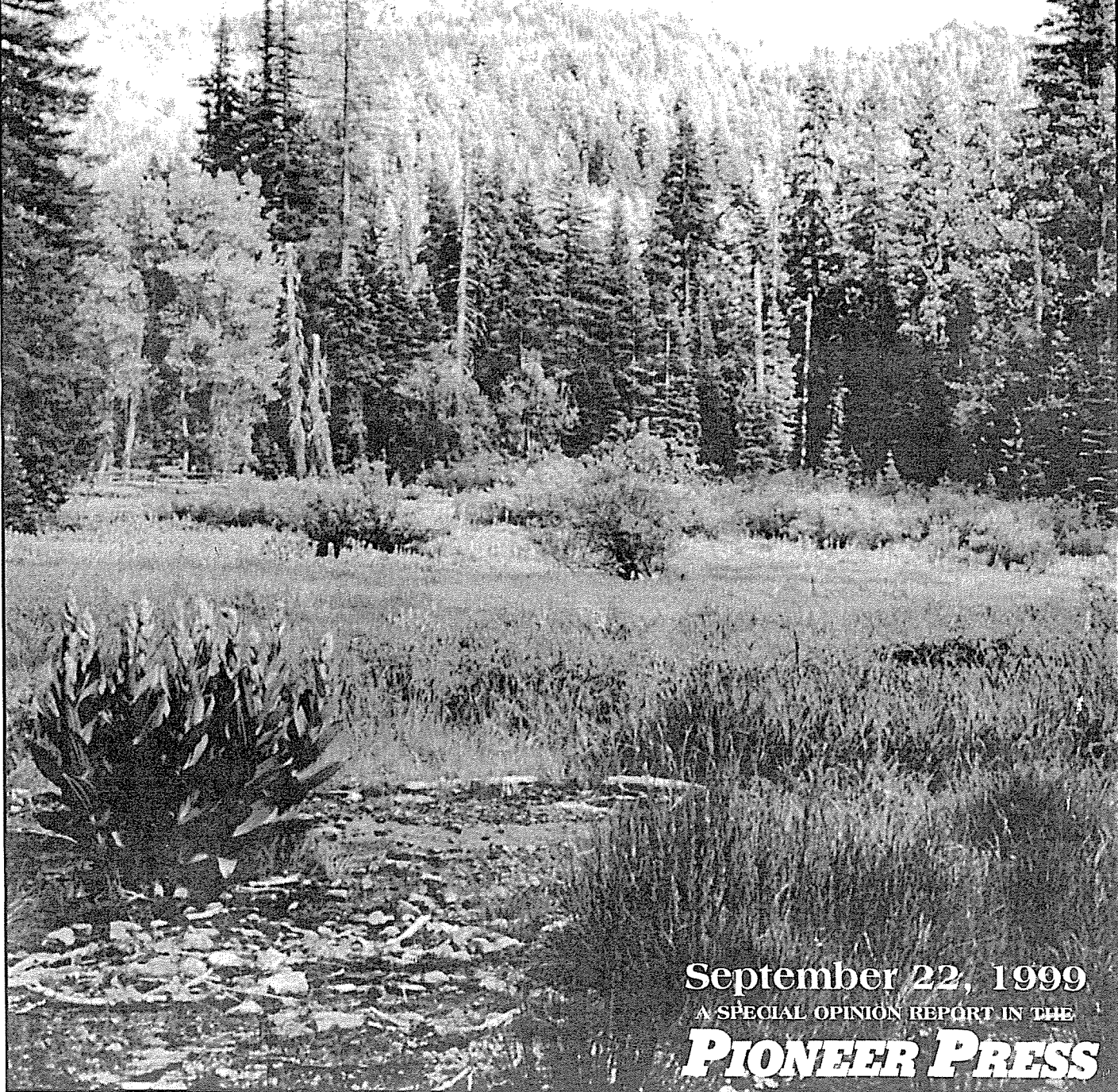


# KFA's True *Agenda*



September 22, 1999

A SPECIAL OPINION REPORT IN THE

**PIONEER PRESS**

## A special Words from Webster

*"If truth be not diffused, error will be."*

*-Daniel Webster (1782-1852)*

At first glance it is so utterly outrageous, it is unbelievable. Yet, once I saw this proposal, it all made sense. The bizarre tactics and radical approach of Felice Pace and Klamath Forest Alliance all fell into place. This is what they have been working towards.

