

# OZARK SIERRAN

One Earth

One Chance®

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## Picturing Resilience

By Sherry Best

I have been photographing landscapes for about seven years. My interest is both ecological and personal: I love wooded areas, and I find a great deal of beauty in them. I become aware of the relationship between human beings and our environment. This awareness is vital to me: people have always tried to make sense of the world, and have often tried to control their environment by imposing structures and patterns of their own. I look for these structures in my photography. You can see evidence of past events in the landscape: scars from storms or droughts, debris left by floods or people, or forms inherent in growth and recovery. My goal in making art about the land is to share the natural beauty, the resilience of the

land, and the things I've learned.

I live and work in Kansas City, Missouri. Since most of my immediate area is developed, I drive to rural areas, parks, nature reserves, or make longer excursions to larger forests. Someone told me as a child



Grasses over dammed stream, Fleming Park, Jackson County, MO, Summer 1995, Photo by Sherry Best

that there is not a natural lake within 300 miles of Kansas City. This idea has stuck with me. I couldn't conceive of making a lake. Some of my favorite places to photograph are constructed lakes: the Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir, the Lake of the Ozarks, and Lake

Jacomo in Fleming Park; there are many in the region.

I try to revisit areas I photograph, so I can watch what happens to them in different seasons, year to year. Little changes can make immense differences in the ecosystem, and in a photograph. Sometimes I don't see an image until I have been to a place many times, and I think "how could I have missed that?" But you do see different things: light changes, leaves falling reveal something hidden, a rainfall washes up a new element, new growth revitalizes a space.

I was living in Pennsylvania

*Continued on page 14 ...PICTURING*

## Arranging Our Buildings, Lowering Our Rivers

By Ron McLinden

Twenty years ago Amory Lovins published a landmark article in *Foreign Affairs*. Entitled "Energy Strategy: The Road Not Taken," the article introduced a radical new way of thinking about energy and established Lovins as an energy policy expert.

Lovins pointed out that what we want is not energy itself, but what energy can do for us. We don't want electricity; rather, we want heat and light and music on demand. Once we realize this, we can then decide

how best to meet our real needs. No need to split atoms to make steam to drive turbines to generate electricity to excite atoms in a baseboard resistance heater to warm a house when building a better insulated house with south-facing windows and thermal mass for heat storage will accomplish much the same thing. Efficient use of energy, Lovins pointed out, becomes a "source" of energy, reducing not only future consumption of fuel, but the need to invest capital in power plants as well.

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The editors reserve the right to edit articles. Material may be edited for length, content or clarity. If you have strong creative ownership of your writing and wish to reserve the right to review your edited article before publication, consider your deadline 10 days prior to the published deadline. With notice, we will be happy to work with you. Reproduction-quality photographs (prints) or artwork are greatly appreciated.

The published deadline is the drop-dead deadline. Submissions received after the deadline might not appear in the issue.

The *Ozark Sierran* is produced on a Macintosh computer, so we prefer to receive material electronically (e-mail), or on a Macintosh or PC disk (3.5"), saved in Microsoft Word or "text" (ASCII) WITH A HARD COPY OF THE TEXT. Typed articles are also accepted (especially a few days before the deadline.) All submissions must include name, address, and phone number of the author. If you want your submission returned (including your disk), please include a SASE.

Hard-working, volunteer Editorial and Production Staff: Keet Kopecky, Linda Gates and Claus Wawrzinek.

## The Ozark Sierran needs YOU?

We still need both an editor and someone who can do the layout for the *Ozark Sierran*. These can be two independent functions or combined into one. It is imperative that we find someone soon to ensure the continuation of the *Ozark Sierran*.

### Editor

This person will be in charge of the content of the entire *Ozark Sierran* as it is printed in its final version. Access to E-mail will help expedite the production of the newsletter. It is also necessary that the editor be well informed on environmental issues that involve the *Sierra Club*.

### Layout Artist

This person will be in charge of the details of the layout as printed. Access to "desktop publishing" software/hardware is essential to complete this function. Access to E-mail will also speed up the process of creating the newsletter.

If you are interested in helping us or need further information, please call Claus Wawrzinek at (816) 561-7863.

### Note from the production staff

We apologize for the inconvenience the delayed printing and delivery of this newsletter may have caused. Due to recent holiday season and other technical difficulties the production was not on time. We hope to correct the timing in the future.

# New Congress Likely to Attempt Mischief in the Woods

By Caroline Pufalt

The new 105th Congress, 1997-1998, will likely attempt some changes in important federal legislation that affects National Forests and other public lands. Several key anti-environmental legislators have expressed an intent to engage the 105th Congress more closely on forest issues. More closely than what is an obvious question. The 104th Congress drove a legislative bulldozer through our National Forests with the "salvage rider". That infamous act permitted massive logging on National Forests, even if that logging violated environmental laws, such as the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act. The salvage rider expired at the end of 1996. But its supporters have vowed to extend it in 1997 and beyond through legislation using the concept of forest health as a ruse to permit environmental abuses.

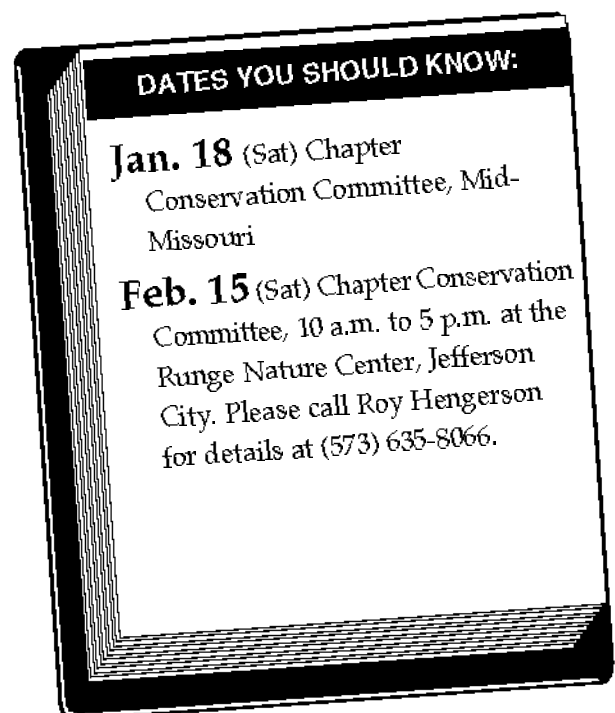
In the latter days of the 104th Congress, even some of the most anti-environmental legislators began to worry about their anti-green image. But for some, that awareness may only lead to more cleverly disguised anti environmental efforts. We saw that in the November 96 election in which several candidates attempted to "green up" their profile.

Influential Senators Craig and Murkowski, neither friends of the environment, have openly expressed their intent to have Congress play a more active role in forest issues. They have also indicated that the status quo is not acceptable. Expect pressure for major changes. They promise to look at a variety of approaches but have already expressed preference for the following principles. The Senators want to allow greater management discretion at the local level relying on "local expertise" and "scientific management". Senator Craig hopes to pass legislation in which policy is "manifested on the ground" not by Washington D.C.

Craig's so-called "forest health" bill is part of this strategy. That bill would likely provide considerable local discretion in defining a healthy or unhealthy forest. The declaration of unhealthy would permit a wide latitude in management strategies resulting in the potential disregard for environmental values as described in the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act or other national legislation.

Craig's proposed legislation may also include a comprehensive rewrite of the National Forest Management Act. This is particularly disturbing because the NFMA includes some key language requiring the Forest Service to ensure the viability of native species. That has been an important tool in pressuring the agency to adopt a more balanced management approach that protects biodiversity instead of just timber. Unfortunately, even the outgoing Forest Service Chief Thomas has said the viability requirement should be abolished because it is too difficult for the agency to comply with. However, many who follow the agency closely say any failure is more for want of trying than due to any inherent difficulty.

The 105th Congress poses as much threat, if not more, to our National Forests as did the 104th. Despite gains made in the November 1996 election, anti-environmental forces are still strong in the current Congress. We will need to speak out and remind our legislators that the American public supports environmental protection on our public lands. We will continue to cover related national legislative proposals in the Ozark Sierran.



# Only Together Will We Succeed

By Tom Kruzen

1996 was a year that none of us will soon forget. The 104th Congress, representing the forces of greed and darkness, brought us a full scale "war on the environment". With each new day, a cavalcade of horrors was unleashed by the self-proclaimed playwrights of "free market creationism", never stopping to consider that the environment is a place in which they, too, must dwell. ("Environs"- Old French- meaning "surroundings" or "home".)

## Scene #1: Lead — Dark and Evil and Doesn't Like Humans

The Ozarks, my home of seventeen years, does not escape the onslaught. We can all take a bow for having helped repulse the frontal assault on the State's Conservation Lands by the Doe Run Co. and their wise use sympathizers on the Missouri Conservation Commission and in the Department of Conservation. Our joy quickly evaporates, for Doe Run is coming through the federal jurisdiction of the Forest Service in the Eleven Point River District of the Mark Twain National Forest. Simultaneously, we hear rumors and see with our own eyes trucks named "Asarco" scouring the countryside for private landowners to relinquish their mineral rights. The very latest report reveals that BHP Global Resources, Inc. from Australia is also passing out contracts to secure mineral rights. This bodes ill for the Jacks Fork, Current and Eleven Point watersheds and the lands that comprise one of the most intact ecosystems in the Midwest.

## Scene #2: Chips — Pieces of the Forest Macabre

Willamette Industries, a paper corporation of ill repute, begins to set up a Chip Mill on private land near Poplar Bluff with apparent blessings from MDC Forester, Shelby Jones. This 160 acre monster begins sucking trees off private and public land next summer at a starting rate of 26 acres per day; it will operate 7 days a week 365 days a year stopping only for repairs. This, also, is the blatant mining of the Ozarks by a global corporation that will leave the forest here nothing but a memory. (See related story page 5)

## Scene #3: The Toxic Used Car Salesman

This vignette involves our old "friend" and ex-state treasurer, Wendell Bailey. Wendell is a former used car salesman and an out of work politician with lots of time on his hands — a dangerous combination. It seems that a little town between Willow Springs and West Plains named Pomona will be the site of the Ozarks' new municipal solid waste incinerator - at least in Wendell's dreams! Waste tires, medical waste, all the solid waste from the Southern Missouri Ozarks and possibly the hazardous waste from Ft. Leonard

Wood's new chemical weapons school will all go up in flames there. Wendell and his cronies have it all covered with the exception of one tiny factoid: Pomona is the site of the 1977 West Plains Sewage Lagoon Collapse and sits atop a very complex karst system. In one catastrophic moment two decades ago 10 acres of raw human sewage drained into West Plains' city wells and polluted private wells all the way to Mammoth Spring, Arkansas. Pomona's surface waters drain into the headwaters of the Eleven Point Wild and Scenic River. Should the incinerator operate here, heavy metals, dioxin and PCBs would likely contaminate these watersheds instead of mere human sewage!

