

OZARK SIERRAN

One Earth

One Chance

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<http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mo/>

Holnam – Just the Facts and by the Numbers

by Ken Midkiff
Ozark Chapter Director

Background:

Holnam, Inc., is an international company with headquarters in Switzerland, and U.S. headquarters in Michigan.

The company owns, among other operations, several cement kilns/quarries in the U.S., including one in Clarksville, MO, just north of the St. Louis metropolitan area. The Clarksville facility has had numerous violations of the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act.

Current Proposal:

To locate a large quarrying operation, cement kiln, rail facility and barge docking facility on 4000 acres in Ste. Genevieve County.

These lands are just south of Jefferson County, with Isle du Bois Creek as the county line boundary and the north boundary of the site. The terrain consists of heavily wooded uplands above the Mississippi River valley, floodplains and wetlands in the river bottoms, and dissected valleys leading into the river valley.

There is only one road to access this site. The remainder of the lands are in a recovering, heavily forested state. Although there has been logging in the past, the forest is in a mature state. While no endangered species have been noted in this area (primarily due to not looking), it lies within the range and suitable habitat for several such species.

Project Description (from permit applications):

- A single kiln Portland cement plant.
- Quarry Operations to mine the onsite limestone resources.
- Road to access Highway 61 and I-55.
- Rail spur to Burlington Northern Santa Fe RR.
- Slack water harbor and associated in-river fleeting for barge shipping on the Mississippi River.
- Overburden disposal areas; and

- Two crossings of Isle du Bois Creek.

“It is anticipated that the operation of the quarry, cement plant, and other associated infrastructure would occur for in excess of 100 years.” — Statement in Public Notice for “401–404” permit application. (Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, sometimes called the “dredge and fill” sections).

The Numbers:

- 4000 acres: Total size of Holnam’s holdings in Ste. Genevieve.
- 1798 acres: Total size of proposed limestone quarry.
- “Largest cement kiln in the world” (according to Holnam) to be located in the floodplains and wetlands of the Mississippi River.
- 7200 tons: Amount of Nitrogen Oxides — ozone precursors — proposed to be released per year.

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Conservation Shorts: a Sampling of Conservation Activity in the Ozark Chapter

by Caroline Pufalt
Chapter Conservation Committee Chair

Air permits:

Last year several Ozark chapter activists attended an EPA workshop addressing Title V Clean Air permits. Title V is the permitting process for operation of facilities that emit pollutants. The permitting process is open for public review and comment. Several hardy Ozark Sierrans including Wallace McMullen, Gina DeBarthe, Henry Robertson, and Ginger Harris have reviewed and commented on several Title V permits in Missouri. Henry recently completed an overall review of the Missouri Clean Air Statute against CFR 70 and made several suggestions to assist in better compliance. He submitted his evaluation to the EPA regional office for their review. This represents a lot of hard work, all toward the goal of keeping our air cleaner. Thanks to these dedicated activists!

Smart Growth in mid Missouri:

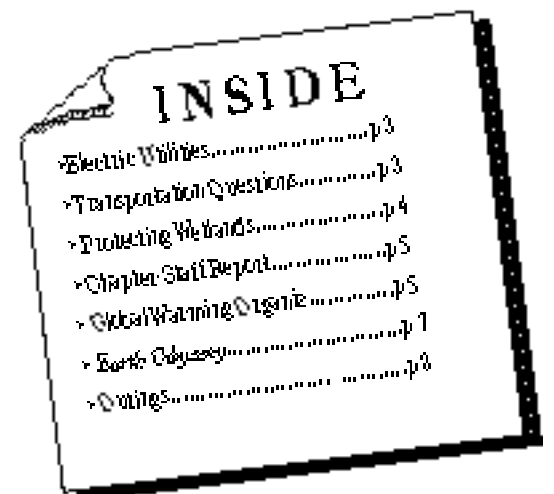
The Osage Group of the Ozark Chapter has worked hard to help organize and participate in a Boone County Smart Growth Coalition that will encourage city and county government officials to support working together to address some of the significant growth problems facing the Columbia area. The coalition includes several community organizations and demonstrates the broad concern

among many area citizens regarding suburban sprawl.

City level activists:

The city of Maryland Heights is one of the hot spots in St. Louis county regarding sprawl. Pressure for development in the flood plain is intense in the area around the infamous Page Avenue extension. But local folks are not sitting idly by. Efforts led by Cheryl Hammond and others have challenged local candidates to be up front about their position on sprawl. Recent elections

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Chapter Conservation Shorts.....continued from page 1

resulted in victory for two municipal level candidates that are sympathetic to anti-sprawl issues. Congratulations to Cheryl especially for her work in Maryland Heights.

Missouri River management and endangered species:

The Ozark Chapter will participate in a Missouri River basin-wide meeting of club activists on management issues along the Missouri River. Needless to say, the river is long and the problems diverse from Montana to Missouri. At a meeting in June in Omaha Sierrans will work to develop a network through which we can work more effectively along the length of this mighty river. An immediate issue is the Army Corp of Engineers Missouri River Management Plan and its impact on three endangered species, the pallid sturgeon, piping plover and least tern.



Chip mill legislation:

Sierrans are involved in an ongoing effort to develop legislation to address the problems of chip mills in Missouri and to support good forestry on private lands. This is a complicated effort that involves both writing the draft legislation and developing contacts in the state legislature who will support the bill. We hope to have this on board for the 2002 legislative session. The Dogwood Alliance has been working hard on that effort in Missouri and Sierrans such as Tom Kruzan and Ken Midkiff have been contributing much to that effort.

The world's biggest cement plant in Missouri?

Not if folks from the Eastern Missouri Group and the Trail of Tears Group can help it. Volunteers from these two groups, working with Sierrans from Illinois and other organizations such as the Missouri Coalition for the Environment, are mounting a major effort to stop this misguided and polluting development. —

Ecofacts:

- Promote healthy soil and water
- Promote sustainable agriculture
- Save transportation energy
- Buy locally grown organic foods

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The editors reserve the right to edit articles! Material may be edited for length, content, or clarity. It is our job to help you communicate. If you have strong creative ownership of your writing, and wish 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 dearly welcome. Please send us photos...