Because the plan you are about to read is so extreme, the Pioneer Press has chosen to almost entirely use the actual words from the proponents of the plan. In doing such, we cannot be criticized for twisting their words or their intentions. These are their words. This is their plan.

The actual plan itself is relatively simple. Return our area to the pre-Columbian era and take our land and give it over to the bears, beavers and bees. The Klamath-Siskiyou Biodiversity Conservation Plan would annihilate life as we know it in Siskiyou County if it comes to pass.

The proposal is to take the Marble Mountain Wilderness, the Russian Wilderness Area, the Salmon Mountains, and the Klamath National Forest and eliminate all roads and nearly all human contact from the most gorgeous area in America. It would appear that even going out into the wilderness to photograph, hike and enjoy God's beautiful creation would be off limits under this plan. I wonder if KFA's staunch supporters, who cherish these activities, knew that this was KFA's goal when they wrote out their checks as donors to this environmental group.

In addition, the areas, which would most probably include Etna, Fort Jones and possibly even the City of Yreka would be closed down as we know it today. It would be left to primitive camping (RVs would definitely be out) and a few roads for some human activity.

In order for a home or ranch to remain in Scott Valley, along the Klamath River and most of Shasta Valley, it would be subjected to such intense government management that the possibility of it remaining fruitful is probably impossible.

If a ranch or home is allowed to remain, it will be nearly valueless because of the inability to make the land productive.

The ranches in Siskiyou County that weren't shut down by regulations or bought out by the government would more than likely be suffocated out by destitution, if this proposal were to come to pass.

In the past year, property values along the Klamath River have fallen as the prospect of the National Marine Fisheries Service regulations have brought real estate sales to a near halt. The NMFS regulations are nothing in comparison to what is proposed in this plan. If this comes to fruition, the local real estate market, in my opinion, will collapse - leaving property owners with one willing buyer: the federal government.

As I see it, I would no longer be able to live in my home and I would be forced to move to some population center. This is my home and I love it here. I don't want to move.

The question of why was Siskiyou County chosen as one of the six locations in the nation for a pilot project has crossed my mind many times. Part of the question is addressed in the following report. In addition, I believe that in the big scheme of things nationwide, there is little produced within our county that the nation is imperatively dependent on. One of the other factors, in my estimation, is the proponents needed a location where a powerful grassroots extreme environmental organization had a hold in the community. They found what they were looking for in KFA.

Recently, smacking of a public relations push, KFA is trying to hold itself out as an integral part of our community. If KFA is part of our community why hasn't it asked the members of our community what they think about this proposal for our community's demise? It is my understanding that the partners in this project are currently mapping out the areas of our county and specifically planning what will be done to our futures. If KFA is truly a member of our community, it would have requested input from us for the mapping of this project.

The other possibility is that KFA is not actually part of our community and is in fact an outsider trying to destroy our county and our way of life.

I know that I will be accused of using fear tactics in this special opinion report. I don't believe I am. This proposal is, however, something to be fearful of and I am merely informing you about it.

The Pioneer Press renounces the Klamath-Siskiyou Biodiversity Conservation Plan.



-Daniel Webster

## The Truth About KFA

Siskiyou County, specifically Etna, has been home for the last ten years to the radical environmental organization, Klamath Forest Alliance. Felice Pace was the executive director until early this year when Diane Williams was appointed to take his place. Williams abruptly left after only a couple of months and early this summer Carol Wright became the executive director.

Though many in this county are aware of KFA, there are not many who understand what KFA's true purposes are.

KFA is one of five so-called "grassroots" bioregional conservation groups which have formed an alliance to implement a nature reserve in the Klamath-Siskiyou "coregion." Named "The Klamath-Siskiyou Biodiversity Conservation Plan," this is one of The Wildlands Project's six national pilot programs. The Wildlands Project's stated goals are to return 50 percent of the United States to wilderness. The area intended for the reserve straddles the California-Oregon border and covers land twice the size of New Jersey. Portions of Siskiyou, Trinity, Del Norte, Humboldt, and Shasta Counties are in the area, as well as portions of Southern Oregon. Scott Valley is a part of the proposed reserve.

