



Western Washington University  
Western CEDAR

---

The Planet

Western Student Publications

---

Winter 1989

## The Planet, 1989, Winter, Volume 10, Issue 02

Aaron Coffin

*Western Washington University*

Huxley College of the Environment, Western Washington University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://cedar.wwu.edu/planet>



Part of the [Communication Commons](#), [Environmental Studies Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Coffin, Aaron and Huxley College of the Environment, Western Washington University, "The Planet, 1989, Winter, Volume 10, Issue 02" (1989). *The Planet*. 94.

<https://cedar.wwu.edu/planet/94>

This Issue is brought to you for free and open access by the Western Student Publications at Western CEDAR. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Planet by an authorized administrator of Western CEDAR. For more information, please contact [westerncedar@wwu.edu](mailto:westerncedar@wwu.edu).

# the Planet

A publication of the Associated Students Environmental Center  
Western Washington University



Winter, 1989  
Volume 10 Number 2



# the Planet

The Planet is published quarterly by the Associated Students Environmental Center at Western Washington University. The Planet encourages involvement and comments from our readers. Letters can be addressed to:

A.S. Environmental Center  
Viking Union #113  
Western Washington U.  
Bellingham, WA 98225

phone: (206) 676-3460  
ext 5477

## CONTENTS

E. C. News	1
Dolphins	2
Hidden Lakes	4
Madrona Point	5
Oil Spill	6
Hérons	8
Outdoor Education	10
Seeing Western	11
Education Editorial	12
Old Growth	13

## Planet Staff

Editor: Aaron Coffin  
Associate Editor: Cortlandt Fletcher  
Photo Editor: Kristy Schmidt  
Layout Advisor: Rod Burton  
Faculty Advisor: Michael Frome

Consulting Editors:  
Jeanne Dickinson, Lisa Friend,  
Vera Hoffmann, Sara Olason, Brad  
Reyrols, Annette Zukowski

PAGES OF THE PLANET ARE  
PRINTED ON 100% RE-  
CYCLED PAPER.

Cover Drawing  
by Clare Cde Baca  
Back cover photograph  
by Jeanne Dickinson

## Editorial Hail to the Chief?

by Aaron Coffin

"I am an environmentalist." -  
George Bush on the campaign trail.

No more absurd statement can be made from any four words of the English language, responds conservative columnist George Will. George Bush rides into power on the coattails of a presidential administration that declared all out war on environmental protection in the United States, and Bush played a role in that administration. Certainly Bush deserves a chance to back up his statement, but a word of caution seems appropriate. It is one thing to make a speech and another to provide real support, funding, and enforcement of environmental policies. Does Bush's famous hunting trip remark, "Those aren't animals ... those are wild quail" reflect the depth of his understanding of environmental issues? Can we expect to see kinder, gentler oil spills? It is going to take a deeper understanding of the issues for Bush to deal with very urgent problems such as acid rain, global warming, and toxic pollution control.

## Correction

The Fall, 1988 issue of **The Planet** contained an error in the article "A Clean Bill of Health at Claypit Pond?" To our knowledge, Thermal Reduction Company has never burned asbestos at their facility. **The Planet** regrets this error.

## Editor's Note:

**The Planet** is funded by the Associated Students of Western Washington University. Writing and editing **The Planet** is also offered as a seminar class by Huxley College of Environmental Studies. **The Planet** wishes to thank Jim Wiggins, Steve Walker, and the A.S. board and personnel for their support. **The Planet** is printed by students at the A.S. Print Shop. Thanks also to Margaret Loudon and the WWU Print Plant.

Bush's environmental record in the Reagan administration is not very encouraging. Bush was chairperson of Reagan's Task Force on Regulatory Relief, which was mostly interested in providing "relief" to big business. Among the Task Force's actions were the following:

1. Recommended that the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") delay standards for auto and truck emissions despite studies made by the Carter EPA and the National Academy of Science. (These emissions are a direct cause of the Greenhouse Effect and global warming and air pollution.)

2. Weakened regulations on pesticide and toxic chemical control in 1981. (18,000 dangerous toxic sites have now been identified, because of toxic dumping. Also, 1-3% of the nation's groundwater is now poisoned by toxic heavy metals.)

3. Repealed performance standards and incentives for new home and low-cost housing weatherization. (Heat energy worth an estimated equivalent of 522,000,000 barrels of oil leaked from windows in the U.S. in 1988.)

4. Supported anti-wilderness and wildlife refuge legislation in 1980. (There are currently 930 endangered species in the U.S., and this is increasing by over 50 species per year.)

5. Supported the Army Corps of Engineers exempting 50% of all wetlands from the Clean Water Act in 1983. (This was reversed by a lawsuit in 1984.)

Undoubtedly, Bush can do better on his own, but will he? Ronald Reagan was known, ironically, as the "Great Communicator." Now George Bush is talking a lot, but is he just attempting to be the "Great Pacifier," calming the masses with empty promises?

You may be asking yourself, "Well, what does this have to do with me?"

This issue of **The Planet** illustrates some answers to that question. Since we cannot rely on the White House or Congress to prevent the poisoning of the Earth, we will have to take action ourselves and maybe then our politicians will follow.

(continued on page 14)





# Environmental Center News

by Vera Hoffmann

Greetings from the Environmental Center. The WHAT? you ask? The Environmental Center of WWU, an Associated Students organization that brings you **The Planet** (this quarterly environmental magazine), **Earthscope** (a biweekly newsletter), and **Ecological Perspectives** (a weekly issue-oriented radio show about the environment on KUGS).

The next several months here in the E.C. will be busy ones. On April 9, we will have an Environmental Jam Session, a day-long conference involving environmental organizations of Whatcom and Skagit counties. We would like to make more students aware of what is happening in the local environmental community, hopefully spark greater interest and involvement. The Jam Session will be followed by a potluck buffet and music by local musicians.

April 11 is Arbor Day, which the E.C. will observe with a week long film festival and a special Earthscope edition. The Regenerative Society has organized a group of students to plant evergreen seedlings in conjunction with Arbor Day.

Spring Rally, is April 15 through 23. Earth Day, originally a student environmental teach-in begun in 1970, is on April 22. The Environmental Center, other students groups, and many interested students will be celebrating this important day with the community. Events will be both fun and educational, including the Third Annual Run-for-the-Earth, an environmental art show, music, booths for environmental information, and many other festivities.

Yes, we need a lot of help with these events. Please stop by whenever you have time. Get to know us, the issues, and the approaches different people have taken to solve the forces that threaten the future of our home.



Kristy Schmidt

The Parking Advisory Committee has recommended that the Rufus Jones school lot on 21st Street not be paved for parking.

## Western Parking Update

by Dillon Schneider

As humans affect their environment, so do their most dearly prized possessions -- cars. Because the parking of cars has a direct impact on our immediate urban environment, the Environmental Center at Western has become involved with the controversial issue via the Parking Advisory Committee (PAC). Comprised of two students, faculty, and staff, the PAC meets weekly to discuss Western's parking problems and to recommend coherent, long-ranging plans for their resolution.

There are several important premises on which we have been working. One -- if more facilities are provided (at potential detriment to the environment), the demand for such facilities will expand or exceed the supply. Two -- we want to encourage and facilitate the use of alternative transportation and decrease student dependence on private autos, the continued use of which is environmentally unconscionable. Three -- we want to increase the efficiency of available space at Western.

Towards these ends, we have made

recommendations to use a priority system that give commuters first priority over students living on campus, to discourage students from bringing new cars to Western, and to redesignate some parking lots to increase their efficiency. We also recommend that the Rufus Jones school lot on 21st not be used as an additional parking lot, and that increased handicapped parking be provided.


