

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 25-Jemez Healing. Earth Regeneration Project: Task teams for on-site spiritual support work.
Call Charles Bensinger, 988 3735 for info.

March 1- Rainforest Roadshow - film, music and talk on the rainforest at 7 PM Olivers Whole Earth Cafe in Santa Fe. Donation requested Call 984 1428 for more info.

March 10-4th Annual Arbor Day-State declared holiday. Three thousand seedlings and 300-400 large trees will be planted by the Tree Committee. A volunteers meeting will be held Feb. 28 at the La Farge Library in Santa Fe. Contact Anna Bryson 984 8258 for more info.

April 7-Earth First! Benefit Concert with environmental minstrel Dana Lyons from Washington state. Dana's unique blend of humor and passion for the earth has given us the original "Our State is a Dumpsite" and two fine albums of music. Friday night 8pm at the Unitarian Church. \$5 donation. 984 1428

May 6-The 9th annual ALL SPECIES DAY - "THE ALL SPECIES WEB OF LIFE CIRCUS-WEAVING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE" -Environmental pageantry, theater, music, puppetry and parade. This years theme focuses on regeneration and renewal. Call 982-2768 for information on how to get involved!



THINK LIKE A MOUNTAIN!
456 AMADO STREET
SANTA FE, N.M. 87501

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

"IF THE ME VERSUS YOU MODEL IS YOUR ESTIMATE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO NATURE, AND YOU HAVE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, YOUR LIKELIHOOD OF SURVIVAL WILL BE THAT OF A SNOW BALL IN HELL. YOU WILL DIE EITHER FROM THE TOXIC BYPRODUCTS OF YOUR OWN HATE OR SIMPLY BY OVERPOPULATION AND OVERGRAZING...THE WHOLE OF OUR THINKING OF WHAT WE ARE, WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE, HAS GOT TO BE RESTRUCTURED. THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK TODAY IS TO LEARN HOW TO THINK IN A NEW WAY."

GREGORY BATESON



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THINK LIKE A MOUNTAIN

A BULLETIN FOR THE SOUTHERN ROCKIES/UPPER RIO GRANDE BIOREGION

Winter 1989

Volume 1 Number 1

THE JEMEZ: A FRAGMENTED JEWEL

Rich Ryan

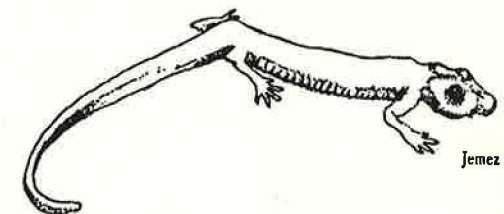
The Jemez Mountains lie in the approximate center of the state of New Mexico. They are the predominant feature of the region when viewed from space. The huge volcanic caldera with its surrounding uplifts and lava flows stand out dramatically on satellite photos of the Southwest. Yet they are youngsters as far as mountains go, at least compared to the other ranges in the area. Even the adjacent Nacimiento Mountains, which lie on their northwestern edge and are included as part of the Jemez country, are millions of years older having uplifted around the same time as the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, some five million years ago. Together the Jemez and Nacimiento make up the western half of the Santa Fe National Forest and include some two billion years of geologic history, four climate zones and nearly 10,000 years of human endeavor. It has been estimated that there are between 40,000 to 50,000 Anasazi sites in the area, more than in any other part of the region. The reason for this high concentration of past human activity is a combination of unique and incredibly diverse natural qualities, qualities that embody the very essence of the land of enchantment.

One million years ago, glacial ice, fed by permanent snow fields encircled the base of what was possibly the largest mountain on the North American continent. The caldera in the center of the range, which includes the sprawling Valle Grande and four other large valleys, was formed when the magma chambers under a 27,000 to 30,000 ft. volcanic peak erupted and collapsed. Eruptions over thousands of years spread ash over a thousand mile wide area. The final dramatic eruptions sent nearly 75 cubic miles of glowing ash rolling to become the

massive tuff formations that now predominate the plateaus to the east and south. The force of the blast has been estimated as 600 times stronger than Mount St. Helens in 1981, sending rocks the size of cars as far away as Kansas and Oklahoma, and creating a caldera almost 15 miles across and 3500 ft. deep. This is at least three times larger than any eruption in recorded history. Later volcanic uplifts created domes including Redondo Peak that now separate the valleys of the caldera. Eventually a deep lake formed in the great basin but it in turn filled with debris and washed out creating the Jemez River and San Antonio Creek. What remained was a fertile area cut with streams and verdant canyons, excellent forest cover, abundant wildlife, abundant flint and obsidian for tools, adequate rainfall, mild temperatures, and a surplus of good building materials and conditions. Ranging in elevation from 5,500 ft to 11,561 ft at the summit of Tschicoma or Santa Clara Peak, the Jemez was more accessible and less severe than the San Juan Mountains to the north or the Sangres to the east and it was speckled with hot and warm springs. It was simply the best place to be, an oasis in an otherwise hard and arid landscape.

It was these same qualities that the white men also appreciated when they arrived and why, today, this beautiful, unique area, the West Half of the Santa Fe National Forest is the most used and abused forest in all of the southwest.

(continued on p. 6)



Jemez Mountain salamander
2" long



BIOREGIONAL THINKING

(The following excerpted piece first appeared in the Samhain edition of EARTH FIRST! VOL. IX No.1)

Bioregionalism is about slipping beneath the exclusively human logic that civilization continually imposes upon land, in order to catch sight of another older logic at work in the world, logic that includes the flight of crows and the tunneling of earthworms no less than the fumbling habits of humankind. It is about dropping underneath the nation-state structure - underneath the artificial boundaries on the map - in order to glimpse the actual boundaries already there in the land itself. The bioregional animal knows that sooner or later our political and economic social structures must begin to borrow their shape and character from the contours and textures of the land - the centralized human monoculture giving way to diverse vernacular cultures, themselves expressive of the wild diversity of Earth's ecosystems. This could only take place through a process which some call "reinhabitation": through becoming a student of the actual *place* one inhabits, learning the character of its specific geology, and soils, tasting the particular plants that grow in those soils and letting the smell of the local flowers influence one's thinking. Listening, too, to the various voices that haunt those plants and stones - voices of the birds and mammals and insects (the local cricketsong beginning to lend its pulse to the rhythm of our own speaking). Feeling the way wind whispers through these particular trees. Tracing the sinuous signatures of the local snakes. "I've come here," said one of participants at the 3rd Bioregional Congress in Ish River Country last summer, "to learn how to think like a place."

David Abram is a sleight of hand magician now teaching Natural Philosophy at Pitzer College in Claremont, CA.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A bioregion is a biological community. Seen from a larger perspective than we usually perceive with, it is a complex, living, multicellular organism. Bioregions are often defined by watersheds, and watersheds are defined by the mountains and terrain that drain into them. The greater Southwest Region of Turtle Island is composed of two large bioregions which are similar in many respects and also spectacularly diverse. One is the Colorado River biological community and the other is the Rio Grande. The former drains the western side of the turtles back into the Pacific Ocean and the latter the eastern slope into the Gulf of Mexico. Both of these regions include five of the seven life zones: Upper Sonoran (5000 to 7000 ft), Transition (7000 to 8000 ft), Canadian (8000 to 10,000 ft), Subalpine (10,000 to 12,000 ft) and Alpine (12,000 to 13,000 ft).

The Colorado River is the larger watershed system. It encompasses everything west of the continental divide, as the Rocky Mountains descend through the areas we call Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona. The Colorado Plateau is cut with thousands of canyons, creeks and smaller watersheds, from the Green River, the Little Colorado, the San Juan, the Salt and the Gila River to the washes and arroyos that feed into the aquifers. All nourish the Colorado River biological system the way that blood feeds the organs of the mammal body.

