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Bringing endangered wildlife 'Back from the Brink'

When Hurricane Andrew slammed into the Florida Keys in 1992, it wiped out all but 17 endangered Schaus swallowtail butterflies—all of them male. The species seemed doomed, but for zoologist Thomas Emmel. Just weeks before, Dr. Emmel had collected 100 Schaus swallowtail eggs for captive propagation, meaning that the world's largest surviving population of Schaus swallowtails was in his University of Florida lab. "We felt every butterfly, every pupae, was precious," says Emmel.

Today some 350 Schaus swallowtails live in the wild. Most are in Biscayne National Park in the northern Keys, cut off from tropical hardwood



Mitt Putnam

The Schaus swallowtail is large and showy, with a wingspan of about four inches. It can stop in midair and fly backward to avoid predators, an ability rare in butterflies.

habitat further south by resorts and other developments. To help the butterfly return to its native habitat throughout the Keys, Emmel turned to private landowners. He used the Safe Harbor program pioneered by Environmental Defense to convince golf courses and residential communities to welcome the butterfly without fear of new land-use restrictions. Our Center for Conservation Incentives then provided a grant to help landowners create habitat.

The effort is part of our new *Back from the Brink* campaign to restore endangered species nationwide. The Endangered Species Act has sparked some impressive recoveries, including the resurgence of the grey wolf and the peregrine falcon. But too few of the 1200 listed species are improving.

REPRIEVE FROM EXTINCTION

Private landowners are essential to turning the tide. We have identified 15 species that can be restored through relatively simple conservation steps undertaken



Your support can help these species survive:

- Black-capped vireo
- Bog turtle
- California red-legged frog
- Delmarva fox squirrel
- Gopher tortoise
- Houston toad
- Nene (or Hawaiian goose)
- Northern aplomado falcon
- Red-cockaded woodpecker
- Schaus swallowtail butterfly
- Schweintz's sunflower
- Southwestern willow flycatcher
- Tennessee purple coneflower
- Utah prairie dog
- Valley elderberry longhorn beetle

Please see
Cover Story, p. 2

Keeping the Endangered Species Act strong



Peering over the edge of a cliff in Alaska's Denali National Park, my sons and I glimpsed a golden eagle feeding its young. This shared experi-

ence from a decade ago is one of my most cherished memories as a father. As a boy, I had seen these magnificent birds only in zoos, their very survival in doubt.

Thirty years ago, President Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act, making the protection of America's wildlife a national concern. "Nothing is more priceless and more worthy of preservation," the White House declared, "than the rich array of animal life with which

our country has been blessed."

Today we can take heart in some dramatic recoveries. The grey wolf, icon of the western wilderness, has been restored to Yellowstone, and birds of prey like the bald eagle, once threatened by DDT (the focus of our first lawsuit), are again soaring high.

To protect wildlife, we need strong laws and willing hands.

Environmental Defense is proud to have played a role. But many species still hang by a thread. Most depend on private lands, where the benefits of the Endangered Species Act have been incomplete: The law prevents direct

harm to species, but does little to encourage actions to help them. That's why our new Back from the Brink campaign, with its variety of incentives, is so timely (*See story, p. 1*). Our experience shows that private landowners can be inspired to improve wildlife habitat voluntarily.

At the same time, we must protect the Endangered Species Act itself, for its opponents in Congress aim to bring about its death by a thousand cuts. By expanding partnerships with private landowners, we will not merely stop the clock on destruction, but actually spur recovery. I can't think of a better way to broaden support for the Endangered Species Act.

COVER STORY: Nationwide initiative assists wildlife

Continued from page 1

together with private landowners, such as nurturing native plants or fencing off habitat. From a vintner in California to a tree farmer in Mississippi, landowners are rising to the challenge.

"The endangered species list should not be a nursing home, where species wait out the rest of their days. Recovery

efforts can help get wildlife off the list and thriving," says our wildlife specialist Margaret McMillan.

To build momentum for restoration, we will ask President Bush to acknowledge the success of the Endangered Species Act by taking the bald eagle off the endangered list, a step

that President Clinton proposed in 1999. One of the earliest animals to be placed on the list, the bald eagle, has rebounded with more than 7,600 breeding pairs in the lower 48 states, up from fewer than 500.

"It's time to declare victory for America's most treasured animal," says our attorney Michael Bean.

"The bald eagle's recovery shows that with concerted efforts, we can bring other ailing species back from the brink."



MORE ON THE WEB: To send a message to the White House asking the president to delist the bald eagle and for more information on helping endangered species, visit www.backfromthebrink.org.



The endangered northern aplomado falcon has returned to Texas, thanks to Safe Harbor agreements with private landowners.

Glen Mills/FPWD



Solutions

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MAILBAG

Dear Environmental Defense:

Swordfish and other depleted species are turning up in too many recipes. I hope consumers will consult your Seafood Selector [www.environmentaldefense.org/go/seafood] before buying fish. Swordfish are nearly gone from the Atlantic. In the Pacific, the longlines used to catch swordfish entangle endangered leatherback turtles. Moreover, swordfish pose a health hazard. The FDA has advised women of reproductive age to avoid swordfish altogether because of high mercury levels. By doing so, consumers protect their health and this beleaguered species.

Foster Bam, Greenwich, CT



Norbert Wu

Leave swordfish off the menu.

Dear Environmental Defense:

Your article on hog farm pollution (*Solutions*, Jan.-Feb. 2004) focuses on a technical fix, when the problem is the size of the operations and the way the pigs are treated. Such huge factories need to be dismantled and outlawed. A technical fix is not going to do it.

Caroline Mitton, Modesto, CA

Scientist Dr. Joseph Rudek replies:

The environment would be much better off if less meat were consumed. But population trends and economic growth in the developing world point to increasing meat consumption.

