"True Patriotism Hates Injustice In His Own Land, More Than Any Other"

Clarence Darrow

ALLIANCE NEWS

PUTTING PEOPLE BACK INTO THE ENVIRONMENTAL EQUATION

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

SUMMER 1995

FLY-IN DAILY BULLETINS INCLUDED

Included in this Alliance News are the five "Daily Bulletins" produced for the media for Fly-In Freedom 1995. The media room staff did a superb job on publicity.

Consensus of opinions indicates that this Fly-In was the most successful ever. It grows and improves year by year. Appreciation is in order for all of the many people and organizations who worked so hard to accomplish that success. I am not going to try to name them as I know I cannot remember them all.

SEND IN THOSE FAX NUMBERS!

Anyone who has a fax and is not receiving our fax alerts is requested to send the number to us. Some numbers have been changed (especially area codes) and some we just do not have. We have not been able to correct the area codes very well as some exchanges have changed and others have not.

Thanks again for all your support. Together we ARE making a difference!!!

Harry McIntosh - VP Administration

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NORTHEAST REGION

The Alliance's Northeast Region plans its second annual Camp-In For Freedom for August 26th and 27th hosted by RI WISEUSE. All Alliance members are welcome. Plenty of space for campers and tents or stay in a nearby motel. Time to galvanize and time to socialize.

We'll be discussing: Legal Changes, Legislative Changes and Electoral Changes of 94 and looking towards 96. Special Focus on the emerging States' Rights Ethics in the East. Our panels will include lawyers, local elected representatives, issue activists and maybe a few surprise guests from outside our region.

For More Information and Registration please contact Brian Bishop at 401-392-0212.

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The East finally joins the battle for State's Rights under the 10th amendment. While the West has long recognized the friendly five-fingered appendage of the federal government extended into land management to be nothing more than the heavy hand, state policymakers on the DC side of the Mississippi have for far too long just watched in silence as the federal arm reaches out to grasp the prerogatives of western states.

The Southeast has been quicker to recognize the threats facing them in their 'spotted owl' debate featuring the Red Cockaded Woodpecker. But even the notoriously liberal fedrocentrists of the Northeast are awaken to the enormous costs and questionable benefits of a number of unfunded mandates associated with federal environmental laws including the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act.

In the Northeast it is not as much land use issues, which are driving this stiffening of the spine but a diverse coterie of regulatory snarls from the battle over automobile inspection regimes to the costs of enormous sewage handling systems. Of course, we actually face just as much federal meddling in land management prerogatives, and I wish that were as clear to our politicians as are the coming budget shortfalls and populist discon...
tent with expensive and time-consuming federal mandates on automobiles in areas that have relatively non-existent air quality woes.

On the other hand, it is at least heartening to see the local political system waking up just a bit to environmental overkill. There is opportunity for property rights activists in the east to involve themselves in these debates. We have a great deal of experience with the methods being employed by federal regulators. 1. Say the sky is falling. 2. Institute a federal program to hold it up. 3. When the sky doesn’t fall suggest that this is due to the federal program and not to the fact that it wasn’t falling to begin with.

In the auto emissions debate, we finally saw the exertion of a little bit of stateside spine. Many states refused to institute the inspection program mandated by EPA or dragged their feet long enough for it to become apparent that air pollution was on a significant downward trend and the federal mandates were cumbersome and unnecessary. Essentially we managed to hold out against Step 2 so that when a Step 3 analysis showed great improvement one could not suggest it was as a result of the federally mandated inspections. This was an area-wide phenomenon. Virginia’s Department of Environmental Quality is a leader. Maine’s Independent Governor King is lightning rod. Vermont Speaker of the House, Michael Obuchowski made one of the first stands in his state’s legislature over a year ago. A bipartisan effort is underway in the Rhode Island House of Representatives spearheaded by the Minority (Republican) Leader, Wayne Salisbury, and a populist Democrat, Lou Raptakis, who will be running for the US House next year.

Brian Bishop - Regional Director
401-392-0212

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

RIGHT TO FARM AND PRACTICE FORESTRY
ACT 302
OF THE 1995 LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

Provides for the minimization of the impact of governmental actions on private agriculture and forestry property.

Requires local government, boards, commissions, and agencies of state government to avoid imposing an undue burden on private agricultural and forest property that diminishes the value of private property and requires compensation under the Louisiana Constitution. The law does not apply to areas located within the corporate limits of any municipality.