OZARK SIERRAN

The published deadline is the real, honest-to-goodness, drop-dead deadline—not a couple of days or a week later! Submissions received after the deadline are subject to the possibility they won't appear in the issue: you will feel bad and we will feel bad. Call us nasty, but we are determined this newsletter will come out on time!

The *OZARK SIERRAN* is produced on a Macintosh computer, so we strongly prefer to receive material electronically (E-mail), or on a Mac or PC disk (3.5"), WITH A HARD COPY OF THE TEXT. Typed articles are also OK (must be received 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, All-volunteer Editorial and Production Staff: Keet Kopecky, Editor; Bob Sherrick, and Claus Wawrzinek

Dates You Need to Know

5/26

Chapter ConsCom meeting:
Kansas City, Missouri
contact Caroline Pufalt (314)878-3165

5/27

Chapter ExCom meeting:
Kansas City, Missouri
contact Keet Kopecky,
kkopecky@kc.rr.com, (816)966-9544

6/8-10

Big River Week: Washington, D.C.
contact Wallace McMullen,
mcmulw@sockets.net, (573) 636-6067

6/16-17

Missouri River Conference:
Omaha, NE, contact Ken Midkiff,
ken.midkiff@prodigy.net, (573) 815-0250

Transportation Questions Still Confront Missouri

by Ron McLinden
Ozark Chapter Transportation Chair

Will Missouri address its transportation needs? Will it do so in a manner that makes sense? How should the Sierra Club respond to the package that ultimately comes out? Those are among the key questions we face. In fact, by the time these words reach your mailbox we might already know many of the answers.

At this writing, the Missouri House has just passed a \$747 million per year increase in funding for transportation, and is sending it to the Senate. The House adopted the bill, Committee Substitute for HB 924, by a relatively close vote that closely followed party lines: nearly all Democrats voted Yea, nearly all Republicans voted No.

Prospects for passage in the Senate are not that good. Republicans hold a bare majority for the first time in decades, and they are not inclined to have their names attached to any tax increase — not even one that the voters of the state will have to approve at the polls. What's more, Republicans and their Farm Bureau allies are still bitter about the failure of the "fifteen-year plan," adopted back in 1992 during Governor Ashcroft's administration as the justification for a 6-cent per gallon fuel tax increase that the General Assembly passed WITHOUT seeking voter approval. That "plan" — which many observers agree was not a plan at all but merely a hastily conceived package of promises developed with the very active involvement (as in, "You'll get my vote if you include my pet project") of many of the legislators at the time — was formally abandoned in 1998 because it was under-funded and could not be completed on time.

Governor Holden has made transportation one of his top issues, and sees this year as the best chance for getting additional funding. That's a gutsy position for a new governor to take, especially since it would immediately get him labeled as a big-tax governor and undermine his chances

for a second term.

Transit supporters, among whom the Sierra Club counts itself, are pleased that the proposed program would include \$100 million per year for local bus and rail transit. That level of need was identified back in 1992, but was consistently ignored in the push for a big highway package. Now Missouri is considering a "total transportation" bill that includes transit, and most transit advocates are pleased.

Still, especially among environmentalists, the question persists: "Is a \$600 million boost in highway spending too high a price to pay for a \$100 million per year increase for transit?"

The transportation package being considered uses three principal sources of revenue: a 3-cent per gallon increase in the fuel tax, a three-quarter cent increase in the general sales tax, and increases in motor vehicle registration fees by one-third. The lion's share of additional money for highways comes from the sales tax — a tax that most people concede is highly regressive. The modest 3-cent increase in the fuel tax just brings Missouri closer to the average of surrounding states.

Nobody is giving serious consideration to other forms of "user fees." Higher taxes on trucks — such as a "weight-distance" tax that a few states use — and tolls are just two of the possible sources not being considered. The weight-distance tax would recover more of the cost of highway damage caused by heavy trucks. And tolls could be used to advantage to better distribute traffic across the state's highways and roads. Putting a toll on I-70, for example, would shift as much as 30 percent of traffic to other highways, thereby reducing congestion and the perceived need to add lanes. Similarly, charging a very modest toll on urban freeways during morning and evening rush hours would shift some traffic to other routes or other times of day, or to other modes of travel such as transit or car-pooling. Again, the need to add very costly new freeway lanes would be eliminated or at least postponed.

If there's anything good to be said about the

transportation tax package, it is that it would raise only half of what MoDOT says the state needs. With that limitation, we should at least be spared some of the most obviously wasteful projects envisioned in the fifteen-year plan.

Back in February, Ken Midkiff and I met with a half dozen of the Governor's people to offer our views on what should be included. We cited the need for increased investment in inter-city passenger transportation — not just more trains, but also connecting bus service. We cited the need for investment to make state roads within cities and towns safer for kids and seniors to bicycle or walk along and across. We cited the need for the state to encourage cities and towns to better plan their own growth and development so as to need less state and local investment in transportation and other infrastructure. We talked to them about world population growth, resource limitations, and the need to make our economy more resource efficient if we hope to remain economically competitive.

The Governor's people seemed receptive to the perspectives we offered and the requests we made. So far, though, there's little evidence that our words sank in. Realistically speaking, our opinions might not carry much weight between now and the General Assembly's adjournment. Knowing that, we acknowledged back in February that some of the things we wanted might not be possible to include in legislation, and that they might be better addressed through executive orders and policy shifts and gubernatorial appointments.

That will be our trump card. With a \$747 million package going to the voters late in 2002 — assuming it passes the Senate — we will be in a position to support or oppose the package, depending on what else happens between now and then.

First it's up to the legislators. Then it's up to the Governor.

Ron McLinden can be reached at ron.mclinden@sierraclub.org. —

Big Electric Utilities vs the Public Interest in the Legislature

by Wallace McMullen
Ozark Chapter ExCom

At the beginning of this year's legislative session, the outlines of what was good and what was bad were fairly clear among the bills which had been introduced.

Good:

- HB 766 sponsored by Joan Bray. Required a small amount of renewable energy use for generation (7.5%) by electric utilities by 2015, uniform labeling that facilitates comparison shopping for service by retail electric service providers, and enacts net metering* provisions.