With nearly 2,500 large-scale hog farms in North Carolina, alternative waste treatment systems are critically needed to reduce pollution and public health threats.

PLEASE WRITE US!

See addresses at left

Washington watch



Health of millions at stake as EPA decides on air quality rules

With Congress ensnared in energy and transportation wrangles, the Environmental Protection Agency issued a flurry of new air pollution rules. The proposed rules deliver real progress on some pollutants. But they don't do enough to protect the 170 million Americans who breathe unhealthy air, and they're wholly inadequate for the millions exposed to toxic mercury.

"EPA is not taking all the steps necessary to truly protect public health," says our Health program director Dr. John Balbus. During a recent public comment period, Environmental Defense members sent EPA more than 45,000 messages calling for tighter pollution limits. "We hope the outpouring of public pressure will prompt the agency to strengthen its air pollution initiatives," says Balbus.

Here's what's at stake:

•**Nonroad diesel engines.** EPA proposed strict limits on emissions from industrial and agricultural equipment, on the heels of our study showing these engines pose a hazard. But it is unclear

whether the agency will require cleaner, low-sulfur fuel for locomotives and ships. This is cause for concern: On an average day, ships in the Los Angeles Basin release more smog-forming pollution than one million cars.

•**Mercury from coal plants.** EPA ignited a firestorm of controversy in December when it proposed delaying meaningful cuts in toxic mercury emissions until 2018. New EPA administrator Michael Leavitt has suggested the agency will conduct more policy analysis, but political pressure remains strong for EPA to finalize weak standards. We're pressing for feasible cuts of 90% by 2008.

•**Interstate smog and soot.** In December the agency unveiled a plan to limit pollution that drifts across state lines. The proposed rule would cut power plant emissions of nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide 70% by 2015, but it applies only to the East. We're urging EPA to strengthen the reductions and expand the limits to western power plants.



Billy E. Barnes/PhotoEdit

The 60,000-ton loophole: Container ships are not covered under EPA's new air rules.

Science for sale

COUNTERING EXXONMOBIL'S DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN

For all but a few climate scientists, the debate is over. Global warming is real, it's mostly caused by burning fossil fuels, and it's accelerating. The National Academy of Sciences has confirmed it, as have other prestigious scientific groups. Even industry leaders like BP, DuPont and Shell—who might be expected to be skeptical—are convinced and are working with Environmental Defense and others to curb it. Yet America's biggest oil company, ExxonMobil, still pretends otherwise.

Why do ExxonMobil and a few allies refuse to admit global warming is happening? One answer may be the company's calculation that—with its massive profits (\$21.5 billion in 2003) and unprecedented political influence—it can get away with it. "The problem today is that harming the atmosphere pays," says Peter Goldmark, director of our global warming program. "Perfectly rational actors are going to keep harming the climate as long as economic signals tell them that's the way to go." Environmental Defense is working to change this.

MUDDYING THE SCIENCE

In 1998, ExxonMobil laid out its plan for holding off action on global warm-



Simonpetri Christian/Corbis Sygura

United States oil imports are projected to increase 80% over the next two decades.

ing. The company's internal memo, *A Global Climate Communications Action Plan*, states, "Victory will be achieved when uncertainties in climate science become part of the conventional wisdom" for "average citizens" and "the media."

The strategy included recruiting and training new scientists who lack a "history of visibility in the climate debate." These scientists, some working outside their primary field, would be paid to develop materials depicting supporters of the Kyoto Protocol as "out of touch with reality." Published by ExxonMobil-funded institutes, these papers typically did not undergo peer review.

The company has poured millions of dollars into spreading its message worldwide. Speaking at the World Petroleum Congress in Beijing, ExxonMobil CEO Lee Raymond said, "Energy use and economic growth are inextricably linked." If greenhouse gases are controlled, Raymond warned, "Developing nations' ... exports will suffer as the economies of the industrialized nations slow."

ExxonMobil also partnered with a major electricity producer, Southern Company, and others to lobby the newly elected Bush administration. Subsequently the United States withdrew from the Kyoto accord and the president reneged on a campaign promise to curb global warming pollution from power plants.

At Moscow climate meetings convened by Russian President Vladimir Putin, an "official" press conference featured only speakers who predicted that



Getty Images

ExxonMobil hides the true cost of America's oil and gas addiction by spending millions to discredit global warming science.

Kyoto would bring economic doom. They failed to disclose that their research was funded by ExxonMobil. "The company's plan is to delay, deny and delude," says our economist Dr. Alexander Golub.

Environmental Defense is working around the world to expose this irresponsible disinformation campaign. At the same time, we are proving the case for sensible

The problem is that harming the atmosphere pays.

action on global warming. Our work to cut emissions in partnership with companies like Alcan, Entergy and FedEx, to name just a few, shows our ability to craft solutions that benefit the environment without harming the economy.

"The American people are beginning to understand that global warming is really happening," says our international counsel Annie Petsonk, who was recently featured in the PBS program *NOW with Bill Moyers*. "The politics are changing. ExxonMobil will be scrambling to catch up."



WHAT YOU CAN DO: Send an email to ExxonMobil CEO Lee R. Raymond demanding that his company stop the disinformation campaign about global warming. Go to www.environmentaldefense.org/go/action.

Rigging the truth: ExxonMobil's misleading campaign

ExxonMobil's revolutionary strategy for slowing global warming? Pretend it isn't happening. Advertisements like the following adopt a reasonable tone, yet the scientific doubts they raise have long since been laid to rest by an overwhelming worldwide consensus of climate scientists.

Below, our climate scientist Dr. James Wang blows away the ExxonMobil smokescreen. As other energy companies step forward to take action on global warming, the question arises: How long will ExxonMobil stall?

Weather and climate

In the debate over climate change, there is an understandable tendency to use recent weather events to draw conclusions about global warming. However, weather and climate are not the same — climate is far more complex.

