

Salmon Selway
DEFENDER

News and Reports from Idaho's Big Wild

In This Issue:

- Fire and Forest Health
- Hunt for the Grey Wolf
- Exporting Idaho's Forests
- Cove/Mallard Injunction Still Holding
- Salmon Have Their Day in Court
- Invasion into Roadless Areas

Fall 1994

Dear Friends of Cove/Mallard,

In the spring of 1992, when plans were already under way for a campaign to prevent logging on the Cove/Mallard Timber Sales, a number of us attended the annual meeting of the Idaho Conservation League at Red Fish Lake to discuss our plans for a non-violent blockade of the proposed Grouse and Noble Road construction that summer. Most who were in attendance were supportive of our plans non-violently to oppose the Cove/Mallard Sales. This group included some prominent local environmentalists. I think everyone present was aware of the volatility of the situation and potential for backlash that this campaign might provoke. To mount such a campaign in Idaho was risky.

Sensing what may lie ahead, I urged everyone to close ranks behind us, because once our actions began, the timber industry and the US Forest Service would wage a divide-and-conquer campaign to isolate and discredit us and to shift the debate away from the central issue, which is wilderness, and to focus instead on how violent and fanatical the protesters are. This is, of course, what happened.

The timber industry is well versed in these divide-and-conquer tactics. In an editorial by John C. Stauber in the first issue of PR WATCH, a new publication dedicated to educating the public about industry-financed public relations firms, he explains this strategy and how it works. Activists are grouped into four categories: "Radicals", "Opportunists", "Idealists" and "Realists" according to Ronald A Duchin, who works for MBD INC, a firm which represents the National Cattlemen's Association.

According to Stauber, it's important that in Duchin's mind all grassroots organizations, because they want to change the system, are deemed Radical. It therefore follows, in his view, that they are the ones who need to be defeated and isolated. To do this, Duchin says, you must throw a bone to the Opportunists in the form of at least the appearance of a partial victory. You must then educate the Idealists with propaganda in order to make them Realists. Then you may settle with the Realists, who are seen as reasonable and who can live with trade-offs.

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Salmon Selway DEFENDER

News and Reports from
Idaho's Big Wild

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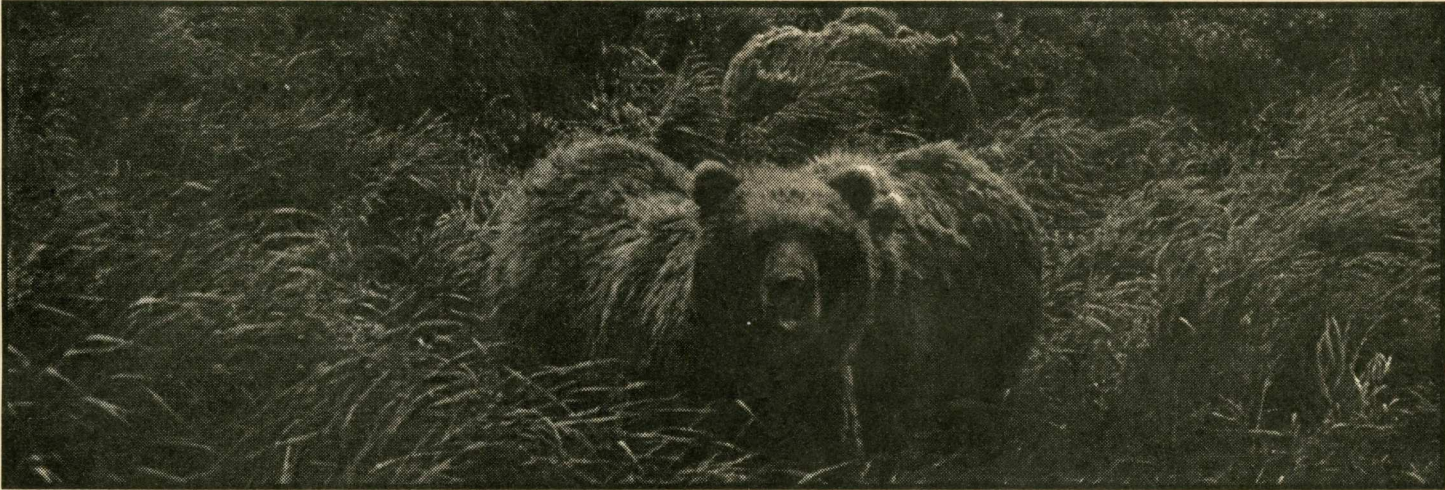
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Here in Idaho, this low road was traveled with perverse zeal by the US Forest Service and their corporate masters in the timber industry. From day one, they attempted to portray this campaign as violent and out of control. Activists were dismissed as uninformed, itinerant, out of touch, out of state, and much worse. With a few notable exceptions, the local media has

tional hikes and have conducted wildlife and plant surveys in the project area.

Other important issues demanding our time and attention include fighting the RICO/SLAPP lawsuit filed against us by the road building contractor, Highland Enterprises, and defending protesters from criminal charges stemming from arrests a year



Bears playing in bear grass. Phil Knight

played along, not wanting to rock the boat. This has led to violence against peaceful protesters, repressive treatment by law enforcement agencies and the courts, and a reputation as the most dangerous environmental organization in Idaho.

In spite of all the odds against us, however, we have been able to reach out to people both locally and nationally, even internationally. We are continuing to build support for not just the Cove/Mallard area, but for the entire Salmon Selway Ecosystem. Grassroots activism is on the rise here in Idaho, and throughout the Northern Rockies. The environmental movement is stronger than ever here and our campaign has had solid backing from local organizations such as the Idaho Sporting Congress, and nationally, with Friends of the Earth signing on to the Cove/Mallard Coalition. Clearly, the divide-and-conquer strategy is not working here!

This has been a busy summer for us at the Cove/Mallard Coalition office here in Moscow, and up at the base camp in Dixie. The injunction against logging and road building issued last January by Judge Ryan has been in effect until a hearing can be scheduled. We have been busy making sure we are ready to resume the road blockades in case the injunction is lifted. Our outdoor kitchen has been operated by Seeds of Peace staff and volunteers, who have also provided non-violence trainings for activists. Experienced naturalists from the Grey Wolf Committee and Last Wilderness Defense have led numerous informa-

ago. We have also been doing support work for our jailed activists as well as getting more involved with other Forest Watch groups in our region who are monitoring proposed timber sales and other unsavory developments in the Salmon Selway Ecosystem.

I want to take this time to thank everyone out there who has helped make this campaign possible. From the thousands of folks who have visited our camp and office here in Idaho, to the hundreds who were arrested or cited for violating the closure order during protests when logging and road construction was taking place, and to the many members of the Cove/Mallard Coalition, who through their generous support over the last three years have made possible the many victories we've shared.

But it's far from over. Although the chainsaws and bulldozers in Cove/Mallard have been stilled for the time being, the Salmon Selway Ecosystem is far from receiving the protection that it deserves. For this, we will need the power of a broad-based grassroots movement with a firm foothold here in Idaho. I believe we have made some crucial steps in doing that, but we still have a long way to go before we can declare victory. If you are not now a member of the Cove/Mallard Coalition, please join us today. Your contribution will go a long way to insuring that the Salmon Selway Ecosystem will always have a voice, and will always have willing and able defenders.

For the Wild!
Mike Roselle

Injunction Expected to Protect Idaho Salmon

Ruling would halt logging, road building, mining and grazing

By JASON TOCKMAN

Activities that harm the endangered chinook and sockeye salmon will soon be halted in six of Idaho's national forests if federal Judge Harold Ryan grants a pending preliminary injunction. The court action is being pursued by the Pacific Rivers Council (PRC) and The Wilderness Society on the grounds that the US Forest Service has not consulted with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), which it is required to do under the Endangered Species Act.

The injunction, which would halt logging, road building, mining and grazing where salmon are known to spawn in the Boise, Challis, Nez Perce, Payette, Salmon and Sawtooth national forests, is likely to come down soon. A similar court action—in July of this year—resulted in a halt to the same type of activities in the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests of Oregon and Washington. That decision enjoined at least twenty timber sales and ten new roads.

Because their numbers have continued to decline, the Snake River chinook salmon was reclassified in August by NMFS from threatened to endangered. Studies of adult chinook salmon returning to the Lower Granite Dam during the spring and summer were down from a ten-year average of over 25,000 to under 4,000. Even worse were the "jack counts," which predict the following year's spawning

numbers.

"The numbers of adult salmon returning to Idaho streams and lakes continue to plummet," says David Bayles of the PRC. "Dams are an enormous problem, but habitat degradation contributes at least as much to the decline of Snake River salmon. Unless we change the status quo, there will be no more salmon in Idaho."

According to Kristen Boyles of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, however, the litigation should not come as a surprise to the Forest Service. "The agency's duty under the law has been clear for years," she says. As far back as 1991, it was known that activities such as road building and cattle grazing are the primary factors in the salmon's decline.

Even after the Gang of Four came up with its dubious plan to protect the northern spotted owl, it admitted that west side forest plans would at best have a fifty percent chance of maintaining viable populations of salmon. Despite this and numerous other reports and findings demonstrating the salmon decline—including an Anadromous Fish Habitat Protection, Restoration and Monitoring Plan and an Interagency Agreement between the Forest Service and the NMFS—the Forest Service has failed to act. Their failure to act, and to obey the law, has once again caught up to the rogue agency.

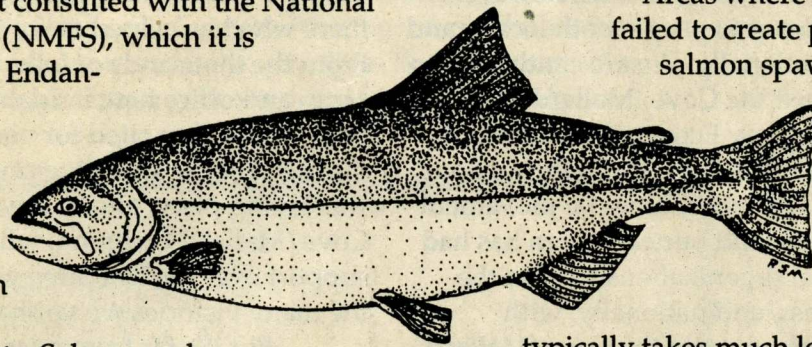
Areas where the Forest Service has failed to create protection plans for salmon spawning streams would

be affected by the injunction. It would take at least 135 days for the formal consultation to occur, but the process

typically takes much longer. Forest Service plans could be tied up for years, and when the consultation is completed, it is hoped that the outcome will protect salmon spawning areas by halting development in places such as Cove/Mallard.

As for how this applies to the Cove/Mallard Timber Sales, we may soon see a peculiar "double injunction" for the two roadless areas, further demonstrating the Forest Service's inability to manage our public lands. Contemplating this, Bayles said, "It does not seem possible to get the Forest Service to do the right thing without taking them to court."

For more information, contact David Bayles of the Pacific Rivers Council: (503) 345-0119.



The US Forest Service is using fire suppression as a policy to preserve its timber program. The Forest Service justifies fire suppression in the name of saving lives—especially ironic this year when 21 firefighters have died—and saving private property in and adjacent to national forests. The real motive, however, is logging. The Forest Service, and many western politicians who are backed by the timber industry, claim that logging can prevent wildfires. We need look no further than the major fires occurring on the Wenatchee National Forest of Washington which has been heavily managed for timber production to discount this argument.

Whether from salvage logging or through fire suppression designed to protect timber, the Forest Service has steadily increased forest firefighting budgets and salvage sales. In 1988, the Forest Service fire program spent four billion dollars, largely directed at huge fires in the Northern Rockies. Those fires didn't go out until snow started falling. The agency literally poured money, water and human resources on catastrophic fires that were created by the timber industry and federal and state land management agencies.

Having reduced, and in some places permanently impaired, the integrity of the forest's long-term health through fire suppression, the Forest Service is prescribing salvage sales inside roadless, native forests in the name of

ecosystem management. Salvage logging is an economic activity, not an ecological activity. Aside from being exempted from public comment and appeal, salvage sales eliminate the cycle of nutrients that are essential to sustaining coniferous forests. The forest communities of the Greater Salmon Selway Ecosystem are especially vulnerable to nutrient loss due to growing conditions

*"Salvage logging
is an economic activity,
not an ecological activity."*

created by thin, granitic soils. Removing biomass from these forests will diminish regeneration and increase desertification.

