

NLWJC - Kagan

Counsel - Box 023- Folder 008

Interim Documents

hearing on B's travel / ^{Center-} oversight
lubrication

Ed Cohen -

Documents - ^{Dan} Young's notes on B's briefing books
w/ held 2 things
crip. by WH -
sample of As
Falling pts

no one has asked

Fax -



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
Washington, D.C. 20240

PLEASE DELIVER TO:

NAME: Elana Kagen
ORGANIZATION: White House Counsel
FAX
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FROM:

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DATE: May 20, 1996

MESSAGE:

Elana-

These are the documents that I am told by our legislative office were in the Secretary's travel notebooks and were originated in the White House. Most look innocent; a few are more sensitive. As I indicated, Don Young, Chair of our oversight committee, has been investigating Secretary Babbitt's travel. We already have provided a large amount of information including the Secretary's travel briefing notebooks. We withheld these documents, however, until we were able to get a read from your office on what you want us to do.

Thanks.

Ed

**Cabinet Tour Briefing Book
(White House)**

CABINET TOUR BRIEFING BOOK

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3-11 ENVIRONMENTAL TRIP TALKING POINTS

March 7, 1996

"We must ask more of ourselves, we must expect more of each other, and we must face our challenges together. ...Our fifth challenge: to leave our environment safe and clean for the next generation. ...People do have a right to know that their air and their water are safe."

President Clinton
State of the Union Address
January 23, 1996

THEME.

- o Today (3/11) the President and Vice President will visit a Superfund site in Wallington, New Jersey and give an environmental address to the community.
- o We're visiting places and talking to people who dramatize in one specific way the President's challenge in the SOTU to protect public health and the environment, which will stand in stark contrast to efforts to roll back environmental safeguards.
- o These people and this place have benefited from 25 years of bipartisan commitment to the environment, but as the President said in the SOTU there is more to do. The President challenged us to finish the job; by contrast, many in Congress would go backward.

TALKING POINTS.

- o **SOTU Challenge: Leave Our Environment Safe and Clean for Future Generations.** A quarter century ago, our nation's leaders embarked on a bipartisan mission to clean up the environment. We've cut toxic emissions from factories by half and lead levels in our children's blood by 70 percent. But, we still have far to go. We should:
 - Say to business: if you can find a cleaner, cheaper, way to meet tough pollution standards, do it.
 - Continue to work with state and community leaders find better ways to protect our natural resources and provide economic opportunity for years to come.
 - Promote community right to know programs that require polluters to disclose information to their neighbors.
 - Challenge Congress to abandon efforts to let polluters off the hook and make taxpayers pick up the tab. The polluters should pay.
- o Today I'm visiting XXX, which exemplifies the President's agenda. Or, Today, I'm announcing YYY. It will benefit these people I'm with today because it's a common sense way to protect their health, environment, quality of life.

- o This is only the latest example of the President's commitment to making common sense reforms in order to protect public health and the environment. (Accomplishments -- Administration-wide and department-specific.)
- o But some in Congress are letting lobbyists write bills to roll back environmental safeguards. (Examples) They would roll back 25 years of health protection through their regulatory "reform" bill. They would require taxpayers to pay polluters if a regulation put a crimp in their profits. They would practically repeal the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Endangered Species Acts.
- o President Clinton and Democrats in Congress are defeating the anti-environment agenda and moving ahead on the President's challenge. After the House the Clean Water Act rollback, the President promised to veto it in a heartbeat -- and stopped the bill dead in its tracks. The President and Senate Democrats stopped Newt Gingrich's anti-environment Contract with America, even vetoing the Dole bad meat reg "reform" bill.
- o We should balance the budget without compromising public health or the environment. 35 GOP loopholes and giveaways that would be law *right now* if not for Democrats in Congress and President Clinton. The Arctic Refuge would be open right now. Oil refineries and hazardous waste incinerators would have loopholes in the Clean Air Act right now. Right now, EPA couldn't keep raw sewage off our beaches and out of our waterways.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 23, 1996

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS
OF THE PRESIDENT

U.S. Capitol

9:14 P.M. EST

ENVIRONMENT EXCERPTS

My duty tonight is to report on the state of the Union -- not the state of our government, but of our American community; and to set forth our responsibilities, in the words of our Founders, to form a more perfect union.

The state of the Union is strong. (Applause.)...

I believe our new, smaller government must work in an old-fashioned American way, together with all of our citizens through state and local governments, in the workplace, in religious, charitable and civic associations. Our goal must be to enable all our people to make the most of their own lives -- with stronger families, more educational opportunity, economic security, safer streets, a cleaner environment in a safer world.

To improve the state of our Union, we must ask more of ourselves, we must expect more of each other, and we must face our challenges together. (Applause.)...

Here, in this place, our responsibility begins with balancing the budget in a way that is fair to all Americans. (Applause.) There is now broad bipartisan agreement that permanent deficit spending must come to an end. (Applause.)...

These cuts are real. They will require sacrifice from everyone. But these cuts do not undermine our fundamental obligations to our parents, our children, and our future, by endangering Medicare, or Medicaid, or education, or the environment, or by raising taxes on working families. (Applause.)...

MORE

Our fifth challenge: to leave our environment safe and clean for the next generation. Because of a generation of bipartisan effort we do have cleaner water and air, lead levels in children's blood has been cut by 70 percent, toxic emissions from factories cut in half. Lake Erie was dead, and now it's a thriving resource. But 10 million children under 12 still live within four miles of a toxic waste dump. A third of us breathe air that endangers our health. And in too many communities the water is not safe to drink. We still have much to do.

