

Earth First!

Newsletter

Fall 2003

Freshwater Treesit Evictions Continue, Forest Defenders Undaunted

Freshwater is facing permanent damage due to Maxxam's unsustainable logging practices. Unless they immediately reduce their rate of harvest, the watershed will not recover.

In March, Pacific Lumber Company, owned by Maxxam Corporation, obtained a Temporary Restraining Order against 18 Humboldt County treesitters. The Freshwater treesitters' refusal to come down was one of the top news stories in the country at that time. A majority of the treesits were in Timber Harvest Plan 01-451, which calls for 138 acres of clearcuts on mainly steep and unstable slopes in the Freshwater Creek watershed. After the treesitters refused to abandon the old-growth trees they were defending, teams of hired climbers were sent up after them.

On March 17, long time treesitters Remedy and Wren were forcibly removed from the ancient redwoods they were occupying. Remedy hadn't touched the ground in 361 days. Both trees were immediately reoccupied by other forest defenders. Humboldt County sheriff's deputies used batons and pepper spray on a crowd of activists on the ground who were nonviolently protesting the removal of the treesitters and Maxxam's liquidation logging practices. Several others on the ground were arrested, including two women who had locked down in an attempt to prevent the extraction of Remedy.

On March 18, treesitter Anna Purna was forcibly removed from the old-growth redwood she was defending. Her hands and feet were bound as they lowered her to the ground. The tree was immediately reoccupied, but Pacific Lumber (PL) workers "girdled" the tree, cutting a ring around the

tree to sever the living cambium layer, which will eventually kill the tree. This was done with a treesitter in the tree. Anna Purna and several other activists on the ground were arrested.

On March 19, treesitter Silver Willow was evicted from the old-growth redwood called Utopia, and the tree was immediately cut. On the 20th a second extraction team went into the tree where Remedy had lived. The occupying treesitter, Mystique, went to the very top of the 200-foot tree to avoid eviction. Although approximately 20 Humboldt County sheriff's officials, Eureka police and

California Highway Patrol officers were there, all refused to witness the extraction. PL's main climber, Eric Schatz, went to the top of the tree after her, where the trunk was no bigger than an average person's arm. Mystique said he told her that if she fell, "he and his team of climbers would testify it was suicide." After she was removed, the tree was topped and limbed. When loggers arrived the following morning, they found the tree occupied once again.

On April 10th hired climbers went up into an old-growth redwood in the same unit where Wren and Remedy had sat. A treesitter, Jungle, was locked down out on a branch, 160 feet above the ground. A second forest defender, Phoenix, climbed up and was roughly handled and assaulted by climbers. Police used "pain compliance" (aka torture techniques). Treesitters were repeatedly kicked and stepped on by police. After the treesitters were removed, the tree was cut down and it shattered upon impact.

"It's clear that the days of automatic convictions on these timber issues are over," said activist defense attorney Ed Denson. Remedy received no trial and was fined \$27 for her almost year-long treesit. Freshwater treesitter Wren and activist Naomi Wagner got a hung jury on trespass charges. Other Freshwater activists have been jailed for up to 10 days and one was fined \$500.



To find out how you can help with the defense of Freshwater and other Humboldt County forests, call: North Coast Earth First! action line (707) 825-6598.

PEPPER SPRAY CASE: 9th Circuit Grants Our Appeal!

"I'm joining this case in smoldering anger because applying the noxious ... pepper spray was torture. This case will be vigorously prosecuted and it will be a political trial, and I'm proud of it."

—J. Tony Serra, attorney for plaintiffs,
San Francisco Examiner, 1/24/03

Perhaps you remember seeing the TV news showing police swabbing and spraying pepper spray into the eyes of peaceful protesters. Perhaps this is a new exposure to what sheriff's deputies in Humboldt County, California, view as reasonable force in arresting nonviolent activists, activists who were, and still are, speaking out to protect the last of the old-growth redwood trees in the world.

When our story first broke in the media on October 31, 1997, it was on national headline news, including repeatedly on CBS and

ABC Evening News, CNN, Fox Morning News, Today Show, Rivera Live, Good Morning America, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *USA Today*, and other newspapers and television stations across the country and abroad.

