitch over the course of several weeks, the appliance could be singing soprano by the end of the month and no one would be the wiser.

Because we barely notice changes that happen gradually, we accept gradual changes that we would reject if they happened abruptly. The density of Los Angeles traffic has increased dramatically in the last few decades, and citizens have tolerated it with only the obligatory grumbling. Had that change happened on a single day last summer, Angelenos would have shut down the city, called in the National Guard, and lynched every politician they could get their hands on.

Environmentalists despair that global warming is happening so fast. In fact, it isn't happening fast enough. If President Bush could jump in a time machine and experience a single day in 2056, he'd return to the present shocked and awed, prepared to do anything it took to solve the problem.

The human brain is a remarkable device that was designed to rise to special occasions. We are the progeny of people who hunted and gathered, whose lives were brief, and whose greatest threat was a man with a stick. When terrorists attack, we respond with crushing force and firm resolve, just as our ancestors would have. Global warming is a deadly threat precisely because it fails to trip the brain's alarm, leaving us soundly asleep in a burning bed.

It remains to be seen whether we can learn to rise to new occasions.

*Daniel Gilbert is a professor of psychology at Harvard University and the author of "Stumbling on Happiness," published in May by Knopf.*

—  
"Unless we change direction, we are likely to end up where we are headed."  
—Chinese proverb  
—



## Deforestation Causes Global Warming

Most people assume that global warming is caused by burning oil and gas. But in fact between 25 and 30 percent of the greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere each year — 1.6 billion tonnes — is caused by deforestation.

Trees are 50 percent carbon. When they are felled or burned, the carbon dioxide they store escapes back into the air. According to FAO figures, some 13 million hectares of forests worldwide are lost every year, almost entirely in the tropics. Deforestation remains high in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia.

- *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*

"Human beings add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere mainly by burning fossil fuels like coal and oil. Deforestation is the second major way we increase atmospheric carbon dioxide. Felled timber releases carbon dioxide as it burns or decays, and disturbed soils produce carbon dioxide from burned organic matter. Forests give way largely to annual crops that store carbon dioxide for only a season, or to cities with little vegetation at all."

- *NASA*

"The loss of natural forests around the world contributes more to global emissions each year than the transport sector."

- *Sir Nicholas Stern  
Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change for the British government*

"Deforestation accounts for about half of the human releases of carbon dioxide, one of the major causes of global warming."

- *Nigel Sizer  
"Perverse Habits"  
World Resources Institute Forest Notes,  
June 2000*



Native Forest  
COUNCIL



# ALEC: Putting Laws on the Books on Behalf of Corporate America

by Karen Pickett

The dishonest and corrupt underpinnings of the executive branch of the U.S. government and congressional pillars like Tom Delay have now become common knowledge. While many progressive activists look more favorably to the state and regional level to effect change, in recognition of the grassroots genesis of most significant reform, now even that road is fraught with potholes filled with the smelly muck of corruption and a corporate agenda. Replicate the Abramoff method of influence peddling and shoot in under the public radar screen directly into all 50 state legislatures, and you have the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

ALEC is a conservative public policy lobbying group funded by over 300 corporations in the business of writing and promoting hundreds of pieces of legislation serving the corporate agenda. ALEC has provided models for over 3,100 pieces of legislation introduced, and more than 450 laws enacted in 1999-2000. Their agenda is supremely anti-environmental and pro-privitization and "free trade."

ALEC-written laws propose to, for example,

- Lower diesel emission standards and loosen testing requirements
- Prohibit state regulation of greenhouse gas emission prior to ratification of the Kyoto protocol
- Require the federal government to get state consent before designating national monuments
- Exempt large insurance providers from rate regulations
- Require economic impact analysis on par with environmental assessment
- Make it more difficult for states to mandate health coverage

ALEC has also written "takings" legislation in the form of the "Private Property Protection Act" that could lead to the dismantling of protections provided by the Clean Water and Air acts and other public trust protections by disallowing government attempts to reduce value or restrict uses of private property unless to abate a public nuisance.

**The indictments... involved no injuries but were trumpeted in the press as acts of domestic terrorism**

More recently, ALEC has authored new laws that put protest actions that damage corporate property into the realm of domestic terrorism, drawing much more severe penalties and aggressive prosecution.