While we all know what weather is, most of us are less clear about climate. A region's climate is defined as the prevailing behavior of its weather, including variability.

Several decades of weather must ordinarily be considered to establish the average conditions and variability of climate.

Thus, the recent record cold weather in the

Northeast U.S. does not indicate a cooling climate, just as last year's record summer heat in Europe does not confirm a warming world.

Geological evidence indicates that Earth's climate has varied continuously, warming and cooling due to changes on and beyond Earth. Factors as diverse as variations in sunlight and Earth's magnetic field, asteroid impacts, Sun-Moon-Earth orbital interactions, cosmic ray fluxes, continental drift, fluctuations in sea level, volcanic eruptions, changes in the biosphere, and massive ebbs and flows of continental glaciers, have significantly influenced climate.

Changes in one feature can affect others. During recent ice ages, another factor, greenhouse gas concentrations, changed for reasons that remain unclear. Evidence suggests that shifts in the flow of dust and nutrients from lands to oceans may have significantly altered the exchange of carbon dioxide between

the air and oceans.

Observations and theory both indicate that weather and important aspects of climate, for instance El Niño events, behave in a chaotic fashion that may never allow for definitive, long-term predictions. These and other fluctuations produce significant natural climate variability. For example, over the past thousand years historical accounts and scientific data show evi-

dence of a Medieval Warm Period followed by a Little Ice Age.

In the face of natural variability and complexity, the consequences of change in any single factor, for example greenhouse

gases, cannot readily be isolated and prediction becomes difficult. Geological and historical records make clear the need to account for natural climate variability and the integrated response of the entire climate system.

Over the last few decades climate research has made great progress. In particular, research has highlighted the risks to society and ecosystems resulting from the buildup of greenhouse gases. At the same time, scientific uncertainties continue to limit our ability to make objective, quantitative determinations regarding the human role in recent climate change or the degree and consequences of future change.

This reinforces the view that, as countries and societies work to find acceptable approaches to address climate change while continuing to promote global prosperity, there is an ongoing need to support scientific research to inform decisions and guide policies.

Changes in one feature can affect others

ExxonMobil

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Annotations by Environmental Defense climate scientist
Dr. James S. Wang

Sophisticated global climate models can predict important features of climate.

The Medieval Warm Period and Little Ice Age were mainly regional phenomena, hardly comparable to the large rises in global temperature of the 21st Century.

Yes, and climate scientists have already accounted for these factors!

Uncertainties are an inherent aspect of scientific knowledge. But the primary uncertainty is about how much and how fast, rather than whether, additional warming will occur.

True, but this does not justify inaction. Some scientific findings are considered so well understood that they warrant a policy response today.

We have 150 years of direct, worldwide temperature measurements, and the recent warming has lasted decades.

Misleading: no all-time low temperature records were broken — only daily records — which is nothing unusual.

It is an established fact that global average temperature has increased over the past century, and this makes it more likely that high-temperature records will be broken. The heat wave in Europe broke numerous all-time (not just daily) high temperature records.

These natural factors do influence climate, but the IPCC, National Academy of Sciences, American Meteorological Society and American Geophysical Union have all come to the conclusion that most of the warming over the past several decades has been caused by greenhouse gases released by human activities.

Regional update

Court rules against Army Corps on beach dredging

One summer day in 2000, surfers in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, saw a massive pipe emerge from the waves and begin disgorging a flood of rocks and sand. Watching it fill the shallow waters—home to corals, sea urchins, gorgonians, conch, sponges and sea turtles—the stunned surfers acted fast. They climbed inside the discharge pipe and shut the Army Corps of Engineers project down.

That interruption was temporary, but more enduring protection is now secured. With help from attorney Miguel Sarriera and our scientist Dr. Ken Lindeman, the surfers sued. In February, a U.S. District Court judge ruled the Corps had “violated all requirements for the discharge of dredged materials contained in the Clean Water Act.” The opinion sharply detailed Corps evasions,

Surfers took on the Corps and won.

including a promise to put dredged materials only on land. Instead, their contractors smothered shallow water habitat with 60,000 cubic yards—6,000 dump trucks—of fill.

Lindeman and colleagues document the damage done by such reef burial in *Living with Florida's Atlantic Beaches* (www.dukeupress.edu).

Shallow reefs are vital nurseries for dozens of rare and valuable marine species, says Lindeman: “These are babies, the size of a quarter. They can’t easily swim away.” The Arecibo victory might slow such destruction elsewhere. “There haven’t been many rulings like this against the Corps,” Lindeman says. “Maybe they’ll finally adopt more protective policies.”



David B. Snyder

Our victory saved a vital reef in Puerto Rico.



Gibson Stock Photography

Well-planned development preserves wetlands and other sensitive habitats that provide drinking water for millions.

New Jersey tames sprawl with innovative tool

For 30 years, Richard Rappleyea has operated a 113-acre tree nursery with his brother Raymond in Burlington County, NJ. He watched sprawl creep ever closer to his rural community, which lies within commuting distance of Philadelphia and New York. “My brother and I made a pact to stay in business,” he says, “but an offer from a developer would have been tempting.”

Instead of selling their land, the Rappleyeas joined an innovative, market-based program designed to preserve farms like theirs. They sold their land-development rights to a private builder, who will use them instead to build a high-density town center nearby, modeled on a traditional village. Such transferable development rights (TDRs) have preserved 2,000 acres in Burlington County by channeling growth. In New Jersey’s pinelands, TDRs already have saved 37,000 acres.

These successes spurred the New Jersey legislature to pass a bill this spring authorizing TDRs statewide. The victory capped years of work by our general counsel James Tripp, who worked with the Highlands Coalition and New Jersey Future to break an impasse between farmers and developers.

“Environmental Defense was key to the bill’s

A market-based program helps save open space

success,” says Chris Sturm, project director for New Jersey Future.

