



# The Upper Peninsula *Environment*

Newsletter of the Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition • March—April 1993

## DAVE FOREMAN: "RELUCTANT RADICAL" by Kraig Klungness

"No compromise in defense of Mother Earth!" was Dave Foreman's call when he cofounded Earth First! in 1980. This was a radical shift from his previous position as a Washington DC. lobbyist for The Wilderness Society, a time when he believed that "compromise seemed to work best. A suit and tie gained access to regional heads of the U.S. Forest Service and to members of Congress. We learned to moderate our opinions along with our dress . . . yet . . . something seemed amiss. When the chips were down, conservation still lost out to industry."

Under president Carter, Dave thought wilderness would gain a voice. This hope was lost during RARE II, when, of 80 million acres of still roadless land in the 190 million acres of U.S. National Forest, only 15 million was recommended to receive protection from road building and logging. The extreme positions of boisterous off-road-vehicle zealots, many ranchers, loggers, miners, and

that he no longer represented it, nor did it represent him. The movement had drifted too far from its founding principles, transforming from an ecological group to a leftist group, to radicalism and anti-establishment rebellion for its own sake. Dave says he is a "reluctant radical," a radical only because Earth is in the middle of an ecological crisis where business-as-usual methods will not save the "beauty, wisdom, and abundance of this living planet."

Dave views the 10 years of Earth First! activism as having accomplished much, reframing the debate on wilderness preservation to include biocentric values, making ancient forest preservation a priority, effectively introducing nonviolent civil disobedience into wildland preservation activism, bringing joy and humor back into the environmental movement, and bringing the idea of BIG WILDERNESS and the possibilities for wilderness recovery into the forefront of grassroots activism.

**Dave Foreman is one of the most persuasive and visible proponents of wilderness preservation and recovery in the United States. He will address the UPEC general membership meeting on May 1, at the Onigaming Supper Club.**

advocates of economic boosterism prevailed. Dave states, "They looked like fools. We looked like statesman. They won." He resigned from The Wilderness Society early in 1980.

With the founding of Earth First!, he wanted to fight with uncompromising passion for wilderness and nonhuman species:

In a true Earth-radical group, concern for wilderness preservation must be the keystone. The idea of Wilderness, after all, is the most radical in human thought--more radical than Paine, than Marx, than Mao. Wilderness says: Human beings are not paramount, Earth is not for Homo sapiens alone, human life is but one life form on the planet and has no right to take exclusive possession. Yes, wilderness for its own sake, without any need to justify it for human benefit. Wilderness for wilderness. For bears and whales and titmice and rattlesnakes and stink bugs. And...wilderness for human begins...because it is home (*Confessions of an Eco-Warrior*).

The end of the 80s brought another big shift for Dave Foreman. He left the Earth First! movement, stating

On leaving Earth First! Dave turned his energies toward starting a new conservation journal called *Wild Earth*, which has been in publication since April 1991. *Wild Earth* provides a vital and diverse forum for grassroots wilderness groups with a skillful mixture of science, philosophy, and strategy for defending wilderness both as concept and as place.

Along with *Wild Earth*, Dave started the Wildlands Project to develop and publish a comprehensive proposal for a North American Wilderness Recovery Strategy based on the principles of conservation biology. The Wildlands Project is now an ongoing effort successfully moving toward its goal with the help of extensive input from grassroots wilderness groups across North America.

Books by Dave Foreman include *EcoDefense*, *The Big Outside*, and *Confessions of an Eco-Warrior*, described by Stephanie Mills as "filled with keen intelligence, boundless passion for wilderness and biodiversity, righteous convictions about the arrogance of Homo Sapiens, detailed knowledge of wilderness policy, all enlivened by the stinging American Humor of a Twain or Mencken."

*A militant minority of wilderness-minded citizens must be on watch throughout the nation and vigilantly available for action. —Aldo Leopold*

## KILLER KLOORINE: EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT Part II by Jerry Smith

In the last few decades, the industry promise to bring us "better living through chemistry," has been turned upsidedown. Along with the benefits, chemistry has brought the world some harsh realities like increased cancer rates and developmental disorders in wildlife and humans. The chemical "miracle," industrial chlorine, has spawned a whole range of chemicals called organochlorines which have proven to be persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic substances.