Founded in 1973 by right wing activist Paul Weyrich, who coined the term "moral majority," ALEC calls itself the largest bi-partisan membership association of state legislators, but is in fact one of the most powerful corporate lobbies in the U.S., in the business of writing laws, often with an invisible hand, for state legislators. In the late 1980s ALEC's agenda became more shaped by big corporate money, promoting laws engendering privatization of prisons and health care and energy deregulation. Enron's Ken Lay was a keynoter at ALEC's 1997 convention, after giving \$20,000 to help fund the convention.

The roster of ALEC's funders reads like a who's who in the extractive and chemical industries: Exxon, Enron, the American Petroleum Institute, Philip Morris, Coors, the American Nuclear Energy Council, Shell, Texaco, Chlorine Chemistry Council, International Paper. Their privatization agenda extends to prisons, with the Corrections Corporation of America a big funder. Other favorites from

the very long list include the NRA, Archer Daniels Midland, McDonald's, AT&T, Wal-Mart.

How does ALEC operate so far under the radar while throwing around its considerable political weight?

Unlike Congress, many state legislators have little or no paid staff to carry out the research, drafting and fact-checking scrutiny required to survey the volumes of legislative proposals that flood their desks. Moreover, these often-harried representatives can reap benefits of ALEC membership like junkets and other fringe benefits. ALEC operates by convening "task forces," bringing legislators (nearly all Republican) to the table to sit across from corporate reps to hash out "solutions" to impediments to corporate control.

It's a "pay to play" game whereby corporations, through ALEC, have their special interest legislation promoted to state legislators across the country without having their name on the legislation. In keeping with ALEC's agenda of increasing

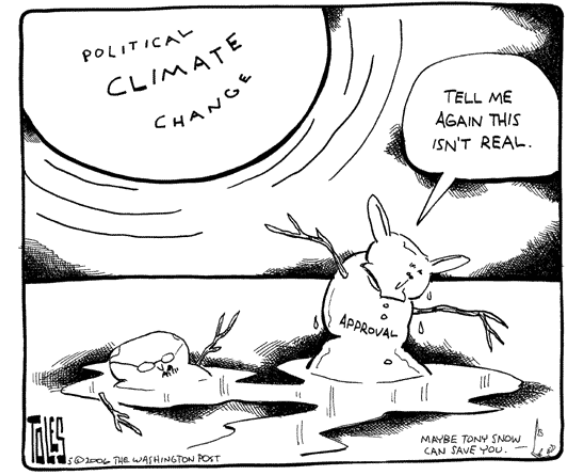
**ALEC would put damage to property on par with threat or actual harm to life**

prison sentences while ignoring corporate crime, U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales was a featured speaker at ALEC's annual meeting in July 2006 in San Francisco. A.G. Gonzales also held a press conference last January with FBI head Robert Mueller to announce the grand jury indictments of environmentalists for crimes of property destruction allegedly carried out by the Earth Liberation Front. The indictments, dubbed "Operation Backfire" by the government but more properly labeled the "Green Scare" because of government tactics of round-up and intimidation reminiscent of the anti-communist crusade Red Scare of the 50s involved no injuries but were trumpeted in the press as acts of domestic terrorism. Sentences five to ten times the median were threatened, those threats now codified in laws passed in Pennsylvania and Maine. Similar "eco-terrorism" laws, written by ALEC, in collaboration with the U.S. Sportsman's Alliance, have been introduced in other states as well as at the federal level.

Criminalization of dissent has long been within the purview of the FBI, but now that champion of surveillance and infiltration has an ally in ALEC, whose agenda is protection of wealth and protection of private property. ALEC would put damage to property on par with threat or actual harm to life. When the Department of Justice announced that environmental and animal rights activists as their top domestic terrorism priority, nowhere in the pronouncements of how heinous these acts they call terrorism are, were body counts or even a litany of injuries. The "injury" is defined in millions of dollars to corporations who are in the business of building multi-million dollar developments on endangered species habitat.