Yet Congress has voted to cut environmental enforcement by 25 percent. That means more toxic chemicals in our water, more smog in our air, more pesticides in our food. Lobbyists for polluters have been allowed to write their own loopholes into bills to weaken laws that protect the health and safety of our children. Some say that the taxpayer should pick up the tab for toxic waste and let polluters who can afford to fix it off the hook. I challenge Congress to reexamine those policies and to reverse them. (Applause.)

This issue has not been a partisan issue. The most significant environmental gains in the last 30 years were made under a Democratic Congress and President Richard Nixon. We can work together. We have to believe some basic things. Do you believe we can expand the economy without hurting the environment? I do. Do you believe we can create more jobs over the long run by cleaning the environment up? I know we can. That should be our commitment. (Applause.)

We must challenge businesses and communities to take more initiative in protecting the environment, and we have to make it easier for them to do it. To businesses this administration is saying: If you can find a cheaper, more efficient way than government regulations require to meet tough pollution standards, do it -- as long as you do it right. To communities we say: We must strengthen community right-to-know laws requiring polluters to disclose their emissions, but you have to use the information to work with business to cut pollution. People do have a right to know that their air and their water are safe. (Applause.)

Our sixth challenge is to maintain America's leadership in the fight for freedom and peace throughout the world....

The threats we face today as Americans respect no nation's borders. Think of them: terrorism, the spread of weapons of mass destruction, organized crime, drug trafficking, ethnic and religious hatred, aggression by rogue states, environmental degradation. If we fail to address these threats today, we will suffer the consequences in all our tomorrows. (Applause.)...

END

10:15 P.M. EST

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

February 14, 1996

"I cannot and I will not compromise any clean water, any clean air, any protection against toxic waste. The environment cannot protect itself."

President Clinton

April 7, 1995

Twenty-five years ago the Cuyahoga River caught on fire, Lake Erie was declared dead, clouds of dark smoke hung over America's greatest cities -- and our nation began the historic, bipartisan task of cleaning up. The results are a great American success story. We've cut toxic emission from factories in half. We've expanded Community-Right-to-Know laws. The Clean Water Act keeps billions of pounds of toxic pollutants and sewage out of our rivers, lakes and streams.

Now, Republicans in Congress are threatening to roll back public health and environmental safeguards, and are providing unprecedented access to special interest lobbyists, who literally have written the new legislation weakening the rules that control pollution. The President and Vice President are standing up to those who would roll back public health and environmental protection and making common sense reforms so that environmental protection works better and costs less.

Following are short descriptions of several of President Clinton and Vice President Gore's most important environmental accomplishments:

Community Right to Know:

Issued a "Pollution Disclosure" Executive Order to require industry to disclose information about toxic releases to their neighbors, countering GOP attempts to allow polluters to keep people in the dark.

Safe Drinking Water:

Required drinking water systems to test for and eliminate dangerous contaminants, while the GOP Congress moved to block funds to help communities upgrade treatment and keep harmful pollutants out of drinking water.

Clean Air:

Issued new rule to reduce by 90% the toxic air pollutants released from chemical plants by 1997. Overall, 50 million people in 55 cities are now breathing cleaner air that meets federal health standards.

Reinventing Environmental Protection:

Cutting paperwork by 25% and allowing businesses to throw out the EPA rulebook and write their own if they can do it cleaner and cheaper. Issued an executive order to make health, safety and environmental programs more fair, efficient and effective.

"When it come to protecting the environment, we must recognize that we are all part of something much larger than ourselves, a family related only distantly by blood, but intimately by commitment to each other's common future"

*Vice President Al Gore
June 14, 1993*

Superfund Cleanups:

Fought GOP attempts to repeal the law that makes polluters -- rather than taxpayers -- pay to clean up toxic dumps.

Incineration:

Issued safeguard so municipal incinerators reduce dioxin emissions by 99 percent.

Lobbying Reform:

Banned contact with lobbyists who do not disclose their activities, while the GOP Congress literally allowed lobbyists to write legislation rolling back environmental laws.

Meat Safety:

Issued new standard to prevent *E. coli* contamination in meat, fighting off GOP attempts to block the rule and have fought off misguided "regulatory reform" legislation that would put food safety at risk.

Recycling:

Issued executive order to jump start market for recycled goods, which are more valuable than ever.

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy:

Expanded funding for energy efficiency and renewables, while the GOP Congress is seeking to cut them by 40%.

Homeowner Protection:

Made reforms so vast majority of American homeowners never again have to worry about wetlands or endangered species laws.

National Parks:

Withdrew land from new mining claims to protect Yellowstone, while fighting GOP attempts to close national parks.

Protecting Children's Health:

Guaranteed that children's health risks and exposure are taken into account in environmental safeguard setting.

Clean Water Act:

Vowed to veto the lobbyist-written GOP bill to roll back Clean Water standards that keep billions of pounds of toxic pollutants and sewage out of our rivers, lakes and streams. Stopped the bill dead in its tracks.

Pesticides and Food Safety:

Canceling some of the most dangerous pesticides while moving safer substitutes into the market more quickly.

Global Phaseout of Persistent Chemicals:

Led the way to an agreement to phase out the use of 11 dangerous, persistent organic chemicals worldwide.

