



Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet

2002
YEAR IN REVIEW

2003
YEAR IN PREVIEW

The **P**lanet Sierra Club Activist Resource

www.sierraclub.org/planet



'Aren't We the Lucky Ones?' PAGE 11

January/February 2003

We Know How

The sky is not falling. Support for environmental protections remains strong.

BY JOHN BYRNE BARRY

"If Florida can clean up its coal-fired power plants, why can't Georgia?" So asked Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope at a recent national planning meeting in Airlie, Virginia. "Most power plants are clean. Why not all of them?"

Pope's message was simple: Despite the bleak political landscape, we've got to raise the bar.

We know how to break our dependence on foreign oil and slow the course of global warming. Automakers have known for years how to make cars go farther on a gallon of gas, which is the single biggest step to cutting carbon dioxide emissions.

We know how to clean up dirty power plants and how to build much cleaner new ones, thereby reducing the pollution and asthma that plague many communities.

We know how to reduce the risk to communities from wildfires by thinning forest brush and small trees near settled areas, not by logging in remote wild forests, which is what the Bush administration's fire policy advocates.

Yes, the Bush administration seems to attack another environmental law almost every week. Yes, the Bush administration wants to weaken the Clean Air Act by allowing old heavily polluting power plants to expand without implementing pollution-fighting technologies.

Yes, the Bush administration seeks to undermine the National Forest Protection Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Clean Water Act.

Yes, leaders of the 108th Congress have set their sights on drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

But the sky is not falling.

The 2002 election was not a mandate to pollute our air and water and cut down our national forests. Americans did not say they want to breathe more polluted air. Americans didn't say they want more animal feces in their drinking water.

The president is popular, but his environmental policies are not. A *New York Times*/CBS News poll (November 29, 2002) found that by a two-to-one margin, Americans say that protecting the environment is more important than producing energy. Fifty-five percent say they disapprove of White House efforts to drill for oil in the Arctic Refuge.

The Sierra Club's message was not repudiated in the election, it got trumped. And just barely. According to elections analyst Charlie Cook, "A swing of 94,000 votes out of 75,723,756 cast nationally would have resulted in the Democrats capturing control of the House and retaining a

[MORE ON P. 2]

Bush Has the Congress, Sierra Club Has the People:

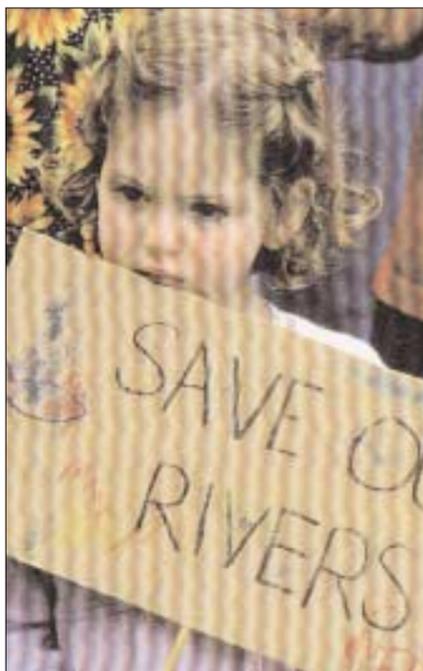
Clockwise from right: Ken Midkiff, director of the Clean Water Campaign, and Betsy Bennett, Cumberland (Kentucky) Chapter conservation chair, are a happy antibiotic-free pig and chicken at the Old MacDonald Conference in Frankfort, Kentucky. A reformed Paul Bunyan—Sierra Club leader Mike Rentz in costume—gave a talk about forest restoration at a fair in St. Paul, Minnesota. Althea Finch-Brand, age three, is a convincing clean-water advocate at a Cincinnati Earth Day rally. Natalie Foster, voter education organizer, inspires a crowd during a morning rally in Atlanta, Georgia.



LEI DEN



ADAM CHANDLER



GLEN BRAND



JOSHUA DAVIS

JANUARY

7

Face Time with the President

PORTLAND, OREGON • Portland firefighter Ed Hall, who helped with recovery efforts at the World Trade Center, is one of four local firemen invited to welcome President Bush at the airport when he visits Oregon. Hall uses his face time with the President to shake Bush's hand and say, "Mr. President, it really is an honor to meet you, but you don't have to drill for oil in the Arctic."



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Honk for Clean Streets

BETTENDORE, IOWA • Janet Latchow (right), Gerald Neff, and other members of the Eagle View Group picketed the HY VEE food store on a blustery day to protest the store's vocal support of efforts to repeal a cash redemption law that reduces litter and encourages recycling of aluminum, glass, and plastic beer and soda containers. Activists also flooded legislators with letters and phone calls, resulting in the sound defeat of a bill to repeal the cash redemption law.



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Auto State Supports Fuel Efficiency

WASHINGTON, D.C. • A poll finds that 77 percent of voters in Michigan—epicenter of the American auto industry—favor increasing fuel-economy standards to 40 miles per gallon over the next 10 years. The percentage is even higher—84 percent—among Michigan households with a United Auto Worker member.



Published originally in 1990.

We Know How

[FROM P. 1]

majority in the Senate on November 5. If that had occurred, obituaries would have been written—inevitably and prematurely—about the presidency of George W. Bush.”

When voters had a chance to support environmental ballot initiatives, they did so, approving 79 of 99 state and local measures to preserve wildlife habitat and open space, and authorizing \$2.6 billion for land acquisition.

Club President Jennifer Ferenstein was also at the planning session in Virginia. “We have to engage and enrage the American people,” she said. “Cleaning up 70 percent of the air is not acceptable. Manufacturing cars that get nine miles to the gallon is not acceptable. We want more than this. We deserve more than this. But we have to fight for it.”

It will not be an easy fight. The American people may support the Sierra Club’s position on protecting the environment, but unless they stand up for it, the oil and auto and timber industries and their ilk will continue to set and dominate the agenda. The Sierra Club’s tall order is to mobilize the citizenry and encourage Americans to demand the environmental protections they support. We may know how to clean up power plants, but unless we counter the financial power of the coal and utility industries with people power, the dirty power plants will keep on polluting.

The Planet is a cheerleader, so it’s our job to look at the bright side of things. That’s easy on the one hand. The Sierra Club has a great team—our volunteers and staff are just as dedicated and arguably more focused than ever. But we can’t underestimate our opponents, who are not only powerful, but ruthless and determined.

In this year-in-review/year-in-preview issue of *The Planet*, we’re not going to dwell on the losses of 2002 or torture ourselves with potential scenarios of environmental disasters to come. Acknowledge them, yes, but not wallow in them. Despite some egregious losses at the federal level, like the Senate’s rejection of an increase in fuel-economy standards, the Club achieved many victories, large and small, in 2002, from passing the nation’s toughest motor vehicle emissions standards in California to passing a clean-power-plant bill in Connecticut. We celebrate those and dozens more victories on pages 6 and 7. On page 12, we share 10 reasons things aren’t as bad as they might seem to be. On pages 4 and 5, we review the Club’s national priority campaigns’ activities in 2002 and preview what’s to come.

Undoubtedly, we will have to dig in and mount a spirited defense in 2003 and beyond. But we know how to do that too.



MICHAEL RICHARDSON, JAMES B. BECKWORTH OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER

A Well-Deserved Rest: A Youth in Wilderness participant looks out towards Guanella Pass, Colorado, after climbing the 13,794’ Square Top Mountain.

THE PLANET

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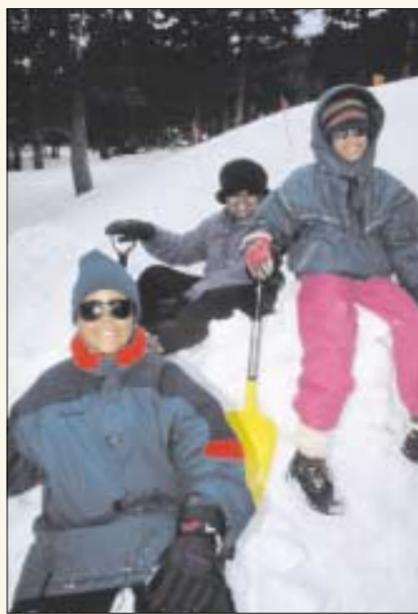
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Building Friendships:

Youth in Wilderness participants enjoy the outdoors no matter what the temperature. At left, trip leader Heidi Huijen Hou and friend relax near Mono Lake, California. Below left, backpackers explore Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park. Below, a happy trio takes a break from building snow caves at St. Mary’s Glacier, Colorado.



MICHAEL RICHARDSON, JAMES B. BECKWORTH OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER

FEBRUARY

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Drive Clean, Save Green

TAMPA, FLORIDA • To drive home the difference between hybrids and SUVs, Sierra Club organizers Darden Rice, right, and Joe Murphy take two cars on the road—a 52-mpg Toyota Prius and a 14-mpg GMC Yukon. By the time the trip ends in Tallahassee on February 8, the SUV has used 43.01 gallons of gas—at a total cost of \$60.21—compared to 16.24 gallons and a mere \$22.84 for the Prius.



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Health Hazard

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY • The Sierra Club announces that it intends to sue food giant Tyson Foods for failing to comply with the Superfund law. The suit alleges that Tyson has failed to report hazardous releases of ammonia from four animal factories under its supervision. Breathing ammonia can cause respiratory problems and in some cases can be fatal.

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Greens and Blues Unite for Clean Air

WASHINGTON, D.C./MIAMI, FLORIDA • “We don’t need to choose between blue skies and blue collars,” says Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope, as environmentalists and labor team up in a groundbreaking “blue-green” alliance. The coalition—which includes the Sierra Club, Union of Concerned Scientists, and representatives of the industrial and textile trades—releases a report showing that efforts to reduce global warming pollution can boost the economy and create jobs.



RICK FLORES

The Energy Bill That Wasn't

Bad congressional bills die in committee. Club prepares to play defense in 2003.

BY TOM VALTIN

A year ago, *The Planet* reported that one of the Sierra Club's top priorities in 2002 was to help craft a strong Senate energy bill that would ensure a safe, clean, and affordable energy future. Unfortunately, the bill that emerged from the Senate would have done the opposite. Fortunately, the bill died in conference—along with the House bill, which was even worse.