PAC discussions currently focus on reserved parking spaces, parking fees, and bicycles on campus. Our committee works hard to examine these problems in order to best serve the need for parking while at the same time supporting the interests of the urban environment in which we live.

Environmental Library

Books, Magazines, Research papers concerning many environmental topics

ES 535 (next to Huxley office)

Open M-Th 8-5  
F 8-4





# Saving Dolphins

by Cortlandt Fletcher

*Save the Dolphins! Off*



"I think it is difficult for people to understand something they can't witness firsthand. If something of this nature was taking place on shore....on land...where people could see, it would be stopped immediately because of the reckless waste and disregard for life".

---Sam LaBudde, Research biologist and former tuna boat observer.

It has been my personal dream to someday swim with dolphins in the warm, tropical waters off the coast of the Galapagos. Magnificent creatures equipped with a larger-than-human brain and an acute sixth sense of sonar communication would spark my imagination. Imagine living in such a harmonious and natural balance as to never have to build machines, or rockets, or bombs. To me, dolphins symbolize ecological peace and freedom. We, as humans, could learn much from their ways. But what have we shown them? Instead of seeking a harmonious relationship with these intelligent creatures, we have tolerated senseless destruction of them.

Fortunately, concerned individuals have responded to the dolphins' defense. I'm proud to be one of them, and I have learned that we can do something about it. Conservation groups including Greenpeace, Earth Island Institute, and Sea Shepard Society continue to heroically wage a peaceful battle to save the dolphins. A well-organized, dedicated, and energetic grassroots campaign, focusing on educating consumers to boycott yellowfin tuna is our present agenda priority. In a remarkably short time the truth and seriousness of this unjust situation have been revealed. Now, the tuna industry's most shameful secrets have sparked one of the most dramatic environmental battles of the decade. Total

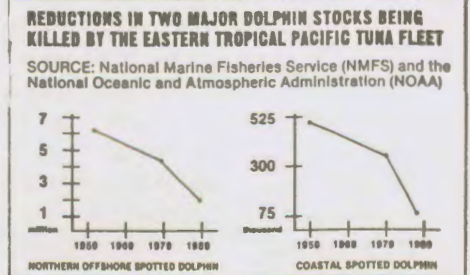
victory this time depends on all of us acting together, acting in peace for our fragile Sunship Earth. We know that someday soon dolphins will again swim gracefully and frolic playfully in the open sea without the fear of explosives, nets, or men.

Ten percent of the world's tuna supply is caught with purse seine nets. Because valuable yellowfin tuna swim beneath dolphins, (only in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean), dolphins are deliberately herded into huge fishing nets that are pulled shut like a purse, killing dolphins and tuna alike. This tactic, known by the fishing industry as "setting on dolphins" is sometimes fatal to entire pods of these mammals. No, we don't eat them, but they are tossed back to sea like empty beer cans. Some 100,000 plus dolphins died in tuna nets in 1987. According to estimates from the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, over 120,000 dolphins became 'incidental' victims of the profit-oriented U.S. and foreign commercial tuna fleets in 1988. Because of the tuna industry's 'backing off' by selling or renting 70% of the U.S. commercial tuna fleet to foreign fisheries (flying another country's flag for profits), a complete ban of all canned tuna is directed towards them. This killing of dolphins is not accidental; it is intentional. Once you've witnessed the helicopters and power boats employed by these greedy men's lust for more and bigger profits, you'll understand a need to remove this product from the market. Because of these grotesque facts, displayed on Sam LaBudde's recently released video footage taken undercover on a Panamanian tuna boat, it is necessary to be informed of the following:

---The U.S. dolphin-kill quota of 20,500 dolphins death per year was not reduced in recent Congressional reauthorization of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

---Underwater explosives carried aboard tuna boats were reduced from class-B to class-C (M-100's) explosives. These remnants of our fathers' warring-era are used to corral dolphins into a tight pack.

---Tuna lobbyists claim if the US-quota is reduced, they will shut down the market and sell remaining boats to foreign markets that will kill dolphins at higher rates. We know the real solution is found in banning this life-for-profit, high-tech, mile-long purse-seine netting.



---Based on the estimates of the National Marine Fisheries Service, present populations of the eastern spinner, offshore spotted, and coastal spotted dolphins are declining. Present populations and dolphin reproductive rates indicate these species are rapidly declining. At present, the intentional killing is increasing and could lead to extinction of dolphins in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

---U.S. District Court Judge Thelton Henderson issued a preliminary injunction against the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) ordering the entire U.S. tuna fleet to carry observers to monitor dolphin death numbers. Attorney Elisabeth Robinson stated, "The NMFS has a long history of ignoring the will of Congress and working closely with the fishing industry. Once again, the agency appears to be reinterpreting the Marine Mammal Protection Act to be the Commercial Tuna Fleet Protection Act".



## Dolphin Red Alert!

---We can all help the dolphins by NOT reaching out for yellowfin tuna on our grocery shelves. Several conservation groups are calling for a full-scale boycott of all canned tuna to send a clear message to the tuna industry.

---Our campaign is currently trying to persuade groceries and restaurants in Whatcom county to remove dolphin-killer yellowfin tuna products from their shelves. Targeted brands are Starkist, Bumblebee, Chicken-of-the-sea. Until these markets stop supporting inhumane acts, remind them (IN ANY WAY YOU CAN) to remove these products.

---Support the local Regenerative Society's petition campaign asking local grocery and restaurant managers to support the tuna boycott and DEMAND a halt to purchasing yellowfin tuna.

This dolphin alert is given to you by concerned students working within the Associated Students guidelines via the Environmental Center. This story is very sad and shocking, but we refuse to hide or forget the truth that life is meant to recapitulate life. For all the care, work, and love we give our Sunship will make a difference. Regeneration is real (take a hike up Sehome Hill sometime) and resolution of conflicting values is a matter of survival, both for our species and our marine relatives.

We dare to dream of peaceful co-existence with all life leading to regenerative values in our society.



Cortlandt Fletcher

We dare to be unreasonable in times of inhumane and needless cruelty. We Will Win!



Dolphin graphic supplied by Earth Island Institute

We dare to DEMAND that Fred Meyer's, Cost-Cutter, Safeway, Ennens, Haggan's, Marriott, and all other tuna fish suppliers become educated enough to know the truth and remove inappropriate products from shelves.

For those of you who have been actively or passively involved in the campaign to save dolphins, full speed ahead! The U.S. tuna industry lobbyists and 'men at the top' know that dolphin-slaughter days are numbered. In their continued assault of life-for-profit, their deeds are being overturned by our small, but energetic, group of volunteers. We openly encourage all individuals, grocery outlet managers, institutional dining halls, and major corporations to join our efforts toward bringing a halt to the largest slaughter of marine mammals in the world today. If we are to become a peaceful species, let us begin with daring and educated realization aimed towards the powers that be ...tellers of inequality, sellers of injustice, you Freddy Meyer, Ralston Purina, and H.J. Heinz.



### Campus rep. removes yellowfin

The Regenerative Society passes along a heartfelt thanks to Mr. Mike Lee, Food Service Director on Western's campus. After I presented Mark Freeman (Marriott's education services manager) with published proof on the dolphin slaughter, both men acted quickly and decisively in removing Geisha brand yellowfin tuna from their shelves. Students at



W.W.U. can now enjoy tunafish sandwiches without partaking in the tuna-dolphin purse-seine net toll.

