

Vol. 35, No. 6

Nov.-Dec. 2004



**In pursuit
of cleaner
cars** 3



**Reclaiming
"America's
Galapagos"** 4



**A better way
to take out
the trash** 7



**Devoted
friend to
1.3 billion** 8



**Gifts
for the
planet** 10



**New hope
for the
Amazon** 12

Where we stand 2

Mailbag 3

Regional update 6

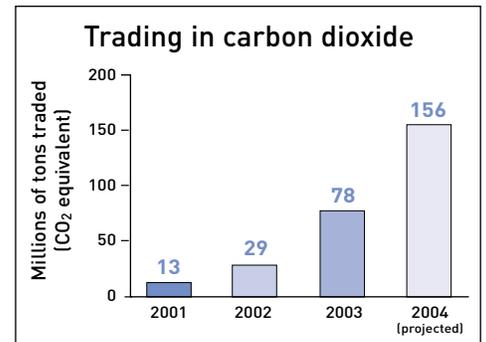
News briefs 9

A global environmental milestone WITH KYOTO VICTORY, THE WORLD, MINUS THE UNITED STATES, MOVES TO CURB GLOBAL WARMING

On the day the Russian Duma voted to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, finally committing nearly all the world's industrialized nations to cut greenhouse gases, our staff gathered to celebrate a victory that many had worked toward for 15 years.

There was our science advisor, Dr. Michael Oppenheimer, responsible for foundational research on climate change; chief economist Dr. Dan Dudek, who helped create market-based systems for reducing emissions, which he first presented in Moscow way back in 1989; our Russian economist Dr. Alexander Golub and climate specialist Alina Averchenkova, who helped Russia's biggest electric, natural gas and paper companies cut emissions; lawyer Annie Petsonk, who helped persuade Russia that Kyoto could finance industrial modernization and benefit public health; and climate program director Peter Goldmark, former chair of the *International Herald Tribune*, who mobilized his high-level European contacts to break the impasse on Russia's ratification.

When President Bush withdrew from Kyoto in 2001, leaving Russia the only country that could bring the proto-



As international agreements on global warming take root, the market for finding least-cost ways to reduce carbon dioxide emissions will continue to grow rapidly.

col into force, President Putin realized what a bargaining chip he held. What Russia wanted was membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO). But Europe's trade ministers feared competition from Russian industry, which had access to cheap domestic natural gas. "We were at a dead end," Golub said, until our economic analysis revealed that burning gas to produce electricity was not a ploy by Russia to gain trade advantages, but its best pollution control. If Russia were forced to raise gas prices

Please see
Cover Story, p. 2



A heartland power plant; As the U.S. balks, industrialized nations develop cleaner technology.

President Bush: Your legacy awaits



This election was one of the most contentious in our nation's history, but one issue was hardly debated: the environment. Now the election is over, but envi-

ronmental problems remain—and demand attention.

On the stump, you spoke of being “a friend of the environment.” Your reelection offers an opportunity to make progress on a series of vital issues that need rapid positive action.

Too often environmental progress has fallen victim to politics and entrenched special interests. It's time to elevate the planet's health above partisan strife. Environmental Defense, with its track record of working with both

parties, stands ready to help you find common ground.

As you plan for your second term, we encourage you to chart some new territory:

Global warming. Since you took office the science on global warming has become even stronger. The U.S. can no longer afford to stand idly by as the rest of the industrialized world cuts global warming pollution and develops innovative clean technology, leaving American businesses behind. We urge you to support the bipartisan McCain-Lieberman Climate Stewardship Act.

Clean air. Over the past four years, your administration has made good progress cleaning up diesel pollution. But the fact remains that 159 million Americans breathe unhealthy air, according to EPA. We urge you to improve enforcement and provide adequate funding for health protections in

the Clean Air Act. We also encourage you to extend EPA's proposed power plant pollution rules to include the Western states, to strengthen the provision for mercury, and to make the rules final.

Oceans protection. Nearly three decades have passed since comprehensive oceans legislation was written. Meanwhile, our fisheries are in decline. You can become the Teddy Roosevelt of the seas, the first U.S. president to make oceans protection a central tenet of American environmental policy.

Only half the book is written on the Bush presidency. In your second term, it is vital that you bridge the partisan divide and author a record of strong environmental results.