The publicity and public outrage generated by the incidents instigated an FBI criminal investigation and a review by then California Attorney General Dan Lungren. The review found the use of pepper spray in Humboldt County to be "unprecedented" and in violation of "acceptable police com-

munity practices."

We just received the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals' five page Order granting our (plaintiffs') petition for a writ of mandamus, reassigning the case to another judge, and restoring the case to San Francisco for trial. The Order was filed 9/2/03.

The Court sided with plaintiffs in finding that "Eureka and Humboldt County are known for their strong ties to the logging industry and that there have been many incidents of hostility directed toward environmental activists in Eureka and its environs." The Court further observed that "Although there is a federal court facility in Eureka, no federal district judge has held a trial there in the last thirty years." The Court therefore ruled that "On this record it appears that the district court's actions reveal an appear-

ance of an absence of impartiality sufficient to warrant reassigning this case. We therefore grant the petitioner's requested relief and direct the Clerk of the Northern District of California to reassign this case to another district judge through the Northern District's random selection process; we also vacate the order transferring the re-trial to Eureka."

The infamous "Pepper Spray by Q-Tip" case was filed in 1997. A 1998 trial in San Francisco ended with a hung jury and then dismissal by the judge. After five years of appeals, the U.S. Supreme Court and the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals recently overruled the judge and ordered a new trial, which was scheduled to begin May 12, 2003 in Eureka, California, but was stayed 5/8/03 by the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge Golden's Fooling—No Penalties for Maxxam/PL's Illegal Logging

"He who has the gold rules."

—Charles Hurwitz, CEO, Maxxam/PL

No! It can't be! You must be kidding!" lamented Humboldt forest defenders after Judge Golden's long-awaited final decision. The case was the penalty stage of the EPIC and Steelworkers lawsuit against Maxxam/Pacific Lumber Company's Sustained Yield Plan (SYP), and the state agencies responsible for enforcing it, California Department of Forestry and Department of Fish and Game. After issuing an overwhelmingly favorable previous ruling, validating almost all EPIC's and the Steelworkers' arguments on the key issues, and declaring the SYP to be "fatally flawed" and functionally "non-existent," Golden virtually gutted his own decision by refusing to penalize PL for profiting from lawless SYP'lessness. Golden may as well have issued a permit to Lie, Cheat and Steal.

Or maybe, since the SYP never existed, there was no law to break? Far from issuing the injunction that EPIC's lead attorney Sharon Duggin requested in her closing arguments, Golden allowed Maxxam/PL to continue

all logging operations on its land, except for those Timber Harvest Plans (THPs) approved under the SYP after his July 30, 2003 order to stay (an order that was blatantly ignored, as logging actually increased while PL, CDF and Fish and Game lawyers stalled and stonewalled in court).

In fact, any THPs that fall into



the post-July SYP category can just be refiled under the old California Forest Practice Rules, as if the entire SYP, along with the Habitat Conservation Plan, Incidental Take Permit for killing endangered species, and

Streambed Alteration Permit, allowing lethal and unmonitored levels of sediment to enter water courses—in short, all the very documents underlying the 1998 Headwaters Forest Agreement which authorized the subsequent 380 million dollar payment to Maxxam takeover artist Charlie Hurwitz—had never existed.

Citing "economic hardship to the community" that would result if logging were restrained, Golden handed EPIC and the Steelworkers a victory as hollow as a rotted Doug fir stump, while once more giving Maxxam PL's Hungry Hurwitz the trees—and more of the gold that he rules.

Golden's apparent vulnerability to the jobs vs. the environment

trap is that, after three years of painstaking efforts by plaintiffs to educate him about the SYP, he should remain so unclear on the concept of sustainability itself. Of course, it all depends on what is being sustained. "He's basically

rewarding them for their illegal acts," said Jeanette Jungers, a teacher and activist who was arrested while protesting in the Freshwater uprising back in March. "Anyone who wants to rob a bank should plead economic necessity, so they can keep right on doing it."

Judge Golden's concern for jobs is short-sighted and politically expedient. In fact, the jobs are going, going... gone, for almost all the locals and Scotia workers who have been either downsized or replaced by the gigantic, multinational Columbia Helicopter Corporation, hiring out of state, non-union workers. Only the Carlotta mill remains open, and Scotia is now a ghost town. A young woman who grew up there told us recently about her family's condition after her father's back injury at the mill: "30 years, 30 days notice," she said.