"In doing the little things, and making it be known that you are doing them for the sake of the planet as a whole, is where the hope of humanity rests" was Norwegian philosopher Arne Naess' personal advice. Peaceful dreams and restful sleep Mr. Freeman and Mike Lee, please pass along information to Marriott, Inc.





# The View from Hidden Lakes Peak

by Wendy Borgeson

I sit on a granitic boulder warmed by the late summer sun. My uniform shirt, soaked with sweat, dries as I rest from clambering up the last few hundred feet of rock and snow to reach the slabs overlooking Hidden Lake. The outer edges of the lake are exposed by snowmelt - a sight I've come to see every August for the last eight years. To the east, I see a mass of peaks with faces of rock, brilliant green avalanche tracks, or permanent snowfields.

Behind me the trailhead lies at the end of a spur off the Cascade River road, two hours southeast of Bellingham. The trail begins in a silver fir forest, crosses Sibley Creek, winding through meadows where Sitka Valerian, monkeyflower, and blue lupine are blooming. Past this profusion of flowers, a few tiny gnarled trees dot the way until meadow turns to boulders. At least eight months of the year, the entire area above the trees is covered with heavy snow on an avalanche-prone slope, which protects it from human disturbance.

My time here alone makes me acutely aware of small details: cracks in the slabs, circles of clinging lichen, and shadows as the sun shifts position. I remember why I chose to get married standing on these rocks; it was not just the beauty. It was the starkness of rock against sky and sound swallowed by wind. The mists roll below this point -- making it seem far away from roads and crowds.

A sound breaks through the wind: a low roaring that slows to an idle then roars again. I've been a ranger in North Cascades National Park for eight seasons, and I don't recall hearing the sound of a chainsaw from Hidden Lakes peak before. I close my eyes and feel queasy, recalling pink flagging tape on the road to the trailhead. When spur roads are widened on adjacent National Forest, it is for a reason. I've seen logging trucks rumble down the Cascade River road more frequently in the last two years. The Cascade River flows muddy where I used to see the river bottom. I guess I was fooling myself that logging wouldn't increase in the area that I love most.

That was August. Now it's nearly the following spring, and my fears have been confirmed. I've learned that the chainsaw sound I heard last summer will be much closer this year. I can't believe - or accept - the idea of clearcutting so close to Hidden Lakes Peak. The wooden marker below the peak that divides National Park from National Forest, after all, is just an artificial boundary. The meadow, plants, rocks, animals and trees are the same on either side of the jurisdictional division. Yet on the Forest side, the slopes are vulnerable to the destructive practices of clearcutting. A new spur road will cut across Sibley Creek and at least two clearcut units will be near it. I knew nothing about it until recently, but authorization for this timber sale was signed by the Forest Supervisor in 1986. If I patrol the National Park side and I hadn't heard about this sale, then I doubt if many visitors who love to hike in this area have learned of it even now.

Concerned citizens do have a chance to comment during the required Environmental Assessment of the timber sale area, but the period open for public comment is short and, I fear, poorly publicized. A legal notice in the classified section of the Skagit Valley papers is all that is necessary to advertise the comment deadline for a sale planned in the Cascade River area. If an interested individual does catch this notice, it is difficult to stir up sentiment and facts quickly enough to launch a letter-writing campaign. The only effective way to raise objections, except for a legal appeal, is to learn about timber decisions before the public comment period.

When I first heard the news about the Hidden Lakes area from a friend, I felt powerless. But she told me that she had joined a group called Adopt-a-Forest, sponsored by the Audubon Society and designed to monitor timber sales within individual ranger districts. Audubon is primarily concerned with activities affecting wildlife, but this has led to further concern with effects on recreation, trails, fisheries, and the integrity of roadless areas.

(continued on page 15)



# The Madrona Point Controversy

by Jeanne Dickinson

Thirty acres of fir and madrona trees comprise most of the Madrona Point peninsula on Orcas Island. Three-quarters of a mile of shoreline known as Crescent Beach includes medium to high bank waterfront and a sandy beach area which faces Ship Bay. Previously, a resort occupied most of the site, but recently, the vacated cabins were removed. This was the beginning of Northwest Building Corporation's development plans.

Since 1986, Orcas Island residents and the Lummi Indians have combined time, energy, and ideas to preserve Madrona Point. Throughout their tenacious efforts, several organizations and groups, county, state, and national officials have become involved in the issue of whether Madrona Point will be preserved or developed.

The Madrona Point Committee (Orcas Island based) is a private, non-profit organization which represents Orcas Islanders and supports the Lummi Indians. Their goal is to preserve Madrona Point's environmental, ecological, and cultural heritage.

Aiming to purchase Madrona Point, the Board members are working with San Juan County, state and federal officials to preserve the land. The Lummi are primarily interested in preserving the land for their sacred burial grounds.

Last spring, Northwest Building Corporation offered to sell Madrona Point to the Lummi Indians for \$1.5 million, but political questions and conflicts prohibited the tribal purchase. Madrona Point Committee still hopes to be able to purchase the land. They have consistently raised funds, held public meetings, and tried to incorporate as much public assistance and input as possible.

Some conflicting factors have created turmoil in the decision-making process. The Lummi Indians strongly oppose the development claiming that Madrona Point is sacred land containing Lummi Indian burial sites. However, archaeologists have found no such evidence in their investigations, "We should stress that our studies do not preclude possibilities that either human remains were, at some time, deposited in trees in the area, or simply left on top of the bedrock or other ground surfaces.

Remains left in such conditions would be subject to rapid disintegration and/or possible removal from wildlife scavengers. While this possibility cannot be disproved, we were unable to locate any empirical evidence in support of it." (Wesson and Welch, May 1987.)

Spirit Eagle, a former Orcas Island resident, has been actively involved in the Madrona Point issue. Originally, she was the liaison to the Lummi Indians from the Madrona Point Committee. She asserts that, "Over time, trees and graves have been desecrated," and artifacts have been stolen. She explained that a fire which burned Madrona Point at the turn of the century "would have destroyed remains of tree burials."

The Department of Natural Resources explored Madrona Point in May 1987, discovering an unusually great amount of ecological diversity for the acreage involved. Madrona Point currently supports a wildlife community that the nearby town of Eastsound can easily visit and see on daily basis. Endangered species living on the Point include eagles, ospreys, harbor seals, to name but a few. Development would disrupt many sentimental and historical characteristics of the land and cause negative impact to the natural inhabitants. Spirit Eagle stressed that development would cause the "ecological death of Madrona Point."

Presently, there is no need for additional housing on Orcas Island. While some Orcas Islanders approve of the development proposition, which would attract more tourism and economic profit to the community, recently about 100 people gathered at Madrona Point emotionally protesting the planned housing development project.

Public contributions of opinions, funding, and community support are being sought to help save Madrona Point. Those interested in helping may get further information by calling (206) 367-5647 or writing P.O. Box 311, Eastsound, WA 98245.



Rev. Jack Kintner

Madrona Point on Orcas Island--preservation or exploitation?



# Oiled Bird Rescue

## Volunteer Efforts Raise Slippery Questions

by Sara Olason

We were taking a last morning walk on the beach, toward the distant Westport lighthouse we'd seen flashing eerily the night before. My friend veered from our straight path to investigate a dark lump down toward the water. I followed. The shape was a loon, smeared brown with oil. It tucked its head back into its neck and held still as a wooden decoy until we came close, then it raised its head and stretched a little as if to flop away. We stopped a few feet away so it wouldn't struggle.

We couldn't help that loon, or a second loon we found further down the shore, huddled against the cold rainy wind. We knew if we tried to lift them, carry them back to our motel, they'd probably die of shock. Though tire tracks patterned the sand like garlands, no one drove up to help us. The loons watched us as we stood outside their circles of safety, until we finally walked on. We did mark their locations with bright orange floats we found among the driftwood, in hopes patrolling beach rangers would spot them.

