



WWF World Wide Fund
For Nature

IUCN
The World Conservation Union

arborvitæ

The IUCN/WWF Forest Conservation Newsletter

October 1999

12

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GM Trees

Despite the barrage of publicity surrounding the use of genetic modification in agriculture, similar events in forestry are taking place virtually unnoticed. And while biotechnology may be under siege in the food crop sector, it is growing stronger in the field of industrial forestry. Genetic modification offers the forest sector, with its long-standing limitations on tree improvement, potential for development that would not have been believed possible even 15 years ago.



Nigel Dudley

Poorly regulated and controlled commercialisation of biotechnology in the forest sector poses additional risks compared to agriculture. There is a genuine and still largely unexplored threat from genetic pollution and increased invasiveness. However more

Tree nursery employing local people, Kalimantan, Indonesia

immediate problems are associated with the intensification of land use. Perhaps the biggest single threat from forest biotechnology is that it becomes an incentive for inappropriate plantation development. Increased soil nutrient and water demand of fast growing, short rotation, species could lead to irrecoverable loss of site productivity and foster a system of migratory plantation establishment, especially in the tropics. The long timeframe and typically remote locations of tree plantations mean that additional safeguards are required in national and international biosafety protocols.

Since 1988 there have been 116 confirmed GM tree trials around the world. The number of both trials and species used has risen sharply since 1995. There is a North-South divide related to the type of trial and the research institutions involved. In North America and the European Union research is typically controlled by government and academia while in Latin America, Africa and South East Asia research is driven by the private sector. All the indications are that commercial GM plantations will make their debut in Indonesia, Chile and possibly Brazil. Little information is available from China but it is suspected that transgenic trees will be important there as well.

It is difficult to determine how the GM issue will unfold over the next year or two. However, it is an issue that deserves increasing attention from those concerned with the conservation and sustainable use of forests. People who are interested in contributing information on the issue of GM trees are welcome to contact the editors.

Rachel Asante Owusu
Consultant to WWF

The next issue of *arborvitæ* will be produced in December 1999 (copy deadline end November). If you have any material to send or comments please contact: Nigel Dudley and Sue Stolton, 23 Bath Buildings, Bristol BS6 5PT UK. Telephone and fax: +44-117-942-8674
E-mail: equilibrium@compuserve.com



Tobacco growing and deforestation

An estimated 200,000 ha of woodland are lost every year as a result of tobacco farming, amounting to 1.7 per cent of global deforestation according to new research published in *Tobacco Control*. In tobacco-growing countries, its average role in forest loss rises to 5 per cent. Wood is used mainly for curing, particularly in the developing world in southern Africa, and parts of the Middle East, South America and Asia. Between 1990 and 1995, 11.4 million tonnes of wood were used in tobacco production, mainly for curing. Although some countries have encouraged farmers to establish wood lots for use in curing, a substantial deficit remains in most cases. The author of the study, Helmut Geist, concluded, "the hypothesis that deforestation from tobacco production does not have a significant negative effect has to be challenged".

Source: *Tobacco Control* 8, 18-28, 1999.

Parrots and Forests

A new leaflet from WWF-UK complements the release of an IUCN Global Action Plan for Parrots, which identifies 89 threatened species and outlines threats from habitat destruction and degradation. Most of the world's parrots live in forests, which are crucial for the survival of 80 per cent of threatened parrot species.

Contact: Paul Toyne. E-mail: ptoyne@wwfnet.org

Blue throated
Macaw



C. Allan/TRAFFIC International

Fires update

Prepared in collaboration with **Peter Moore**
The next issue of *arborvitae* will include a special feature on fire - looking at current trends, the real impacts and policy options.

South America

Thousands of forest and bush fires have been reported in western Brazil, Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay, primarily caused by farmers clearing fields in preparation for planting. Brazil's National Space Research Institute reported 1,770 wildfires over the states of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul in September, where over 50,000 ha of the Ilha Grande National Park were on fire. Areas of pristine Atlantic forest were involved in a fire that affected 70 hectares of the Serra dos Orgaos National Park. In Peru, a serious fire in Manu National Park in the heart of the Peruvian Amazon forest has affected the homeland of the Manu people.

Source: Environment News Service, September 1999; Associated Press, September 2, 1999

News in brief

Cash not Land in Canada

The decision to 'pay off' forest company Macmillan Bloedel with public land to avert a lawsuit over harvesting rights in Vancouver Island, (*arborvitae* 11) caused widespread consternation. After public consultations and a clear message from residents that they were against the land deal, the government has decided to hand over millions of dollars instead. At least a dozen other compensation deals are pending from the government of British Columbia's decision to set aside 12 per cent of the land area as protected areas.

Source: Environment News Service, September 1999

China's logging ban increases timber cut in surrounding countries

China's official imports of logs rose 87.2 per cent to 4.22 million m² in the first half of this year following a logging ban imposed last year after severe flooding. Imports of processed woods also increased some 73.1 per cent.

Source: Reuters

Harvesting to extinction

A TRAFFIC report on trade in medicinal plants in Ecuador found that some of the most commonly sold tree species included those banned in international trade, including the holy wood (*Bursera graveolens*), balm (*Myroxylum balsamum*) and walnut (*Juglans neotropica*).

Source: TRAFFIC

Japanese housing destroys forests

Japan's "scrap and build" housing policy, where traditional wooden houses only last between 25 and 30 years, is the focus of a new campaign by FoE Japan. Russia is Japan's largest source of raw logs, with 1998 imports reaching 5 million m³, 80 per cent of which was used in housing construction.

Contact: Josh Newell, E-mail: siberia@foejapan.org

Russia

Between 1997-98 forest fires affected almost 50 per cent of the forests of Eastern Kazakhstan - which had already been weakened by three-years of drought. The Aerial Forest Fire Protection Service of the Federal Forest Service (FFS) reported that up to September 1999 a total of 28,176 fires, in forests under the control of the FFS, burnt a total of 541,309 ha of forest and 194,787 ha non-forest areas (inside forest lands).

Source: Forest Update, 37: April 1999, Global Fire Monitoring Centre - <http://www.ruf.uni-freiburg.de/fireglobe>

USA

Fires were reported on over 80,000 ha of forests in the western US states this summer. The toll included: almost 10,000 ha in the Plumas National Forest; 73 ha in Los Padres National Park; almost 400 ha in San Bernardino National Forest; over 400 ha in Angles National Forest and 7500 ha in the Shasta and Trinity National Forests. Persistent dry and hot conditions caused extreme fire activity.

Source: Global Fire Monitoring Centre: <http://www.ruf.uni-freiburg.de/fireglobe> and Forest Protection Bureau: <http://flame.doacs.state.fl.us/Suppress>. Environment News Service: AmeriScan August/September

Indonesia

By the beginning of September, the EU-Forest Fire Prevention and Control Project (FFPCP) Fire Overview reported that fire hotspots were observed in Peninsula Malaysia, Riau, Jambi, South Sumatra and Lampung provinces in Sumatra and in all provinces of Kalimantan. Concentrated hotspots in South Sumatra were identified as a major wildfire.

Satellite imagery has found the source of 80 per cent of the fires that affected Indonesia in 1997 and 1998 as having originated in or near large government-backed palm oil plantations and timber concessions.