One of the most distinguished Great Lakes researchers, Dr. Theo Colburn, is a Senior Fellow with the W. Alton Jones Foundation and the World Wildlife Fund. She authored *Great Lakes, Great Legacy*, and most recently, *Chemically Induced Alterations in Sexual and Functional Development: The Wildlife/Human Connection*. Dr. Colburn says that we must look beyond cancer and broaden the scope concerning risk in order to understand the importance of the loss of function as a measure of health. Pesticides and industrial chemicals have the ability to invade four major body systems--the endocrine, nervous, digestive, and immune systems. Colburn's research shows that animals and humans are being affected during gestation and that impaired development is the result.

**Wildlife** One frightening realization is that chemicals can cause confusion of sexual identity. In the Great Lakes, the best research has been done on tern and gull colonies. One emergent problem is female/female pairing. Males stay by themselves, do not mix with females, and behave as if they have not reached sexual maturity. Chicks have been born with adult plumage instead of down. In the late 70's, researchers found that male herring gull chicks and chicks in eggs were growing oviducts, while the females were growing an extra ovary. As far back as the 40's, researchers found that male chickens exposed to DDT (a now banned organochlorine), did not develop full combs and did not reach sexual maturity.

There are other examples of endocrine disruption. Researchers at Guelph University have not been able to find a coho, chinook, or lake trout in the Great Lakes without an enlarged thyroid in the past ten years. Recently, they have found that the thyroids of Lake Erie fish are rupturing after growing to more than one million times their normal size.

Thyroid size in Great Lakes herring gulls correlates with the level of organochlorine contamination in their territories. White suckers below pulp and paper mills (one of the biggest sources of organochlorine loading to the lakes)

in northern Lake Superior are becoming neutered--the males feminized and the females masculinized. Since 1987, major die-offs have decimated populations of seals, porpoises, and toothed whales--all dependent on fish for their food supply. In each instance, there were high concentrations of organochlorines in the dead animals.

Research at SUNY, Oswego, showed that rats fed Lake Ontario salmon could not cope with stress. The rats became hyperactive when presented with slight changes in scenery or food deprivation. The amount of time required before the behavior was changed was dependent upon the concentration of fish in the diet. All of the rats were affected. Even offspring displayed the same behavior, and they had never been fed Lake Ontario fish.

**The Human Connection** The only major human study to date on fish eating habits and the effects on humans compared the development of children born to mothers who ate Great Lakes fish to those who did not. Mothers who ate about one to two fish meals per month gave birth to babies an average of a week early. The babies weighed less had smaller head circumferences than babies born to mothers who did not eat Great Lakes fish. The affected infants showed jerky, unbalanced movements, a decreased interest in stimuli, a greater number of weak reflexes, and increased startle reflexes. At five and seven months, the affected infants performed poorly on visual recognition tasks. At four years, the children showed impaired short term memory. At the time of birth, the fish-eating mothers had higher concentrations of PCB's in their blood and umbilical serum, and the levels correlated with the severity of developmental problems in their children.

The breast cancer epidemic among U.S. women has become a documented fact. It strikes more women than any other type of cancer. It is second in cancer mortality only to lung, and it is the leading cause of death for women between the ages of 40 and 55.

Many organochlorines have been found to cause cancer in humans and laboratory animals. There are different ways this can happen. Organochlorines can cause mutations in genetic material, enhance the cancer causing ability of other chemicals, interfere with the body's natural controls on cell growth and division, mimic or interfere with the body's natural hormones, including estrogen, and suppress the immune system's defenses. Any of these mechanisms can act in combination with each other to produce cancer. The effects of prenatal exposure to organochlorines may not appear until adulthood. Some of the effects include the feminization of male offspring and the disruption of hormonal cycles in females.

**Industry loves the cancer paradigm because they know they can engross you with it. They'll have you focus on cancer, which you have a knee-jerk reaction to, not realizing that the chemicals they are releasing into the environment have more effect on your child than the genes you give that child and the training you give that child. It is that serious.—Dr. Theo Colburn**

A recent study of women workers exposed to high levels of dioxin in a German pesticide plant found higher breast cancer rates and mortality rates twice those of the general population. A National Cancer Institute study of the causes of death in 347 female chemists found significantly higher rates of several cancers. Breast cancer was 63% higher than the rates of the general population.

There is evidence to suggest that women with breast cancer have higher levels of organochlorines in their tissue than women without breast cancer. A recent study of 40 Connecticut women found levels of PCBs in the breast tissue of women with breast cancer were 50-60% higher than in women who did not have breast cancer.