The Rio Grande system begins in the San Juan Mountains and includes the San Luis Valley at its geomantic head. The deep geologic rift that forms the valley is cleaving the continent, moving apart at the rate of one millimeter (1/25 of an inch) per year. Someday, millions of years from now, the Gulf of Mexico might make its way up the valley as this fissure opens. Meanwhile, the Chama, the Red, the Embudo, the meager Santa Fe, and all the small rios, ritos, arroyos pump the heart of the lazy Rio Grande.

Naturally, all of these tributaries or arteries are, in fact, bioregions of their own, inside a larger system, the way that our entire blue planet might be seen as a flea on the back of some huge cosmic

dog or as we might be seen as a dog supporting the life of millions of bacterial and parasitic flees. Biosystems are not exclusive. Overlapping inter-relationships and inter-dependence are the cooperating forces in all of nature. Life supports life and there are wheels within wheels, many layers to the onion.

Defining a bioregion depends on which layer of the onion you want to focus on. Since we are publishing this bulletin from the base of the southern end of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, we are defining this bioregion as the Upper Rio Grande/Southern Rockies. This scope can be seen to include most of New Mexico and Southern Colorado. We intend to inform about the Southwest region in general but our place in particular, leaving room for other journals and bulletins to arise elsewhere. How about the Big Bend Bioregion?

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a forum for *inhabiting our place* more fully. If we want to dwell within our place rather than merely reside here, we must know what's going on from the bird's eye view to the worm's eye view. We must heighten our awareness about the rivers and mountains, creatures and plants, the geologic and geographic realms, the moving forces, destructive and productive, the SPIRIT and history and ancestry of our place. We invite writers, poets and artists, visionaries and all inhabitants to partake in this adventure, and inform us.

Fifty years ago, one of the first Anglo ecologists of our region, Aldo Leopold, experienced an earthquake in his thinking process. A game manager and government employee in the Gila National Forest, his job was to ensure that there were more deer for the hunters and more protection for the cows and sheep by trapping and shooting out the wolves and other predators. On one outing, after shooting a wolf, he got close enough to watch the "green fire" go out of her eyes. "I realized then," he wrote, "and have known ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes, something known only to her and to the mountain...I now suspect that as a deer herd lives in mortal fear of its wolves, so does a mountain live in fear of its deer. And perhaps with better cause, for while a buck pulled down by wolves can be replaced in two or three years, a range pulled down by too many deer may fail of replacement in as many decades."

Aldo Leopold entitled the essay that included this story "Thinking Like a Mountain". To honor his vision and life work, we dedicate this publication to him, to the extirpated predators and to our place, the Upper Rio Grande/Southern Rockies Bioregion.

Rich Ryan

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NOTES FROM THE COOLER

On Being Radical

We often don't speak the truth. Either we are too consumed with providing the necessities of life or, on those few occasions when we have the opportunity to speak our mind, the truth may seem too large and threatening to be held in the fragile vessel of our daily life.

The Forest Service is not interested in the truth but is forever soliciting public "input". It is like there is a slot in their vast machine for public input and, in order for the machine to run smoothly, this slot must be filled. I often feel like a cow being milked when this happens. The milk of my soul is very efficiently pumped out and is consumed somewhere by masses of unseen bureaucrats.

Invariably those who speak the truth as they see it are labeled radicals. For example, the Forest Service wants to know what I think about the "management" of old growth forests, the primeval forests of this continent that now exist as isolated islands on steep slopes, high elevations and other difficult to assess areas surrounded by seas of "managed" second growth. I say put the landscape back together, surround the remnant old growth fragments with large buffer areas that will be harvested selectively and not very often and connect these fragments with corridors that will never be cut along streams to facilitate wildlife movement. This is radical because weaving the threads of a landscape back together is not "management" in the accepted sense.

The Romantic poets at the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution offer the first modern example of radicalism, separating themselves from the linear and mechanistic, to create art that even they realized could never do justice to the natural world they were celebrating. In New England, Thoreau spoke his radical truth to his Journals while a vast continent was pillaged far beyond the shores of Walden Pond. He was radical in his withdrawal and his stoic self-reliance.

John Muir was a different radical, a man from the very cutting edge of conquest who felt the beauty of the wild landscape that, as a youth, he ironically participated in taming. In mid-life he resisted mightily his forced descent from the high Sierra and his ongoing conversation with flowers and squirrels to take up pen and defend the land he loved. Finally, late in life, when he gave up the long struggle for Hetch Hetchy, with the newly formed Sierra Club bitterly divided and in the voice of his cruel, old testament-like father delivering increasingly ineffective summons through a media that had once glorified him in myth but now portrayed him as an eccentric old crackpot, his radical truth survived. Indeed, the modern environmental movement is largely a stepchild of his pioneering radicalism.

Aldo Leopold came to his radical vision of a living earth, early while working for the Forest Service near the turn of the century in Arizona and New Mexico. His intuitive and youthful sense of the wholeness of nature was expressed in an early essay on overgrazing "Some Fundamentals of Conservation in the Southwest." But it wasn't until towards the end of his life when that vision was both filled with substance and distilled with great beauty in the short sketch "Thinking Like Mountain".

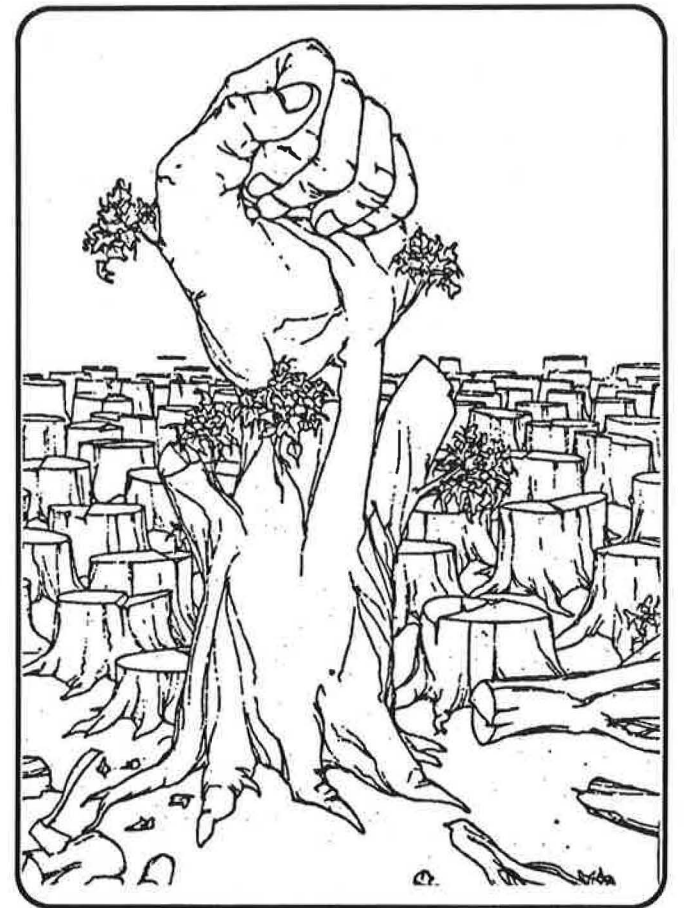
The vision of his youth needed the weight of life experience to give it credence and confirmation. The vision wasn't alive until it was fortified with both the dirt-under-the-fingernails experience of planting trees on his worn out Sand County farm as well as his voluminous reading and scientific study. Leopold's life journey was, like the archetypal myth of Parsifal, a quest to re-enter the visionary castle of his youth.

Leopold was a radical and believed that radicals were the necessary visionaries needed to steer culture toward a deeper relationship with the natural world. However, he was a quiet radical who received enormous respect from his peers in the field of wildlife biology but was unknown to the general public until long after his death.