Environmental Technology:

Programs to help business compete more effectively in the fast-growing global market, creating jobs for American workers.

Eliminating Unnecessary Regulation:

Blocked GOP "regulatory moratorium" to stop all new health and environmental safeguards. Instead, targeted 16,000 pages of unnecessary regs for elimination.

MAKING GEORGIA A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK

America Is Moving In the Right Direction Under President Clinton

- **Stronger Economy.** The combined rate of unemployment and inflation is at its lowest level since 1968.
- **7.7 Million New Jobs.** The economy has created 7.7 million new jobs under President Clinton. Private sector job growth rate 8 times greater than during previous Administration.
- **Renewed Growth in Key Industries.** After a decade of enormous job losses in construction, manufacturing, and autos, these industries have made a remarkable recovery -- nearly one million new jobs combined under President Clinton.
- **Deficit Cut in Half.** The President's economic plan cut the deficit for three years in a row for the first time since Harry Truman was President -- the largest reduction in history.
- **Keeping Guns Away from Criminals.** More than 45,000 fugitives and felons blocked from buying handguns because President Clinton fought to pass the Brady Bill.
- **Safer Communities.** The crime rate is down and the number of murders reported dropped 12%--the largest decline in 35 years.
- **Stronger Families.** Teen pregnancy is falling, the poverty rate is decreasing, and the number of people on welfare is declining.

America Is Moving In the Right Direction Under President Clinton

- **Unemployment Rate in Georgia Has Dropped from 6.1% to 4.9%.**
- **389,300 New Jobs in 33 Months -- Three Times As Many As In the Previous 4 Years Combined.**
- **31,000 New Manufacturing Jobs in Georgia -- After Declining During the Previous 4 Years.**
- **Crime Is Down.** In *Atlanta*, the number of reported murders fell 7% in the first half of 1995. In *Macon*, the reported number of crimes dropped by 21% in the same period.
- **\$15,000 of Reduced Federal Debt for Every Family of Four in Georgia.** The President's economic plan is reducing the federal debt for each family of four by about \$15,000.
- **537,103 Working Families Receive a Tax Cut.** The President's expanded Earned Income Tax Credit is helping 537,103 working families make ends meet.
- **592 New Police Officers in Georgia.** The President's Crime Bill puts 592 new police officers on the street, strengthens drug courts helping keep adult and juvenile offenders from cycling through the legal system, and helps protect women and children from domestic violence and sexual offenders.
- **1,180,000 Workers Protected by Family and Medical Leave.** The Family and Medical Leave Act allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for the birth of a child or to care for a sick family member. This law covers about 1,180,079 workers in Georgia.

MAKING NORTH CAROLINA A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK

America Is Moving In the Right Direction Under President Clinton

- **Stronger Economy.** The combined rate of unemployment and inflation is at its lowest level since 1968.
- **7.7 Million New Jobs.** The economy has created 7.7 million new jobs under President Clinton. Private sector job growth rate 8 times greater than during previous Administration.
- **Renewed Growth in Key Industries.** After a decade of enormous job losses in construction, manufacturing, and autos, these industries have made a remarkable recovery -- nearly one million new jobs combined under President Clinton.
- **Deficit Cut in Half.** The President's economic plan cut the deficit for three years in a row for the first time since Harry Truman was President -- the largest reduction in history.
- **Keeping Guns Away from Criminals.** More than 45,000 fugitives and felons blocked from buying handguns because President Clinton fought to pass the Brady Bill.
- **Safer Communities.** The crime rate is down and the number of murders reported dropped 12%--the largest decline in 35 years.
- **Stronger Families.** Teen pregnancy is falling, the poverty rate is decreasing, and the number of people on welfare is declining.

-
- **Unemployment Rate in North Carolina Has Declined from 5.6% to 3.9%.**
 - **Consumer Confidence Is Up 58%, After Dropping During the Prior Four Years.**
 - **247,200 New Jobs in 33 Months -- More than the Entire Previous Administration.**
 - **Crime is Down.** In *Durham*, the number of reported murders fell 31% in the first half of 1995. In *Winston Salem*, the number of reported murders dropped 45% in the same period
 - **\$15,000 of Reduced Federal Debt for Every Family of Four in North Carolina.** The President's economic plan is reducing the federal debt for each family of four by about \$15,000.
 - **524,849 Working Families Receive a Tax Cut.** The President's expanded Earned Income Tax Credit is helping 524,849 working families make ends meet.
 - **707 New Police Officers in North Carolina.** The President's Crime Bill puts 707 new police officers on the street, strengthens drug courts helping keep adult and juvenile offenders from cycling through the legal system, and helps protect women and children from domestic violence and sexual offenders.
 - **1,250,000 Workers Protected by Family and Medical Leave.** The Family and Medical Leave Act allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for the birth of a child or to care for a sick family member. This law covers about 1,250,000 workers in North Carolina.

Law lets Northwest loggers chain-saw old-growth forest

By DAVID FOSTER
The Associated Press

BELLINGHAM, Wash. — It was a bargain Mitch Friedman said he couldn't pass up — trees from the government for just 60 cents each!

When a stand of fire-damaged timber in Washington's Okanogan National Forest went to auction Dec. 20, Friedman's outfit was there, outbidding three timber companies.