Though New Jersey’s law is the nation’s most comprehensive, the popularity of TDRs is growing, with programs in 20 states. Says Tripp: “TDRs are powerful sprawl-fighting tools because they use the market to preserve land without taxpayer money.”

Campaign gifts help secure a healthier world

“A partnership for the environment.” That’s what Environmental Defense president Fred Krupp called the Campaign for Environmental Defense when launching it five years ago. Now the campaign has realized its vision of mobilizing support for a healthier world. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of members and friends, the campaign raised \$213.6 million through December 31—exceeding our goal by \$3.6 million.

Environmental groups need to move beyond temporary fixes.

We designed the campaign to help reach ambitious objectives in our four priority areas: preserving species and habitat, protecting human health, safeguarding the oceans and undoing global warming.

In each area, we have made significant progress. For example, campaign



NC Department of Emergency Management

Time to put the brakes on global warming? Catastrophic floods are projected if climate change is not addressed.

funds were put to work restoring endangered species habitat with the help of landowners in 15 states. To protect human health, we worked with McDonald’s on a policy requiring meat suppliers for 30,000 restaurants to curtail antibiotic use. And our ocean scientists helped gain protection for one of the nation’s largest marine reserve networks



Konrad Wotke/Minden Pictures

Our joint efforts with grassroots groups have provided a safe haven for the endangered Hawaiian monk seal and other species.

in California’s Channel Islands.

Undoing global warming poses particularly large challenges. Recognizing the high stakes and the depth of industry opposition, we set out to raise an additional \$10 million beyond the original \$200 million campaign goal. With this added support, we helped bring about action on global warming at the state level from Maine to California, built momentum in Congress on the McCain-Lieberman Climate Stewardship Act and recruited more than 250,000 citizen cosponsors.

MEMBERS HELP MEET KRESGE CHALLENGE

The Kresge Foundation proved critical to the campaign’s success, delivering a \$1.5 million challenge grant—contingent on our reaching our goal in member contributions—that ensures we will have the computer technology needed to achieve program goals. We are especially grateful to members whose contributions unlocked this grant.

Major challenges lie ahead in reaching the objectives we have laid out for the coming years, but with the continued generosity of members and friends, we are confident of success.

“Environmental Defense has won crucial gains toward solving many of today’s most serious environmental problems,” says Environmental Defense trustee and campaign chair John Rosenwald. “That progress would not have been possible without the support of donors through the Campaign for Environmental Defense. We thank you!”



Michael Newman/PhotoEdit

Thanks to member support, we can help guarantee that antibiotics keep working for generations to come.

Conservation funds bolster family farms



Corbis

Going organic helps many farmers stay in business.

Vermont, once noted for having more cows than people, is losing roughly 80 dairy farms a year, mostly due to low milk prices and sprawl. But the Forgues Family Organic Dairy on Lake Champlain is thriving.

A decade ago, Henry and Sally Forgues switched to organic dairying, a move they credit with keeping their farm afloat. Rather than confine their cows in stalls, the Forgueses rotate their herd to fresh pasture twice a day. They do not use chemical pesticides or fertilizers and avoid giving their animals hormones. With organic milk fetching premium prices, the family has boosted its bottom line.

Federal conservation funds, long supported by Environmental Defense, now are helping the family take their environmental commitment a step further. Using a grant under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), they are creating buffers to reduce runoff, improving fencing and developing high-nutrient forage crops.

When the 2002 Farm Bill was debated, we strongly advocated increases in conservation funding. Our efforts with our allies resulted in a fivefold increase in EQIP funding to nearly \$1 billion a year. “These programs are not production subsidies like some farm programs,” says our scientist Suzy Friedman. “They reward and encourage farmers who provide key public benefits like clean air, clean water and open space.”

All across America, federal conservation programs totaling \$3.4 billion annually are helping farmers implement practices that protect natural resources. These range from conservation tillage to reducing soil erosion in Nebraska to improving irrigation efficiency in California. We are now working to reap even greater benefits, recommending that EQIP funds be awarded based on projects’ performance and cost-effectiveness.

The Forgues case study shows how conservation funding can benefit the environment, a dairy’s bottom line and a family’s way of life.



Our detailed report for farmers and state officials can be found at www.environmentaldefense.org/go/forgues.

California victory opens door to cleaner generators

Sacramento Waldorf School parents believe in a healthy learning environment. So they were fuming when they discovered a highly polluting diesel backup generator (BUG) operating adjacent to their school.

BUGs provide an important source of backup electricity but also pose a

health hazard because they lack any pollution controls. Since California’s rolling blackouts in 2001, BUGs have been popping up everywhere. The state has nearly 20,000 BUGs.

These generators went largely unnoticed until our groundbreaking report in 2002. It showed that diesel generators, which typically spew out ten times the cancer-causing particulates of natural-gas-powered generators, are frequently located near schools and residences.

“BUGs are stealth polluters,” says report coauthor Kate Larsen. “We need to bring them under closer scrutiny to protect air quality and health.” Besides cancer, diesel exhaust has been linked to asthma and other respiratory illnesses.

In February, the California Air Resources Board unanimously approved new rules for BUGs, incorporating many of our recommendations. The rules, to take effect next year, will reduce fine particle and soot emissions from new BUGs by up to 85%.

Environmental Defense fought for and won a provision requiring that existing BUGs within 500 feet of a school be retrofitted to meet strict clean air standards or not be run during school hours, except in emergencies.

Industry lobbied unsuccessfully to weaken the rules. At one point, an air resources board member chastised industry representatives: “Don’t tell me you’d want your five-year-old playing next to one of those things.”

With federal authorities continuing to drag their feet, Environmental Defense has filed suit against EPA. Our demand: strict federal limits on backup generators.