Aldo Leopold left us signposts of a fulfilling life journey in his writings. He has given us the broad philosophical, moral and aesthetic principles with which we can radically transform our relationship to the natural world.

Even though the Forest Service put quotes of Leopold's on its "management" plans these days, it is still unacceptably radical to Think Like a Mountain. The question, as always, is will the vision of a great soul make a difference in the world. Not, I think, without a host of like minded great souls willing to carry on the radical truth.

Sam Hitt
Feb. 9, 1989



The Incinerators are coming to New Mexico

First garbage will be burned. NEXT. Nuclear Waste will go up in flames in Los Alamos.

It's amazing how unstated government policy finally works its way out into the open. Take for example the garbage incinerator about to be built in Los Alamos. The Environmental Improvement Division of the state (EID) granted its application despite the fact that no incinerator regulations exist in the state. Moreover, the Division ignored the problem of what to do with the leftover, toxic ash. When this highly alkaline substance is mixed with earth that is acidic, the salts of heavy metals are formed. They contaminate the water under the dump site. The EID's only word on ash was to require trucks carrying it to be covered so the dust doesn't blow in our faces.

THE SIMILARITY BETWEEN INCINERATOR ASH AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE IS ASTOUNDING — BOTH ARE BEING CREATED WORLD-WIDE WITHOUT ANY PLAN FOR THEIR SAFE DISPOSAL...

While the EID was busy approving incinerators, the Environmental Improvement Board has done nothing to set policy and protect us from unregulated incinerators. After hearing former Lieutenant Governor Mike Runnels's warning that garbage from many other states will be imported and burned here when more incinerators are approved, the Board made no comment. After hearing an engineer tell his first-hand experience with incinerators despoiling the air and water of Texas, the Board looked the other way. But after learning from Cubia Clayton that the Air Quality Bureau lacks people to write regulations, the Board gave up. Without questioning Clayton's story, it decided to pass the issue back to the Governor, voting to request more funds for the EID.

Meanwhile an administrative order guarantees that all incinerator applications will be processed out of the Bureau within 120-180 days, regulations not withstanding. While the bureaucratic process rolls along consuming miles of printed reports and stacks of forms, we out here in the real world had better wake up to what's about to happen. The Lab has announced plans to go through the same dubious regulatory process for another incinerator which will burn radioactive waste.

As it turns out, everything in the waste stream should not be burned. Glass, paper, plastics, aluminum and batteries can be separated out. These materials are re-usable; they can be sold. Most important, re-cycling makes good environmental sense. It doesn't spread toxic molecules everywhere as in incineration, nor does it concentrate harmful metals in the underground water, as with landfilling. Consider the fact that for every ton of material we re-use, three tons of natural resources will remain untouched.

Unfortunately, everyone in the state is not working from an attitude of concern for the environment and human health. There are people who simply don't care, and they are willing to let our precious natural resources become contaminated for the sake of a few jobs and short term financial gains. Is the destruction of our air, soil and water quality worth the price we as a society will eventually have to pay?

Indeed, it's a sad sight to see a state agency operating under short-sighted policies which will attract facilities to poison us. On the other hand, with strong regulations to control sulfur dioxide which causes acid rain, and mercury, which harms nerves and muscles, and

dioxin, which is responsible for liver damage and birth defects, then the kinds of incinerators that might be built here would be the best the technology can produce rather than the worst.

Therefore, our immediate need is to stop the processing of incinerators UNTIL THE LEGISLATURE CAN PASS APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS TO CONTROL THEM AND RESTRICT THEIR USE. To do this we need to write to Gov. Carruthers and our state representatives calling for:

— AN IMMEDIATE MORATORIUM ON GARBAGE INCINERATORS.

— A REQUIREMENT THAT COMPREHENSIVE RE-CYCLING PROGRAMS BE IN OPERATION IN ANY COMMUNITY FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR BEFORE THE MORATORIUM CAN END.

Silvi Solomon, 1107 B. Pen Road

Santa Fe, 87501 982-1777

Bioregion Beware!!!

1. **THE BURNING OF GARBAGE GENERATES TOXIC GASES.** Tests of emissions from garbage incinerators consistently show dangerous levels of dioxins, furans, lead, cadmium, chromium, arsenic and mercury.
2. **THE DANGER FROM BURNING GARBAGE IS INCREASING.** The use of plastics, batteries, consumer electronics, garden pesticides and brightly colored printed materials has vastly increased since the 1950s. Some printers inks contain cadmium, lead and chromium pigments. Plastics contain chlorine that when burned forms acid gas and toxic chlorinated hydrocarbons such as dioxins.
3. **TOXIC EMISSIONS END UP IN THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY AIR IN THE ASH.** State of the art pollution controls do not remove all of these toxins. The toxic substances that are removed end up in the ash. Incinerator ash is certifiably hazardous according to EPA's own studies. If improperly handled, very fine ash particles will blow into the air and contaminate ground water.
4. **GARBAGE INCINERATORS ARE NOT RELIABLE.** Compared to natural gas, oil and coal, garbage is a very difficult fuel to burn. The variable moisture content creates problems in maintaining the proper combustion temperature. The continuous production of slag requires frequent shutdowns. High concentrations of hydrochloric acid gas causes premature deterioration of boiler tubing and stack liners. Moody's bond advisory service reports that recent incinerator shutdown rates have increased to 70% with an average downtime of 9 months! Air pollution controls work well only under ideal, steady state conditions.
5. **GARBAGE INCINERATORS DO NOT ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR LANDFILLS.** On the average, incinerators reduce incoming garbage 70% by weight. Landfill space is also re-

quired for the large quantities of bulk trash that cannot be burned. During shutdowns garbage must bypass the incinerator and go straight to the landfill.

6. RECYCLING IS A MUCH BETTER IDEA!

— According to the State of Missouri's recent study, recycling costs from 40% to 60% less than incineration depending on whether incinerator ash is properly handled.

— Recycling saves more energy than the so-called "trash to energy" incinerator.

— Recycling creates 2 to 4 times more jobs than incinerators. . jobs suitable for the homeless and unskilled.

NEW MEXICO—

A GARBAGE MAGNET NO MORE?

The 39th Legislature, with your help, may be the point when New Mexico finally acknowledges and deals constructively with the wave of solid waste poised to inundate our beautiful state. Several solid waste disposal bills are expected to be introduced. The most aggressive and far-ranging of these is the "Resource Recovery and Waste Management" bill, SB 2, introduced by Sen. Roman Maes, D-Santa Fe and endorsed by Sierra Club SCCOPE).

It would immediately impose landfill siting and operating standards comparable to those in much of the rest of the country and eliminate much of the waste stream originating from within New Mexico through recycling requirements for a state-wide recycling program.

The bill would delineate "solid waste sheds" and would impose stiff fees on all wastes imported into a "garbage shed." This would tend to make it more costly and difficult for both New Mexico and out-of-state waste producers to export their wastes and the environmental and economic problems associated with them and thus prevent rural New Mexico from becoming a "garbage colony" of more affluent areas.

The fees generated in this manner would be used by the EID (Environmental Improvement Division) to aid local communities in their own local recycling and waste disposal efforts.

Your calls and letters in support of the "Resource Recovery and Waste Management" Bill to your state senator can make a difference. Help keep New Mexico from becoming the trash bin of the nation.

CALL or WRITE, Your Senator, State Capitol

Santa Fe, NM 87503 -or- Capitol Switchboard

827-4011

Urge him or her to support SB2 in its entirety with requirements for recycling, public involvement, anti-organized crime measures and strict siting, permitting and operating provisions intact.