KFA, Siskiyou Project, Citizens for Better Forestry, Headwaters, and Northcoast Environmental Center are the five groups working on this project. Dr. Reed Noss and Dr. Jim Stritholt of Earth Design Consultants are heading the group. Noss is a leading player in the radical environmental movement and is the scientific leader of The Wildlands Project as well as being on its board of directors.

The Klamath-Siskiyou region is considered globally significant because, in the words of the World Wildlife Fund, one of the backers of the project, "the region harbors one of the four richest temperate coniferous forests in the world." The efforts of KFA to accomplish the goals of The Wildlands Project will not only affect the people of Siskiyou County, but if they succeed, it will have a nationwide impact.

What exactly is The Wildlands Project and why does it have any significance for Siskiyou County? The Wildlands Project was founded by Dave Foreman who also founded Earth First!, the radical group known for "monkeywrenching," an expression which means stopping the machinery of logging, mining, grazing, or any other activity seen as harming the environment.

Methods used have included draining the oil from machines so the engines will burn up, cutting livestock fences, spiking trees with nails, and human blockades of logging roads.

The Wildlands Project's goals are clearly stated both in Foreman's book, *Confessions of an Eco-Warrior*, and on the organization's web page, [www.wildlandsproject.org](http://www.wildlandsproject.org). Foreman repeatedly asserts that his philosophy is biocentric, meaning that all life forms have equal value, not anthropocentric, which means that humans have more value than other life forms. Foreman states: "An individual human life has no more intrinsic value than does an individual Grizzly Bear life. Human suffering resulting from drought and famine in Ethiopia is tragic, yes, but the destruction there of other creatures and habitat is even more tragic."

Since all life forms have exactly the same value, according to Foreman, the grizzly bear, grey wolf, mountain lion, snail darter, spotted owl, or kangaroo rat have as many intrinsic rights as do human beings. Foreman says people of the United States must restore the wilderness not for the betterment of mankind, but for its own sake. The purpose of The Wildlands Project's goal of returning 50 percent of the North American continent to wilderness is to preserve biological diversity and to allow evolution to continue.

"We should demand that roads be closed and clearcuts rehabilitated, that dams be torn down, that wolves, Grizzlies, Cougars, River Otters, Bison, Elk, Pronghorn, Bighorn Sheep, Caribou, and other extirpated species be reintroduced to their native habitats," Foreman states. "We must envision and propose the restoration of biological wildernesses of several million acres in all of America's ecosystems, with corridors between them for the transmission of genetic variability. Wilderness is the arena for evolution, and there must be enough of it for natural forces to have free rein."

Foreman also says in *Confessions of an Eco-Warrior*: "The only hope of the Earth is to withdraw huge areas as inviolate natural sanctuaries from the depredations of modern industry and technology. Move out the people and cars. Reclaim the roads and the plowed lands."

The name for this now-reconfigured United States will be "Turtle Island," after a Native American name for the continent. In 1969, environmentalist poet Gary Snyder published a collection of poems and essays entitled "Turtle Island" which to him symbolized the cultural and ecological rediscovery of North America. The

Wildlands Project web page uses a turtle with the North American continent on its back as its symbol.

The means to accomplishing The Wildlands Project's goal of returning one-half of the North American continent to a supposedly pre-Columbian condition is to create "reserve networks" made up of core areas created from existing public lands. The characteristics of the core areas, according to The Wildlands Project's web page will be:

- Expand park and wilderness areas to include adjacent old growth, roadless areas, and ecological areas.
- Size depending on context may range from 10,000 acres to 25 million acres, but bigger is better.
- It should be roadless, existing roads should be closed.
- Human access greatly reduced or eliminated all together: "Many ecologists, ... would just as soon see huge areas of land kept off limits to human activities of any kind."

Next to the core areas will be buffer areas. The Wildlands Project says this about buffer zones: "A system of core reserves is necessary but not sufficient to maintain biodiversity. In most regions, strictly protected areas will not occupy enough land, in the short term to meet...conservation goals." "In many cases private lands will need to be acquired and added to the National Forest and other public lands in order to serve as effective buffers."

The characteristics of the buffer zones are:

- Inner Zones:
  - Low road density (no more than .5mi./sq.mi.) and low intensity use.
  - Non-consumptive recreation (hiking, cross-country skiing, bird watching)
  - Primitive camping
  - Wilderness
- Outer Zones:
  - Road density 1 mi./sq.mi
  - Heavier recreational use (no off-road vehicles)
  - Hunting and fishing
  - "Sustainable" forestry
  - "Buffer zones allow for some human activity."