- Requires governmental entities to prepare a written assessment of any proposed governmental action prior to taking action that will likely result in the diminution of value of private agricultural or forest property. Said assessment shall be delivered to the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry, and any affected landowners.

Allows an owner of agricultural or forest property to bring action against a governmental entity to determine whether the governmental action caused a diminution of value of 20% or more of the affected portion of the property. Upon determination that a governmental entity caused a diminution of value of 20% or more the owner can recover a sum equal to the diminution in value of the property and retain title. Encourages owners and governmental entities to seek resolution of actions through mediation or other dispute resolution methods prior to filing actions.

For more information contact the: Louisiana Forestry Association P.O. Drawer 5067, Alexandria, Louisiana 71307-5067 Tel: 318-443-2558

Buck Vandersteen-Regional Director

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FLY-IN RECAP

I have been very busy here in Idaho. As reported before, I am busy in the schools as they wind down for the summer. In addition, we were able to get an ESA field hearing here in Lewiston, Idaho on June 3rd. As part of a grassroots effort, we put together a parade which included our own Senator Larry Craig. We told him we would get him a nice car to ride in and he could just wave at the people, but he told us that his place was right along side of the working people he represented. If walking was good enough for us, it was good enough for him too. Don’t you just love him!

As you all know we just completed our very successful 5th Fly-In for Freedom. Each year as we struggle to become more proficient we learn from our mistakes. Because of the change in the dates this year, we were pressed to get speakers and arrangements made on schedule. I would like to apologize to all of you that had to change hotels. I wished that there was something that I could have done to change that outcome. It just couldn’t be helped. Next year we will be better prepared.

Also, next year we will have a better handle on our speakers. I would like to thank all of those who attended the Fly-In this year for your self control with Mitch Friedman. I wasn’t expecting him. Chuck Clusen had canceled on us five days before the Fly-In. We felt we needed another person on that panel and were told that one would be provided but was not given a name. As a co-chair, I would like to thank all who helped and all who attended. The Fly-In is for your benefit and I hope that you did indeed benefit from this experience.

Next year’s Fly-In for Freedom has been set for June 15-19, 1996. I hope that you can all start making plans now to attend.

Rita Carlson - VP Nat’l Resources/Public Lands
Phone: 208-799-1178 Fax: 208-799-1031

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MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION

Virginians were pleased and proud to have The Honorable Becky Norton Dunlop, Secretary of Natural Resources, speak at the Fly-In Rally Mon., June 12th. Mrs. Dunlop was impressed with the rally and reception and hopes to be able to participate in future Fly-Ins.

In a Republican primary for County Supervisor in Prince William County on June 13th, the incumbent, Ms. McManus LOST. Political observers state several reasons including her inability to attract supporters other than local preservationists and her anti-growth and anti-business platform. The winner is our Ed Wilbourn (R), an honest, fair-minded business executive and good neighbor.

A study group appointed to balance the current Tier III, Exceptional Waters Advisory Board for Virginia has persevered and out-argued, out-reasoned, out-lasted, and won-out at last. All of our recommendations regarding river nominations, designations and property owner notification were accepted into the final report for submission to the Department of Environmental Quality.

Pat Bradburn - Regional Director
Phone: 703-368-9922 FAX: 703-368 6573

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Editor’s Note:

As you read this newsletter, President Clinton is on the campaign trail for 1996. His administration, reported in the New York Times, feeling there is strong public support for environmental protection, has become more combative against congressional proposals that would weaken several major environmental laws. This could lead to veto threats to future legislation that changes environmental policy.

This same report by John H. Cushman says, "That message has been adopted in one speech after another by President Clinton, Vice President Al Gore and Cabinet members like Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, who has given himself the assignment this summer of being a one-man pro-environmental road show."

The grassroots movement has made a difference in legislation and policies this year. Keep up the good work, keep writing those letters, making those phone calls and sending the faxes. Keep up your networks. My hat is off to all of those involved in this nationwide movement. I salute you.

Marge Lienhard Rt. 1, Box 31A Princeton, ID 83857
ph:208-875-1429 FAX: 208-875-0323
Email mlienhard@aol.com

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Apr '94 Duane H. Sandin
Mother Nature has little regard for our environment or its people.

The recent floods in Virginia have devastated the lives and home of Alice and Jim Menks of Madison. Their home, in the area of the mountain slide, was ravished by torrential rains which gouged a 20 foot ravine where the front lawn used to be. Two of their cars were swept away by the raging waters.