Following the Great Burn of 1910 that burned much of Northern Idaho and Western Montana, the logging companies declared a timber famine citing the devastating impacts from the fires. Thus began an ecological disaster that continues to this day. The Forest Service is the largest firefighting outfit in the world because they don't want

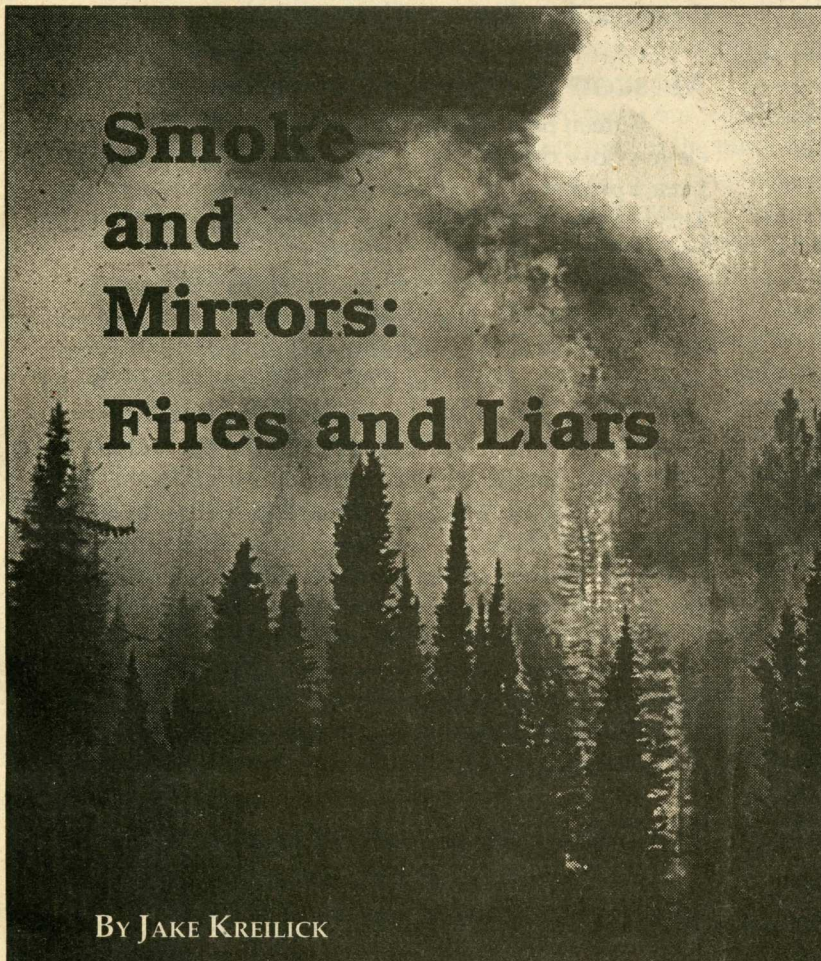
their standing revenue—trees—to go up in flames. The ecological reality is that we now have altered our forests from their pre-settlement conditions, resulting in over-fueled forests that are erupting in lethal infernos. Witness the large fire burning in the French Creek/Patrick Butte roadless area in the Payette National Forest.

Forest fires, of course, have always played a major role in evolutionary and community succession in the West. American Indians recognized the value of fire and used it to create habitat conditions that were beneficial to wildlife. Many western tree species such as ponderosa and lodgepole pine are dependent on fire for seed germination.

Half a century of major fire suppression has resulted in the replacement of the climax ponderosa community with more competitive species like spruce and fir which are more susceptible to insects and disease. According to nationally syndicated columnist Alexander Cockburn, the net result has been, "dying forests as on the eastern slopes of the Cascades, that are overstocked with fuel and waiting for the first lightning strike or faulty muffler to set them off."

Here in the Idaho Rockies, the political reality centers on politicians like Rep. Larry

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Phil Knight

LEGAL UPDATES

LEGAL DEFENSE GEARS UP IN RICO LAWSUIT

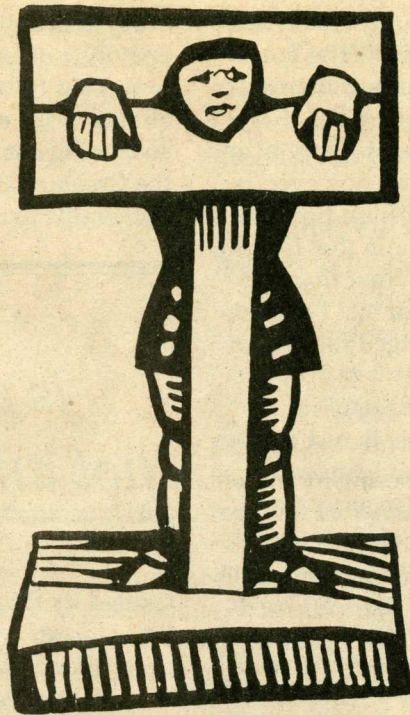
Highland Enterprises vs. Earth First! is how the lawsuit against Cove/Mallard activists is referred to as it moves through the legal system. It was filed last year—by the road contractor hired by the Forest Service to build the Grouse and Noble Roads in the Nez Perce National Forest—to recover costs associated with the protests aimed at delaying road construction. It has a very unusual twist, however, in that it invokes Idaho's RICO statute, and asks for triple damages as a punitive measure, which is unprecedented in the history of environmental civil disobedience.

RICO stands for Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations, and was designed to fight organized crime. Since the National Organization for Women (NOW) used it against Operation Rescue, and its use was upheld by a recent Supreme Court decision, the floodgates have been opened for its use against other political organizations. In its decision to uphold the NOW suit, the Supreme Court found that financial gain did not have to be a factor in racketeering, and struck down Operation Rescue's challenge.

The Highland suit has also been described as a SLAPP (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation), but this is misleading, as this is not your normal SLAPP case, even though it seeks to deter political activity by conservationists here in Idaho. If Highland is successful in winning this case, it will set a very dangerous precedent, as three or more acts of civil disobedience by any organization would constitute racketeering.

The stakes being high, the Cove/Mallard Coalition has decided to spare no expense to defend ourselves from these charges. To this end, we have set up an emergency legal defense fund and have received help from a number of attorneys in the region who have offered their services *pro bono*. At this point, most of the defendants are represented by counsel, although, we are still trying to get attorneys for the rest.

Since filing the case last year, Highland's attorney, Ron Blewett has been in the discovery phase, and has deposed some of the defendants, including Ramon and Jake



Kreilick. In addition, he has subpoenaed a number of documents and phone logs from our office, and the files of many of the other defendants. Our attorneys in return have filed motions to narrow the suit, and have succeeded in removing many individuals and organizations from the suit, including the Ecology Center of Missoula and The Earth First! Journal.

Our legal team is about ready to enter into the discovery process, and this should be very interesting, as we will get to question many of our principle antagonists under oath. Our hope is to uncover the web of lies and deceit that the US Forest Service and the timber industry have woven in an attempt to discredit our nonviolent cam-

paign. We hope to regain the offensive in this stage of the lawsuit, and prevent this chilling precedent from eroding what's left of our constitutional rights to protest the despoiling of nature by greedy corporations, whether on the public domain or on private lands.

MOSCOW 11 OFFERED NEW DEAL

Fifteen new federal charges were brought against eleven Cove/Mallard protesters in July. The charges stem from a protest on the Noble Road a year ago where the activists also faced state felony theft charges for trying to steal a road and for other activities.

In the view of the defendants, these new federal charges amount to double jeopardy and a way of deterring their involvement in any future actions should the injunction against logging in the Cove/Mallard timber sales be lifted. This is just another example of law enforcement agencies, both state and federal, trying to prevent protest at the logging site through pressure and intimidation.

The Federal Attorney's office was willing to discuss dropping the charges in exchange for a forfeiture of collateral in the amount of one hundred dollars for each citation. The defendants have agreed to accept this offer on the condition that it is not an admission of guilt. In a sense, this is a victory, as we have always maintained that logging protestors should be treated in the same manner as other non-violent offenders. We may soon have a test to see if this new policy holds.

THE TRIAL OF SCOUT WALKINGFLOWER

On Thursday, August 4th, almost a year later, Scout Walkingflower finally had his day in court. Scout was

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SEVEN JAILS IN TWENTY-FOUR DAYS

Dear Cove/Mallard Coalition,

Today is August 15th. Finally, I am back in Maine. Twenty-four days and seven jails later, I have returned from my "federal excursion." What I mean by federal excursion is the process that the United States government chose to use for hauling my misdemeanor ass all across the country only to be dumped on the other side—the other side being Boise, Idaho.

You see, I am a concerned individual. One of my concerns just happens to be an illegal timber sale that is taking place in the Nez Perce National Forest. I spent some time out there in the summer of 1993, "out there" in Cove/Mallard. After seeing for myself and believing for myself, I decided there was something different about this place. Yeah, I saw some wolf shit, a couple of hawks, and a few endangered plants. But what fully struck me was that I had found a place with which to bond. A forest to forget in; a woods to remember. Serenity, in there. It was like seeing for the first time.

Now that I've begun to sound like a cheesed-out love song, I'll get to the point:

On August 17th, 1993, myself and a handful of others partook in a protest on the Noble Road. After reading about Cove/Mallard, and after living there, and becoming familiar with the aspects of the "harvest," I decided that this tract of wilderness is a big one. *The Big One*. So, I dragged a few dead trees into the road, danced around a while, and dodged Freddie's (Forest Service cops) armed with canisters of Mace. I had gotten shot at a couple of times that summer, in Dixie, came close to being pounded, and endured many a chase. Chase? Chased by pickups full of locals, buzzed out, with hunting rifles. But who's complaining? I figured I'd do a little civil disobedience action, get to talk in court about the illegal sale, and then get fined or do my time, and get on with life. Wrong. I was sentenced to 3 years federal probation, 200 hours community service, and assessed a \$200 fine, all for two lousy misdemeanors: obstructing government administration and violating a closure of a national forest. Bogus, I thought, and left Moscow after a week-long trial.

Then I went to Eugene, Oregon and hung out with Seeds of Peace. It was a good time; I fed some nice people, and got fed. After that, I returned to the mountains of Maine. Guess you could say I "forgot" I was on probation. I came back, worked on a farm, and spent much time cutting and stacking wood, preparing for the winter. It was a cold one. Anyway, about a month ago I was in a car, pulled over for a bad tail light. Even though I was only a passenger, the cop wanted my ID. I said, "Why?" He said "Because," and I said, "No." He then said, "I'm going to arrest your friend (the driver) for a mutilated license." (It was a little chewed up, but far from mutilated.) Well, he did it, and then proclaimed that he now had the right to search the vehicle and every area in it. He found my ID, ran a check, and received word that there was a federal warrant out for my arrest. He arrested me and impounded my friend's car. "Tree hugger," he said as he slapped on the cuffs.

At the jail in Skowhegan, Maine, I was told that federal marshals were going to pick me up and take me to Boise. Bummer. And they did it; it took them 24 days and 7 different jails. Arizona, Utah, Oklahoma, Maine, and then Idaho. Then, amazingly, after all the hassle and all the bullshit, I get before a judge and he pronounces "Time served." And all of a sudden I'm set free, no problem. No nothing, either. Penniless, in jeans and a T-shirt, on the streets of Boise. "How about a bus ticket?" I asked. "How 'bout nuthin'," they said. No ID, No cash. A true vagrant.

It's good to be home again; autumn in Maine is really something. I'll probably pick some blueberries, cut a little wood, do a little hunting. I'm glad I'm not on probation. In a way, I never really was. One thing I remember that was particularly funny was the government's persistence in labeling me "Earth First!". News to me. I thought that was some group of rednecks that drank too much beer and complained of having to hike too far to the party. A highly organized, advanced group of beer swillers. So be it.