"I knew something was fishy when I saw Jared Carter (PL's CEO and lead attorney and Golden's golfing buddy) drape his arm around Golden's shoulders after court one day," said Sparrow, who attended much of the trial. When the gold rules, there is no way for an authentic sustainable restoration economy to survive and thrive with trees and jobs for all.

GYPSY MOUNTAIN: Climbers, Helicopters, Falling Trees Fail to Stop Activists

These past few months have seen several raids on Gypsy Mountain and the Aradia tree village. Pacific Lumber Company's hired Climber Eric and his gang of climbers twice ascended Aradia and the neighboring Garden Tree, throwing buckets, gear, platforms, etc. to the ground, cutting up the platforms into little pieces, and leaving the place trashed. Over and over, activists cleaned up the mess that the climbers made, and remained in the treetops. For

some unknown reason, Climber Eric and company did not attempt to forcibly remove the treesitters, who locked arms together at the top of Aradia. Perhaps the spirit of David "Gypsy" Chain was intervening in some way.

On September 11, 2003, activists on Gypsy Mountain reported helicopters buzzing the Aradia treesit. Other activists, who were on the ground at the time, reported of helicopters "chasing" them, causing high winds on the ground, which can easily send large branches crashing down on life forms below. This was reported to the FAA, and was the only reported aerial attack in the U.S. on this past September 11.

During the week of the five-year anniversary of Gypsy's death (September 17), there was an Action Camp at Grizzly Creek State Park, home to some of the best marbled murrelet nesting habitat on Earth. People came to be trained in non-violent civil disobedience and direct action, none of them knowing what they would be faced with during that week.

Monday, September 15, marked the official end of marbled murrelet nesting season,

which allows the beginning of old-growth redwood logging season. Maxxam/Pacific Lumber (PL) and other companies can go in and completely destroy prime marbled murrelet nesting habitat during the "off-season," from mid-September to late March of every year, leaving nothing for the

ging trucks came, no helicopters dropped fallers on top of Gypsy Mountain, and no one went to jail that day.

A proposal was released on that day, by Shunka Wakan, proposing to add Gypsy Mountain to Grizzly Creek State Park. The 10-page proposal, complete with col-

We are hoping that the gears can start moving towards the preservation of Gypsy Mountain through its addition to Grizzly Creek State Park.

returning birds. PL has also been caught cutting during nesting season, violating the Endangered Species Act. All while the so-called regulatory agencies turned a conveniently blind eye and open wallet for minor fines. On September 15, there was no logging on Gypsy Mountain.

Early Tuesday, September 16, on the eve of the anniversary of Gypsy's death, Pacific Lumber/Columbia helicopters began cutting trees on Gypsy Mountain. Activists from the Action Camp at Grizzly Creek State Park hiked up Gypsy Mountain, and halted the logging operations. PL was only able to take 11 trees that day, and the fallers left, threatening to come back the next day with cops, loggers, and extractors. Activists simultaneously prepared for action and a memorial service to occur in the morning.

On Wednesday, September 17, activists gathered at the gate near the base of the haul road leading up to the top of Gypsy Mountain. People circled up and prepared for action, while honoring the spirit of our beloved brother, David Nathan "Gypsy" Chain. No log-

ored maps and photos of the proposed area, was released to the Superintendent of the local State Parks system, Steve Horvitz, U.S. Congressman Mike Thompson, Pacific Lumber Company, California Department of Fish and Game, local television news channels 3 and 6, and reporters from KMUD-FM Radio and the *Steelhead Special* magazine. The proposal asks PL and the state parks service to work together with the forest defenders to add Gypsy Mountain to Grizzly Creek State Park. The proposal is combined with an already-existent proposal, put together by Grizzly Creek State Park Ranger, Robert Leiterman. The Gypsy Mountain proposal would dovetail with the ranger's proposal, and end the conflict on Gypsy Mountain, if it were enacted.