Corridors are the third component of the reserve system. They will have the following characteristics:

- Provide dwelling habitats as extensions of reserves.
- Provide for seasonal migration
- Provide for dispersal and genetic interchange between core reserves
- Provide for long distance migration in response to climate change
- Low road density
- Three times wider than longest distance penetrated by edge effect; width is function of length. (ex. 10 mile corridor should average 1 mile wide)
- Allow for little or no human use.

"Corridors allow for little human use as well. They also will probably depend on private land, as well as public, and often will be designed to follow waterways and wildlife migration routes."

To illustrate the impact on Siskiyou County of this concept, of which KFA is a part as a pilot project, Scott Valley would probably be a buffer area as it has existing public lands along its western edge. The Marble Mountain Wilderness Area, the Russian Wilderness Area, the Salmon Mountains, and the Klamath National Forest would be core areas, and the corridors would include the Scott River. In other words, the only way people could remain on their farms and ranches and in their homes would be through governmental management making sure that whatever they did was compatible with "native biodiversity."

The Wildlands Project's web page shows a series of maps of Florida illustrating how their plan will evolve. The final map shows "the brown areas (which) are the only areas where people are allowed to remain." There is very little brown.

The philosophical basis for this radical concept is called "Deep ecology," which, in The Wildlands Project's own words, has "very little of the science of ecology contained in it. Deep ecology is much more of a philosophy similar in nature to Buddhism and Taoism. Deep ecology is extremely skeptical that science can show us the things that we really need to know about nature." Deep ecology was first articulated by a Norwegian philosopher, Arne Naess. Naess believed that all life has equal value and therefore "if you are concerned about clean air, clean water, or healthy forest because of their impact on human health and well being, then you are what Naess would call a "shallow ecologist," to quote The Wildlands Project.

The Deep ecology platform includes the following:

- All life (human and non-human) has equal value.
- Resource consumption above what is needed to supply "vital" human needs is immoral.
- Human population must be reduced.
- Western civilization must radically change present economic, technological, and ideological structures.
- Believers have an obligation to try to implement the necessary changes.

As to the reduction of human population, according to The Wildlands Project manifesto: "Humanity must drastically scale down its industrial activities on Earth, change its consumption lifestyles, stabilize and then reduce the size of the human population by humane means, and protect and restore wild ecosystems and the remaining wildlife on the planet."

The Wildlanders, as they call themselves, reject the notion of sustainability, that is managing the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Their belief is that management of natu-

## KFA Lawsuits since 1989

1. 12/89: KFA, Marble Mountain Audubon Society, Salmon River Concerned Citizens and Klamath River Concerned Citizens filed a lawsuit in Federal Court to halt Grider Creek timber sale, alleging that 50%, not 10%, was green timber. Pace claimed USFS placed the sale under the catastrophic clause because of the burn in the Salmon River area, leaving him no recourse but to sue.

2. 5/93: KFA & Marble Mountain Audubon Society challenged in court a logging plan proposed by Fruit Growers Supply, claiming that it violated the Clean Water Act and state forest practices.

3. 1994: KFA along with other environmental groups, sued to stop Clinton's Pacific Northwest forest management plan.

4. Fall, 1995: KFA joined a coalition of environmental groups in an appeal of recently enacted management plans for Klamath, Shasta-Trinity, Six Rivers, and Mendocino National Forests. The appeal asked for an injunction of all resource activities in the forests pending resolution of the appeal. The appeal was based on the belief that management plans did not live up to the spirit of Clinton's forest plan.

"As a direct result of this appeal, Felice Pace lost his seat on the Siskiyou Forest Management Roundtable as the consensus group considered the lawsuit a breach of trust.

5. 8/96: An appeal filed by Tom Dimitre on behalf of KFA with the Klamath National Forest which attacked the process of environmental assessment and findings done by the USFS for the Cuddihy Range Grazing Permit Allotment. KFA proposed that there be open bidding for the available allotment to anyone or any group and the group could choose to "rest" the land and not use it for grazing at all. They also proposed that all subsidies, such as Range Betterment Fund and Animal Damage Control Program, be eliminated. They also asked for better range management, including the use of wranglers, and that when a permit is lost or lapses, it should be renewed only after a public planning process is conducted to assess the appropriateness of the allotment and permitted livestock numbers.