We didn't know those two loons were the first of over 10,000 seabirds that would eventually paddle or dive into one of the largest oil spills in Washington's history. Only after I was home again, back in the media-saturated world I'd escaped for a few days, did I learn the barge *Nestucca* had been rammed by its tug in heavy seas off Ocean Shores December 22, and had poured 231,000 gallons of heavy oil into the Pacific Ocean.



Michael J. Lehnert

These two murrets were the last of more than 20 oil-soaked birds cared for by George and Lois Garlick at their home, just south of Bellingham.

Two oily, struggling birds made that news real to me. Newspaper reports of volunteer efforts to rescue oiled loons, grebes, scoters and murrets captured my attention for weeks after the spill. I wished I, too, could drop school and work to help. Instead, I spoke to some of the energetic, committed people who saw the problems of oiled bird rescue first hand.

I was dismayed to learn only 13 to 33 percent of birds cleaned at rescue centers survived. The stresses of being handled for cleaning and feeding, and being confined in noisy pens, evidently overwhelmed many birds. Rescue

workers found the hard water they were washing birds with left residues on their feathers so they had to be rewashed, adding to this stress. But without this extra cleaning, the birds' natural waterproofing wouldn't reappear on their feathers, to protect them from hypothermia and waterlogging out on the ocean.

I also learned from Bob Steelquist of the State Department of Wildlife that many birds probably sank far from shore or died on inaccessible beaches. Volunteers cleaned about 3,000 birds (this is an unofficial estimate, he said) and picked up about 4,000 bird corpses to keep



eagles and other scavengers from eating them. If few birds make it to shore, and even fewer survive the treatment that's supposed to save them, why bother rescuing birds?

Veterinarian Jessica Porter's reaction when I asked her this question sums up my own frustration: "What are you going to do, let them [oiled birds] sit there and die? Ignoring any creature's suffering makes you less than human. We as humans caused their suffering, and we're responsible."



Michael J. Lehnert

Western graduate Lisa Weiner and volunteer Jim Fulbright examine a dead White Wing Scoter. The bird was weakened from fighting the effects of the oil and had become trapped between two beached logs.

This sense of responsibility has prompted formation of the Washington Oiled Bird Rescue Program, a state-wide system for certifying volunteer rescue groups and coordinating them during spills. Adopt a Beach, Puget Sounders, the Island Oil Spill Association and other volunteer environmental organizations are making lists of volunteers who could donate equipment, transportation and time during a spill. Adopt a Beach organizers Betsy Peabody and Ken Pritchard told me they're still searching for money to pay a state coordinator, who would oversee certification of groups and coordinate them during big spills.

But cleaning up spills after the fact is only a Band-Aid solution. "When you organize a state-wide program like this, your efforts should be not just concentrated on preparing for an incident when it happens. You should also concentrate on involving and educating people about how to prevent spills," Peabody said. We should tell our legislators we want tougher regulations on oil transportation, or even better, no drilling or transportation of oil along our coasts. We should push oil companies to

be more liable for spills, and applaud them when they do act responsibly. For example, Clean Sound, a consortium of 17 regional oil and oil transport companies, is creating some mobile bird cleaning units, manager John Wiechert told me. The units will have water purification, softening and heating systems, and could be mounted on trailers. It wouldn't hurt to tell Clean Sound we appreciate their efforts.

Governor Booth Gardner is fighting oil exploration on the Washington coast, and in his budget address, President Bush said he'll postpone oil and gas lease sales off

(continued on page 16)

Several bills related to oil transportation, off-shore leasing for oil exploration, oil clean-up liability and assessment for spill damages will be up for votes in our state legislature. They must be passed by March 15, 1989, or they will die.

Senate Bill 5315 and House Bill 1828 require vessels over 300 gross tons carrying oil or other hazardous substances to show they could pay the state of Washington's clean-up costs, and costs of resource damage due to spills. Through insurance or other means, they must establish ability to cover \$1 million or \$150 per gross ton, whichever is larger. Penalties for noncompliance are suspension or operation of the vessel or fines up to \$10,000. (Federal laws already require such vessels to cover the U.S. government's liability; this bill adds state coverage.)

Senate Joint Memorial 8006 asks Congress to clarify confusing federal laws, to ensure none of them would block the state from fully recovering costs of spills.

House Bills 1853 and 1854 change the system for oil spill liability assessment. Presently, the U.S. Coast Guard and state agencies work through expensive damage assessments after spills, when often the damage can't be quantified in dollar amounts, and the spiller won't adequately repair the damage anyway. These bills allow a pre-assessment committee (of state agency officials) to assess fines according to a pre-set fee schedule, if a full-blown assessment wouldn't bring restoration for damages.

Senate House Bill 1190 (2nd Substitute), known as the Ocean Natural Resources Management Act of 1989, delays leasing of state-owned tidal lands for oil or gas exploration, development and production until at least July 1, 1995. The bill requires state agencies to analyze impacts of leasing by Sept. 1, 1994, so the legislature can use this analysis to decide whether the moratorium should be extended beyond 1995.



# Gronk! if you love Blue Herons

by Brad Reynolds

It is impossible to ignore the great blue heron of Puget Sound, even for the totally uninitiated bird-watcher.

Scientists have hypothesized that birds were the lone survivors from the age of the dinosaurs, and the blue heron must have served as a prime example. The great blue, known as "the grandfather" by local native Americans, can span an amazing five and one-half feet, wing to wing, while in flight. Its angular silhouette, with legs drooping underneath, adds to the pterodactyl image. When aroused, the heron emits a hoarse "Gronk Gronk" cry.

When the largest great blue heron rookery in the region was found to be near a proposed golf course in the tiny, unincorporated peninsula of Point Roberts, 30 miles northwest of Bellingham, it became impossible for developers to ignore the blue heron.

The ensuing outcries brought together concerned local residents, developers, biologists, and state officials. In the end, however, the blue heron's fate will ultimately depend on money.

The heron colony at Point Roberts, which numbered 338 nests in 1988, has been forced to move four times in the last 40 years, according to British Columbia wildlife biologist and blue heron expert, John Kelsall. They are simply running out of places to go, he said.

"The colony was originally located at the northern end of Tsawwassen bluff (British Columbia)," Kelsall said. Logging, power-line construction, and development forced a retreat into their present American based refuge on the quiet Point Roberts peninsula.

The quiet ended last year when Canada, by agreement, began to provide a much needed source of drinking water for Point Roberts residents, who are cut off from mainland United States.

Since last August, land prices have jumped and developers have scurried into the area, which is already 85% Canadian owned.

The idea of a pastoral golf course next to the blue heron rookery seems like an acceptable idea at first glance. Claudette Reed-Upton, Point Roberts



resident and member of the Point Roberts Heron Preservation Committee, points out, however, "it's not the golf course so much but what is associated with it." A 200 unit condominium complex, use of herbicides and pesticides to maintain greens and fairways, and encouragement for other developers to come into the area, are all side effects the golf course could have, warns Reed-Upton.

The environmental consulting firm of Ted Gacek Associates of Bellingham is currently conducting an environmental impact statement on the golf course development. Actions which may remedy (or mitigate, in consultants' jargon) the situation are

1) construction of fencing around the immediate vicinity of the heron rookery,

2) require developers to curtail noisy construction work during mating and nesting times, and

3) maintain adequate vertical as well as horizontal buffer zones for the colony. Plans now show the golf course boundary will be 500 to 700 feet from the rookery, which should provide an adequate barrier from disturbance, according to past studies.