ASEAN Environment Ministers met in Singapore in August to review measures taken to deal with the current fires in the region. The Ministers expressed their concern that despite numerous meetings and attention on the regional haze problem, fires have recently recurred in Sumatra, Borneo and some parts of Peninsula Malaysia, after only a brief dry spell. The Ministers noted that most of the recent fires were plantation fires, and in consequence decided to meet plantation companies to discuss the issues. The Ministers reiterated that the key towards preventing fires is to ensure strict enforcement against land clearing using fire.

Source: <http://www.haze-online.or.id/main.htm>, East-West Centre, Hawaii, Update December 1998

The IUCN and WWF Forest Programmes would like to add their condolences to the friends and family of Andrew Gray, the British anthropologists and policy advisor to the UK based Forest Peoples Programme who died in an air crash in the South Pacific in May.

Impacts of roads acknowledged

In July the Committee of the European Development Fund, rejected a European Commission proposal for a 52 million Euro (US\$50 million) grant to upgrade roads in Cameroon, due to concerns that the project could accelerate logging (see *arborvitae* 10). This is the first time that the committee, which oversees annual grants worth 2 billion Euro, has rejected a project on environmental grounds.

Source: Simon Counsell: simonc@rainforestuk.com

Log exports halted - almost

The five-yearly authorisation of log exports of over-exploited hardwoods from Cameroon, such as iroko, moabi, bibolo and bubinga, expired on June 30 and will apparently not be renewed. However, export of ayous and sapelli will continue. Cameroon exports over 1million m³ of ayous and 750,000 m³ of sapelli every year.

Sources: The Associated Press and Reuters

The end is nigh

In August, the International Botanical Congress released a report *Plants in Peril - What Should We Do* summarising the current state of mass extinction. It predicts that between one-third and two-thirds of all plant and animal species, mostly in the tropics, will be lost during the next century.

Source: IBC Press Office. Tel: +1-314-611-3961

Old-growth = Global warming!

A pamphlet from the Wood Product Manufacturers Association of Nova Scotia claims that old-growth forest protection should be limited "to reduce the impact on global warming", because younger trees absorb more carbon dioxide older or decaying trees, thus "... old-growth forests contribute to global warming"...

Source: A Snapshot: The Forest Industry in Nova Scotia

Increased logging in California

A US Forest Service plan, announced in August 1999, will virtually double logging in California's northern forests. The five-year pilot plan, intended to reduce fire risks, calls for the annual logging and clearing of 266,000 tons of brush and small trees in Sierra Nevada forests. Opponents state that the plan is likely to require up to 100 miles of new roads.

Source: Environment News Service, August 1999

Ok Tedi - company admits pollution

Pollution at Papua New Guinea's Ok Tedi mine has been admitted by the majority owner, Australia's Broken Hill Proprietary (see *arborvitae* special on mining). The company released a report confirming that some 1350 km² of tropical forests and wetlands will be destroyed by mine pollution and says that "it should never have become involved" in the project. The mine manager has stated that they have no "preferred option" for dealing with damage. There are fears that Broken Hill may be planning to close or sell its shares in the mine and not take responsibility for the pollution.

Source: Environmental News Service, August 1999



Canadian Senate support for boreal forests

A Senate Subcommittee on Boreal Forests report, released in July, recognises that: “Portions of Canada’s remaining natural, undisturbed boreal forest and its areas of old growth are now at risk, from both climate change and over cutting. Highly mechanised timber harvesting is proceeding at a rapid pace, as is mineral and petroleum exploration and extraction. At the same time, the boreal forest is being asked to provide a home and way of life for aboriginal communities, habitat for wildlife, an attraction for tourism and a place where biodiversity and watersheds are protected”.

The report makes 35 recommendations, including: an acceleration of the identification and establishment of six new national parks in the boreal zone; the completion of the promised network of protected areas by 2002; no timber or other development permits to be issued in proposed park sites; and no industrial development in established national and provincial parks. It also recommends development of a forest use regime based on a natural forest landscape divided into three categories.

- 1) up to 20 per cent of the forest intensively managed for timber production;
- 2) the majority of the area, 60 per cent plus, managed with the primary objective of biodiversity conservation;
- 3) up to 20 per cent to be set aside as protected areas to preserve ecologically and culturally significant areas.

The report also includes recommendations on indigenous rights, endangered species, chemical use, infrastructure development, forest inventories and certification.

A full version can be found on the web at: www.parl.gc.ca/sencom.asp
tel: +1-613-990-0088

Research in Brief

The roads question

The increased threats faced by forests located close to roads have been highlighted by recent research findings.

One million tonnes of bushmeat is harvested annually in tropical Africa and wild game hunting in the Congo is three to six times higher in communities adjacent to logging roads, according to the Wildlife Conservation Society (*American Association for the Advancement of Science* **23**: April 1999). Similar problems are reported in Asia, where the role of logging companies was also investigated. In 1996, for example, workers in one logging camp in Sarawak (where the bushmeat trade in general is estimated to be more than 1,000 tons per year) killed over 1,000 animals (29 tonnes of meat). Problems are apparently worse when people have no proper land tenure rights. Research by the University of Florida, reported in *Resources* (**136**: Summer 1999), found that subsistence farmers holding title to land along the Transamazon Highway in the Brazilian Amazon, are more likely to maintain valuable wood and undertake reforestation activities and are less likely to participate in the timber markets. Title to land did not necessarily lessen the frequencies of fire, although relative frequency of fire was 60% lower in ‘well-organised’ areas where community co-operation was greater. A Brazilian Space Agency study of 9m ha of forest lost in the Amazon from 1991-1996 (<http://www.dpi.inpe.br/dalves/Diogenes.html>), found 73% was within 50 km of 3 major road networks, 82% was in Mato Grosso, Para, and Rondonia and 86% was within 25 km of areas deforested before 1978. Meanwhile, a workshop organised by IUCN in Cameroon suggested that simple opposition to roads by conservationists was likely to alienate many other stakeholders and proposed an integrated approach to roads and development (*Integration de la Conservation des Ecosystemes Forestiers au Développement Rural du Sud et de l’Est du Cameroun*).

Forests and culture

In Central Africa, the *baka* (pygmy) people enjoy an intimate relationship with the forest. Young people have to stay in a special, secluded area near the village (shown here), to be assigned the personal god that will look over them throughout their lives.



New WWF report calls for WTO members to show commitment to sustainable development

The upcoming Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Seattle must ensure that WTO rules and decisions do not undermine multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and national policies designed to protect the environment.

“Unless a number of changes are made, the world will not have a rules-based multilateral trading system needed for a sustainable global economy” according to **Charles Arden-Clarke**, Head of WWF’s Trade and Investment Unit.

WWF is calling for WTO Members to ensure that the negotiations at the Ministerial Conference:

- Delineate more clearly the jurisdiction of the WTO so as to respect MEAs such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change;
- Clearly allow the use of non-protectionist trade measures to achieve MEAs’ environmental objectives;
- Are made more transparent and that national governments are made more accountable to their parliaments and people for positions they take in the WTO;
- Are made more equitable, by ensuring that they focus on developing countries’ market access needs and put into effect “special and differential treatment” for those countries;
- Prioritise elimination of environmentally damaging subsidies, such as perverse incentives supporting unsustainable or environmentally damaging logging practices.