With the prospect of a 108th Congress more hostile to the environment than its predecessor, the challenge for the Sierra Club and allies will be to keep bad legislation from becoming law. Before we look ahead, however, let's look back.

In May 2001, the Bush administration released a national energy plan that Club leaders derided as a "drill, dig, and destroy" proposal. The president traveled to Iowa, Pennsylvania, and Minnesota to announce his plan in front of backdrops such as "fish-friendly" hydroelectric plants, "but it was a sham," says Debbie Boger, Club senior representative on energy issues. "That plan moved us backward."

In what Club National Field Director Bob Bingaman calls "an awesome display of the power of the Sierra Club," the Club mobilized hundreds of people to line the streets protesting the Bush plan at each of his three appearances and placed ads in major daily newspapers in advance of Bush's arrival, taking the president to task for misrepresenting his plan as environmentally sensitive.

In the summer, the Bush plan went to the House of Representatives, which passed a bill that forked over about \$35 billion in tax breaks to the coal, oil, and nuclear industries, allowed oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, weakened fuel-economy standards for light trucks and SUVs, and almost wholly neglected energy conservation and renewables. "President Bush is trying to hang a thin veil of energy efficiency over a cesspool of polluter giveaways," said Club Executive Director Carl Pope at the time. "Big Oil called out its big guns and its big money on this vote." And so the focus shifted to the Senate.

In March 2002, then-Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) introduced a Senate energy bill that was far from perfect, but which would have protected the Arctic Refuge (and other special places), increased fuel-economy standards, and boosted our use of clean, renewable energy.

The bill's original language included a proposal from Senators John Kerry (D-Mass.) and Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) that would have mandated a fuel-economy standard of 35 miles per gallon for America's automobile fleet by 2015, a move that would save the United States upward of a million barrels of oil per day. At the time, the Sierra Club praised the bill as a "strong framework."

But things began to unravel almost immediately. First came an amendment by Senators Carl Levin (D-Mich.) and Kit Bond (R-Mo.) that greatly weakened the bill's language on fuel economy. Then the bill took another hit when an amendment by Senator Jim Jeffords (I-Vt.), which called for 20 percent of America's electricity to be supplied by renewable sources by 2020, was rejected. Instead, the bill was weakened to require only about 4 to 5 percent from renewable sources by 2020. The current level is 2 percent.

The Sierra Club responded by reprimanding senators for "failing to loosen the grip oil-producing nations have on us" and for "caving in" to the energy industry and other special interests. "The Sierra Club walked a fine line with this bill," says Boger. "Even after being weakened on several fronts it was better than the House bill, but it still took us backward on fuel economy, it did almost nothing for renewable energy or energy efficiency, and it weakened consumer protections in the electricity sector. It would have done nothing to prevent further Enron debacles—and might have made them worse."

The Club's goal at this point was clear: persuade the Senate to vote down any provision allowing drilling in the Arctic Refuge. "Club field staff and volunteers did an unbelievable job," Boger says. "We got scores of calls in to target senators, many of whom reported that they'd been contacted by Club people. We sent out alerts twice a week and kept the pressure on senators. The Club machinery was in high gear."

The payoff came on April 18 when 54 senators voted against opening the Arctic Refuge for oil drilling—by far the largest number of senators ever to stand up for Arctic protection. (See "Senate Defeats Arctic Drilling, But..." www.sierraclub.org/planet/200205/arctic.asp.)

The celebration was short-lived, however. Shortly after the Arctic vote, the Senate passed a bill that was better than the House bill, but still, as Club Executive Director Pope said, "a truly scandalous, loathsome, shameful, disturbing piece of legislation."

While the Senate was wrangling with its bill, controversy was swirling about the exclusion of environmental groups from the drafting of the Bush administration's 2001 energy plan. The Sierra Club and other groups sued the administration (in three separate suits) to release information about who had advised it on its energy plan. In April 2002, a judge ordered the release of documents which showed that in the months leading up to the release of the Bush energy plan, Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham met with 109 representatives of the energy industry and trade associations, but not a single individual from either environmental or consumer groups. The Club's suit is still pending.

During the summer, Congress began the process of reconciling the House and Senate bills. "At this stage," Boger observes, "it was harder to involve Club volunteers and activists because all the action was 'behind closed doors.'"

Meanwhile, in July the Club launched a national campaign to prod Ford Motor Company and other automakers to offer a "Freedom Option Package" of off-the-shelf technological options that would save three million barrels of oil per day (see www.sierraclub.org/freedompackage).

In addition to promoting the Freedom Option Package, the Club ran television and radio ads featuring former Senator Bob Kerrey and retired Vice Admiral Jack Shanahan,

[MORE ON P. 9]



JAMEN GRETZ



The Answer is Blowing in the Wind: Renewable energy sources, especially wind turbines, like the Ponnequin Wind Farm in Colorado shown above, have become increasingly competitive with fossil fuels in price, but the House and Senate energy bills focused instead on oil drilling on public lands and tax breaks for the fossil fuel and nuclear industries. In Florida, Broward Sierra Group Chair Ned Stone delivers a clear message for protecting wild places from oil drilling.

MARCH

5

Proteja el Agua Potable

NEW YORK, NEW YORK • Activists from Sierra Club and other groups turn out for a public hearing on whether a proposed costly chemical filtration plant is needed for the city's drinking water. Their almost unanimous message: ditch the filtration plant and instead protect the land that supplies the city's drinking water. The Club produces a Spanish-language postcard as part of its campaign outreach.



5

Next Generation Speaks Out

WASHINGTON, D.C. • More than 150 students descend on the Capitol to lobby officials on issues ranging from protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to preservation of wild forests. The students spent the previous weekend at the Sierra Student Coalition's Fourth Annual Public Lands Action Summit, learning about the issues and people that surround our public lands.

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Free At Last

WASHINGTON, D.C. • Recently freed Mexican environmentalist Rodolfo Montiel, winner of the Goldman Environmental Prize, visits the United States to talk about the link between environmental advocacy and human rights violations. Montiel and a colleague, Teodoro Carbrera, spent 30 months in jail on trumped-up charges resulting from their work to halt rampant logging in the Mexican state of Guerrero.



ZACH ROITH



Sprawl Activists 'Choose Choo-Choos'

CHALLENGE TO SPRAWL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE: Peter Tyler (chair), Neha Bhatt, Melody Flowers, Tim Frank, Shannon Harps, John Holtzclaw, Cynthia Hoyle, Brett Hulsey, Richard Klein, Greg Leroy, Bill Myers, David Sullivan

2002 HIGHLIGHTS: "Smart Choices, Less Traffic," a map taking a critical look at 49 transportation projects, generated more than 200 media hits, including 18 radio spots, 10 national wire stories, and coverage by 30 TV stations. Campaign led more than 15 "traffic buster" workshops and "tours de transportation."

TELLING STATISTIC: Utah's TRAX public transit system, which opened in December 1999, now has 20,000 daily riders, 41 percent of whom are new to transit.

BEST SIGN FOR THE FUTURE: Despite a disappointing election, smart-growth and transportation-choice measures fared well. Voters in 79 communities in 22 states passed measures to create \$2.6 billion in public funding to protect land for parks and open space. Of 44 transportation measures voted on, 24 passed.

IF I HAD 10 SECONDS OF TV AIR TIME, I WOULD SAY: "Americans have become trapped in their cars—every year they are stuck in traffic for 443 hours, the equivalent of an 11-week vacation. It's time to demand an increase in transportation choices, more funding for public transit and alternatives to driving."

—PETER TYLER



Peter Tyler



Neha Bhatt

HOW TO SUPPORT THE SPRAWL CAMPAIGN: Urge public officials to balance transportation funding so highways don't get it all and make more funding available for public transit, bike/walk facilities, and high-speed rail.

www.sierraclub.org/sprawl



Nuns, Sheriffs Join Fight to Curb Global Warming

GLOBAL WARMING AND CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Paul Craig (chair), Dan Becker, Steve Crowley, Rich Ferguson, Ned Ford, Fred Huette, Tanya Imola, Bill Magavern, Ann Mesnikoff, Ann Vanek

2002 HIGHLIGHT: California passed a groundbreaking measure to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide from passenger vehicles.

DEFINING EVENT: Senate rejection of an increase in fuel-economy standards for cars and light trucks.

BEST SIGN FOR THE FUTURE: Increased demand for hybrids from nuns and sheriffs. In Missouri, with the help of organizer Jill Miller, the sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet have purchased five Priuses and plan to purchase an additional 50 hybrid vehicles in the coming years. In Florida, partly due to the efforts of Club organizer Darden Rice, county sheriffs in Martin, Lee, Marion, Broward, and Polk counties purchased 25 hybrid vehicles for parking enforcement and other duties.

CAMPAIGN GOALS FOR 2003: Continue to work to curb global warming and broaden focus to developing a comprehensive national energy strategy built around improving automobile fuel economy and dramatically expanding energy efficiency and renewable energy.

IF I HAD 10 SECONDS OF TV AIR TIME, I WOULD SAY: "Energy efficiency has added more energy capacity to the U.S. economy over the past 30 years than all fossil fuel, nuclear, and renewable energy resources combined."

—NED FORD, OHIO VOLUNTEER



Tanya Imola



Ann Vanek

www.sierraclub.org/globalwarming
www.sierraclub.org/energy

CAMPAIGN LEADER PHOTOS BY JOHN BYRNE BARRY



Forging New Alliances for Clean Water

CLEAN WATER CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE: Hank Graddy (chair), Chris Bedford, Roy Hengerson, Ed Hopkins, Laura Kresbach, Ken Midkiff, Louie Miller, Don Mills, Dick Mochow, Debbie Neustadt

2002 HIGHLIGHTS: Made alliances in areas where no Sierra Club staffer had gone before—the Texas Panhandle, Idaho's Snake River Plain, and Clovis/Roswell, New Mexico. Filed lawsuit against Tyson Foods. Released "Rapsheet on Animal Factories."

CAMPAIGN GOALS FOR 2003: Defend Clean Water Act from Bush administration policy changes. Protect streams and wetlands from destruction and pollution. Stop concentrated animal feeding operations from locating where they're not wanted.

BEST SIGN FOR THE FUTURE: A rapidly-growing demand by consumers for meats raised by small farmers—without antibiotics or growth hormones and out in God's green world (rather than locked up in small spaces in large numbers).