Missing in Maine,
Spencer Fortin

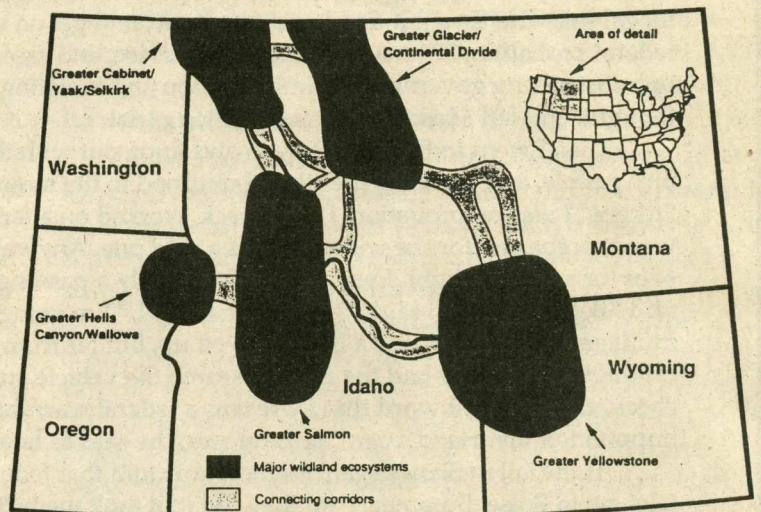
Ron Mitchell of the Idaho Sporting Congress

Ron Mitchell is executive director of the Idaho Sporting Congress, formerly the Idaho Sportsmen's Coalition, the litigant behind the successful Cove/Mallard injunction. His efforts to save the Northern Rockies from the timber barons is the stuff of future story telling. Don Smith works closely with Mitchell and is now archiving these stories, some of which will make great fishing tales.

Don Smith: What's the update on the Cove/Mallard lawsuit?

Ron Mitchell: Judge Ryan's injunction is still holding and it looks like it'll hold through the winter. He's ill and has not yet made a final decision. We're confident that he'll rule that we're the prevailing party, particularly in the light of the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) biological opinion last week (September 2, 1994). NMFS said that the Cove/Mallard project is flawed and has to be totally revamped to put no additional sediment into the streams. That's impossible, given the huge impacts of the current project. NMFS ruled that indeed the logging there will kill salmon, which is something we argued in court but were denied. NMFS ruled that the Forest Service failed to provide the necessary information under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which is another one of our claims. This bolsters our arguments and we're submitting those to the court. This may be a sweeping victory for the laws that were passed in the 1970's to protect areas like Cove/Mallard.

DS: Where do you see Cove/Mallard in the context of preserving the Northern Rockies?



U.S. portion of the Northern Rockies Bioregion, its five major ecosystems and connecting corridors
© 1991, Alliance for the Wild Rockies, Missoula, MT.

RM: Cove/Mallard is just part of a gigantic assault beginning on the Northern Rockies. Jim Lyons, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, announced that they're going to be logging 20 million acres in Idaho and Montana. We now know that members of Congress, in concert with the Forest Service and timber industry, are initiating a giant salvage program in this region. They have been laying the publicity groundwork for an entire year now with the assistance of Congressman LaRocco and Senator Craig, and other congressmen in other states. They are making the argument

that forest health needs to be improved through the entire area, that there is a crisis and logging is the final solution. This is the last hurrah for the timber industry. They've been shut out of the West Coast. There's no place to go now except to the Interior West. They intend to log here for the next 5 to 8 years to get out as much of the old growth as they can and then move back on their own private lands. We're going to have to find a way, very quickly, to discredit the lie that there is a forest health crisis in the Northern Rockies.

DS: Where do you see litigation's contribution in discrediting the Forest Service and timber industry?

RM: First, we need to hammer them with the laws that were passed in the 1970's, namely the National Forest Management Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. We've seen how these statutes worked in Cove/Mallard. These laws have not been applied aggressively in Idaho, except in a few spot areas.

We can shut down most of the logging in Idaho and Montana by demanding that the laws be honored, in particular the Clean Water Act. We can easily show a court that every forest in the region has water quality standards that have violated the Clean Water Act and, as a result, have trashed those streams.

We also need to hang onto any legal victory that we get in court. That means extensive public education. Most of the public in this country still does not realize that cutting occurs on the National Forests. Furthermore, the vast majority don't realize how much damage is actually occurring. We need to get that message out. There has not been an aggressive campaign to do that in Idaho. They've done much better in Montana. We can't count on the national conservation organizations to do this.

DS: The Cove/Mallard Coalition and Earth First! went far in publicizing the issues surrounding Cove/Mallard. What role is there for direct action within the larger spectrum of your litigation strategy, in our attempts to prevent the Northern Rockies from being sacrificed?

RM: The Earth First! campaign did raise the name of Cove/Mallard and did establish some notoriety for

the area. There will be other places in Idaho and Montana in the next year where the timber industry will attempt to move in, in spite of the law, and injunctions will not be secured because of hostile judges, and that will be the place for direct action for Earth First! and indeed other citizens.

DS: On the other hand, they did complement each other. The attention given to Cove/Mallard and the Earth First! encampment worked together. Is that not true?

RM: There was a synergistic effect in terms of publicity between the litigation and the demonstrators, which ultimately garnered us publicity that could be

capitalized on and transformed into legislative protection. The challenge now is to get Cove/Mallard permanently protected as an addition to the Gospel Hump and Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. To do that we should begin right now while the issue is still noteworthy in Congress and not wait

for a statewide or a regional bill. We should effect a throwback to the old area-by-area Wilderness proposals of the 70's. Here's an opportunity to take one highly publicized, very critical area, and get it included individually as Wilderness.

DS: What are the prospects for building lean, mean and effective organizations in Idaho? As you know, some conservation organizations working in Idaho have credibility in the eyes of the media and political establishment. But their contribution to public debate is often minimal, not going nearly as far as we'd like. In fact, they often seem to hinder our efforts to widen that debate.

RM: We have local organizations that get the lion's share of funding in Idaho and yet the funding is not used to get the message out to the public. These groups waste their resources participating in the bureaucratic process, such as the Timber Supply Task Force, whose primary purpose was to provide certainty to the timber industry. The past tendency of the foundations is to give money to organizations that don't make a fuss. This has got to end. Only through aggressive overt actions in the democratic spirit can we confront the huge bureaucratic and industrial machine.

"Cove/Mallard is just part of a gigantic assault beginning on the Northern Rockies."

The Paper Monkeywrench

BY WADE GRUHL

Some call the administrative appeals process used by the US Forest Service (USFS) in decision-making the "paper monkeywrench". Appeals have stopped, slowed and reduced countless USFS projects of destruction in the past. Though the playing field is hardly fair, since the USFS sets the appeal regulations and makes the decision whether to uphold or deny them, appeals are a potent weapon that we, as a movement, are obliged to make use of.

Before one can sue a government agency, such as the Forest Service, all "administrative remedies" must be exhausted. Otherwise, a judge can be expected to throw the case out of court. Keeping these issues out of the courts is largely the reason for the existence of the appeals process.

When an appeal is filed, it should be done with the expectation that it will be denied by a Regional Forester of the USFS, and that court action will be necessary. Whether or not money or legal help is available to carry through with the lawsuit is irrelevant. The appeal has to be tailored to take to court, citing violations of laws, such as the Endangered Species Act or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Forest Service should understand that you intend to sue if the appeal is denied.

A good appeal catches the USFS violating laws. If you can prove, within the context of the appeal regulations, that the USFS is violating laws, then you have a chance at having the project withdrawn. The most commonly used laws in appeals are NEPA, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and National Forest Management Act (NFMA).

In order to file an appeal or a lawsuit (litigation), one must establish "standing." Standing is a legal term which means that you will be adversely affected by the project. To have legal standing for an appeal you must submit comments, or otherwise express interest in the particular project, to the USFS outlining your concerns, and explaining to them why they should or should not proceed. A one sentence letter stating "I am interested in the Cove/Mallard Timber Sales" would preserve legal standing. (Send it certified mail; the Forest Service is known for losing this type of correspondence.) Comment periods are typically 30 days. You must make the USFS aware, in writing, that you expect to be notified when documents are ready for comment.

To get started paper-wrenching, get on the list to receive the Quarterly Project Report that every national forest is required to send to interested persons. To do this for every national forest that you want to monitor, call their offices and give them your name and address. Ask them to send you the Quarterly Project Report, and request to be placed on their general "scoping" list. You may also express interest in a particular activity, such as mining or logging.

Once you begin receiving their quarterly newsletter, make comments on projects that you are concerned about. The process of soliciting public input is known as "scoping" or determining the scope of the project.

The USFS uses confusing jargon to categorize their projects into three types: 1) Categorical Exclusion (CE) from environmental evaluation, 2) Projects requiring an Environmental Assessment (EA), and 3) Projects requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Projects receiving Categorical Exclusions are assumed by the USFS to have no impact on the environment, although these projects can be very destructive. They are not subject to environmental documentation; but some are subject to appeal.

An Environmental Assessment is called upon to determine if the project will have an environmental impact. It is usually the case that the completed EA will include a "Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI—pronounced like the guy from Happy Days), which means there will be no adverse environmental effects. There will be a comment period when the EA is released to the public.

All "major federal actions" require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is the highest level of environmental review. An EIS will have a comment period after the Draft (DEIS), and again after the Final (FEIS) is issued. At this point, the USFS will render a decision that quite likely will disgust you. That means it is time to write an appeal. There will be a period of 45 days from the date it is announced in a "publication of general circulation" in which you can appeal. Send your appeal by certified or registered mail, or hand deliver it and get a receipt. It is vital to send appeals to the correct address, and send them within the 45-day window, for them to be considered.

At the point of writing your first appeal, I highly recommend that you enlist the help of a veteran appeal writer. They do exist, and can be infinitely helpful. Many will jump at the chance to help you. Among other benefits, it will lighten their work load to train you well!

If you appeal a USFS decision, then you have standing to sue. Many folks involved in forest watch activities feel that the USFS is denying appeals, at present, because they view the appellants as incapable of taking their case to court. This is sometimes true, but not in every case. Please don't let this discourage you. Not all appeals are being denied, and there is a real possibility of obtaining funds for a good lawsuit.

Administrative appeals are one of the most effective means we have to stop the Forest Service from pillaging the forests—legal or otherwise. So shine up your paper wrench, hit the books, and save an ecosystem today.

Axing Wilderness on Cuddy Mountain

BY BRETT CLUBBE

Cuddy Mountain is one of many attempts the Forest Service is making to log roadless areas, eliminating possible inclusion as Wilderness. Many issues that can be effectively used in administrative appeals are raised here.

Two mountain ranges make up the Weiser District of the Payette National Forest. These mountains separate the Weiser River valley and the Snake Lakes portion of the Snake River where it forms the border between Idaho and Oregon.

The southern of the two ranges, the Hitt Mountains, has been severely impacted from decades of timber harvest, road building and cattle grazing. The Forest Service does not know to what extent the Hitt Mountains have been cumulatively affected by past development, yet they continue to plan and carry out harvest activities in all of the Hitt's major drainages.

This makes the Northern Range, the Cuddy Mountains, significant as an area of extensive native biological diversity and refuge for native species which can be used for restocking similar ecosystems that have been heavily impacted.

The US Forest Service has been studying the Cuddy Mountain Roadless Area for more than twenty years but has yet to produce a viable plan for road building and timber harvest which would leave a healthy

ecosystem in its wake.