The Pennsylvania law passed in April 2006 amends the state code to define "eco-terrorism" as "a person committing one of a number of specified offenses against property with the intent to intimidate or coerce another individual lawfully participating in an activity which involves animals, plants, or natural resources — or the use of an animal, plant or natural resource facility; or by committing a specified offense against property with the intent to prevent a person from lawfully participating in an activity involving animals, plants or natural resources, or using an animal, plant or natural resource facility."

Those "specified offenses against property" include risking catastrophe, criminal mischief and institutional or agricultural vandalism, as well as arson. Maine's bill makes it a felony to "intentionally damage, destroy or tamper with the property of another... for the purpose of causing



substantial harm to the health, safety, business, calling, career, financial condition, reputation or personal relationships of the person with the property interest." Of course, arson, trespass and vandalism are already illegal, but ALEC wants to add codified layers so that those who support those activities — financially or otherwise — could also be prosecuted.

If property destruction is put on par with threat to life, the question must be asked whether the next step will be increased prosecution for the revered tradition of non-violent civil disobedience or vilification of the successful market campaigns carried out by the likes of Rainforest Action Network and Forest Ethics. After all, those activities, as well as boycotts, strikes and other labor actions put a dent in the bottom line. In fact, attacks disguised as I.R.S. investigations and other back door strategies are already on the rise against organizations that carry out civil disobedience and market campaigns. It is a short step from calling sabotage terrorism to vilifying those who bring protest to the streets.

There is little doubt that the public's understanding of "terrorism" includes actual injury to living people, and not acts of protest that primarily affect the profit margin of a large corporation. But these proposed laws — and the current sweep of environmental protesters who committed acts of sabotage against corporations or animal cruelty facilities with zero net injuries — are right in sync with the corporate agenda of protection of wealth and protection of property above all else.

Groups including Move On, the SEIU and Steelworkers unions and others have launched PLAN — the Progressive Legislation Action Network — to provide a counter lobbying effort at the state level to ALEC's agenda of bringing the most radical, right-wing policies to the floor of state legislatures across the country. Organizations including NRDC and Defenders of Wildlife have put up an ALEC-watch website, and they campaign against ALEC policies. That work is necessary, but has done little to squelch the growing corporate voice in government.

For more information on ALEC and their onslaught against democracy, check out the following:

*Corporate America's Trojan Horse in the States* [www.ALECwatch.org/report.html](http://www.ALECwatch.org/report.html)  
*Ghostwriting the Law*, Sept./Oct. 2002 Mother Jones  
[www.ALEC.org](http://www.ALEC.org). You can download their booklet *Animal and Ecological Terrorism in America*

*Karen Pickett is a long time Earth First! activist, director of the Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters in California, and co-founder of the Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment.*

**"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."  
- John Muir**



# Selling Indulgences

The trade in carbon offsets is an excuse for business as usual  
by George Monbiot

Rejoice! We have a way out. Our guilty consciences appeased, we can continue to fill up our SUVs and fly round the world without the least concern about our impact on the planet. How has this magic been arranged? By something called “carbon offsets.” You buy yourself a clean conscience by paying someone else to undo the harm you are causing.

The Co-op’s holiday firm Travelcare has just started selling offsets to its customers. If they want to fly to Spain, they pay an extra £3. Then they can forget about their contribution to climate change. The money will be spent on projects in the developing world, such as building wind farms and more efficient cooking stoves. In August, BP launched its “targetneutral” scheme, enabling customers to “neutralise the CO2 emissions caused by their driving.” The consequences of an entire year’s motoring can be discharged for just £20. Again, your money will be invested in the developing world — “a biomass energy plant in Himachal Pradesh; a wind farm in Karnataka, India and an animal waste management and methane capture program in Mexico” — and you need have no further worries about what you and BP are doing to the atmosphere (or, for that matter, to the people of West Papua or the tundra in Alaska).

It sounds great. Without requiring any social or political change, and at a tiny cost to the consumer, the problem of climate change is solved. Having handed over a few quid, we can all sleep easy again.

This is not the first time that such schemes have been sold. In his book *The Rise of the Dutch Republic*, published in 1855, John Lothrop Motley describes the means by which the people of the Netherlands in the 15th and 16th centuries could redeem their sins. “The sale of absolutions was the source of large fortunes to the priests... God’s pardon for crimes already committed, or about to be committed, was advertised according to a graduated tariff. Thus, poisoning, for example, was absolved for eleven ducats, six livres tournois. Absolution for incest was afforded at thirty-six livres, three ducats. Perjury came to seven livres and three carlines. Pardon for murder, if not by poison, was cheaper. Even a parricide could buy forgiveness at God’s tribunal at one ducat; four livres, eight carlines.”