Business as usual — except that Friedman is an environmental activist, not a logger, and he wants to leave the trees in place, not cut them down. All of which means he's more likely to spot Bigfoot than get the timber contract.

The Forest Service said you can't buy its trees without cutting them down, but Friedman, director of the Bellingham-based Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, figured it was worth a try.

Northwest environmentalists have few other options these days.

A measure passed by Congress and signed reluctantly last July by President Clinton suspends environmental laws across thousands of acres of the Northwest's

Environment

old-growth forest.

Of all the rollbacks in environmental regulation promised by congressional Republicans, this is one of the few that has stuck. The Wilderness Society calls it "the worst blot" on this Congress' environmental record.

Friedman calls it the bad old days. Loggers have returned to the Northwest woods, clearing large swaths of centuries-old trees next to streams and on steep, easily eroded slopes.

No longer able to challenge timber sales through legal channels, environmentalists have gotten creative — if not very effective.

"This is an act of desperation," Friedman said of his attempt to buy timber. "Congress has slammed shut the courtroom doors."

Civil disobedience is the order of the day as slogan-chanting college students replace briefcase-toting lawyers at the front lines of the Northwest's timber battles.

Protesters trying to stop a 55-acre clear-cut in the Olympic Na-

tional Forest this month set up a mock living room on a forest road, locking themselves onto a couch embedded in concrete.

Forest Service officials took some of the protesters' clothes and boots, forcing the chilled activists out, but one activist snuck back a few nights later, climbing 100 feet up a tree. A Feb. 17 rally near the site drew at least 250 protesters, 100 of whom were arrested for trespassing after crossing into a closed area.

Two days later, the tree-sitter had climbed down, the protesters had gone home, and the chain saws were roaring.

Loggers are savoring a rare victory in their quest for timber.

"What this legislation did was basically restrict some groups from obstructionist lawsuits," said Chris West, spokesman for the Northwest Forestry Association, a timber-industry group.

"Environmentalists have been able to totally shut down the federal timber program in the Pacific Northwest," West said. "That has put dozens and dozens of mills out of business and tens of thousands of people out of work."

Clinton Backs Repeal of Logging Provision

Environment: His remarks reflect effort to settle contentious debate over legislation allowing the cutting of damaged trees in old-growth forests.

By JAMES GERSTENZANG
TIMES STAFF WRITER

SEATTLE—Looking to ease the most contentious environmental issue facing him this campaign year, President Clinton on Saturday called for repeal of a controversial provision in federal logging law that has allowed timber companies to charge back into old forests that had been put off limits.

The president made his remarks as he flew here from Long Beach. They reflected an effort to put himself back in the good graces of an important constituency deeply angered by an earlier decision. It was one that led to wide-scale cutting of federally owned timber—much of it in majestic old forests—that has been damaged by fire, wind, disease and insects.

The issue has galvanized environmentalists like no other in recent years, turning national forests into sites of protests and arrests. And Clinton's decision to seek a solution to the debate reflects the great importance attached to it.

Loggers look on the trees as a salvation—however temporary—from their declining fortunes, and argue that the "salvaged" trees are a small percentage of the lumber they will take from national forests this year.

Thus, the logging debate has become the focal point of the ongoing clash over the nation's environmental and economic well-being.

Clinton—during a conversation with Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) aboard Air Force One—did not rule out all logging of the damaged trees, but said he advocated repeal of legislative language that allowed cutting in old-growth forests. This midway course reflects administration efforts to navigate toward a policy that is both economically and environmentally sustainable.

Mike McCurry, the White House press secretary, said that "the president feels very strongly we have to act to protect fish and wildlife and old-growth habitat."

McCurry also said that the president called for legislation settling questions dealing with the sale, for cutting, of forests that had been put on hold five years ago for environmental reasons. He said Clinton raised the possibility of opening other, less sensitive land for logging or of buying out existing contracts, now in abeyance, on the trees.

And, McCurry said, Clinton called for an overall reexamination of the entire timber salvage program, to take into account the "legitimate concerns the industry has" over gaining access to valuable trees.

Most of the logging has taken place in the Pacific Northwest and in Northern California, sending vast new amounts of timber to market. But some is occurring in other pockets across the country.

The issue involves more than simply the loss of the trees—some of the oldest, grandest stands in the country. Many are in extremely isolated regions, and reaching them—and bringing out their trunks—requires construction of mud roads.

The clear-cut land that the loggers leave behind lacks sufficient growth to hold soil on often-steep slopes. Some already has turned into eroded acres of mud. Critics

say that in some cases, this has destroyed the forest homes of marbled murrelets and spotted owls, both listed as threatened. It also has, they say, begun filling once-pristine streams with silt that chokes fish.

The issue flared up last summer after Clinton signed budget legislation that offered help for flood victims in California and for survivors of the bombing in Oklahoma City. Attached to it was language allowing loggers access to dead and dying trees and, in one paragraph, the old timber from which loggers had been blocked for environmental reasons after the U.S. Forest Service had released them for sale five years ago.

Clinton move signals environmentalists

Promise to repeal law that allows old-growth timber sales aims to heal rift with old allies

By Joel Connelly

Seattle Post-Intelligencer

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE — As his jet flew over clear-cut areas in the Cascade Range en route to Washington state Saturday afternoon, President Clinton promised to heal a major grievance that environmentalists have with him.

Clinton said he erred last summer in signing legislation that exempted certain sales of old-growth timber from environmental laws. The provision "has to be repealed," Clinton said in an interview.