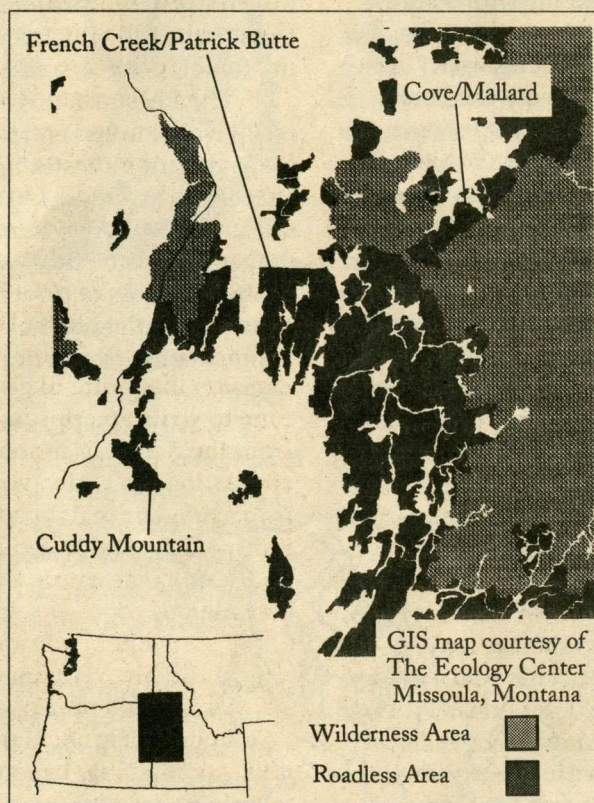
The Payette National Forest has released an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) for the Grade/Dukes Timber Sale within the Cuddy Mountain Roadless Area. This is to be the first of four harvest proposals within the currently roadless portion of

the Cuddy Mountains, all scheduled to take place within the next three years. The Grade/Dukes Timber Sale, if implemented as currently proposed, would fracture the Roadless Area, severely jeopardizing the designation of this unique, predominantly intact ecosystem as Wilderness by Congress. The Cuddy Mountain Roadless Area is proposed as a 43,181 acre Sky Island Wilderness Area in HR 2638, the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (NREPA), which is currently making its way through Congress.

The original EIS and ROD for the Grade/Dukes sale were appealed in September of 1991 by a diverse group of forest users including the Idaho Wildlife Federation, the National Audubon Society, the Idaho Native Plant Society, the Hells Canyon Preservation Council, the Weiser Irrigation District and the Neighbors of Cuddy Mountain. The Regional

Forester in Ogden, Utah remanded the EIS back to the Payette Forest on eight points. The Supplemental EIS failed

continued on next page



For more information on how to write administrative appeals, contact:

Northern Rockies Preservation Project 1714 Heron Boise, ID 83702 (208) 336-7222	Idaho Sporting Congress (ISC) Box 4264 Boise, ID 83711 (208) 336-7222	Blue Mountain Biodiversity Project HCR 82 Fossil, OR 97830 (503) 468-2028	The Ecology Center 101 E. Broadway #602 Missoula, MT 59802 (406) 728-5733	INWARD Box 8634 Moscow, ID 83843 (208) 883-0154
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...Cuddy Mountain, continued

to address adequately the eight remand points, yet a new ROD was released in February 1994.

The Supplemental EIS was appealed cooperatively by three groups of forest users: the Idaho Sporting Congress (ISC), the Idaho Non-Violent Wilderness Area Rescue and Defense (INWARD) and the Neighbors of Cuddy Mountain, the only group still hanging in from the first appeal. This appeal was rejected by the Deputy Regional Forester on a technicality. (Though the Forest Service claims to not know how they got the appeal, they say it came to them a week late and therefore they are not obligated to consider the points of law which the appeal brings up.)

The appellants have filed suit in Federal Court in Boise and are asking for an injunction against further procedure with the sale until the issue of the appeal is heard by Judge Harold Ryan. "We are prepared to take this all the way to the Supreme Court to make the Forest Service obey the law and leave Cuddy Mountain alone," said Ron Mitchell of the Idaho Sporting Congress.

There are a number of deficiencies with the Forest Service's current plan to build 18 miles of new roads in the upper reaches of the Grade Creek and Dukes Creek drainages, in order to harvest approximately 18 million board feet of predominantly old growth ponderosa pine and Douglas fir. As it is currently written the plan involves clearcutting (in its various guises) over 600 acres and commercially thinning an additional 272 acres of prime virgin forest using tractor and sky-line hauling.

Water Quality

Existing erosion from cattle grazing on Grade Creek was not identified or considered in the EIS process. The erosion was identified by one of the appellants walking the proposed sale area. Native vegetation along the creek has been trampled and eaten by cows. This has led to destabilization of the creek bank which has collapsed, causing severe erosion and sedimentation down stream.

Dukes Creek is designated as a "Stream Segment of Concern" by the State of Idaho. The Forest Service claims that "high water quality from the National Forest" will continue to be delivered after harvest, yet they can not back up their assertions with any documentation.

Both Dukes and Grade Creeks feed into the Brownlee

Reservoir on the Snake River. The reservoir has been experiencing severe water quality problems in recent years including high levels of mercury and high water temperatures. These problems are sure to be compounded by introduction of additional sediment from the Grade/Dukes Timber Sale.

Roads and Wildlife

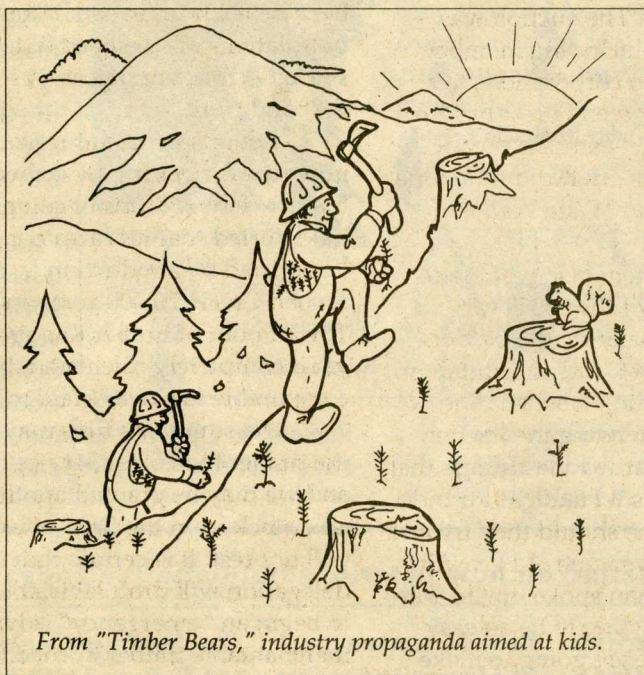
In 1974 the Forest Service was considering building roads in the Cuddy Mountains but backed off when Forest Service scientists advised against the idea. Civil Engineer Patrick J Gallagher recommended "no road construction in the area." Soil Scientist Richard Thompson suggested "Dukes Creek area be reserved for advances in roadless logging systems." In spite of this, all alternatives involving helicopter logging were rejected due to financial considerations. There were no alternatives in the EIS which did not include building roads in the Roadless Area, a flagrant violation of NEPA.

The EIS states that "some loss of fish habitat will result from implementation of the plan." Redband trout, a Management Indicator Species on the Payette Forest will be affected by sediment build-up in pools downstream of the sale area. The Forest Service offers "improvements" in drainages outside the roadless area as sufficient mitigation to offset the loss of trout habitat. These "other areas" offered as mitigation have already been degraded by sedimentation from prior road building. Dukes Creek and the East Fork of Brownlee Creek are still of excellent quality for the Redband Trout.

There is no evidence that the Transportation Plan was updated when two sensitive plants (Tolmie's onion and bank monkey flower) were found in the path of the proposed roads. Proceeding with the project as planned will result in the trend toward listing of these species as Threatened or Endangered, in direct violation of the Forest Service Handbook.

Adequate studies for goshawk were not completed, though this area has been called "the best goshawk habitat on the Westside..." of the Payette Forest by a Forest Service biologist who recommend scrapping the existing EIS and beginning from scratch. With over one million dollars

invested in the planning of this sale, the Payette Forest is unwilling to go back to the drawing board, preferring to proceed with its flawed plan for dramatically altering the Cuddy Mountain Roadless Area, in violation of federal



From "Timber Bears," industry propaganda aimed at kids.

violation of federal laws.

The sale would result in a huge loss of Roadless Area within the Hells Canyon Ecosystem. Forest users involved feel that the Forest Service has sold out their interests for timber commodity production and the profits of multinational Boise Cascade Corporation.



Auction

The Payette National Forest auctioned off the timber sale in McCall, Idaho on July 19, 1994. The auction was attended by more than 30 spectators, including members of the three litigant groups. The only two corporations to participate in oral bidding were Evergreen Forest Products of Tamarack, Idaho and Boise Cascade, a multinational corporation with a sawmill in Cascade, Idaho, another one in Council, Idaho and a paper mill near Walla Walla, Washington.

While bidding slowly climbed from just over eight million dollars to nine million, many of the spectators became clearly agitated at how nonchalantly the bidders and the Forest Service could condemn Cuddy Mountain for a lump sum of money. When the bidding reached nine million dollars many of the people attending the auction began to speak up. One individual warned the bidders that she would not allow her forests to be sold and cut for their profit and would "physically intervene should they try and build even one meter of road or cut even one old growth tree in the Cuddy Mountains." One man spoke up "to warn the timber companies that this is not going to be an easy 'cut and run' like they are used to. We are going to make this harvest cost more money than they will want to pay for the trees."

The bidding progressed no further than the nine million dollar bid by Boise Cascade Corp. The trees from

continued on page 25

French Creek Burning

BY JAMES A. BARNES

The French Creek/Patrick Butte Roadless Area in the Payette National Forest has gone up in smoke this summer, so the series of egregious timber sales the Forest Service plans for this area are, we presume, largely moot. However, while the doom has been postponed, it may well only be more certain.

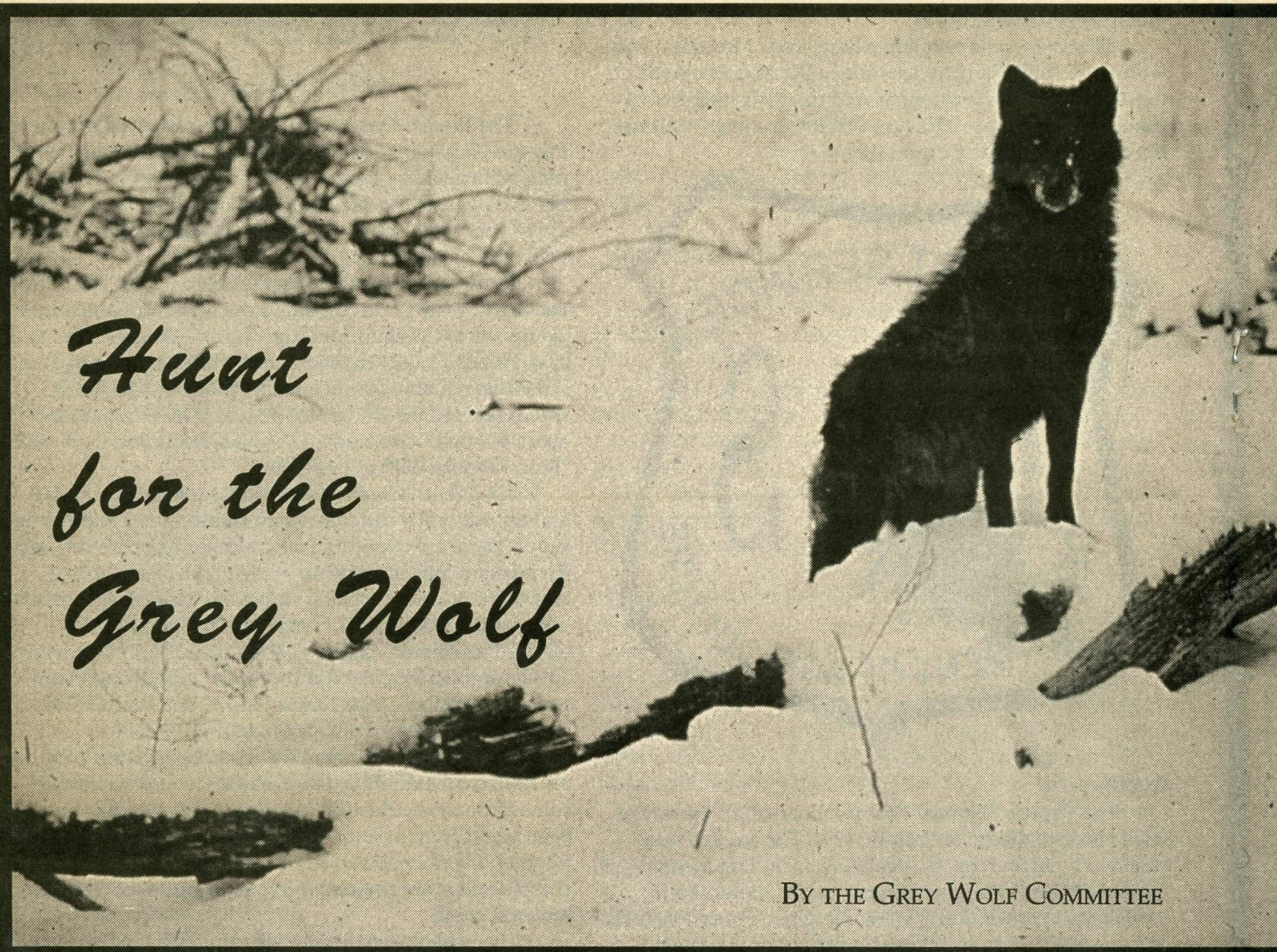
Bordered to the north by the Salmon, French Creek is enclosed by the Little Salmon to the west, McCall and the ski resorts to the south, and the Secesh Roadless Area to the east. French Creek received one of the highest ratings for wilderness quality of any area in Idaho, and has been recommended for wilderness status, at least in part, by every bill that's come down the pike, including LaRocco's "Forest Health Bill" and NREPA.