**Having handed over a few quid, we can all sleep easy again**

Just as in the 15th and 16th centuries you could sleep with your sister and kill and lie without fear of eternal damnation, today you can live exactly as you please as long as you give your ducats to one of the companies selling indulgences. It is pernicious and destructive nonsense.

The problem is this. If runaway climate change is not to trigger the irreversible melting of the Greenland and West Antarctic ice sheets and drive hundreds of millions of people from their homes, the global temperature rise must be confined to 2C above pre-industrial levels. As the figures I have published in *Heat* show, this requires a 60 percent cut in global climate emissions by 2030, which means a 90 percent cut in the rich world. Even if, through carbon offset schemes carried out in developing countries, every poor nation on the planet became carbon-free, we would still have to cut most of the carbon we produce at home. Buying and selling carbon offsets is like pushing the food around on your plate to create the impression that you have eaten it.

Any scheme that persuades us we can carry on polluting delays the point at which we grasp the nettle of climate change and accept that our lives have to change. But we cannot afford to delay. The big cuts have to be made right now, and the

longer we leave it, the harder it will be to prevent runaway climate change from taking place. By selling us a clean conscience, the offset companies are undermining the necessary political battle to tackle climate change at home. They are telling us that we don’t need to be citizens; we need only be better consumers.

**Buying and selling carbon offsets is like pushing the food around on your plate to create the impression that you have eaten it**

British Petroleum (BP) and Travelcare, like other companies, want to keep expanding their business. Offset schemes allow them to do so while pretending they have gone green. Yet aviation emissions, to give one example, are rising so fast in the UK that before 2020 they will account for the country’s entire sustainable carbon allocation. A couple of decades after that, global aircraft emissions will match the sustainable carbon level for all economic sectors, across the entire planet. Perhaps the carbon offset companies will then start schemes on Mars and Jupiter, as we will soon need several planets to absorb the carbon dioxide we release. Offsets, in other words, are being used as an excuse for the unsustainable growth of carbon-intensive activities.

But these are by no means the only problems. A tonne of carbon saved today is far more valuable in terms of preventing climate change than a tonne of carbon saved in three years’ time. Almost all the carbon offset schemes take time to recoup the emissions we release today. As far as I can discover, none of the companies which sell them uses discount rates for its carbon savings (which would reflect the difference in value between the present and the future). This means they could all be accused of unintentional but systemic false accounting.

And while the carbon we release by flying or driving is certain and verifiable, the carbon absorbed by offset projects is less attestable. Many will succeed, and continue to function over the necessary period. Others will fail, especially the disastrous forays into tree-planting that some companies have made. To claim a carbon saving, you also need to demonstrate that these projects would not have happened without you — that Mexico would not have decided to capture the methane from its pig farms, or that people in India would not have bought new stoves of their own accord. In other words, you must look into a counterfactual future. I have yet to meet someone from a carbon offset company who possesses supernatural powers.

At the offices of Travelcare and the forecourts owned by BP, you can now buy complacency, political apathy and self-satisfaction. But you cannot buy the survival of the planet.

*George Monbiot’s new book, Heat: how to stop the planet burning is published by Penguin. He has also launched a website — [www.turnuptheheat.org](http://www.turnuptheheat.org) — exposing the false environmental claims of companies and politicians.*

“We shall require a substantially new manner of thinking if mankind is to survive.”  
~Albert Einstein



[www.turnuptheheat.org](http://www.turnuptheheat.org)

My fear is not that people will stop talking about climate change. My fear is that they will talk us to Kingdom Come.

Few corporations or public figures are now stupid enough to deny that climate change is happening, or that we need to reduce our emissions of greenhouse gases. Instead, most of them now claim to be on the side of the angels. They make public statements or publish reports designed to persuade us that they are “working towards sustainability.”