"This timber rider, as it applies to the old-growth forests, has been a bad thing," Clinton added. "It has undermined our balanced approach to growing the economy, having responsible logging and preserving the environment. It's

just a mistake. It's not good over the long run for other economic interests of the Northwest, especially salmon."

Environmentalists have argued that the administration allowed itself to be "taken for a rider" when it agreed to the provision in an appropriations bill last summer.

The rider was supposed to allow for salvage logging of diseased trees or burned-over forests. In federal court lawsuits, however, the timber industry has used the rider as a legal bulldozer to open sales of timber from old-growth trees. The sales were planned by the Forest Service before Clinton's 1994 forest plan put in new environmental protections on federal timber lands.

One such sale, a 55-acre stand of old-growth trees in the Dosewallips, Wash., watershed of the Olympic Peninsula, saw anti-logging demonstrations and more than 100 arrests over the Presidents Day weekend.

The GOP Congress has moved to bolster the West's traditional

natural-resource industries by easing environmental restrictions, putting brakes on federal studies and giving loggers, miners and livestock grazers increased control over federal lands.

In his interview Saturday, however, Clinton echoed a view — increasingly heard from some Northwest economists — that a healthy, protected natural environment can be an asset to economic growth in a technology-driven economy where businesses can choose where in America to locate.

But the president stressed that resource-dependent towns must not be left in the lurch.

If the timber rider is repealed, Clinton said, he will ask Congress to ease short-term impacts by letting the Forest Service find other trees for mills to cut.

In the long run, argued Clinton, preservation of natural assets — air and water quality, fish and wildlife, scenery and recreation — will help the entire Northwest grow and prosper.



NEWS SUMMARY

U.S. Department of the Interior

Office of Communications

Monday, February 26, 1996

The Washington Post

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1996

President Calls For End to Logging of Old-Growth Trees

Clinton Seeks Repeal of Law That Allows Salvage Cutting

By Ann Devroy
Washington Post Staff Writer

SEATTLE, Feb. 24—President Clinton today sided with environmentalists here and called for repealing legislation he signed last year that resulted in the logging of thousands of acres of old-growth trees in national forests and other federal lands.

The logging provision was part of a budget bill Clinton signed last summer. He reluctantly accepted the provision in the belief the issue could be managed so as not to produce logging harmful to the old-growth trees.

But White House press secretary Michael McCurry said here today that adverse court decisions expanding the provision had produced unacceptable results and Clinton would now push Congress for repeal.

Clinton told an audience here that his administration had erred on the issue. "We've made one or two mistakes under the law of unintended consequences," he said, "and one of them was the unintended and unwarranted consequence of the way that timber rider has been carried out."

Referring to his new policy, the president said to cheers that he and Washington's Democratic senator, Patty Murray, are trying to "fix it" in Congress.

Environmentalists throughout this region had strongly urged Clinton to switch position and seek repeal. Along his motorcade, before the decision had been announced, environmental groups held signs accusing him of lying and of abandoning the environment.

Protecting what environmental groups said were thousands upon thousands of acres of prized trees is a major election-year issue here, and Washington is a crucial state for the president's reelection. Clinton made the announcement after an intensive internal debate in the administration, and officials predicted a battle with Congress over the issue. Sen. Slade Gorton (R-Wash.) has vowed to fight any changes in the legislation, but a group of other senators, led by Murray, is seeking to get Congress to repeal the provision.

"We believe there should be a repeal of cutting in ancient, old-growth forests," McCurry said. He said the administration will ask Congress either for replacement timber allocations for companies with valid contracts to cut in old-growth forests or buyout authority to stop the cutting.

The timber provision, suspending most environmental safeguards in national forests, was promoted as a way of cutting dead trees and fire-prone underbrush. Under a separate provision of the law, thousands of prized, healthy trees also are being targeted for commercial cutting. Court interpretations of the law have reopened dozens of sales of green, healthy timber that previously had been blocked to protect fish and wildlife.

Environmentalists have charged that the provision is a bonanza for the timber industry and threatens severe ecological damage to public forests from coast to coast.

Timber: Apprehensions rise, fall throughout five-day conference

■ Continued from Page D1
principles to manage forests. The work carries no regulatory weight.

In those principles, delegates refused to endorse a repeal of the salvage logging rider. But they did support a principle that people have the right to seek legal review of land management decisions, something stymied under the rider.

The vision statement — a set of broad ideals — echoes much of existing forest law, with additions that include an emphasis on producing sustainable levels of products from the forests while protecting nearby forest-dependent communities.

The idea is for delegates to take the work home with them and try anew to solve one of the nation's most perplexing debates about natural resources.

Cary Hegreberg, a cowboy-booted timberman from Montana, had a hard time with the congress. He saw much of it as a battleground of traditional foes, the timber industry and environmentalists — with little progress.

But he said he saw something else, too.

"I think there are a lot of people in the middle who moved closer together here," said Hegreberg, of the Montana Wood Producers' Association. "Ultimately, that will force the rest of us together. But it will take awhile."

Environmental groups had threatened an early walkout of the congress. It did not happen. Although a handful of activists did leave and tagged the congress a charade, most stayed. The extreme members were "marginalized," said Paul Ketcham of the Portland Audubon Society.

"I think there would have been a bigger show had the conference taken a turn into being an industry consortium ... but it didn't," Ketcham said. "There were some major breakthroughs at our table."