The French Creek area is topographically complex and affords many different plant communities and habitat types. There are over fifty lakes and high glacial cirques in the western lobe of the area, while much of the lower elevations and south facing slopes are in ponderosa pine/douglas fir parklands—at least until fire suppression allowed understory choking. The uplands are thick with spruce and fir. Much of the area is old growth, and supports populations of goshawks, snow pigs, wolverines, moose, lynx, pileated woodpeckers, bighorn sheep and spotted frogs. Wolves are in the area, though of course they are not considered *really* there, as that would be troublesome to diverse industrial interests. Griz, alas, have not been heard from in some time. There are also many good populations of steelhead left. Chinook salmon, while in sharp decline, are present, as are bull, cutthroat and redband trout.

The upshot is, naturally, that this rich wildland is now ripe for gutting by industrial extremists who view its bounty only in terms of commodity production. The inventoried roadless area consists of 161,936 acres, and is threatened by a reduction to two separate roadless areas: French Creek, 70,000 acres and Patrick Butte, 67,000 acres. The amount of timber this project hopes to produce is as yet incompletely calculated, but the volumes are probably comparable to Cove/Mallard.

The summer's fires may well have burned much of the timber the Forest Service hoped to sell off next year, and we may be granted another year's reprieve while they take stock from the fires' effects. One thing is clear: they will not rest. It is certain that the western congressional delegation will draft legislation directing the Forest Service to begin an "emergency" salvage program to cut all the merchantable timber burned this year—and exempt it from environmental law and public and judicial review. In addition, they will also push for an aggressive thinning program, allegedly to reduce fire danger, in the green stands.

continued on page 25



Hunt for the Grey Wolf

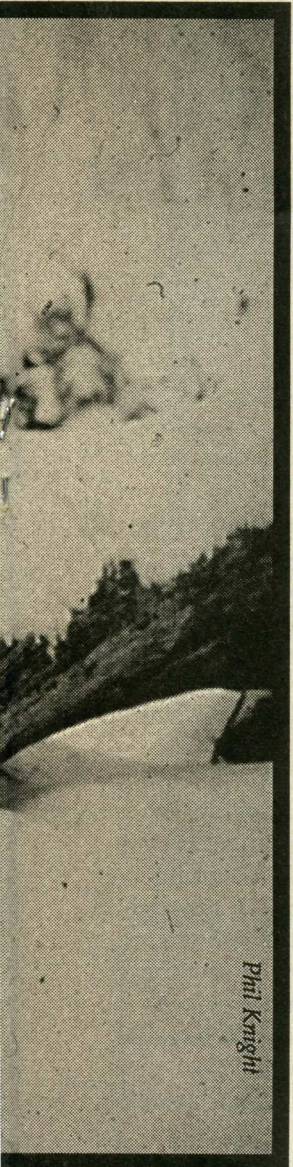
BY THE GREY WOLF COMMITTEE

The grey wolf is currently listed as an "endangered" species under the Endangered Species Act. When a species such as the wolf is listed as endangered, the listing says that we have systematically destroyed almost all viable habitat. The government wants to delist the wolf, through the grey wolf Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), from endangered to "experimental/non-essential." This would allow federal agents to relocate and kill wolves that disrupt economic interests. It would also be a vast step towards destroying the mediocre effectiveness of the Endangered Species Act. The Greater Salmon Selway Ecosystem (GSSE) is poised to become the last viable habitat for several species, including the wolf, in the

continental US.

The delisting of the grey wolf is scheduled to go into effect this fall, unless one of two things happens. Our first option is to prove the EIS illegal in court. This is being pursued. The other way to prevent the wolf's delisting is to document the existence of two naturally occurring wolf packs. As the government is more interested in writing ersatz things about the wolf than looking for them, we decided to go looking ourselves.

On the first day in February 1994, the first group went to the Cove/Mallard area of the Salmon River Breaks, followed by another group which began searching the North Fork of the Clearwater. The searches were designed



Phil Knight

to survey the areas of traditional winter usage of ungulate prey species in the areas thought to be frequented by wolves. The group of surveyors, coming from as far as Nebraska and Canada, traversed over 180 miles in mid-winter, mostly by snowshoes. Methodology included howling surveys, track

surveys, examination of kill sites, and interviewing of interested parties. Temperatures during these treks ranged from a bone-chilling -17 degrees to slightly above freezing with the rain falling upon us. We even experienced a period of avalanche danger after two feet of snow fell overnight.

Initial data has been positive, but not concrete enough to halt the delisting. Numerous findings of grey wolf scat suggest possible pack activity on the North Fork of the Clearwater. Also of interest is the possible sighting of a grizzly and a confirmed snow goose sighting. This data has been registered with the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Other notable incidental sightings include a herd of ninety-six elk with a mountain lion on the periphery, otters fishing and playing, mountain goats, golden and bald eagles, long-tail weasel in ermine stage, a lynx on the Salmon Breaks, and a large variety of tracks.

To our dismay, however, our efforts did not find conclusive, irrefutable evidence of wolf pack activity. We can say beyond a bureaucratic shadow of a doubt that there is wolf activity in the area of the Cove and

Mallard Timber Sales and the North Fork of the Clearwater, but we do not have enough evidence for a pack. Due to the large numbers of scat, howling, and the few actual sightings of

wolves during the summer, it was hoped that we would find them in the winter.

Currently, we are mapping the territory of wolf usage on the North Fork of the Clearwater where there is a

good possibility of a pack. We will continue to search until two wolf packs are found, or until the EIS is in effect.

We can say beyond a bureaucratic shadow of a doubt that there is wolf activity in the area of the Cove and Mallard Timber Sales.

The Hunt Continues: February 1995

The Grey Wolf Committee will be going back out in the dead of winter with hopes of bringing back solid documentation of wolf pack presence. Labor and resources are needed. To get signed-up for this adventure or to make a donation, please contact:

**The Grey Wolf Committee
c/o Lost Elk
219 East E St.
Moscow, ID 83843.**

"Reintroduction" Threatens Wolf

PLAN WOULD ALLOW KILLING, RELOCATING OF WOLVES

FROM ECONET

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is seeking comments on proposals to establish experimental populations of wolves in Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho. While it is generally agreed that wolves could eventually repopulate the Yellowstone and central Idaho ecosystems on their own, the process could take decades. Should wolves reestablish themselves naturally, they would receive full protection of the Endangered Species Act, with significantly less management "flexibility."

The rules, one addressing reintroduction in Yellowstone National Park and the other for central Idaho, outline proposed reintroduction methods and designate wolves in each area as "experimental, non-essential" under Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act.

Specifically, such a designation would allow wolves to be killed, under certain conditions, if they are preying on livestock. If wild populations of deer, elk, and other large game are severely affected by wolf predation, wolves could be moved under an approved management plan.

The US Forest Service's current wolf management program in the northern Rocky Mountains allows the agency to move or kill the occasional wolf that preys upon livestock, and that program would continue. In addition, the proposed rules would allow private property owners and livestock owners with grazing leases on public land to harass adult wolves without injuring them in order to discourage conflicts with domestic animals, but would also require those owners to report such incidents. On private property within the experimental areas, landowners could kill wolves in the act of wounding or killing livestock, but would be required to report the incident within 24 hours,

and physical evidence of the attack would be required. Killing wolves on public land by private citizens would require a permit and would be an option after attempts to relocate problem wolves had failed.

The USFS proposes to establish wolf populations by reintroducing wild wolves from Alberta and British Columbia, Canada. Over the next three to five years, about 30 wolves annually (15 for each site) would be trapped in Canada and released in Yellowstone National Park and on USFS lands in Central Idaho.



Two different release methods are proposed. In Yellowstone, groups of adults and their offspring would be placed in one acre enclosures to allow them to acclimate to the area within the park. After about two months, they would be radio collared and released. Biologists would track their movements and provide supplemental feeding if necessary. This release technique is designed to encourage released animals to remain in or near the park.

The release in central Idaho would consist of groups of young wolves from various packs. They would be fitted with radio collars and freed as soon as possible after arriving at the release site. This technique, which does not include an acclimation period, is proposed for central Idaho because the remote release site's rough terrain makes access difficult for program biologists. In addition, biologists believe the region's steep valleys will help keep wolves within the release area. After becoming oriented to the area, the released wolves are expected to behave as naturally occurring wolves. They will disperse, find mates and form packs, primarily within the 12 million acres of national forest land in central Idaho.

Grey wolves were common in the Northern Rockies

continued on page 24



Phil Knight

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Log exports sealed fate

INDUSTRY SOLD SUSTAINABLE FUTURE ALONG WITH SHIPLOADS OF RAW LOGS

The AFL-CIO's Executive Council last week added its voice to the rising chorus calling for a ban on the export of raw logs from the timber-starved Northwest to Japan and other Pacific Rim nations.

It's true that log exports don't make economic sense—not when the region's wood products mills are finding it difficult or impossible to acquire the timber needed to stay in business; not when thousands of mill workers have lost or will soon lose their jobs; not when timber-dependent communities are drying up; not when excessive logging is creating hard-to-manage environmental problems; not when American taxpayers are shelling out huge sums to heal environmental wounds and retrain loggers and millworkers.

No, log exports don't make a lick of sense, but it's awfully late to do anything about them. Most of the damage has already been done.

In the past decade alone, Northwest timber companies have shipped overseas 34 billion board feet of timber. Over the past two decades, the total was almost 60 billion board feet of the biggest and best logs the region's forest could produce. Companies continue to export raw timber, but export volumes have dropped dramatically in recent years for the simple reason that there isn't much timber left to peddle overseas. The Western Wood Products Association says Northwest log exports this year are expected to reach 2.1 billion board feet—less than half the volume exported in 1989.

To put things into perspective, American firms have exported enough raw timber over the past 20 years alone to fuel all of Montana's wood products mills for more than half a century. Such a quantity of timber—combined with the annual harvests still possible in the Northwest, even amid harvest cutbacks

accommodating spotted owls—would have been enough to sustain a thriving timber industry in the region for decades.

Log exports haven't been the only factor contributing to the timber industry's decline. But the staggering quantity of logs shipped overseas has made the difference between a sustainable forest products industry and one doomed to decline. This is not a recent discovery. Critics have been calling attention to the issue for more than a decade.

If, instead of liquidating whole forests for the benefit of foreign countries and foreign workers,

Northwest timber companies had husbanded their resources for the long-term benefit of their own communities and workers, 60 billion additional board feet of timber might have helped supply domestic mills long enough for previously cut lands to regenerate another crop of merchantable timber.

In the speech given when accepting his nomination for president, Bill Clinton argued for a "New Covenant" in America, one based on shared sacrifice and mutual responsibility.

He promised to pursue more incentives and opportunities for businesses.

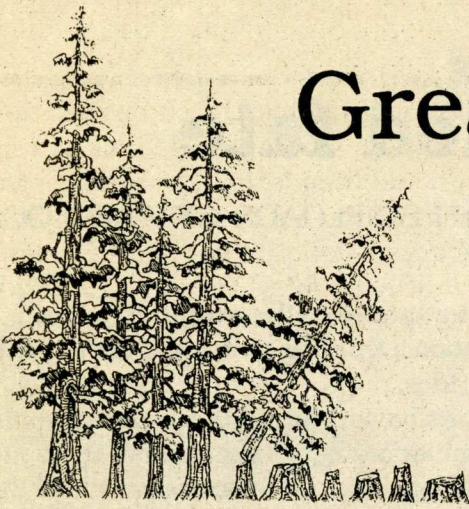
"But you must do your part," he said to business. "You must be responsible. American companies must act like American companies again—exporting products, not jobs."