These stories are unfolding as I write and should any of them come to fruition, it will be the death knell of one of the last great places in which to live, hike, hunt, float and fish in the continental United States.

Communities in this region do not all share the tourist dollars equally. They have little knowledge or assistance from government agencies to illustrate to them how they might enhance tourism. In their desperation, local people and communities become ripe targets for the likes of Doe Run or Willamette. The polluters

come with glitz and promises of jobs and prosperity — leaving out the parts where they will sacrifice the air, water and the land itself, leaving more poverty in their wake.

This is a call to all Sierrans and other environmentalists throughout Missouri and the U.S. to help rewrite the ending of this play! Perhaps some of you know people here and could become more directly involved in the evolution of this place. Earlier this year, family farmers and environmentalists flooded the state capitol with their voices to limit corporate hog farming in Missouri. The strength of our voices was clear to all those present in the "seat" of power. As the day progressed, it was clear that we, the people, were the seat of power! It was a strength that I can only remember once or twice in my life, but it must become second nature to us, if we are all to survive global corporate toxic shock. City mouse and country mouse must minimize our differences and unite, if we are to live in and enjoy such excellent places as the Ozarks.

Individually and when you gather for outings, please do some "inner" work. The question is: "How do we humans live and visit this fragile and beautiful place without destroying it?" The practical and the conceptual are both welcome. One idea from each of you by this time next month would be very gratifying. Any personal involvement could build needed bridges with those who live here and so often distrust those who just visit.

Please send your ideas to:

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City mouse and  
country mouse must  
minimize our differ-  
ences and unite

# The Chippers Are Here!

By Eric Hempel

The chip mill onslaught has begun in the Show-Me state. The most unpopular forest products corporations in the U.S., Willamette Industries of Portland, Oregon, has chosen Mill Spring as the site of the first chip mill in the state. Oddly enough, the Department of Conservation's (MDC) Forestry division was the first to alert the public. Although the MDC "alert" came in the form of a welcome, communities across the nation are trying their hardest to rid themselves of these timber monsters.

The town of Mill Spring is in Wayne County, in the heart of the largest remaining area of forest cover in Missouri. The chip mill's diet is to be 900 tons (or 25 acres of forest) per day — that's ten thousand acres each year. At that rate, the forestland of the area won't last long. The chippers got in the door in the Southeast saying they would create a market for the low-quality, waste hardwood that was just costing landowners money. But the trees that go into the chipper down South are good straight trees, future saw timber. Now those landowners are wondering what happened to their water, economy, and peace of mind. The shameful thing is that it went to paper.

The Southeast has been truly ravaged by the chip mill pestilence, so much so that even the agencies are beginning to recognize that chip mills are a loser. A multi-agency team denied the permits for three chip mills in

Tennessee based on the potential economic and ecological damages resulting from excessive tree harvesting. In Missouri, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has no responsibility to consider the effect that acres of clearcuts have on water quality, wildlife habitat, or local economies, even though they permitted the facility that requires clearcuts.

The facility at Mill Spring exemplifies the corporate timber industry: wasteful, selfish, hungry. The wood the mill at Mill

The Southeast has been truly ravaged by the chip mill pestilence, so much so that even the agencies are beginning to recognize that chip mills are a loser.

Spring uses in one month could support a local sawmill operation for an entire year. When Willamette sends the chips to their Hawesville, KY paper mill, this does very little to expand the local economy in a sustainable manner. Pulpwood prices are less than one quarter that of the sawtimber. The forests of Missouri are not feeding the Kentucky paper mill alone. Chips from a mill in Rutherford County, North Carolina, are coming by train as well. So the natural heritage of at least two rural communities is being sold off at ridiculous prices to make paper in Kentucky for a corporation based in Oregon.

By thinking and talking about the damage chip mills cause, as

well as rational alternatives, we can and will change the way things appear to be headed. The Dogwood Alliance: Communities United Against Chip Mills, is a regionally organized, grassroots coalition that formed recently to address the devastating realities that communities with chip mills face. Depressed property values, dead streams, and dramatically changed lives are just some of the reasons the people of the Dogwood Alliance are actively opposing chip mills.

The Alliance supports a strong campaign to encourage state and federal agencies to complete a comprehensive regional assessment of the environmental, economic, and social effects of these outposts of the multinational forest product industry. The real work of this objective comes from working in the communities effected

by the corporate chippers, not by lobbying people in Jefferson City or Washington, D.C. Change comes when the real people know what is really happening. Locally supported, sustainable economics and land management practices must be more attractive than the six dollars per ton that Willamette offers to clearcut the future saw timber of the Ozarks for paper.

As the Missouri member group of the Alliance, Voices From the Forest is devoting significant energy to ensure that the quality, sustainable lifestyles of Missourians are not compromised by a strong-arm corporate thug.

# Ozark Scenic Rivers Community Awareness Weekend

By Sue Skidmore

We are organizing a statewide, all-group float and field trip May 17 & 18 to bring community awareness to the unique qualities of the scenic river area. This special area of our state is one of extreme beauty with such features as the aquamarine springs and clear rivers. These beautiful rivers are home to a number of many endangered plants and animals. Unusual features of caves, sinkholes and underground waterways are also prevalent in this sensitive area. We are planning a weekend of music, fun, interaction and integration with the river system area. We hope that you will set aside this time on your calendar to join us.

The US Forest Service of the Doniphan-Eleven Point Ranger District is currently conducting an environmental analysis on whether to issue exploratory drilling permits to the Doe Run Lead Mining Company in this region. This analysis will cover approximately 7970 acres which lie south of US Highway 60, north of the Eleven Point National Scenic River and west of State Highway 19. The 30 day comment period should begin around the first of December. Previously, Doe Run had exploration permits near this area and

drilled six exploratory wells. This time Doe Run intends to drill 200 exploration wells.

Two areas in the Ozark Scenic Rivers watershed are currently designated to be logged. The Panther Hollow Project has been an area of contention between the Forest Service and environmentalists since 1993. Panther Hollow is located adjacent to the Eleven Point National Scenic River. In May 1995 scoping began on the Panther Hollow Project to cut 3.6 million board feet of hardwoods on 5882 acres. Earlier that spring, research done in the Eleven Point District shows that the area is a prime breeding ground for neotropical migrant songbirds and may be the source of songbird populations for other more fragmented forests in the midwest. Another study suggested that healthy populations of songbirds are essential for healthy hardwood forests. For these reasons, Ozark Heartwood included in their scoping comments a "Citizens/Songbird Management Alternative" which called for the closing of most roads in the project area except two and managing the area as a wilderness buffer zone; i.e., no cutting and restoration of native plants. The 1996 Forest Service decision was appealed by the Sierra Club Ozark Chapter,

Heartwood, the Ozark Watch League and others. The appeal was denied. Now the case is being prepared for litigation in Federal Court.

The second area designated to be logged is the Gooseneck/Twin Springs area. The Gooseneck/Twin Springs Project lies on 6100 acres of National Forest Land adjacent to the Current River (Ozark Scenic Riverways). Only the northern section (Gooseneck) is adjacent to the National Park (Hawes Recreation Area). Even though Ranger Terry Miller attempted to address concerns about cutting adjacent to the Park, Twin Springs, and the Red Maple Pond Natural Area, he decided to do even-aged cutting on nearly 1400 acres! Heartwood and the Ozark Watch League appealed the decision in late July, 1996, and the appeal was denied in September, 1996. No further action has been taken.

For more information on the River Weekend or lead mining issue contact Sue Skidmore at 417-882-9757 or [sskidmor@mail.orion.org](mailto:sskidmor@mail.orion.org) on E-mail.

For more information on any of the logging issues contact Charles Phillips at 816-882-7813 or [cphillip@mail.coin.missouri.edu](mailto:cphillip@mail.coin.missouri.edu) on E-mail.

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## A Lead Update

By Devin M. Scheruebel

Shortly before losing his 22-year seat in the federal House of Representatives, 9th district Congressman Harold Volkmer, responding to requests of Voices from the Forest, made his position clear in a letter to the Chief of the US Forest Service. In the letter Volkmer states, "I am concerned about the impact of these potential prospecting activities, and [am]

writing to register my strong opposition to the proposal. This region of the forest has a rich natural resource base that has been recognized with the designation of three national scenic rivers. I am concerned that mining activities could threaten the quality of the waters in these important rivers, particularly given the porous karst topography of the region."

The election of Kenny Hulshof and Joanne Emerson from Missouri offers me no comfort.

In other news, it is interesting to note that the Forest Service's team leader position on the Eleven Point lead mining permits recently changed hands. Jody Eberly in Winona gave the position up to Barb Moran, who works out of the Cedar Creek District office far to the north. Please let Barb know how important it is that this area not be sacrificed to lead mining: 4549 State Road H, Fulton, MO 65251, (573) 592-1400.

# “Forest Dreams, Forest Nightmares”, by Nancy Langston

Reviewed by Caroline Pufalt

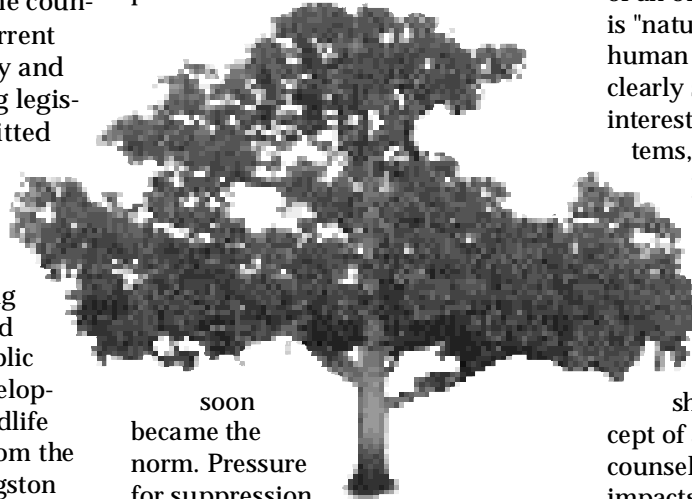
“Forest Dreams, Forest Nightmares” (FDFN) speaks directly to a contentious issue in public lands management: the issue of what a healthy forest is. Although the immediate subject of Langston's book is management of the Blue Mountain range in eastern Oregon, she squarely faces broader questions such as what should be our role in nature? These questions are relevant to forestry practices across the country and are at the heart of current debates over forest fire policy and the infamous salvage logging legislation. That legislation permitted massive logging on public lands in order to salvage timber in forests deemed “unhealthy”.