COVER STORY: International agreement on global warming

Continued from page 1

across-the-board it would have to switch back to dirty coal. We urged the European Union to pursue Kyoto negotiations in the broader context of trade and energy security. That brought the breakthrough: an understanding that Russia could keep gas cheap for its citizens if it gradually increased prices for industry to match the export price. The European

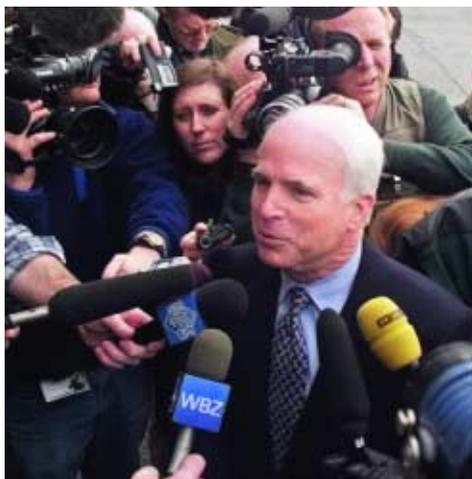
Union agreed to back Russia's bid to enter the WTO, and Russia said yes to Kyoto.

Global warming will threaten the planet, however, until the world's biggest emitters join in. The sulfur dioxide markets we're developing in China could be expanded to reduce greenhouse gases. But China is now in the “cat-bird seat,” says Dudek, and will likely demand a quid pro quo as valuable as Russia's trade deal.

In Brazil and Indonesia, where unchecked deforestation will generate carbon emissions equal to 80% of all Kyoto reductions, our scientist Dr. Stephan Schwartzman is working with Brazilian colleagues on a plan to pay countries to protect tropical forests. Most crucial is action by the biggest emitter of all, the United States. Environmental Defense is working to re-engage America in the global effort by enacting the Climate Stewardship Act, which puts mandatory caps on heat-trapping gases. “We need to get beyond this false contradiction between carbon and competi-

tiveness,” says Goldmark. “If the rest of the world is learning how to produce energy more cheaply and cleanly, maybe we should be too.”

TAKE ACTION. Urge U.S. leaders to rejoin the rest of the world. Sign the petition in support of the McCain-Lieberman Climate Stewardship Act at www.undoit.org



With Kyoto coming into force, John McCain says it's time for the U.S. to do its share.

Solutions
ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE
Adding the ways that work

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MAILBAG

Editor:

As I drove south on I-95 over the river that runs through Fredericksburg, VA, a bald eagle arced in front of my car. I marveled at this magnificent first encounter with the beautiful bird. Here's to more and more such sightings in the future.

Stephen Lee, Glenview, IL



Editor:

Regarding "Moscow holds the key to Kyoto climate treaty," (Sept.-Oct. *Solutions*), I'm sure they hold a key. However, does the U.S. hold any key? I know Bush ignored it. Wouldn't it be a start if you and other environmental groups joined forces in the United States, when our goal needs to be global?

Ellen Lyons, Vancouver, WA

Our president Fred Krupp responds:

You are absolutely right that the United States holds a key; global warming cannot be solved without our country's participation. U.S. environmental groups have joined forces in pressing for the bipartisan McCain-Lieberman Climate Stewardship Act, which would require nationwide cuts in the pollution that causes global warming. This bill surprised all the Washington pundits by winning support from 43 Senators on the first vote, and we are working toward the eight additional votes needed for a Senate majority. For more information, visit www.undot.org.

PLEASE WRITE US!

See addresses at left.

Washington watch



Driving down mercury

EPA administrator Michael Leavitt recently announced that one-third of U.S. lakes and one-fourth of rivers are contaminated with mercury. That's disturbing news, made worse by the fact that the agency has proposed inappropriate methods and a slow timetable for reducing mercury pollution from power plants. The toxic pollutant has been linked to neurological problems in children.

Environmental Defense has been pressing EPA to reexamine the science and strengthen its proposed rules, which will be finalized in March. Despite a nationwide outcry, the agency has yet to agree to revise its proposal, even though an industry group that serves utilities told the agency that greater reductions can be achieved cost effectively.

Fortunately, there has been greater progress on another source of mercury: junked cars. Earlier this year, a federal court upheld the Maine law that we helped draft requiring automakers to pay for the removal of mercury switches from junked vehicles. Since then, we've advanced similar leg-

islation in New Jersey and Pennsylvania and have pressed automakers to help with collection programs in Michigan and Minnesota. We now are negotiating with the automakers and EPA for a national solution.

Progress on diesel

In response to an Environmental Defense lawsuit, EPA agreed to establish national clean-air standards for stationary diesel and gas engines. These engines, used for electricity generation as well as in agriculture and industry, are currently unregulated even though they release the same air pollutants as other engines. Some 500,000 stationary engines are in use nationwide, many located near schools and homes.