In a few cases, they really are. But for every genuine reformer, there are half a dozen who are simply greenwashing their existing practices. The people who will destroy the ecosystem are not, or not only — sneering industrialists in pinstriped suits, but nice-looking people in open-necked shirts who claim that they are just as concerned as the rest of us to save the planet.

This site aims to ensure that they don’t get away with it. Its purpose is to expose the fudged figures, dodgy claims and empty public relations campaigns of the charming people who are wrecking the biosphere.

This is not to say that everyone on this site is a fully fledged climate criminal. They are featured in the greenwash section for one of three reasons:

- they make inflated claims about their environmental performance
- they urge other people to do as they don’t
- they help corporations to greenwash their public image

I have also started a section exposing the scientific mistakes made by some of the journalists and public figures who claim that climate change isn’t happening (see Bluffers’ Corner).

The success of this venture depends on you. I’m relying on you to send me information about people, companies, political parties, pressure groups or even environmental organisations which ought to feature on this site, and to put pressure on those already exposed here (see the Action to Take sections at the bottom of each entry). If you care about the survival of the earth’s systems, and of the hundreds of millions of people threatened by their destruction, please help me to make sure that spin does not become a substitute for action.

- George Monbiot

*Excerpt from George Monbiot’s “Turn Up the Heat” website: [www.turnuptheheat.org](http://www.turnuptheheat.org)*





# How Much Reality Can You Take?

Does anyone really want to stop climate change?

by George Monbiot

You have to pinch yourself. Until now, the *Sun* has denounced environmentalists as “loonies” and “eco beards.” Last week it published “photographic proof that climate change is real.” In a page that could have come straight from a Greenpeace pamphlet, it laid down ten “rules” for its readers to follow — “Use public transport when possible; use energy-saving lightbulbs; turn off electric gadgets at the wall; do not use a tumble dryer ...”

Two weeks ago, the *Economist* also recanted. In the past it has asserted that “Mr. Bush was right to reject the prohibitively expensive Kyoto pact.” It co-published the Copenhagen Consensus papers, which put climate change at the bottom of the list of global priorities. Now, in a special issue devoted to scaring the living daylight out of its readers, it maintains that “the slice of global output that would have to be spent to control emissions is probably... below 1 percent.” It calls for carbon taxes and an ambitious programme of government spending.

Almost everywhere, climate change denial now looks as stupid and as unacceptable as Holocaust denial. But I’m not celebrating yet. The danger is not that we will stop talking about climate change, or recognising that it presents an existential threat to humankind. The danger is that we will talk ourselves to Kingdom Come.

**Almost everywhere, climate change denial now looks as stupid and as unacceptable as Holocaust denial**

If the biosphere is wrecked, it will not be done by those who couldn’t give a damn about it, as they now belong to a diminishing minority. It will be destroyed by nice, well-meaning, cosmopolitan people who accept the case for cutting emissions, but who won’t change by one iota the way they live. I know people who profess to care deeply about global warming, but who would sooner drink Toilet Duck than get rid of their agas, patio heaters and plasma TVs, all of which are staggeringly wasteful. A recent brochure published by the Co-operative Bank boasts that its “solar tower” in Manchester “will generate enough electricity every year to make nine million cups of tea.” On the previous page, it urges its customers “to live the dream and purchase that perfect holiday home... With low cost flights now available, jetting off to your home in the sun at the drop of a hat is far more achievable than you think.”

While environmentalism has always been characterised as a middle-class concern, and while this has often been unfair, there is now an undeniable nexus of class politics and morally superior consumerism. People allow themselves to believe that their impact on the planet is lower than that of the great unwashed because they shop at Waitrose rather than Asda, buy tomme de savoie instead of processed cheese slices, and take eco-safaris in the Serengeti instead of package holidays in Torremolinos. In reality, carbon emissions are closely correlated to income: the richer you are, the more likely you are to be wrecking the planet, however much stripped wood and hand-thrown crockery there is in your kitchen.

It doesn’t help that politicians, businesses and even climate change campaigners seek to shield us from the brutal truth of just how much has to change. Last week Friends of the Earth published the report it had commissioned from the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, which laid out the case for a 90 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2050. This caused astonishment in the media. But other calculations, using the same sources, show that even this ambitious target is two decades too late. It becomes rather complicated, but please bear with me, for our future rests

on these numbers.