The Heron Preservation Committee is presently seeking funds to purchase three parcels of land on which the heron colony is located. Reed-Upton said around \$200,000 may be needed. Bellingham recently agreed to chip in some of the money, to help compensate for loss in heron habitat created by construction of the new Alaskan Ferry terminal.

There is a problem of maintaining a large 20 to 30 acre block of undisturbed forest for the herons' nesting habitat, Kelsall said. "Big colonies, such as the one at Point Roberts, are important for maintaining genetic variability of the heron population."

Wildlife biologists also believe larger colonies serve to supply smaller colonies of herons with a constant supply of new recruits. Larger sized colonies are also a safeguard against predators, Kelsall said. Smaller colonies have been forced to move when their offspring became targets of nearby eagles, osprey, and red-tailed hawks.

Heron counts for last year have been high, but, Kelsall warned, the preceding mild winter was the main reason. "The rate at which the heron nesting habitat is being developed is cause for great concern," he said.

An estimated 2100 pairs of great blue heron, *Ardea herodias*, nest throughout the Puget Sound and Strait of Georgia, according to Don Norman, graduate student at Huxley College of Environmental Studies,



Western Washington University. Two other large heron colonies exist in the Bellingham area: Samish Island with 350 nests and Birch Bay, with over 200 nests counted in 1988.

The herons return to the rookeries anywhere from February to March, where they mate and nest, producing two to five eggs. The eggs hatch in about 28 days. During that period, "being in a heron colony is exciting," Norman said. "There is constant noise, with outbursts of roaring as adults sail in with food for the gluttonous, pushy chicks."

Norman has measured levels of toxic organic chemicals, most notably polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the heron, using "non-lethal" techniques such as analyzing eggshells and chicks that have fallen from nests.

"The blue heron makes a good indicator species for looking at pollutants because it is a resident bird - it doesn't migrate. It also feeds at the top of the food chain, and it is a generalized feeder," Norman said.

Snakes, rodents, voles, most fish, "basically, anything that moves" ends up on the blue herons menu and impaled on the end of its lightening quick bill. The pond in the Fairhaven College commons at Western was reportedly stripped of its frog population by invading herons, according to Norman.

These attributes make the blue heron a sensitive indicator for pollutants. A heron colony in Crofton, British Columbia on Vancouver Island was found not to have produced a single hatched egg, in 1987. The estuary where herons foraged for food was discovered contaminated with dioxins. The source of contamination was from chlorophenols, a type of chemical used to treat the wood at a nearby pulp mill. As a result, the Canadian forest industries are being pressured to move away from the use of chlorophenols.

Blue herons can be quite tolerant of humans while they are foraging. However, they can be quite sensitive to disturbances during their nesting and courtship periods. A buffer zone between the herons and human activity is considered essential if the bird is to successfully reproduce

"Unfortunately, there are no policies that provide direct protection for a heronry," according to one state wildlife biologist. Only the bald eagle, in this state, is afforded any legal protection against the increasing onslaught of development.

In Seattle, for example, a planned 76-unit condominium threatens the existence of the last surviving heronry in the city, near Kellogg Island.

Don Norman states, in his proposed management plan for the great blue heron, "many questions ... need to be addressed. How many blue herons can the region support with its continued accelerated destruction of wetlands and nearby nesting trees? A devastating winter, or series of poor breeding seasons, combined with destruction of the core large colonies may reduce the species to numbers that may threaten its survival."



Brad Reynolds

Empty Blue heron rookeries, like this one at Birch Bay will soon be filled with nesting and mating herons.



# Teaching (and Learning) in the Rain

by Saul Weisberg

"You're going to get wet."  
"The wet's what it's all about."

- overheard during a summer storm at a trailhead in the North Cascades.

The group, some ahead of me, some far behind, moves slowly, silently. It's not the silence of quiet communion with the wilderness, but rather the footsore slogging of exhausted students. Our camp is miles away, our discussion on forest succession ended as gray clouds descended to the ground. We move without speaking. I think of the many forms of water: clouds and rivers and lakes and rain and sleet. I'm wet and cold and tired. I'm also teaching.

Once, when I was new to this business, an old friend turned to me in the winter darkness of a Wyoming cabin and said "You can't teach in the rain." That was years ago and miles removed from this green river valley deep in the North Cascades, but once again that thought returns.

You can teach in the rain, of course. But you teach differently, you learn differently. The wilderness is not merely a backdrop for this class -- everything we do is placed in the context of wildness. The rain is an integral element of this wilderness place. And the place changes you. It reaches out and grabs your attention, demands to be noticed. In the North Cascades rain is one way the wilderness says "You're not in the classroom any more."

I've been teaching in the northwest wilderness for over twelve years, most recently as director of North Cascades Institute, a nonprofit environmental field school. It began as a dream shared by a group of old friends, friends who found themselves at summer's end, resting along the shores of Ross Lake after a climbing trip into the Picket Range. We had all taught in environmental education programs for many years, and once again the question arose as to why there was no such program available in the Pacific Northwest. We decided it was time to start one. That was where the initial

comment "You can't teach in the rain" came from. There are many nonbelievers out there, people who feel you need the dessicated dryness of the Sierra Nevada or the Rockies to run outdoor programs. Nonsense. All it takes is a willingness to accept the rain as an essential element of place, to accept what the land is teaching you.

Rain is the signature of the North Cascades. It makes the land. Glaciers, mountains, rivers, and the inland sea we call Puget Sound are all molded by its wet embrace. If you come here, you're going to get wet.

The crux of teaching, and learning, in the wilderness classroom is using the power of place. Letting the rain teach. Letting wild lands speak for themselves, with minimal interpretation. Getting out of the way.

The elements of wilderness education are time, place, people, and something to talk about. The art lies in putting them together, then trusting yourself and the students enough to stand back and watch what happens.

The role of wilderness teacher is like that of cook: have an idea of what the final product will be, add essential ingredients at the proper time, be prepared for happy accidents, and clean up the inevitable messes. Immerse a small group of students in a powerful natural environment, give them something to sink their teeth into (be it alpine ecology or wilderness management), mix thoroughly, and let simmer for a few days or more. Look out. The learning is deep, powerful, and lasting.

Teaching in the rain involves more than just teaching. Living in the rain is hard. Wet clothes, wet sleeping bags, soggy granola, field guides that either fall apart or swell to twice their original volume. We can learn from the earlier native inhabitants. Did they stay inside their longhouses, sitting around a smokey fire, or did they put on their cedar-bark capes and go out to accept the wet? After two or three days the rain stops being an outside force. Its presence is invasive; another being living with you, close to your skin. It becomes as familiar and natural as the wet polypropylene that clings soggly to our backs.



Saul Weisberg

Education can take place in any environment.



Each time I am out with students and clouds roll in from the southwest, sink towards the ground, and begin spitting at us, I relearn the same lessons. At first I look for signs of clearing, delaying projects "until the weather changes." Eventually there is nothing left but to continue. We gear-up and move on towards the day's lesson. It's not always fun, but it is important.

A good time to learn the lessons of microhabitats, to hunker down in protected crannies and watch alpine saxifrages hiding from the wind.

Teaching, like cooking, is difficult in the rain. Our reward is learning, which, like eating, is always satisfying. Teaching in wilderness is powerful, teaching for wilderness is infinitely more so. Teaching for wilderness implies listening to the voices of the land. It can change your life.



"Walking into the mountains.  
In the rain.  
Deeper and deeper.  
Everything is green."