Contact: cardenclarke@wwfnet.org

The WTO meeting may lead to an increase in old-growth cutting, Oregon, USA

North America's living legacy



WWF-US and WWF Canada have just published a massive study - *Terrestrial Ecosystems of North America - A Conservation Assessment* - mapping conservation goals for key ecoregions in Canada and the USA. One hundred and sixteen distinct ecoregions are identified, and delineated according to

species richness and endemism, biological distinctiveness and recommended conservation actions per ecoregion. The need to "restore and protect forests" is the first of ten critical actions identified by the study

Terrestrial Ecoregions of North America, by Taylor H Ricketts and eleven others, is available from Island Press, 1718 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 300, Washington DC 20009



Nigel Dudley

NGO opposition to a “free trade agreement” for forest products

Over a hundred non-governmental organisations, including WWF and the Netherlands Committee for IUCN, have signed a statement opposing the proposal for a free trade agreement for forest products. Opposition is based on concern about its role in increasing timber production and consumption and eliminating non-tariff measures, which could weaken third party environmental controls.

Contact: Saskia Ozinga, Fern, saskia@gn.apc.org



John Newby, WWF

Anzaharibe-South Forest Reserve
Andapa,
Madagascar

Madagascar Meeting

The WWF Core Forest Advisory Group and the WWF Africa Forests Forum both met in Antananarivo, Madagascar, in October 1999, while the Latin America forest advisory group held its annual meeting in Washington DC. Key issues included the IUCN/WWF global forest strategy, the importance of stepping up efforts to promote certification, effective management of forest protected areas and the need to expand into issues such as agricultural encroachment of forests, mining and the impacts of genetic engineering on forest management.

The Natura 2000 Network: a unique opportunity for nature

Marta Ballesteros, of the WWF-European Policy Office, reports on the slow progress of member states to adopt the Natura 2000.

The Habitats and Species Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna [OJ L206, 22.7.1992]) requires EU countries to protect Europe's most threatened species and habitats by the turn of the millennium. This is to be achieved through the establishment of a coherent European Ecological Network known as Natura 2000, covering areas both on land and at sea, and by promoting the sustainable management of the wider land and seascapes either inside or outside this Network. However, the progress towards Natura 2000 is being hindered by Member States not meeting the commitments they signed up to six years ago.

The first stage of this process is the selection of sites to be included in the Natura 2000 Network. NGOs now have the opportunity to influence the process by pushing their governments to designate areas required for the establishment of a coherent European Network. These areas will be properly designated and will receive the protection offered by the Habitats Directive to be applied to each site according to conservation objectives and sustainable management. WWF is monitoring Member States' implementation and providing them with information about important sites.

News in brief

WWF Canada and the Forests for Life Campaign released a joint report called: **Canada's Commitment to Forest Protected Areas** in August. The report can be found on the web: <http://www.panda/canadianforests> along with maps, pictures, and a VNR. This report gives a snapshot assessment of Canada's progress towards the Forests for Life protected areas target, how far they have come and how far they need to go by the year 2000.

Contact: Pegi Dover, pdover@wwfcanada.org or Tori Lyall, tlyall@wwfnet.org.

Nick Brown has joined WWF-US as a Senior Program Officer for the Global Forest Program and for the US domestic campaign, based at WWF-US. Nick will be focusing on promoting the campaign targets in the United States.

Contact: Nick Brown, nick.brown@wwfus.org

WWF UK has analysed the 34 forest projects it funds. Almost all (99.5 per cent) of the 142,343 ha of forest involved is in protected areas (this includes various NPs, Private Reserves, etc, not all of which may have proper legislatively protected status) and 98.6 per cent, are in tropical dry and moist forests. The main threats facing projects are agriculture and encroachment, along with poaching, logging, collection of non-timber forest products and grazing. WWF-UK contributes towards conservation of 0.43 per cent of the world's forests.

Contact: Paul Toyne at ptoyne@wwfnet.org

The second edition of WWF's **Living Planet Report** has been released. The report includes the Living Planet Index (LPI) – an indicator of the overall state of the Earth's natural ecosystems. The index primarily measures abundance – e.g. the area of the world's forests and the populations of different marine and freshwater species. The LPI declined by 30 per cent from 1970 to 1995 - implying that the world has lost 30 per cent of its natural wealth in the space of one generation.

For more information see: www.panda.org/livingplanet/lpr99

Naig Cozannet has joined the Global Forests and Trade Initiative (GFTI) to work as a programme officer on the Forests for Life certification target. Naig has come from WWF France where she was head of the Forest Programme. In her new role she will be responsible for the coordination and development of the network of Buyers Groups.

Contact: ncozannet@wwfnet.org

WWF Nepal Programme has launched its own website at <http://www.south-asia.com/wwfnepal>

DGIS-WWF Tropical Forest Portfolio Newsletter Issue 3 (April 1999) is now available. This issue has a special emphasis on women.

For copies contact: Carole Hurlimann, churlimann@wwfnet.org

Community Involvement in Forest Management in Southeast Asia

Mark Poffenberger reports on the IUCN-facilitated Working Group on Community Involvement in Forest Management (WG-CIFM) second regional profile: *Communities and Forest Management in Southeast Asia*. This report seeks to document both the problems and opportunities confronting countries and communities as they struggle to engage forest dependent people more effectively in management.

Since the 1970's, the development sector in Southeast Asia has largely articulated community forestry issues in terms of project activities and technologies, such as establishing village wood lots with fast growing species, or supporting non-timber forest products collection and processing. For the most part, social forestry initiatives were confined to pilot project areas, with no or limited influence on the broader policy environment for community involvement in forest management.

In recent years, perceptions regarding the role of communities in resource management have begun to change. In some countries, community forestry has begun to emerge as a people's movement, challenging the authority of the state to hold unilateral power over forest management decision making.

This report documents the broader dimensions of community forestry at the national level, as well as providing in-depth views of six cultural communities, examining how rural, forest-dependent people are impacted by broader societal forces such as population expansion, land tenure insecurity, and commercial logging and mining. The case studies indicate that communities are struggling to sustain natural environments and sustainably manage natural resources, often constrained by growing external and internal pressures. Community concerns regarding the environment and their commitment to act as stewards of the earth is eloquently stated by the Manobo elders (Datus) of Bendum whose ancestors have lived for centuries in the Pantaron Mountains of Mindanao in the southern Philippines:

When the earth was created Magbabya choose to put us in this place called Bendum. Here we were born and inherited this land from forebears. When their laws were not violated, we did not go hungry for much was harvested from our gardens. Our crops were protected by the spirits if the land. The entry of companies to get logs and rattan marked the start of our hardships. The land we inherited from our ancestors became but a skeleton of our beloved forest destroyed by logging. Our way of life has become more difficult, and because the spirits are angry we are forced to take action. And so we the lumad, unite to protect and care for this land of our ancestors.