Alice and her family had to be evacuated to safety by helicopter. They do not know when they will be allowed to return to their home as a geologist must first determine the stability of their home and the surrounding terrain.

Alice is President of Virginians for Property Rights and was an original member of the steering committee that formed the Alliance for America. Our thoughts are with Alice and her family at this traumatic time in their lives.

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THE PRICE THEY PAID

Have you ever wondered about the men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the Continental Army. Another had two sons captured. Nine of the fifty-six signers fought and died from wounds or the hardships of the American Revolution.

What kind of men were they? Twenty-five were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers or large plantation owners. These were men of means and education. Yet they signed the Declaration of Independence, knowing full well, that the penalty could be death if they were captured.

When these courageous men signed, they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to the cause of freedom and independence.

Carter Braxton was a wealthy planter and trader. One by one his ships were captured by the British navy. He was forced to sell his plantations and mortgage his properties to pay his mounting debts. His remaining estate was finally seized by his creditors.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he had to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Continental Congress without pay and kept his family in hiding.

Vandals or soldiers or both looted the properties of Ellery, Clymer, Hall, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr. noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the family home for his headquarters. Nelson urged General George Washington to open fire on his own home. This was done and the home was destroyed. Nelson later died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis also had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

“Honest John” Hart was driven from his wife’s bedside when she was near death. Their thirteen children fled for their lives. Hart’s fields and his grist mill were laid to waste. While eluding capture he never knew where his bed would be the next night. He often slept in forests and caves. When he returned home in December of 1777, he found that his wife had died and his children had vanished.

Such are the stories and sacrifices typical of those who risked everything to sign the Declaration of Independence. These men were not wild-eyed rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: “For the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.”

They gave you and I a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot of what happened in the revolutionary war. We didn’t just fight the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government! Perhaps you can now see why our founding fathers had a hatred for standing armies, and allowed through the second amendment for everyone to be armed.

Frankly, I can’t read this without crying. Some of us take these liberties so much for granted. We shouldn’t.

They gave us an independent America. Can we keep it?

by Garry Hildreth as printed in the Konkolville Lumber Sawdust Tribune, June 1995
Huffington Hits the Press Where It Hurts

Fierce, funny and savvy, Ariana Huffington woke up the sleepy heads at the Fly-In’s prayer breakfast. Her wit and honesty about mainstream media and federal government was a breath of fresh air for over 100 people who attended. Huffington said the greatest enemy is the media because, “media is mired with a second vision. They have a clear world view and it’s not our view. They get in the way of solutions. We need to expose the media.” Huffington was brutalized by the press during her husband’s, Michael Huffington, California senatorial race against Diane Feinstein. Huffington will host a TV program on NET this fall called Beat the Press which will expose the liberal bias of the media by using humor and satire. She will also appear on NET this Tuesday evening with Newt Gingrich at 10:00 pm. and on June 16 she will be a guest on PBS’ Firing Line.

A Beltway Perspective

The first panel of the day brought a stark contrast to this year’s Fly-In. Clark Collins of the Blue Ribbon Coalition moderated a panel of professional enviros. Cathy Carlson, National Wildlife Federation; Brock Evans, Audubon Society; and Mitch Friedman, EarthFirst! presented the preservationist perspective. R. J. Smith from the Competitive Enterprise Institute offered a rebuttal. Evans opened his presentation by telling the audience he shares our pain and passion for environmental sustainability. He neglected to explain that his personal activities were the cause of our pain. Carlson described why public lands must be preserved as a legacy for our children. Friedman proudly chronicled his obstructionist history with EarthFirst! The audience bristled when he told of logging blockades. Smith focused his remarks on the many examples of the disincentives for wildlife protection that the ESA creates. Needless to say, the question and answer period was very lively.

Film-makers Leave An Impression

Colorado film-makers Roger and Nick Brown received a tear-filled standing ovation after Fly-In participants viewed their work on the issues facing the forest industry. Two-years ago the Browns completed a film documentary on the plight of ranchers. Today they aired a segment from NBC Nightly News on Whitings Lumber and Governmental Red Tape which was precipitated by footage shot by them in Fredonia, AZ. They also presented to the group their 28-minute film titled California Changing Forests: A Case For Management.