IF WE HAD 10 SECONDS OF TV AIR TIME, WE WOULD SAY: "We've made great progress in cleaning up our waters, but we can't stop until all our lakes and rivers are safe for fishing and swimming. We can't allow the Bush administration to stop enforcing the protections for streams and wetlands that have been in place for 30 years."

—ROBIN MANN, SIERRA CLUB LEADER

IF WE HAD 20 NEW GUNG-HO VOLUNTEERS, WE COULD...

"We will have 20 new volunteers—right now they're living in blissful ignorance on their farms, but Seaboard or Smithfield has targeted their area for a highly-intrusive, environmentally and economically destructive concentrated animal feeding operation. These folks are without doubt NIMBYs—but if you can't protect your own backyard, how the hell can you protect the Arctic Refuge? These people will demonstrate to political hacks that clean air and clean water do matter to their constituents."

—KEN MIDKIFF, CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

www.sierraclub.org/cleanwater
www.sierraclub.org/cleanwater/rapsheet



Robin Mann



Wildlands Protected in Maine, Nevada, Colorado, California; Arctic Spared

WILDLANDS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE: Mark Pearson (chair), Scott Anaya, Bill Arthur, Len Broberg, Alan Carlton, Clayton Daughenbaugh, Carole Haas, Barbara Lange, Mark Lawler, Dexter Perkins, Melinda Pierce

2002 HIGHLIGHTS: *Alaska:* 54 senators voted against drilling in Arctic Refuge. *Nevada:* Gained protection for 452,000 acres of wilderness. *Maine:* Key link in 100-Mile Wilderness campaign acquired next to Baxter State Park. *Utah:* Activist groups in 25 states working to protect wild Utah. *California:* 56,000 acres of wilderness added to areas near Big Sur. *Colorado:* Protected James Peak.

IF I HAD ONE WISH: "A sane energy policy that saves America's greatest wildlife sanctuaries like the Arctic Refuge coastal plain and Montana's Rocky Mountain Front from the ravages of oil and gas development, and places our country on the path of renewable energy." —DEXTER PERKINS, NORTH DAKOTA VOLUNTEER

BEST SIGN FOR THE FUTURE: "We're working together with other groups and forming effective coalitions." —MARGE SILL, NEVADA VOLUNTEER

IF I HAD 10 SECONDS OF TV AIR TIME, I WOULD SAY: "Help us protect America's wildlands, which belong to all Americans. The Bush administration and its allies in the oil, timber, and mining industries want to dismantle the laws that protect the land we love."

—BOB JORDAN, UTAH VOLUNTEER

www.sierraclub.org/wildlands



Clayton Daughenbaugh



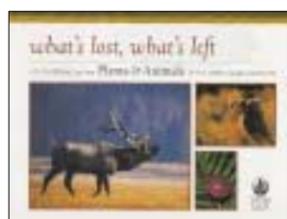
Mark Pearson

APRIL

4

Status Report

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON • The Sierra Club releases "What's Lost, What's Left: A Status Report on the Plants & Animals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition" (www.sierraclub.org/lewisandclark/species/index2.asp). The report examines the current status of more than 40 species of plants and animals first studied and documented almost 200 years ago by Lewis and Clark.



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Earth Day in Kentucky

OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY • Sierra Club volunteers set up an energy display and let people test drive hybrid cars and other alternative modes of transportation, including a recumbent bike, in honor of Earth Day. The next day, they teamed up with another local group for a "Clean Sweep" trash pickup in Calhoun, Kentucky.



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A Portrait of Ansel Adams

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS • "Ansel Adams," a documentary film produced by Sierra Club Productions and Steeplechase Films, premieres on PBS. The film explores the meaning and legacy of Adams' life and work.

25

Senate Rejects Oil Savings

WASHINGTON, D.C. • The Senate rejects a plan to raise fuel-economy standards. By a vote of 57 to 42, senators reject an amendment requiring the Department of Transportation to reduce oil consumption from our cars and light trucks by 1 million barrels of oil per day by 2015.



Fighting Fire With Forest Protections

FOREST PROTECTION AND RESTORATION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE: Clyde Hanson (chair), Bryan Bird, Sheila Bosworth, Sean Cosgrove, Trevor Fitzgibbon, Connie Hanson, Gerald Neff, Dave Muhly, Rene Voss, Bernie Zaleha

CAMPAIGN GOALS FOR 2003: Protect and restore national forests by ending commercial logging on federal public lands in the United States. Seek to protect communities from fire and defend against attempts to use concern about wildfires to undermine basic forest protections and public participation.

2002 HIGHLIGHTS: In April, 221 scientists signed a letter urging President Bush to end commercial logging of our national forests and renew the Forest Service's original vision of forest protection. The scientists, including Pulitzer Prize-winning author Dr. Edward O. Wilson, Dr. Anne Ehrlich of Stanford, and Dr. Peter Raven, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, stressed the benefits of forest protection to the economy, water quality, wildlife, and recreation.

TELLING STATISTICS: Annual volume of timber logged from national forests in 2001: 3.2 billion board feet. Volume in 2002: 1.4 billion board feet. Co-sponsors of National Forest Protection and Restoration Act when the Sierra Club launched End Commercial Logging Campaign in 1999: 36. Co-sponsors at end of 2000: 72. Co-sponsors at end of 2002: 113.



Clyde Hanson



Sheila Bosworth

IF I HAD 10 SECONDS OF TV AIR TIME, I WOULD SAY: "National forests are now being logged and tamed as tree farms, foreign to wildlife and people, and prone to catastrophic fire. Join us in stopping commercial logging in our national forests."

—CLYDE HANSON, CAMPAIGN CHAIR

www.sierraclub.org/logging



Family Planning Fervor

GLOBAL POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Ned Grossnickle (chair), Karen Gaia Pitts, James Hufnagel, Joan Jones Holtz, Laura Kelnhofer, Chris Kennedy, George Klein, Kirk Koepsel, Annette Souder, Ron Weisen

DEFINING EVENT: President Bush cut \$34 million of U.S. aid to the United Nations Population Fund for family planning. Club members and population activists nationwide responded with outrage.

CAMPAIGN GOALS FOR 2003: Slow global population growth by promoting voluntary family planning and comprehensive reproductive health services and encourage individuals to live in ways that reduce natural-resource consumption.

HOW TO HELP THE CAMPAIGN: "Make your voices heard locally about the connections between population and the environment. Talk with your friends and family, write letters to your local papers, and contact your decision-makers regularly."

—SARAH FAIRCHILD, GLOBAL POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

IF I HAD 10 SECONDS OF TV AIR TIME, I WOULD SAY: "Slowing global population growth is the best long-term environmental initiative we can support. Providing universal access to voluntary family planning takes us one step closer toward a sustainable environmental future." —ANNETTE SOUDER, GLOBAL POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

www.sierraclub.org/population



Ned Grossnickle



Chris Kennedy



Joan Jones Holtz

Trade, Human Rights Programs Looking Beyond Borders

HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT/RESPONSIBLE TRADE PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Jim Mays (chair), Kathleen Casey, Stephen Mills, Sam Parry, Chris Rembold, Cathy Rose, David Scott, Dan Seligman, Libby Tart, Craig Volland, Ginny Yingling



DEFINING EVENT OF 2002: Fast-track trade negotiating authority prevailed by three vote margin, but the Sierra Club shined a spotlight on NAFTA's "corporate lawsuits," which empower global corporations to file suits that undermine environmental protections.

CAMPAIGN GOALS FOR 2003: Promote environmentally responsible trade policies that allow countries to promote a higher quality of life for all, maintain high environmental and health standards, establish and enforce environmental rights, and give Congress and the public a strong voice in trade policymaking. Look at how global trade agreements, like allowing Mexican trucks to drive on U.S. highways, affect states.

BEST MEDIA COVERAGE: In the PBS documentary "Trading Democracy," Bill Moyers explained the perils of NAFTA's corporate lawsuits to a broad television audience.

BEST SIGN FOR THE FUTURE: Immediately after the 2002 elections, the Responsible Trade Campaign joined with the Sierra Student Coalition to train 110 new activists at workshops in Boston and San Francisco.

IF I HAD 10 SECONDS OF TV AIR TIME, I WOULD SAY: "The Bush administration is pursuing trade deals that give global corporations new powers to harm our environment. Congress needs to hold the administration accountable for safe, clean, and fair trade."

—DAN SELIGMAN, RESPONSIBLE TRADE PROGRAM

HOW TO SUPPORT THE RESPONSIBLE TRADE PROGRAM: Ask for our new tool kit to help build a grassroots responsible trade campaign in your state.

www.sierraclub.org/trade



CAMPAIGN GOALS FOR 2003: Defend environmental/forest defenders. Hold the Bush administration accountable for promoting corporate rights over human rights and environmental protections. Hold companies and foreign governments accountable for human rights and environmental abuses.

DEFINING EVENTS OF 2002: Welcomed liberated Mexican environmentalist Rodolfo Montiel Flores to the United States for a four-city tour. Joined book tour in Montana and Wyoming with Ken Wiwa, son of slain Nigerian environmentalist Ken Saro-Wiwa. Sent International Program Director Stephen Mills to Johannesburg, South Africa, for the Earth Summit.

BEST SIGN FOR THE FUTURE: Growing interest in corporate accountability for American companies operating overseas.

IF I HAD ONE WISH, IT WOULD BE: "Elevate protections for the environment and for environmentalists as top U.S. foreign policy goals." —SAM PARRY, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

IF I HAD 10 SECONDS OF TV AIR TIME, I WOULD SAY: "Corporate rights should not be elevated over the rights of people to speak out on behalf of their own environment. The Bush administration should change its foreign policy so that we are creating more good will, not more ill will." —SAM PARRY, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

PROMISING DEVELOPMENT: The Club's Beyond the Borders program is providing grants and technical expertise to community groups in Mexican border towns suffering from unchecked pollution from maquiladoras.

www.sierraclub.org/human-rights



Jim Mays



Dan Seligman



Jennifer Martinez
Beyond the Borders

MAY

3

Mountaintop Removal Mining Legalized

WASHINGTON, D.C. • The Bush administration legalizes the practice of mountaintop removal coal mining, whereby mining companies blast off the tops of mountains, then dump the waste into rivers and streams. Five days later, a federal court stops the Bush administration in its tracks when it rules that mountaintop removal mining violates the Clean Water Act.