An important exception to the worldwide pattern of rising breast cancer rates is Israel. Rates there have declined sharply in the past decade. Israeli researchers argue that a program to phase out organochlorine pesticides in the late '70s is responsible for the decline. Prior to 1976, levels of DDT, lindane, and BHC in cow's milk, human milk, and human tissue were among the highest in the world. Israeli concentration levels were 5 to 800 times higher than U.S. levels.

In 1978, the Israeli government began an aggressive phase out of DDT, lindane, and BHC. By 1980, breast milk levels of these chemicals had fallen by 43%, 90%, and 98% respectively, and breast cancer rates fell sharply even though other nations had rising rates. In Israel, the major reductions occurred in women under age 44. No decrease was noted in older women. This suggests the occurrence of a dramatic change in the environment or life style, and points to the validity of decline in organochlorines in the environment as a factor in the occurrence of breast cancer.

*It is likely that exposed human populations behave in a similar way to exposed wildlife populations. The phenomenon exists because we share similar ancestries and evolutionary histories. We are exposed to the same toxic chemicals; we accumulate the same chemicals in our bodies, and toxic chemicals often have similar mechanisms of action in humans and wildlife. On this basis, it is reasonable to presume that toxic chemical exposures may have a significant effect on the health of our children at the community and population levels. Because of their shorter generational times, fish and wildlife may truly be what many have suggested: environmental equivalents of miner's canaries. If such should prove to be the case, then we will have doubly jeopardized the lives of our children through the shameful legacies of prenatal impaired health and toxic ecosystems.—Science Advisory Board of the International Joint Commission*

## PRESQUE ISLE PROPOSAL MADE

Citizens to Save Little Presque Isle and Wetmore Landing has made a new management proposal for lands under dispute in the Escanaba River State Forest. The group wants to designate the island known as Little Presque Isle as a wilderness area, and the point and Wetmore Landing as natural areas in accordance with the state Wilderness and Natural Areas Act of 1972. The group's recent proposal states that "According to the act, a wilderness area includes a tract of undeveloped state land that '... is an island of any size.' The island known as Little Presque Isle ... meets all the criteria for such a designation as specified in the Act. For example it '[g]enerally appears to have been affected primarily by forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, [h]as outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, [and c]ontains ecological, geological or other features of scientific, scenic or historical value'." Further, they advocate the natural area designation for the point and Wetmore Landing because those areas retain what the Act calls "natural character."

The Advisory Committee has agreed that there be no camping or boat launch facilities east of the highway at Little Presque Isle Point. Their report, including majority and minority opinions, must be delivered to Frank Olpoka at the DNR by April 1. Citizens to Save LPI & WL is asking for your help in supporting these designations. For more information, contact Don Snitgen at 892-8242(h) or 227-1582(w).

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## TIMBER WOLF ALLIANCE: THE WOLF IN THE U.P. by Lisa Howard

For many of us, the wolf is a symbol of beauty and strength, an animal that demonstrates the principles of freedom through the way it lives because it acknowledges no boundaries. To survive, the wolf needs basic necessities--wooded land for hunting and a diet consisting of deer, snowshoe hares, beavers, caribou, moose, and mice. Contrary to popular myth, sheep, cattle, and human beings are not part of the wolf's diet.

The presence of wolves brings benefits. The wolf can help to balance the ecology; wolves control starvation and disease in deer and other animals. Their presence aids the farmer in the battle against crop damage caused by deer. Wolves also aid the hunter; they kill and eat animals that are sick, injured, or old.

Human attitudes about the wolf are difficult to change. Myths and false claims have destroyed the wolf's reputation. Man has become the ultimate predator. The Timber Wolf Alliance's purpose is to "collect and distribute accurate and objective information about wolves to the public and assist and promote the natural recovery of the timber wolf in the Upper Midwest." There are people who

tell us that they are not only against wolves, but us as well, since we are in full support of the wolf making a complete return to the Upper Peninsula. Opposition is okay! We want to hear how people feel and we are willing to talk to anyone.

It is up to us to give the wolf the chance to live. We have to work together to put our differences aside. If we respect the right of the wolf to live, and give it the space it needs, we will all be better off.