**So-called "net metering" legislation will allow residential homeowners to be connected to the electric grid, and also have small solar or wind generating equipment which reduces their consumption from the electric grid. It deals primarily with preventing unreasonable liability insurance costs and setting reasonable interconnection equipment standards.*

- SB 529 sponsored by Pat Dougherty, the "Consumer Clean Energy Act," which would enact net metering.

Bad:

- SB 455 sponsored by Peter Kinder. Also known as AmerenUE's electric restructuring bill. (A similar bill was introduced by Carol Jean Mays in the House).

This proposal would have allowed big electric utilities such as AmerenUE to divest their generating assets to third party operators (or subsidiaries) and remove the electricity generation function from the regulatory oversight of the Public Service Commission. The state would lose its authority to require its utilities to have adequate generation supplies, and would lose control over the price of the wholesale electric supplies. It also sets up retail competition for very large customers, and proposed a rate freeze for the next five years. (AmerenUE has been making good profits with the present rate structure).

Given the experience of California, one would think that the AmerenUE restructuring bill

would die quietly. However, AmerenUE and its fellow utilities have many well-paid lobbyists who are hard at work on influencing legislators.

In the last week of March, a substitute bill was developed which plugged Dougherty's "Consumer Clean Energy Act" into SB 455 and made some other changes. The "Committee Substitute" was voted out with a recommendation for passage by the Senate Commerce and Environment committee on March 29, 2001. This made things more complex.

Even in the form of the committee substitute, this is still a nasty bill, both in terms of what it will do, and in terms of what it does not do. For instance, it has no provisions for encouraging the use of renewable energy in the state. Missouri imports almost all of its energy supply, about \$16 billion a year. Developing in-state renewable energy would be good for the environment and good for our economy. But that's excluded from this bill.

It contains no provisions for encouraging

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Protecting Wetlands and Cleaning Up Polluted Waters May Slow Under Bush

by Roy C. Hengerson
Ozark Chapter Legislative Chair

Citizens concerned about the environment are viewing George W. Bush's early actions with alarm. He has directed that several environmental rules that had been developed during the Clinton administration, usually with considerable public involvement, be put on hold, weakened, or even eliminated. This would be bad news for the nation's rivers, streams, lakes, and wetlands — and the people that depend on them for drinking water, food, and recreation.

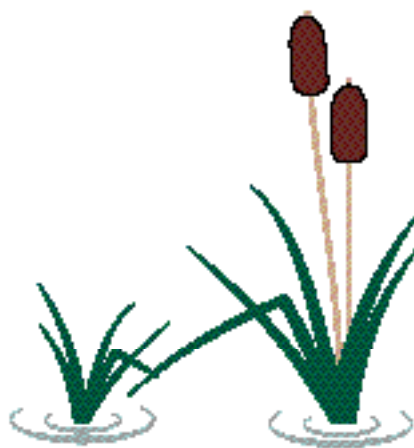
When the Clean Water Act (CWA) was passed by Congress in 1972, the goal was to eliminate discharges of pollution to America's waterways by 1985. That was a bit optimistic. While efforts undertaken by the federal, state, and local governments, along with businesses and individuals, to clean up our waters in the almost 30 years since enactment of the Clean Water Act have produced some beneficial results and returned some rivers and lakes to life, too many waterbodies are still polluted. However, the CWA includes provisions that require polluted waters to be cleaned up.

The Clean Water Act defines "impaired waters" as those rivers, lakes, and coastal waters which do not meet or are not expected to meet water quality standards. These standards set the levels of pollutants the waterbody cannot exceed if it is to provide for beneficial uses, such as recreation, aquatic life, and drinking water. The CWA requires dischargers to obtain a permit from the federal or state pollution control agency. This permit sets limits on the amounts of pollutants allowed to be discharged. But in many cases the permits have allowed levels of pollutants to continue to be discharged to waters that remain impaired, or the permit requirements were not enforced.

There are provisions in the CWA to address the problem of rivers, streams, lakes, and estuaries that do not meet water quality standards even after pollution sources have been controlled through the permitting process. States are to monitor their waters and prepare a list of impaired waters (known as the 303(d) list, from the Section of the Act that requires it). These lists must be completed by April 1, 2002, and every 4 years thereafter. The CWA further requires that for those impaired waterbodies a "total maximum daily load", or TMDL, be calculated that will guide the development of a cleanup plan that will

bring the impaired waters into compliance with water quality standards.

State and federal pollution control agencies are only now talking about and wrestling with TMDLs, almost 30 years after these provisions were enacted into law. For years the federal and state governments ignored the requirements of the law. It was only after environmental groups around the country, including the Sierra Club, sued the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that things began to move. Here in Missouri the TMDL lawsuit was recently resolved with a Settlement Agreement, which specifies actions required of the EPA and the Missouri Natural Resources Department (MDNR) and timelines for accomplishments to be achieved. The current 303(d) list contains 174 waterbodies (streams and lakes) that are impaired. Additional waterbodies



may be added to the list due to the Settlement and the new 303(d) list required by April, 2002. MDNR and EPA are under a schedule to complete TMDLs for all these waters by 2009. The Settlement also requires MDNR to complete a comprehensive review of Missouri's water quality standards by 2002 and EPA to promptly review any proposed changes. Establishing consistent water quality standards for the big rivers, the Mississippi and Missouri, in conjunction with other states, is also required by the Settlement.

To help Missouri comply with the Clean Water Act and the Settlement Agreement requirements for an adequate TMDL program, the MDNR set up a TMDL Policy Advisory Committee. This committee meets bi-monthly to advise the state in carrying out its program to clean up our impaired waters. The Sierra Club is one of about 30 parties at the table. Additional

with the matters transferred to FERC would incur annual cost increases of half a million dollars (\$500,000) in their budgets.

The bill provides that without any approval by the Public Service Commission the investor owned utilities can transfer transmission facilities to any entity subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Generating assets can still be transferred under a somewhat regulated process.