MORE MADNESS AT THE LAB:

IF WIPP DOESN'T OPEN, WHAT WILL BECOME OF ALL THE WASTE? Incineration is being considered as the "way to go." Burning is the opposite of land burial and would seem to be a disastrous course because it spreads radioactivity far and wide. Still, the Lab has been doing "experiments" — burning mixtures of radioactive and hazardous wastes. In fact, they plan to apply for a license to build a mixed-waste incinerator within the next year. The folks at Savannah River are also working on incineration of radioactive wastes. Meanwhile New Mexico is wide open. We have no regulations for incinerators and yet the state's Environmental Improvement Division grants them licenses.

AS THE LINE BETWEEN GARBAGE AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISAPPEARS... The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has come up with a new name for the same old stuff. Recently re-naming 40% of the nation's nuclear waste, BELOW REGULATORY CONCERN, this name change allows waste to be dumped directly into the earth, air and water.

HERE IN NEW MEXICO, we are exposed to the danger of radioactive materials being mixed into our common garbage. (Garbage collectors, landfill personnel and sewage-treatment workers beware. . . At the same time that the Department of Energy admits there is NO SAFE LEVEL OF RADIATION, the NRC is preparing to give us more of it.

HERE, THEN IS A TECHNOLOGY BLINDED BY ITS OWN PROBLEMS, desperately seeking a way to rid itself of its own life-threatening waste. We must protect ourselves and our children from these irresponsible efforts. Max Coll has sponsored a MORATORIUM ON INCINERATORS, HB 59, which prohibits the importation of out-of-state incineratory ash for land burial and the burning of garbage, radioactive and hazardous wastes until July 1, 1990, when regulations should be in place. This will succeed only if WE SUPPORT IT NOW by calling :

984-9300 ext. 474 Rep. Mora's Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

ext 539 Vice-Chairman Rep. Salazar
The office of your own representative.

INSTRUCT THESE PEOPLE TO MAKE NO POLITICAL DEALS WITH OUR HEALTH AND NO COMPROMISES WITH OUR WATER'S PURITY AND THE CLEANLINESS OF OUR AIR. EVERY SINGLE VOICE COUNTS.

NM GOVERNORS OFFICE
SANTA FE
827-3000

US HOUSE OF REPS.
BILL RICHARDSON
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JOE SKEEN
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The Jemez Under Attack

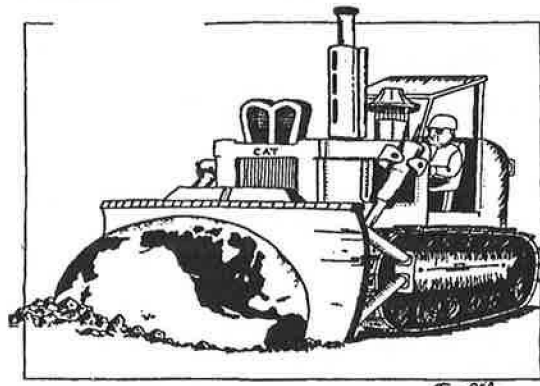
Logging, grazing, mining, road construction, fire suppression and power line corridors have profoundly altered and fragmented the varied ecosystems in the past 100 years. Much of the Jemez country was in private hands as late as the 1960's, owned by large logging interests such as the New Mexico Timber Company. 100,000 acres, known as the Baca Location No.1, which includes nearly all of the caldera, remains privately owned. The United States Congress traded this land to the Baca family in 1860 in exchange for relinquishing their claims on land in the town of Las Vegas. It is the largest inholding in the National Forests of the Southwest.

These private interests exerted enormous unrestricted pressures on the land creating an extensive road network for logging and grazing that today is causing serious erosion problems. Craig Allen, a landscape ecologist doing research in Bandelier National Monument concludes that "the piñon-juniper woodlands are in a state of freefall. Thousands of years of soil are being lost right now that will never be replaced. The rocky mantle of the Earth, like an old man losing his hair, is being exposed." Allen sees the new discipline of landscape ecology as tool for developing a holistic land ethic. "Landscape ecology is a way of thinking about the larger picture without fragmentizing it into disconnected resources," says Allen. "Landscapes are the places where we live - we're part of them and we should care."

Now that the majority of the Jemez is in the hand of the Forest Service, it should be on the way to recovery, but unfortunately, the agency seems to care more about providing lumber than about the land itself. Today the West Half of the Santa Fe National Forest is slated for such massive cutting that virtually no area outside of designated Wilderness will be left untouched. Cable logging will provide access to steep slopes (greater than 40% incline), where the last of undisturbed spruce-fir ecosystem remains. New road and management techniques will plant even-age stands of farmable trees, creating a mono-culture void of the diversity necessary for many species such as the endangered Jemez Mountain Salamander and Mexican Spotted Owl. The spruce-fir could die out completely as its elevation and slow growth rate make it difficult to regenerate. And the ultimate irony of this destruction is that, according to their own Congressionally mandated economic review, the Forest Service will lose 80 cents on every dollar it spends to provide this timber to the industry. They call these sales "deficit sales" or "below cost sales". In effect, we the taxpayers are financing the timber companies and the devastation of our forest lands.



The map in the center fold of this issue, is the 10 year timber cut plan for the Jemez country. The only areas not encircled have either already been cut in the past 8 years, lie in private hands or are under wilderness protection. Each green shaded area represents a timber sale. Several of these timber sales have been appealed by local environmental groups such as Elk Mountain Action, Earth First! Audubon, Save the Jemez and the Sierra Club. The Mesa del Medio cable sale is now at the last level of appeal and is stayed by court order. The Bonito Sale, adjacent to the upcoming pumice strip mine was recently remanded by the Forest Supervisor due to a successful appeal by Elk Mountain Action. But many other sales are going through.



THE LAS CONCHAS PUMICE MINE

Over the past hundred years, the Jemez has been mined for sulphur, gold, silver and pumice. Pumice is still being mined and demand is up as the fashion craze for stone-washed jeans has provided an additional market.

On January 4th, the Forest Service approved plans for a new 33 acre open pit strip mine 1/4 mile from the East Fork River by the Las Conchas campground along state highway 4. The abundant popcorn-like pumice was formed by volcanism in the crater called El Cajete on the south slope of Redondo Peak and may be readily seen in the roadcuts just west of the campground. The beautiful East Fork was recently proposed for Wild and Scenic River status by NM Representative Bill Richardson.

Even though, this heavily used scenic area has much greater value as a recreational resource (and intrinsic non-resource values to water quality, wildlife and flora) the Forest Service is powerless to stop the Copar Pumice Company from bulldozing it. Copar has laid claims to 7000 acres in the area under the antiquated but powerful Mining Act of 1872. This law allows anyone to lay claim to public land and extract its mineral contents for virtually nothing. Phelps Dodge and Molycorp have already tragically and irrevocably polluted our rivers and streams in New Mexico using the power of this law which was created at a time when our ecological understanding was essentially non-existent.