"These are harmful emissions that people don't even know about," says our energy specialist Mark MacLeod. We are pressing EPA to set new limits that would reduce soot and smog-forming nitrogen oxide emissions from new stationary engines by as much as 90%. "This agreement will help protect our children's lungs by closing a loophole that has allowed thousands of diesel engines to avoid clean air safeguards," adds MacLeod.



Squeaky clean? Mercury switches should be removed when cars are junked.

Billy E. Barnes/Photo Edit

Reclaiming paradise off California's coast

DECADES AFTER DDT VICTORY, LAND AND SEA ARE ON THE MEND IN CHANNEL ISLANDS

Dangling from a hovering helicopter, wildlife biologist Peter Sharpe is lowered onto a craggy cliff on California's Catalina Island. As a pair of bald eagles circle overhead, and occasionally dive bomb, he deftly places a one-week-old eaglet into a five-foot diameter nest. It's no easy feat.

"The adults usually look sideways at the chick for a couple of seconds, then start caring for it," Sharpe says, describing a routine he has repeated several times. "They're not too smart."

The aerial sleight-of-hand is part of a multiyear effort to repopulate the Channel Islands with bald eagles, which once thrived here but were decimated by DDT and have had trouble reproducing. On nearby Santa Cruz Island, National Park Service biologists this summer released a dozen juvenile eagles, trans-

ported from Alaska.

Meanwhile, a network of marine reserves surrounding the Channel Islands, which Environmental Defense helped design in 2002, is helping to restore fish and other marine life by protecting this ocean ecosystem. Fish are the mainstay of the bald eagle's diet.

PERSISTENCE PAYS

In a sense, the eagles' epic journey back to the Channel Islands began more than 30 years ago with a groundbreaking Environmental Defense lawsuit.

From 1947 to 1971, the Montrose Chemical Corporation—at the time the world's largest manufacturer of DDT—dumped pesticide-laden wastewater into the Los Angeles sewer system. This brought tons of contaminated sediment to the ocean floor near the Channel Islands. The pesticide accumulated in fish and fish-eating birds such as bald eagles, peregrine falcons and brown pelicans, causing their eggshells to weaken and crack. By 1960, bald eagles had vanished from the islands.

Environmental Defense filed suit in

1970, forcing Montrose to stop the dumping. Shortly thereafter, we achieved a nationwide ban on DDT.

The Justice Department sued Montrose in 1990 to clean up its mess under the Superfund law. Proceeds from a 2001 settlement are now funding the

Bald eagles are a crucial part of the islands' ecology.

eagle restoration work. "Persistence pays," says our founding trustee Dr. Charles Wurster, who helped the government make its case. "Some environmental issues take decades to resolve."

"Here's a species that's not been around because of humans, and now we have a chance to put it back," exults Russell Galipeau, superintendent of Channel Islands National Park.

The re-establishment of bald eagle populations could also spur the recovery of the endangered island fox, North America's smallest canid. The bald eagles' disappearance left an opening for golden eagles, which prey on the native fox, pushing it to the brink of extinction. A decade ago, more than 1,500 foxes lived on Santa Cruz Island. Today, only about 80 remain in the wild.

Bald eagles, which were once the



Tom Bean/Corbis

The Channel Islands' biodiversity rivals that of any place on Earth.

Environmental hero

Anyone who has ever met Dr. Charles Wurster knows he's a passionate defender of the environment. As one colleague put it, "We all care, but Charlie *really* cares." An environmental scientist, Wurster was among the first to document the devastating impacts of DDT on birds and laid the groundwork for a nationwide ban. He also wrote the key affidavit in our 1970 lawsuit against Montrose that halted the dumping of DDT in California waters.

"The banning of DDT in 1972 was the single most important action taken to ensure the survival and recovery of the peregrine falcon in North America," wrote Tom Cade and William Burnham in *Return of the Peregrine Falcon*. Ospreys, bald eagles and other magnificent birds are soaring again thanks to Wurster's tenacity and conviction.



T. Charles Erickson

islands' top predators and are highly territorial, ignore the tiny foxes, subsisting mainly on fish. "The bald eagle is a crucial part of the ecological puzzle that rules life on the isolated islands," explains Galipeau.

Bringing ecological gems like the Channel Islands back into balance has long been a priority for Environmental Defense. "The link between coastal pollution, the health of fisheries and the plight of wildlife on the islands shows the importance of an integrated ecosystems approach," says our marine ecologist Dr. Rod Fujita.