The Tyndall Centre says that to prevent the earth from warming by more than two degrees above pre-industrial levels, carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere must be stabilised at 450 parts per million or less (they currently stand at 380). But this, as its sources show, is plainly insufficient. The reason is that carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is not the only greenhouse gas. The others — such as methane, nitrous oxide and hydrofluorocarbons — boost its impacts by around 15 percent. When you add the concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> and the other greenhouse gases together, you get a figure known as “CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.” But the Tyndall centre uses “CO<sub>2</sub>” and “CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent” interchangeably, which leads to an embarrassing scientific mish-mash.

**The message seems to be that the science can go to hell — we will tell people what we think they can bear.**

“Concentrations of 450 parts per million CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent or lower”, it says, provide a “reasonable-to-high probability of not exceeding two degrees C.” This is true, but the report is not calling for a limit of 450 parts of “CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.” It is calling for a limit of 450 parts of CO<sub>2</sub>, which means at least 500 parts of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent. At this level, there is a low-to-very-low probability of keeping the temperature rise to below two degrees. So why on Earth has this reputable scientific institution muddled the figures?

You can find the answer on page 16 of the report. “As with all client-consultant relationships, boundary conditions were established within which to conduct the analysis. ... Friends of the Earth, in conjunction with a consortium of NGOs and with increasing cross-party support from MPs, have been lobbying hard for the introduction of a ‘climate change bill’ ... [The bill] is founded essentially on a correlation of 2°C with 450 parts per million of CO<sub>2</sub>.”

In other words, Friends of the Earth had already set the target before it asked its researchers to find out what the target should be. I suspect that it chose the wrong number because it believed a 90 percent cut by 2030 would not be politically acceptable.

This echoes the refusal of Sir David King, the chief scientist, to call for a target of less than 550 parts per million of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, on the grounds that it would be “politically unrealistic.” The message seems to be that the science can go to hell — we will tell people what we think they can bear.

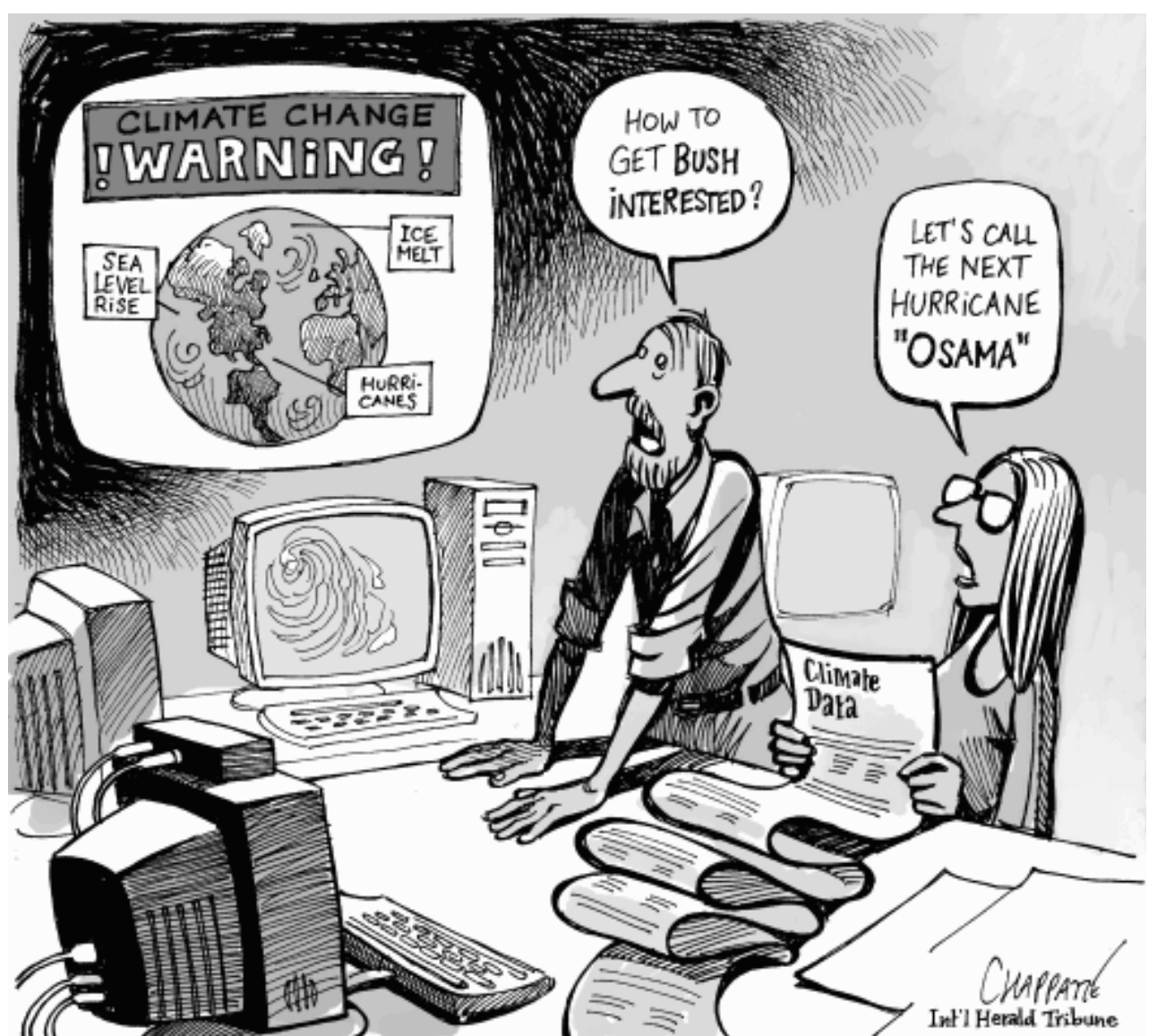
So we all deceive ourselves and deceive each other about the change that needs to take place. The middle classes think they have gone green because they buy organic cotton pyjamas and handmade soaps with bits of leaf in them — though they still heat their conservatories and retain their holiday homes in Croatia. The people who should be confronting them with hard truths balk at the scale of the challenge. And the politicians won’t jump until the rest of us do.