(Continued)

The Copar company has said this mine will operate for at least ten years, but with their other adjacent claims, they could be mining in this sensitive area for the next hundred years. However, Henry Oat, a member of the team that developed environmental guidelines for the mine, has filed a notice of appeal on this action and has the backing of the Sierra Club, Elk Mountain Action and New Mexicans for Clean Air and Water. The groups stated grounds for opposition include irreversible impacts on the native Wood Lilly and the Jemez Mountain Salamander, two threatened and endangered species, protected under law, that have been found in the mine area and the fact that inadequate cumulative impact studies were done on such a long term operation.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

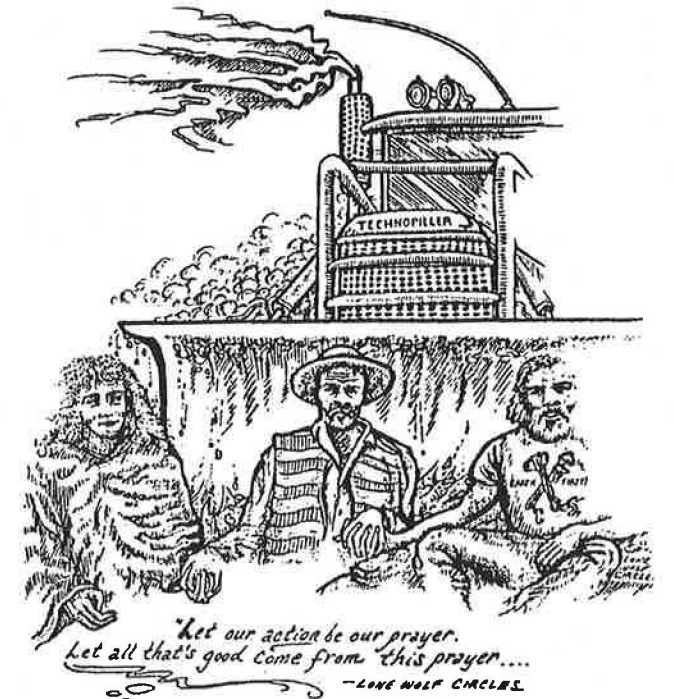
Ultimately, what can be done about the wholesale exploitation and destruction of the Jemez? There are no easy answers. Knowledge of the problem is an important beginning. Grassroots networking between the Native American, Hispanic and Anglo communities could build a solid lobbying force to convince our elected representatives that we want to preserve this incredible treasure. The Anasazi ruins, both excavated and unexcavated are invaluable cultural resources. They are maps of human experience. Additionally, hundreds of shrines still exist in these mountains that are important to the religion of surrounding Pueblo peoples, many of them in danger of obliteration.

Some groups are making regular pilgrimages to some of these shrines and doing spiritual healing. Others are involved in the legal aspects of appealing and reversing these decisions. Still others are going up to these mine and timbersale areas and getting to know the land, asking questions and planting ideas in the neighboring communities. Some are writing letters and contacting the elected politicians. The most radical are attempting to throw monkeywrenches into the operating gears of the system, hoping to slow it down. A delay can buy time for educating oneself or others.

Our real job is to shift the way we think about land. The Earth is more than the resources we can extract from her. She has a spirit and deep ways of wisdom far beyond what we have managed to understand. Knowing only a fraction of how whole-systems work, we are dangerous. We are destructive. Taking from the land what we can use must be tempered by our respect for what we do not know. A little humility and restraint might balance our huge scientific arrogance. Rather than seeking to control and manage the natural world, we would be better served by observation and cooperation. We all stand to lose, if we allow our mountains to be plundered for the short term profit of small special interests.

Get up into the Jemez, go ski to San Antonio hot springs or Spence Springs, feel the heart beat of the mountain. Hike onto her tuff formations, climb her peaks and visit her shrines and ancient ruins, sense the Spirit that is alive and timeless. Follow

her canyons to the Rio Grande or the Jemez River. Visit the San Pedro Parks Wilderness or the Dome Wilderness and Bandelier National Monument. In those quiet spaces, you will find yourself and when you do, think like a mountain and then do something!



NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS:

SANGRE DE CRISTO ADUBON SOCIETY TOM JERVIS: 667 1531	SAVE THE JEMEZ TED DAVIS: 871-4067
SIERRA CLUB, RIO GRANDE CHAPTER JOHN KENNEY: 988 3205	PUBLIC LANDS ACTION NETWORK JIM FISH: 867 3062
NM WILDERNESS STUDY COMMITTEE CHRIS RILLING: 242 2861	ALL SPECIES PROJECT CHRIS WELLS: 982 2768
NM WOLF COALITION DAVID HENDERSON: 983-4609	FOREST TRUST: 983-8992
NM CLEAN AIR AND WATER: JOHN BARTLETT: 672 9792	ELK MT. ACTION PARTY SAM HITT: 988-9126
NM EARTH FIRST! RICH RYAN, SANTA FE: 984-1097 BRAD LAGORIO, ALBQ: 873-0299	CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY SANTA FE: 986 1973
RAINFOREST ACTION GROUP STELLA REED, SANTA FE: 473 7958 DAN MOORE, ALBQ: 873 3776	ATTORNEYS: DOUG MEIKLEJOHN NM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER 989-9022
PROJECT LIGHTHAWK MICHAEL STEWART: 982-9656	

TEN YEAR TIMBER SALE MAP

[illegible]

Ojo Line Extension (OLE)

(OLE is a powerline extension from Four Corners to Los Alamos across the Jemez.) ed.

I have been involved with the stop-OLE efforts since its beginning. I've been working with Ted Davis and Save the Jemez and have continued to make the OLE problem my number one priority despite the fact that I now live in Oregon. I have been doing in-depth research on OLE for my law classes here at the U of Oregon and think that a call to action by New Mexico folks may be in order at this time.

The OLE case is stalled in U.S. District Court in Albuquerque. The appeal filed by the Pueblos and the environmentalists is based solely on the shortcomings of the environmental impact statements for OLE, particularly on the question of NEED for the powerline. A number of experts have testified that the FEIS fails to provide a rationale for the powerline and that many of the arguments PNM and LANL use to claim a need for the line are contradictory or blatantly false. Clearly PNM has some reason for building OLE other than the one they bring forth in the NEPA process.

The case could come before the court any day. While I'm confident we will win in court, it is necessary to keep the issue visible before Jeff Bingaman and Bill Richardson in Washington. They must know that we still care and that we demand to know why the powerline would be built and who it would really benefit. Clearly it would not benefit the people of the northern Rio Grande Valley, the Pueblos, or the New Mexicans who don't like industrial projects on Forest Service Lands. It is questionable that it would have anything to do with Santa Fe or Albuquerque. With star wars funding being cut at the LANL and with LANL freezing its budgets, it's clear that the SPECULATIVE increases in power needs projected by PNM may never materialize.

Write to Senator Bingaman, and Representative Richardson. Our representatives should pressure LANL and PNM to find an alternative to the powerline and to explain to the public honestly why the line is needed. Further, people should protest damage to the Jemez and the cultures of rural NM in the strongest terms. What we really have here is a democratic question, whether the little people of New Mexico are going to have ugly projects shoved down their throats by industrial interests.

I think it would be good to get a new wave of interest in this issue now that the election is over. Bingaman tends to sympathize with environmentalist causes if he sees public support.

The lawyers who have been handling the OLE case need to be paid. One has thousands of his own dollars in the case. Readers could send donations to: Save the Jemez OLE Fund, PO Box 4067, Albq. NM 87196-4067.

Thank you on behalf of the Jemez for all your help on this. If you have any questions please write. Needless to say I have piles of files and articles on OLE.

Bandelier Man
980 E. 27th
Eugene, Or. 97405



WOLVES IN SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO?

The BLM ordered an aerial survey of the McGregor Range in Southern NM after one of their employees spotted a pack of about seven animals that reportedly resembled Mexican gray wolves last fall. No wolves were spotted after the four hour flight which covered 41,600 acres. Michael Stewart of the environmental watchdog flight service PROJECT Lighthawk says that a 4 hour flight survey would be adequate for the area (approximately 64 sq miles) unless it was heavily wooded. A BLM biologist stated that the animals seen were probably a cross between a wolf and dog.

NEW WOLF LITTER AT THE RIO GRAND ZOO - There will be a rally at the zoo later in the spring in support of Wolf Reintroduction-CALL THE NEW MEXICO WOLF COALITION for more info 983 4609

WORST TAILINGS SPILL SINCE CHURCHROCK URANIUM SPILL

The Chino Copper Mine operated by Phelps Dodge Corp. near Silver City allowed 180 million gallons of acidic and highly toxic metals contaminated water to spill from its tailing ponds into Whitewater Creek late last summer. The under publicized spill extended for 20 miles and lasted approximately 30 days. Samples showed the water to have 30 to 50 times the amount of allowable sulfates, 40 to 50 times the allowed level of dissolved solids, and 30 times the allowed levels of cadmium, a toxic metal, according to Alfred Dye and Cynthia Ardito of the state Environmental Improvement Division (EID). It was also found to be about as acidic as vinegar.