4



Small Family Farms Day

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA • The Alabama Sierra Club honors Alabama's small family farmers with "Celebrate Small Family Farms Day." Participants visit two area farms and feast on a special lunch of locally grown produce.

5

Java Gets Green

WASHINGTON, D.C. • The Sierra Club, in partnership with Sacred Grounds Organic Coffee Roasters, launches a line of certified organic, shade-grown, fair-trade coffees (www.sacredgroundscoffee.com).



8

Rally for Rail

WASHINGTON, D.C. • A coalition of state and local government officials, business, labor, and environmental leaders, and others join together to rally for rail, expressing support for the national Amtrak system and calling on Congress to fully fund Amtrak in 2003.

11

Protecting Wild California

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA • Senator Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) unveils the California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act, which would protect more than 400 miles of wild rivers and approximately 2.5 million acres of wilderness.

victories

Less Manure, Cleaner Buses, and a Ban on Soft Money

Despite hostile landscape, Club scores wins from coast to coast

BY LAURA FAUTH

Michigan Wins Clean Water Victory: On January 14, the state of Michigan agreed to issue pollution protection permits for factory farms, as required by the Clean Water Act. For years, the state had shirked its responsibility and refused to enforce the permit system. "We won by putting together a coalition that included family farmers, environmentalists, rural communities, and the EPA," says Dan Farough, political director of the Mackinac (Michigan) Chapter.

Campaign Finance Reform Passes: Elections and the environment will be a little cleaner in 2003, thanks to the Campaign Reform Act of 2002. The bill, signed into law by President Bush on March 27, will ban the use of unregulated soft money—huge, unlimited, and unreported donations from corporations and wealthy individuals—by the national parties. The legislation makes the most far-ranging changes since 1974 in how political parties and outside groups participate in campaigns. "The Campaign Reform Act is a critical first step toward taking our elections back from special interests," says Deanna White, the Sierra Club's deputy political director.

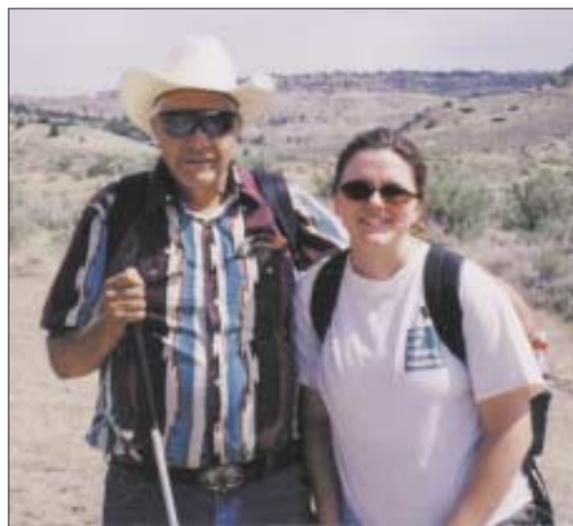
Army Chooses Bugs Over Burning in Colorado: The Army announced in March that it would not incinerate 2,600 tons of mustard gas being stored at the Pueblo Chemical Weapons Depot in Colorado. Instead, they will use the much safer "bug method," which involves warm water and microbes. A campaign to halt the weapons incineration was launched 14 years ago by Sierra Club volunteer Ross Vincent, who says it's a reminder that meaningful victories take time. "If we take care of ourselves and each other, we can stick with this for the long haul and win," says Vincent.

Better Buses Hit the Road in DC: Four years of lobbying for compressed-natural-gas (CNG) buses over diesel finally paid off for Washington, D.C., activists. On April 18, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Board voted to purchase 250 CNG buses and build a second CNG refueling facility, in addition to 164 CNG buses ordered earlier in the year. Momentum for the decision got a boost when 30 people turned out for a pre-meeting rally carrying signs that said "I Want My CNG" and "Diesel Kills" and chanting "Diesel is a Weasel!"

Saving South Carolina's Special Places: In April, South Carolina Governor Jim Hodges signed a bill that will help protect the state's wildlands and historical areas from development. The South Carolina Conservation Bank Act allows the state to issue grants to buy land or purchase development rights from landowners. Funding for the program, which will come from a real estate transfer fee, is expected to be around \$10 million annually. "This is the most important piece of environmental legislation passed in the state in a half-dozen years," says Dell Isham, director of the South Carolina Chapter.

Senate Stands Up for Arctic Protection: On April 18, 54 senators rejected a proposal to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling—the largest number to ever stand up for Arctic protection. To defeat the drilling proposal, field staff and volunteers held town meetings, wrote letters and op-eds, and dressed up as polar bears, while Club staffers worked tirelessly on Capitol Hill. "We hit every single senate office many, many times," says Melinda Pierce, senior Washington representative on Alaska and wildlands issues.

Montana's Weatherman Draw Spared: In April, Anschutz Exploration Corporation gave up its plans to drill for oil in a Montana canyon known as Weatherman Draw. The area is sacred to at least 10 Native American tribes and is adorned with Native American pictographs that date back more than 1,000 years. Several Native American tribes joined together to halt the project, working in coalition with the Sierra Club and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "Without the Sierra Club and the National Trust, this victory would not have happened," says Howard Bogess, historian and member of the Crow Tribe.



Sacred Space: Howard Bogess of the Crow Tribe and Mary Wiper, conservation organizer for the Montana Chapter, visit Weatherman Draw after a successful campaign to save the site from oil drilling.



'I Want My CNG': Washington, D.C.'s transit system is buying more than 400 compressed-natural-gas buses to replace its diesel buses.

Hawaii Passes Bottle Bill: Hawaii eased its landfill crisis, created jobs in the recycling industry, and vastly reduced bottle and can litter in one fell swoop this year. On May 2, it became the 11th state to pass a bottle bill, placing a nickel deposit on all glass, plastic, and aluminum beverage containers. The bill passed despite intense lobbying from the beverage industry, thanks in part to strong support from the Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter. "Hawaii is paradise," says Jeff Mikulina, director of the Hawaii Chapter. "We want to keep it that way."

'Sooty Six' and Mercury Deal Blows in Connecticut: Three years of work on a power plant bill and two years of work on a mercury bill paid off for Connecticut activists this year. On May 2, Connecticut Governor John Rowland signed a bill requiring the "Sooty Six"—the state's oldest and dirtiest oil- and coal-fired power plants—to be cleaned up on-site by 2005. A month later, Rowland signed the landmark Mercury Reduction and Education Act. The bill bans the sale of novelty items that contain mercury, phases out products that contain high levels of mercury, and requires labeling of mercury-containing products, putting Connecticut at the forefront of nationwide efforts to remove mercury from our environment.

School Bus Diesel Law Passes in Minnesota: Minnesota's first law to reduce children's exposure to toxic fumes from diesel school buses was signed into law on May 10. The new law requires bus drivers to minimize the idling of school buses and requires schools not to park buses near air ventilation systems. Student leaders of the Club's School Bus Diesel Campaign were instrumental in getting the legislation passed. "When students learned the alarming facts about school-bus diesel, we got off our butts and became citizen activists," says high school junior Amir Nadav, one of the campaign's leaders.

South Dakota Rejects Corporate Farming: On June 6, South Dakota voters rejected a constitutional amendment that would have invited corporate farming into the state, erasing the 1974 Family Farm Act and a 1998 ban on corporate farms. "We fought hard for family farms and won," says Club organizer Tracie Weber. "The Sierra Club proved it can work alongside farmers and ranchers," said South Dakota State Senator and farmer Frank Kloucek at a party to celebrate the victory. "In a state where the Sierra Club receives a lot of opposition," says Weber, "we proved that we are their friends and neighbors. And that is a victory in itself."

Louisiana Residents Win Relocation: On June 11, after four decades of struggle, more than 100 property owners in Norco, Louisiana, succeeded in compelling Shell Oil to buy out their homes. Norco, a predominantly African-American community, sits in the shadow of a Shell refinery that leaks toxic chemicals into the air. Led by the Concerned Citizens of Norco, with help from the Louisiana Bucket Brigade, the Sierra Club, Earthjustice, and other groups, Norco residents won a concession from Shell of \$120,000 for each home (\$50,000 for trailer homes), plus moving and legal expenses.

California Paves Way for Cleaner Cars: California passed the nation's toughest automobile emissions law this year, paving the way for other states to follow suit. The bill, signed by Governor Gray Davis on July 24, will establish new emissions guidelines for automobiles sold in California. "We made thousands of phone calls, took out a full page ad in the *Sacramento Bee* to rebut the auto industry's distortions, and made the bill a top priority during this legislative session," says Carl Zichella, director of the Club's California field office.

Maine Wilderness Protected: The Nature Conservancy announced in August it had purchased 41,000 acres in

JUNE

12

Car Campaign Launched

DETROIT, MICHIGAN • The Sierra Club announces the launch of a three-year campaign to convince the "Big Three" automakers to improve the fuel economy of their vehicles. The campaign urges consumers to ask auto dealers for the "Freedom Option Package," a set of fuel-saving components which could be added to most standard model cars and light trucks. For more information, go to www.sierraclub.org/freedompackage.

18

Lewis and Clark Revisited

OWYHEE RIVER CANYON, IDAHO • In commemoration of the Lewis and Clark expedition nearly 200 years ago, more than 100 people attend the Owyhee Canyonlands Rendezvous, a four-day group campout and gathering in the Owyhee desert canyon country. Meanwhile, South Dakota and Nebraska chapter members kayak and canoe a stretch of the Missouri River and hike to Spirit Mound, a historic Native American spiritual site that Lewis and Clark visited. All together, hundreds of people participate in activities to call for protection and restoration of the lands traveled by the Corps of Discovery.



26

Bienvenidos Puerto Rico!

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO • Fishermen, professionals, students, and others concerned about uncontrolled development that is contaminating their air and water and destroying Puerto Rico's natural areas, pack an auditorium to participate in the Sierra Club's first ever meeting on the Island.

the Debsconeags Lakes region in the north Maine Woods, to be managed as a wilderness area. The Sierra Club was a partner in crafting the deal between The Nature Conservancy and Great Northern Paper, Inc. Great Northern will also place a conservation easement on 200,000 acres of forestland. "Area residents, hikers, canoeists, fly-fishermen, and wilderness enthusiasts statewide have long prized this area as a remote haven of solitude and quiet beauty," says Karen Woodsum, director of the Club's Maine Woods Campaign.