Recently, the Liberal Democrats announced that they are making climate change their top political priority, and two days later they voted to shift taxation from people to pollution. At first sight it looks bold, but then you discover that they have scarcely touched the problem. While total tax receipts in the United Kingdom amount to £350 billion {678 billion dollars} a year, they intend to shift just £8 billion [15.5 billion dollars] — or 2.3%.

So the question which now confronts everyone — politicians, campaign groups, scientists, readers of the *Guardian* as well as the *Economist* and the *Sun* — is this: how much reality can you take? Do you really want to stop climate chaos, or do you just want to feel better about yourself?

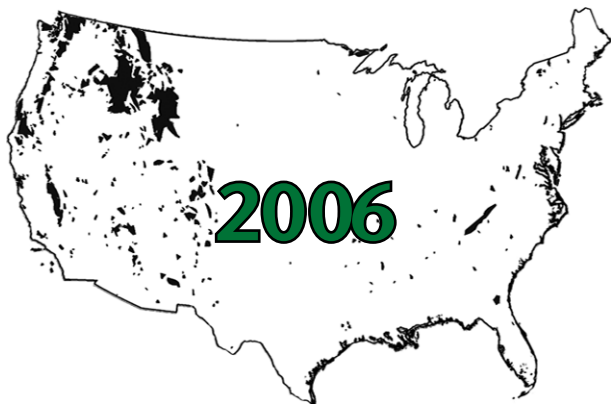
*George Monbiot writes a weekly column for the Guardian. He is the author of the bestselling books Captive State and The Age of Consent, as well as the investigative travel books Poisoned Arrows, Amazon Watershed and No Man’s Land.*

**The warnings about global warming have been extremely clear for a long time. We are facing a global climate crisis. It is deepening. We are entering a period of consequences.**  
-Al Gore