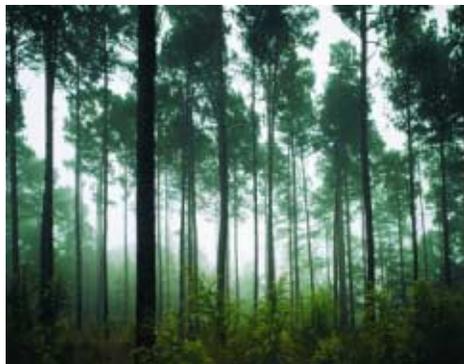


Tom Dee & Ann McCarthy/Corbis

Too many unregulated diesel generators operate next to schools. We’re pushing for national controls.

North Carolina faces forest crisis

Forested land is projected to decline nationwide over the next 50 years, and North Carolina may be leading the trend. The state lost a million acres of forest in the 1990s, a dramatic worsening mostly due to urban sprawl, a new Environmental Defense study shows. *North Carolina Forests at a Crossroads* reveals the



David Muench/Corbis

A longleaf pine forest. A range of incentives can stem the loss of prime forest land.

state lost nearly as many trees from 1990 to 2002 as in the previous three decades combined. Natural forests such as longleaf pine are declining rapidly, while tree farms continue to spread.

“North Carolina has programs to protect water and air, but its forests lack strong protections,” says economist Will McDow of our Raleigh office. “Some policies even encourage landowners to mismanage forests.”

We’re pressing for a comprehensive policy to protect the state’s forests and are championing tax incentives for landowners who preserve trees. “Without such initiatives,” says our attorney Daniel Whittle, “we are unlikely to get back the forests we destroy today. Trees can’t grow from concrete.”



Find the full report at www.environmentaldefense.org/go/ncforestrystats.

In the name of environmental justice

Lasting environmental solutions must meet the needs of all communities, including the poor and people of color, who often suffer disproportionately from environmental degradation. Environmental Defense strives to promote environmental justice in all its programs. To jump-start new projects, we provide incentive grants for grassroots work in disadvantaged communities. Among the

2004 projects are an effort to map childhood asthma in Central Los Angeles and a communications project to mobilize Latinos for the environment.

We’ve also partnered with high school students in Presidio, TX, to interview ranchers and farmers about changes along the Forgotten River stretch of the Rio Grande.

The goal is to bring the river’s plight to the attention of decision-makers and restore water flows and native habitat. “I just want to see the river my father talks about,” said 16-year-old Kimberly Baeza, a participant.

Adds our minigrant co-coordinator Michelle Bicek: “These grants plant the seeds for successful environmental projects in underprivileged and underserved communities.”



Colin Rowan

Forgotten no more: A grant from Environmental Defense has enlisted local residents to help revive the Rio Grande near Big Bend National Park.



Jerry Fraser

Our plan will help rebuild depleted red snapper stocks in the Gulf of Mexico.

Fishermen give thumbs up to new quota program

Alarmed by years of decline in the health of the Gulf of Mexico, Gulf fishermen overwhelmingly approved a market solution proposed by Environmental Defense to rebuild the troubled red snapper fishery.

Fishermen have long braved bad weather and even risked their lives in a brief and hectic red snapper season. Our proposed solution, Individual Fishing Quotas or IFQs, will assign fishermen individual shares of the annual allowable catch. This lets them decide when weather and market conditions are favorable and eliminates overfishing.

Sending fishermen to testify in Congress, we helped end a moratorium on IFQs. We then successfully urged the Gulf’s fishery management council to examine the idea.

Fishermen were convinced. In a March referendum, 81% of the vote favored IFQs, and the Gulf council gave a green light to a quota program. With our allies, we hope to launch the program January 1. Says veteran skipper Russell Underwood: “Quotas are our best hope for keeping the fishing industry afloat.”

Cleaning greener

To learn more about toxic chemicals in household products and alternatives you can use, try these resources:

A fact sheet summarizing the toxic effects of household chemicals can be found at EPA's EnviroSense website: es.epa.gov/techinfo/facts/safe-fs.html

Information about the known and suspected health effects of specific chemicals is available at the Environmental Defense Scorecard web site, www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/

A wide variety of household products is available by mail from Gaiam (877-989-6321 or www.gaiam.com) and Kokopelli's Green Market (800-210-0202 or www.kokogm.com). Before ordering a product, ask the retailer if it contains any of the ingredients that concern you.*

Bookshelf

For a comprehensive, 448-page guide to the chemicals around us, try: *Home Safe Home: Protecting Yourself and Your Family from Everyday Toxics and Harmful Household Products in the Home* by Debra Lynn Dadd (J.P. Tarcher, \$10.95).

The Safe Shopper's Bible: A Consumer's Guide to Nontoxic Household Products by David Steinman and Samuel S. Epstein (John Wiley and Sons, \$14.95) gives practical advice on what to put in your shopping cart.



The 1950's kitchen: When toxic ignorance was bliss.

Toxic trail leads to your door

DANGEROUS HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT THEM

From 1940 to the 1980s, U.S. annual production of synthetic organic chemicals exploded from about one billion to 400 billion pounds—nearly four pounds a day for every American. Tens of thousands of synthetic chemicals are in use today. A 1997 report from Environmental Defense, *Toxic Ignorance*, pointed out that some basic health-effects information is absent from the public record for most of these chemicals. But some are clearly known to be hazardous to your health. Some hazards are acute poisons that cause immediate injury, while others are toxic substances that cause serious chronic illness such as cancer or reproductive toxicity.

EPA studies show people are more likely to encounter dangerous chemicals at home than anywhere else. Thankfully, alternatives are readily available today. Perhaps it's time for a new kind of spring cleaning—one that rids your house of dangerous, unnecessary substances.