*This article is the first in an Environment series which will provide readers with information on the goals and purposes of UPEC member groups. TWA's education outreach tools available to the public include an audio-visual library, a speakers bureau, educational resources like books and curriculum guides, an "adopt-a-wolf" program, and the wolf learning box featuring learning activities for grades 4-12. The \$15 annual dues to TWA include a subscription to Wolf Tales. For more information contact Timber Wolf Alliance, Sigurd Olsen Environmental Institute, Northland College, Ashland, WI. 54806-3999.*

#### **DNR GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR SOLID WASTE DIVERSION**

*The following information was submitted by the DNR. To be on the mailing list, or receive further information, write Solid Waste Alternatives Program, Waste Management Division, Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, Mi. 48909, or call 517-335-4863.*

Through the Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP), grants and loans are available for public and private sector projects that will divert or assist in diverting solid waste from Michigan landfills and incinerators. There are ten different funding categories including: Recycling-Collection/Processing, Composting, Resource Recovery Education, Market Development, Market Development Research and Demonstration, Waste Reduction Research and Demonstration, Household Hazardous Waste Centers, and others. There is a maximum grant or loan amount for each category and matching funds must be provided by the applicant. For most categories, only capital costs are eligible and funding recipients must sign a contract with the DNR committing to operate the project for ten years.

SWAP was established in 1989 with funding provided by the "Protecting Michigan's Future" Bonds. A total of \$150 million was approved for the program, of which \$96 million has already been allocated. Funding for approved projects should be available in late 1994. The application deadline is August 6, 1993. Application workshops will be held on April 20 in Gaylord, May 6 in Marquette, and May 7 in Lansing.

#### **MINI REVIEW: THE GREEN DISK**

*The Green Disk*, a paperless, environmental journal, comes to you bimonthly on a 5 1/4 or 3 1/2 disk for IBM and Macs for \$35 a year. A recent disk featured the complete *Smithsonian's Biological Conservation Newsletter*, a list of upcoming conferences, meetings and events, a list of university programs in environmental studies, names and addresses of over 400 environmental organizations, a magazine index, an index to newsletters of environmental groups, recent press releases, Worldwatch Institute report #108 *Life Support: Conserving Biological Diversity*, and more! If you want hard copy, you can download only the part you need. To order write *The Green Disk*, P.O. Box 32224, Washington, D.C. 20007.

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#### **ENVIRONMENTAL TIP OF THE ISSUE: STOPPING THE DELUGE OF JUNK MAIL**

Junk mail is something that most of us get, some of us come to grips with, and all of us pay for. While direct mailers made some \$200 billion in 1991, taxpayers paid \$275 billion to cart it to dumps, incinerators, and recycling centers. Half these mailings are thrown in the trash unopened. Once a mailing list broker has your name, it can be sold to hundreds of organizations.

The quickest way to have your name removed from most lists is by writing Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, P.O. Box 9008, Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735. Once your name is on the delete file it will remain there for five years.

To get out of the big brokers' data bases, send your name, address, and phone number to the following four organizations and request your removal from all their mailing and telemarketing lists:

R.L. Polk and Co., "Name Deletion File," List Compilation and Development, 6400 Monroe Blvd., Taylor, Mi. 48180-1814.

Donnelley Marketing Inc., Data Base Operations, 1235 N. Ave., Nevada, IA 50201-1419.

Metromail Corporation, List Maintenance, 949 West Bond, Lincoln, NB 68521

Database America, Compilation Department, 100 Paragon Dr., Montvale, N.J. 07645-0419.

Credit bureaus will sell your name to banks and credit card companies. To be removed from these files, write to the following three companies:

TRW-Target Marketing Services, Consumer Opt Out, 600 City Parkway West, 7th Floor, Orange, Ca. 92668.

Equifax Operations, P.O. Box 740123, Atlanta Georgia 30374-123.

Trans Union, Tansmark Inc., 555 West Adams St., Chicago, IL 60601.

Warranty cards don't have much to do with warranties. You're covered whether you return the card or

You are looking at symbol for the Spirit interpreted by U.P. Germaine. It's Peninsula for Zero are still available in order yours by (482-6543) in the Smith (339-2961) or in Marquette. T-available at the May



the Native American of Lake Superior as artist, Patrick St. emblazoned on Upper Discharge T-shirts which most sizes. You can contacting Dave Bach Keewenaw or Jerry Joanne Welsh (228-7738) shirts will also be 1, annual UPEC

meeting. All proceeds from these shirts go to the UPEC treasury. Buy one and you not only make a statement about Zero Discharge, but help safeguard the environment of the U.P.

## ***Spirit of Lake Superior Zero Discharge T-Shirts Available***

not. The only reason to return a card is to find out about product recalls. Most cards will ask you for your hobbies and interests. Ask to be removed from these lists by writing to National Demographics & Lifestyles, Customer Service Dept., 1621 18th St. #300, Denver, Co 80202.