Western States Coalition Lays Down The Law

A panel of Western States Coalition legislators provided Alliance members with experienced insight on state efforts to protect property rights and control excessive regulatory and land acquisition actions by the federal government in the west. Arizona Speaker Mark Killian, Utah Speaker Mel Brown, Wyoming Representative Frank Philips and former Utah Speaker Rob Bishop renewed their commitment to less government and grass roots activism to protect constitutional liberties. Speaker Killian responded to an audience question citing media allegations of reckless government bashing by western resource providers, pointing out, “we are the government.” The Coalition’s membership includes hundreds of legislators and commissioners representing over 23 million people throughout the west. Their next meeting is July 12-15 in Albuquerque, NM.

Tables Are Turned In Violence Debate

Documented examples of violent acts and threats against rural communities and natural resource providers were exposed in a panel discussion led by Utah State Representative Met Johnson. Panelists included County Commissioner Louise Liston, Blue Ribbon Coalition’s Clark Collins, Private Investigator Barry Clausen and California Forestry Association’s Donn Zea. Zea pointed out that the recent escalation in violence coincides with last year’s overthrow in Congress, an event that benefited resource providers and property owners. According to Commissioner Liston, environmental terrorism is costing Garfield County, Utah hundreds of thousands of dollars. Clausen cited numerous environmental links to terrorism, including the book, A Declaration Of War: Killing People To Save Animals And The Environment (Patrick Henry Press, 1991).
Fly-In Participants Converge On DC

Over 300 grassroots activists are descending on our nation's Capital to embark on five days of lobbying members of Congress and the Administration on issues critical to loggers, ranchers, farmers, fishermen, recreational enthusiasts and property owners. The theme of this year's Fly-In is "The Endangered Species Act: Friend or Foe," so citizen lobbyists will be calling for reforms to the ESA. This weekend's events include several panel discussions and workshops for Fly-In participants. Visits with congressional members and administration officials will begin on Monday and finish up Wednesday. Monday evening there will be a rally on the West Capitol Lawn. Congressman Charles Taylor will be the rally's Master of Ceremonies. He will be joined by Congressmen Norm Dicks, Richard Pombo, Frank Riggs, Lamar Smith and Senator Larry Craig.

Vincent Kicks Off Fly-In

Alliance President Bruce Vincent welcomed this year's participants bright and early Saturday morning. He dedicated the year's Fly-In to California Forestry Association's President Gil Murray who was killed April 24, 1995 when he opened a package delivered to his office. "In the explosion, Connie lost her husband, Wilson and Gilbert lost their father, CFA members lost their president, CFA staff lost their boss and their friend, our movement lost a champion and a great deal of our innocence, and America lost a voice of hope for the future," said Vincent.

Vincent went on to say, "With these thoughts in mind, the 1995 Fly-In for Freedom is dedicated to the memory of Gil Murray. This Fly-In is a time to hold our Alliance family tight. It is a time to renew our commitment to achieve necessary change in environmental policy through the peaceful power of the democratic institution of America. It is time to overcome the evil that took Gil's life by redoubling our efforts to carry our vision of hope to our nation. Gil would have demanded nothing less. We will not let him down."

Grassroots ESA Coalition Hits the Ground Running

Since its inception in March 1995, the Grassroots ESA Coalition has grown from 55 to 255 groups with 75 more considering membership. The Coalition's philosophy lies in the belief that the current ESA is unworkable and flawed with its assumption that human action is responsible for extinction of species. "The ESA defines our environmental policy; it states that plants, animals and bugs are more important than human beings and that's morally bankrupt," said Kathy Benedetto, Executive Committee Member for the Coalition and geologist by profession. "Most species became extinct before man showed up. The earth changes constantly," she said.

Dennis Hollingsworth, Executive Committee Membership and California Farm Bureau Representative outlined the reasons why the coalition was formed during his speech to over 300 Fly-In for Freedom participants. "We felt ESA reform was stagnating and not moving in the right direction. The current regulatory scheme was not protecting plants and animals; it was however taking people's property and robbing rural communities," said Hollingsworth. "It has put land owners and species at odds with each other. We need to remove the punitive measures and put incentives in their place."