Take a "toxic tour" and see what you can eliminate:

- **In the kitchen.** Just about every product under the sink—from ammonia-based cleaners to metal polishes, drain and oven cleaners and floor wax—can contain hazardous chemicals. When mixed with ammonia, the sodium hypochlorite in chlorine bleach releases toxic chloramine gas, aggravating asthma symptoms or causing other dangerous respiratory problems. Exposure to the petroleum distillates in some metal polishes or the ammonia common in glass cleaners can cause eye problems. The nitrobenzene in many furniture polishes has been associated with cancer and birth defects.

- **In the closet.** Some solvents in spot removers and carpet cleaners can cause lung and kidney damage and may be toxic to the nervous system. The residues and fragrances often present in fabric softeners are a problem for some sensitive people. Formaldehyde, a common preservative in many household products, is a suspected carcinogen.

*Guest columnist Jim Motavalli is editor of *E/The Environmental Magazine* (for subscription information: 800-967-6572 or www.emagazine.com). Opinions are the author's and not those of Environmental Defense staff. Environmental Defense makes no endorsement of the products for sale.

• **In the bathroom.** Problem chemicals like formaldehyde, phthalates, glycols and sulfur compounds are sometimes found in shampoos; butane propellants and formaldehyde resins in hair spray; and ammonia and aluminum chlorohydrate in deodorants. If splashed in the eyes, toilet bowl cleaners can cause blindness.

Sounds serious. But no one's suggesting you live without washing your hair or cleaning your house. The good news is that natural alternatives exist. Here are some steps you can take:

• **Shop smart.** Just as supermarkets now carry organic milk, they're also beginning to stock up on less toxic products. Check the labels for the chemicals above and

find products that don't contain them. Health food stores, particularly the larger chains like Whole Foods and Wild Oats, usually carry a full range of less-toxic home products. And if you can't find it on the shelves, it's online at any number of one-stop retailers, such as Gaiam and Kokopelli's Green Market (*see box*).

• **Try safe substitutes.** Baking soda makes an excellent all-purpose cleaner, refrigerator-odor neutralizer and fabric softener. Washing soda, a mineral, can replace laundry detergent and clean hardened grease from ovens. Lemon juice can clean glass and remove stains. Vinegar, used full strength or diluted with water, cleans and polishes and can also remove waxy buildup.

By Jim Motavalli

A great tax-saving idea



Your bequest to Environmental Defense can help ensure a healthy future for the planet. It will also be deductible from your estate, benefiting both Environmental Defense and your loved ones. Act today, and leave a lasting impact on the future.

For information on ways to include Environmental Defense in your will, call toll-free 1-877-677-7397, or write Anne Doyle, Environmental Defense, 257 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE ACTION CENTER

MeetUp on May 26 to undo global warming



Want to meet and help inspire others to do something about global warming? Attend our next MeetUp day on May 26. Environmental Defense and MeetUp.com have joined to help our

supporters get together in person and attract newcomers to the cause. On our first MeetUp day in March, hundreds attended 81 MeetUps in cafes and other meeting spots across the country to plan next steps in our grassroots campaign to undo global warming. Now is a critical time to get involved: The Senate is poised to vote on the Climate Stewardship Act, and we must raise a groundswell of support. To find out about a get-together near you, visit www.environmentaldefense.org/go/meetup.

Urge Bayer to protect human antibiotics

In a major victory for public health, an FDA judge recently upheld the proposed ban on the use of the antibiotic Baytril in poultry. Baytril is nearly identical to the human drug Cipro, and its use in poultry is making Cipro less effective for treating sick people. The Food and Drug Administration proposed the ban in 2000, but Bayer has delayed action by fighting the ban. If it appeals this decision, it could keep Baytril on the market for months or years, allowing Bayer to continue to profit while playing chicken with human health. Bayer has said it will continue to fight the decision.

 Demand that Bayer withdraw Baytril from the market immediately. Go to www.environmentaldefense.org/go/action.



Jose Teixeira

Members can speak out and stop a 410-foot-high dam.

Save Portugal's wild Sabor River

The Sabor River winds through northern Portugal and opens a window on a long-vanished Europe of ancient Mediterranean forests and rugged cliffs where endangered birds such as Bonelli eagles, golden eagles and black storks nest. Now the Portuguese government wants to build a large hydroelectric dam on the Sabor, harming a unique floodplain that also harbors Iron Age art and Roman ruins. Financing of the dam has not yet been approved. Join a coalition of Portuguese environmental organizations opposed to the dam and protect one of Europe's last wild-flowing rivers.

 Tell the Portuguese prime minister that you oppose the Sabor River dam at www.environmentaldefense.org/go/action.

With California governor watching, FedEx hybrid trucks hit the road

“Environmental Defense and FedEx made a vision become a reality.”

So said California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger as he watched America’s first commercially viable hybrid delivery trucks head to work in Sacramento March 30. Having poked around the diesel-electric power train, which is 50%

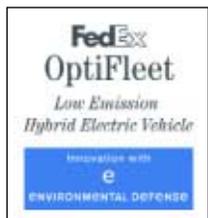


Mark Richards

“I am a very happy governor,” said Schwarzenegger after inspecting new delivery truck which radically reduces pollution. He joined Fred Krupp (second from right) and other principals at the launch.

more efficient and reduces fuel costs and global warming pollution by one-third, he grinned: “This is the future.”

Environmental Defense approached FedEx four years ago with the idea of developing a next-generation truck, and now we challenge others to follow suit. “We invite all of America’s truck fleets to join the parade of cleaner, more fuel efficient vehicles,” said our president Fred Krupp at the ceremony, “Each of us can do the same when choosing vehicles for our families.”



Environmental Defense accepts no funds from its corporate partners.

The new FedEx trucks emit 90% less soot and 75% less smog-causing pollutants. Just as important, FedEx has shared information on the new technology with fleets representing close to a million trucks. The potential improve-

ments in air quality are enormous.