The SB 455 substitute also bans participation by environmental groups or the Department of Natural Resources as intervenors in any case before the Public Service Commission that results from this bill. Only narrowly defined customers "with a direct interest" and the Office of Public

citizen input is needed to guide the program. The TMDL process is complicated, but is urgently needed to clean up our still polluted rivers, streams, and lakes. Hopefully with public interest and support the long-delayed goals of the Clean Water Act can be met. However, the threat of the Bush administration weakening the TMDL rules looms as a danger.

Wetlands protection is another Clean Water Act program that is threatened by the Bush administration. Section 404 of the Act requires permits for filling in and destroying wetlands. The Corps of Engineers and the EPA had also been requiring permits for the destruction of wetlands by draining them, but that interpretation of the CWA (known as the "Tulloch Rule") was struck down by a court decision. To correct that loophole which allowed many wetlands to be developed without a permit or citizen and agency review, the EPA and the Corps proposed a new rule (known as the "Tulloch Rule Fix"). This new rule was to go into effect on February 16, 2001, until Bush put a hold on all pending rules.

The claim that this environmental rule, promulgated during the last few months of the Clinton administration, was rushed through at the last moment is bogus. The wetlands protection rule was developed over a two year period with extensive public comment. Shortly Bush and his EPA Administrator, Christine Whitman, will decide if the rule is to be withdrawn. We are pressing for the rule to be retained. If it is eliminated this will again open the door to widespread ditching and draining of wetlands and channelization of streams without any public notice or comment.

It is becoming apparent that the citizens of the United States will need to educate their President about their strong support for and interest in protecting our waters and wetlands. And while the details about TMDLs and "Tulloch Rule Fixes" may sound complex, the simple message to the President is: We care about our rivers, lakes, and wetlands and we expect you to work to protect them and clean them up, not destroy and pollute them.

For more information: contact Roy C. Hengerson, 2201 Weathered Rock Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101, (573) 635-8066, roy.hengerson@sierraclub.org
EPA TMDL website: www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl
MDNR TMDL website: www.dnr.state.mo.us/deq/wpcp/wpc-tmdl.htm

Electric Utilities.....continued from page 3

better energy efficiency in our economy — neither end use efficiencies such as better air-conditioners and refrigerators, nor better generation and transmission efficiency.

It contains no provisions for assisting elderly and/or low-income people.

It does say that considerable jurisdiction will be transferred to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, (an agency which failed to assist California when asked to do so). The Public Service Commission has observed that participating in cases before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has been expensive in the past. The State agencies which would implement this legislation if it passed estimate that dealing

Counsel will be allowed to intervene.

So why is this frightening legislation moving ahead? Well, refer to the point above about lots of utility lobbyists with big dollars behind them. Senators Wayne Goode and Pat Dougherty have usually been perceptive guardians of the public interest. But they both voted for this dubious legislation in committee. So those of us who want to avoid living in a landscape of coal slag in the future have our work cut out for us. We need to let the legislature know that we do not want this bill passed.

Reach Wallace McMullen at mcmulw@sockets.net.

Chapter Staff Update

by Ken Midkiff
Director, Ozark Chapter

New Staff on board:

Recently, we have added a part-time office secretary, Crystal Parrish, who works on Mondays and Tuesdays each week. Terri Folsom was promoted to Chapter Coordinator in recognition that this was what she was already doing.

The greater St. Louis area and eventually all of Missouri will benefit from the presence of the creation of national staff position by the Global Warming/Energy Program of the national Sierra Club. Carla Klein, founder of Lake Area Keepers of the Environment (LAKE), in the Table Rock Lake region, was selected by a Search Committee composed of six Ozark Chapter Executive and Conservation Committee members and Kate Simmons of the DC staff. While Carla's primary function is to raise public awareness about global climate change, she will also be involved in air

quality and energy issues as those relate to greenhouse gas emissions.

Another staff position has been created to deal with sprawling developments in the Missouri River valley area of St. Charles and St. Louis counties. The US Army Corps of Engineers has received requests for a chain of levees from the US40 bridge to the confluence with the Mississippi River. Many of these proposals are designed to protect major commercial enterprises trying to obtain public funding or tax subsidies to locate in areas that were ten feet under water only a few years ago.

Scott Dye remains as the Rural Organizer/Clean Water staffer, and I am still on as the Ozark Chapter Director. Both of us also have national roles: Scott is the Rural Organizer for the national Sierra Club, and I am the National Coordinator for the Sierra Club's Clean Water Campaign.

Issues and activities:

The Holnam proposal (see article in this issue) has taken many hours of time. While the St.

Louis area organizations (including the Eastern Missouri Group of the Sierra Club) have been dealing with the local issues very successfully, it has been my task to make the contacts and push our concerns in Jefferson City.

Lobbying the Missouri General Assembly has turned out to be less onerous than originally projected. Partisan and non-partisan power struggles have occupied the attention of the legislative leadership, and major bills have languished.

Water quality issues continue to occupy much of the time of Chapter Staff. If there is one issue that Missourians feel strongly about, it is water quality protection. Everyone wants clean and healthy water for boating, fishing, swimming, and of course drinking. We achieved a good settlement in our lawsuit against the EPA and the agency and MoDNR have made contractual commitments (backed by a court order) to clean up our state's impaired waterbodies.

Air quality is a hot topic in the St. Louis area.

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The Ozark Chapter Welcomes a New Global Warming Organizer

by Carla Klein
Ozark Chapter Global Warming Organizer

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Carla Klein, the Sierra Club Global Warming and Energy Conservation Organizer for Missouri and southern Illinois. I am a native of Stone County Missouri and a graduate of Southwest Missouri State University with a degree in Political Science and Environmental Policy. I will be working out of the Eastern Missouri Group office and look forward to meeting many of you as I travel across the state.

Being raised on a farm, I have always had a great respect and appreciation for the natural world. I became an activist when I witnessed children waiting at a bus stop with trash blowing over them from a nearby landfill. I began a neighborhood crusade to correct this problem, after being told by the Department of Natural Resources that all that was required was a four-foot fence around the landfill's perimeter and there was nothing more they could do. As is so often the case, the observable problems were only a small part of the pollution. The landfill was contaminating the groundwater, our drinking water, and Table Rock Lake. With the help of several dedicated and passionate people, we were able to close this landfill.