Waves of apprehension rose and subsided over the congress as interest groups fretted that organizers

would tip the agenda away from them.

The system may have prevented that. Because groups of 10 sat together since Wednesday, delegates were forced to deal with each other day in and day out. Frequently, controversies quickly were talked out.

By late Friday, passions bubbled to the surface when one participant charged there was racism against blacks who were interested in urban forestry. At a news conference, an environmental activist snatched a microphone and denounced the conference as a timber industry fix.

For environmentalists, much of the congress was a storm, as plans for a walkout came and went.

Into the drama strode a star-studded cast of activists. Television star Ed Begley Jr. joined environmental legend David Brower and his wife at the Sheraton Washington for dinner. Roush and Brock Evans, Audubon Society vice president, worked through much of the congress.

Brower, 83, did not participate in the congress but said he did not oppose it if people did not forget that trees were falling as they met.

"The idea of trying to get together is a good one," Brower said. But he added, "There is considerable room for fiddling while Rome is burning."

Getting together in this congress was a first for the conservation community. Such conferences have been held only periodically since 1882 — with some impressive results. In the late 20th century, however, the gatherings have been peopled mostly by industry and government representatives.

But the past decade has brought a crisis in the nation's forests as people have begun objecting to extensive logging. In the Northwest, that battle has escalated into one that has forest policy dictated by the courts and U.S. Congress rather than by landowners.

Many at the forest congress said it's time to change that.

Clinton points ax at salvage logging law

■ The White House's announcement comes after the Seventh American Forest Congress ends in optimism and ambiguity

By PETER D. SLEETH

of The Oregonian staff

WASHINGTON — A forest congress billed as a chance to rethink the way the nation's woodlands are managed ended Saturday tinged with optimism and ambiguity.

An expected walkout by environmentalists over salvage logging fizzled at the Seventh American Forest Congress. But environmentalists got a boost when a White House spokesman announced in Seattle that President Clinton is seeking partial repeal of the salvage logging rider, although most who oppose it want the entire law repealed.

Mike McCurry, White House press secretary, said Clinton informed Washington state officials Saturday that he supports repealing the salvage rider's provision that reopened old-growth logging in Western Oregon and Washington. He also said the president wants legislative authority to buy out timber contracts in sensitive areas such as the south Umpqua River drainage or, in some cases, to provide replacement timber to companies.

Clinton, meanwhile, in an early evening speech to Seattle-area college students, said his administration has made good decisions that had had consequences — such as “the way that timber rider has been carried out.” The president signed the salvage rider in July, but it quickly went awry as it became clear old-growth forests were being logged along with timber salvaged from fire-damaged and diseased forests.

Clinton's announcements followed the close of the historic forest congress, a gathering of some of the most influential actors on the forest stage. The five-day congress was designed to bring some agreement on forest issues from a cross section of people, although it produced nothing that promises immediate changes in policy. Nor did it come close to ending the polarization of loggers and conservationists.

But the privately organized congress, which drew 1,400 participants, did accomplish one extraordinary thing: It took people who rarely have had the stomach to even stay in the same room and forced them to talk.

“It feels to me like a peace process, it really does,” said Jon Roush, head of the Wilderness Society. “I’m going to work hard to make it mean as much as possible.”

At about 140 tables, people ranging from timber executives to the head of the U.S. Forest Service and from environmentalists to “wise-use” activists cobbled together a set of visions and

— Please turn to
TIMBER, Page D10

A one-on-one interview with Clinton

By JOEL CONNELLY
NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT

A partial text of the Post-Intelligencer's interview with President Clinton Saturday afternoon on Air Force One:

Q: What, if anything, do you intend to do about the so-called logging salvage rider, passed by Congress last summer, that has allowed logging of old-growth trees to resume in Northwest national forests?

A: I think the old-growth section of the rider has to be repealed because of the way it was interpreted by the courts.

I will, however, also seek some authority from Congress for replacement timber, for some buy-back options so we don't give the timber interests cause for concern.

We worked so hard on the Northwest timber plan. We tried to get this out of court. We have put a lot of money back into the communities of the Pacific Northwest to support economic transformation. The unemployment rate is lower, the growth rate is up in most places of the Northwest.

This timber rider . . . has undermined our balanced approach to growing the economy, having responsible logging and preserving the environment. It's just a mistake. It's not good over the long run for other economic interests of the Northwest, especially salmon.

Q: You have a decision coming up by June on whether to renew most-favored-nation trading status for China.

President Jiang Zemin, at the Asia-Pacific leaders conference here in 1993, pointedly visited the home of an average Boeing worker to underscore the impact of trade. Commerce is vital. Still, we've lately seen a leading human-rights activist given a 14-year sentence in China, and military threats directed at Taiwan. Will you renew China's trading advantages?

A: I will have to review the evidence as it comes up. We have some issues between ourselves and the Chinese, some issues involving nontrade matters and trade matters such as intellectual property rights.

What I hope we can do is continue to

See Q & A, Page A4

A4 Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Q & A:

From Page 1

integrate China into the family of nations, and continue to work toward more open and more fair trade.

Q: Is it in America's best interests to pursue an open trade policy with a country like China, which presently exports more to us than it takes of our products?

A: The United States has benefited from trade policies I have adopted. Our exports are at an all time high. For the first time in many years, exports are climbing faster than imports - not just in Washington state, but in our entire country.