THE POWER OF INNOVATION

Rapid adoption by other fleets is possible because, as FedEx truck mechanic Randy Onstine says, “You get the fuel efficiency, the economy, the clean air and less maintenance. What more could you ask for?” The new FedEx trucks look and drive like the old ones, except for our logo on the side. Over their lifetime, they will cost the same as conventional vehicles. And companies that use them are better prepared for fluctuating fuel prices.

“It’s amazing to see how FedEx has internalized environmental goals,” says our project manager Elizabeth Sturcken. “We’ve watched the company’s vehicle guys press their suppliers with questions like, ‘Yeah, but is this battery recyclable?’”



See video highlights of the ceremony at www.environmentaldefense.org/go/fedexvideo.



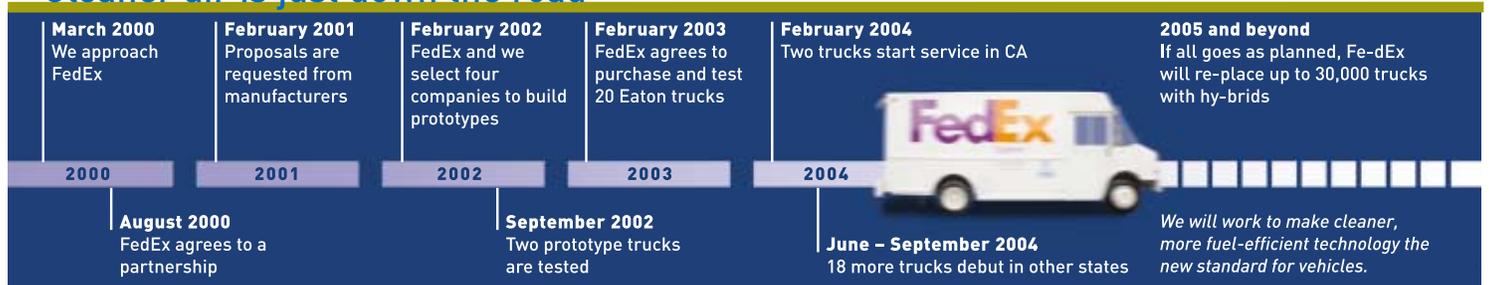
- Size of North Carolina oyster harvest in bushels in 1902: 1.8 million. In 2002: 46 thousand
- Percent of world population lacking access to at least 50 liters of clean water a day: 20
- Liters of clean water used daily per capita in U.S. homes: 262
- Number of U.S. electric companies now offering consumers a choice of renewable energy: 500, in 33 states
- Number of new coal-fired power plants currently being planned in the United States: 94
- Percent of America’s 128.3 million workers who drive to work alone: 76
- Number of right whale calves born in Georgia and Florida waters in 2000: 1
- Number of calves born this season so far: 13

What they are saying about Environmental Defense

“I’m glad to have Environmental Defense as a resource and partner in working to make our air cleaner and healthier for two million Houstonians.”

— Houston Mayor Bill White, commenting on our new Health Professionals for Clean Air coalition with doctors and nurses.

Cleaner air is just down the road



Here's why we are launching an emergency campaign to win the vote:

**CRUCIAL SENATE SHOWDOWN ON GLOBAL WARMING
COULD COME BEFORE THE END OF MAY**

April 28, 2004

Dear Environmental Defense member:

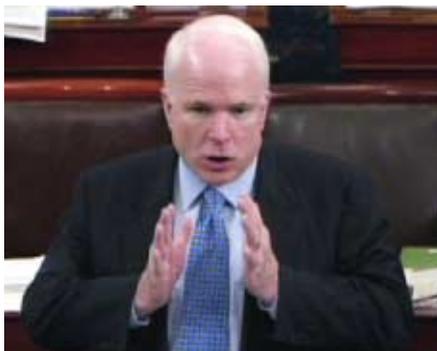
I am sending you this special "wrap" on your newsletter because we are running out of time. I have learned from Senators John McCain and Joseph Lieberman that the upcoming vote on global warming could come before the end of May.

This will be the landmark action to cut the pollution that causes global warming. Please, take just a moment to sign the petitions to your two senators on the back page and mail them back to me. We want to deluge the Senate with petitions in time to have a major impact on the vote.

Global warming is the gravest threat to the environment today.

The McCain-Lieberman bill could end the climate of indifference in Washington. We are within striking distance of a Senate majority. Please help make this a reality by returning your petitions today.

And along with your petitions, please also join The 51 CLUB. Each member is contributing \$51-or more-to finance our emergency campaign to get the 51 votes we need to win in May. I await your positive response.



AP Photo

McCain: Vowing to push through the first nationwide global warming legislation.

PS: If you know a member of Congress or an influential community or civic leader, we want to hear from you. See the insert facing p. 7—head-lined "Will you make the call?"—to learn how you can help!



Your latest
Environmental
Defense
newsletter
inside



The McCain-Lieberman global warming bill

WHY IT'S AMERICA'S BEST HOPE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The days of fear and denial in Washington could soon be over.

Last October, Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) forced historic action on the Climate Stewardship Act, winning 43 votes for a comprehensive national policy on global warming. This marked the first time the U.S. Senate had taken up legislation to mandate caps on U.S. emissions of heat-trapping gases.

The tally was close in Round #1. Round #2 promises to be even closer. With three out of four Americans favoring limits on global warming pollution, the momentum for action is building.

Compelling scientific evidence shows the planet is heating up at an intolerable rate, and humans are largely to blame. Under the McCain-Lieberman plan, energy producers and industrial sources would limit their emissions to year 2000 levels by 2010. By requiring man-

Join The 51 CLUB today!