Even the U.S. Postal Service will sell your name. After all, it generates business for them. Form #3575, the Change of Address form, is rented to some of the biggest mailing list brokers in the country. Send your own postcards to persons and businesses that you want to have your new address.

A simple postcard will suffice when writing to these companies. The suggestions above come from *Stop Junk Mail Forever*. For a copy of the booklet, write to Good Advice Press, Box 78, Elizaville, N.Y. 12523. They promise not to sell your name to anyone!

### **NEWS AND NOTES MIXED WITH ASSORTED OPINIONS**

**U.P. Seed Savers Network** is being set up to help preserve the crop heritage of the U.P. by finding and helping keep alive plants no longer commercially available. A U.P. newsletter will soon be available by contacting Sue Robishaw, Rt. 1, Box 52, Cooks, Mi. 49817 (644-2598).

**Environmentalism Improving Employment????** Management Information Services, Inc., a Washington reasearch firm estimates that after the year 2,000, environmental spending will reach \$292 billion and be responsible for creating 5.4 million jobs. Some people think that's good news and proves that environmental cleanups enhance rather than stagnate the economy, but if we ever

reach the point where we are spending that much on cleanups, we will look back and realize just how badly we've failed at stopping pollution of the environment now. Zero Discharge, NOW!

**Groundwater Grant** The Marquette County Health Dept. has just been awarded a \$281,059 grant from the Kellogg Foundation to provide incentives to stop groundwater contamination, and to increase awareness about groundwater protection, as well as "communication among agencies to coordinate policies and services to protect groundwater," etc. Hopefully, this will result in more than just another fat, monthly newsletter printed on white paper.

**Lake Superior Activists** A new newsletter, *Superior Vision*, is now available at no charge by writing the editor, UPEC member and '93 board nominee, John Manty, Rt. 1, Box 7, Atlantic Mine, Mi. 49905. A project of the Lake Superior Alliance, *Superior Vision* promotes the Binational Program to make Lake Superior a Zero Discharge demonstration zone. Subscribing is a great way to stay current on issues concerning the lake.

**Land Trust Activists** A "1993 Gathering of Michigan Land Trusts" will be held Arpil 17 and 18 at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, Kalamazoo, Mi. Anyone working on the protection of land resources in Michigan is invited to attend workshops on land protection and techniques on sustaining a land trust, etc. For information on the program, contact Tom Bailey of the Little Traverse Conservancy (616-347-0991), Bill McCort of the Michigan Chapter, The Nature Conservancy (517-332-1741), or Barry Lonik, Project Access (313-762-3083).

**Backyard Eco Conference Slated** so mark your calandars for June 4-6 for the doings at Mystic Lake Camp on Lake Michigan.

# UPEC ANNUAL MEETING

May 1, 1993

All Members, Friends, and the Public Are Invited

This year, the UPEC Annual Meeting promises to be one of the best ever.

The program includes

**5:00 p.m. Social hour**

**6:00 p.m. Dinner**

**7:30 p.m. Speaker**

Then . . . Band Music, Dancing, Snacks until . . .

Dinner will consist of a buffet including both a vegetarian and a meat entre, salad and side dishes, dessert and beverage. The per person cost will be between \$10. and \$11.

This year, the speaker will be **DAVE FOREMAN**.

Music will be provided by the popular Houghton band, **Jigsaw**.

You can participate in any or all of the evening's events. The per person charge for the lecture and admission to dance is \$5.00 per person (those who can't afford it are welcome to pay what they can, and additional contributions will be gratefully accepted).

Note: In the afternoon, a **wilderness ecology** workshop with Dave Foreman will be held.

The workshop will be open to the first 20 UPEC members

to make a reservation by calling Kraig Klungness at 482-4364.

For those who decide that they don't want to drive home after the event, local motels have offered a special UPEC rate. In Chassell: The Chippewa Motel (523-4611) is offering a special rate of \$40 for a single and \$60. for a two bedroom unit with a kitchenette. The Vacationland Motel, only yards from the Onigaming, is offering a special 10% discount for those attending. Singles are \$27, and doubles 30.60. Call 482-5351. The Hamar House Bed and Breakfast in Chassell will have singles at \$30, and doubles at \$35 (523-4670). In Houghton, a few miles north of the Onigaming, the Franklin Square Inn (487-1700) has a rate of \$53. Add \$6.00 extra for each additional person. A room facing the waterfront is \$57. up. To secure the lower rates, identify yourself by saying that you are attending the UPEC meeting.

**Don't miss this year's ANNUAL UPEC MEETING!!!!!!**

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