On Thursday, September 18, two activists locked down to the gate at the base of Gypsy Mountain when the Humboldt County sheriff's deputies showed up to clear the road for PL. Police officers began to prepare to cut one of the activists out, and started

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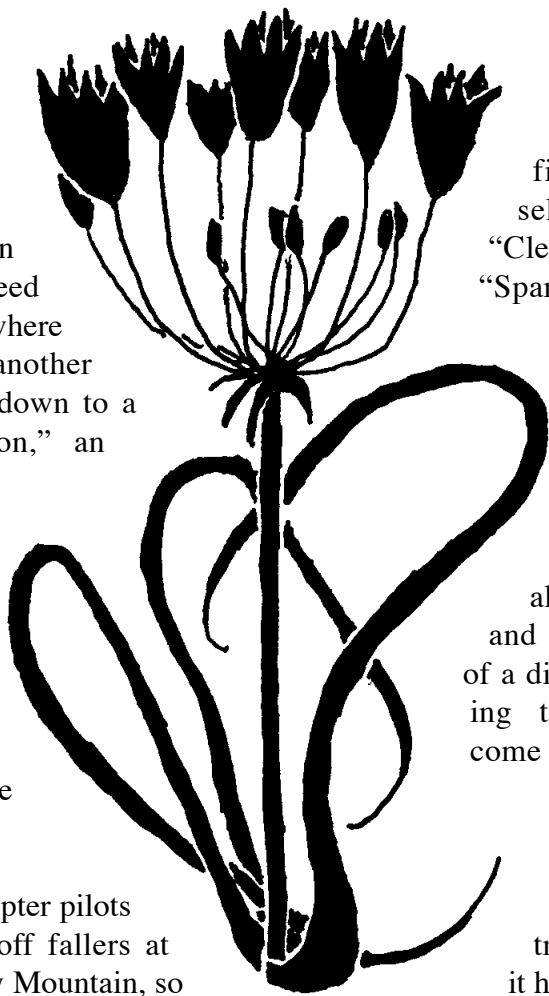


BY TOM MEYER/THE CHRONICLE



pulling on her leg, causing her to grimace in pain and call out for help. After several moments of protesting, the police officers decided to give up and just cut through the gate. The officers cut the gate in half, and then began to proceed up the road, where they found another activist locked down to a "sleeping dragon," an underground device cemented into the middle of the road. It took a while to get him out and into the police van.

Meanwhile, Columbia helicopter pilots were dropping off fallers at the top of Gypsy Mountain, so a group of activists headed for where the trees were falling.



Unlike two days prior, the fallers did not stop logging when the activists arrived on the scene.

Instead, they had two security workers, who identified themselves as "Clearcut" and "Sarpole." The two workers followed the activists through the woods, staying parallel with them and at somewhat of a distance, warning them not to come any closer. Behind them, the fallers kept dropping trees, and then it happened.

One of the trees came smashing down within

feet of Sarpole, sending him and his orange hard-hat flying to the ground, according to eyewitness accounts. Some activists reported being "sure that he was dead." Sarpole's human figure was lost in a cloud of duff and dust, as branches crashed all around. Other activists said that it was the closest that they had ever seen a tree fall, describing being able to see the branches as they crashed and broke on the ground.

The security worker who called himself Clearcut was reportedly visibly shaken up, as Sarpole re-emerged from the cloud, brushing himself off, and getting on his radio, saying "that'll get your adrenaline pumping," or something to that effect.

Everyone realized how close the group had come to being crushed a few moments before, and logging was halted for about an hour. Cutting resumed later on that day, and Climber Eric showed up on the scene, removing traverse lines around the new trees that had appeared in an old-growth redwood tree called Grandma. No treesitter extrac-

tions took place that day, no further arrests, no injuries, and miraculously, no deaths.

A blockade at the base of Gypsy Mountain has been maintained ever since September 16, and continues to this day. We are hoping that Maxxam/Pacific Lumber will look at the proposal seriously, and that the gears can start moving towards the preservation of Gypsy Mountain through its addition to Grizzly Creek State Park. We will see that the trees are protected, and that everyone can go up the mountain and pay their respects to Gypsy, without risking arrest.

Call the Earth First! action line to find out how you can help with forest defense in Humboldt County: (707) 825-6598.

September 13th Rally and Benefit a Success

On Saturday, September 13, North Coast Earth First! held a rally and benefit at the Freshwater Grange, just a few miles from the Freshwater tree villages. Traditionally, September 15 has been the date for the big Headwaters Rally, as September 15 marks the end of marbled murrelet nesting season and the beginning of old-growth redwood logging season, lasting until late March of every year.