FDFN reviews the changing concept of a healthy forest and how those concepts affect public policy. By examining the development of forestry, grazing, wildlife and fire policy in the Blues from the late 1800s to the present, Langston reveals a mixed history of good intentions, greed, ignorance and failed policies. Langston contends that those policies have resulted today in drastically changed forests that some claim are riddled with disease and threatened with catastrophic fires.

When Europeans came to the Blues they found a diverse, complex forest of pines, firs and some hardwoods. But what they liked most were the tall ponderosa pines growing in semi open forests with grassy understory. Hoping to both use and perpetuate the good timber and good grazing such forests provided, management of public lands aimed at regrowing pines. But managers were puzzled when, despite varying techniques, pines failed to thrive. Goals later shifted to promoting faster growing fir trees. But firs were susceptible to diseases and grew in dense stands which posed serious fire hazards. This situation resulted from a variety of factors, but perhaps none has been so controversial as fire suppression.

Despite efforts at scientific man-

agement, foresters failed to grasp the complexity of natural forests and were particularly unable to adapt the role of fire to their planning. Over the centuries periodic fires became an integral part of the forest ecosystem of the Blue mountains. Some early planners and settlers sensed the need for fire and pointed to the Paiute practice of setting fires. But their voices went unheeded and fire suppression



soon became the norm. Pressure for suppression was so strong that an early head of the Bureau of Forestry claimed pro fire sentiments resulted from “bad habits and loose morals”.

Langston also reviews the history of grazing policy in the Blues. She blends a description of the ecological impact of grazing with an evaluation of the social, economic and political pressure exerted by ranchers and the resulting impact on the government agencies managing the land. Occasionally agency personnel attempted to limit the number of cattle grazing on public land so as to be within the area's ecological carrying capacity. But social and political forces created a kind of feedback loop so complete as to change the operating definition of carrying capacity to mean whatever level of grazing currently existed. Only nature failed to cooperate in this deception as witnessed by the eventual degradation of grazing lands.

Langston contends that the prac-

tices of foresters, ranchers and settlers resulted largely from their desire to control and simplify the forest and grazing lands. They desired to rid the forest of the waste and inefficiency they saw in “natural” old growth forests. In Langston's terms they failed to understand the complexity of natural systems and failed to find a way to live within that complexity.

FDFN concludes with a summary of an ongoing debate regarding what is “natural” and what should be the human role in nature. Langston is clearly sympathetic to conservation interests. She respects natural systems, deems them worthy of patient study and recommends restraining our impacts on them. She values wilderness. But she also states that since forests are constantly changing, even without our impacts, we should not be fixed on one concept of a natural forest. Langston counsels that we should evaluate our impacts, but always realize that our assessments of good or bad come from our interests, be they economic, scientific or aesthetic.

At the core of this caution is the realization that there is a true or objective nature “out there”, but we can perceive it only through our limited senses and cultural and ethical perspectives. This obvious truth could lead us to a dangerous relativism. But we do have some shared standards of scientific understanding that can help us judge which perspectives are more closely grounded in the truth insofar as we know it. We then can act on that understanding as guided by our ethics. Thus, FDFN can be summarized as telling us nature is a complex truth that we can never fully understand. We, as a species, are fully dependent on that nature yet doomed to influence it in ways we often do not appreciate. We need a conservation ethic based on respect, restraint and flexibility to guide us in our ignorance.

# The DEIS: A Book Review

By Troy Gordon

*Editor's note: The Ozark Chapter Sierra Club recently submitted 33 pages of comments on the proposed relocation of the U.S. Army Chemical School from Fort McClellan, Alabama to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. We asked the author of Sierra Club's comments to submit an article about them and he sent this slightly delirious response.*

Some critics have said it'll make a lousy movie, but I beg to differ. I believe the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Relocation of U.S. Army Chemical School and the U.S. Military Police School to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri (just call it the DEIS for short) is destined to become one of the cinema greats.

The basic premise is a classic: The U.S. Army plans to move their primary chemical training school to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, with training including the use of live agent nerve gas in an enclosed building and spraying a mist of fuel oil outside over several valleys so the Army can play at war games using the oil mist to create blackout conditions.

All that stands in their way is an all-star cast of characters, including:

- Nick Nolte as the concerned, yet bureaucratic, former Sierra Club member slated to receive the comments from the public. He used to be concerned about the issues, but now his main concern is his job and not having the boat rocked.

- Sandra Bullock as the Army's Environmental Compliance Officer at Fort Leonard Wood. She means well, but sometimes things get slightly out of hand (or maybe the officers making the decisions just outrank her).

- Gene Hackman as the TRADOC (U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command) Officer. Straight Army man, he'll do as ordered no matter what, and damn the public or anyone else if they get in the way.

- Dustin Hoffman as the lead

environmental consultant in charge of writing the DEIS. Sincere, concerned, and realistic, he knows who's paying the bills, and what they want the final answers to be. His job is to be sure what the Army wants is what the Army gets.

- Julia Roberts as the environmental consultant on the proposal's effects on wildlife. She'd rather be out saving the animals than justifying this proposal that will hurt them, but it's a paying job.

This is a movie that begs to be filmed, and coming soon to a theater near you. But, in the mean time, the book itself (all four volumes and lots of supplements) is getting its share of reviews by the critics, including the Ozark Chapter Sierra Club.

The DEIS is action packed. It's the story of a project that's already been decided on, and the DEIS goes racing after a train that's already left the station--the DEIS charging along trying to justify what's already decided, no matter what is said against it.

For such a great book, you'd think it'd be in all the bookstores. But, no—it really proved rather hard to get. One scientist looking at it for Sierra Club requested a copy and only got two of the four volumes, with a note saying he could look at the others in a document repository 100 miles away. Sierra Club requested the supplemental documents, figuring there would be even more excitement there (which there was), but after the Army said they'd send the copies, they changed their mind and told us either to pay \$543 or go to the repository. It finally took the offices of Representative Karen McCarthy, Representative Ike Skelton, and Representative Dick Gephardt calling the Army Corps before we were given some of the supplements--and even then, not everything was provided. Of course, the delay left us only one business day to review the

documents. (Along with our comments, the Sierra Club submitted a Freedom of Information Act request, seeking the other documents. Funny, we haven't had a response at this writing.)

However, even a great book like this DEIS will have its flaws. Sierra Club took 33 pages to point those flaws out to the Army (and thanks to all the scientist and reviewers who helped Sierra Club write those 33 pages). We remain the Army's biggest critic on this issue, and we don't want them to forget it.

There's really not enough space to list the major flaws in the DEIS here (besides, it makes boring reading), but perhaps a concluding paragraph from our comments will help:

The Ozark Chapter Sierra Club is appalled by the DEIS and its supporting documents. While in some cases, there has been a thorough review of the environmental impacts, in many cases our scoping comments have been ignored and no environmental impact analysis was conducted to address the issues raised. Even where a thorough review has occurred, the U.S. Army in its selection of a preferred alternative has ignored many options to limit the environmental impacts that are associated with the relocation. At this point in the environmental analysis of the proposed relocation of the U.S. Army Chemical School and the U.S. Military Police School to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, it may be necessary to begin the process again with scoping, due to the prejudiced federal review.

Next on the horizon is the sequel to the DEIS. The sequel is already titled: the FEIS--the Final Environmental Impact Statement of the .... The Ozark Chapter Sierra Club eagerly awaits the FEIS sequel and hopes this time around our concerns are answered in the document. We all want to be able to applaud when the second movie ends.



# Chapter Staff Report

By Ken Midkiff, Program Director

Our national forests, national parks, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) areas, wildlife refuges, state parks, and state conservation areas are a testament to the value that citizens of this country place on publicly-owned lands. The recent renewal of the state parks and soils tax and the continued support of the conservation tax show that citizens are even willing to tax themselves to ensure that natural places are set aside for future generations.

But just because such lands are owned by the public does not mean that they are protected. In fact, some of our national forests and BLM lands are the most abused and degraded areas in the country - overgrazing, clearcutting and other non-sustainable logging practices, and mines and mining wastes have converted vast areas into wastelands.

In some parts of the country, public lands are viewed almost as private property by corporate interests. When President Clinton recently designated 1.7 million acres of BLM lands in Utah as a national monument, there were cries of a "land grab" by Utah politicians. This was an amazing claim: these were lands that have always been in the public domain - and are so rugged and remote that they are of no value for grazing or timber. But there were indications that recoverable quantities of coal lay under the rocks - and a multinational mining company wanted to exploit that.

This is the quandary that environmentalists, conservationists and outdoor lovers are placed in: we support public lands and the acquisition by public agencies of natural, unique or sensitive places, but those agencies have shown time after time that they are not very good stewards. The US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are particularly noted for promoting private profit on public lands with little regard for the consequences.

Such private profits are extracted at great loss. Anyone who has driven through the public rangelands of the West has seen the denuded earth, stripped stream banks, and eroded gullies. Likewise in national forests throughout the country clearcutting is still the preferred method of logging - although the foresters are now careful to call it "even-aged management" (meaning that after all the trees are cut down, the ones that are replanted or come back up are all the same age). The recent controversy over lead mining on state lands has led to an increased awareness of the devastation being wreaked in the Mark Twain National Forest by mining companies.

In fairness, it should be noted that federal land management agencies are under a statutory mandate to manage their holdings for multiple uses. At least this is the rationale given in the public notices sent out for proposed timber sales or for mining exploration permits. The only hitch in this multi-use concept is that some uses - such as grazing, mining and clearcutting - preclude any other uses.

In addition to the production of timber and minerals, other uses of public lands are recreation, wildlife habitat, and the protection of unique, sensitive and natural areas. None of these uses can occur in clearcut areas or in areas covered with mine tailings or cow crap.

One of the reasons that logging companies, cattle ranching operations, and mining companies target the public lands for their ventures is cost. Timber products and cattle grazing are heavily subsidized by the taxpayers - both of these programs are operated at a loss. And everyone is familiar with the ridiculously low mineral lease rates paid by the mining companies operating on public lands. Private landowners place a much higher value on their lands than public agencies, and private landowners would never allow logging, mining, and grazing to destroy their properties at the expense of the owner.