- Journal entry, 1984

Our goal is no less than to change the world. Rain is one of the essential ingredients of place. A basic tenet of ecological truth here in the Pacific Northwest is that the land is the way it is -- in shape, smell, texture, sound -- because of the rain. It sings sweetly to the cedars. Our job is to learn to listen to its song.

Saul Weisberg is Executive Director of the North Cascades Institute, a nonprofit environmental field school dedicated to increasing understanding and appreciation of the natural, historical, and cultural legacy of the North Cascades bioregion of Washington. For information: North Cascades Institute, 2105 Highway 20, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284 (206) 856-5700.

## Seeing Western through the eyes of an Alien

by Martin Lasczny

Everything was wrong on this 17th of September. The nice view out of my window in our early 19th century home was gone. A noisy crowd of university students played around the dorm, giving me a new experience with the Queen's English. My new home impressed me as a prison, where I was herded together with a flock of runaways and fed junkfood.

Now it's been five months since I came from my home in Marburg, West Germany, where I studied biology, concentrating on animal ecology. In Germany, it was strange to study nature without studying in nature, or even better, in wilderness. Unlike Bellingham, if you feel the need to visit an unimpaired forest while living in Marburg, you had better prepare for a long trip. Only a handful of wild regions are left in Europe: after a two-day journey you might be disappointed to see only 100 acres worthy to be called "wild."

I always felt the devastated state of nature should result in a broad scientific approach towards environmental studies. Unfortunately, Marburg is a typical classical science university. Environmental studies, as an independent department, are unknown and we had to fight for the last four years to establish one professor-position for nature protection.

Now you have an idea of why I came to Western, to study at the biology department and Huxley. Have a look through the eyes of an alien.

I feel as much at home in the biology department as I did at Marburg. I find the same insular, classroom-bound approach toward nature. There is seldom a real thrill therein. Yet a three-day excursion to Olympic National Park, to study plant ecology, stands out. This area really touched me, and I couldn't help comparing it with Germany. Have you ever heard about German na-

tional parks? They are either tiny or overdeveloped. In the long run, Western's biology department resembles its counterpart back in Europe, yet in a less impaired natural setting.

But Huxley is different than the biology department. In the Huxley classes I attended, the instructors asked for our own opinions, and discussions caught fire on different occasions, while the biology classes were more of lecture type. Concerning faculty/student relations, I experienced similar differences between biology and Huxley. Huxley's instructors emphasize lively relations towards their students and take them seriously. We are forced to develop our own ideas in dealing with them, and to take our own standings. Simultaneously, the broad approach of Huxley, with its variety of disciplines, like environmental education, environmental journalism and watershed studies, is aiming at an insight into various fields for the students.

My experience with Huxley students is very positive. Those I came to know were pleasant and friendly. Fortunately, Huxley's study environment is unspoiled by negative competitiveness among the students.

(continue on page 12)



## Seeing Western through the eyes of an alien.

(continued)

Several times I went out with Huxley majors to hike, fish and hunt, and shared their deeper insight into nature.

However, several weak points really spoiled the happiness. For one thing, I observed little esprit de corps. Intramural activities, organized by Huxley, equal zero and collaboration of Huxley's different disciplines is a fairy tale.

For another, I talked to a lot of people who had no idea of the meaning of ecology. It should be emphasized more. Moreover, there is nobody to tell how to become an environmental activist, and Huxley's involvement in current local issues should grow significantly.

Intrinsic Huxley problems need attention. The departmental structure of Huxley sustains a broad approach, but interdisciplinary relations appear to be weak on student and faculty levels. Other students I talked to on campus were impressed by Huxley's fight for the environment but, like the faculty of other departments, had problems with the multidisciplinary approach, to which they are simply unaccustomed.

As time went by, my attitude towards the dorm didn't change. Yet I found friends and had good times. At the turn of the year I moved off campus and learned another aspect of life. I feel comfortable here.

Some friends I came to know at Huxley have already left, and I'll follow them soon, trying to get an internship in the woods to see another side of life in America.

Reflecting on my time in Bellingham, there are many good things to remember. The area is really nice, especially if you get out of town. I remember beautiful times in the woods, "the paradise of conifers," and at the sea, sunsets and bits and pieces of wilderness scenes. I'll leave behind a college I like to study in, and from which I got the experience of multidisciplinary environmental studies. Last but not least, I made a lot of friends, although the time was too short (and the rain too severe).

## Education Editorial

# Now I Know...

by Vicki Stevens

I grabbed the aerosol Aqua Net and let it fly.

"What are you doing?" my roommate asked.

"Gluing my hair."

"Don't you know you are destroying the ozone layer with that stuff?"

"What's the ozone layer?"

It was my freshman year at Western, and I was preparing for a day full of GUR's when I heard about the ozone layer for the first time. It was one of the many times then and since when someone has referred to an environmental issue, and I brilliantly replied with an intellectual "Huh?"

I thought I was apathetic about the environment, or the issues were made-up or I thought "No, these are exaggerated concerns for those rebels who need a cause."

But I changed my mind.

I was 18 before I heard about the greenhouse effect in my first college class. I am still not sure what "old-growth" trees are nor do I know anything about off-shore drilling.

Huxley majors might consider me a pariah in their environmental world. But I need to be educated because these issues affect everyone - not just those who choose to immerse themselves in environmental studies.

Looking back, I realize that by 18 I should have known the fate of forests and the consequences of off-shore drilling. Education about the environment needs to be widespread. It needs to start in elementary school and continue throughout the educational process. Just like history, English and P.E., conservation and waste

management should be high school graduation requirements.

The only reason I learned anything about the environment was I needed a B-section GUR and chose Huxley 110 -- one class in 15 years of school. And it was just a brief overview of numerous topics that affect the environment. Its sole purpose was to spark interest without going into detail. The next Huxley class I took, Environmental Journalism, inspired me to recycle, something I should have been doing for a long time, but I didn't know differently.

Once the educational system recognizes environmental concerns as legitimate and worth taking the time and money to teach, the responsibility of maintaining the environment will permeate into the general public.

When this is achieved and a class of business students can name the causes of ozone depletion as well as the leader of Germany in World War II, then the educational process will have succeeded.

More people will care. More people will choose paper rather than plastic goods. More people will be concerned about oil-covered birds at Neah Bay. The media will be more informed to report on environmental issues, thus informing even more people. The public will be able to discuss and vote on government and community actions regarding the environment.

It takes time to change priorities. We are all students of one university, and environmental concerns should be shared by all of us.

Hopefully, when I have a daughter, she will know about environmental issues by the time she is 10.





## I Can't Go Home

by Mike Bell

When I was a child, I loved to play in my backyard. My backyard offered freedom, adventure and a chance to explore. Yet, it lacked the traditional characteristics of the middle-class American backyard. There was no barbeque, swingset, treehouse, patio, or basketball hoop. My backyard was the Olympic Peninsula Rainforest.

My family often sought refuge in the old-growth forests of the Olympic Peninsula. It was a time when we could escape our sheltered suburban lives and be humbled by some of Mother Earth's ancient forests. At the time, I was unaware of the biological importance of these 250- to 700-year-old monuments; I was simply in awe of their majesty.

Since then, my visits to the Rainforest have been few and comparatively spiritless. Only 17 percent of the original old-growth forest

still stands, purely as the result of excessive logging. My temple has been turned into toilet paper and Japanese pagodas. My home, is gone.