They say timing is everything and this certainly has been a most exciting and challenging time to begin my career as the Conservation Organizer. In the past few weeks President Bush has done a complete about-face on his campaign promise to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired electrical generating plants. He then stunned the world by bailing out on the 1997 Kyoto Treaty. Next, his Administration targeted the Department of Energy's energy efficiency and renewable energy research and development budget. This kind of job security I could do without.

With the President's help Global Warming has become one of the top news stories and for good reason. It is the most serious environmental threat we have ever faced. Scientists warn that if we don't curb pollution we could see more extreme weather, spreading infectious diseases, sea level rise, and the extinctions of entire species. The world's leading climate scientists predict that in our children's lifetime dramatic impacts from global warming will be evident in Missouri.

The Environmental Protection Agency reports "in St. Louis by 2050 heat-related deaths during a typical summer could increase 170%, rising from 80 heat-related deaths per summer to over 200." In addition, increasing ozone concentrations will cause more respiratory problems like asthma and respiratory inflammation. Other health related threats would come from the increase in mosquito populations: cases of St. Louis encephalitis would increase as the area becomes warmer and wetter.

We all remember the devastating floods of 1993 and 1994; and again severe weather hit in 1998 and 1999. As the world climate increases the atmosphere holds more water and the incident of floods are predicted to increase. "Ecosystems in Missouri include extensive forests, rivers, streams, and prairies. The Ozark Mountains contain several rivers, designated as 'Wild and Scenic' by Congress; these rivers also provide winter habitat for many bald eagles. Riparian and stream ecosystems are especially sensitive to changes in rainfall. Water temperature changes caused by climate change could reduce habitat for smallmouth bass, northern pike, and other species such as walleye and yellow perch." (EPA Climate Change and Missouri, September 1997)

If we don't begin to curb global warming our children will live in a world where the climate will be far less hospitable than it is today.

Environmentalists, world leaders and even past President Carter have questioned President Bush's decisions of the past few weeks. It seems everyone grasps the severity of this issue, except President Bush.

Science magazine's March 30 edition explains, "By now the scientific consensus on global warming is so strong that it leaves little room for the defensive assertions that keep emerging from the cleverly labeled industrial consortium called the Global Climate Coalition and from a shrinking coterie of scientific skeptics."

Penn State professor and editor, Brent Yarnal, of the journal, *Climate Research*, agrees, "I know of no scientific area of study that has more consensus than the field of global warming."

The far-reaching impacts of global warming can seem at times daunting, but there is good news. We have within our means the technology to

slow and eventually reverse the impacts of man-made global warming pollutants. There are those who may have differing opinions on how to most effectively bring about positive changes but reducing energy efficiency programs is definitely not the way.

We need to tap our fastest, cheapest, and most plentiful energy resource — efficiency. For example, California could save enough electricity for one million homes — 1000 megawatts of electricity — by replacing outmoded air conditioners with modern efficient ones. Replacing old refrigerators would save another 1000 megawatts. Requiring tire companies to sell replacement tires as fuel efficient as the tires installed on new cars would save 5.4 billion barrels of oil. This is more than geologists expect to find in the Arctic. Demanding that auto companies install the best technology and increase the fuel economy of new cars and light trucks to 40 miles per gallon would save three million barrels of oil every day — more than the Arctic, Persian Gulf imports, and offshore California combined.

The time has never been more critical for Sierrans to voice their concerns over the President's environmental choices. I have seen first hand the positive change citizens can make when they are committed to an ideal and work together. A first step you can take is to write your Congressperson and urge them to pursue policies that will promote energy conservation and invest in renewable energy.

As I work to get the urgent message of global warming out to the folks of Missouri and southern Illinois, I need your help. There are excellent national and regional Club publications and fact sheets, which I can provide for events, meetings, displays and articles. Also, I am available to come to your area and give presentations or assist with presentations. Please contact me if there are upcoming events in your area where we could educate people on the threats of global warming. The great thing about being a member of the Sierra Club is that when you join your voice with thousands of others you can be heard.

Carla Klein can be reached at (314) 645-2032 and at carla.klein@sierraclub.org —

Holnam Facts.....continued from page 1

- 14,484 tons: Amount of Carbon Monoxide to be released per year.
- 3041 tons: Amount of Sulfur Oxides to be released per year.
- 42 acres: Total amount of wetlands to be destroyed (using Holnam's calculations).
- 40 Acres: Total size of harbor/docking facility.
- 1700 Acres: Total size of NEW quarrying operation, including removal of "overburden" (trees, dirt, grasses, flora and fauna) to access the limestone.

Allied Opponents:

- Sierra Club (Ozark Chapter and Eastern

Missouri Group)

- Missouri Coalition for the Environment
- Audubon Society
- Webster Groves Nature Study Society
- American Bottoms Conservancy
- Several other local, regional, and national environmental and conservation organizations.

State and Federal Agencies with "concerns":

- Missouri Department of Natural Resources
- Missouri Department of Conservation
- US Environmental Protection Agency

- US Fish and Wildlife Service

Permits That Must be Obtained:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act
- Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Title V of the Clean Air Act
- Land Reclamation permit for surface mining
- Wastewater discharge permit under Clean Water Acts of US and State of Missouri

Current status of permits:

A "nationwide" permit has been issued to conduct work associated with upgrading the access road and a land reclamation permit has been issued to re-open an old quarry (to obtain rock for the road). No other permits have been issued.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of Environmental Quality, Air Pollution Control Program has informed Holnam that the amount of pollutants proposed to be release is unacceptable.

The Land Reclamation Commission has informed Holman that they will not consider "piecemeal" mining permits and the Commission has directed the staff to research Holnam's operations in other states to determine compliance with environmental laws and regulations.

The Army Corps has taken no action (at least no PUBLIC action) on the 401-404 permits.

How to get involved:

Call the Ozark Chapter offices: 573-815-9250

Or write: Sierra Club, 1007 N. College Ave. Suite One, Columbia, MO 65201. —



Chapter Staff Update.....continued from page 6

The DC District Court ordered the EPA to take some steps and make some determinations that it was required by law to make four years ago. But, even with the court order, EPA continues to stall in taking assertive steps to clean up St. Louis' air. The area has been out of compliance with clean air standards since 1990.