Court Rules Against Utah's Legacy Highway: Ruling that federal environmental laws were flouted during the permitting process, on September 16 a three-judge panel upheld an earlier ruling that shut down construction of Utah's Legacy Highway. According to the court's evaluation, the environmental impact study for the proposed highway was inadequate as it failed to evaluate an abandoned rail corridor as a possible alternate route, neglected to examine the effect of pending commuter rail projects on the region's future transportation needs, and did not properly assess the impacts of the highway on wildlife. Lawson LeGate, senior southwest regional representative of the Sierra Club, characterized the court's decision as a huge victory. "This isn't the end of our fight, but we clearly enter a new phase significantly stronger than when we started."

Nevada Wilderness Protected: A bill passed in late October designated nearly half a million acres of new wilderness in the Mojave Desert country of Clark County, Nevada. Hundreds of people wrote letters, lobbied, and showed up at public events to show support for the bill, which was the result of almost two years of negotiations involving interested stakeholders and the public. "This achievement could not have come about without extraordinary work by Nevada Sierra Club volunteer leaders and staff," says Barbara Boyle, Sierra Club regional representative.

Staples Agrees to Enact New Forest Policy: The world's largest office supply store announced on November 12 that it would phase out paper products originating from endangered forests and increase its sales of recycled paper products. The move followed a two-year campaign led by the Sierra Student Coalition, ForestEthics, and others. Activists held more than 600 demonstrations, generated 15,000 postcards and thousands of letters and phone calls to Staples, filed a shareholder's resolution, and flew the Staples' CEO over clear-cuts in Tennessee.

Great Lakes Legacy Act Passes: President Bush signed the Great Lakes Legacy Act on November 27, authorizing \$260 million over the next five years for the monitoring, remediation, and prevention of sediment contamination in the Great Lakes. Decades of industrial pollution and growing housing and commercial developments have taken their toll on the lakes, which hold 18 percent of the world's fresh surface water. "This successful vote marks more than three years of effort to develop and pass this legislation by the Sierra Club, the Lake Michigan Federation, and others," says Emily Green, the Club's Great Lakes Director.

Victory for Big Sur Wilderness: On November 20, the U.S. Senate approved the Big Sur Wilderness and Conservation Act of 2002, which would protect as wilderness 56,880 acres of chaparral, grassy meadows, pines, oak woodlands, and old-growth redwoods on the Big Sur coast and in Pinnacles National Monument, including habitat for the endangered California condor and steelhead trout. President Bush is expected to sign the legislation, which will permanently ban off-road vehicles, logging, oil and gas drilling, and roadbuilding in these areas.



CHRISTINE PHILLIPS



MARIELLEN OMAN



JENNIFER RUDOLPH



PEGGIE GRIFFIN

Meeting and Greeting: Clockwise from top: Bernie Rose, chair of the Yellowstone Basin Group, enjoys a relaxed Earth Day in Billings, Montana. Bobbie Jo Skibo (far right with the paddle) and friends rally at the Chugach National Forest Service Headquarters in Anchorage, Alaska, to protest the Chugach Land Management Plan. In Alabama, Sierra Club member Carla Lee braves a rainy day to encourage passing motorists to support Joe Turnham for Congress. Club organizer Peggie Griffin poses with Turnham at a fundraiser, which was a huge success, even though it took place in the midst of Hurricane Isidore. In Seattle, ironing board volunteer Rachel Edicott spent Earth Day informing shoppers about the importance of preserving wilderness in Washington. In Virginia, Regional Representative Elise Annunziata holds a "No Road Tax" headless horseman jack-o-lantern as part of a successful effort to defeat a sales tax increase that would have largely gone to fund highway expansions.



JULY

23

Restoring America's Forests

WASHINGTON, D.C. • The Sierra Club releases "Restoring America's Forests: Protecting Habitat, Saving Streams and Generating Jobs in our National Forests," a report that highlights the benefits, as well as the challenges, of restoring our nation's treasured forests. For more information, go to www.sierraclub.org/logging/report02.



23

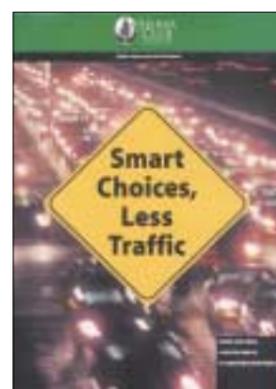
Population Aid Withheld

WASHINGTON, D.C. • The Bush administration announces that it will not contribute to the United Nations Population Fund, withholding a previously approved \$34 million in aid. The administration claims that the fund provides aid for forced abortions in China, although a State Department investigation found no evidence to support the claim.

30

Smart Choices, Less Traffic

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA • The Sierra Club releases "Smart Choices, Less Traffic," a report/map highlighting the best and worst local plans for alleviating traffic congestion and air pollution. For more information, go to www.sierraclub.org/sprawl/report02.



Becoming a Player

Sierra Club not just commenting on the news, but making it

BY ZACHARY ROTH
SIERRA CLUB MEDIA TEAM

"Feedlot Perils Outpace Regulations, Sierra Club Says"¹

"The Sierra Club Criticizes Ford's Chief in a Campaign for Fuel-Efficient Cars"²

"Sierra Club Assails Thune on Water Issues"³

We've all grown accustomed over the years to seeing the Club's name in print. But what's different about the three headlines above, as well as scores of others over the past year, is that now the Club isn't just commenting on the news, it's making it. Whether we were turning the environment into a key issue in Senate races around the country, challenging American automakers to build cleaner cars, or highlighting the dangers of factory farms, the media coverage the Club received reflected its status as a major player in a range of environmental stories throughout the year.

Of course, it's easier to attract media attention when you've got something positive to say. An October 7 article in *PRWeek* magazine commented that "the Sierra Club's message definitely speaks loudly, thanks to its solutions-driven focus which places people before protests."⁴ We're not above a good protest or two, but perhaps *PRWeek* was onto something here: fairly or not, environmentalists are often seen as being long on dire warnings of impending catastrophe, but short on practical solutions or alternatives. The more we present our work as positive, optimistic ideas for the future, rather than backward-looking attempts to cling to the past, the better we do in the battle for the hearts and minds of the American public. On a number of fronts, the Club's campaigns—and the media coverage they generated—reflected this understanding. Here are two examples:

When the timber industry got together with the Bush administration and a group of anti-environment lawmakers, to use this summer's spate of forest fires as an excuse to gut crucial forest protections, the Sierra Club responded. But though it stood firm against industry efforts to log vast new swathes of forest land, the Club also offered a proactive plan for the future, centered on the need to protect communities and

homes from the risk of fire.

The proposal was unveiled in Portland, Oregon, just 24 hours before the president introduced his own misleadingly-named "Healthy Forests" initiative. The Club's proposal generated a slew of headlines immediately. It helped the public understand that, unlike our proposal, the president's plan would allow logging in remote areas far from homes and communities, doing little to make people safer but a lot to line the pockets of the timber industry. When legislation based on the Bush administration's industry-friendly plan came before lawmakers this fall, our supporters in Congress opposed it. The struggle is far from over, but the crucial forest protections that "Healthy Forests" aimed to destroy are still in place.

A similar scenario unfolded in the fight for cleaner cars. When Congress caved to the auto industry and rejected raising fuel-economy standards earlier this year, the Sierra Club took matters into its own hands. In June we went to Detroit to tout the "Freedom Option Package"—a set of existing fuel-saving technologies that could quickly be added to most standard cars, trucks, and SUVs, and which would cut pollution, reduce our dangerous dependence on foreign oil, and save consumers money at the gas pump. The idea was that American automakers could keep offering their most popular and profitable models, while also giving consumers the choice to drive more fuel-efficient cars.

The Club's message registered concern not only with protecting the environment, but also with preserving jobs, offering more choices for consumers, easing our dependence on foreign oil, and ensuring that the U.S. auto industry keeps pace with fast-moving foreign competition. And that made it much harder for automakers to ignore the Club and the wave of media coverage the campaign received. Later in the summer, Ford announced that it would phase out its gas-guzzling Expedition, and hinted that it might not challenge a landmark auto emissions law in California. As with protecting our forests, we're getting farther with positive ideas and solutions than with protests and invective.

The Sierra Club's coverage in the news media accomplished other goals as well. The attention generated by our voter education campaigns established the Club as a significant player in several key election races this year. In Oregon, Colorado, and New Hampshire, candidates vied to see who could appear greener. It sometimes seemed that the environment was the only issue in the race, thanks in no small part to the Club's efforts. Often in these campaigns, we released paid television or radio spots which generated their own media



We Couldn't Have Said it Better Ourselves:

New York Times story on August 13 and follow-up editorial on August 30 help make the case for stronger animal factory standards.

coverage, earning a bigger bang for our buck than the ads alone.

This summer's World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg helped establish the Sierra Club around the world as the leading domestic critic of the Bush administration's dismissive approach to the Summit. President Bush didn't bother to attend, but the Club did, and was quoted widely in newspapers from Scotland to Australia. Our media work at the Summit conveyed to the rest of the world that there are Americans who understand that environmental progress and economic development could go hand in hand.

A wide range of Sierra Club issues, both local and national, received media attention this year. The amount and quality of the coverage the Club generates is a testament to the combined work of our many parts. Activists in the field—both volunteers and staff—are on the front-lines of the issues that make

headlines, and it's often thanks to their efforts that the Club's role is considered important in the first place.

And you must be doing something right when even your staunchest opponents are generating favorable publicity for you. After his proposal to destroy the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was decisively rejected, a frustrated Senator Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska) acknowledged in a televised interview: "What this really boiled down to was the power and influence of America's environmental community, and they frankly did not budge on this issue."⁵ Thanks, senator, we couldn't have put it better ourselves!