The multi-disciplinary, IUCN-facilitated Working Group on Community Involvement in Forest Management (WG-CIFM) is producing a series of regional profiles documenting the efforts of communities worldwide who are reclaiming their rights to use and manage forests. Analysis at a regional level allows for a focused comparison of national policies in similar socio-economic and biophysical contexts. This helps to stimulate discussion of how community involvement is enabled or constrained by national policy frameworks. The first six regions that have been selected for this series are the United States and Canada; Southeast Asia; South Asia; Mesoamerica (Central America and Mexico); Southern and East Africa; and Europe. In each of these regions, regional or national working groups on CIFM will continue the analysis and policy dialogue stimulated by the regional profile drafting process. The first regional profile was completed in 1998, *Communities and Forest Management in Canada and the United States* (see *arborvitae* 10).

After over a century during which forest controls have become increasingly centralised, there is a sense that the pendulum has begun to swing back with a process of devolution beginning to take place. Yet, as Don Gilmour and Robert Fisher write, this creates a paradox where government must "use its authority to give away its authority," and as this story illustrates this process is replete with tales of progress and resistance. This profile examines the dynamic process of public land reform in the Southeast Asia region at the close of the Twentieth Century.

Reference:

Gilmour, D.A. and Fisher, R.J. (1991). *Villagers and Foresters: the Philosophy, Process and Practice of Community Forestry in Nepal*. Kathmandu: Sahayogi Press.

Information:

If you would like a copy of the Southeast Asian profile or information about the regional profile series, please contact forests@hq.iucn.org (Subject line: CIFM Profile Series).

IUCN new staff

Souane Thirakul has recently taken up the post of forest network coordinator at IUCN's regional office for central Africa. He has an M.Sc. in forestry from India, and brings a wealth of field experience in rainforest biodiversity conservation and management. **Contact:** sthirakul.iucn@camnet.com

Alvaro Luna Terrazas has joined the Regional Office for South America as the regional forest coordinator. His main field of experiences has been with sustainable development policy of natural resources and access to genetic resources. He speaks Spanish, Portuguese, German, English and Russian. **Contact:** alvaroluna@kolla.net

Sameer Karki joined the IUCN Regional Forest Programme in Bangkok as Programme Officer in May 1999. His experience in participatory forest management includes, in Nepal, working with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and the Nepal Australia Community Forestry Project. Sameer will take over the coordination of the NTFP Network. **Contact:** sameer@ait.ac.th



Regional Forest Agreements Australia

Do Regional Forest Agreements lead to better forest management? **arborvitae** looks at the evidence

Arguments about forest protection still continue to rage in Australia. Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) are a process whereby the national and six state governments of Australia aim to reach legally binding agreements relating to their obligations for forests (see **arborvitae** 8). The RFAs try to balance contentious issues such as harvesting and protection, thus creating an agreement that includes an adequate, representative reserve system and sustainable management outside reserves. To date five RFA have been signed nationally and six are to be concluded soon. Although the positive benefit from the agreements, according to one Senator, has been the addition of 800,000 ha to the reserve system, disquiet about the RFAs has been growing in some quarters.

In May, the decision to protect 67 per cent of Western Australia's old-growth forest within an RFA was attacked by conservationists and opposition leaders. In particular, anger was aroused by logging licences given to Wesfarmers Bunnings - the biggest industrial group based in the region and a major political donor at state and federal level. In response, the Western Australian State government unilaterally modified the RFA to phase out karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) forest old-growth logging more rapidly than the agreement originally states. However, this produced a backlash in late August. Violence broke out in the southwest of Western Australia, where armed vigilante loggers attacked conservationists camping in old-growth

forests. Environmental NGOs continue to call for greater protection for old-growth forests, particularly jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) forests.

Some of the RFAs have proved more successful. In mid-September the Queensland Government announced final agreement on the RFA for the forests in the southeast of the state. This will lead to a phase out, by 2024, of logging in all Crown native forests. 425,000 ha of conservation reserves will be created immediately, including 250,000 ha of wilderness. The agreement was reached after protracted negotiation, but has been supported by the Rainforest Preservation Society, the Wilderness Society and a coalition of timber industry groups.

In Federal Parliament, a Labor opposition party amendment to the Australian Senate was passed, to ensure that either house of Parliament could disallow an RFA, thus putting the whole process in question.

Meanwhile, the lack of FSC timber certification has resulted in the loss of Aus\$10m per year contract with the UK company Railtrack, which has pledged to only purchase FSC certified timber.

Sources: Environmental News Service May and September, Australian Business Intelligence, *Sunday Age* (Abstracts 18/7/99), Western Australian Forest Alliance, Michael Rae, Don Gilmour.

IUCN in East Africa

Trees, Conservation and People

Edmund Barrow
of IUCN-EARO reviews the
work of IUCN in the forest of
Eastern Africa.

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There is a wide variety of forest types in East Africa ranging from Afromontane forests, to miombo woodland, mangrove swamps, and arid land species. The main threats to these forests are deforestation and degradation caused by: an increased need for agricultural land, leading to encroachment; unplanned and unregulated industrial logging and pit sawing; increased need for charcoal and fuelwood; and population movements to drier lands.

The underlying causes of degradation and decline include:

- rapid social and cultural change and population growth leading to increasing demand for land and resources;
- inadequate institutional strength and capacity to adapt to new and urgent situations, for instance rapid increase in resource use, and to changing objectives, for instance from preservation to conservation. Forest Departments have traditionally generated revenues from timber. Shifting from a production focus to one of biodiversity conservation, watershed management and sustainable use implies changes for the entire sector;
- legal and pricing mechanisms that favour unsustainable harvesting methods;
- lack of information and research capacity; and
- lack of education and awareness of the importance of forests.

To cope with these changes, the forestry and 'tree' sector needs to make a number of changes related to:

- establishing a permanent representative estate of natural and modified forest which should be managed to meet the needs of all sectors of society;
- increasing the capacity to manage forests on a sustainable basis, including separating plantations from natural forest estates;
- providing for, and strengthening community management of forests;
- creating a favourable marketing and pricing system for timber and non timber forest products based on sustainable use;
- improving the capacity of forest research, training and education; and
- improving international co-operation on forest conservation.

IUCN's programme

The IUCN East African Regional Office's (EARO) forestry work evolved in 1993, as part of IUCN's global Forest Conservation Programme, to assist local authorities to address some of the region's most pressing needs. The work focuses on practical forest conservation methods and on promoting sustainable use and management, as part of EARO's overall regional programme.

There is an increased emphasis on shared responsibility, collaborative management and enabling local people and communities to gain more control over their natural resources. In line with this decentralisation, most Eastern African countries have started to relax their restrictive forest policies and laws. With declining government budgets, retrenchment, decentralization and rising populations, devolution of authority must be the conservation mechanism of the future. IUCN is bringing experience, from within and outside the region, of community conservation mechanisms for joint forest management, collaborative management of conservation authority resources, and the creation of community owned and responsibly managed natural resources.