Chino Mines lawyer, David Kimball, said that the spill was caused by extraordinary circumstances created by highly unusual rainfall events and *wouldn't happen again*. Grove Burnett, a lawyer for New Mexico Citizens for Clean Air and Water, claims the mine owes the state 1.8 million dollars in fines, stemming from a 1988 agreement in which the mine said it would pay damages if any water spilled into the creek. Burnett has notified Phelps Dodge of his plans to sue over the spill. He further claims that internal EID files "clearly reflect gross political interference by the permittee", as several concerned EID staffers were removed from the case by EID Director Richard Mitzelfelt. To follow up on this information write or call the EID and New Mexico Citizens for Clean Air and Water. 672 9792

THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

Former NM Rep. Manuel Lujan Jr. was recently appointed and confirmed as the Secretary of the US Department of the Interior. Upon being named, he remarked "We must be stewards of the land, and leave it in as good shape as possible from one generation to another". Yet as a congressman, he neither worked nor voted for protection of the environment. In the early eighties, as ranking Republican on the House Interior Committee, he functioned frequently as lead man for the policies of then Secretary, James Watt. The League of Conservation Voters which is the political action committee of major environmental groups, rated his voting record thus: He voted for the environment only 23% of the time since the League started keeping records in 1971, and only 15% of the time in the last two sessions of Congress. He voted for the environment only 6% of the time on legislation dealing with management of natural resources. The few times he has stepped out of this pattern were in opposition to oil and gas leasing in the Capitan wilderness study area and in his sponsorship of wilderness legislation for NM. Yet even on those issues he wavered. Lujan has favored big water projects, opposed increased grazing fees for public lands, and has supported opening up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil development.

Although he has been saying he will follow the new administrations lead, Melinda Kassen of the Environmental Defense Fund in Boulder, Colo., recently remarked that "Bush doesn't have any ideology so there isn't going to be any leadership from the White House. If the people who get in the door at Interior first are those with the biggest base of money, we'll be in trouble."

The Interior Department is the most important federal agency in the west, controlling the BLM, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife, the US Geological Survey, the Bureau of Mines and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Last month the Interior Department proposed regulations that could open four million acres of national parks, wildlife refuges, historic sites and wilderness areas to coal mining.

Manual Lujan's political success has been attributed to his easy going, accessible style. Keep a watchful eye and remind him often with letters and phone calls about "leaving the land in good shape from one generation to another".

PRODUCE AND SHOW YOUR OWN ENVIRONMENTAL VIDEOS?

There is a public access television channel in Albuquerque. It is cable channel 27. This channel shows home grown video productions. If you have any videos you would like to show the citizens of Albuquerque, you can do it on ch. 27, free of charge. Also, if you are interested in making videos, (for instance, videotaping an abusive cable timber-sale) ch. 27 offers a 6 week video production class, consisting of an orientation lecture followed by 6 three hour classes, each class held once a week for 6 weeks. You must attend an orientation to attend the classes. There is a \$15.00 fee of which \$10.00 covers text books and materials for the class. \$5.00 is the access fee for video equipment for one year. You can use their equipment free of charge if you take their class. The next orientation lecture is on February 20th at 10am at 2633 Tennessee, NE Albuquerque. Both day and night classes are available. You must be able to show your Albuquerque area address to take the class. For more detailed information call ch. 27 in Albuquerque at 243-0027..

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT PUBLIC ACCESS TELEVISION IN SANTA FE CALL DON SHERRY AT SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE 438 1321

A CALL FOR RADIATION MONKS, NUCLEAR MINISTERS AND SHRINES

Llyn Peabody

At the time of the Autumn Equinox, a group of healers, political leaders and concerned citizens of Mother Earth gathered on Sacred Indian land and held council on the issue of nuclear waste. We asked ourselves what is the waste symbolic of, on a collective subconscious level? What can we learn through our relationship with it? What are our choices for constructively and responsibly tending the waste until it returns to its benign state in the universe. What follows is my interpretation of the council.

Nuclear waste is a reality. We feel a responsibility to effectively deal with it until it no longer poses a threat to life on earth. We don't want any more waste created. We don't want any more bombs. We want unmined Uranium to stay in the earth. We see that many problems will result from storing the waste in the earth. We see technical problems and psychological problems. The waste will remain toxic for hundreds of thousands of years. How do we protect future generations? Burying nuclear waste is an attempt to ignore it. Out of sight, out of mind. This is an outward manifestation of an inner disease. Our work, as humans at this time, is to acknowledge the shadow side of ourselves. And not only to acknowledge it but to embrace it.

In Aikido one learns to "know" one's opponent. It is time to know those who are on "the other side". It is time to know our own dark sides. Nuclear waste is the outer manifestation of our dark sides.

Perhaps the only way to insure protection for future generations from nuclear poisons is to bring a special mindfulness to the storage of this waste. This mindfulness is akin to the devotion found amongst the initiates of a religion. We are calling for radiation monks; nuclear ministers. We need caretakers of the physical, toxic material but more than that. We need a certain consciousness to come alive, regarding this material. Humans have come remarkably close to irrevocably soiling our own nest. Let this nuclear waste be a reminder for centuries to come of the mistakes we, and our ancestors, have made so they will not be repeated.

We picture separate nuclear shrines being set up wherever this material is produced. This is to limit the risks of transportation and also because it is only right that a facility be self-sufficient in dealing with its own waste. It was said in council that, for some, the fear of death is not so strong as the fear of failing to carry the responsibility of the monster we have created, the fear of failing to leave the earth inhabitable for all future life.

Let these shrines provide an opportunity for concerned citizens to actively shoulder this responsibility in a meaningful way.

It appears that it is not actually too difficult to handle this poison-fire safely, if done consciously. Wouldn't it be better to have the waste monitored above ground by those who share a deep caring for the earth then by those who seek to "handle" her or "dominate" her. Let us build beautiful shrines, life affirming shrines, with gardens and rooms for meditation. Let them be light centers where people gather to remember a dedication to the health of the earth and a commitment to peace. For aren't those acts which acknowledge and affirm a picture larger than each of our short, separate lives, the ones that are truly sacred? Namaste'

If these thoughts and feelings strike a chord for you and you would like to pursue them further, please contact Llyn Peabody 1161 Maez Rd Santa Fe NM 87501 471-4274

**9th ANNUAL ALL SPECIES DAY 1989!
SATURDAY MAY 6th**

"WEAVING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE"

All Species Projects is a cultural arts education program working in schools and diverse communities culminating in a yearly event; a commemorative holiday, a community created festival of remembrance and discovery known as All Species Day. Holidays commemorate values. Holidays keep a culture's sense of who it is, consciously or unconsciously, selfishly or altruistically, regionally and/or globally. All Species Days have been celebrated for 10 years in over 35 communities. Ongoing and growing projects exist in Kansas City; Arcata, California; NYC; Greenville, NC; Vancouver, BC; and Santa Fe, which has been the main seeding project for 8 years, last year involving 4000 people. The 1987 pageant theater of over 100 volunteers-"Earth's Forests:Roots of Peace" inspired a recycling program in the Santa Fe Public School System and created the public awareness that helped to save Elk Mountain, a symbol of Southwestern old growth forest.

