

**POLITICALLY CORRECT HIRING**

Recently noted on ABC-TV's 20/20 program concerning job postings at the U.S. Forest Service: "Only unqualified applicants will be considered" and also that "Only applicants who do not meet standards will be considered". The Forest service, although initially denying the reports, finally admitted to them when copies of the notices were produced. The Service, in a statement indicated that the notices were part of a program for employees occupying "upward mobility positions," ie. training positions for people with ability but a lack of formal training. *SHARE January 1995*

**FAT CAT SUPREME**

In 1991, federal civilian employees earned 26% more, on average, than workers in the private sector, according to the American Legislative Exchange Council. When benefits and perks are included, federal employees earn 45% more. The disparity is not as great between the private sector and state and local governments, but it is still apparent. State and local government workers earn 5% more in salaries, and 10% more with benefits included. *CEI Update, Feb 1995*

**CATTLE GUARDS**

According to an article in the *Billings Gazette*, President Clinton learned there were 100,000 cattle guards in Colorado. Since Clinton was so upset with ranchers' protests over his grazing policies, he told Interior Secretary Babbitt to fire half the guards immediately. [Note: cattle guards are fences used to contain the critters to certain roads, etc. They come in 8', 10', 12', 14', and 18' widths.] Before Babbitt could proceed with the President's wishes, Colorado Rep. Pat Schroeder intervened with a request that, before they were fired, they should be given 6 months retraining.

**SADDAM HUSSEIN WETLANDS MANAGER**

In 1972, there were 5,200 sq km of wetlands in southern Iraq. Now only 10% of the standing water is left, as shown by CIA satellite photos. After diverting the water supply, the military started a scorched earth policy of burning the remaining vegetation, in order to deprive rebels of sanctuary. (*Intelligence Digest 10/7/94*). *Where are Audubon, Greenpeace and the Wilderness Society on this one?*

**NMFS APPROVES SEA LION EXECUTIONS**

The National Marine Fisheries Service has given the state of Washington permission to kill California sea lions to protect Steelhead that swim through Seattle's Ballard ship locks. Just another case of endangered eating endangered. I guess federal officials should have instituted an education program for the sea lions to give them approved menu choices

**PLAYING GOD**

"As America frets about losing the war to save wilderness and endangered species, it is worth keeping this message in mind: Playing God isn't for sissies Saving one creature risks others. Protecting sea lions kills salmon. Maximizing wolves minmizes moose. Deer sanctuaries are death on wildflowers."— Alston Chase

**WALK A MILE IN MY SHOES.**

"Until you have faced the very real fear of having a cougar prowling your property, you have no right to say they should be not be controlled by whatever means it takes ... I think if the animal rights people are so worried about these cougars and bears becoming extinct, then they should come out and walk around with a can of tuna fish and convince them (the bears and cougars) to eat that instead of somebody's nice fat sheep, calf, goat, cow, chicken or even a child." Phoebe A. Ericson in a letter to the editor of *The World*, Coos Bay, OR 1/19/95.

**LOGGING PROTESTORS CONVICTED**

Three University of Maine students were convicted March 24, 1995 for "Earth First" style protests against logging activities in Mt. Blue State Park stemming from actions taken against Timberlands Inc. On March 8. One of the women locked herself to the steering wheel of a log truck as it was being loaded. Deputies were called, and hacksawed the wheel to arrest her, after which the others climbed into the truck. All three were charged and taken to the Franklin County Jail. In the trial the judge stated that "the women had interfered with the logger's right to an honest days work." In his closing remarks Judge O'Connor told the women that "any further activity of this nature should be punished more harshly, because they had interfered with someone's ability to work and feed his children."

**ECO-BWANA**

According to a blurb in *Common Ground* (a green newsletter published by the Conservation Fund) We now can experience politically-correct hunting ... of elephants no less! It seems that, for those of you who want to experience the "thrill of an elephant hunt," but not hurt the giants in the process, there are approved humane safaris available. The trick here is to "splat hunt." The objective is to hit the elephant between the eyes with a paint pellet, filled of course with environmentally-sound, water soluble vegetable dye. If this sounds degrading to the elephant, Safari Guide assures us in a *New York Times* interview that it is "far more degrading to get a .458 bullet through the brain." *I don't know about you folks, but having hunted a good part of my life (although not for elephant), I kinda doubt that shooting a paint pellet between a bull elephant's eyes from 25 yards would be worth the thrill .... but then again maybe this could decrease the enviro-wacko population.*

**TIME OF RECKONING**

The sub head of a March 23 *L.A. Times* article confirms what we have thought all along: "Environmental groups are paper tigers as Congress clubs the Endangered Species Act." Alexander Cockburn (a decidedly green scribe) railed against his comrades in the Environmental Industry as he described a meeting of 40 top enviro organizers and Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) after the greens had suffered two back to back defeats. Sen. Reid explained that "the vaunted organizing and lobby power of the mainstream environmental organizations had turned out to be a sham. There was no tornado of letters, faxes, phone calls, and personal visits to intimidate a foe or stiffen the spine of a waverer." Cockburn observed, "In the crunch, they had no troops to muster." His closing statement reaffirms what we have said all along, "The national green organizers can't deal with the populist charges from the right and left that they care little about the impact the laws they sponsor have on the lives and livelihoods of ordinary people. They can't deal with the charges because they are true. Now the time of reckoning is upon them."

♣ - Articles mentioned above are available from Land Rights Archive.