"The Forest Service said there was no significant impact found as there were 50 pairs of cows and calves on 54,000 acres. Pace countered that there had not been enough consideration of the impact on the Willow Flycatcher, the Great Gray owl, and elk. Pace also said that National Environmental Protection Agency requires a watershed analysis along with a complete survey of all species.

6. 10/97: KFA and the Oregon Natural Resources Council filed suit against the City of Klamath Falls due to the city's sewage treatment plant dumping raw sewage into a canal which leads to the Klamath River.

"This suit was settled with the details sealed by the court.

7. 11/97: KFA and the Oregon Natural Resources Council filed two lawsuits in Eugene against Columbia Plywood Corporation in Klamath Falls and the Bureau of Reclamation under the federal Clean Water Act. The suits claimed both groups are dumping pollution into the Klamath River without valid permits.

8. 7/98: KFA, along with 12 other environmental groups, filed suit in federal court in Seattle, against the USFS and BLM for not following Clinton's NWFM plan. The suit claimed the two agencies "have systematically failed to implement the plan's requirement to search for and protect imperiled species that are in the path of logging." The suit claimed this failure caused lower numbers of steelhead and coho salmon.

9. 7/30/98: KFA sued the USFS in U.S. District Court in Sacramento challenging the reconstruction of roads in the Klamath National Forest, claiming the roads "are a big part of the reason our salmon and steelhead stocks are on the brink of extinction."

10. Fall, 1998: KFA, along with several other environmental groups, sued in federal court to reform the agricultural practices on the Lower Klamath and Tule Lake Refuges.

"This case was dismissed.

11. Fall, 1998: KFA and ONRC filed three lawsuits in the Upper Basin under the provisions of the Clean Water Act with the intent of cleaning up the Klamath River.

12. 1999: KFA and other conservation organizations legally challenged a NMFS decision to not list Klamath Province steelhead as threatened.

13. 2/99: The Center for Biological Diversity on behalf of KFA and 18 other environmental groups sued the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, seeking to add the Northern Goshawk to the Endangered Species Act list.

14. Spring, 1999: KFA sued the USFS in federal district court, challenging their decision to rebuild flood damaged roads and claiming that the USFS did not take environmental consequences into account.

"The court issued an injunction against the Forest Service, halting all work on over 140 reconstruction projects on secondary roads in the KNF.

15. 4/99: KFA, Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center and California Wilderness Coalition filed a 60-day notice of Intent to Sue with the Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt, to force the FWS to list the Yreka Phlox as an endangered species. The agency had published a proposal to list the flower on April 1, 1998 and had a year to finalize the listing, but did not do so.

16. 6/99: KFA and other "watershed protection organizations" intervened in a lawsuit brought by the National and California Farm Bureaus to exempt agriculture and logging as non-point polluters.

17. 5/17/99: KFA and four other environmental groups filed an appeal with the Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control Board to stop the Medicine Lake Geothermal Project.

18. 6/99: KFA states it will appeal the Twice Helicopter sale.



ral resources for "sustainability" is an anthropocentric concept, not a biocentric one, and therefore not acceptable. In other words, anything that puts humans and their needs at the center of life is wrong headed.

John Davis, editor of Wild Earth magazine, the publication of The Wildlands Project, is quoted as saying: "Does all the foregoing mean that Wild Earth and the Wildlands Project advocate the end of industrialized civilization? Most assuredly. Everything civilized must go."

Dave Foreman says: "In looking at human history, we can see that we have lost more in our 'rise' to civilization than we have gained. We can see that life in a hunter-gatherer society was on the whole healthier, happier, and more secure than our lives today as peasants, industrial workers, or business executives. For every material 'achievement' of progress, there are a dozen losses of things of profound and ineffable value."

Foreman even includes the fighting of disease as a mistake of civilization: "Ours is an ecological perspective that views Earth as a community and recognizes such apparent enemies as 'disease' (e.g. malaria) and 'pests' (e.g. mosquitoes) not as manifestations of evil to be overcome but rather as vital and necessary components of a complex and vibrant biosphere."