CITATIONS:

- 1 *New York Times*, 8/13/02
- 2 *New York Times*, 6/13/02
- 3 *Associated Press*, 9/5/02
- 4 *PRWeek*, 10/7/02
- 5 press conference, 4/19/02

Higman Awarded for Outstanding Philanthropy



The Sierra Club and The Sierra Club Foundation recognized Jim and Sue Higman for their outstanding philanthropy at the National Advisory Council's Donor Appreciation Dinner on November 15 in San Francisco.

The Higmans created a generous endowment for the Club's William E. Colby Memorial Library, which holds one of the largest collections of environmental and mountaineering literature in the United States. Contributions for the Colby are matched dollar-for-dollar by the Higman Endowment.

For information about planning a bequest or other gift, contact the Gift Planning staff at (415) 977-5639 or planned.giving@sierraclub.org.

AUGUST

6

Wrong Track for Trade

WASHINGTON, D.C. • President Bush signs "fast track" legislation giving U.S. presidents broad authority to negotiate global trade accords. Fast track will allow the Bush administration to extend NAFTA across the Western Hemisphere, and will prevent Congress from fixing future trade deals, even when they threaten the environment.

6

Balloons Banned

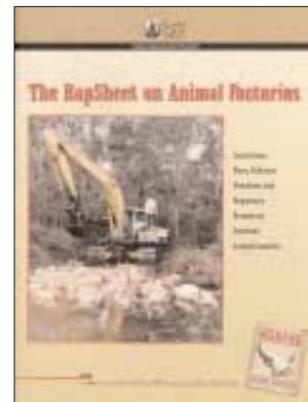
SETAUKET, NEW YORK • A class of Long Island third graders, with support from the Sierra Club, succeeds in getting legislators to ban the mass release of balloons in Suffolk County. The students took up the cause after discovering that stray balloons can be accidentally ingested by whales, dolphins, and other wildlife, leading to digestive problems and sometimes death for the animals.



13

Animal Factories Exposed

WASHINGTON, D.C. • The Sierra Club releases the "The RapSheet on Animal Factories," documenting convictions at corporate animal factories for animal cruelty, bribery, records destruction, fraud, worker endangerment, and pollution violations. See www.sierraclub.org/factoryfarms/rap sheets.



We the People

Our demands aren't so radical after all

BY JENNY COYLE

Yes—the anti-environmental Bush administration has control of the Senate and the House and, before long, will control the top federal judiciary as well.

But take heart! Environmental forces still have The People. Polls show that when it comes to the environment, people line up behind the Sierra Club, not the Bush administration. Turns out it's not so radical after all to want clean air, clean water, and healthy forests.

Ask Wyatt Earp, director of fleet management for the Marion County Sheriff's Office in Florida. (Yes, he's related to the Wyatt Earp of old West lore; the original was his great-great-uncle.)

When gas-electric hybrid vehicles hit the market, Earp did some cost analysis to see whether it would be a good idea to pay a little more up front for a car that gets superior mileage. The answer?

"It zeros out when you factor in that you'll have the car for five or six years and run it for 100,000 miles," he said. "It costs a little more to start with, but operating expenses are less. Plus, we're working for the environment and showing people that we don't need to be so dependent on foreign oil. We want to make a statement that we can be more self-contained than we are."

Mind you, the four Toyota Prius vehicles used by the department are not patrolling the streets or engaging in high-speed chases. Rather, they're being used to deliver subpoenas, transfer prisoners, and run administrative errands.

The real star of the fleet, however, is

the Prius that serves as the department's "Homeland Security Patrol." Trained civilians use it to cruise the county checking out bridges, pipelines, and other potential terrorist targets, ever on the watch for signs of tampering.

"We work to conserve as much energy as we can—that's our obligation to the American people," said Earp. "We spend taxpayers' money wisely, and that means we don't run experiments. We've got a good car here. Hopefully American car companies will offer something similar, soon."

Earp has been working with the Sierra Club to promote the use of hybrids. In fact, at this year's Florida Sheriffs Association conference in Tampa, he invited Darden Rice, the Club's global warming and energy organizer in Florida, to speak to the crowd.

Meanwhile, in South Carolina, organizer Virginia Sanders found herself almost getting arrested for promoting something basic, but apparently a radical idea to some: free speech.

Sanders and others had gathered with rally signs at the Columbia Metropolitan Airport in South Carolina one day in late October when President Bush was scheduled to fly in. They set themselves up in an area where they were sure Bush would see them. "Our message," said Sanders, "was in support of clean air—you know, a really wild idea."

As they stood waiting, some security people approached and ordered them to move to a designated area that they later learned was one mile down the road in a location where President Bush would not see them. They refused to budge, and the security folks got testy. They brought in Secret Service agents who informed Sanders and the others that they had to move because that area was not "a free-speech zone."



You Have the Right to Get Good Mileage:

For Wyatt Earp, director of fleet management for Marion County Sheriff's Department in Florida, purchasing fuel-efficient hybrid vehicles and reducing dependence on oil make sense for the environment—and the county budget.

Sanders was aghast.

"Well I thought the whole country was a free-speech zone," she said to the agent. "In fact, I'll bet my husband, a permanently disabled Vietnam vet, thinks the whole country is a free-speech zone, too. And I'll bet my brother does, too—he's missing an arm from his service in Korea."

This did not sway the agent, who insisted that Sanders leave or risk arrest. Sanders didn't mind risking arrest, but wasn't familiar with the Sierra Club policy on civil disobedience. So she got on her cell phone and tried to call her supervisor to ask whether it was OK with the Sierra Club for her to get arrested. He wasn't there. So she called his supervisor, who also was not there. (Sierra Club policy is to use "all lawful means.")

Sanders put her phone away and turned to the agent.

"I want you to know," she said, "that I'm a child of the civil rights era, and I've been arrested more times than you have toes on your feet and fingers on your hands, but I'm not getting arrested today."

Meanwhile, miles and miles away on the Lolo National Forest in Montana, where the Sierra Club is conducting a citizen inventory of roadless areas, conservation organizer Bob Clark relies on the help of 35 local citizens—only five of whom started as Club members. Most are just local residents who "get it."

Clark gives the volunteers maps of the area to be inventoried, and either sends them off on their own or tags along. They walk the perimeter of the area looking for old and new roads, off-road-vehicle trails, and signs of wildlife, whether they be footprints, scat, or the animal itself.

"People care about the land, and they're committed and willing to spend their valuable time working to protect these areas whether or not they're affiliated with an environmental organization," said Len Broberg, conservation chair for the Montana Chapter. "Regular folks understand how special—and vulnerable—these places are."

Energy Bill

[FROM P. 3]

Military Advisory Committee Chairman of *truemajority.com*, urging automakers to do their part to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil by manufacturing more fuel-efficient vehicles.

"We ask our young men and women to sacrifice their safety and perhaps their lives to fight the war against terrorism," said Kerrey in the ad. "We all know that our dependence on imported oil is part of the problem and we know that increasing the fuel economy of the cars we drive is part of the solution."

The radio ads targeted Ford Chairman Bill Ford, who has publicly declared his commitment to improve his company's environmental performance.

By this time, the Club's primary goal had become killing the energy bill outright. To hasten the demise of the bill in conference, and to highlight the damage it would do to the environment, the Club released "The Bill That Industry Bought" in September, showing how much various energy companies paid Congress and what Congress was likely to give them in return. For example, in return for the \$13.3 million that the top oil and gas industry players contributed to Congress, they stood to reap \$14.8 billion from the House energy bill and \$4.6 billion from the Senate bill. (See www.sierraclub.org/politics/lobbying.)

So, what did the Club get for all its time, money, grassroots pressure, and intensive lobbying? "These are difficult political times," says Dan Lavery, who works on public lands issues in the Club's Washington, D.C., office. "One of our top priorities is that bad bills don't get passed. We had three options staring us in the face: the House bill, the Senate bill, or no bill. We ended up with by far the best of the three. We stopped a bad bill from becoming law, and that's a big victory."

He pointed as well to the bipartisan majority that opposed Arctic drilling. "The fight is going to get harder now that Bush allies are in complete control of Congress, but our strategy isn't going to change. We have to stay disciplined, rebut the administration hype about the Arctic, and insist on increasing fuel efficiency and raising renewable portfolio standards."

Debbie Boger says the Club will probably put together its own energy plan to present to the next Congress, but she expects mostly to be playing defense at the federal level. "The House will almost certainly come up with a bill similar to the one they had last year, and the Senate will likely try again to open up the Arctic to drilling. We're going to have to fight to keep our 52 votes against Arctic drilling, and to stop any attempts to weaken fuel economy or ignore renewable energy."

"But we can make significant, important gains at the state and local level," she says. "Most elected officials ran on a pro-environment platform this election, so the work of Club volunteers and activists will be more important than ever. Our biggest job next year will be taking the truth to the public."



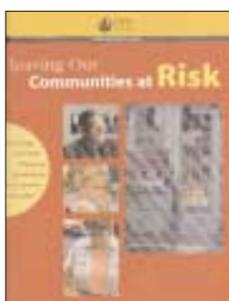
Listen Up: As part of the Public Lands Action Summit in Washington, D.C., in March, Sierra Student Coalition members rally at the Capitol to save the Arctic and promote clean energy.

SEPTEMBER

26

Communities At Risk

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA • The Sierra Club releases "Leaving Our Communities At Risk," which profiles 25 communities being left at risk by Bush administration policies that expose Americans to asthma-triggering soot, growth-retarding lead, cancer-causing arsenic, and other contaminants.



28

Common Cause

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA • On the 31st anniversary of National Hunting and Fishing Day, the Sierra Club launches a Web page dedicated to exploring the allied interests of environmentalists and hunters and anglers, all of whom are interested in conservation and habitat protection.



28

Community Power

ATLANTA, GEORGIA • The Club's Georgia Energy Project launches its Community Green Power Program with a party celebrating a new solar photovoltaic system at a local community-owned natural foods market. The event generates 70 signed postcards asking the governor to clean up dirty power plants and 12 new prospects for Community Green Power Programs.



Unmasking Pretenders

Voter education campaign shines light on candidates, keeps environment in voters' sights

BY TOM VALTIN

Does greenscamming work? Wayne Allard did it in Colorado, and he prevailed in November's Senate election despite a full-court press by the Sierra Club to refute his claims. In addition to Allard, candidates with poor environmental records and values spray-painted themselves green this November in New Hampshire, North Carolina, and Oregon.