NEW LAW, MORE FUNDS WILL SPEED RESTORATION

This fall, Environmental Defense helped shepherd the landmark California Ocean Protection Act through the legislature and helped persuade the governor to sign it.

The new law creates a council to coordinate state agencies on oceans protection and establishes a \$10 million trust fund to pay for marine conservation projects.

"This revolving loan program will provide seed money for fisheries reform

measures such as a boat buyback program for fishermen," says Fujita. The fund could also be used to improve monitoring and to extend the Channel Islands reserve to include federal waters. Deepwater canyons in federal waters are important spawning grounds for Pacific rockfish.

"California has created a model for ecosystem-based ocean protection in the United States," adds our marine advocate Richard Charter. "Gov. Schwarzenegger deserves a lot of credit. Nationally, the oceans are finally in the spotlight."

A model for saving our shores

The Channel Islands hug the coast of Central California, sheltering a lush marine ecosystem celebrated as "America's Galapagos." Two years ago, Environmental Defense helped design a science-based network of marine reserves around the islands, where fishing and other

extractive activities are prohibited. Rather than treat each problem individually, marine reserves benefit the entire ecosystem. Successful stewardship in the Channel Islands offers an example for other coastal areas suffering from pollution, overfishing and other human impacts.



Thanks to the ban on DDT and to eagle restoration efforts, roughly 25 bald eagles now reside in the northern Channel Islands. Clean waters around the islands provide a healthier food source.



Divers, boaters, whale watchers and others can observe the full spectrum of life in healthy marine reserves. Although less than 1% of our coastal waters are protected in reserves, support is growing for this conservation tool.



The endangered island fox weighs a mere four pounds. Reintroduced bald eagles can help restore balance to the islands by chasing away non-native golden eagles, which prey on the foxes.



New research shows that fish are nearly twice as plentiful in marine reserves than in areas not protected. As fish stocks are rebuilt, the economies of coastal fishing communities can rebound.

Regional update

A license to fish in North Carolina

“Wahoo!” is the cry from North Carolina’s fishermen when they catch one—a wahoo, that is, a striking, silvery fish that can grow to six feet and well over 100 pounds. Its speed—up to 60 mph—and its reputation as a fighter make “the ‘hoo” especially prized among recreational fishermen.

But little is known about the wahoo and many other sport fish in North Carolina, and officials have long lacked data to manage stocks effectively. That changed this summer when the state passed a coastal fishing license law after years of wrangling. The license will provide accurate data on catches by the one to two million anglers who fish the state’s coastal waters and will help prevent overfishing.

To win passage, we joined forces with anglers, who supported the measure as a way to preserve fish. “We

We joined forces with anglers to help preserve fish.

worked alongside Environmental Defense until the 13th hour to get this bill passed,” said Mike Ward, state president of the Coastal

Conservation Association, a recreational fishing group.

The \$8 to \$12 million expected to be generated by the \$15 annual license fee, which takes effect in 2006, will go into a conservation fund to improve fisheries research, monitor stocks and protect habitat. “The license will benefit recreational fishermen and everyone else who enjoys our coasts,” says our attorney Dan Whittle.



North Carolina was the last Southeastern state to require a recreational saltwater fishing license.



Deirdre Burnett

Piping plovers once thrived on prairie ponds. Careful ranching practices can bring them back.

Reforming the nation’s farm spending

Head north from Westby, MT, toward Kent Throntveit’s ranch and you won’t encounter many people—but you might see a piping plover. Throntveit’s 875 acres host 10 pairs of the threatened birds, a higher concentration than anywhere else in the state.

Plovers, which nest on shorelines, once thrived in the Plains and Great Lakes, but development decimated their numbers. Throntveit’s land, dotted with ponds left by retreating glaciers, makes ideal habitat for the plover and other wildlife.

The rancher has undertaken a \$40,000 project to protect plover habitat from nest-trampling cattle. His primary funding is the agriculture department’s Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). “Without help, it would have been impossible,” admits Throntveit.

But the government turns most landowners like Throntveit away. The \$20 billion in farm assistance pro-

grams each year flows mainly to a few large producers of commodity crops. More than half of the farmers seeking assistance through WHIP are rejected each year; three out of four farmers offering to help improve air and water quality through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program are also rejected.

Most farmers seeking to help the environment are turned away.

We’re building an unprecedented alliance of farmers, conservation groups and fiscal watchdogs to reform spending when farm programs come up for renewal in 2007. “With 70% of U.S. land devoted to agriculture, farm programs literally shape our environment,” notes our farm program specialist Scott Faber.