The specific "priority activities to enhance biodiversity conservation" for the Klamath-Siskiyou Biodiversity Plan include:

1. All logging of undisturbed native forests should be halted.
2. Cattle and sheep grazing should be eliminated from alpine and high elevation habitats.
3. Establish a biodiversity reserve system centered on Klamath National Forest, or a system of parks and/or reserve areas, including a Siskiyou National Park in Southern Oregon.
4. Reserve systems should conform to watersheds critical to salmon.
5. The federal government should purchase private lands that harbor or are needed to sustain endangered and threatened species.
6. Undertake recovery of declining species such as fisher and wolverine, and reintroduce extirpated species such as wolf and grizzly. The relatively intact condition of the Klamath-Siskiyou ecoregion provides a rare opportunity for recovery of large carnivores in the West.

What all this adds up to is an attempt to turn much of Southern Oregon and Northern California, including parts of Siskiyou County, back into wilderness, with the Klamath Forest Alliance working to implement the goals of The Wildlands Project.

In Confessions of an Eco-Warrior Dave Foreman lays out the tactics for the extreme environmentalists to use to achieve their goals: "Delay, resist, subvert, using all available tools: File appeals and lawsuits, encourage legislation - not to reform the system but to thwart it. Demonstrate, engage in nonviolent civil disobedience, monkeywrench. Defend. Deflect the thrashing mailed fist of the dying storm trooper of industrialism as represented by the corporate honcho, federal bureaucrat, and tobacco chewing Bubba."

During the ten years of its existence since it was incorporated as a public benefit, non-profit organization, the Klamath Forest Alliance has filed at least eighteen lawsuits in federal courts from Seattle to Eugene to Sacramento. The lawsuits range from challenges to logging sales, to appeals regarding grazing permits, to challenging the U.S. Forest Service's decision to rebuild flood damaged roads.

As Executive Director of KFA Felice Pace has represented the environmental community on the Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) board. Due to his behavior at the meetings, which included outbursts of anger and refusals to work cooperatively with the other members, a letter was sent to the KFA Board from the CRMP asking that they appoint another representative. KFA refused.

Pace protested the Siskiyou County Land Management Plan, attempted to change the federal grazing laws to allow anyone to bid on a permit, even if they did not own cattle and did not intend to use it for grazing, joined with members of Earth First! to physically protest the Dillon Creek logging, and effectively ended the Siskiyou Forest Management Roundtable by filing lawsuits at the very time he was supposed to be working in cooperation with other members.

Following along with The Wildlands Project's goal of closing roads in the national forests, KFA sued the USFS in July, 1998 in the U.S. District Court in Sacramento challenging the reconstruction of roads in the Klamath National Forest after the floods of 1997.

KFA, along with Oregon Natural Resources Council and other environmental groups, sued in federal court to reform agricultural practices on the Lower Klamath and Tule Lake Refuges, claiming that wildlife should take priority over commercial farming and that farmers used pesticides toxic to fish, birds, and wildlife as well as growing crops not beneficial to wildlife. The suit was dismissed last December by District Court Judge Garland Burrell.

According to KFA's June, 1999 newsletter: "On April 1, 1998, the Fish and Wildlife Service published a proposed rule to list the Yreka Phlox as an endangered species. The ruling was published in the Federal Register, and gave the

agency a year to finalize the listing. After the deadline passed on April 1, 1999, the Klamath Forest Alliance, Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center and California Wilderness Coalition filed a 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue with the Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt. We are currently awaiting a response from the agency on the status of the listing. The Yreka phlox is found on only five or six sites on both public and private lands near Yreka."

Who provides KFA with all the money it takes to go to court? One of its sources of funding is the W. Alton Jones Foundation, which gave them a two-year grant of \$80,000 in 1997. The W. Alton Jones Foundation, founded by oilman "Pete" Jones, also funds The Wildlands Project, as does The Turner Foundation, the foundation begun by former CNN chief Ted Turner.

The Weeden Foundation supports the Klamath Forest Alliance with grants, and also funds The Wildlands Project. The Weeden Foundation has funded efforts to buy up cattle grazing permits in the Nevada Great Basin National Park for purposes of retiring the permits and stopping any future grazing.

The Pew Charitable Trust, established by the late Joseph Pew, Jr., former president of Sun Oil, along with his three siblings, is a major backer of The Wildlands Project and gave \$21.9 million to environmental causes in 1996 alone. In addition, The Rockefeller Brothers Foundation and corporate foundations including Patagonia, manufacturer of outdoor clothing, are among The Wildland Project's strongest supporters.

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# Oh, my.

The letters in Expressions are gonna be crazy next week.

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