Join in creating the ALL SPECIES WEB OF LIFE CIRCUS which will be the main pageant production this year. This circus will be centered around very short performance pieces (puppets, actors, whatever....) relating to the theme. Get your school, class or group involved...lead or direct an act or scene. The finale will be a theatrical representation of the Bosque del Apache, complete with whooping cranes. Of course there will be a parade that will be more impressive than ever, if you help. Join us in learning about floatmaking, puppetry, ecological issues and community fun. To learn how to get involved call Chris at 982 2768 in Santa Fe.

NEW MEXICO EARTH FIRST!

T-SHIRTS

100% COTTON • DESIGNS BY LONE WOLF CIRCLES



Think Like A Mountain!
4 colors on earth-colored Ts
(S,M,L,XL) \$11.00 Ppd.
NMEF 456 Amado St. Santa Fe, NM 87501

**THE WEST
-1988-**

Somehow I find it hard to believe
that there exists
any man
woman
child
who would not be moved
by the sight of a bull elk
crashing thru dense and dark timber

Or a cutthroat trout
darting from shadow
to shadow
in a lively mountain stream

Or a covey of scaled quail
rising out of sagebrush

Or a she-wolf
followed thru moonlight
by four or five wild and playful pups

Or a young and healthy grizzly bear
poised on the edge of a river
cold and pure

Likewise
I find it hard to believe
that anyone would not support
a sane
just
world
truly at peace

© 1988

Jim Fish

PUBLIC LANDS ACTION NETWORK FORMED

Jim Fish, environmental activist and lifelong resident of the southwest, announces the formation of a national group called Public Lands Action Network (PLAN). The motto of Plan is "We will do what we have to do to protect our public lands from abuse!" Fish says the approach taken by PLAN will be a triad: Education, Involvement, and Action. A primary goal will be the elimination of domestic livestock grazing on public lands, especially in sensitive and severely degraded areas. the objective of this goal is the recreation of the vegetative cover, the water quality, and the wildlife populations that existed in the west in the early 1800'S.

Other issues of interest to PLAN are wildlife poaching, illegal fuelwood cutting, destructive logging practices, theft and damage to archeological and paleontological resources, damage caused by off road vehicles, unnecessary impacts of mining operations, irresponsible minerals exploration and production, and the threat to native wildlife posed by the introduction of non-native (exotic) species.

Fish further says the group does not support illegal action and denounces the threat once made by NM Game Commissioner Bob Jones that violence would occur if the BLM implemented range improvement measures. For information about the upcoming educational campaign contact JIM FISH, P.O.Box 712, PLACITAS NM 87043 505 867 3062

**DENVER NATIONAL
STOCK SHOW**

Gary Schiffmiller

The cattle ranching industry has probably caused more environmental damage to western North America than any other. With this in mind, Earth First! targeted the 1989 National Western Stock Show and Rodeo in Denver as an appropriate event to tell the ranchers NO MORE PUBLIC LANDS GRAZING, STOP WELFARE RANCHING!

Three successful actions were staged during the week of January 9-15. Since the Stock Show is extensively covered by both print and electronic media in Denver, the actions were well reported locally and as far away as Montana.

On Monday, January 9, Eric Doub and David Lucas strung a rope across 17th St. in Denver's financial district, 9 stories above the stock show opening parade. On the rope was a large banner depicting a cow and the statement "How The West Was Trashed". Eric and Luke suspended themselves on either side of the banner. Four support people were assigned to the banner hangers, two on each rooftop, where the rope was fastened. During the parade, two plainclothes security guards from one of the buildings, apparently decided that the banner and its attendants posed some kind of threat and informed the support people that they intended to cut the rope. When the support people warned that this action would probably result in the deaths of the banner hangers, one of the security guards responded by brandishing a pair of shears. The support people, who had received non-violence training, did all they could to keep the peace, but when it became obvious they would not prevail without physical intervention, they abandoned their policy of non-violence. The Denver Police arrived during the ensuing struggle and promptly arrested the banner hangers and their support people, refusing to even take the names of the security guards. The EF!ers were each charged with several misdemeanors and released on bond. Colorado EF! is planning to file suit against the security guards and/or their employers.

On Saturday, January 14, EF! picketed the stock show and rodeo, distributing brochures that at first glance appeared to be official stock show literature, but were actually informative appraisals of the damage livestock has caused to topsoil, wildlife, native flora, the water table, etc.

On Sunday, January 15, during a sellout matinee performance of the rodeo, Lee Dessaux and this writer scaled a wall inside the Denver Coliseum and gained access to a catwalk about 60 feet above the arena floor. From the catwalk, we hung a 32' x11' banner which read "WILDERNESS, WILDLIFE, CLEAN WATER-COWS OFF PUBLIC LANDS". We then descended from the catwalk and were temporarily detained by security personnel.

The general consensus was that these three events attained their purpose: to enlighten the public of the grave consequences of cattle grazing. For more information on this issue contact :

EF! Grazing Task Force PO Box 5784 Tucson AZ 85703 (602) 578 3173

DISAPPEARING PREDATORS

by Mark Watson

Seeing a major carnivore in the wild, such as a wolf, bear, or mountain lion, is something akin to seeing a comet; you know they're out there, but they are so rare and far between. Sightings evoke stirrings of magical genetic juices. It's an awe-inspiring feeling to cross paths with them in the wild.

On several occasions I have been told by trappers and other "harvesters" of our wildlife, that the reason us city folks don't see these critters (bears, lions, bobcats, and foxes, unfortunately it's too late for the wolf), is that they're so secretive and nocturnal.

But what are our chances of seeing these animals compared to 100 years ago, or even 50?

These carnivores are under attack from three major fronts. Trapping for fur, hunting for trophy, and federal and state predator control policies.

Trapping for fur is an economically motivated aberrant behavior. Torture of animals in exchange for fashion.

Hunting for trophy is an obvious ego problem. Anybody who takes pride in cornering a wild animal with dogs and shooting it out of a tree, needs to have his/her head stuffed.

Predator control is the most disgusting waste of all; the destruction of these creatures by poison, gun, trap, and club, to eliminate any threat to livestock on public and private land.

Combined kills of these animals for the 1986-87 fiscal year in New Mexico alone was 25,515 coyotes, 3228 bobcats, 9532 fox, 139 lions and 330 bears. These numbers do not include the open-season hunting kills of bobcat, coyote, and fox, which are classified as varmints. And of course, no one knows how many animals are poached illegally.

There are no state-wide population studies to determine the growth or decline of these species. These studies are conducted on deer, elk, and other ungulate game species. (The ones we see all the time.)

Multiply these kill numbers by 14 other western states that utilize these three "resource management" tactics, plus all the other states that allow hunting and trapping of these mammals. You will get a pretty good picture of the other side of the coin, the one some ranchers, trappers, and government hunters don't want you to see, a striking resemblance of what has happened to the wolf and grizzly bear.

Volumes are written on the cruelty of leghold traps, and the sterilization of our public lands. If you feel a kinship to these animals and would like to speak on their behalf, attend the Game and Fish Commission meetings in Santa Fe or when they come to your area. You can be put on the NMG&F mailing list and you will be notified of all hearings and commission meetings. NMG&F 827 7899



Round River Rendezvous

by Gena Trott

Enter the Machine... The celebration dance of the People comes to a halt. The rhythmic drumming stops, instead becoming steady, passionately angry, beating in time with the hearts of the savages. The People watch as the Machine begins attacking the Land, their Home. A Circle is formed, the Spirits are called upon for Power. It is decided that the Elders will pray. They invoke the Machine's owners. They ask them to stop the Machine. They talk to them and explain the problem. They hand papers to them. The Machine's owners move not at all. Discouraged, the Elders return to the Circle of People.