The Grassroots ESA Coalition is not all that different from what other grassroots groups have been trying to accomplish except that they want to completely throw out the current ESA and substitute a new one in its place. The more traditional grassroots groups favor the current reform measures being proposed, such as those discussed at Congressional hearings in the west over the last two months.
Private Property Rights Hearing Draws Standing Room Only Crowd

The Private Property Rights Task Force of the House Resources Committee held a standing room only hearing with many Alliance members in attendance. The Task Force heard from five panels many of whom outlined personal stories on how their private property rights have been lost or degraded by government regulations. Mary Fattig, a social services worker from northern California, testified on witnessing the devastation of families and rural culture in her community which is a result of cutbacks in timber harvesting. The Task Force, chaired by Arizona congressman John Shadegg, was impressed by the depth of evidence and knowledge displayed by the panelists.

A Contrast Between Office Appointments

As is the case every year, we receive reports about great appointments and dismal office visits. The comparison to be presented were both with Democratic offices: one on the Senate side and the other in the House. Both offices were visited by seasoned grassroots lobbyists with years of experience. The first appointment was in Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy’s office. The Senator was unavailable, so the lobbyists met with his staff. The message from the staff was “I have a study that concludes there has only been only a 20 percent decline in timber dependent community employment. The overall State economic outlook is good. So what is your problem?” This is a pretty poor attitude from a powerful Democratic Senator’s office, who represents a State that relies on agriculture and forestry for a significant portion of its economy. As a comparison, another team personally visited with Congressman Sanford Bishop from Georgia. Congressman Bishop was well versed in the issues of forest health, private property rights and the Endangered Species Act, and listened intently as grazing reform issues were discussed. He expressed a sincere compassion for the plight of natural resource users and appears to have an understanding that people are part of the environmental equation. The second term, African-American Congressman, sits on the Agriculture Committee and represents both urban and rural constituents.

National Policy Forum - ESA Hearing Features Alliance and Western States

Members of the Alliance and Western States Coalition told congressional leaders, Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour and Colorado Attorney General Gail Norton that the Endangered Species Act was creating rural ghettos and forcing disincentives on private landowners to responsibly manage their lands. Nadine Bailey told an audience of nearly 200 people that the Clinton Administration had broken their promise to balance environmental policies. CFA’s Donn Zea defined specific solutions for ESA reform based on the book Noah’s Choice. Womens Mining Coalition Director Kathleen Benedetto said the premise of the 1973 ESA was that humans and economic development caused the destruction of plant and animal species, there by pitting man against the environment. American Forest & Paper Association President Henson Moore underscored the extent of the negative impacts on the working men and women of the forest products industry and pledged AF&PA’s support of real reform.

Grassroots Circulate Letter On NBS

Today, grassroots activists circulated a letter to Speaker Newt Gingrich around Congressional offices for signatures, calling upon the Speaker to dissolve the National Biological Service and reduce the funds by one-third and transfer them back to the various agencies in the Interior Department. This was the recommendation contained in the Fiscal Year 1996 House Budget Resolution. The current drafting of the FY96 Interior Appropriations Bill contains only cosmetic changes regarding the NBS. Specifically, the NBS would simply be renamed and moved to a new location within the Interior Department, with only a minimal reduction in funding. NBS has never been authorized by Congress. The protection of private property rights is central to the debate over the NBS.
Environmental Policy Internationalized

A panel on Sunday, representing Australia, Switzerland, Zimbabwe, Greenland and Norway speakers shared a common concern that is: “environmental organizations destroy lives, habitat and economies in other countries.” One of the most moving presentations was filmmaker Magnus Gudmundsson’s documentation on the destruction of a native Alaska culture by outsiders dictating “acceptable” fishing practices. The panel members provided moving testimony to the effects of uniform cookbook solutions promoted by issue driven professional enviro’s. It was disheartening to hear that other countries in the world were experiencing the same cultural attack. The good news is that there are individuals who are willing to speak out and tell these important stories.

Western States, Fly-In Press Conference Huge Success

“We need an ESA that has both common sense and a heart” was the message given loud and clear to a packed room of both media representatives and grassroots supporters. Senator Orrin Hatch began the press conference by outlining the twelve solutions to bring back responsible environmentalism that would preserve the custom, culture and economic stability of rural America. Hatch said, “the very foundation of our nation is at stake. The communities and people who are being threatened by government over-regulation are the backbone of this nation. We must do everything in our power to insure that these communities are preserved and protected.” Other speakers addressing specific problems in their areas were Rob Bishop, Past Speaker of the Utah House; Congressman Richard Pombo; Mark Killian, Speaker of the Arizona House; Gail Phillips, Speaker of the Alaska House; Melvin Brown, Speaker of the Utah House; Nadine Bailey, California Women In Timber; and Caren Bremer, New Mexico Wool Growers.