Moreover, I can survive (eat, sleep and drink beer) within the realm of industrialism, the native species of the ancient forest cannot. Over 150 species of animals are dependent upon old-growth, and that does not include many species of insects. Animals such as the bald eagle, pileated woodpecker, flying squirrel, Sitka black tail deer and golden buprestid beetle are all dependent on old-growth forests. Recently, the northern spotted owl has become the "poster-child" for old-growth dependent wildlife, as it nears extinction. The spotted owl makes its nest in the tops of old-growth snags, which provide excellent cover from the elements and its predatorial counterpart, the great horned owl. When this cover is destroyed or exposed as the result of a clearcut, the spotted owl and all the old-growth dependent species - plants and animals alike - are devastated, and this is where the controversy arises.

Old-growth is more than a tree that measures 300 feet high and 12 feet in diameter, it is a complex and diverse ecosystem. The entire balance of the Olympic Peninsula Rainforest relies upon the multi-layered canopy and birth-death cycle of the ancient trees. The diversity of a multi-layered forest creates a natural balance of sunlight, water, growth and decay. When a dominating old tree dies and collapses to the forest floor, it allows for sunlight to penetrate an entire new region. The fallen tree then decomposes and supplies the soils, plants and animals with nutrients. Thus, the cycle begins again.

The United States Forest Service (the governing agency of public land) considers the old-growth ecosystem "over-mature," and would rather replace the trees with a monoculture of even-aged stands. Since the Forest Service is essentially a federal timber company, it would much rather see wildlands turned into profitable tree farms.

(continued on page 14)

The  
**Food Co.op**

Quality From The Ground Up!

COMMUNITY OWNED  
SINCE 1970



1059 N. STATE  
Monday-Saturday 9-8  
Sunday 11-6

**A.S.**  
**RECYCLE**  
We currently accept  
• all grades of paper  
• aluminum  
• glass  
• tin  
• scrap metal  
Open 7 days a week  
down to dusk  
519 21st  
678-3088

Breakfast, Lunch  
Snacks

Fresh Bagels Daily  
All Varieties

Espresso / Gelato

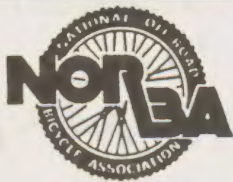
THE **Bagelry**  
INC.

Open Sunday

1319 Railroad Ave  
Bellingham, WA 98225

206-676-5288





### NORBA CODE

1. I will yield the right of way to other non-motorized recreationists.
2. I will use caution when overtaking another and will make my presence known well in advance.
3. I will maintain control of my speed at all times.
4. I will stay on designated trails.
5. I will not disturb wildlife or livestock.
6. I will not litter.
7. I will respect public and private property.
8. I will always be self-sufficient.
9. I will not travel solo when bikepacking in remote areas.
10. I will observe the practice of minimum impact bicycling.
11. I will always wear a helmet whenever I ride.



100 E. Chestnut 733-6440  
Bellingham Washington 98225

A K A S H A



Bellingham's largest and most complete metaphysical bookstore

1124 N. State St.  
Bellingham, WA  
671-6153

Mon-Sat 11-7 • Sun 11-5  
Free Parking

## Editorial (continued)

The Ocean Shores oil spill further illustrates the effect of our lifestyles on other living beings. The Ocean Shores oil spill is a direct result of our excessive use of cars, as is air pollution and global warming due to the Greenhouse Effect. In light of all these problems, how can we possibly justify clearing land for another parking lot here at Western? Instead, we should be examining ways of clearing parking lots to plant trees or create a park. A daily choice to walk, bike, or bus when possible can make a difference.

Perhaps the most important aspect of our current environmental crisis is neglected education. How is it that students at Western, rated as one of the top undergraduate universities in the country and possessing an established, respected Environmental Studies school (Huxley College) can go through four years of education and graduate without any knowledge of environmental issues? Western, like most U.S. universities, is producing engineers and business people who may be completely ignorant in what is probably the most important topic of our time. One course in environmental studies should be required of all Western graduates and Western's administrators and teachers should insist on that.

Last year's successful campaign to ban styrafoam cups on Western's campus proves that individuals acting together can make a difference. The same is true of the voters' passage of Initiative 97 (the toxic waste clean-up bill) -- in the same election that chose Bush.



## I Can't Go Back Home

(continued from page 13)

"But what about jobs?" Too often the environment and employment are placed at unjustifiable odds. However, technology has hurt the logger more than anything. Within the last 10 years, there has been a 10 percent increase in timber harvest and a 13 percent decrease in jobs, due primarily to mechanization of the logging industry. Further endangering the logging-dependent communities is the proposal to lift the current ban of raw log export to other countries. This will inevitably transfer jobs from our communities to foreign countries.

"So why should we save Old-growth?"

For several reasons. The ancient forests have much more value in their natural environment than they do in the marketplace. Despite popular belief, most old-growth that is harvested is chipped for pulp, the lowest quality timber product made. With the aid of selective cutting and proper rotation cycles, harvestable stands around 80 years of age would suffice, and would subsequently maintain the integrity of the virgin forests. The Olympic rainforests are very important for Native American cultural uses. The ancient forests are sacred and are an essential part of ceremonial events. At the current rate of destruction, our children will be reading about Old-Growth in history books, instead of having the opportunity to personally experience this natural phenomenon.

Just as someone would defend their house from a burglar, we must defend the ancient forests from their violators. For without the ancient forests of the Olympic Peninsula, many inhabitants, like myself, will be left homeless.





**WHAT WILL  
ADOPT-A-FOREST DO?**

The objectives of Adopt-a-Forest are:

1. To educate Audubon Members and other interested citizens in the Pacific Northwest about how the Forest Service manages the national forests.

2. To create a cadre of citizen volunteers who can help the Forest Service inventory wildlife and wildlife habitats, trails and other resources on national forest lands.

3. To create a resource data base about old growth, wetlands, trails, roadless areas, botanical areas, etc. that citizens can use to assess the effects of timber management activities.

4. To promote successful public participation in timber sale planning, land management planning, wilderness and roadless area management and planning, trail management and planning, and wildlife and fisheries management.

5. To form coalitions with other conservation organizations involved in monitoring and providing input to Forest Service management (i.e. the Mountaineers' Forest Watch program).

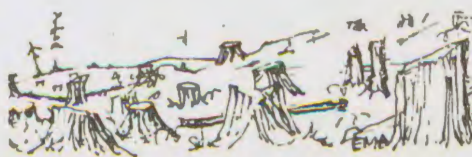
6. To improve communication between the Forest Service and the public.

For further information, write to: Greg Mills, Audubon-Media, 1421 N. Garden, Bellingham, WA 98225, or call him at 647-1687.

**Hidden Lakes Peak  
(continued from page 4)**

This program appeals to me because group action is a strong motivator for work that is all too easy to set aside when done alone. As a private citizen, I can request to be on the mailing list for information about timber sales, but it is more effective to share knowledge of areas and the burden of writing letters.

Adopt-a-Forest is a pilot project designed to promote communication and information sharing between the Audubon Society and the Forest Service. Whether timber management will be significantly affected by Adopt-a-Forest input remains to be seen. The pressures for timber production and for government revenues exert a strong influence on the Forest Service. But my hope is that a group of organized, well-informed individuals will help balance the pressures to clearcut with the pressure to maintain ecosystems and places of respite for humans living in an increasingly crowded world. It may be too late to stop this round of clearcutting in the Hidden Lakes area. I've learned a great deal while investigating the future of my favorite spot. I plan to be prepared to act before the inevitable next time.



**NORTHERN SALES**

Outdoor Outfitters  
Army - Navy Surplus

120 E. Holly Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225

(206)733-6210

**The Landing Discs &  
Tapes**



Records Tapes Compact Discs  
Music For All Times  
Open 7 Days A Week  
1307 11 St. In Fairhaven 647-1307

**PHOTO SERVICE  
CENTER**

733-1669 1221 Railroad Ave.