If we stay on this course . . . we will bring our trade deficit into balance and we will slowly create more jobs that are high-paying jobs. Trade-related jobs pay on the average 20 percent more than nontrade-related jobs. One problem with America's wage stagnation is the need to get people jobs where wages grow year in and year out. That is generally the case with trade.

Just yesterday, I met with the Japanese prime minister in California.

I pointed out that we have negotiated 20 separate trade agreements with Japan, covering everything from automobile parts to hospital equipment to agricultural products.

In the 20 areas we have agreements, exports have increased 80 percent in just three years. Jobs related to trade with Japan are up 21 percent. That is the direction we want to take on the economic front with Japan, China and everybody else.

Q: What are your feelings on the calls for protectionism that have resonated through early stages of the 1996 presidential campaign?

A: It is wrong to suggest that the only alternatives are uncritical free trade on the one hand . . . expecting nothing from our trading partners, or protectionism, which will really hurt America.

If we stop buying things from other countries, they are more than free to stop buying things from us. The other way is to work for free trade that is fair, to keep breaking down barriers. This administration has negotiated 200 separate trade agree-

ments. So you cannot judge America's trade record by a temporarily bad economy in Mexico. On the whole, in the long run, NAFTA will be a good thing for America.

Our trade policy is the right thing for America. It is going to create more jobs than it costs by far. The jobs are going to be better paying.

Q: We have a debate over environmental protection in the Northwest. Some say that measures, such as reserving part of the Columbia River's water for salmon, hurt the economies of rural areas. Others say that having salmon in the river and an unspoiled environment is a stimulus to the economy. People with a choice of where to site a business will locate it here.

What is your view of environmental protection? Is it a help or a hindrance to growth in the West?

A: It is a great help to creating a new economy. But let's be blunt: If you have environmental protection that moderates certain practices, it can be harmful in the short run to people of rural areas.

When you take a long-term

view, however, it is clear it is better for the economy for everyone.

What's the fair answer? If you were to cut all the old-growth trees, it would bring more money in the short run to those (rural) areas. But it would be devastating to Washington and Oregon. Why? It would contribute to pollution of the water. It would make the salmon problem worse. It would undermine why a lot of people want to live in the Northwest, and undermine your quality of life.

One great challenge, however, is to find a way to preserve the environment in a way that does not hurt these communities in the short run, that allows them to make a transition.

And we need to reap the vast benefits of reconciling econ growth and environmental protection in the long run.

We've put an enormous amount of effort into the question of how you can make environmental protection more consistent with market economies. So you don't have stupid regulation. So you don't strain at a goal to swallow a camel. You find ways that will strengthen the economy.

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Clinton: Exemption to environmental law 'a mistake'

From Page 1

more than 100 arrests over the President's Day weekend.

Clinton recently made the environment — along with education, job-training, Medicare and Medicaid — a core issue on which he is battling with the Republican-dominated Congress.

The GOP Congress has moved to bolster the West's traditional natural resource industries by easing environmental restrictions, putting brakes on federal studies and giving loggers, miners and livestock grazers increased control over federal lands.

In his interview with the Post-Intelligencer Saturday, however, Clinton echoed a view — increasingly heard from some Northwest economists — that a healthy, protected natural environment can be an asset to economic growth in a new, technology-driven economy where businesses can choose where in America to locate.

But the president stressed that resource-dependent towns must not be left in the lurch.

If the timber rider is repealed, said Clinton, he will ask Congress to ease short-term impacts by letting the Forest Service find other uses for mills to cut, or have the option of buying back timber sales.

In the long run, argued Clinton, preservation of unspoiled natural assets — air and water quality, fish and wildlife, scenery and recreation — will help the entire Northwest grow and prosper.

"What's the fair answer?" he asked rhetorically. "If you were to cut all the old-growth trees, it would bring more money in the short run to those (rural) areas. But it would be devastating to Washington and Oregon. Why? It would contribute to the pollution of the water. It would make the salmon problem worse. It would undermine why a lot of people want to live in the Northwest, and undermine your quality of life."

"One great challenge, however, is to find a way to preserve the environment in a way that does not hurt these communities in the short run, that allows them to make a transition."

The president discussed a variety of national and regional topics as he flew from Los Alamitos, Calif., to the Snohomish County Airport, close by the Boeing plant where Air Force One was built.

In the early forays of his re-election campaign, Clinton has tried not to mention his Republican foes, but is responding intensely to the protectionist "America First" themes of Pat Buchanan's campaign for the GOP nomination.

Buchanan has bolstered his case against free trade by posing outside plants shut down by American manufacturers who moved to Mexico. Clinton responded Saturday by arguing that trade agreements and exports create exactly the kind of high-paying jobs the nation needs.

"Our exports are at an all-time high," Clinton argued. "For the first time in many years, exports are climbing faster than imports, not just in Washington state but in the entire country."

"If we stay on this course . . . we will bring our trade deficit into balance and we will slowly create more

related jobs pay on the average 20 percent more than contract-related jobs. One problem with America's wage stagnation is the need to get people jobs where wages grow year in and year out. That is generally the case with trade."

Clinton is acutely cognizant, however, of discontent over stagnating wages and feelings among Americans that their economic futures are no longer secure.

Economic discontent put him in the White House four years ago. While the nation has since created 7.7 million new jobs — and piled up a bevy of optimistic economic indicators that Clinton ticks off — the president acknowledged that the rising tide has not lifted all Americans.