While the Doe Run Mining Company has been moving its operations to Peru, and the pressure is off the Ozarks temporarily, there are major studies going on by the US Geological Survey to try to determine what would happen if lead mining were allowed in the watersheds of the Jacks Fork, Current, and Eleven Point rivers. Several Ozark Chapter members attended an informational meeting of the agencies involved in the studies. While the agencies were quite uneasy having us there, they seemed to be conducting the appropriate research to address concerns. It is assumed that the moratorium on processing any mining permits will be continued until these studies are completed —

perhaps up to five years.

The Chapter Staff continues to enjoy good contacts and access to the Holden Administration. And so far, Governor Holden seems to be making the right moves. Appointments to Boards and Commissions have been laudable to date. The Governor understands our positions on pending legislation, and even the controversial Transportation Budget contains a sizeable chunk (up to \$100 million) for public transit.

Current problem areas we are working on: St. John's/New Madrid Bayou levee project; regaining Third Party appeals on wastewater discharge permits; corporate liability for contract operations where the company exercises substantial operational control; Missouri River Management/Split Season flow regime; sand and gravel excavations in Ozark streams; chip mills and industrial forestry; redefining the boundaries of current wilderness areas; and trying to ensure that Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations are properly regulated (these are currently treated as agricultural, not the

industrial operation that they are).

Funding:

Since all of the above matters take a lot of staff time, and some involve a lot of money, we have also sought and obtained grant funding for several projects. While some of this grant money comes from the national Sierra Club Foundation, and is made available to the Chapters via project funding, the Ozark Chapter has also been successful in obtaining funding from major independent national trusts and foundations. We seek funding for projects that the Chapter Executive Committee and Conservation Committee have identified as priorities — we do not take "donor driven" funding. We also will accept NO monies from any state or federal agency. Any rumors that you may have heard about how much money the Sierra Club gets from the EPA are just flat out fabrications.

If any of the above interests you — or if you just want to send money — contact: ken.midkiff@sieraclub.org. —

Outings Continued

Kay Stewart (573) 875-4490.

May 26, Thur: Spring Wildflower Walk. Devil's Icebox Carpark 5:30 p.m. Randal Clark.

May 28, Sat: Bear Creek Nature Trail - Light Maintenance. Dee Docken (573) 442-4224.

May 12-13, Sat/Sun: Float Trip. Kay Stewart (573) 875-4490.

Thomas Hart Benton Group

May 3, Thur: Sierra Night at Kaufmann Stadium, Kansas City, MO. Join us as we watch the Royals battle the Cleveland Indians. 7:00 p.m. Dan & Donna Clark Fuller (816) 779-7284, donnadan@gvi.net.

May 5, Sat: Spring Wildflower Hike: Blue River Glades, Kansas City, MO. We finish off the Spring Wildflower Hike series with a romp through the rocky terrain of Blue River Glades in the heart of Swope Park to see the spring wildflowers atop the glades. Keet Kopecky (816) 966-9544, kkopecy@kc.rr.com.

May 11, Fri: Restaurant Outing to McCormick and Schmick, Kansas City, MO. Come join us as we meet at 6:00 p.m. for dinner at a restaurant renowned for its seafood and its terrace-level view of the Country Club Plaza. The restaurant is located at 448 W. 47th Street. Please contact Gale Burrus by May 6 to participate. Gale Burrus (816) 763-5120, gburrus@att.net.

Earth Odyssey

by Mark Hertsgaard

reviewed by Caroline Pufalt

Three things conspired to finally prompt me to read *Earth Odyssey* by Mark Hertsgaard. First, I was given a copy of the book by a Sierran who was so impressed with the book that he sent copies to chapter conservation chairs across the country. Secondly, I had heard and was impressed by its author who is an environmental reporter for NPR's *Living on Earth* and PBS's *Lehrer News Hour*. Thirdly, the book was a chosen title for our local Sierra Club book group's reading selection. Once I got into the book I could only ask myself, what took me so long? This is an excellent, readable and timely book.

Earth Odyssey is subtitled *Around the world in search of our environmental future*. The book clearly establishes that our environmental future is closely linked with other countries and other cultures. The reader is impressed by the need to make an effort to view environmental problems from the viewpoint of societies which are quite different from ours and whose economic situation poses major challenges. At the same time we can see in many of the individuals Mr. Hertsgaard interviews some of the same hopes, foibles and determination that we share.

Mr. Hertsgaard travels to distant countries including China, Russia, Sudan, Uganda, and Brazil to examine environmental issues through the eyes of ordinary citizens as well as government officials. His accounts are eye-opening, edifying and sometimes heart wrenching. The reader learns about Soviet era nuclear contamination pre-dating the Chernobyl disaster and the ongoing efforts of local citizens and health workers trying to cope with unfathomable risks. In Sudan the reader

May 11-13, Fri-Sun: Cedar Creek Backpacking, Ashland, MO. Join us for a short but scenic trip to Cedar Creek between Columbia and Jefferson City. Susan Fowler (816) 531-8724, ldybug@microlink.net.