Yet that is exactly what we, the owners of the national forests and other public lands are doing: we are paying large corporations to destroy vast areas of our lands. There is a simple solution: amend the laws governing the management of our lands to ensure that public uses come first, that private profits not be subsidized, and that the lands be managed for true multiple uses. For too long we have been trying to make existing laws work - and have failed. It is time to re-examine all of the federal land management laws - and afford some degree of protection to these highly valued areas.

# Jefferson City Forecast - Better Climate, but Still Unsettled Weather.

By Ken Midkiff, Program Director

## The House

With the Griffin era behind us, Speaker Steve Gaw is free to appoint his choices for committee chairs. The Speaker has shown in the last session that he is progressive on environmental issues with a 90 on our vote chart, so we are anticipating a much more accessible House Energy

and Environment Committee chair. Several pro-environment legislators who had dropped off the Energy and Environment Committee for the past two years are asking to be reappointed, so the makeup of the Committee should be much more receptive to good legislation.

The membership of the House in general should also be more progressive on environmental and conservation issues. The newly elected class of House members seems as a

whole to be more open and forward-looking, if not outright green. A couple of right-wingers got defeated by progressive candidates. All in all, the House should be more receptive.

## The Senate

Senator Wayne Goode is expected to keep his position as Chair of the Senate Commerce and Environment Committee. Although the attitude of the new President Pro Tem Bill McKenna toward environmental issues is generally unknown, he is a moderate on most matters. Most of

*Continued on page 11 .....WEATHER*

# Ozark Chapter Sierra Club Legislative Proposals - 1997

By Ken Midkiff

**FIRST TIER** - Top priority. Full campaign, with all-member alerts, targeted radio ads, full membership involvement.

1. Repeal of the "no stricter than federal" clause - (.055) - in the Missouri Clean Air law. This clause in our current law prevents the Missouri Air Conservation Commission from promulgating regulations to address some of our state's unique or "special" air quality problems that federal law and regulations don't adequately cover (medical waste incinerators, multi-stack areas, hog farm emissions, to name a few).
2. Missouri Environmental Policy Act - "state level NEPA". Projects or actions funded solely with state funds don't require any kind of public notice or comment procedures or any assessment of environmental impacts. This bill will create such processes.
3. Create felony offense for habitual and chronic polluters and extend responsibility to corporate officers. Large corporations write off fines and penalties for violations of environmental laws as just another small cost of doing business. Jailing CEOs may not be viewed in quite the same manner.

**SECOND TIER** - Priority, but initially will involve only

Legislative Network members, rather than full membership. As these bills start to advance, so will our strategy.

1. Statewide natural resources planning and growth act.
2. Lead mining severance tax - with proceeds to go to restoration and reclamation.
3. Require walkways and bikeways on all new or reconstructed bridges.
4. Allow standing for anyone (citizen's suits) to sue for water pollution under the Missouri Clean Water Act, and allow appeals by any aggrieved party to the Clean Water Commission.

**THIRD TIER** - Priority, but Sierra Club will be part of broader coalition efforts, not necessarily in the lead role.

1. Environmental Justice Act (with various progressive social issues groups).
2. Require bonding before construction of concentrated animal feeding operations; other agri-business-related matters as developed by the Ag Policy Task Force (an informal coalition of regional rural sustainable ag and family farmer groups and the Ozark Chapter, coordinated by the Missouri Rural Crisis Center).
3. Campaign Finance Reform (with Missouri Alliance for Campaign Reform).

**LONG TERM** - Priority issues, with a recognition that these will require multi-year efforts.

1. Environmental Bill of Rights
2. Constitutional Amendment to allow fuel taxes to be used for non-highway transportation purposes.
3. Allow counties to establish impact fees or infrastructure fees for developers.

## BILLS WE WILL OPPOSE,

that we expect will be advocated by the environmentally-challenged.

- Risk assessment/cost benefit analysis on environmental legislation/regulations.
- Dirty Secrets, (Environmental Audit Privilege) What!? Again!? Unfortunately, yes. These people persistent.
- Extension of "no stricter than federal" to all environmental regulations.
- Takings - this bill (HB 1099 from 1994) sunsets at the end of next year, so it is likely that someone will sponsor a renewal, possibly with amendments to make it worse. We are taking a wait and see approach; since the current law is causing no problem, we may not oppose a renewal "as is", but would definitely fight any attempt to make the State pay for "reduction of future property uses" or any other such change.

**WEATHER** ..... continued from page 10

the Senators retained their seats, and those who retired were replaced by those of similar views. However, the election of former State Representative Ken Jacob to the Senate is a boon for environmentalists - Senator Jacob was one of our

strongest advocates in the House, and is expected to play that role in the Senate. The filibuster can be put to good use, if necessary.

### The Bills

In the past few years, we have enjoyed much success at fending off bad legislation, and have had mod-

erate success in passing good bills. This year, we have a full basket of legislative goodies. So full, in fact, that the Conservation Committee and the Executive Committee decided to prioritize them - both in terms of need and potential for success. Our agenda (drum roll, please)...

**BUILDINGS** .... continued from page 1

It was twelve or more years later when I heard Lovins speak in Kansas City and his efficiency message took on a different meaning for me. He spoke to a convention of architects about energy efficiency in buildings, and about the competitive advantage to be gained by making commercial buildings more efficient.

It was his chance use of the phrase "the way we arrange our buildings" that made my mental wheels whir. "The way we arrange our buildings" was just another way of saying "how we build our communities," or "where we locate human activities with respect to one another."

Our transportation requirements are determined in part by where and how we locate human activities. And not just where we locate them, but whether we centralize or decentralize them (several small stores vs. one big one) and how each store relates to its surroundings (with its front door on a sidewalk, or in a parking lot).

Some locations are decided for us. Yosemite and titanium ore deposits are where nature put them. If we want to use them, we have to go where they are. Shopping centers and office buildings, however, are where we put them. Sometimes we put them in places that don't make sense--and sometimes we even ante up big tax-break bucks to put them where they don't make sense.

The point is, many of the choices are ours — or at least some human being makes the decision.

Since transportation accounts for

more than 40 percent of our energy consumption (according to the Missouri Statewide Energy Study, released in 1992), and since transportation infrastructure accounts for a significant fraction of all public expenditures, it makes sense for us to ask whether we need as much transportation as we consume.

Applying the Lovins principle to transportation, it isn't transportation (putting people and goods in motion) which we want so much as the outcome of that motion: access for people to goods and services and opportunities; access for raw materi-

**"Some locations are decided for us. Yosemite and titanium ore deposits are where nature put them. If we want to use them, we have to go where they are. Shopping centers and office buildings, however, are where we put them."**

als to industrial processes; access for products to markets.

Being efficient is a useful thing to be in a competitive global economy. (I'll ignore the greater questions of how extensive a global economy should be, or how competitive.) Efficiency gives an advantage by lowering costs. If we can provide the access which is the real purpose for transportation without so much of the transportation, then we have probably become more efficient in the process.

So where does lowering our rivers come in? A few years before Lovins' article there was a Jerry Lewis movie titled, "Don't Raise the Bridge, Lower the River." I didn't see it: it doesn't matter. The title itself offers clear evidence that some Lovins-like thinking may have been going on.

The bridge to be raised in this case is our transportation infrastructure; the river is our demand for transportation. We may well need to raise the bridge a bit, i.e., build some more roads. But before we do so we should check and see if there isn't a simpler strategy for dealing with our transportation problems by simply eliminating what is unnecessary.

Where arranging our activities (our buildings) closer to one another can reduce our need to travel, we should do so. Where using electronic communications can substitute for travel, we should do that, too. We can't do it overnight: it may take decades. But the pay-offs are so great, and the penalties are so severe, that we dare not fail to begin.

An economy made more efficient through transportation efficiency is one of my goals as I work with 34 other Missourians on Governor Carnahan's Total Transportation Commission. If the Commission does not raise issues related to improving overall transportation efficiency through more consciously guiding the development of our cities and towns, then I (and they) will have done a less than adequate job.

PostScript Picture  
kids shadow

# page is for

Send art, poems, questions, and comments to: Linda Gates, Ozark Sierran, P.O. Box 32727, Kansas City, MO 64174. Or email: lindak@tyrell.net

PostScript Picture  
hmm

PostScript Picture  
what if

out in the country one chilly day, he pointed to a hawk and said "What a hard life it would be — to sit on an icy branch in the cold of winter, watchin' for a mouse to run by . . . we have a lot of reasons to be thankful."

Hawks probably don't mind, but I would. Try to imagine what it would be like to sit on an icy branch waiting for a mouse. Would you like that? Would you like to be an eagle soaring in the sky or a wolf howling in the cold winter air? What would it be like to be a tree that stays in the same place all its life? How would it feel to be a fragile butterfly or a snake sliding across the hot desert sand?

Each life form on earth has its ways and its place in our environment. Though we are all different, we are all part of the same ecosystem. Some people believe that we are all one big family. We do have a lot of reasons to be thankful.



My cat, Anthony, is going for a hike in the woods. He will meet these animals:

- A. Deer
- B. Fox
- C. Rabbit
- D. Skunk
- E. Squirrel

See if you can match the animal name with the track it makes. Write the number of the track next to the correct animal name.

## Circle the Winter Words

Find the words that have something to do with winter in Missouri. An example is **SNOW**. Another example is **CRUNCH** — a sound you make when you walk in the snow. Any word that you can use in a sentence about winter is fair game. Be creative!

Remember that you can use a dictionary to check spelling and definition.

S	L	E	E	T	H	A	T	I	C	E	A	N	D
N	U	M	B	H	D	W	C	G	C	O	A	T	S
O	G	S	L	I	C	K	D	L	A	M	E	L	T
W	A	R	M	B	K	P	L	O	W	I	L	D	A
A	N	E	W	E	E	U	D	O	L	G	D	O	S
N	Y	E	A	R	Y	O	N	O	I	R	E	D	N
G	R	O	U	N	D	S	C	S	C	A	R	F	O
E	R	P	L	A	Y	K	H	R	L	T	H	A	W
L	O	G	S	T	B	A	I	I	U	E	A	R	F
S	K	I	S	E	A	T	L	C	V	N	D	I	L
O	C	O	Z	Y	B	E	L	L	I	E	C	O	A
F	R	E	E	Z	E	B	O	O	T	C	R	H	K
F	I	R	E	P	L	A	C	E	O	H	L	E	E
O	H	O	T	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	O

2.

The winner is Alex Raymond!

Dear Kids:

Thanks for entering **The Name the Worm Contest**. It was hard to choose the winning entry—they were all great names. Some names were very creative; some were interesting; and some were funny. You did a good job.