In keeping with tradition, we decided to have a near-September 15 rally and combine it with a benefit. We were excited to learned that the Sasha Butterfly Band, Tina Malia, and Satya Yuga were willing to come and play for the event.

The September 13 Rally and Benefit was a wonderful event, with a nice array of activist speakers and musicians. Remedy gave a strong speech, Anna Purna recited some beautiful poetry and Shunka gave an update and call to action.

Four Winds and Friends played solid free-form hip-hop for the people, with attorney Michael Acosta on bass.

Later on Hayduke belted out some soulful hip-hop for the crowd. Chris Skyhawk came all the way up from Mendocino County to sing and play some of his resistance tunes for us, and Dakota Sid came from even farther to bless the crowd with some of the original Earth First! music. Saraswati made a special and unexpected trip over from the Trinity Tribal Stomp, where she had heard about the benefit just the weekend before. She really got the crowd dancing and grooving with her reggae crew.

Huge quantities of food showed up, all donated. A great feast was prepared by our good friends, with the help of the local Food Not Bombs! crew, and everyone was well-fed. A freshly-baked pie accompanied each table, and everyone was able to

get their fill of wholesome, organic, vegan nourishment.

For the final set, the Sasha Butterfly Band really got the house rockin', with Tina Malia and Sasha creating amazingly sweet harmonies. Their set was immediately followed by Satya Yuga, with a spiritual hip-hop and reggae, super-rockin' hot set, that took us into the night and ended the show. We actually went a bit over the time that we had for the Freshwater Grange that night, and we want to publicly thank the folks who run the Grange for being so tolerant and understanding—next time we'll do better, we promise.

Much thanks to our good friend, Owl, guitar player for the Sasha Butterfly Band and Satya Yuga, all-around wonderful brother and nonviolent spiritual warrior. He helped to bring Sasha and the crew to Humboldt County, and continues to spread positive energy everywhere he goes.

All in all, it was a great event, and we look forward to having many more like it in the near future. Many thanks to everyone who made the September 13 Rally and Benefit a huge success, and we hope to see you all again soon!



Demonstrators Decry Local Law Firm's Unscrupulous Practices

Humboldt County forest and civil rights activists protested in Eureka recently, outside the offices of the law firm Mitchell, Brisso, Delaney, and Vreize, to expose conflicts of interest and unethical practices, including drawn out litigation at the expense of the taxpayers.

Mitchell Brisso and colleagues defend Pacific Lumber Company, Simpson Timber, the County of Humboldt, its Sheriff's Department, and Correctional Facility, several cities in the area, Del Norte County (home of Pelican Bay Prison) and other large entities.

Presently, through Mitchell Brisso, Pacific Lumber (a company which has incurred over 400 violations of the Forest Practices Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act), is suing over 100 critics and protesters of its logging and employment practices in what are called SLAPPs (Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation). Additionally, while it is widely observed and undisputed that the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department works closely with Pacific Lumber Company (PL) in protest situ-

ations, law enforcement, presumably an objective entity is also represented by the Mitchell Brisso firm.

In the well-known pepper spray case over which peaceful protesters are suing the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department for civil rights violations, Mitchell Brisso has kept litigation going for six years. The suing parties are likely to prevail and ask only for a settlement agreement by the county not to use chemical pain compliance weapons on nonviolent protesters. Protester Mark Knipper says, "Keeping these cases in limbo for an exorbitant amount of time costs Humboldt County taxpayers money." Mitchell Brisso also has represented and refused to settle in other civil rights cases regarding treatment of inmates in

the county jail.

The firm has a conflict of

community apart. Additionally, Mitchell Brisso maintains social

Somehow Mitchell Brisso has been allowed to fade into the woodwork while virtually assisting in and representing the destruction of the Humboldt community, the forests, and Constitutional rights.

interest in its representation of both Humboldt County and PL, especially considering that the county's District Attorney has brought a civil suit against PL. Protesters, four of whom recently locked themselves to a disabled car in front of the Mitchell Brisso office and chanted such messages as "Mitchell, Brisso, Delaney, and Vreize has Humboldt County on

its knees!" believe the firm, which represents so many entities in the area, methodically instigates and thrives on the conflicts which are already tearing the

and business ties to most of the judges that sit in Humboldt County.