Air pollution threatens Colorado's crown jewel

Mountain streams now teeming with trout in Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park could be devoid of fish within a generation. Scientific studies show that nitrogen pollution from cars and power plants is damaging the park, altering tree growth and acidifying lakes and streams. Park researchers who have tracked this pollution for decades recently sounded the alarm that nitrogen has exceeded levels that park ecosystems can bear.

Environmental Defense has joined Colorado Trout Unlimited to petition the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service to act. "Federal law requires the Park Service to preserve our parks for future generations," says our attorney Vickie Patton. Our petition asks the government to formally declare that pollution is harming the park and to set limits on nitrogen pollution.

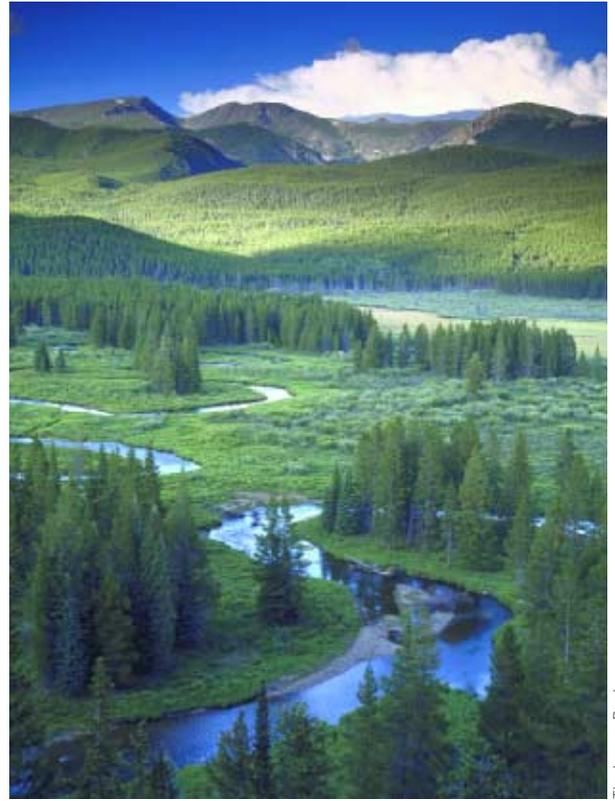
Easterly winds carry smokestack and tailpipe pollution into the park from Denver and its suburbs, and bring nitrogen particles from farm fields and feedlots. The nitrogen compounds fall to the ground with snow and rain. Ozone smog

levels in the park sometimes exceed those of Denver, and haze often shrouds mountain vistas. Nitrogen deposited in soil and waterways has reached 15 times natural levels.

Rocky Mountain National Park straddles the Continental Divide, encompassing 60 peaks above 12,000 feet and a range of ecological zones, from meadows to treeless alpine tundra. In the sensitive ecosystems, nitrogen acts like excess fertilizer, altering the growth of trees hundreds of years old and causing some grasses to thrive, which could push out the park's celebrated wildflowers. By acidifying lakes and streams, nitrogen could harm the Colorado state fish, the threatened greenback cutthroat trout, which has rebounded in the park.

"The science clearly shows the park is being hard hit by pollution," says our scientist Dr. Jana Milford. "The Park Service needs to engage the

state and EPA and find ways to reduce pollution before lasting damage is done."



The Image Bank

Will our children enjoy the Rocky Mountain National Park we know today? We teamed up with Trout Unlimited to safeguard the park's future.

Greening New York's garbage

Imagine a sleek building that blends with the Manhattan waterfront park surrounding it. It features a rooftop community garden, solar panels, even an on-site wetland. A nature education center perhaps? Surprisingly, it's a garbage transfer



Tim Connor

Loud, smelly garbage trucks will travel 50% less under our plan.

station—one of a series of proposals that Environmental Defense helped design to update New York City's waste management system.

Currently, commercial and residential garbage is hauled by truck to low-income communities in the Bronx and Brooklyn, then transferred to long-haul trucks bound for distant landfills. The trucks travel eight million miles a year on city streets, blocking traffic and fouling the air in communities that have some of the highest asthma rates in the nation.

We spent two years working with citizen groups, city officials and industry developing *Trash and the City*, a plan to cut truck traffic in half by using waterfront facilities to transfer trash and recyclables to barges or railroads for removal.

We also helped convince the city to consider such a system for its 20-year waste plan. A proposed waterfront recyclables transfer station for the West Village mirrors many of our design ideas. "Pollution and traffic from the current system affect every New Yorker," says our general counsel James Tripp. "But if we can build a clean waste management system, everyone wins."