May 19-20, Sat/Sun: Flint Hills Backpacking Trip, Beaumont, KS. Our annual trip to the Ferrell Ranch in the beautiful Flint Hills in southeastern Kansas is a lot of fun, and great for beginners and families. Scott Hooper (816) 561-0575, scott@hooper.net

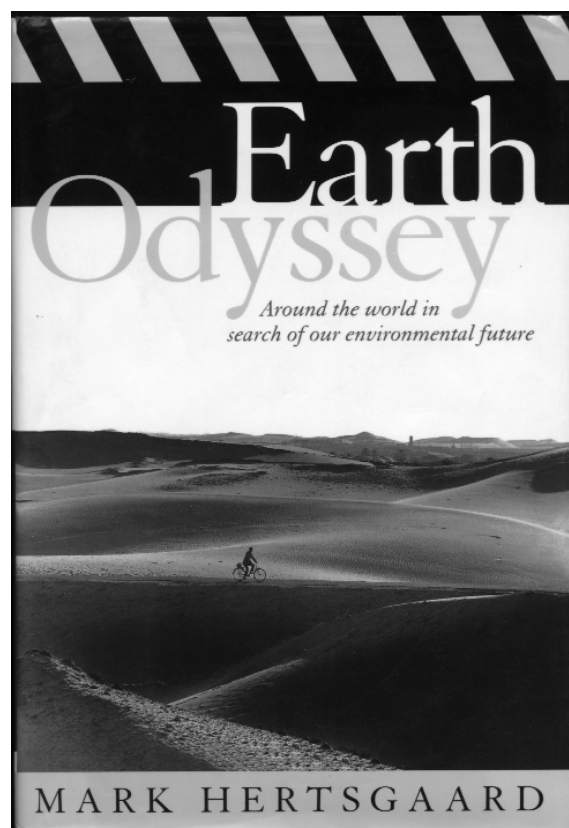
June 3, Sunday: FAMILY FIELD TRIP. Hike a 3 mile nature trail, following the Koshlands, who will lead the group! See remnant glades, high bluffs, and open meadows. Cross a suspension bridge, look for late spring flowers and late bird migrants. Easy, leisurely hike, ending on the Koshlands deck viewing wildlife. 9am - 11am. Meet 24406 Timberlake Trail, Greenwood, Missouri. RSVP: Marilyn & Steve Koshland. (816)537-5988, or e-mail koshland@mindspring.com

June 8, Fri: 6:00 p.m. Restaurant Outing to Lidia's, Kansas City, MO. Join us for Italian food at Lidia's in the converted Freight House District north of Union Station at 101 West 22nd Street. Yes, this is the same Lidia of the famous restaurants in New York City and the television show. Please contact Gale Burrus by June 3 to participate. Gale Burrus (816) 763-5120, gburrus@att.net.

June 9-10, Sat/Sun: Canoeing the Jack's Fork River, Eminence, MO. The Ozark National Scenic Riverways

glimpses the difficult life of refugees for which there seems no relief. In Uganda one meets resilient citizens with minimal education but who seem to more fully understand their local environmental challenges than to many of the highly educated elsewhere.

Mr. Hertsgaard devotes a considerable part of his book to China. In many ways China's huge population and growing industrial economy make its future key to the planet's future. He examines the country's land use policies, agricultural needs and problems such as flooding and pollution. Most memorable are his descriptions of air pollution and how ordinary Chinese cope with it and rationalize



has some of the finest canoeing you will find. Canoe the scenic Jack's Fork River from Alley Spring State Park to the convergence of the Current River. Float Saturday and camp at the State Park; hike and explore on Sunday. Group size limited to 20 people. Paul Gross (816) 228-6563.

June 16, Sat: Amtrak Outing to Jefferson City, MO. We'll take the morning train to historic Jefferson City, tour the Capitol and other sights, and return that evening. Lee Ann Googe, (816) 453-8558.

June 11, Mon: Wildflower Hike. Botanist Alan Brant will lead us on a local plant identification hike. Meet at Juden Creek Conservation Area parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Alan Joumet (573)651-4182.

June 23, Sat: Float trip in the Ozarks. Meet at the Cape Girardeau Public Library at 7:00 a.m. to carpool. Bring a lunch. Jan (573)243-3730.

July 14-15, Sat/Sun: Statewide meeting of the Ozark Chapter hosted by the Trail of Tears Group. Saturday night potluck at the home of Kathy Conway & Alan Joumet.(573)651-4182.

it. One can hear in their acceptance of pollution as a price of progress and the rationalization that their bodies can get used to it, echoes of some of our own society's excuses for tolerating risks we need not bear.

Yet there is little in the way of direct comparison between our society and many of the situations Mr. Hertsgaard investigates. In nearly every account there is reason for us as Americans to be grateful for the material security, political stability and general abundance in which we live. At the same time one cannot leave the book without an overwhelming sense of how much of our political dialogue on international environmental matters is callous, selfish and shortsighted, not to mention uninformed.

Mr. Hertsgaard reviews the history of the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992 and subsequent international agreements on global warming. He quotes the senior President Bush, who in 1992 in response to efforts at Rio to address climate change declared that, "The American way of life is not negotiable." Now nearly ten years later junior Bush withdraws the United States from the Kyoto climate change agreement. It appears we have learned little.

But the forces at work in the environment and in societies abroad will not wait for us to wake up to the reality. Our wasteful American way of life will need to change to meet the challenges we face. Fortunately there is much we can do to lighten our ecological footprint and still enjoy benefits of our developed society. There is also a tremendous opportunity for us to share and invest environmentally sound technology with developing countries. We will need to educate ourselves and become more effective advocates for the planet's future. Mr. Hertsgaard's book is an excellent means to broadening our horizons so we can better understand the need for these undertakings. —

OZARK CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

Eastern Missouri Group

May 5, Sat: Day hike at Hawn State Park. 6–10 miles at a moderate pace. Chuck Guenther & Margaret Gilleo, (314) 991-1305.

May 5-6, Sat-Sun: Forest Watchers spring field trip to the Rolla district. Find out the difference between a selection cut and a clear cut as we observe various forestry practices in the Mark Twain National Forest. This will be an overnight trip with a stay in a cabin. Hank & Katie Dorst, (417) 932-4623, whiteoak@train.missouri.org or Ann Eggebrecht, (314) 725-1560.

May 5-6, Sat-Sun: Day hike in the canyon country of Southern Illinois. Our route through spectacular Jackson Hollow will follow the base of imposing, sixty-foot high sandstone cliffs, wind through building size boulders and past hundred-year old beech trees. We will depart late Saturday morning, camp in a Shawnee Forest campground that night and day hike on Sunday. Hiking boots will be required because of the rugged terrain. The group limit is ten. Call Terry Allen, (618) 398-1087, or Steve Viggers, (314) 984-8752.

May 11, Fri: The azaleas should be in bloom in Hawn State Park on the 6 or 10 mile trail. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm, week nights only).

May 12, Sat: Highway cleanup. Let's get the side of the road tidy for Mom's Day. Can someone bring a white glove? Diane DuBois, (314) 721-0594.