Please contribute \$51 to finance our emergency campaign to get the 51 votes we need to win in May. Mail your contribution with your petitions, or put your gift to work even faster by using your credit card to contribute at 1-800-591-1919 or undoit.org/Join51Club

Continued on following page

EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN TO WIN THE VOTE

Take action today by signing and returning the petitions on the back page!

Continued from previous page

datory greenhouse gas reductions but allowing flexibility in how to achieve them, this sensible, bipartisan bill will create a nationwide market to find the most cost-effective ways to make cuts. It would also reduce America's dependence on oil.

A COALITION FOR ACTION

Across the country, coalitions ranging from the ski industry to insurance providers are backing the legislation. More than 60 newspapers have editorialized in support.

Some companies have opposed action on global warming, but others, including some of the world's largest corporations, already are working with Environmental Defense to cut their emissions. "It is incumbent upon every business and every individual to take action to limit greenhouse gas emissions," says J. Wayne Leonard, CEO of Entergy.

Voluntary actions alone, however, are not sufficient to reduce emissions as much as necessary. That's why passage of the McCain-Lieberman bill in the Senate—and companion legislation recently introduced in the House—is so critical.

We can undo global warming. In fact, we must do so if we

are to leave a bright future for our children and grandchildren. "We're working against a ticking clock," says Peter Goldmark, director of our global warming program. "There is still time to act, but the window is closing."



Gary Braasch

In July 1995 the worst heat wave in U.S. history killed 730 people in Chicago. Such catastrophic weather events are expected to be more frequent with global warming.

The stakes are high, the critics are loud

It's no secret that our opponents are doing everything they can to defeat us. Some big energy companies are spending millions on lobbying and mounting massive campaigns to muddle the science of global warming, aiming to confuse the public and derail action.



Joseph Kaczmarek/AP Photo

Sounding off: Limbaugh calls the thousands of scientists who urge action on global warming "wackos" peddling "rotgut."

In the U.S. Senate, the opposition voices are led by Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK), who once compared EPA to a "Gestapo bureaucracy." He asks—and answers, "Could it be that global warming is the greatest hoax ever perpetrated on the American people? I believe it is."

Meanwhile, over the airwaves we hear opponents like Rush Limbaugh, who has called us "a bunch of environmentalist wackos" and says "... the idea that all this rotgut is going to stop this [global warming] is absolute folly, it's stupid, it's nothing more than the preoccupation of small minds who have too much time on their hands."

You can help counter these voices by signing the petitions to your two U.S. senators and by making a contribution to join The 51 CLUB.

Use your influence!

If you know a member of Congress or a civic leader, get them on board. Please contact Victoria Markell at 202-387-3500 or vmarkell@environmentaldefense.org

Our global warming action plan



Global warming is a serious threat to our **health**, our **economy** and our **environment**. Our whole **lifestyle** is at risk.

That's why it is so important for you to send the petitions to your senators. Help us deliver a clear message in this election year.

Your contribution to join The 51 CLUB will help us immediately undertake this Global Warming Action Plan:

1 Win Senate votes in swing states. Mobilize support within the states of our targeted senators by placing organizers in at least five states, including Arkansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, Ohio and Tennessee.

2 Conduct two more national MeetUps on global warming in communities across the country, building on our successful MeetUp #1 on March 24.



Paul Reith

3 Activate current and new corporate allies including Clif Bars, Organic Valley, Silk, Odwalla, Stonyfield Farm Yogurt and Trinity Water, so we can together engage the public on global warming.



4 Reach more Americans online by attracting web users to our undoit.org campaign web site, where we are aiming for one million or more Senate petition signers.



5 Reinforce our in-house lobbying team by engaging top-rank firms to help shape our strategy and persuade individual senators.



6 Mobilize concerned citizens through paid advertising. As funds permit, hard-hitting ads will be placed on *CNN*, in *The New York Times* and other newspapers and on leading news web sites.



Through positive steps like these, in partnership with others—and with your support—we can change U.S. policy on global warming.

Special Petition

[to Senator SENATOR'S NAME]

[From Member's name]

[Address 1]

[Address 2]

[City, State]

WHEREAS ... Global warming is one of the most pressing environmental problems of our time; and

WHEREAS ... Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases released by fossil fuel consumption, deforestation and other human activities can trap heat in our atmosphere for 100 years or longer, with devastating environmental consequences; and

WHEREAS ... The current U.S. policy on global warming has been one of indifference, out of step with world opinion, at a time when our damaging greenhouse gas emissions are continuing to increase.

THEREFORE ... I urge you to co-sponsor and support in every way you can the bipartisan McCain-Lieberman legislation to cap and reduce greenhouse gas emissions nationally.

I would appreciate the courtesy of a response letting me know whether you will or will not co-sponsor and support the McCain-Lieberman bill.

Sincerely, _____
(signature)

Special Petition

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Sincerely, _____
(signature)



Your latest Environmental Defense newsletter enclosed

Please see the letter from Fred Krupp on the front about the upcoming vote and:

(1) Sign the two petitions to your senators.

(2) Enclose a generous contribution to The 51 CLUB.

(3) Detach **entire yellow portion** and return in the envelope facing page 7.

See the back of the envelope for more ways you can help!

Please help our Emergency Campaign to win the vote!

We are just eight votes from a global warming majority in the Senate, but winning those votes won't be easy. It will require major financial resources to mount the Action Plan described on the other side of this page.

So after you sign your petitions, please include a generous gift to The 51 CLUB to help us win the 51 votes we need for a Senate majority.

I am enclosing my check payable to Environmental Defense Action Fund in the amount of:

\$51* \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 \$_____

*Minimum amount for joining The 51 CLUB

Because the Environmental Defense Action Fund engages in hard-hitting citizen action to win passage of legislation for a better, healthier environment, contributions are not tax-deductible.

Be sure to sign your petitions and return this entire yellow portion in the enclosed reply envelope. We will deliver your petitions along with thousands of others to your senators.



ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE

finding the ways that work

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