More FedEx hybrid trucks hit the road



FedEx

Hybrid electric trucks will take a bite out of Big Apple emissions.

“Start spreading the news....” Ol’ Blue Eyes wasn’t singing about FedEx trucks, but he could have been.

Last month, FedEx rolled out new hybrid-electric delivery trucks in New York, NY, and Tampa, FL, after launching the first vehicles in California this spring,

and will soon add hybrids in Washington, DC.

“New York has some of the most challenging driving conditions in the nation,” says our project manager Elizabeth Sturcken. “If the trucks can make it there, they can make it anywhere.”

Environmental Defense approached FedEx four years ago with the idea of developing a next-generation delivery truck. With cleaner, more fuel-efficient hybrids now delivering packages on both coasts, we challenge other companies to follow suit.

The new FedEx trucks travel 57%

farther on a gallon of fuel and emit 96% fewer particulates than conventional trucks. “Their performance has exceeded expectations,” says FedEx’s Sid Gooch.

If all goes as planned, FedEx could replace its entire 30,000-truck midsize fleet with hybrids. FedEx also has shared information on the new technology with companies operating almost a million trucks.

“With Environmental Defense and FedEx leading the way, many fleets are planning to purchase hybrid electric trucks in the next few years,” notes Bill Van Amburg at WestStart, a group that works with truck suppliers. Among those fleets are DHL and the U.S. Postal Service.

There also has been a surge in interest by electric utility companies. At least nine utilities, led by Florida Power & Light, have ordered hybrids. “The supplier base for hybrids is expanding,” says our engineer Bashar Zeitoun. “The potential improvements in air quality are enormous, especially in densely populated cities.”

China honors our chief economist

It was the police escort that really dazzled Dr. Dan Dudek, especially when they stopped traffic and he crossed Beijing to the Great Hall of the People in just 18 minutes. Dudek was there to receive China’s Friendship Award, the highest honor the government confers on foreign experts, for his work developing a market-based system to cut the country’s sulfur dioxide pollution and acid rain.

Dudek is the first person from an environmental group to be honored in the 15-year history of the award. With his gold medal around his neck, he was interviewed on Chinese TV, lauded as a hero in the *People’s Daily* and congratulated by premier Wen Jiabao.

Just a few days earlier, Dudek had been working in China’s vast, and as yet lightly developed, western Xinjiang province, a region that like America’s West sometimes imagines its natural resources to be unlimited. His cell phone rang, and a Chinese official asked if he would speak at the award ceremony—and submit his speech for review that very afternoon. Dudek wrote his speech in the back seat of the car. Knowing that many senior government officials would be in attendance, he crafted a strong message about the \$10 billion China will save by reducing pollution, and cautioned that the “breakneck con-

struction of new coal-fired power plants,” might impede China’s ambitious clean-air goals. Dudek then drove around the province, searching for a fax machine. Finally, a solution was found: Our Beijing program manager Zhang Jianyu typed the entire speech into his Nokia phone, and sent it on its way.



Dudek: “I realized something remarkable had happened in China, a revolution in environmental thought,”

Xinhua News Agency

NEWS BRIEFS

California puts the brakes on warming

In a major victory in the fight against global warming, California officials this fall unanimously adopted measures cutting global warming pollution from cars.

The nation's first such regulation, it requires automakers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions about 30% by 2016. We played a pivotal role in passing the 2002 law that mandated the regulation. Our experts then provided technical information to buttress the case for a strong rule, which will go to the state legislature in January for final review.

Seven eastern states plus Canada may follow California's lead, spurring automakers to build cleaner cars for all markets. "If our most populous states adopt these standards," says our California regional director Tom Graff, "the ramifications could be international. At the very least, it would show the willingness of states to tackle the global warming

generated by America's love affair with the automobile."

Passenger vehicles produce 40% of California's greenhouse gas emissions, but widely available engine refinements could cut emissions and lower fuel costs. "These are not exotic technologies," says our engineer Dr. John DeCicco.

We are gearing up to help defend the rule, which the industry has vowed to fight. Governor Schwarzenegger also pledged to fend off legal attacks.



Left Lane Productions/Corbis

Once again the Golden State is setting the standard.

Taming the paper monster



Mark Austrin-Washburn

Overstuffed: 58 catalogs each year for every man, woman and child.