ABC News Follows Team On The Hill

An ABC World News Tonight news team spent a portion of Monday with Nadine Bailey and Bruce Vincent as they made visits to congressional offices on Capitol Hill. Reporter Ned Potter joined the two grassroot leaders as they met with California Congressman Frank Riggs to discuss the salvage amendment and ESA reform. Potter is working on a story dealing with the impact of the ESA and other environmental laws on people and their communities.

Enviro’s Spread Hate

In press releases and online computer network messages, environmentalists are spreading hate and lies about our movement. They are attempting to link the “wise-use” movement to the radical rightwing militias blamed for the Oklahoma City bombing. Computer messages call upon “pro-Earth activists” to “shoot down the Fly-In” by calling and faxing congressional offices to discredit our messages.

Fly-In Rally Gives Us Hope

A threat of rain, thunder and lighting did not dampen Fly-In participants enthusiasm for the task at hand of spreading the message of putting people back into the environmental debate. The rally was moved inside to the Hart Office Building where Congressman Charles Taylor was the Master of Ceremonies. Taylor, Congressmen Richard Pombo and Wes Cooley and Senator Larry Craig told the audience that we were making an impact. We heard that the Emergency Salvage Amendment will become law and that the ESA will be reformed. The most moving part of the rally was the dedication of this year’s event to the memory of CFA’s President Gil Murray. CFA staff were presented with two flags that had flown over the nation’s Capitol, one for the Murray family and the other for the staff. The emotional tribute gave everyone the strength to charge ahead and participate in this movement of changing sweeping across America. That is what Gil would have done and we are not going to let the tragedy of his death be forgotten.
“Yo Bill, Just Don’t Go To Portland”

Over 100 grassroots activists showed up for a demonstration at the White House today objecting to President Clinton’s veto of the Rescission Bill which contained Emergency Salvage Legislation. Signs, buttons and yellow flags caught the eye of national media organizations. NBC, ABC, CNN, UPI, AP and several national stringers will broadcast the story on tonight’s news broadcast -- watch if you can. “Yo Bill, we’ll win this war the American way, at the ballot box,” and “Yo, Bill, we don’t hate the government, we are the government,” were some of the messages promoted during the demonstration.

Western Ancient Forest Alliance tried to infiltrate and grab some media, but they were grossly outnumbered and told to leave. This was the first demonstration at the White House since Pennsylvania Avenue was closed to traffic, according to secret service agents. The peaceful eye-catching event is timely due to President Clinton’s proposed June 27 visit to Portland, Oregon. Word has it that existing timber sales are being held up until the President’s arrival out west so he can show that his timber plan is working. In reality, his timber plan is a dismal failure stuck in bureaucratic red tape. Oregonians plan on demonstrating Clinton’s visit later in the month.

Reality Hits The Hill

Some experienced grassroots activists hit the Hill again today espousing ESA changes and offering solutions. A visit to Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa, with a 0% voting record on private property issues revealed some surprises. His staffer said he was an “environmental senator, but he believes it’s time to reform the ESA.” The staffer was interested in the number of sawmill closures and the fact that the ESA was taking away viable land for species.

Another visit to Senator Wendell Ford from Kentucky, who has a 25% voting record on private property issues, proved beneficial. Ford’s staffer said Kentucky has a copper bellied water snake threatening to shut down the coal mining industry in their state. The assistant was hungry for information and offered to pass on mutual natural resource concerns to the Senator.

Rep. Jimmy Hayes, Louisiana, one of the blue dog democrats, is hot on the trail of National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, (NFWF), which funds environmental projects for green organizations, ie Pacific Rivers Council. The NFWF is the only foundation that is federally funded to the tune of $10 million a year, which provides funding to groups who have closed two forests in northeastern Oregon and eight in Idaho, threatening ranchers, miners and leaving logs laying in the woods. There is nothing like a reality sandwich to bring people back down to earth when the ESA rears its ugly head.

Thanks for all your help.

We can and will make a change.

See you next year.
"The more choices government forces on us, the fewer choices we can make for ourselves."
— Thomas Jefferson

YOUR SUPPORT IS URGENTLY NEEDED!

The success of the Alliance for America depends on you and every other American who believes that the need for environmental protection must be balanced with the needs of the people who live in this country. Please send in your membership dues today.

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

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P.O. Box 449
Caroga Lake, NY 12032