Locked-down activist Wren, who is being SLAPPED by PL, said, "Somehow Mitchell Brisso has been allowed to fade into the woodwork while virtually assisting in and representing the destruction of the Humboldt community, the forests, and Constitutional rights," and called the firm's practices "unscrupulous and unethical." No arrests occurred from the jovial yet focused protest nor from the related banner hang in downtown Eureka. However, notable was the presence of several plainclothes investigators with video cameras and an announced FBI agent for about half of the day around the demonstrators.



Mattole Defendants Resist Corporate Attempt to SLAPP Them into Silence

On September 8, 2003, one of the first hearings for the Mattole SLAPP Suit, originally filed on April 6, 2001, finally happened. It was your usual kind of court hearing, where another date was set in 90 days, as the slow gears of the bureaucratic machine keep on grinding.

A settlement offer has been made by Maxxam/Pacific Lumber Company (PL), consisting of a permanent restraining order from all PL lands, to be signed by the defendants, in exchange for dropping the nearly \$500,000 lawsuit against activists. While some took the deal, deciding to move on with their lives, others are going in proper (representing oneself), and continuing to fight Maxxam/PL's SLAPP-happy tactics. At least two of the defendants have counter-charges for assault, battery, kidnapping, and theft, and will pursue these matters as the civil suit progresses.

SLAPP stands for Strategic

Lawsuit Against Public Participation, and is a tactic used by large corporations to attempt to scare the public into silence about their practices. Large corporations get their subsidiary and subcontracted companies to sign onto the lawsuits, too, to try to give the suits more weight and to increase the amount of claimed damages. Some people who were named on the Mattole SLAPP suit had only spoken out at public demonstrations; the corporations are trying to use these SLAPP suits to intimidate people out of their rights to free speech.

Much thanks to our SLAPP suit attorney, Mr. Richard Jay Moller, for helping us to get this far along with the suit, and preventing many of us from losing by default, since few of us are lawyers. Jay will be stepping down from handling the suit, for those of us who wish to continue to fight it, as he is a very busy and dedicated man. Again, many

thanks to Jay for all his help and emotional support throughout the years, and we really appreciate him for all that he does and is.

As the SLAPP suits pile up, we continue to resist, once again proving that we will not be daunted by their scare tactics, and that we will continue to stand and speak out against what is wrong, and for what is right and true. We could really use your support, as filing fees, copying charges, etc. can really add up, and we don't want to take away from the trees for court stuff. Donations can be sent to NCEF!, or you can donate online, at

www.groups.yahoo.com/group/northcoastearthfirst. Please note that your donation is for the SLAPP suit fund. We appreciate all your love and support, and we shall overcome!

Earth First!





In 1938, the building of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C. precipitated the "cherry tree rebellion." Protesters fearing destruction of trees on the site chained themselves to the tree trunks. The politicians waffled. When construction of the memorial got underway, the National Park Service took to removing the trees at night. Eventually, 150 trees were destroyed or moved.

—from Smithsonian magazine, May 1997

Letter from Freshwater Tree Villages

by O.M.D., indigenous Yaqui woman in the Upper Village

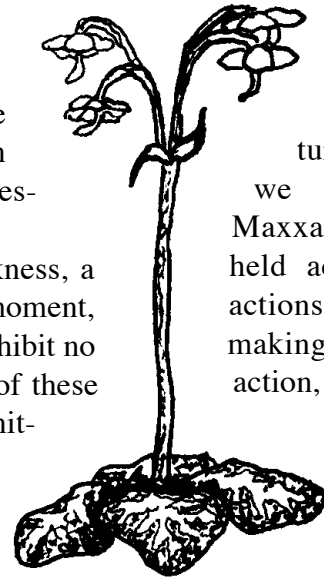
Standing on the shoulders of giants, I gaze out across Horse's Gulch at the clearcut that once was Lower Village. Their vibrations still humming about, Aurora and Embracia, once majestic trees, are now playing their tunes on spiritual planes. Their message gets across.

In a moment of weakness, a village was lost. In that moment, we learned that we can exhibit no weakness in the defense of these trees. We must remain united. Now that we have had an uprising against those seeking to destroy Mama Gaia, let's stand strong! Let us embrace the commitment we have to Mother Earth and face the struggle together.