Honorable mention goes to **Jared Lorrance** who submitted the name **Chewie Louie**. Jared also submitted **De Mozart (de composer)** which is a very clever “play on words.” Thanks Jared.

Our team of environmentalists chose the name **Captain Compost** as the winner because captains lead teams. Teamwork is the best way to make our environment a clean, healthy, safe place to play and live. Captain Compost can show us the importance of recycling— of making the best of what we have and of working as a team.

**Alex Raymond** entered the winning name and won the \$25.00 prize. Alex is in the fifth grade and is a member of the Mason Ecology Club in Lee’s Summit, Missouri. Congratulations Alex.

Best wishes to everyone,

PostScript Picture

Linda Gates  
Kids Page

Choose the right word to fill in each blank: heat, muscles, clothes, cold, loss, insulation.

When you shiver, your body is saying “I’m cold and I’m going to warm up.” Your \_\_\_\_\_ make energy when you are \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ and that produces heat. When you’re not exercising and you are cold, your body automatically shivers so that your muscles will replace the \_\_\_\_\_ you have lost.

So if you are cold and you don’t want to shiver— exercise to warm up. \_\_\_\_\_

Goose bumps help keep you warm too. By producing goose bumps, your body is trying to slow down the \_\_\_\_\_ of heat by fluffing up your hair. Goose bumps don’t work very well on people but they are effective on most \_\_\_\_\_ animals. Each bump fluffs a feather or a hair of animal fur and that creates an \_\_\_\_\_ air space that works as \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

5.

**Fill in the blank:**  
It is reported that Eskimos have more than 200 words for \_\_\_\_\_



For solutions, see page 19

PICTURE..... continued from page 1

when the Flood of '93 hit the mid-west. When I moved back to Missouri in 1994, I was amazed at how much evidence of flood damage still remained. On one trip

south, I drove over Highway 13 by Deepwater, Missouri, over the Truman Reservoir bridges. In 1993, the water level rose 29'. This wasn't the record high, though: the water level rose almost 33' in 1986. I could still see

the pale mark on the trees where the water level had been. Above that, the trees were darker with new growth. I parked just after the bridge, and found a bike trail down to shore.

"Watermark on trees" was taken from shore, with the bridge behind me. I was deciding whether to make a diptych or triptych, with a third frame to the right. The third shot included part of the bridge, a large section of the beach, and a pile of discarded tires. I shot both sequences, aware of the disparity between a beautiful image and a pile of rubbish. I ultimately decided not to include the tires. I want to celebrate the beauty of nature. I don't want to make art about trash. So, there is a difference between my art and my actions: I want to promote preservation, but artistically, I want to share inspiration.

From below, the waterline mark wasn't as obvious. What was visible from the shore and the trail was the lush undergrowth. The floodwater had left a deposit of rich sediment, which was fertile ground for a thick bloom of grasses, bushes, wildflow-

ers, and vines. Some of the vines completely covered tree stumps, emerging from the grasses like figures. (I couldn't help but think of "The Day of the Triffids" --you know, the 1961 sci-fi classic with Janet Scott

from or adapt to pressure become extinct. Systems can withstand only so much change before they cease to function as systems. "Grasses over dammed stream, Fleming Park" is a small-scale ecological change. The



Photo by Sherry Best, Watermark on trees, Harry S. Truman Dam & Reservoir, Deepwater, MO, Sep. 1994

water in a tributary to Lake Jacomo was blocked by fallen trees. In the still water, algae, mosses, and duckweed covered the surface. The scene gave me a feeling of eternal stillness and balance. Plus, the light was absolutely stun-

ning. In ponds and small streams, this kind of bloom is common, and is supposed to be there. Such a bloom will occasionally happen in larger rivers, also, as a result of runoff.

Fertilizers and pesticides from farmland, suburban yards, and other sources get washed downstream. Their collective presence will throw off the balance of nutrients in the water, producing unhealthy and damaging blooms. Rivers eventually evolve to marshes through eutrophication. It is a slow, gradual process. Such changes as beaver dams, fallen trees, and stream course alterations can induce the process. Nature seems accustomed to changes on this scale: the system will either recover or adapt, depending on the continued presence of the dam.

One factor about these two sites that keeps coming to my mind is that they are constructed, or "imported" ecosystems. The prairies and forests that once covered Missouri are largely removed. Original habitat was lost, so reconstructing habitat involves bringing the original elements back to the site. Lake Jacomo was dammed and con-



Undergrowth bloom, Harry S. Truman Dam & Reservoir, Deepwater, MO, Sep. 1994. Photo by Sherry Best

above the new life. The carpet of growth was so thick it was almost impassable. The area was recovering -- literally -- from the ground up.

Recovery and adaptation are essential processes in ecological systems. Organisms that can't recover

structed by Clarkson and Co., for Jackson County Missouri, and opened in 1959. Harry S. Truman started the park system, creating the first county park in 1927. Fleming Park was named for Harry M. Fleming, a former Presiding Judge of the Jackson County court, in 1972. The Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and became operational in 1978. Both

constructions were radical ecological changes from the woods and farmland that preceded them. However, both sites became increasingly important as new habitat and migration stops, as natural habitat continues to disappear. I have seen Great Blue Herons at Fleming Park, and Bald Eagles at Truman Reservoir.

What draws me to these places, returning as often as I can, is a love for them. I find pleasure, peace, and

beauty in them. I learn from them. The growth and recovery process is fascinating to me: it is such a delicate balancing act. It makes me hopeful that damage done to the environment isn't permanent. Natural disasters are part of a continual weather cycle. While human-sourced disasters can be just as devastating, or even more so, nature will keep trying to recover.

## Chapter Campout

By Jim Rhodes

The 10th Ozark Chapter annual reunion and campout enjoyed splendid (yes - splendid!) weather at Cuivre River State Park. There were well over 100 Sierrans who attended the event to enjoy the fall weather, hike, and just hang out with fellow Sierrans. On Saturday there were many activities including a mushroom hunt led by Ken Gilberg as well as other hikes led by Paul

Stupperich, Suzanne Smith, Bob Gestel, Sue King, Randal Clark, and Bill McConnaughey.

The EMG Inner City Outings committee brought a small group of children from St. Louis who thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Many of the children



Photo: Cuivre River State Park

carved Jack-O-Lanterns which were lit with candles and used to provide an appropriate atmosphere.

The Saturday evening repast of Jambalaya (vegetable and meatie) was directed by the EMG culinary expert Terri Sebben. Roy Hengerson announced the annual awards.

After the awards were given, we celebrated the Ozark Chapter's 25th birthday. Roy Hengerson gave a history of the numerous conservation achievements of the Ozark Chapter over the years and Roger Hershey gave an emotional account of what the Sierra Club has meant to him. A birthday cake was brought out

(for dessert) and everyone sang a round of "Happy Birthday to You" to the Ozark Chapter.

There was a campfire which not only warmed everyone up but gave the children an opportunity to tell some ghastly tales as well as some funny stories. The campfire was kept roaring (but under control) by Richard Story who also furnished the firewood.

On Sunday morning the day was sunny and warm and after breakfast everyone headed off to their chosen hike to explore the various parts of the park. Lunch was served and it seemed that it was too soon for the weekend to be over but it was time to clean-up. Everyone helped out and by the time it was over we were complimented by the State Park staff on how neat and clean the cabins and various buildings were. All-in-all it was a good weekend for a campout and we were all proud to be a part of this great organizations.

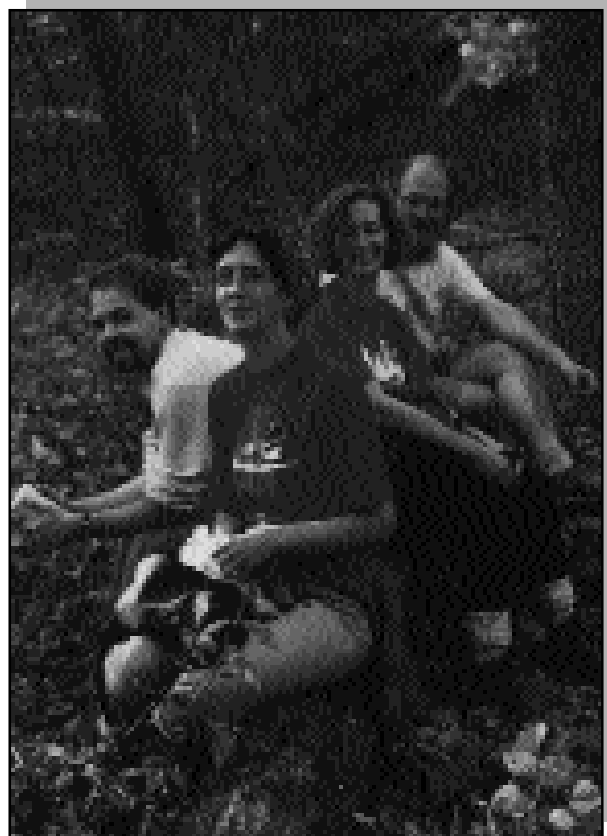


Photo from left to right: Andrew Gondzur, Diane Albright, Pam Carmell, Bill McConnaughey (hike leader)

# Parks & Soils for Today & Tomorrow

By Jack Harris

On November 5, 1996, Missouri voters decided by overwhelming margins to lead the way to the 21st century with an outstanding State Parks & Historic Sites system and an operational program to carry on the reduction of soil erosion and to improve water quality across the State. This commitment was secured by approving Constitutional Amendment 8 at the ballot box by 1,279,624 (67%) yes votes to 641,751 (33%) no votes. All Missourians may be proud of this robust and confident investment in a bright future for our state's natural & cultural heritage and the concomitant obligation to build on a general enhancement of our quality of life through top soil conservation and water quality improvement.

This achievement was made possible by a statewide coalition of dedicated groups and individuals organized into the Citizen's Committee for Soil, Water Conservation & State Parks (CCSW&SP). This committee is comprised of groups across the state including, but not limited to, the Sierra Club, the Farm Bureau Federation, the Soil & Water Districts Association, the Conservation Federation of Missouri, the Missouri Parks Association, the Coalition for the Environment, the State Parks Employees Association, and the Soil Conservation Society. The Co-chairmen were Don Fischer, of Corder and Darwin Hindman, of Columbia.