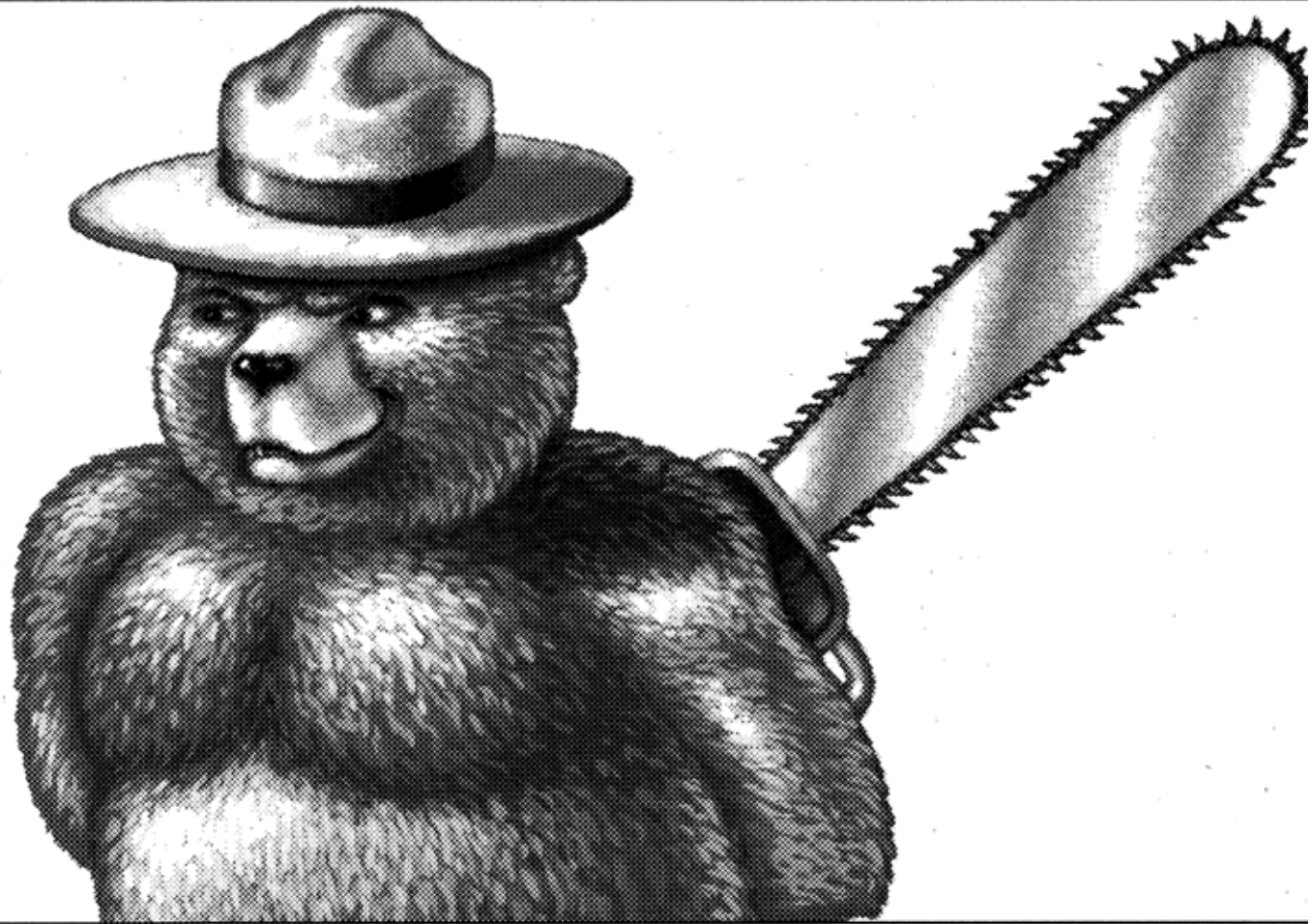
# Save Our Disappearing Native Forests



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](http://www.forestcouncil.org)  
[info@forestcouncil.org](mailto: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
- \$1,000 Patron
- \$5,000 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Planned Giving

Native Forest Council offers a variety of planned giving opportunities. Gifts of stock, real estate and other assets may offer tremendous tax savings for you and provide the Council with a greater net gift. If you are interested in planned giving, contact the Native Forest Council at 541.688.2600.

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

- I want to be a NFC member.
- I am already a NFC member.
- Please count me as a contributor.

I want to help get the word out. Please send a complimentary copy of the *Forest Voice* to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I want to give a 1-year gift membership of \$35 to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



**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 percent 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 ancient forests. Join now, and save the last of the ancient trees for our children.