"The good news," said Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope, "is that never before have so many people been elected to Congress claiming to care about the air, the water, and the land. The bad news is that an unprecedented number of them didn't mean it."

Greenscamming is simple—you say you're for environmental protection, but you act and vote otherwise. The tactic demonstrates that no candidate for public office wants to be perceived as weak on the environment.

The Sierra Club's Environmental Voter Education Campaign (EVEC), begun in 1998, serves as an environmental lie detector, unmasking pretenders and holding elected officials accountable for their positions. EVEC's mission is not to elect or defeat candidates, but to promote the environmental agenda and make it a central campaign issue.

EVEC operated in Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, and South Dakota in 2002. "Voters want to know where the candidates stand on protecting clean air, safe water, and beautiful places," says Margaret Conway, the Club's political director, "and they trust their neighbors in the Sierra Club to give them the scoop. Our dedicated army of grassroots volunteers sends a powerful message to big polluters: 'You have more money, but we've got more heart, and we'll make our message heard.'"

The most flagrant greenscammer this year was Senator Allard, who consistently receives ratings of near zero from the League of Conservation Voters, which ranks him among the Senate's "Dirty Dozen."

Locked in a tight race this fall, Allard decided it would be a good tactic to tout himself as an environmentalist. In September, his chief of staff told the *Denver Post* that Allard was an "honorary member of the Sierra Club." Club employees pored over membership records, found the claim was untrue, and told the *Post* "no such thing." But the Allard campaign stuck with their claim.

With more sleuthing, it was discovered that Allard had once received a standard form letter inviting him to join the Sierra Club, which included a clip-out "temporary membership" card that would become valid upon receipt of the \$35 membership fee. Allard opted not to send in \$35, but he did clip out the card, which he brandished during this fall's campaign as proof that he had been "honored" by the Club.

Colorado organizer Deb Robison prepared a tongue-in-cheek tip sheet, "Top Ten Ways to Tell That You Are Not Actually a Member of the Sierra Club," which ran in Denver's *Rocky Mountain News* and was the talk of the town for days (see sidebar).

Turns out Club Executive Director Pope had received a similar form letter and dummy membership card from the Republican Party as a result of contributing money to Senator Lincoln Chaffee (R-R.I.). The Republican Party sent him a thank-you letter, a request for more



Truth Squad: From left to right, Amy Schlotthauer, Christina Sanchez, Steve Welter, Rebecca Dickson, and Deb Robison get psyched to hit the streets on the Colorado voter education campaign. At right, Sierra Club activists in Atlanta shine the spotlight on the voting record of Senate candidate Saxby Chambliss (R).



funds, and an ersatz membership card identifying Pope as "one of the leaders of the Republican Party."

At a September press conference, Allard's campaign manager trumpeted his candidate's green credentials, asserting anew that Allard had been honored by the Sierra Club. The plot thickened two days later at a Club press event—attended by members of the Allard campaign—when Pope pulled out his Republican Party "membership" card.

"I have been identified as a leader in the Republican Party," Pope proclaimed, "and I will trade this for Senator Allard's honorary membership in the Sierra Club." Angry words ensued as Allard's campaign manager—who had arrived with a "dossier" on Pope that he refused to let Pope see—claimed that Pope was just bitter because "we nailed your ass to the wall." At this point Robison suggested to Pope that it might be a good time to leave.

"The day after the election, I actually felt really good about the job we did in Colorado," Robison says. "I don't think Wayne Allard convinced voters he was an environmentalist; voters just had other priorities this year. But it's a big deal that the Allard campaign felt we were a big deal. Sierra Club groups around the state have been receiving phone calls from people wanting to join. We energized our base."

A similar scenario played out in New Hampshire, where candidate John Sununu claimed that he was committed to protecting the environment even though his record as a member of the House suggested otherwise. During a September broadcast on New Hampshire Public Radio, when asked about his support for drilling in the Arctic, Sununu replied that "the bear population enjoys walking on [oil pipelines] because it gives them a better vantage point as a scavenger and a predator." The New Hampshire Sierra Club responded, "No polar bears could be reached for comment."

Laura Scott, former Seacoast Group chair for the Club's New Hampshire Chapter, volunteered for New Hampshire EVEC this year. "We succeeded in making the environment one of the top issues in the campaign," she says. "It was always the second or third issue brought up at campaign events, both by voters and by the candidates."

Chapter volunteers attended county fairs, festivals, parades, old-home days—anyplace the public and the candidates were gathered—and handed out literature. "Sometimes a couple of us would go in polar bear suits," Scott says. "Sununu would be working the crowd with a big smile on his face, and then he'd see the polar bears coming his way and the smile would vanish."

Scott feels the strategy paid off, even though Sununu's

Top Ten Ways to Tell That You Are Not Actually a Member of the Sierra Club

(Sierra Club press release, reprinted in Denver's *Rocky Mountain News*)

10. Upon further inspection, you realize you're actually a member of the fan club for Seattle Mariners' outfielder Ruben Sierra.*
9. You oppose holding polluters responsible for their messes. (Bond Amendment to S. 1731, 12/13/01)
8. You think Birkenstocks are where Germans invest their 401(k)s.*
7. You vote to allow unlimited mining waste dumping on public lands. (S.Amdt. 1360 to H.R. 2466, Vote #223, 7/27/99)
6. Your favorite pillow is stuffed with feathers from an endangered red-cockaded woodpecker.*
5. You vote to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (S. 517, Vote #71, 4/18/02; S.Amdt. 2955 to S. Con. Res. 101, Vote #58, 4/6/00)
4. You try to attend a Sierra Club meeting by flashing your collection of Sierra Nevada Pale Ale bottle caps.*
3. You consistently vote against clean air. (Amendment to H.R. 2099, 7/31/95; H.R. 2099, 11/2/95; Corzine Amendment to H. Con. Res. 83, 4/5/01; Jeffords Amendment S.A. 3017, 3/14/02)
2. You do your part to combat global warming by leaving your air conditioning on and your windows open.*
1. Your name is Senator Wayne Allard.

Items marked with * not intended to represent the actions of Wayne Allard. All others based on votes made by the senator.

opponent Jean Shaheen—by far the more environment-friendly candidate—lost. "A year ago, Sununu would never have called himself an environmentalist," she says, "but by this fall that's exactly what he was doing."

"New Hampshire is a conservative state," Scott explains, "but I met a lot of people—hunters, for instance—who don't call themselves 'environmentalists,' but who support what the Club stands for. People were with us in opposing sprawl, stopping highway expansion, and keeping the Arctic free from drilling. And nearly everyone considers air and water quality a big issue."

More than 1,200 volunteers were involved with EVEC this year, and even though election day brought disappointing results, their experience was that the environment is more important to American voters than ever. New Hampshire's Laura Scott sums up the prevailing attitude: "I'm excited about what we did this year," she says. "We laid the groundwork for the next cycle."

OCTOBER

7
Club Praised

NEW YORK, NEW YORK • A *PRWeek* article calls the Sierra Club "the most powerful and influential solutions-based nonprofit environmental organization in the country."

19
Wild Places, Open Spaces Auction

DENVER, COLORADO • The Rocky Mountain Chapter holds its 3rd Annual Wild Places/Open Spaces Auction, attracting 175 guests and netting \$24,000 for the chapter. (Larry Mehlhaff, left, and Greg Casini, now the proud co-owners of a Pike National Forest sign, pose with Sierra Club President Jennifer Ferenstein.)



MATTHEW LANCASTER, REMARKABLE EARTH PHOTOGRAPHY

31
Trick or Vote?

DENVER, COLORADO • Ten thousand Denver children go trick or treating, but instead of just asking for candy, they also ask their neighbors to vote. The event, along with massive canvass walks across the country on November 1, is part of Vote for Children, a non-partisan initiative sponsored by the Service Employees International Union Education and Support Fund and the Sierra Club to involve kids in the political process while striving to increase voter participation.



NOVEMBER

6
Hogs on Drugs

SHAWNEE MISSION, KANSAS • The Sierra Club submits a shareholder resolution requesting that the Board of Seaboard Corporation review and report on the company's use of antibiotics in its hog production facilities and those of its suppliers. The resolution further calls for a plan to produce and source livestock grown without the nontherapeutic use of medically important antibiotics.

'Aren't We the Lucky Ones?'

Inner City Outings program plants seeds, inspires tears

BY LI MIAO

Six months into his training as a youth leader, 16-year-old Chris Nicholson moved from the back of the pack to lead an inner-city youth group on a dayhike in the Catskills. Seeing his determination, adult volunteers from Sierra Club's Inner City Outings Program (ICO) had "tears in their eyes," according to ICO organizer Kate Purcell.

An all-volunteer program, ICO provides outdoor experiences and cultivates leadership skills among urban youth who might not otherwise have these opportunities. With 46 groups in the U.S. and Canada, ICO logged 863 trips this year with kids from inner-city schools and youth agencies.

In New York, the volunteer pool has tripled in size since September 11, 2001. Youth agency demand for ICO trips is high, but the New York group can only take on a handful of additional agencies each year given the ongoing relationship it develops with agency staff and kids. Some agencies, like the Family Academy of Harlem and the Floating Hospital of New York City, have been involved with ICO for more than a decade through partnerships developed by ICO leaders Marc Becker and Ray Greenwell, respectively. For its work with the children of incarcerated mothers, the New York ICO group won an Outstanding Service Award from the Women's Prison Association.

This past October, the group organized its first annual hike-a-thon in upstate New York, involving more than 200 participants and big-name sponsors like Patagonia and The North Face. More than \$10,000 was raised, all of which will go directly toward operating costs for future ICO trips.

Green Guides is a program developed by Kate Purcell to teach leadership and wilderness skills to teenagers from agencies that partner with the New York ICO group. With relatively few faces among the volunteer leadership resembling their clientele of African American, Latino, and Asian youth, adult ICO volunteers are working with teens like Chris Nicholson to train the next generation of leaders.

"We're hoping that when they're out in the real world, they'll stay involved and become ICO leaders," said Craig Meisner, New York ICO co-chair.

The Miami ICO group has also developed a Youth Leader Program, with the long-term goal of drawing leaders from the communities being served. Youngsters in this program receive training in backpacking, canoeing, and navigation skills, as well as guidance from adult mentors. Since its inception last spring, the program has involved youth leaders closely in the decision-making process.