Within the region countries have evolved their forest policies under different circumstances. Forest policies have been interpreted differently in terms of practice across the region - some are more enabling, others restrictive. For EARO, it is important to compare different national systems for forest conservation, and to assess their effects on forest and woodland biodiversity. Policies are also examined for the extent to which they have fostered the participation of rural people in forest management and so better enhanced the contribution of forests to rural and national economies

Forest conservation is an active component in 12 of IUCN's projects, including: Mt. Elgon conservation and development project, Uganda and Kenya; Kibale and Semliki conservation and development project, Uganda; Tanga Coastal Zone conservation and development programme, Tanzania; Rufiji Delta and Floodplain environmental management and biodiversity conservation, Tanzania and Loita Forest integrated management project, Kenya. The programme is also undertaking a review of Eastern and Southern African collaborative forest management projects and facilitates a yearly meeting of the East African Directors of Forestry (and forestry research and heads of University Department).

Capacity building, establishing partnerships and bringing technical assistance cut across all components of the EARO programme. Such principles are key to attempts to ensure sustainability of the region's conservation programme; this is based on the need to conserve and manage important biodiversity of Eastern Africa, whether or not it is under some form of protection.

The IUCN Eastern Africa Regional Office (EARO) works in East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda), the Horn of Africa (Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti and Somalia) and two Western Indian Ocean States (Comores and Seychelles). The overall goal of the EARO programme is to 'evolve a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable Programme of conservation and environmental management that reflects the needs of the region and of the IUCN membership'. IUCN has also initiated activities in the collaborative management of natural resources and on non-timber forest products.

For more information contact: Edmund Barrow at IUCN Regional Office for Eastern Africa (EARO), PO Box 68200, Nairobi, Kenya. Email: egb@iucnearo.org

Assessment of forest protected areas

The Management Effectiveness Task Force of the World Commission on Protected Areas held a workshop in the Norfolk Broads area, UK, in September 1999, in collaboration with the World Heritage Commission and the IUCN/WWF Forest Innovations project. It built on proposals developed at a workshop in Costa Rica, in June (see accompanying *arborvitae* special). The meeting aimed to help develop a global framework for assessing management effectiveness of protected areas, in particular with relevance to World Heritage sites, and to review application of these methods in World Heritage sites such as the Tasmanian Wilderness Area land in Australia and the Dja Reserve in Cameroon. A range of assessment methodologies were presented and reviewed.

Contact: Marc Hockings, hockings@uqg.uq.edu.au

Major new protected area commitment in Peru

Over 6 million hectares will be added to Peru's protected areas system in co-operation with local indigenous communities. Government authorities, World Bank and WWF-Peru staff collaboration led to the successful development of the new project, which puts indigenous communities in the driver's seat to achieve biodiversity conservation through the protection of lands under their

co-management. The GEF has approved a preparation grant. The new project will be complemented by a commitment from the government of Peru to establish an ecologically representative system of protected areas as delineated in the Master Plan of Protected Areas of Peru. Lead agencies in Peru are the National Institute for Natural Resources (INRENA), and the Ministry of Women's Issues and Social Affairs (PROMUDEH). The project enjoys strong support at all levels, and the president of Peru has visited some of the communities that may participate in the plan.

Contact: Edgar Maravi, emaravi@wwfnet.org, or Juan Martinez, jmartinez@worldbank.org

Protected areas in Southeast Asia

The Third Conference on Protected Areas in East Asia was convened by WCPA in the Pukan-san National Park in Seoul, Korea from the 8-10 September 1999. The theme of the conference was community involvement in-and-around the protected areas of East Asia, which reflected the role of local communities in decisions regarding the establishment and management of protected areas in the region. Outputs included a Pukan-san Declaration which notes the vital importance of protected areas for conservation and sustainable development in East Asia, and requests all relevant organisations and individuals in the region to take practical steps to ensure protected areas are strengthened and expanded. It also contained a pledge by participants to reinforce their collaboration in relation to protected areas

Contact: Shelley Hayes, shh@hq.iucn.org

News in brief

Tanzania

Last October 700 people were violently removed from the Kazizumbwi Forest Reserve and their dwellings burnt. Now the conflict between villagers and the Tanzanian Forest Department over the boundaries of the reserve is going to be argued in court. The case will revolve around whether the villagers were illegally occupying the reserve or whether, as the villagers allege, the reserve boundaries have been illegally expanded.

Source: Environmental News Service, June 1999

Logging in National Park

Damage by bark beetle is being cited as the reason to carry out logging in the 69,000 ha Sumava National Park, the largest park in the Czech Republic. In 1995 the Ministry of the Environment decided to divide the national park into three zones - natural (limited access), managed, and recreational. To 'manage' the beetle, which has affected just 4 per cent of forest cover in the park, there was an agreement to allow logging in all of the park except for the restricted natural zones. This year the national park administration has asked the Ministry of Environment for permission to cut trees even inside natural zones. In explaining this request, the national park claims that the beetle attacks will spread, endangering not only the forests in Sumava, but those throughout the Czech Republic. Proceeds from logging are a major source of income for the national park's administration.

Source: FoE Czech Republic: HDUHA@ecn.cz

On the Web...

The World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)/IUCN and WWF have adopted a new policy on indigenous/traditional peoples and protected areas. The document, called *Principles and Guidelines on Indigenous and Traditional Peoples and Protected Areas*, is available in English, Spanish and French on the web.

Web site:

<http://panda.org/resources/publications/sustainability/indigenous2/index.html>

Details of a joint CIFOR, Cornell University and WWF-US symposium on *Adaptive Collaborative Management (ACM) of Protected Areas: Advancing the Potential* can be found on Cornell University's web site. The symposium was designed to explore the use of ACM as a way to reduce conflict and prevent public backlash against the creation of biologically protected areas.

Web site: <http://ciifad-iap.cornell.edu/symposium/>

New leaflet

The WWF Forests for Life Campaign has produced a new colourful leaflet *Protect Forests! For future generations* highlighting the need to protect more forests areas and what WWF is doing to protect forests.

Contact: Devendra Rana, drana@wwfnet.org or Harri Karjalainen, hkarjalainen@wwfnet.org

Paper Parks

Jim Thorsell of IUCN has written that: *"it can be fairly stated that all protected areas are under threat in one form or another"*. The question facing protected area managers, and others interested in forest conservation, is therefore about the level and seriousness of any threats. Despite the vast interest in protected areas, our understanding of their status often remains rudimentary. At the end of 1998, the WWF-World Bank Alliance agreed to set a new conservation target, focused on increasing effectiveness of protected areas, either by implementing protected areas that currently exist in name only (so-called "paper parks") or by addressing threats within managed protected areas. To help determine the scale of the problem, and the type and size of the target required, a research project looked at protected area status and threats, with particular emphasis on ten key World Bank client countries (China, Papua New Guinea, Russia, Tanzania, Gabon, Mexico, Vietnam, Indonesia, Brazil and Peru).

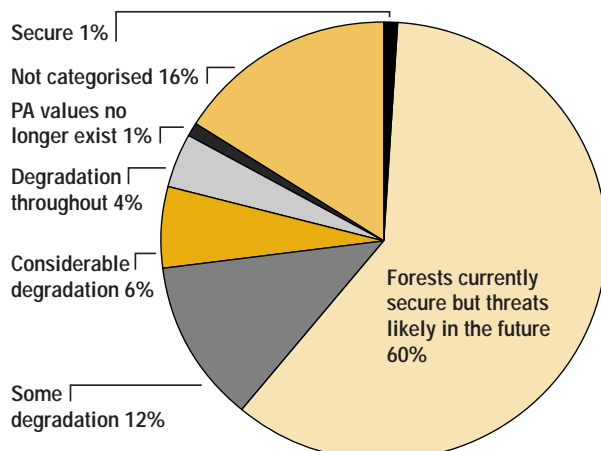
Research had three main aims:

- Identifying the level of threat in some key World Bank client countries
- Identifying the type and cause of the threats to help plan effective protection strategies
- Suggesting a target for the WWF-World Bank Alliance

Information was gathered from two sources.