Ban log exports? Well, maybe. But outlawing a practice that harms communities, workers, the environment and the very industry that pursues the practice should hardly be necessary. A sense of responsibility would be as effective as any law.

*Reprinted from the Missoulian,
February 27, 1994.*



The impact of exports. Phil Knight



Greater Salmon Selway Ecosystem:

Wilderness or Strip Mall?

BY WHALEY MANDER

It has been said that the Greater Salmon Selway Ecosystem is comparable in size to Ohio. Without vigilant wilderness defenders, what is now Gospel Hump Wilderness could be Cleveland. The "Frank Church River of No Return"—Columbus. And Selway-Bitterroot might be Lima, Ohio—home to a factory that pollutes more than any other in the Northeastern US. If the Forest Service, regional Congresspersons and the industry have their way, Ohio is exactly what we're going to get.

What's done is done, and we can only try to rectify the mistake that is now Ohio. But the Salmon Selway is relatively untouched. We are now faced with a decision, and soon a choice will be made. It can go the way of the Great Plains and the Central Hardwoods and become developed and degraded, or protected for its biodiversity, the genetic blueprint it contains, its inherent worth, and for what it offers us.

An injunction is currently in place because a court recognized that logging in Cove/Mallard would be a blatant violation of the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Forest Management Act. Cove/Mallard is the beginning. Dozens of unprotected roadless areas are facing the same threat, and the Forest Service has learned to adapt, neutralizing laws that were put in place to protect the environment. New arguments for "forest health" and "salvage of insect and fire damaged trees" prescribe logging to pick up the slack where conventional arguments for logging have run into judicial walls. All the while, the harvest quotas are met. No matter what the Forest Service identifies as the problem, the song remains the same: get the cut out.

Those who are responsible for stewardship of this big wild are irresponsible. The Salmon Selway should not be managed for timber harvest by the likes of the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management, or for recreation by the Park Service. These agencies have largely proven their inability to provide for species viability and ecosystem protection. They have demonstrated that the wild cannot be managed.

The public seems to agree. In the Northern Rockies, local polling has shown that much of the public wants the region to be designated as wilderness via the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (NREPA.)

Those of us who have gathered together to defend this land are working to hold off the timber beasts like Plum Creek,

Boise Cascade and Champion, who—in their zeal to liquidate timber—liquidate the smaller and more sustainable logging operations, the fishing jobs, and a myriad of other employers in the process. In the resulting confusion, these corporations are able to convince many that there is some logic to such outlandish levels of harvest. And with this momentum, and payoff money in their pocket, politicians with a tunnel vision for resource extraction fill the seats that make the calls.

If the timber industry—or any industry for that matter—truly had an interest in providing jobs, we would see the de-mechanization of production and a halt to the export of unfinished products.

The most important thing we should learn from the experience of land management is that humans cannot do the job that nature can. Despite all the species tracking, Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping, and other scientific research we have amassed, we are still baffled by decline of amphibian populations and loss of anadromous fish. We have responded to insect infestation and fire with additional logging, and to ecological imbalance with increased killing of predators.

Natural evolution has brought about a complex web of symbiosis, a mystery we strive to unravel. And as the Forest Service logs on, with promises from Chief Jack Ward Thomas that the agency is reinventing itself, their actions make one wonder whether ex-Chief Robertson just gained weight and lost some hair. Biologist or not, Thomas knows how to compromise science for politics.

Management. Under such a banner, they first identify human need. Then they assess environmental impact (an afterthought, really). If we are to actualize the Forest Service's rhetoric of "ecosystem management," we would not identify human needs first. The process would be reversed, with ecosystem needs being identified first and the alternatives ranging from "no action" to "maximum human displacement." But the equation is even simpler than that, because a managed ecosystem is a suffering ecosystem.

There is, however, a deeper and more fundamental rationale for protection of the largest intact ecosystem in the lower 48 states: Ohio already exists. The entire country is becoming a homogenous sprawl of clear-cuts, strip mines and strip malls. We don't need another Ohio. I've been there, and it needs to look a lot more like central Idaho.

Mid-June in "Injunctionville": The Cove/Mallard Coalition came up with the plan for a "River Walk" along the Clearwater River, for the purpose of community outreach and to create a friendly atmosphere for locals and media to approach us and talk about the issues involved in the on-going Cove/Mallard Campaign. With logging and road building business at a court-ordered standstill in the immediate neighborhood, we planned to kick off the summer strolling along in broad daylight on a well-traveled road for eighty miles in seven days, from Grangeville, Idaho to the Grouse and Noble clearcuts in Cove/Mallard. My hope was that the locals' terrorist image of us could be transcended, and we could have some good dialogue with them as fellow human beings instead of as perceived threats.

We began on a gorgeous Idaho morning (translation: pouring rain and brisk winds) at Nez Perce Forest's main office in Grangeville with a short but sweet press conference where we were joined by last minute walkers and several members of the Nez Perce Tribe. After a quick circle and a long howl, we ventured out on to the road single-file.

To this point, community interactions had been at a minimum. We had received a full day of non-violence training from Seeds of Peace prior to the walk. This training covered everything from arrest scenarios (unlikely) to confrontations with angry mill workers/loggers (a real possibility).

We made a new friend, an old-timer who had lived in the area for all of his eighty-plus years and who also happens to own a 500 acre tree farm. We got him on National Public Radio saying "I was born under a lilac bush. . . and I've seen how the Forest Service has destroyed this area." He was definitely a colorful character who lent flavor and a local quality to our sound bites about ecosystems and habitat corridors.

A highlight of the walk was the feast provided

for us by a Nez Perce family. They brought delicious salmon, elk and moose steaks for us as a sign of their support and friendship. It was quite a feast.

The feasting continued the next evening at the Third Annual Cove/Mallard Coalition's Community Picnic. We sent an outreach party to Elk City to knock on doors and hang up fliers, inviting anyone and everyone to show up that evening and

have some elk chili with us (also provided by the Nez Perce). Elk City's response was decidedly lukewarm bordering on cold, although our group reported having a few worthwhile conversations during their visit. The end result was that three seasonal Forest Service employees and the ranger assigned to us during the walk showed up. Our guests stood around the campfire with us drinking beer, and talking about anything besides forest issues. It was less than we could've hoped for, but a good exchange anyway.

BY
LINA
GOOLEY

The day before the walk's end, we passed the Red River Ranger Station and paid them a visit. We presented a copy of the book Clearcut: The Tragedy of Industrial Forestry with directions

to leave it out for visitors to peruse. We also demanded and, amazingly, got an audience with their head district ranger, Ed Wood (affectionately known as Dead Wood). We continued on to our grand finale at the two new clearcuts from last winter in C/M.

The view from the summit is incredible. Unbroken blankets of green as far as the eye can see. The walk ended at the scene of the Forest Service's final massacre of last winter, the Grouse and Noble clearcuts, which were stopped by the injunction, which has every hope of becoming permanent.

The River Walk was successful for many reasons. The community got a chance to view us not as blockading radicals, but as regular people. Through excellent media coverage that continued throughout the week, a larger audience got a more positive view of us and our beliefs and a better understanding of the many issues involved here in Cove/Mallard.

Walking on the Wild Side

Earth First! kicks off forest campaign

Cove-Mallard activists told to be wary

GRANGEVILLE, Idaho — Environmental activists protesting road building and logging in the

they may meet alone
 "Cove-Mallard is a symbol for what fate remains for all other roadless forests in the northern Rockies."

Seeds of the Collective Seeds of Peace, told the marchers their protests of the Cove-Mallard the last two years have been effective.

of the Cove-Mallard.

Ryan is expected to decide summer whether to grant the injunction permanently.

Logging in the Grouse Creek drainage of the Cove-Mallard

Earth First! co-founder sets up shop in Moscow

Mike Roselle will focus on Cove-Mallard

POTLATCH

Words fly at talk on Earth 1st!

Group members argue against claim that they're terrorist

By David Johnson of the Tribune

POTLATCH, Idaho — A town meeting that had all the earmarks of a potential confrontation Tuesday night turned into an intense but peaceful exchange between environmentalists and some 400 residents in this Latah County community.

New battle may push Earth First!ers to back burner

Cove-Mallard

BY KEN OLSEN Staff Writer

Move over Cove-Mallard

Protesters escape felony arrest

Earth First!ers spurn Idaho protest law

BY KEN OLSEN Staff Writer

MOSCOW — Though conspiring and apparent law-breaking everywhere, only journalists and activists turned out for Earth First!ers' protest.

Earth First!ers join protesters at Payette Forest

While Clausen and Taylor made their pitches, much of the two-hour meeting swirled around a lively exchange between townspeople and those who described themselves as activists or members of Earth First!.

Four groups, including Moscow, filed suit in District Court in Boise first of 67 timber sale new logging road. The son to the contentious on the Nez Perce National includes less than a mile of new road. And drawn three years of and nearly 200 arrests

Earth First! activists will invite Andrus to road blockade

MOSCOW, Idaho — Members of Earth First! say they will invite Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus to join a "nonviolent" road into the Cove-Mallard timber the Nez Perce

"They're trying to make a simplistic answer for something that's complicated."

August trials set for protesters in 1993 Cove-Mallard stand-off

MOSCOW — Trial has been set for Aug. 29 for four environmental activists accused of trespassing on the National Forest.

for the time it lost because she blocked a logging road during last year's protest. The Bilek, original trial last winter on charges of trespassing and blocking a logging road during the 1993 protests. Those protests prompted the timber industry to convince

not only the ecosystems by something that's complicated." 2C Lewiston Morning Tribune/Thursday, July 21, 1994

Jury deliberates Earth First!er's fate

Erik Ryberg, John Kreilick, Brett Clubbe and Russell Poe have already pled guilty to a superseding indictment in which vandals in damage to equipment roads to the sale areas. Seven other charges in connection

Earth First! activist is in jail

By Kathy Hedberg of the Tribune

GRANGEVILLE — An Earth First! activist was jailed Thursday for failing to meet the terms

Nez Perce National Forest. McRae originally was charged with conspiracy to commit a theft, which is a felony, but the charge was plea bargained to obstructing a road, a misdemeanor.

Environmental activists plead innocent

By David Johnson of the Tribune

MOSCOW — Four environmental activists pleaded innocent in federal court Monday for protesting in the Cove-Mallard area south of the Nez Perce

Wright, Roger F. Borden, Peggy S. McRae and Jennifer Japhert.

Federal Magistrate Mikel H. Williams set a trial date of Aug. 29 for Kreilick, Clubbe and Poe. Williams said he hopes to try the defendants, except Ryberg, by the end of the month. No trial date was set for Ryberg. Williams said the four counts against the defendants are different than the others.

time for all four who court Wednesday. charged with four misdemeanor counts. Kreilick: 18 months, except Ryberg. Williams said the four counts against the defendants are different than the others. Williams said the four counts against the defendants are different than the others.

Loggers, activists clash at meeting

Earth First! co-founder attends Potlatch anti-vandalism workshop

By J. Todd Foster Staff writer

POTLATCH, Idaho — Half the people in this logging town were introduced to the controversial environmental group Earth First! late Tuesday in a high school. There were no handshakes. The meeting was strained at caucals and hints that continued protests and counterprotests could escalate into a "shooting war."

Earth First! is about to begin its third summer of civil disobedience to protest logging more than 100 miles south of the federal roadless Cove-Mallard.

Earth First!er jailed for not paying restitution

group advocates violence and compared his activists to George Washington and other freedom fighters.

More than 400 Potlatch residents attended the forum, hosted by the Gold Hill Resource Coalition to learn defense against Earth First!

The co-founder Mike Roselle about spiking, sabotage and other acts of what the group calls "monkey-wrenching." Roselle, of San Francisco, denied his

now teetering on collapse from a shutdown of federal logging, remains home to two saw mills.