When I say I stand on the shoulders of giants, I'm not only referring to the giant redwoods that shelter me. I'm also referring to the brave women and men whose love for life transcended into the undaunted strength necessary to physically stand in the way of "progress." I stand on the

shoulders of a community who united against the abuse of their land and supported these warriors, despite negative propaganda.

The mood has already been set for action. There's no turning back. Together we can ensure that Maxxam Corporation be held accountable for their actions against Earth. By making love our primary action, there's no wrong we can do.



Call the Earth First! action line to find out how you can help with forest defense in Humboldt County: (707) 825-6598.

Earth First! Videos for Sale

www.earthfilms.org

Treesit — \$20 + 3 shipping

Mattole Resistance 2002 — \$10 + 3 shipping

Mattole Alert! A Call to Action — \$5 + 3 shipping

Earthfilms PO Box 2198 Redway, CA 95560

Checks or US Money orders

Voicemail: 415 820 1635



Bring Back the Griz!

The Grizzly Bear (Ursus arctos), emblem of California, originally inhabited the foothill oaks and chaparral and the lower forests of the Sierra Nevada. It was distinguished from the black bear by long front claws, a shoulder hump, grizzled coat, and larger size. Abounding during the gold rush, the Grizzly was rapidly reduced, and the last living individual in California was seen in 1924 in Sequoia National Park.

—from Sierra Nevada Natural History, Tracy I. Storer and Robert L. Usinger

THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO SUPPORT North Coast Earth First!

If you support NCEF!'s nonviolent civil disobedience and direct action campaigns, but can't participate physically or afford to make large donations, then you can join us through our \$10-a-month plan.

The philosophy behind it is simple: with 50 or more regular, or semi-regular, participants, most of our important monthly bills would be paid. With 100 or more stalwart folks, we would be able to pay all of our monthly bills (telecommunications and storage, mostly), fully supply the treesits, and possibly have some leftover for throwing community events (concerts, speakers, etc.) You get the idea—all for just \$10 a month.

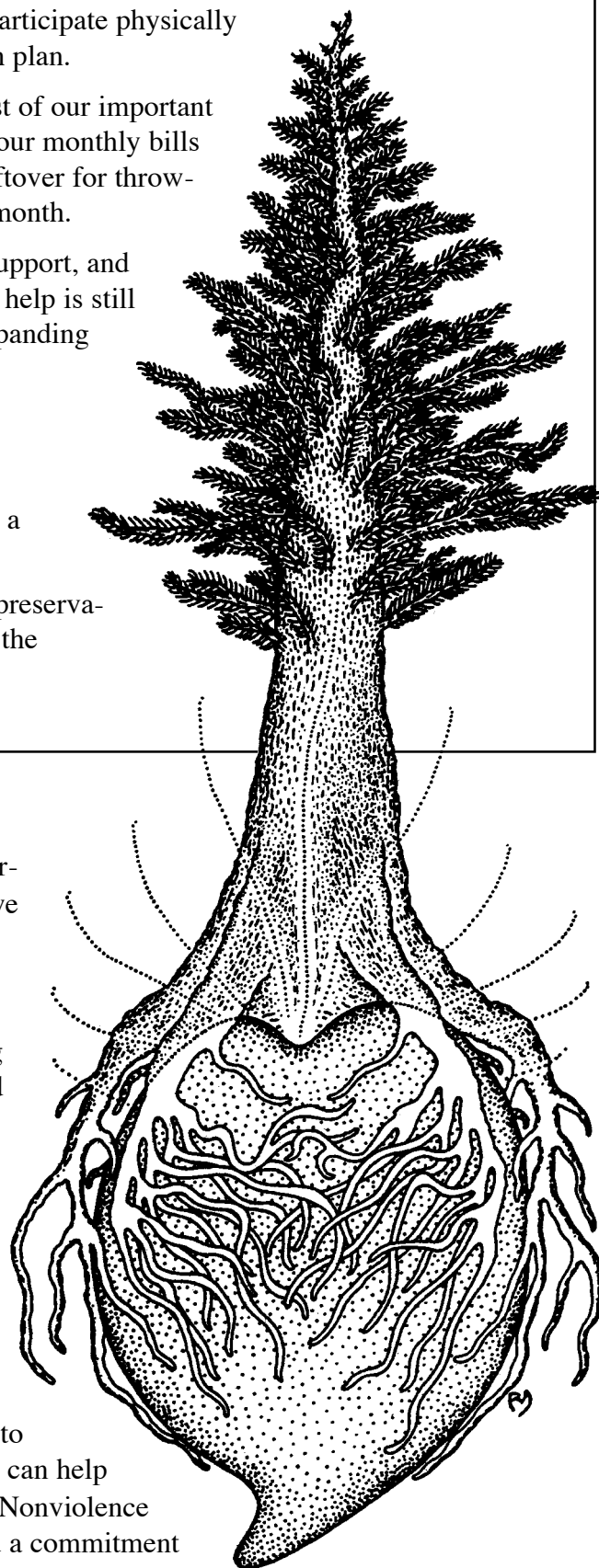
A special thanks to everyone who has been donating! This campaign is based on community support, and our extended support community has really been coming through for us and for the trees. Your help is still needed, as always, to continue to support the existing tree villages and to keep building and expanding the movement.