A literature survey of threats was carried out, using information collected at IUCN, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre and WWF Next, a questionnaire was completed by local experts in ten World Bank client countries containing important forest resources, looking at threats at a national level and a more detailed assessment of the threats to some individual protected areas. Most of the experts commissioned were members of the World Commission on Protected Areas.

Status of forest protected areas in countries included in the WWF-World Bank Alliance survey



New research carried out by IUCN and WWF for the WWF-World Bank Alliance found that experts believe many forest protected areas are undergoing degradation or are under threat and that only a tiny proportion are considered to be wholly secure.

Sue Stolton and Nigel Dudley summarise the results

The results were sobering. Less than a quarter of forest protected areas in the countries assessed were considered to be "well managed with a good infrastructure", while many had no management. Only 1 per cent were thought to be wholly secure and 1 per cent had effectively lost all conservation values. Around 22 per cent were considered to be suffering from degradation. While this is quite good news - only a tiny proportion of protected areas have been damaged beyond repair - it suggests that an enormous effort will be needed if the protected area values are really going to be secure in the long term. Many experts felt that protected areas that are currently secure owe their survival to their remoteness, and that development will inevitably cause further pressure on many of these areas in the future. These protected areas are therefore protected by chance rather than design.

Types and sources of threats were also identified, including:

- Identifying different **levels** of threat, from removal of individual species to complete conversion and degradation
- Suggesting possible **trends** in quality of forest protected areas
- Identifying a range of **immediate and underlying threats**
- Discussing the concept of "paper park" and suggesting that an alternative terminology – focusing on **threatened** and **under-managed** protected areas instead

A proposed target

The results were used to suggest a target on protected area effectiveness for the WWF-World Bank Alliance: *Conversion of 50 million hectares of threatened and under-managed forest protected areas to effectively managed and socially responsible protected areas by the year 2005.*

The report included suggestions for how the target could be reached and a work programme has since been developed. The initial research was completed in February 1999 and was presented at an intersessional meeting of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests in Puerto Rico in April 1999. A published version is in preparation. In addition, further work has taken place on the methodology used and the Alliance has funded a follow-up workshop in Costa Rica and research on a system of rapid assessment.

The forests of the Mediterranean region are richer in species than any other forest type in Europe yet 85 per cent of these forests have already been lost. In response to mounting pressure on the remaining natural forests, the WWF Mediterranean Programme has launched a Mediterranean Forest Hot Spots campaign, aiming to protect key forests through WWF's Gifts to the Earth programme.

WWF Hot Spots

WWF-Canon/
Penelope Matsouka



The countries around the world's largest inland sea, at the meeting point of three continents, contain an enormous variety of forest types, from the Alpine forests of Europe to the cedar forests of the Maghreb. Yet these

forests are increasingly under threat. In the north, although forest cover is currently increasing following past deforestation, the quality of the forests continues to decline from a biodiversity and cultural perspective. In the south, rapid population growth, land use conflicts and mounting economic problems are combining to create deforestation in places. In addition, uncontrolled fire continues to eat away at remaining forests throughout the region.

During 1998, WWF carried out a gap analysis of forests in the region, to evaluate the region's most ecologically and biologically important forests, based on criteria of rarity of forest types and of other fauna and flora, presence of old-growth forest and of wilderness, fragility of ecosystems and overall richness. The work is now largely complete and has identified around 300 important forest areas.

One important strategy is the establishment of a network of adequately managed protected areas, securing full protection for relic forests, protection of large patches of old-growth forests, preservation of natural patches within managed forests and protection for forests associated with other important ecological events, such as bird migrations. In order to demonstrate concrete first steps for the conservation of Mediterranean forests, WWF is calling on governments in the region to make the following "Gifts to the Earth":

- The institution of two new types of protection for forests: protected "green belts" against desertification and forest reserves for water conservation
- Improvement in national legislation regulating protected areas
- The inclusion of identified "Hot Spots" in EU countries as pilot projects for the Natura 2000 Directive
- Intergovernmental co-operation especially between northern and southern Mediterranean countries for example through twinning programmes for the protection of hotspots

Mount
Taygetos,
Greece.

Bee keeper,
Feija
National Park,
Kroumerie,
Tunisia.

Spanish IbeX,
Sierra de
Gredos Nature
Reserve,
Spain.



Domenico Riuto

Since the launch, many governments and local authorities have reacted positively to the initiative. WWF has participated in a meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, in July 1999, and lobbied for forests to be included as a key theme for the Commission's next phase of work. The government of

Tunisia is considering WWF proposals for a "green belt" running through the north-west of the country, connecting the hotspot with an existing protected area. The Convention to Combat Desertification is interested in collaborating with WWF Hotspots in Greece, Spain and Turkey currently look likely to become WWF Gifts to the Earth. The Moroccan government has also expressed interest in establishing a new protected area around the hotspot and another important site, of *Argania spinosa* woodland in the south-west of the country, an endemic tree in Morocco, looks set to be declared a biosphere reserve. The Lebanese hotspot has been included in a list of potential Sacred Gifts to the Earth as most of the area belongs to the Maronite church. In Morocco WWF is working with the local organisation Chouala and in Lebanon with AFDC (Association for Forest Development and Conservation).

For more information see:

<http://www.panda.org/forests4life/hotspots>



WWF / Jonathan Plant

Forest hotspot: Western Kure Mountains, Turkey. A large area including both natural and degraded forest along with traditional subsistence agriculture and an important river ecosystem. Natural forests of oriental beech (*Fagus orientalis*) and fir (*Abies bornmuelleriana*) occur, along with a range of other forest types and a rich fauna, albeit depleted by over-hunting. Chestnut forests have been over exploited, and the area is further threatened by both legal and illegal forestry operations. WWF and its associate organisation in Turkey DHKD, are calling for the 55,000 ha central area to be protected as a national park (IUCN Category II), with collaborative management in buffer zones.

Ten Hot Spots were identified at the time of the launch: **Croatia:** Velebit • **France:** Vallée de Taravu, Corsica • **Greece:** Taygetos • **Italy:** Gennargentu • **Lebanon:** Jabal Harisa • **Morocco:** Bou Iblane • **Portugal:** Serra de Monchique • **Spain:** Sierra de Gudar • **Tunisia:** Korumerie • **Turkey:** Western Kure

An Appeal

Although the news is often dominated by pictures of contemporary forest destruction, in contrast the natural forests of most of southern Scotland slipped quietly into oblivion centuries ago. Peeblesshire - where the hills were once covered with oak, ash, hazel, rowan and birch - now carries ancient woodland on less than one thousandth of its area.