Though recycled paper is competitively priced and looks as good as virgin paper, there's almost none in your holiday mail. Instead, the 17 billion catalogs shipped in the U.S. each year devour forests, using enough wood to build a six-foot high fence around the Earth seven times. Of manufacturing industries,

paper ranks first in water use, third in energy intensity and fifth for toxic releases. Paper is also the largest component of solid waste.

Environmental Defense helped catalog companies like Norm Thompson Outfitters switch to recycled paper. And with other environmental groups we developed *A Common Vision* for the paper industry, now endorsed by 70 organizations worldwide. The alliance pays off, says project manager Victoria Mills. "I've seen paper companies refer to *A Common Vision* as evidence of environmental groups working together. It's not easy to divide and conquer us anymore."

 What you can do: Ask catalog companies to use recycled paper. Go to: www.environmentaldefense.org/go/catalogwaste.

Closing EPA's power plant loophole

If you're an automobile manufacturing company, EPA standards require you to cut emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) until it costs you \$5,000 a ton to cut any more. If you're a power plant operator, EPA's proposed Clean Air Interstate Rule would let you quit reducing SO₂ emissions as soon your costs hit \$1,000 per ton.

That isn't enough to clean up the dangerously polluted air many families breathe in America's heartland cities, much of which originates across state lines. Our recent report, *Blowing Smoke in the Heartland*, calls for EPA to narrow that gap in standards. We show that the benefits of strengthening the Interstate Rule would far outweigh the costs: Cutting additional SO₂ has benefits to human health worth \$15,000 per ton. If power plants were required to spend just a bit more—up to the point where it costs them \$1,500 per ton—the new reductions would prevent 16,000 premature deaths annually. "EPA must tighten and swiftly finalize its long overdue pollution limits on power plants," says our air policy expert Michael Shore. "The health of millions is at stake."



To see how a stronger standard would help your state, visit www.environmentaldefense.org/go/blowingsmoke.



Bruce Coleman

Second-hand smoke: Pollution can drift for hundreds of miles.

Gifting green

These vendors are among many sources of earth-friendly holiday gifts. Contact them directly or ask your local merchant.*

Coffee: Songbird Gift Box for \$29.95 contains triple certified (songbird friendly, organic and fair-traded) coffee, organic chocolate and a coffee scoop from Chile (800-796-6820; www.groundsforchange.com).

Chocolate: Ladybug Gift Box for \$11.95 contains 20 pieces of Bug Bites organic chocolate from Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic, complete with an insect trading card. (800-293-0160; www.chocolatebar.com)

Flowers: Organic flowers, starting at \$29.95, are available from Organic Bouquet (250 Bel Marin Keys Boulevard, Suite G4, Novato, CA 94949; 888-899-2468; www.OrganicBouquet.com).

Fruit: Organic Extravaganza fruit basket for \$34.95 contains organic pears, apples, oranges, kiwi fruit, avocados and grapefruit (800-862-9958; www.proflowers.com).

Dried organic fruit, nuts and seeds samplers are available from Diamond Organics (Highway 1, Moss Landing, California, 95039; 888-ORGANIC; www.diamondorganics.com).

Green tags: Green tags are available through such national suppliers as: Community Energy (150 Strafford Avenue, Suite 110, Wayne, PA 19087; 866-WIND-123; www.newwindenergy.com) and Bonneville Environmental Foundation (133 SW 2nd Avenue, Suite 410, Portland, OR 97204; 503-248-1905; www.greentagsusa.org)



Johannes Kroemer/Corbis Sygma

Holiday shopping need not be a drag...for you or the environment.

Give a gift that matters DOES UNCLE BOB REALLY NEED ONE MORE SILK TIE?

This holiday season, you can choose from a cornucopia of gifts that will surprise and delight family and friends while helping protect the environment. Most are equally well suited to birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Bird-friendly coffee.** Have you wondered why you don't hear as many birds singing lately? Believe it or not, your coffee could be one of the culprits. Most mass-produced coffee today is grown in Latin America on large full-sun coffee plantations, a radical departure from the traditional shade-grown method that preserves rainforest habitat for migrating songbirds. Bird-friendly coffee (which in many cases is also organic) costs slightly more, but its slow-maturing beans produce a fuller, richer taste. For a truly educational gift, consider sending the coffee with a guide to local songbirds.

- **Sustainable chocolate.** The same environmental issues that affect coffee also

affect chocolate. Chocolate's main ingredient, cocoa, traditionally has been grown in small-scale plots beneath the forest canopy but now is mostly produced on large, chemical-intensive plantations in Africa and Central and South America. Even more troubling, half the world's cocoa comes from the Ivory Coast, where child labor is used. To counter the dark side of chocolate, environmentally friendly producers have created a variety of organic offerings in charming gift packages.