On a regional level, Sierra Club Groups also worked individually and in collaboration with other local groups and individuals. At the time of this writing the following available reports represent a taste test sample of the scope of the effort: In the St. Louis area, the volunteer voter education/election campaign was coordinated through St. Louisans for Clean Water & State Parks. This orga-

nization was essentially a continuation of the same groups of environmental organizations and concerned individuals who worked through the Initiative Petition (signature collections) phase of the campaign. However in this case the Coalition for the Environment provided office and logistical support. The functions of program design & scheduling, volunteer organizing/phone banking, fund raising, media communications/advertising, materials purchas-

...when you hike or backpack in an awesome State Park or visit a State Historic Site, or drive by a Missouri farm with tidy terraces and grass sod waterways, absent erosion gullies and silt laden feeder creeks, think appreciation to Missouri voters.

ing & distribution, and assignment of volunteers for polling place duty, were all centered around this site. Staff at operations central included Pat Waterston, Rachel Locke, Chris Hoving and Roger Pryor of the Coalition for the Environment. Active volunteer organizations included the Sierra Club, St. Louis Audubon, Coalition for the Environment, Missouri State Parks Association, State Parks Employees Association, and the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, among others. On election day, more than 70 volunteers were dispatched (to hand out literature) at polling places that research showed had the largest number of registered voters. Also a task force of 15 sleep deprived volunteers gathered at 3:30 a.m. to fan out and begin placing "Vote-for-Amendment-8" signs at strategically selected polling sites. Simultaneously, the CCSW&SP placed radio ads in the St. Louis media.

And from southeast Missouri in the Trail of Tears territory: We were sitting at a desk in West Park Mall collecting signatures. To assist us, Trail of Tears State Park had provided several stuffed animals...a copperhead and a bobcat in particular. Not surprisingly, these had been taxidermed into appropriate behavioral modes to make them look like some combination of enticing and threatening (from the school of love-hate taxidermy, I guess). This led to my education in another peculiar aspect of the English language of Southeast Missouri. Time and time again, folks would look nervously at the specimens and ask "Is it real?" A colleague from the area seemed to understand the question, and would reply, "No!", "They're stuffed." I of course, misunderstood the question completely, and would reply "Yes!" "They're just dead!" And so, I learned, the Southeast Missouri view is

that if something is dead, it's no longer real. I guess this means that extinction isn't just forever, it also means consigning species from reality to fantasy.

Meanwhile, across the state over the course of the entire campaign, the *Sierra Club* contributed over \$10,000 and the members invested countless hours of volunteer activist time and resources to this campaign.

Over the next ten years, when you hike or backpack in an awesome State Park or visit a State Historic Site, or drive by a Missouri farm with tidy terraces and grass sod waterways, absent erosion gullies and silt laden feeder creeks, think appreciation to Missouri voters. Enjoy!

Questions and inquiries may be directed to  
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E-mail: jahar@stlnet.com  
or Ken Midkiff, Program Director,  
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E-mail: ken.midkiff@sierraclub.org



# We Testify at TTC Hearing

By Ginger Harris

The Total Transportation Commission held seven public hearings during November and December. Following is the text of a statement made on behalf of the Ozark Chapter by Ginger Harris at the hearing in St. Louis on November 12.

1. The Sierra Club would like Missouri to be a state in which transportation is viewed in a broader context, not in isolation from the rest of our society, but rather as a critical determinant not just of our economy but of our society.

Transportation investments play an important role in determining how our cities and towns grow:

- whether old neighborhoods will be abandoned;

- whether courthouse squares flourish or dry up;

- how much we have to spend building new schools, libraries, fire and police stations, water and sewer lines to serve fringe areas;

- whether walking and cycling remain realistic options for many trips;

- even whether people continue to encounter one another on sidewalks where they stop and chat and build or reinforce a sense of community.

2. The Sierra Club would like us to acknowledge that in addition to its benefits, transportation has very real unintended costs. The costs of motorized transportation include air and water pollution, traffic deaths and injuries, energy and resource consumption, a national foreign trade deficit, and community dislocation from changes in commercial and commuter patterns.

3. The Sierra Club would like us to realize that the very need for transportation, and the kinds of transportation that are viable, are largely determined by the locational

decisions of individuals, businesses, institutions and governments. For example, when a large retail store moves to the edge of town to be next to the new bypass, nearly everyone who shops there must make a longer trip. In fact, the trip may become so long that it can no longer be feasibly made by foot or bicycle. Unless transit service is extended out to the bypass, many of the store's clerks may find it difficult to keep their former jobs. Furthermore, other stores and services tend to follow the large retailer out to the bypass, thereby reinforcing a vicious spiral.

4. The Sierra Club would like Missouri to be a state in which all of us make our locational decisions with full understanding of the consequences of those decisions. During the 40 years from 1950 to 1990, the St. Louis metro area's population grew by 35%. That 35% growth did not merely add 35% to the size of

The Sierra Club would like us to realize that the very need for transportation, and the kinds of transportation that are viable, are largely determined by the locational decisions of individuals, businesses, institutions and governments.

the metro area. Rather, that 35% growth created new patterns of development that gobbled up 354% more raw land and caused a shift of population resulting in partial abandonment of the central city and older suburbs and a consequent shift in property values from the older urbanized area to the newly urbanizing area. The new patterns also made it difficult for the residents who were left behind to get to jobs.

5. The Sierra Club would like us to accept responsibility for the economic and social costs of our loca-

tional decisions by being willing to pay these costs, rather than shifting the costs to those who had no say in the decisions. Currently the folks who have no say in locational decisions often bear greater costs than those who make the decisions. Examples of costs borne by those who had no say in the matter:

- the distance and time that central city residents must travel--often without access to a car--to where the new jobs are located;

- higher per capita costs to maintain core city infrastructure after businesses and wealthier residents depart the central city;

- sometimes even a portion of the costs of new infrastructure at the edge of the city, in spite of not benefiting from that new infrastructure.

6. The Sierra Club would like us to make our locational decisions in such a way that we reduce our transportation costs. We could ask local jurisdictions to more consciously guide the growth of

our cities and towns so they become more transportation efficient, not less so. We could devise incentives to encourage our citizens to make more locationally-efficient decisions about where they choose to live, and then where they choose to shop and play.

7. The Sierra Club would like to see a continuing dialogue among all affected interests, both actors and acted upon: public officials, infrastructure planners, land

developers, community leaders, environmentalists, and the public. One way to facilitate this dialogue is to create an annual Governor's Conference on Transportation, Economic Development, Environmental Efficiency, and Community.

We need to remind ourselves that only by making decisions in concert with one another can we most effectively create a state where we have a sustainable economy with a high quality of life for all of our citizens.

# Carrying Capacity Corner: Awakening the Sleeping Giant

By John Fish

For some time now, the *Thomas Hart Benton Group* of the *Ozark Chapter* has been without a Population Committee. After recently deciding to join the *Sierra Club*, I figured it was past time that someone rectified that omission. Being someone, I concluded I should volunteer for the mission. The more thought I gave to the idea, though, the more convinced I became that forming a Population Committee would be inadequate. It would begin its life fundamentally flawed and incomplete. What the *Sierra Club* needs is not a Population Committee or Program, but a Carrying Capacity Committee. Let me explain.

First, we must define our terms. For anyone not already familiar with it, the Population Program of the *Sierra Club*, in existence since 1968, was created to deal with the impact of rapid human population growth on the natural world. The primary focus of the program has been to be an advocate for increased US government funding for international family planning and population stabilization programs.

A Carrying Capacity Program, on the other hand, would be based far more broadly. It would explicitly recognize that it is not solely a question of how many people there are, but also how those people, on average, live. People who live in small homes, travel by mass transit, and eat little or no animal foods will have a much lower impact than if they live in mansions, drive personal automobiles, and eat flesh, milk, or eggs at every meal.

Another component has to do with what technologies are employed to support their lifestyles. Do they recycle or use primarily virgin materials? Is the energy they use produced from renewable solar or wind sources, or fossil fuels? Are the animal foods they eat produced

from free-range animals eating their natural diet, or animals that have been housed in intensive-confinement factories and fed grain?

As defined by an organization called Carrying Capacity Network, "carrying capacity refers to the number of individuals who can be supported without degrading the natural, cultural, and social environment, i.e. without reducing the ability of the environment to sustain the desired quality of life over the long term." Sounds like a worthy vision of the future to me. How do we achieve it?



The most important thing the *THB* Carrying Capacity Committee can do is to awaken people to the fact that the human species now faces a carrying capacity crisis. Coping with this crisis will be the greatest challenge of the next century, the greatest challenge humanity has ever faced, because it will require us to master our own basic instincts and desires. It also is a challenge to the entire human species, not a single village or nation. We must learn to come together for the common good, or we will die in conflict and anarchy.

Unfortunately, most people in this country are still oblivious to the fact that we are facing a crisis. We can help to change that by pursuing speaking engagements, tabling opportunities, and by submitting opinion columns and letters to local print media. I've had some success getting my own columns and letters

printed, and I may be able to help others improve their own technique.

Most importantly, we must build a network to distribute factual information explaining the crisis to every library, bookstore, and other appropriate outlet in the area. The other side of this debate floods the marketplace of ideas with their viewpoint, and, though we can't match them for quantity, we must do our best to make our voices heard. If even only a significant minority of *Sierra Club* members adopted a library, bookstore, coffeeshop, or other outlet near them, we could expand our audience and support greatly.

I have in mind broader distribution of the *Ozark Sierran* and the *THB Group's Heartland Sierran*. There are certainly other suitable publications as well, and I am open to your suggestions as to which would be most effective.

I would also like to see an adopt-a-library program initiated to donate environmentally-themed magazine subscriptions. I've noticed that *Sierra* magazine is already subscribed to by most libraries in my area.

We will not completely abandon our efforts to increase US government funding for international population programs, but we will devote the bulk of our efforts to the goal of educating the public about the nature and dimensions of the carrying capacity crisis. The only true solution is to enlist many more new activists in support of our cause.

If you are interested in being a part of the Carrying Capacity Committee or any of these initiatives, please contact John Fish at (816) 353-9305 or 72633.211@compuserve.com. I look forward to working with all of you to build a sustainable human society which lives within the limits—the carrying capacity—of the Earth, our common home.

# 8 Receive Ozark Chapter Awards

By Roy C. Hengerson

Eight Missourians received recognition from the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club in 1996 for their efforts to protect and enhance our environment and the natural wonders of the state. The awards were presented at the Chapter's annual dinner held October 12th at Cuivre River State Park as part of the annual reunion and campout.

For only the 14th time in the Ozark Chapter's 25 year history, the Distinguished Service Award, our highest award, was presented, this year to Caroline Pufalt. Caroline, who lives in St. Louis, became active in the Chapter in the mid to late 1980s, becoming Chapter Newsletter editor in 1988. She was first elected to the Executive Committee in 1989 and has served as both Chapter Chair and Chapter Conservation Chair.