FILM DEVELOPING,  
DARKROOM SUPPLIES,  
COMPLETE SERVICE FOR  
SERIOUS PHOTOGRAPHERS

**BELLINGHAM'S SUPPLIER  
OF STAINED GLASS**



**STAINED GLASS**

**SINCE 1978**

custom  
windows & lamps  
classes for  
beginners & advanced  
Glass - Tools - Etching  
Sand Blasting - Repairs



MON-FRI  
10-5:30  
SAT 10-4

**734-4431**

1017 N STATE  
TWO BLOCKS SOUTH OF THE HERALD BLDG



**VILLAGE  
BOOKS**

*in old fairhaven*

1210 11th St.  
Bellingham, WA 98225

**HOURS: 10 - 10 Monday thru Saturday  
10 - 6 Sunday**

**PHONE: TOLLFREE within WA  
1-800-392-BOOK  
In Bellingham - 671-2626**



901 W HOLLY ST.  
BELLINGHAM, WA 98225

733-5461

**BACKCOUNTRY  
OUTFITTERS**

Patagonia  
Sierra  
Designs

Trak  
Asolo  
Rentals  
Available



(continued from page 7)

Florida and California indefinitely. Now's the time for political action, while administrators are somewhat open to change. It's also time to change our own lives. Driving home from the ocean, I knew the burning of gas in my car's engine, my own consumption of plastics and other oil products rubbed the oil a little deeper into those two loons' feathers. And I'm not even one of the "ordinary citizens [who] are estimated each year to unwittingly pour into storm drains or the ground enough waste oil to equal a spill from a medium-sized oil tanker (Seattle Times/Post-Intelligencer, Jan. 22, 1989)."

Trying to follow the effects of our daily actions to their often destructive conclusions can be like trying to watch the path of an arrow shot into a thick forest. But when I bent over the oily loons, that connection did pierce me. Nothing on the planet is so far away I can't destroy it. I'm blessed when I can step inside other creatures' shy, wild circles to undo the damage of my touch.



The first indication of the massive effort being accomplished in Neah Bay was this sign directing volunteers to "oily bird" headquarters.



Cortlandt Fletcher

We will either reduce, re-use, recycle, and restore--or we will perish. These aluminum cans were collected outside Carver Gym after a recent Western basketball game

## De-Militarizing the Budget

Michael J. Lehnert

A U.S. conference of mayors' study finds that for every \$ 1 billion shifted from military to urban spending, 6600 more jobs are created than under military programs. A shift of \$30 billion over a five-year span would increase the Gross National Product by \$3.5 billion and generate \$2.2 billion in added disposable income for American workers. During the Reagan years, the study noted, six key urban grant-in-aid programs were cut by \$30 billion to finance Reagan's unprecedented \$328 military build-up.

What you can do: Write the White House and Congress urging action on Mikhail Gorbachev's United Nations proposals for conversion to peacetime--and Earth-restoring--economy. Ask the Bush administration to prepare national economic conversion plans beginning with the experimental conversion of two or three defense-related plants to peaceful uses.

(Thanks to Gar Smith and Earth Island Institute).

Wonderland  
Tea and Spice

*Bulk Herbs  
Black Tees  
Tea Blends  
Tea Cups  
Fresh Ground Spices  
Books*

1305 Railroad Ave. Bellingham, WA  
733-0517 98225

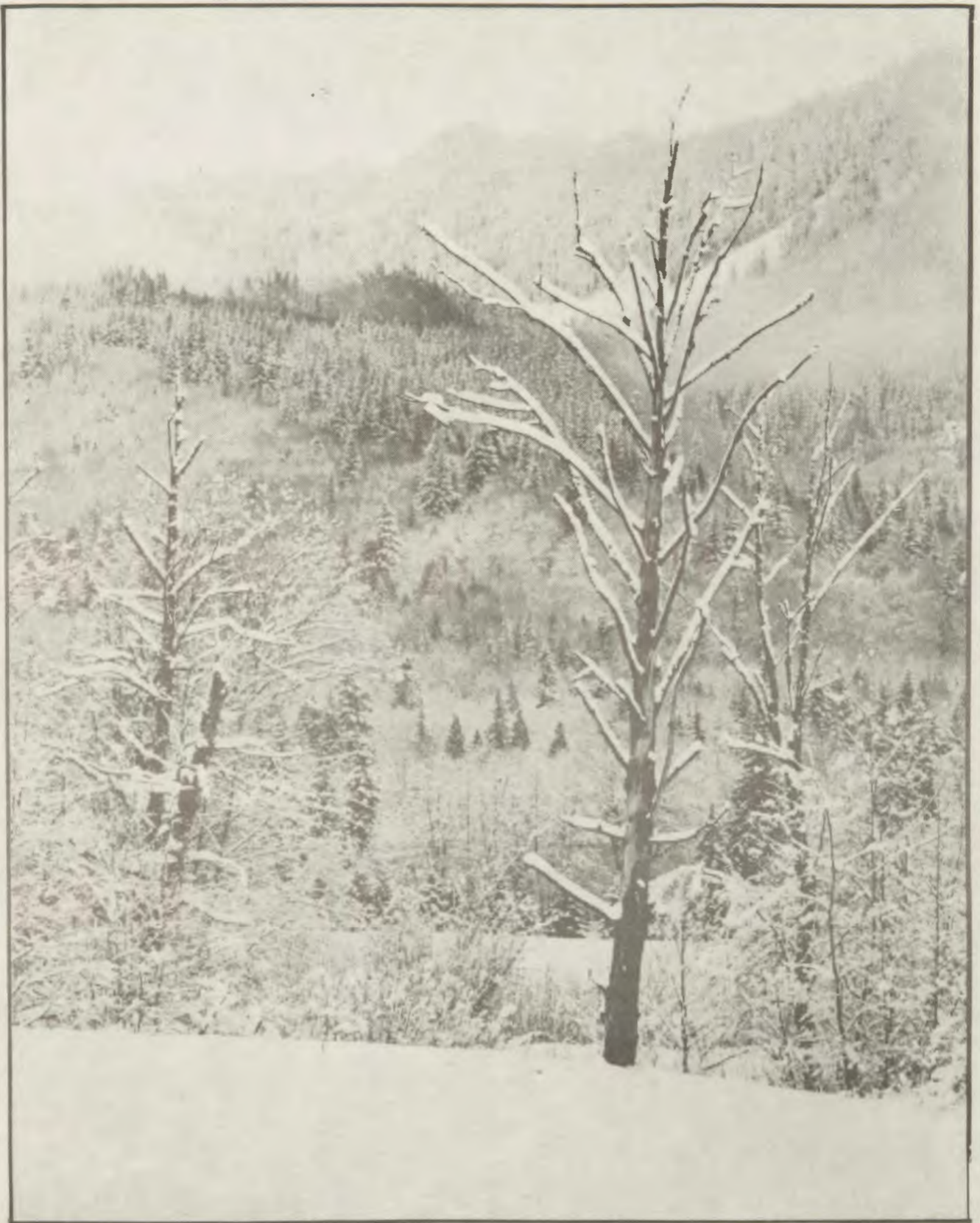
**HENDERSON BOOKS**

**WE PAY CASH  
FOR BOOKS**

Hardcover or Paperback

112 GRAND ST.  
**BELLINGHAM**  
734-6855





Nature has given us two ears,  
two eyes and but one tongue; to the end we  
should hear and see more than we speak.  
Greek Proverb