May 12, Sat: Day hike at Hawn State Park and Pickle Springs Natural Area. Walk through beautiful forested areas past sparkling streams, interesting rock formations, waterfalls, yellow lady slippers and hopefully lots of wild azaleas. 4–5 miles. Plenty of time for viewing, identifying, and photographing wildflowers. Kathy Wodell, (636) 240-0675.

May 12, Sat: Take a trip to Springfield Illinois and walk where Lincoln walked. Visit Lincoln's tomb, his Springfield home, the Statehouse, the old capitol building and a home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Approx 5 mile walk through historic Springfield, Ill. Glenn Wolters, (314) 845-5859 or e-mail Glenn27@hotmail.com

May 18, Fri: 6 mile loop hike at Meramec State Park to see the yellow Lady Slipper orchid. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm, week nights only).

May 18-20, Fri-Sun: Canoe trip to the Spring river in northern Arkansas. Leave late Thursday or early Friday and float Saturday and possibly early Sunday. Many small waterfalls and fast chutes create an area known as Saddler Falls. Paddlers may also have a

close up opportunity to see pool and drop geology which makes for an exciting river. Kevin Hunter, (314) 544-5157, or Colin Maag, (314) 721-7397, colinmaag@hotmail.com

May 19, Sat: Urban hike in historic Florissant. Many National Historic Register homes and buildings are on this walk of approx 6 miles. We'll also be walking in a

number of area parks, including one with a log cabin built by trappers in 1850. Option of lunch at Hendl's Market Cafe circa 1873. Nancy Carrol (636) 225-8057.

May 20, Sun: Our Taum Sauk hike goes up Proffit Mountain via the Ozark Trail, a rugged 9-mile route in a remote area with rewarding views. This is a 1-way route from a secret trailhead to the reservoir. Joe Scotti, (314) 878-3270, or Wayne Miller, (314) 569-0094.

May 26-28, Sat-Mon: Canoe trip, destination to be determined later. George Behrens, (314) 821-0247 (after 6 p.m. only).

May 26-28, Sat-Mon: Go camping at the Land between the lakes in Kentucky and Tennessee. Go hiking, visit a wildlife refuge, visit a civil war fort and many other places to fill up a great holiday weekend. Call Glenn at (314) 845-5859, or e-mail Glenn27@hotmail.com

*Be sure to check your **GROUP** newsletter for more or current outings!*



Sometime in June: Beginner canoe clinic on the Big River, one hour from St. Louis. Canoeing is more enjoyable when you can navigate the river safely and with confidence. Learn the basics of tandem canoeing from experienced instructors. Solo instruction is a possibility. For specifics call Diane Albright, (314) 966-3645 or George Behrens, (314) 821-0247 (after 6 p.m. only).

Jun 1, Fri: Let's see what's blooming at Valley View Glade. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 p.m., week nights only).

Jun 2, Sat: Find lots of "creepy-crawlies" as we test water quality on Fox Creek near Eureka. Help us identify the aquatic insects, test for DO & other chemical parameters, and measure stream flow. We should see a lot of macro invertebrates. Call either Jim Rhodes at (314) 821-7758,

jamarhodes@earthlink.net, or Leslie Lihou at (314) 726-2140.

Jun 2, Sat: On this fifth annual hike to Valley View Glades we will see beautiful displays of wildflowers. 3–4 miles. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

Jun 2, Sat: Come canoe some swift water that is rarely runnable. We'll do either the Caster River or Big Creek, water levels permitting. You should provide your own canoe and equipment. Call Jo Aerne at (314) 231-1575 x 6017 during the day, or e-mail Jo at jaerne@cpicorp.com, or Jim Moody at tsoeh16@yahoo.com

Jun 3, Sun: One day canoe trip on a river in the Meramec basin. River to be determined by water level. Toni Armstrong & Richard Spener, (314) 434-2072.

Jun 8, Fri: Frogs will still be singing and hopefully the owls will be hooting and the coyotes yipping. Night hike at Shaw Nature Reserve. Helen McCallie, (636) 742-4380 (h) or (636) 451-3512 (w-toll free).

Jun 8, Fri: Bike ride 11 miles at St. Joe S.P. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 pm, week nights only).

Jun 8-10, Fri-Sun: Join us for a high adventure whitewater trip on the Nantahala River in North Carolina. Also listed with AYH. Kevin Hunter, (314) 544-5157, or Colin Maag, (314) 721-7397, colinmaag@hotmail.com

Jun 9, Sat: Get your kicks on Route 66. We'll take a 3 mile hike in the new Route 66 S.P. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

Jun 9-10, Sat-Sun: Return of the annual women's backpack adventure. Beginners and "pros" alike are welcome on this overnight trip. Destination and distance to be determined. Jill Miller, (314) 429-3414 ext. 538.

Jun 10, Sun: Canoe trip on Courtois Creek. This will be a kid friendly float of about 4 to 5 miles. Jonathan Lehmann, (314) 991-3969.

Jun 15, Fri: Canoe float. Colin Maag, (314) 721-7397, or Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762 (after 7:00 p.m., week nights only).

Jun 23, Sat: Solstice hike in Forest Park. We will hike 3–4 miles and have dinner afterwards. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

Osage Group

May 3, Thur: Spring Wildflower Walk. Devil's Icebox Carpark 5:30 p.m. Randal Clark (573) 875-0514.

May 5-6, Sat/Sun: Early Spring Float. Kay Stewart (573) 875-4490.

May 12, Thur: Spring Wildflower Walk. Devil's Icebox Carpark 5:30 p.m. Randal Clark.

May 14, Sat: Earthquake Hollow Dinner in Fulton. MDC Carpark 1:00 p.m. Tom Moran / Marti Kardinal (573) 442-6955.

May 19, Thur: Spring Wildflower Walk. Devil's Icebox Carpark 5:30 p.m. Randal Clark (573) 875-0514.

May 21, Sat: Spring Hike and John Muir Celebration. Tom Moran (573) 442-6955

May 21-22, Sat/Sun: Peak Wildflower Canoeing.

continued on page 7