- **Organic flowers.** The environment sometimes pays a heavy price when we "say it with flowers." A \$16 billion annual business in the United States, cut flowers are among the most pesticide-dependent of crops. In Ecuador, the second-largest U.S. supplier of cut flowers, 60% of workers suffer from headaches, nausea or other ailments. But holiday bouquet buyers now have the option of giving organic flowers certified with the Veriflora label, which requires green growing practices and fair labor standards

*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 offered for sale.

for workers. Ask your flower seller.

- **Fruit baskets.** Organic fruit is now well established in the marketplace, part of a burgeoning natural foods business that is growing 25% a year. A variety of vendors will deliver certified organic fruit baskets in time for the holidays. An alternative is a non-perishable assortment of organic dried fruit and nuts.

- **Renewable energy.** Give the gift of green tags! Also known as renewable energy certificates, green tags pay for the slightly higher cost of generating solar,



Frances Linzee Gordon/Lonely Planet

Shade-grown coffee: It's for the birds.

wind or biomass energy. Customers still get power (and bills) from their local provider, and the cleaner energy is gen-

erally produced somewhere else, but its addition into the grid means that an equal amount will not need to be generated from fossil fuels at a conventional power plant. Solar is the most expensive, at 10 to 20 cents per kilowatt hour. Wind power is much cheaper, at 1.5 to 2.5 cents. Least expensive is energy derived from methane gas from landfills at 0.4 to 1.0 cent per kilowatt hour. Since methane is a high-impact global warming gas when released into the atmosphere, your purchase does double duty for the environment.

By Jim Motavalli



What kind of planet will she inherit?

YOU CAN LEAVE A LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

When you notify us of a bequest to Environmental Defense in your will, a generous challenge grant established by Robert W. Wilson will contribute an additional \$100 to \$10,000, depending on the amount of your bequest.

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Protecting the last frontier in a tropical rain forest



Wayne Walton/Lonely Planet

Indigenous people are the best defenders of their Amazon home.

The last large tract of pristine Amazon forest could soon be protected, thanks to our partnership with grassroots groups and government agencies that are building a mosaic of reserves in Brazil's Terra do Meio, the "Middle Lands." Located between two large complexes of indigenous lands, the new reserve will complete a 96,000-square-mile corridor of exceptional biodiversity, sheltering endangered spider monkeys, giant river otters and the forest itself, highly vulnerable at its edges

In the news

"What is significant is that it will be a market signal heard around the world, a signal that we are moving into a carbon-constrained future."

—Environmental Defense president Fred Krupp, quoted in *The New York Times*, Oct. 1, on the Russian cabinet's approval of the Kyoto Protocol.

to human destruction.

Indigenous peoples who inhabit this land provide its best protection against the cutting and burning that have deforested 16% of the Amazon since the 1970s, says Environmental Defense scientist Dr. Stephan Schwartzman.

His analysis of satellite data—in collaboration with Woods Hole Research Center—shows that deforestation and fire are up to nine times more prevalent outside of reserves than within. Indigenous people are the only effective safeguard in frontier areas where speculators illegally appropriate public lands. Forests are safer, says Schwartzman, with a "local constituency for sustainability."

GUARDIANS OF THE FOREST

The strategy of partnering with indigenous and traditional forest dwellers has guided our Amazon work for two decades. This latest coalition, supported by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, "strengthens our partners in order to accomplish what we could never do alone," Schwartzman says.

The work is urgent. Just last year, 9,000 square miles of the Amazon were cleared, and a new highway now comes within 30 miles of Terra do Meio. Given the pace of development, this reserve must be secured now, or not at all. Rampant expansion of soybean and beef

production has unleashed large-scale land fraud and deforestation in the region. Our project will provide local groups with remote sensing and communications to mobilize law enforcement. The environmental ministry supports the reserve, and the will of the Brazilian government is key.

Brazil contains one-third of the planet's rain forests and one-fifth of the world's species, but deforestation has placed it among the world's biggest global warming polluters. Now 20% of the Amazon is in reserves, which protect indigenous peoples and wildlife while guarding against deforestation. "With an increasing expanse of tropical forest in reserves worldwide," says Schwartzman, "the protection of a substantial proportion of the world's remaining biodiversity is possible."



Barbara Von Hoffmann/Animals-Animals

Habitat fragmentation has endangered the rare harpy eagle, the world's most powerful raptor.



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