It is decided that the Men will confront the Machine directly. They are prepared. Masks, face paint, plants, bones, feather and fur costumes invoke the Power Animal of each Man. They feel sure they can convince the Machine to stop. They sing. They chant. They wave flags and banners, but the Machine does not stop. Frustration rises and the Men decide to sit in the path of the Machine. Surely it will stop them. They sit down and link arms, but the Machine does not stop. The Men are run over. The Machine continues to destroy the Homeland. With aching hearts and bodies they return to the People.

The Women are angry, it is decided that they will confront the Machine. In fiercest war paint, the Women light the Torches and arm themselves with spears. The drums beat wildly as the Women chant their war songs. They jab at the Machine with their spears and threaten it with Fire. They try to scare it with their fiercest war cries and kill it with Magic. But the Machine does not stop. Drained and defeated, the Women return to the People.

The children turn to grab the shiny toys they have found and saved. They are Monkeywrenches. Laughing and playing, the children take the Machine apart with their Monkeywrenches. The Machine stops at last. The Machine is dead. The Homeland lives. The People celebrate with exuberance and joy like they have never known.

We all seem to agree on the need for ritual in our life and tribe. Some of us have decided RendeZvous needs a war dance, and something like this is what we've come up with. To make it happen, we will need lots of help. We need body paint, masks, materials to make masks with, (straw, string, paint, cardboard, etc.) feathers, bones, grass, also spears, torches, flags, banners, monkeywrenches, and drums. We need cardboard, paint, tape, bolts, etc. to make a machine costume too. If you can bring any of these to RRR, please let us know. (Does anyone know how to make torches?) Come with ideas too, as everyone will have a chance prior to the dance to practice their part.

A lot of native rituals include races and feasts. We thought we should stage some appropriate competitions. Running -for-speed is an important ability for EFlers to have. We could have relay races. These could be short distance and cross-country. We could have tree-climbing competitions, and maybe some sneaky-races too. (The monkeywrenchers have to go find the "machine", steal the oil filter and get back to home base without the "cops" catching them). We could have some wrist-rocket competitions and rock-throwing too. How 'bout a de-surveying race too? Each team would be responsible for finding and pulling all the stakes of a certain color, first one back wins.

I'm open to suggestions for this, and again, to people willing to help work on it.

As for the feast, this is a big project that will take lots of contributions, but I think we can do it. The theme will be New Mexican cuisine, which of course means lots of green chile, tortillas, beans, and all the extras. If several people volunteer to make lots of beans, green chile, and tortillas (we will ask for donations) then we can tell everyone to bring potluck dishes that are compatible. Again, please

contact us if you can help with this. We'll need all the help we can get. I've volunteered to be "in charge" of the rituals and activities for this year's RRR, but I work in the summer, and won't be able to be there early, (if at all), so my role here is just to be coordinator. So Please! volunteer. If you want to help, or have more ideas, write to: Gena Trott POB 646 Reserve, NM 87830, Llyn Peabody 1161 Maez Rd. Santa Fe, NM 87501, or Kelpie Wilsin 517 59th Oakland, CA 94607

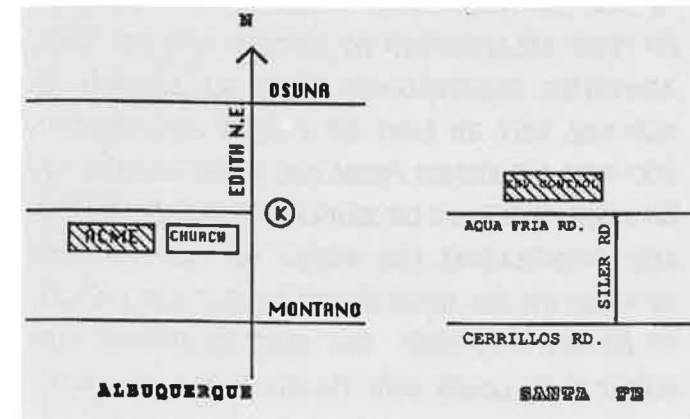
The 1989 Round River Rendezvous (RRR) will be held in the Jemez Mountains on the full moon in June from the 18th to the 26th. See the Beltane Edition (May 1st) of Earth First! for further details.

Hiking Gila Rendezvous-Pre RRR

A week long hike in the Gila is being planned for the week immediately to the RRR (June 11-17). Anyone interested in this mobile event should write with suggestions to 89 RRR, 2405 Meadow SW Alb. NM 87105

COUNCIL OF ALL BEINGS - A RE-EARTHING WORKSHOP

John Seed, co-author of *Thinking Like a Mountain* and I will be conducting a week long Council workshop, the 7 days prior to the RRR (June 11-17). The site is yet to be picked, but will most likely be within close proximity to the RRR. After having facilitated and participated in numerous Councils I can vouch for their effectiveness in deepening one's commitment to the Earth. There will be a sliding scale fee for participating and all funds will go towards the restoration and protection of the rainforests of Ecuador. If interested write to: Stella Reed 456 Amado Santa Fe, NM 87501



RECYCLE!

New Mexico Earth First! has accounts at Acme Recycling Center, 6149 Edith NE in Albuquerque (phone: 345-7418) and Environmental Control Inc., 2903 Aqua Fria in Santa Fe (corner of Aqua Fria and Siler, phone: 473 0982). These businesses accept newspaper, cardboard, glass of all kinds, aluminum cans, bond paper, computer paper, batteries, lead and certain kinds of plastics such as motor oil, antifreeze and dish soap bottles. If you have a large load and need a truck to pick it up, please call Dave at 281 9752 or Brad at 873 0299 if you live in the Albuquerque area or Gary at 984 1428 if you live in the Santa Fe area. Please save up your recyclables and bring them in! The Earth will thank you.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you know of anything that might be of concern to the health of our bioregion and you would like to let others know about it, or would like to contribute graphics, articles, ideas, or letters, please write to Editor, Think Like a Mountain, 456 Amado St Santa Fe NM 87501. All submitted material will be subject to editing for purposes of clarity and available space. We cannot return your articles or clippings, so send a copy or better yet a 3.5 floppy in Mac format.

CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED

If you believe in the work we're doing, we hope you can find some way to support our efforts. We always need volunteers, but please remember that financial support is also crucial to our survival and continued effectiveness. There are many worthy causes to choose from, and every non-profit group needs funding to continue. Every donation, large or small, is greatly appreciated and needed.

THINK LIKE A MOUNTAIN
NMEF! 456 Amado St. Santa Fe NM 87501 (505) 984 1097

Our Children's Earth The Next Step 1989

"And forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet
and the winds long to play with your hair."
Kahlil Gibran

Our Children's Earth, a non profit organization, is the creation of a group of veteran teachers and organizers who came to fully appreciate the unique potentials of education in the wilderness. We see ourselves as skilled facilitators who bring people and wilderness together under very special circumstances which draw upon theater, storytelling, visual arts and music, as well as outdoor skills building, nature and camping lore, and local culture history. We see the Earth as primary teacher.

Our goal is a simple one of great importance. It is to help children and families become stronger, more complete, more joyful, conscious and effective people; people who carry with them a deepened relationship with their Earth, and one that includes a special responsibility to all life, present and future.

1. Wilderness Adventure Programs: For the seventh summer, children and families will have chance to take part in programs with themes that include Wilderness Doctoring, Divorce In The Wild, Hands, Animal Ways, Just Imagining, and the Great Southwestern Treasure Hunt.
2. Purchasing Wilderness Home Base-43 acre paradise with two streams, spring, meadows, farm land, sandstone outcrops, access to Santa Fe National Forest and Hermit's Peak as our neighbor.
3. Cross Cultural Camps has long been our goal. This summer we are encouraged with funding sources that we believe will provide 50-60 Pueblo children to participate in this summer's programming. Other funding sources are materializing.
4. Environmental Education Center From permacultural farming, to mask making, we will be developing our approach to environmental education on our new home base.

For More Information call or write us: John and Cindy McLeod
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