The Bennett and Co. employ

infiltrator Barry Clausen of

He linked Earth First! to such militant groups as the Animal Liberation Front and Greenpeace and said he was once asked by the group to blow up a logging helicopter. Activist Wade Gruhl, 24, of Le Claire, Iowa, said Clausen is known by other environmentalists as a "compulsive liar." "There trying to incite hatred. They want to label us all as terrorists. I don't wreck

equipped with chainsaw loggers. When they chain them, they're not logging equipment.

Some said Earth First!'s First rights of free speech should be because the group has behaved in a half-dozen deputies from County sheriff's department stock in case they were needed. Clausen played to the crowd recording of an environmental case that featured Roselle saying "I have the right to use force in self-defense." Roselle denies he engages in self-defense but defended force as a legitimate case.



Activists

If injured

By Kathy Hedberg

GRANGEVILLE

walk from

Ear

Cove-Mallard

Not on

Another salmon lawsuit targets national forests

Environmental groups say Forest Service is failing to protect Snake River runs

By Bill Loftus
of the Tribune

Environmental groups filed suit Tuesday against the U.S. Forest Service, claiming six national forests in Idaho violated the National Forest Management Act by failing to protect salmon runs.

Some Northwest lawmakers say President Clinton is shortchanging salmon restoration efforts.

— Page 6B

"On the Umatilla and Wallawa-Whitman we focused on the forest..."

under
loscow
Mallard
rest

Injunction seeks halt to forest activities

Salmon protection effort extends to forest habitat

By Julie Titone
Staff writer

Environmentalists
Friday

Environmentalists say times couldn't be worse for the salmon.

As of Aug. 11, only 3,899 adult spring and summer chinook had passed Lower Granite Dam on their way to spawn, compared with same date last year.

Two weeks ago, the National Marine Fisheries Service reclassified the Snake River as "threatened or endangered," one of the Pacific Rivers Act's categories. "It's an enormous problem," says a Forest Service spokesman. "The decline of Snake River salmon is a national tragedy."

The Pacific Rivers Council and Wilderness Society filed suit in April to protect salmon spawning streams in the Boise, Challis, Nez Perce, Payette, Salmon and Sawtooth national forests.

The suit asks the court to force the Forest Service to protect the Snake River and Umatilla rivers.

The environmentalists want the Forest Service to...

Protest law is redneck
paranoia of free speech

"It couldn't be worse for us," says industry spokesman Ken Kohli, referring to the summer's forest fires. "We're getting ready to engage in aggressive efforts to convince the Forest Service to salvage timber. We're talking about hundreds of acres of timber."

Earth First! activist is in jail

The environmentalists want the Forest Service to...

Committee sends Earth First! bill to full Senate

By Dean Miller
Staff writer

BOISE — The Idaho Senate's criminal law committee has set the stage for passage of a bill that makes it a felony to encourage people to block timber sales.

Splitting down party lines, the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee voted 6-3 Wednesday to send the bill to the full Senate.

"You clearly have a chilling effect on people that wish to express their freedom of speech," said Sen. Denny Davis, D-Coeur d'Alene.

He said that while he is sensitive to the timber industry's problems, he didn't believe the bill would be passed.

The bill, with fellow Democratic Sens. Barbara Chamberlain of Post Falls and Sue Reents of Boise, but they were outvoted by the committee's Republican majority.

Written by the timber industry and sponsored by the Republican party's candidate for attorney general, the so-called Earth First! bill makes it a felony to "solicit or conspire" with someone to interfere with lawful forest practices.

The House approved it unanimously two weeks ago.

It does not make it a felony to block legal mining or the operation of legal abortion clinics.

immediate problem in the timber industry,"



Lance replied.

Timber industry lobbyist Joe Hinson has said he sought the bill to give prosecutors another weapon to use on Earth First! activists who have been blocking timber sales in the Nez Perce National Forest.

The bill will help prosecutors penalize activists who step over the line from protest to criminal activity.

blocking, physically interfering."

He said the bill is aiming for the protesters...

support his environmental activism.

"I'm going to solicit people to come...

Judge to activist: Get a real job

Lodge isn't satisfied by Megan McNally's work on timber issues

By David Johnson
of the Tribune

MOSCOW — A federal judge Monday ordered an environmental activist to get a real job within 10 days or face six months in jail.

Mallard, reviewing timber sale proposals and draft environmental impact statements. Although she received no pay for her many hours, she was indeed working, Henegen said.

"Frankly," Henegen told Lodge, "if people had been doing the kind of work Ms. McNally is doing prior to the timber sales, we wouldn't be here now." Henegen said the court's ruling that McNally get a paying job in effect imposes a lifestyle upon her which she doesn't want to live.

"A minimum wage job at McDonald's," said Henegen, "is not more important than what she's doing."

McNally responded to the judge's ruling by saying she would be "politically active" and "wouldn't take a job."

McNally said she was "not interested in playing a game with the judge."

She said she was "not interested in playing a game with the judge."

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She said she was "not interested in playing a game with the judge."

House approves bill that would crack down on logging activists

The bill...

Earth First!ers begin campaign with 8-day hike

By Kathy Hedberg
of the Tribune

GRANGEVILLE — Environmental activists intent on stopping logging and road building in the controversial Cove-Mallard timber sale area.

Protesters are settling in at Dixie encampment

Most of them arrived from Moscow after staging a protest on Monday.

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Protesters are settling in at Dixie encampment

Law makes it felony to obstruct logging

Andrus signs bill he had opposed

Associated Press

small fines or a few days in jail.

Activists are settling in at Dixie encampment

Protesters are settling in at Dixie encampment

frontations between activists and local people.

"It was fine," Amon said Monday. "We didn't have any trouble and we had some good conversations with people along the way."

A picnic the activists sponsored last Tuesday drew only four local people, Amon said, and one of those was a U.S. Forest Service liaison who had been assigned to accompany the group on its walk.

Earth First! is protesting road building in the area.

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Logging was completed last year in the Grouse Creek drainage of the Cove-Mallard and was scheduled to begin this summer in the Noble Creek drainage.

But logging has temporarily been halted by U.S. District Judge Harold L. Ryan because of a lawsuit filed by the Idaho Sportsmen's Coalition of Boise. The coalition contends the Forest Service is breaking environmental law by logging the Cove-Mallard.

Ron Mitchell, a spokesman for the...

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Ron Mitchell, a spokesman for the...

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Amon said if Ryan upholds the injunction against logging, activists will...

Activists face charges in 1993 forest protests

Allegations stem from last summer's controversial protests in Cove-Mallard

Tribune and Associated Press

MOSCOW — Fifteen federal charges have been filed against environmental activists in connection with last year's protests of logging in the Cove-Mallard area of the National Forest.

Arrests were made Wednesday. A trial, if necessary, could come as soon as late August.

The allegations include four trespassing charges against Erik Ryberg and one each against Jacob L. Bear, Pamela Reber, John F. Kreilick, Billi Jo Barker, Dana E. Wright, Brett L. Clubbe, Russell K. Poe, Robert F. Borden, Peggy Sue McRae and Jennifer Japhet.

Clubbe also was charged with blocking a logging road...

Forest sale opponents pledge to fight
MCCALL, Idaho — Opponents of the Forest Service's Grouse Creek timber sale pledged on Tuesday to see that law is broken.
"We will do what we can to stop this sensitive area from being logged," said a spokesman for the Idaho Sportsmen's Coalition.
The group's protest is part of a larger effort to stop logging in the area.

BY KEN OLSEN
Staff Writer
Mallard, Act III opens in beautiful Grangeville, Idaho, with a batch of Earth First!ers environmentalists kicking off a protest. The activists intend to make...

Wolf reintroduction

continued from page 16

prior to 1870. As human settlement intensified and prey species such as deer, elk and bison declined, wolf populations fell. Settlers and government trappers, fearing for the safety of livestock, carried out successful campaigns to exterminate wolves in the Rocky Mountain area.

Complete details of the two proposed rules were published in the August 16 Federal Register. The USFWS will accept comments on the two rules until October 15. During that time, public hearings will be scheduled at several locations nationwide including Cheyenne, Wyoming; Helena, Montana; Boise, Idaho; Salt Lake City, Utah; Seattle, Washington; and Washington, DC. Details of these hearings will be announced at a later date. Once the comment period has ended and the USFWS has reviewed public input, the agency will publish the final rules in the Federal Register. To submit comments or for more information, contact Grey Wolf Reintroduction, US Fish and Wildlife Service, PO Box 8017, Helena, Montana 59601 or call Georgia Parham of the Department of the Interior: (202) 208-5634.

Legal Update

continued from page 6

accused of threatening an officer and resisting arrest, along with two violations of a federal closure order and for placing objects on a forest road to impede traffic. In addition, he was charged with failure to appear when he missed his originally scheduled court appearance.

Scout's defense was that he was arrested outside the closure after photographing an officer macing other demonstrators during a protest that occurred during International Wild Rockies Wilderness Day. At the trial, US Attorney Barry McHugh tried to portray the August 17, 1993 demonstration as violent and out of control, and Walkingflower as having challenged several US Forest Service law enforcement agents, three times his size, to a fist fight. Agent King testified under oath that he maced Scout as he was running towards him, and that he feared for his safety. The prosecutors had flown in no fewer than thirteen witnesses to bolster its case.

Judge Mikel Williams' instructions to the jury were very narrow, and a necessity defense was disallowed. However, the jury found Scout not guilty of the most serious charges of assault and resisting arrest, and convicted him instead on only the closure violations, the obstruction charge and the failure to appear, charges that he had admitted to under oath. The verdict was a vindication for Scout, and the other 18 people arrested that day, according to Scout's attorney, Michael Henegen. "It proves that the only violence that occurred on that day was perpetrated by the US Forest Service officers, who were using red pepper spray and pain holds against peaceful protesters," Henegen said.

After the trial, the jury foreman phoned Henegen and explained that the jury wanted to acquit Scout on all charges, but felt that they had to follow the judge's very narrow instructions. Had the jury been instructed about "Jury Nullification"—that no matter what the judge and prosecutor say to the contrary, they still have the right to acquit a defendant if they feel the circumstances merit it—Scout would have likely been acquitted on all

charges. Meanwhile he may be appealing the verdict because his constitutional rights were violated when he was arrested in the first place, as the closure interfered with his right to peacefully petition the government.

Please write to Scout in jail: Scout Walkingflower; Latah County Jail; Moscow, Idaho 83843; Visiting days are Thursdays and Sundays.

EARTH FIRST! LAW GOES INTO EFFECT

On July 1, 1994, the so-called Earth First! Law went into effect here in Idaho. The Cove/Mallard Coalition celebrated this event with a demonstration at the Federal Courthouse where we attempted to be the first to violate it. The new law makes it a felony for individuals to encourage others to intervene in a "lawful" timber sale. It was passed almost unanimously by the state legislature in order to arrest and jail perceived "out-of-state agitators." The new law was signed by Governor Cecil B. Andrus who then stated that he couldn't veto every screwball bill that the Idaho state legislature sent to him. When we stated to a local reporter that this would be an embarrassment to the State of Idaho, he replied that you cannot embarrass a state that has "Famous Potatoes" on their license plates.

No one was arrested during or following the protest, even though everyone in the State of Idaho felt that we had broken the law. The Cove/Mallard Coalition would welcome the chance to challenge this ridiculous law in the courts, and is supported by the Idaho chapter of the ACLU in Boise, who are on record as opposing it.

ACTIVIST SETS NEW RECORD

Spencer Fortin may have set a new record. The 21 year old activist from Maine was arrested last year during a protest on the Noble Road within the Cove/Mallard Timber Sales in the Nez Perce National Forest. He was sentenced to three years probation, 200 hours of community service and a \$200 fine. Afterwards, he returned to Maine, and did not pay his fine or report to his probation officer. He was arrested on a federal warrant for violating the terms of his probation and was taken to the Sommerset County Jail in Maine, where his ordeal began.

Spencer was then transferred to the Penobscot County Jail, then to Maine's Windham State Prison, the El Reno, Oklahoma Jail, then on to the Phoenix Jail, the Salt Lake City Jail and finally the Boise Jail, where he was released. Spencer is not complaining, however. "I'm glad I spent 23 days in jail and got off probation—I wouldn't do it any other way!"