A group of local people are planning to re-establish native woodland - with the rich variety of associated wildlife - on a site where people can be inspired by beauty and a sense of wilderness. The group obtained a legal option on Carrifran - "seat of ravens" - a magnificent ice-carved valley which rises near Moffat Water to 820 m at the summit of White Coomb, one of the highest points in the Southern Uplands.

Without public money, the volunteer group has raised over a quarter of a million pounds towards purchase. The project is supported by the Borders Forest Trust, WWF and others. However, another £80,000 is needed by 2000 and there is thus still an opportunity to take part, by "adopting" a hectare of the valley for £500 (or half a hectare for £250) and so becoming a *Founder of Carrifran Wildwood* in time for the planting on 1st January 2000.

Philip Ashmole

Contact: wildwood@borderft.force9.co.uk., +44-(0)1835-830-750



The world's
most deforested
country?

Carrifran Valley - Philip Ashmole

arborvitæ

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e-mail: ujs@hq.iucn.org

certification

14

FSC General Assembly

The 2nd FSC General Assembly took place in June. [Pierre Hauselmann](#) provides a summary of key events.

The meeting was attended by 84 voting members and 90 observers. A high number of WWF representatives also created an opportunity to start a process of redefining the organisation's own vision of certification. Three new board members were elected: **Hannah Scrase**, FSC contact person for UK, for the Northern Environmental Chamber; **Gisbert Schlemmer** of the German woodworkers union for the Northern Social Chamber; and **Mauricio Castro**, forest officer in WWF Colombia for the Southern Environmental chamber.

Many motions were discussed. Directors can now serve two consecutive 3-year terms, subject to re-election, while individuals cannot simultaneously hold a staff position and be on the Board. Applicants cannot make any claim of conformity with FSC Principles & Criteria before the certificate is awarded. In High Conservation Value Forests, procedures for strengthening stakeholder involvement have been agreed and a consultative phase introduced. The FSC secretariat will make the website interactive and translate certification summary documents into the main relevant language. A working group to consider endorsement and/or mutual recognition and a technical committee for improving access to certification for small-scale enterprises will both be established. The FSC was charged with taking a proactive stance to including workers and their representative organisations in its activities and giving a high priority to the encouragement of community forest certification. The FSC will continue to collaborate with the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements and the Fairtrade Labelling Organization and the NTFP Working Group will continue with field trials on NTFP certification.

Some Environmental NGOs expressed their suspicion that the Secretariat favours economic over environmental interests. Various motions suggesting this were rejected, thus providing a vote of confidence for the Secretariat, but demonstrating a continuing disquiet about the FSC from some NGOs.

Certification news in brief

Celebration of the UK woodland Assurance Scheme (UKWAS)

The FSC compatible UKWAS was signed on June 3rd in London by over 30 organisations, including forest owners associations, forest industry, 95+Group companies and environmental groups. Steve Howard, Head of WWF's Global Forest and Trade Initiative, noted that the UKWAS represents, for the first time, a consensus on a forestry performance standard at a national level.

Contact: showard@wwfnet.org

Comment

The report published in *arborvitae* 11, 'Support for FSC confirmed in Europe', was inaccurate writes Simon Counsell of the Rainforest Foundation. The Forest Movement Europe did not "unanimously" agree not to support the PEFC eco-label. Whilst sharing concerns about various aspects of the PEFC scheme, a number of NGOs at the meeting also felt that the FSC suffers from some of the failings for which the PEFC stands accused.

Finnish Update

Forest certification in Finland is now underway and certified wood is expected to be on the markets as early as this autumn. However, WWF is worried about the credibility of Finnish forest certification. When WWF participated in Finland's Working Group on Forest Certification Standards in 1996, it was generally agreed that the aim was to establish a system compatible with the international FSC scheme. Attention was to be paid to co-operation with other Nordic countries in harmonising the certification standards and the systems.

Finland's certification standard proposal, finalised in spring 1997, has not undergone harmonisation with neighbouring country standards and has not been subject to external review by an appropriate body such as the FSC. The standard has been widely criticised. WWF Finland has sought, so far unsuccessfully, to have the necessary improvements made through negotiations with the forest industry and forest owners.

Currently the Finnish regional certification system does not appear to satisfy all the FSC requirements. In Finland's regional group certification system the requirements set by the standard are satisfied at the regional level, encompassing large areas. WWF is concerned about the level of compliance with any standard unless someone is made fully accountable and responsible for making sure that the requirements are met in each forest holding. The credibility of certification is fundamental to its success and if half of Finland is certified over a very short period and on a very modest budget then the quality of inspection will inevitably be questioned. Regional/group schemes can be made to work, but they must be based on the active commitment of the organisation or individual responsible for forest management and a thorough level of inspection.

WWF has offered to have an objective independent comparison of the Finnish scheme and standard with those in neighbouring countries, or to ask the FSC to evaluate the scheme to look for possible areas of improvement. WWF has also supported suggestions that FSC accredited certifiers carry out a field evaluation to look at the standards of forest management actually in practice. All these suggestions have been rejected.

Certification has the potential to promote forest products as the environmental material of choice in the market place. If we do not get it right then this will be a major missed opportunity for the forest products sector.

Anju Asunta, Forest Officer, WWF Finland, e-mail: anju.asunta@wwf.fi

International Working Session on Stewardship of Protected Landscapes

Twenty-two protected landscape practitioners from around the world recently participated in a special World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) meeting to discuss new challenges and opportunities for protecting working landscapes.

Jessica Brown reports.

The Conservation Study Institute and QLF/Atlantic Center for the Environment convened the session, held during 16 - 18 June at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in Woodstock, Vermont (USA). WCPA and its partners recognised the pressing need for new models of protected areas that respond to the needs of developing countries and the pressures on rural landscapes in all countries. As countries move to expand and strengthen their national protected areas systems, greater attention must be paid to protecting working landscapes - places where people live and work. The Protected Landscape approach (Category V in the IUCN system of management categories) can provide valuable models of how to integrate biodiversity conservation, cultural heritage protection and sustainable use of resources. It can also provide a way to engage local people in the stewardship of these resources.

Responding to this challenge and to a specific directive from the 1996 World Conservation Congress in Montreal, WCPA is seeking to promote wider understanding and application of the Protected Landscape approach.

The aims of the working session were to help shape the planning of global and regional programmes to advance the protected landscape approach; bring international experience to bear on the protection of working landscapes in New England; and foster an exchange of ideas. Presentations and discussions explored topics such as: what are the opportunities and challenges of protected landscapes? What new skills are needed to manage these landscapes? What is the relationship between Category V Protected Landscapes and Cultural Landscapes? Participants from Bolivia, Colombia,

Ecuador, and Peru presented case studies demonstrating opportunities for the protected landscape approach in the Andean region. Finally, participants met in small working groups to develop plans for a global WCPA programme and a regional programme in the Andes.

The event included a trip in the Champlain Valley region of Vermont, part of a proposed Heritage Corridor, to introduce initiatives to protect working dairy farms, interpret cultural resources and develop Burlington as a "sustainable city". The meeting concluded with a day-long public forum and workshop on "Protecting Working Landscapes: An International Perspective," which brought over 60 regional conservation practitioners for discussions with their international counterparts.