Visit the NCEF! Yahoo Group site

www.groups.yahoo.com/group/northcoastearthfirst

to find the PayPal donation button, if you prefer to donate with your credit or debit card. It's a secure site, and your information will not be shared with anyone.

This idea was born to help people from all across the country, and beyond, to take part in the preservation of these ancient wonders. It's an easy, low-impact way to really make a huge difference in the effectiveness of our movement.



Urgent Plea for Help!

Going for broke for the cause of intact ecosystems in the past year has cost a bundle and we are nearly broke! It's been a long time since we hit you up for cash, and with the increased rate of logging we need all kinds of equipment and a lot more rope. This newsletter is intended to inform, inspire and connect you to one of the most vibrant, valiant and nonviolent groups of eco-warriors anywhere, North Coast Earth First! Now, not only do we confront cranky loggers, crazed security guards, corporate fraudsters and corrupt officials, while braving the elements, court and jail, we're also fending off fistfuls of SLAPP suits. This year we'll be out in the forest doing our best to slow the loss of old growth and the spread of herbicide-soaked clearcuts on steep slopes. If you like what we do and would like to help us put the Earth first, **please send donations to:**

North Coast Earth First!, P.O. Box 219, Bayside, CA 95524.

Join Us!

Spend a season saving the ancient redwood and Douglas fir forests in Humboldt County! Ancient trees are falling fast, and North Coast Earth First! is standing on the front lines of forest defense, from our roots in Headwaters Forest, to seedlings of resistance all over the bioregion. This year we'll be putting our bodies in the way of destruction. Where will you be? Whether you can commit to a week, a month, a season or longer, the forest needs you! There are a variety of ways in which you can help us defend Humboldt's ancient forests. If you can hike, talk, drive or just sit, there is a role for you. Nonviolence and direct action trainings are provided. Just bring basic camping gear, your love for the forests and a commitment to nonviolence. Active campaigns in the Van Duzen, Mattole, and Freshwater watersheds.

Call the Earth First! action line at: (707) 825-6598.

No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth!


I'm contributing \$ _____

name _____

address _____

email _____

I can't afford to give but please keep me on your _____



add me to your email alert list

We want to make sure that every _____ wants to receive our newsletter. Send _____ if you would like to continue hearing from us: _____ Earth First!, P.O. Box _____ 524.

North Coast Earth First!
P.O. Box 219
Bayside, CA 95524




OUR NONVIOLENT REPUTATION

Earth First! is outspoken in its opposition to violent methods. Because only 3% of the old-growth redwoods remain standing, Earth First! adopted a popular "No Compromise" stance in protection of the last ancient redwood ecosystems a decade ago. Judi Bari's advocacy was largely what led Northern California's Earth First movement to adopt a nonviolence code denouncing tree-spiking and equipment sabotage. Throughout a decade of confrontational timber protests, not a single injury has happened to our opposition. This is despite over a thousand arrests, pepper spray, pain compliance, police brutality, and other forms of violence suffered by nonviolent protesters.

Our nonviolence code:

- Our attitude will be one of openness, friendliness, and respect toward all people and the environment around us.**
- We will use no violence, verbal or physical, toward any person.**
 - We will not damage property.**
 - We will not bring firearms or other weapons.**
 - We will not bring or use illegal drugs or alcohol.**

N O R T H C O A S T
Earth 
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Newsletter

Fall 2003