Her biggest contribution to the Sierra Club over her many years of service is in the public lands arena. She has chaired the Chapter Public lands Committee for several years and continues to do so. In 1994, she led a successful campaign to stop over 300 miles of off road vehicle trails from being developed on the Mark Twain National Forest. She is a knowledgeable and dedi-

cated protector of our public forests, prairies, glades, and streams. Her quiet but determined manner have inspired all who know her.

Two Ozark Chapter Sierrans were recognized as **Sierran of the Year**. Kathy Bildner and Paul Stupperich, both from St. Louis, were instrumental in the successful effort to gather signatures on the citizen's petition to get the renewal of the state parks and soil and water conservation programs sales tax on the ballot. The 1/10 cent tax was renewed by Missouri voters for another 10 years in the November election after the successful petition drive.

In addition, both Kathy and Paul have been active and dedicated conservation and outings leaders in the Ozark Chapter and its Eastern Missouri Group for many years.

Two awards for excellence in Environmental Communications were presented this year. One went to Melinda Roth, a reporter with the *Riverfront Times* in St. Louis. The *Riverfront Times* has for many years been a leader in reporting on environmental issues. In the last several years Melinda has provided readers with informed and hard hitting environmental coverage.

Laura Scott, an editorial writer with the *Kansas City Star*, has brought an increased environmental awareness to both that paper and to the Kansas City area. She has worked to insure that the need to protect our environment is understood and appreciated.

The Public Official Award went to State Representative Ken Jacob, who was just elected as State Senator, from Columbia. During his 14 years in the House, Ken has established a solid and distinguished track record on environmental issues. In both his public voting record as well as his willingness to work in all arenas to influence the outcome, Ken has shown leadership in furthering our cause.

The Highlands Section, which is based in Jefferson City and Cole County in mid Missouri, was awarded a Special Recognition Award. Although they are part of the Osage Group, prior to this Section's formation and activation, no local opportunities for Sierra Club involvement existed. Thanks to Lori Clark, Dennis Scott, and many others, there is now a strong Sierra Club presence in Missouri's Capital City.

Please join me in recognizing and congratulating our 1996 award recipients.

## Answers to Kids Page Questions

### Animal Tracks:

- A. Deer - 4
- B. Fox - 5
- C. Rabbit - 2
- D. Skunk - 3
- E. Squirrel - 1

### Shivers and Goose Bumps,

Fill in the Blanks:

- 1st - muscles
- 2nd - cold
- 3rd - heat
- 4th - loss
- 5th - insulation
- 6th - clothes

It is reported that Eskimos . . . : snow.

# What a Long, Strange Trip It's Been

(Tales From a Political Junkie)

By Chris Hayday

Well boys & girls, the political season is now over and in short, we won! Sierra Club endorsed candidates won 24 of their 29 races and the Parks and Soils tax was renewed by a 2 to 1 vote. Including the August primaries, the Sierra Club was successful in 29 of 35 races.

This was a very successful campaign season and thanks to everyone who worked on a campaign, tacked up yard signs, hosted a sign in front of your home, made phone calls and most importantly, thanks for voting for the pro-environment candidates.

In the State Senate, Ken Jacob of Columbia promises to continue to be the advocate he was in the House, and his election now gives us two pro-environmental Senators.

Wayne Goode of St. Louis was also re-elected. The Missouri House will see the return of our heroes as well. Mike Schilling of Springfield, Tim Harlan of Columbia and Joan Bray of St. Louis all survived tough races and will be back to do battle. We were also able to elect some pro-environmental challengers by electing Chuck Graham and Vicky Riback Wilson of Columbia and Carol Stroker of St. Louis.

This election year we tried doing some independent expenditure campaigns. This was done with some success and some not so success. One of our biggest challenges came from the Missouri Chamber and Associated Industries. The Chamber of Commerce tried to run ads falsely attacking two of our candidates as being bad for opposing the "Dirty Secrets Bill." We were able to run counter-ads exposing them as being

industrial polluters and the voters believed us.

The make-up of the House and Senate is exactly the same, and I mean exactly the same, in terms of the number of Democrats and Republicans. This is to our advantage, however, as "the powers that be" who determine leadership and committee chairs remain the same. We are optimistic that we will get a good committee chair for the House Energy & Environment. Of course, either one of my dogs would be forward thinking compared to the outgoing chair.

Thanks again to everyone who volunteered their time, effort and money this election season. We worked our butts off, but it was worth it. Politically we saved our little corner of the world, so from here we move upward and onward to the legislature.

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## ACTING LOCALLY

By Marty Kraft

Since we all consume resources and create pollution, we all have to be part of the solution.

Environmental awareness must be so woven into our community life that it comes up in casual conversation everywhere, but especially on the blocks where we live.

A program has grown out of my belief that block centered environmental education and action are essential. I started by becoming the editor of my neighborhood newsletter. I have to write about many things that at first don't seem environmental. However as I look at them I realize that issues like drugs, crime, and blight are really environmental problems too. In every issue I am able to print something about the environment. Through the newsletter, I have been able to conduct surveys that help people consider their lifestyles. Another newsletter-initiated program connected neighbors with organic farmers. Once a week,

several neighbors pick up vegetables on my porch. The produce is grown by a farmer north of town.

You also might be interested in the Sustainable Block program that I started. Every so often I pass out flyers on the four blocks (96 homes) that surround my house. Through the flyers I started a block food buying club. Every six weeks a truck pulls up with organic and natural foods at quite a discount. I get to talk with neighbors from seven other households at least once every six weeks. Friendly visits with neighbors are now scheduled into my life and I get good prices on food to boot. I have a shared garden with one neighbor and bee hives with another. Recently I purchased about \$200 worth of compact fluorescent bulbs to loan to my neighbors so they can see that they don't flicker or look bad.

Other projects that are underway include a block compost collection

program that feeds community gardens, a neighborhood wide garage sale and a neighborhood craft market.

It is very important that these programs all attempt to be centered on the block so reduced use of the automobile is designed in. That's really acting locally. As people reinforce each other's environmental values through regular interaction new programs will be invented.

An added benefit to this increased community activity on the block is a lowered incidence of crime. There are more people looking out for one another.

If you want help by starting part or all of this program on your block or know of other efforts like these I would love to talk with you. Call (816) 361-1230 or E-mail [martyk@coop.crn.org](mailto:martyk@coop.crn.org). You might also enjoy surfing to [coop.crn.org/nbrhoodnet](http://coop.crn.org/nbrhoodnet) on the internet.

*(Marty Kraft heads the Heartland All Species Project in Kansas City)*



# Secrecy Bills Derailed in States

Taken from The Planet (January 1997)

By Mark Woodall, Chair, Audit Privilege Task Force

So-called audit privilege legislation would provide blanket immunity for environmental crimes, no matter how serious, and would establish unprecedented legal privilege allowing corporate polluters to hide civil and criminal misconduct from judges, juries and the public. In the view of the pro-secrecy, pro-immunity National Association of Manufacturers, "It was the hottest environmental issue in the states this session."

Powerful corporate polluter coalitions overpowered the public interest to pass audit privilege (or "dirty secrets") bills in five states during the 1996 state legislative sessions: Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, South Carolina and South Dakota. But thanks to the hard work of Sierra Club volunteers and the state lobby corps, such legislation was defeated in over 20 states.

Vice President Gore recently wrote members of Congress to affirm the Clinton administration's opposition to the dirty-secrets bills in Congress and to similar bills at the state level. In testimony before the Senate, Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Administrator

Steve Herman said that "the enforcement of federal law — whether carried out by states or the EPA — ought to be subject to some minimal national standards. Otherwise, it is no longer federal law. If it is cheaper to violate the law in some states, then companies that operate legally in neighboring jurisdictions will be put at a disadvantage." In order to maintain the integrity of federal environmental laws, the EPA has warned Texas, Idaho,

tioned the EPA to withdraw delegated programs in Idaho, Michigan and Texas. In Texas, the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International has joined the Environmental Defense Fund petition due to the threat to employee health and safety posed by the Texas secrecy statute. The Texas law makes health and safety audits secret in addition to environmental audits.

Ohio state Sen. (and newly elected Congressman) Dennis Kucinich announced from the Ohio Senate floor that he will ask the EPA and federal Department of Justice to intervene in the implementation of the new Ohio secrecy law. Kucinich also vowed to ask the EPA to block Ohio's delegation of environmental program authority.

After stopping the momentum of the dirty secrets legislation around the country in 1996, Club activists and lobbyists will face a renewed push in 1997 from corporate polluter secrecy advocates. The EPA's actions to ensure that state statutes do not conflict with federal environmental laws could provide opportunities to repeal or amend state dirty secrets statutes.

For more information: Contact your chapter's state lobbyist or Paula Carrell, the Club's state program director, at (415) 977-5668; E-mail: paula.carrell@sierraclub.org

The following states have considered, but chosen not to enact, environmental audit privilege/ immunity bills during the 1995 or 1996 legislative session:

Alabama	Nebraska
Alaska	Nevada
Arizona	New Mexico
California	New York
Delaware	North Carolina
Florida	Oklahoma
Georgia	Rhode Island
Hawaii	Pennsylvania
Iowa	Tennessee
Louisiana	Vermont
Maryland	Washington
Massachusetts	Wisconsin
Missouri	West Virginia
Montana	

Michigan and Utah that their delegation of the federal Clean Air Act — that is, their authority to implement and enforce the law at the state level — is at risk due to state privilege/immunity statutes.

Environmentalists have peti-

# Chapter Conservation Committee Report

By Caroline Pufalt

Our mission is nothing less than to "explore, enjoy and preserve the wild places of this earth". A great part of that mission within the Ozark chapter is conducted through our chapter's conservation committee. The committee is made up of Sierrans from across the state and it meets every other month. Our meetings are open to all Sierrans.

On November 8 the committee met in Columbia and on that date we were all in various stages of recovery from the election. We had a wide ranging discussion of the election results, state and national levels. Chris Hayday, chair of our chapter's political committee, filled us in on behind the scenes information, such as responses to informational radio ads the chapter sponsored. Those ads were used in some state races, often to effectively expose the anti-environmental voting records of candidates. Overall we felt our targeted efforts were most useful in state level races.