PROTESTERS BALK ON STRICT SENTENCES

Darryl Echt is presently serving a thirty-day sentence in the Latah County Jail, after US District Judge Edward Lodge decided that her paid position with the Ecology Center was inadequate to meet the terms of her probation, which resulted from trespassing charges during last year's protests at Cove/Mallard. The most offensive terms of the probation were those requiring Darryl to get a full time, paying job in the state of Idaho. Joyously, Darryl accepted the jail time as favorable to the alternative of probation for three years. She reasoned that it was better to suffer through brief misery than to be forced into adopting a new lifestyle of probation—and employment "acceptable" to Judge Lodge—for a much longer period of time.

Roxane George and Hunter Terry also have been convicted of violating the terms of their probation. Instead of jail time,

Magistrate Mikel Williams gave them \$600 and \$640 fines, respectively. Legal advisor Wayne Price hailed the sentence as a victory since both had their onerous probation conditions terminated. Said court observer Ramon, "It's obvious that the Government is reluctant to follow-up its own excessive punishment. The heavy-handed conditions of probation were impossible, amounting to a court-ordered "style of life" with which certain defendants could not comply. So the Government had no choice but to capitulate."

Jen Prichard and Peggy Sue McRae received harsher sentences of two months in jail each. Their violation was not paying \$350 and \$550 restitution fines to Highland Enterprises, who was contracted by the Forest Service to build roads into the Roadless Areas of Cove/Mallard. The restitution was to be paid for "down-time and damages". Before the court, Jennifer disputed that claim, "It is a Forest Service road being built as part of a clearly illegal timber sale. I don't think a private company can claim to own public land." The court thought otherwise, and both activists were sentenced to serve the time in jail. In early September, Peggy Sue and Jen were released ten days early from the Idaho County Jail in Grangeville for good behavior.

Of course we cannot do all the legal defense work alone. To succeed we will have to build a broad-based coalition that will fight for the rights of environmental activists, especially those in isolated groups in the heart of logging, grazing and mining, country. We need your help. Please contact us if you have legal, media or fundraising skills, or would like to learn or help. Please contact the Coalition at our Moscow office.

Cuddy Mountain

continued from page 13

the Grade/Dukes sale will keep Boise Cascade's mill in Council operating for about six weeks, while it will alter the make up of the Cuddy Mountain ecosystem forever. Payette forest planner Randy Swick told those in attendance that the Forest Service would withhold awarding the sale until its lawyers had a chance to go over the lawsuit and respond. The bidders left the building quietly and quickly while the folks who had raised their concerns during the auction rallied outside the building and talked to members of the press who had observed the auction. One such observer, Wade Gruhl, was heard to say, "We are prepared to occupy Cuddy Mountain and nonviolently prevent the Forest Service and Boise Cascade from further fragmenting the ecosystems of our National Forest. If this lawsuit is unsuccessful or the Forest Service attempts to build roads before it has been decided by the judge, we will use civil disobedience to keep them out."

Cecil Bilbao is a rancher near Cambridge, Idaho and a representative of the Neighbors of Cuddy Mountain. He said that "if the people of my generation had shown this much concern we wouldn't be in the mess we are now in."

The fate of the Cuddy Mountain Roadless Area is ultimately in the hands of the people. It is up to us to either speak out and act up for its protection or to let the Forest Service add Cuddy Mountain to its list of trampled and heavily impacted National Forest ecosystems.

Write to the Forest Service in Washington, DC and to your local newspapers regarding the protection of the Cuddy Mountains and the scrapping of the Grade/Dukes Timber Sale. Write to your Congressional

representative urging them to support NREPA (HB 2638) and protect all roadless areas in the Northern Rockies.

French Creek

continued from page 13

All of the French Creek Roadless Area timber sales were justified on the basis of forest health, ecosystem management, and a need to mimic fire before a genuine catastrophic fire resulted. Well, the forest burned, and it did so in a manner that was neither unnatural nor excessive. Much of the suppression-caused ill health has been cured, and the Forest Service's justification is now irrelevant. We must make absolutely clear to the Payette National Forest that further intervention in this fantastic place must not take place. No salvage, no green timber thinning. The Payette's Forest Plan was appealed by the Idaho Conservation League but they were told that you can't appeal a Forest Plan, so the appeal was denied. Maybe the Ninth District will have something to say about that.

It is imperative that if a new Forest Plan is written, the French Creek area is recommended for wilderness and removed from the timber base. Or, better still, we must redouble our efforts to have this place designated whether through NREPA or a local bill. And we must resist the Forest Service's and industry's attempts to do an end run around public participation and environmental laws and send the French Creek wildland—and all the others in the Northern Rockies—down to the mill.

Fires, liars

continued from page 5

LaRocco introducing a "Forest Health" bill that would legislate the Forest Service to destroy the last vestiges of large, unprotected native forest communities. As Jeff St. Clair, editor of the Wild Forest Review, writes, "The main excuse for unleashing one of the biggest chainsaw blitzes in the nation's history is 'forest health'. In other words, we must destroy the forest in order to save it."

Another indication that politics and economics are continuing to run roughshod over ecological processes is the appointment of Steve Mealey to head the Columbia Basin forest study. This is a man who has zealously pursued salvage sales during his tenure as Supervisor of the Boise National Forest.

Slowly but surely, the American public is waking up to the fact that the Forest Service and Smokey the Bear are not who they say they are. They are pawns for a timber industry that is intent on roadbuilding and logging our last primary forests. The agency's pattern over the last decade is to use fire and firefighting to instill fear and a sense of paranoia amongst human communities. This strategy, while partially successful in helping to meet timber targets, is now beginning to backfire.

The Cove/Mallard Coalition is demanding that Payette Forest Supervisor Dave Alexander refrain from salvage logging in native forests and in particular any roadless areas that burned. We believe that this is the best way to bring forest communities back into balance. The last thing French Creek/Patrick Butte needs is dozens of fire breaks, new roads and salvage sales. Any attempt to implement salvage sales will be met with lawsuits and direct action.

Rambling's on Royal

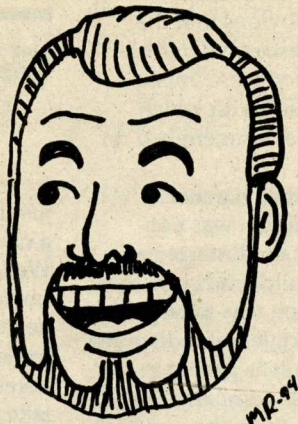
What's worse than arriving late on the third day of a three-day party? Why, arriving late on the fourth day of a four-day party, that's what! Especially a four-day party in celebration of Mike Roselle's 40th birthday.

Lowbaggers and high-liners from around the country came to pay tribute to Mike, the most recent example of the "Graying of Earth First!" And now, as party memories fade in the mists of hangover history, the remainder of the summer will be devoted to winding down the operations at base camp. Core groups in Moscow, Boise, and Missoula will monitor the situation vis-a-vis the injunction, and are prepared for direct action should it be lifted for any reason.

Meanwhile, education and outreach programs are continuing. There are, literally, dozens of Cove/Mallard programs, video viewings, benefits, etc., being held each and every week throughout the US and abroad. To those of you engaged in this good work, I commend you. Articles in magazines and journals, both popular and arcane, also have spread the word.

So, people are talking about us. Friends of the Earth has joined the Coalition, and the National Audubon Society is considering doing the same. Nationally syndicated columnist Alexander Cockburn referred recently to there being two areas of resistance against the onslaughts in our National Forests. One was the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (NREPA), and the other—and I quote from his column—"In the front lines are demonstrators in such areas as Cove/Mallard, in the Nez Perce National Forest in Idaho, sitting down in front of the logging trucks."

But I digress. The reason I was 3 days late for Roselle's gig was due to the necessity of my being in scenic Boise for the annual gathering of the US Green Party. They had put Cove/Mallard on their agenda, so we figured that at least one C/M duckling should be there. I won the dubious honor. With Dan Funsch of the Alliance for the Wild Rockies, we managed to make a strong presentation for the Greens to rally around NREPA, as a BIG environmental issue, and Cove/Mallard, as a microcosm—albeit a large one—



by Ramon

and was then unceremoniously forced out at second on a weak grounder by your loyal, but otherwise worthless, scribe. On the mound, she proved to be exemplary, allowing nothing more damaging than a multiplicity of triples during the first few innings. Then, with us behind by a score of thirty to nothing, she caught a vicious line drive with her nose, and was sped away, bleeding profusely, to the nearest emergency room, 35 miles distant.

Spurred on by the thought of their fallen comrade (or just excited by the sight of blood), the remaining players rallied in the waning daylight. (It is said that we do our best work at night, isn't it?) We ended up losing by a very respectable 37 to 8. Stephanie's nose turned out not to have been broken, and she vows to be back next year. (For the record, during last year's game with the Tribe, a player named Blue (formerly Coyote) from Bolinas, California, caught a line drive with his mouth. Anybody out there have any hockey masks we can borrow?)

Finally, large forest fires are burning throughout the Northwest. The two near McCall, Idaho, are threatening to jump the Salmon River, in which case base camp may be in danger. Base-campers have been instructed to leave whenever they feel threatened, and leave behind whatever can't readily be transported. The wind-whipped speed with which these fires travel across the terrain makes it unlikely that our school buses could outrun the flames. So, loaded as they are with kitchen equipment, including propane tanks, perhaps a fitting end is in store for the Ancient Forest Bus Brigade.....BOOM!

for the problems endemic in national forests everywhere.

In the midst of all this seriousness, basecamp managed to get in a fun softball game with the good folks of the Nez Perce Nation located in Kamiah, Idaho. Our star pitcher was Stephanie Penn, occasionally of the EF! Journal, and editor and publisher of Affinity, a Cleveland, Ohio-based quarterly of environmental concerns. She got our first hit, a blazing single to right,

**A very big
Thank You
to our
pro bono
attorneys
for their sage
advice and long
hours!**

Michael Henegen
Darrell Scott
Robert Van Idour
Bernard Zaleha
Kenneth Gallant
Wayne Price
Robert Ward

Thank you Jamie Lennox for the use of your computer, without which the Salmon Selway Defender would be a far inferior product. Also to Nick, Justin & Max for putting Whaley up during production.

CALENDAR

September 30-October 2

9th Annual Wild Rockies Rendezvous at the Teller Wildlife Refuge, near Corvallis, Montana.

Call Alliance for the Wild Rockies at (406) 721-5420.

October 19

Scout Walkingflower is sentenced in Latah County. Contact the Cove/Mallard Coalition at (208) 882-9755.

November 9-13

2nd International Temperate Forest Conference in Missoula, Montana.

Call the Native Forest Network at (406) 728-0867.

February, 1995

Hunt for the grey wolf resumes, volunteers welcome. Contact the Grey Wolf Committee; c/o Lost Elk 219 East E St.; Moscow, ID 83843.

In the Office...

After working at the bustling office of the Rainforest Action Network in San Francisco for two years as their office manager, Ramon's offer to come to relaxing Idaho to help set up the new Cove/Mallard office sounded wonderful. I drove up here with high hopes of hiking through the big wild with all my extra time. Three months later I'm still hoping...

Setting up an office from scratch with a bunch of activists is an interesting process—that's 'interesting' as in the ancient Chinese curse, "May you live in interesting times." But somehow we did it.

Input from all points of the compass was sought, digested and dealt with. The result is an effective, functioning, permanent resource for activists involved with the Salmon Selway Ecosystem and its protection.

Funding for this miracle is also firmly in place. New computers just rolled in, and the fax modem will be operational shortly. Wade Gruhl, the new office manager, will oversee the day-to-day operation during the winter, and INWARD—Idaho Non-Violent Wilderness Area Rescue and Defense—will continue to share the space with the Cove/Mallard Coalition.

So thanks to all who have contributed to the evolution of this facility. (Drum roll, please, and in alphabetical order)..... Brett, Cass, Craig, Darryl, Hunter, Michelle, Ramon, Roselle, Wade. One big happy, functional family—sure; just like the Forest Service!

~ Kristin

*This newsletter is dedicated
to the brave men and women
who served time in jail this
summer in the defense of
Idaho's Big Wild,
as well as to the pioneers of the
Wilderness Act 30 years ago.*



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