Outcomes from the international working session on Stewardship of Protected Landscapes include:

- The creation of a WCPA Task Force on Protected Landscapes, charged with developing a three-year global programme to promote and demonstrate the use and value of Category V (Protected Landscapes) as a functional and practical mechanism for the protection of biodiversity, cultural diversity and the sustainable use of natural resources. The programme will identify key partners, evaluate and research existing protected landscape areas, organise and develop case study material, help to develop training and build professional skills and work closely with specific regional protected landscape projects;
- A mission statement to guide the development of an overall framework for this global programme;
- Identification of potential partners and project elements to include in the global programme;
- A proposal for a pilot project on protected landscapes for the Andean region, developed around themes which recognise the great diversity of cultural and natural resources of the region.

Proceedings of the working session are available from the Conservation Study Institute, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller, National Historical Park, P.O. Box 178, Woodstock, VT 05091, USA.

Calendar of Events

World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference

28 November - 3 December 1999,
Seattle, USA

Contact: Mara Parker, SHOMSC, 600 Stewart St., Suite 1605, Seattle, WA 98101, USA
Tel: +1-206-441-6448
Fax: +1-206-441-6369
E-mail: mparker@crgnet.com

The Intergovernmental Forum On Forests (IFF) Fourth And Final Session

31 January - 11 February (provisional),
New York, USA

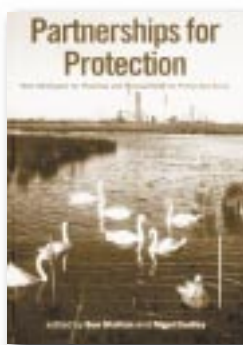
Contact: IFF Secretariat, Two UN Plaza, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10017, USA
Tel: +1-212-963-3401
Fax: +1-212-963-3463
Web: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/iff.htm>

Canadian Forest Service and the International Boreal Forest Research Association The Role of Boreal Forests and Forestry in the Global Carbon Budget

8 - 12 May 2000, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Contact: Carbon Conference Coordinator, 5320-122 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6H 3S5
Fax: +1-780-435-7365
E-mail: carbon@nofc.forestry.ca
Web: www.nofc.forestry.ca/carbon

Partnerships for Protection - New Strategies for Planning and Management for Protected Areas

Edited by Sue Stolton and Nigel Dudley, with Biksham Gujja, Bill Jackson, Jean-Paul Jeanrenaud, Gonzalo Oviedo, Pedro Rosabal, Adrian Phillips and Sue Wells. Published by Earthscan in association with IUCN -The World Conservation Union and WWF International. Available from Earthscan. Fax: +44-171-278-1142, e-mail: orders@lbsltd.co.uk, web: <http://www.earthscan.co.uk>. Price £18.95



Protected areas now cover 9 per cent of the Earth's surface and represent an enormous commitment by countries to protect their biodiversity. However, such areas face many challenges. They are responding by becoming more diverse, more flexible and increasingly recognised as an essential element in the wider landscape and seascape.

This book looks at how protected areas can be best placed within the larger framework of sustainable resource management and how their relationship to human communities is rapidly changing.

The book draws on the expertise of 42 of the world's leading conservation experts who set forth their thoughts on new approaches to protected areas. As such it provides a useful summary of many of the issues currently being debated by conservationists with respect to protected areas, and in particular, helps set the scene for the next IUCN World Congress on Protected Areas in 2002. The theme of this congress – Protected areas: Benefits beyond boundaries – is also particularly relevant to this book – a central message throughout is the need for protected areas to adopt a more outward focus if they are to have a viable future.

The 31 chapters are organised into five sections. In *Adopting New Approaches to Protected Area Selection* contributions are included from **Kenton Miller** on bioregional planning, **Sue Wells** on new developments in marine protected areas and **Peter Bridgewater**, who discusses indigenous protected areas.

The section on *Building Stronger Alliances with People* includes chapters from **Gonzalo Oviedo** and **Jessica Brown**. Case studies come from Central and Latin America and Africa.

Seeking a Wider Range of Partners and Values discusses life reserves, private and company reserves, the role of NGOs in protected area management, the increasing demands of tourism and new ways of ensuring wetland protection. Authors include **Biksham Gujja** and **Gustavo Suárez de Freitas**.

Finally, *Developing New Models for Protected Areas Management* includes chapters by the Chair of WCPA, **Adrian Phillips**, who discusses the role of working landscapes in the protected area network, **Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend** on collaborative management and a chapter on measuring the management effectiveness of protected areas.

This important book is recommended reading for anyone interested in protected areas and nature conservation. *David Sheppard, Head, Protected Areas Programme, IUCN*

New publications in brief

Life after Logging: The impacts of commercial timber extraction in tropical rainforests

Joanna Haworth (principle author)

available from Friends of the Earth Trust / The Rainforest Foundation

This report is a follow up to FoE's 1991 *Life after Logging* and provides the latest research on the impacts of logging on rainforest. The first three chapters looks at the effects of logging on forest structure, wildlife and forest function while chapters 4 and 5 examine the long-term impacts of logging. The report then considers methods of reduced impact logging (RIL) and concludes with a discussion on whether it is possible to sustainably manage tropical forest. The report highlights the need for more research into RIL and for the precautionary principle to be reflected upon and implemented through forest policies. *Stewart Maginnis*

For this quarter only...

Web: <http://www.MekongInfo.org>

MekongInfo.org the regional information system of the Sustainable Management of Resources in the Lower Mekong Basin Project on participatory natural resource management, is a new system designed to provide a truly interactive platform to exchange and retrieve information and codified knowledge. This quarter the site has a complete, downloadable set of publications of the Asia Forestry Network (AFN), some of which are out of print.

From the Netherlands

Available from KNNV, Uitgeverij, Oudegracht 237, 3511 NK Utrecht, The Netherlands

A beautiful new volume from KNNV and the Netherlands Committee for IUCN, Biodeiversiteit by Johan van Zoest (editor) price f59.50.

Border crossings

Available from: TRN, Box 116, S-962 23, Jokkmokk, Sweden
Tel: +46-971-17039, e-mail: taiga@jokkmokk.se

A new publication produced jointly by the Taiga Rescue Network (TRN) and the Finnish Nature League *The Finnish Forest Industry in Russia - On the Thorny Path Towards Ecological and Social Responsibility* gives a picture of Russian forests, forestry, and the role of the Finnish forest industry in the region.

Sustainable Harvests in Belize

Available from NRI Catalogue Services, CAB International, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8DE, UK

Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*) has been logged in Belize for some 300 years and on a tiny fraction survives. *Sustaining the yield - improved timber harvesting practices in Belize 1992-1998*, describes the results of a six-year programme aimed at introducing a sustainable forest management system. £25

Finding your way around

Available from Fern UK, Ic Fosseyway Business Centre, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, GL56 9NQ, UK. E-mail: saskia@gn.apc.org
Who's Who in the Forest Movement is a directory of NGOs and individuals, primarily in Europe, working on forest issues.

People and Protected Areas

Available from: American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1200 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington DC 20005, USA
Population Dynamics, Migration, and the Future of the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve gives an in-depth review of the problems facing the local communities in this the largest tract of protected tropical forest in Mexico. The report offers a range of solutions that need to be put into place to ensure the future of the reserve.