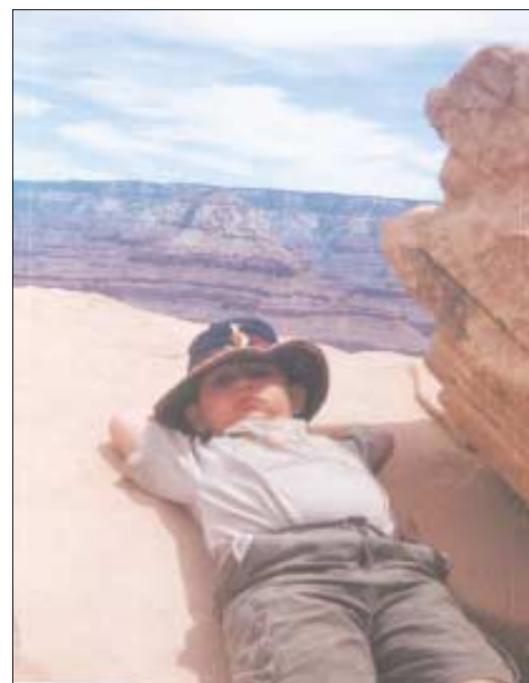
"Not only are the kids learning, but the adults are learning, too—about all the ways that kids communicate," remarked Mark Walters, one of the mentors in the Youth Leader Program.

ICO groups in Florida have been highly responsive to the particular needs of the region. Drowning is a leading cause of death among children in Miami, so ICO leaders obtained a grant to provide swimming lessons for kids from two youth agencies. After completing the first class, the 12 "pollywogs" and 4 "guppies" who participated opted to continue taking lessons.

The five Florida ICO groups serve a diverse popula-



ALESSANDRA V. BRESCHINI



A Long Way from Home: Clockwise from top: On a trip organized by New Haven ICO, students from New Haven Co-op High School enjoy a scenic view of the Adirondacks in northern New York. A young participant on a Tucson ICO trip kicks back at the Grand Canyon. New York ICO participants celebrate a successful trek up Bear Mountain in Harriman State Park, New York.

tion that includes African American, Cuban, Nicaraguan, and Puerto Rican youth, among others. In Orlando, participants' parents are often migrant workers from Mexico and Central America.

The Florida ICO program has adopted Highlands Hammock State Park, with an ICO-designated trail that has been maintained by ICO youth and leaders since the first service project there in November 2001. Other service trips have included river cleanups on Earth Day, non-native plant removal, and the planting of mangrove seedlings at Virginia Key, just south of Miami Beach.

Across the country, ICO groups have collaborated within their regions to organize more extensive trips called IntraRegional Outings. For example, in the Southwest, ICO participants from several locales visited Guadalupe Mountains National Park in Texas and Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico. Groups in the Western Region journeyed together through five ecosystems along the coast of California, learning camping and photography skills along the way.

In the Midwest Region, ICO leader John Pulver "acted as a cheerleader" to keep everyone involved during the planning process. Groups from six Midwestern

states and Toronto, Ontario, met in Chicago, carpooled 400 miles, then sailed to Michigan's Isle Royale National Park in Lake Superior. Besides weathering a stormy canoe trip their first day on the island, participants hiked and camped, learned from park rangers and wildlife specialists, and were delirious upon sighting their first moose at base camp.

Deborah Rudy, the Mid-Atlantic representative on the ICO steering committee, helped develop the IntraRegional Outings program, and hopes to expand it to more regions. "It's a massive undertaking," says Rudy of the ICO leaders who plan these trips. "It's an incredible person who gives up tremendous amounts of personal time to do this."

This kind of dedication was recognized by the Sierra Club when it honored Allison Chin with the 2002 One Club Award. A volunteer in the Loma Prieta Chapter since 1988, Chin served on the national steering committee for eight years.

"We are motivated by 'planting seeds' and do not necessarily expect to see the changes that we hope will grow from our efforts," says Chin. "So aren't we the lucky ones to witness the payoff time and again!"

For more information, see www.sierraclub.org/ico.

9

Anniversary Party

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE • The New Hampshire Chapter celebrates its tenth anniversary. Chapter member John Schlosser volunteers his doo-wop band, the Fondtones, to entertain the crowd during a party held in the courtyard of the chapter office.



20

WWJD?

DETROIT, MICHIGAN • A delegation of religious leaders delivers an open letter to Ford, GM, and Chrysler, urging them to build cleaner, more efficient cars. The Pennsylvania-based Evangelical Environmental Network attracts national attention to the cause by asking the question, "What Would Jesus Drive?"

21

Wal-Mart Day of Action

WASHINGTON, D.C. • The Sierra Club lends its support to a Day of Action against Wal-Mart, organized by the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. Participants call on Wal-Mart to be a responsible corporate citizen that shows respect for the environment and the rights of workers, consumers, and communities.



11

Give Peace A Chance

WASHINGTON, D.C. • The Sierra Club announces the creation of a coalition of civic, environmental, and faith organizations in support of a peaceful, diplomatic solution to the Iraq crisis. Members of the coalition, called Win Without War, include the National Council of Churches, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Organization for Women, Working Assets, and MoveOn.org.

Ten Reasons Things Aren't as Bad as They Seem

1. Americans support environmental values.

By a two-to-one margin, a *New York Times*/CBS News poll (November 29, 2002) found that Americans say that protecting the environment is more important than producing energy.

2. Campaign finance reform kicked in on November 6.

When the polls closed at midnight on November 5, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, which will prevent polluting industries from dumping unlimited "soft money" into electoral campaigns, went into effect. The law, which passed in March, is a critical first step toward giving power back to voters.

3. Demand for hybrid cars soars.

Toyota has already sold more than 100,000 Priuses, and a recent auto industry survey found that 60 percent of consumers were considering hybrids for their next car.

4. Wind energy is becoming economically competitive with coal.

According to Stanford University energy experts Mark Z. Jacobson and Gilbert M. Masters (*Science*, August 24, 2001), "The direct cost of energy from large wind turbines has dropped to 3 to 4 cents per kilowatt-hour, comparable with that from new pulverized-coal power plants. Given that health and environmental costs of coal are another 2 to 4.3 cents per kilowatt-hour, wind energy is unequivocally less expensive than is coal energy."

5. BP backs off from Arctic.

In November, the largest oil producer in Alaska, BP, withdrew from Arctic Power, a lobbying group dedicated to oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

6. 'Loathsome' energy bill dies in committee.

The House bill included drilling in the Arctic and billions in tax breaks to the fossil fuel industries. The Senate bill spared the Arctic and promised fewer tax breaks, but was still a huge step backward. Any marriage of these bills would have increased pollution and the nation's dependence on oil.

7. The last time anti-environmental Republicans took over Congress, they squandered their 'mandate.'

House Speaker Newt Gingrich launched his ambitious "Contract With America" in early 1995, which would have dismantled decades' worth of environmental protection. By the end of the year, his campaign had sputtered and only a fraction of it became law.

8. The Kyoto Protocol is on the verge of ratification.

In December, Canada and New Zealand signed the Kyoto Protocol, bringing the total to 98 countries, contributing 40.7 percent of greenhouse emissions. The Kyoto Protocol becomes law when a minimum of 55 countries covering at least 55 percent of 1990 greenhouse gas emissions have ratified it. Despite the U.S. refusal to sign it, it will take effect when Russia, which has promised to ratify, signs it in 2003.



9. The Sierra Club is strong.

PRWeek named the Sierra Club "the most powerful and influential solutions-based nonprofit environmental organization in the country." With more than 700,000 members in 66 chapters and 355 groups and a \$70 million budget, the Sierra Club is solvent, stable, and ready to climb into the ring for the next round.

10. The Sierra Club is attracting young people.

The Sierra Student Coalition has more than 20,000 members and is active on more than 100 campuses. The SSC's organizing training programs have trained hundreds of high school and college students in activism, many of whom have become volunteer leaders of the Club.

— JOHN BYRNE BARRY

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www.sierraclub.org/planet

By the Numbers

8 Estimated miles per gallon GM's Hummer H1 gets in city driving. The Toyota Prius gets 52. For information on the Club's Auto Accountability Campaign, go to www.sierraclub.org/freedompackage.

40 Percentage of U.S. waterways that do not meet current EPA standards.

54 U.S. senators who voted to reject oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. See page 3 for more on the energy bill.

55 Eight-hour days the average American driver spends behind the wheel each year. See page 6 for more on the sprawl campaign.

863 Inner City Outings trips led in 2002 by 46 groups in the United States and Canada. See page 11 for more on ICO.

1,000 Grizzly bears left in the wild in the continental United States.

75,000 Public comments (the most ever received) on the Northern Plains Grasslands Management Plan, helping to secure new wilderness recommendations.

1,352,100 Voters reached by the Sierra Club's voter education campaign in the 11 states in which it was active in 2002. See page 10 for more on voter education.

2.5 million Hogs killed by a single industrial operation in one year, creating waste output greater than the entire city of Los Angeles.

13 million Dollars contributed to members of Congress by the oil and gas industry, which would have received tax breaks worth \$14.8 billion if the energy bill had passed.

14 million Americans using public transportation on a typical weekday.

1 billion Adolescents worldwide who are entering their peak productive years.

6 billion Current world population, which represents a doubling of people in the past 40 years.



Across the Water: Participants on a Raleigh ICO trip check out the sights.

—JOHN LYONS-GOULD

one-minute activist

Clip and send the coupon at right, or better yet, write your own letter to your representative:

Rep. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Or call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121

Enforce the Clean Air Act, Don't Weaken It

Dear Representative _____

The nation's air is far cleaner than it was when the Clean Air Act became law in 1970, but more than 170 million Americans still breathe air that doesn't meet health-based standards. The good news is that we have proven, readily available technology to clean up old power plants, refineries, and factories.

But the Bush administration's announcement in November that it would weaken the New Source Review provision of the Clean Air Act won't protect communities from increases in pollution linked to asthma, heart disease, and premature death. New Source Review requires older factories to install modern pollution control technology when they make a change that increases pollution.

I urge you to hold town hall meetings in your district about the potential consequences of weakening the Clean Air Act.

Please work to enforce the Clean Air Act, not weaken it.

Sincerely,

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