We were, of course, pleased at the overwhelming approval of the

renewal of the State Parks and Soils tax. This secures funding for 10 years, but already our discussion focused on what to plan for beyond that time frame. The successful rural, urban coalition that has supported the tax so far is under strain. That strain comes not so much from environmental interests but from some urban lawmakers who view the soil portion of the tax as needing revision, and in the process hope to shift some of the revenue to urban needs.

Roy Hengerson, our chapter conservation chair, is also on the National Board of Directors for the Sierra Club. He reported to our November meeting on some of the inner workings of the Club's national budget. While this may seem remote and arcane, it does effect our local chapter and groups in that changes may be in store for dues transfers to the chapter. An emerging budget issue is a proposal to partially support some chapter level staff with national funding.

Ron McLinden, a Sierran from the Kansas City area, reported on his experiences as a commissioner on the Governor's Total Transportation

Commission. Ron's tireless work on transportation issues have paid off in his knowledge and contacts which have helped his participation in the commission. See the related article this issue on the commission hearings.

We discussed several public lands related issues at our November meeting, such as possible further action on two of our recent appeals on timber sales on the Mark Twain National Forest. Troy Gordon updated us on the Big Muddy Wildlife Refuge. We reviewed how the new congress may affect public land law. We planned to invite the new Director of the Missouri Department of Conservation, Jerry Conley, to our next conservation committee meeting.

Our next meeting will be Feb 15 in Jefferson City at the Runge Nature Center. Our meetings usually last from 10:00 to 4:00 with a break for lunch and often a speaker. All Sierrans are welcome to attend for all or part of the meeting and are invited to the pot luck party in the evening. For more details contact your group representative.

## Outings listing

### Eastern Missouri Group (St. Louis area)

**Cross country skiing** will be available in or near St. Louis, on short notice, when mother nature offers the opportunity. Call now for more information. **Jim Nyberg, (314) 725-0767.**

Jan 4-5 (Sat-Sun) Second annual winter backpack trip. Learn about cold weather camping or show us your own techniques. For experienced backpackers only. Bob Gestel, (314) 296-8975.

Jan 11 (Sat) Highway clean-up. Trash in ice. How nice! Diane

DuBois, (314) 721-0594.

Jan 11 (Sat) Winter hike at moderate pace. St. Francois State Park. Margaret Gilleo and Chuck Guenther, (314) 991-1305.

Jan 11-12 (Sat-Sun) Help increase habitat for the rare collared lizard and hundreds of native plant species at Washington State Park. Come one day or both, free camping. Penny Holtzmann, (314) 487-2738.

Jan 12 (Sun) Brisk afternoon zoo walk. cocoa and cookies afterward. Susan Chatfield, (314) 781-8818.

Jan 18 (Sat) Hike and explore hickory canyon natural area near Hawn State Park. Some cross country. Experienced only. Steve Viggers, (314) 984-8752.

Jan 18 (Sat) Children and parents invited to join the inner city outing kids for a small hike on the Katy Trail in search of eagles. We will stop somewhere to warm up with some hot chocolate afterwards. Parents responsible for their own children. Weather permitting. Diane Favier, (314) 894-5549.

Jan 18 (Sat) Evening of games at 7:00 p.m. Enjoy a cold winter evening around the fireplace. Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit, etc. Bring your favorite game. Barb and Ricky Wall, (314) 569-3419.

Jan 19 (Sun) Cross country skiing if we have enough snow. Otherwise, a day hike somewhere. Bob Gestel, (314) 296-8975.

Jan 19 (Sun) Eight mile hike to Rock Pile Mountain shut-ins. Intermediate and experienced hikers only.

Limit 15. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

Jan 25-26 (Sat-Sun) Trail Maintenance. Hikers are cementing on trail registration cards that they appreciate our work. Please join us for a fun weekend of camping or for just a day. Helen McCallie, (314) 822-3849.

Jan 26 (Sun) Hiking at Pere Marquette State Park. We will hike some of the trails and maybe see some eagles. Afterwards, we will eat brunch at the lodge. Diane Favier, (314) 894-5549.

Feb 1 (Sat) Easy four mile morning hike includes old growth forest, prairie, and Frenchman's Bluff at Cuivre River State Park. Kathy Wodell, (314) 240-0675.

Feb 2 (Sun) Outings Leader's First Aid Workshop at Babler State Park. Join us from 9:00 am until 4:00 p.m. (or come earlier if you want to check out the groundhog's shadow). Workshop will include indoor and outdoor sessions. Barry Brown, (314) 994-9410, or Bob Gestel, (314) 296-8975.

Feb 8 (Sat) Highway clean-up. Great exercise and fun in the sun. Join the stalwart crew! Diane DuBois, (314) 721-0594.

Feb 8 (Sat) Volunteer water quality monitoring at Creve Coeur Lake Creek. Observe macro invertebrates, do water sampling and testing. Be a part of this important quarterly project, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Leslie Lihou, (314) 726-2140.

Feb 8 (Sat) Jefferson Barracks County Park. Three mile afternoon walk. Stop for snack or early dinner afterward. Good for beginners. Marsha Armentrout, (314) 892-4279.

Feb 8-9 (Sat-Sun) Learn about Missouri's natural history while helping to restore an original landscape of unique ecological value at Washington State Park. Come one day or both; free camping. Penny

Holtzmann, (314) 487-2738.

Feb 9 (Sun) Day hike. we will make another assault on the summit of Taum Sauk Mountain. We will again attempt the ill-fated route of Nay 14, 1995. Bob Gestel, (314) 296-8975.

Feb 9 (Sun) Day hike at Hawn State Park. my way is the best way to see



eight miles of the best part of Hawn State Park. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

Feb 15 (Sat) Children and parents invited to join the inner city outing kids for a trip to learn about Indian history at Cahokia Mounds. Diane Favier, (314) 894-5549.

Feb 15-16 (Sat-Sun) Overnight backpack trip at Meramec State Park. We will hike the ten mile wilderness trail and camp at one of the back country sites on Saturday night. Rich Krebs, (314) 939-4436, or Bob Gestel, (314) 296-8975.

Feb 16 (Sun) Day hike to Buford Mountain. Spectacular views of the St. Francois Mountain range. 6-8 miles. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

Feb 22-23 (Sat-Sun) Trail Maintenance. Join us for one or both days. We welcome new people as well as the experienced. Helen McCallie, (314) 822-3849.

Feb 27 (Thu) Planning meeting for beginners backpack trip. Bring what equipment you have. We will discuss use of each item and where to borrow, swap, or rent equipment. Trip limit ten people. Steve Viggers, (314) 984-8752, or Bob Gestel, (314) 296-8975.

Mar 1-2 (Sat-Sun) Overnight back-

pack trip on the Ozark Trail in the Pioneer Forest. We will hike along Blair Creek, make an early camp, and explore the ridges and hollows; some cross country. Six to eight miles. Tom Ballard, (314) 487-8892, or Bob Gestel, (314) 296-8975.

## Osage Group (Columbia area)

Cross Country skiing in January - Anytime there is a good snow we'll have cross country skiing. Check with Dick Luecke. (753) 882-3691.

Jan. 11 (Sat) Annual Terry and Randal Gans Wild Area Hike and Chili Supper. Meet at 1:45 p.m. at the end of Bearfield Rd. for a winter hike, followed by a potluck, at Randals. Join us for one or both! Bring a favorite dish and drink to share. Chili will be featured! Call Randal for more details. Call (753) 875-0514 for further information.

Jan. 24 (Fri) Bimonthly Full Moon Hike and Potluck. Join us at 6:30 p.m. at Ken and Julie's for this new tradition. Hike the Katy and potluck and after party after. Bring the Midkiffs for more info, (753) 442-5570.

Jan. 25 (Sat) Eagles and More! Join us at 1:30 p.m. at the Katy Trail, McBain parking lot for car touring and perhaps hiking at Eagle Bluffs. Eagles will be featured! On to Rochport to watch the sun set over the river and potluck at Marti and Jan's. Bring a favorite dish and drink, and slides or a favorite game. Call Marti Kardinal for more details, (573) 698-2140.

Feb. 8 (Sat) Winter Float (weather dependent). Call Kay for more info, (753) 445-0114.

Feb. 15 (Sat) Hike Devils Backbone Trail or Campfire. Meet at 2 p.m. at F.S. Pine Ridge Campground (East or Cedar Creek on Highway Y) for a winter hike. Bring dinner to cook over a roaring campfire, potluck style. Musical instruments are encouraged. Call Terri and Jay Folsom for more

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information at (573) 875-4509.

## **Trail of Tears Group (Cape Girardeau area)**

Feb. 1 (Sat) Eagle Days at Mingo National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at the Cape Girardeau Public Public Library at 9 a.m.

## **Thomas Hart Benton Group (Kansas City area)**

Jan 7 (Tue) 7 p.m. Sierra Club THB General Meeting - Dan Wildcat of the Haskell Indian Nations University will present Native American perspectives on our environment.

Jan 11-12 (Sat-Sun) Perry Lake Campout. We will day hike along the Perry Lake trail and then enjoy a winter camp at the group campgrounds.

Be prepared for any weather. Call Bob Wilshire (913) 441-2449.

Jan 14 (Tue) 6:30 p.m. Environmental Leaders Forum, call Claus Wawrzinek at (816) 561-7863.

Jan 16 (Thu) 7 p.m. Metro Coalition for Sensible Transportation, Call Claus Wawrzinek at (816) 561-7863 for more info.

Jan 21 (Tue) 7 p.m. Sierra Club & Audubon Conservation Commission, UMKC University Center, Chancellor's dining room. Claus, 561-7863.

Jan 26 (Sun) Omaha Zoo. On this outing we will spend the day exploring animal habitats and learning about many animals we are not likely to see in the wild. Call Claus Wawrzinek at (816) 561-7863.

Feb 2 (Sun) Ice Skating, Crown Center. Dig those skates out of the basement, strap on the knee pads and take to the ice! This outing promises to be an annual event. Call

Steve Hassler at (913) 599-6028.

Feb 4 (Tue) 7 p.m. Sierra Club THB Group General Meeting, Longview College, To be announced.

Feb 9 (Sun) Lexington Civil War Park. If you thought the Civil War only touched the East, come learn about the "other" war in the Midwest. Call Lee Ann Googe at (816) 453-8558.

Feb. 15-16 (Sat-Sun) Pigeon Roost Backpack. This easy weekend backpack to Beaver Lake State Park in Arkansas has become a tradition. Beautiful lake vistas combine with a historical stop at the War Eagle Mill for Sunday brunch. Call Bob Wilshire (913) 441-2449.

Feb. 18 (Tue) Sierra Club & Audubon Conservation Committee/UMKC chancellor's Dining Room 7 p.m.