The president noted that about half of American workers have not seen a rise in their real incomes. Rural areas and inner cities haven't received a fair share of new jobs. And big companies are downsizing, laying off people who are hard-pressed to find new work with the same income levels and benefits as before.

"The question for America is this: How can we sustain the dynamic nature of an economy that has given us nearly 8 million new jobs, a record number of new businesses, with home ownership at a 15-year high — and build in a new economic security?" asked Clinton.

The president rejected Republicans' strategy of sharply reducing the federal government and cutting away the regulatory strings from business. Clinton argued that a pro-active gov-

ernment, and action by Congress, is still needed on several fronts.

"Keep doing everything you can to keep growing the economy," he said. "Invest in the education and training of the work force. Invest in technology. Provide for some of the security problems people face when they are forced to change jobs."

"Pass the bill, now before the Senate, saying that you can't lose your health insurance when you change jobs or when somebody in your family gets sick. Provide means for small businesses to set up pensions. Develop a system where people can carry their pensions with them from one job to another."

Clinton reiterated his call for a voucher in which people who lose their jobs would get a grant from the federal government and decide for themselves what form of retraining to seek.

"Finally, raise the minimum wage," said Clinton. "It is about to drop to a 40-year low in purchasing power. It is inexplicable why Congress will not schedule a vote on the minimum wage. It is just wrong. It affects millions of people, not just those at the minimum wage but those just above it."

Clinton gave an oblique answer when asked if he will renew China's most-favored-nation trading status, a decision he must make by June.

The president is widely expected to renew trade advantages for China, despite its human rights record and recent foreign policy belligerence. But he may hold off on MFN status for

Vietnam in order to avoid fighting two battles with conservative critics in Congress.

"What I hope we can do is continue to integrate China into the family of nations, and continue to work toward more open and more fair trade," said Clinton.

The issue is of high importance locally. China is experiencing a rapid increase in air travel and needs to replace old Russian-made passenger planes. But the Seattle area has seen protests against China's suppression of dissidents as well as its foot-fatal rule of Tibet.

Air Force One is likely to make more stops in the Northwest this year. As Clinton capped before his interview, aides reiterated that Washington and Oregon are vital to the president's re-election strategy in November. Clinton has been in the region eight times since taking office in 1993. Saturday marked the fourth time that he has spent all or part of a weekend on public activities.

One previous Democratic president used Washington as part of a political comeback strategy. But in 1948, before presidents jumped around the country by jet, Harry Truman was able to take an afternoon off and go salmon fishing.

Told of what Truman did, Clinton remarked that salmon fishing sounds like a good idea — if he ever gets the time.

Timber rider a mistake

SEATTLE P.I.

By JOEL CONNELLY
NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE - As his jet flew over snow-covered Cascade peaks en route to Puget Sound Saturday afternoon, President Clinton promised to heal a major grievance that environmentalists have with his administration.

Clinton said he erred last summer in signing legislation that exempted certain sales of old-growth timber from environmental laws. The provision "has to be repealed," Clinton said in an interview with the Post-Intelligencer.

"This timber rider, as it applies to the old-growth forests, has been a bad thing," Clinton added. "It has undermined our balanced approach to growing the economy, having responsible logging and preserving the environment. It's just a mistake. It's not good over the long run for other economic interests of the Northwest, especially salmon."

Environmentalists have argued that the Clinton administration allowed itself to be "taken for a ride" when it agreed to the provision in an appropriations bill last summer.

The rider was supposed to allow for salvage logging of diseased trees or burned-over forests. In federal court lawsuits, however, the timber industry has used the rider as a legal bulldozer to open up sales of old-growth trees. The sales were planned by the U.S. Forest Service before Clinton's 1994 forest plan put in new environmental protections on federal timber lands.

One such sale, a 53-acre stand of old-growth trees in the Doerwille watershed of the Olympic Peninsula, saw anti-logging demonstrations and



INSIDE

■ Dole fires advisers in hopes of reviving his presidential campaign. A3



GRANT M. HALLER/PH

President Clinton mingles with the crowd Saturday after a round-table discussion and speech at Shoreline Community College.

Clinton wants to repeal law on old-growth cuts

3/26/96 FRONT PAGE

I thank President Oertli and I thank Senator Murray, your former faculty member here and a remarkable public servant who is -- yes, you can clap for that, it's all right -- (applause) -- he's here along with Congressman Dicks and Congressman McDermott. Let me say that we've done a lot of good things in the last three years. (Applause.) And we've made one or two mistakes under the law of unintended consequences. And one of them was the unintended and unwarranted consequence of the way that timber rider has been carried out. And Patty Murray is going to help us fix it, and I thank her for that. I thank her for that. (Applause.)

↑
From
President's
intro to
school to
work event

TIMBER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Do you support full repeal?

A: The old growth provisions are very problematic and must be repealed. Concerns have also been raised regarding the salvage provision. We may need to repeal it, too. I'm convinced that the public should not be shut out of the process and that we've got to uphold the law. I'm going to work with Patty Murray, Ron Wyden, Norm Dicks, Elizabeth Furse, the Governors of the region and others to find the best solution to the problems in the salvage program.

Q: Patty Murray is working on a bill to address these issues. Do you support it?

A: We are working very closely with her. The details of a piece of legislation are not in place yet, but we certainly are in agreement with regard to the problems with the old growth provisions and we are working together to find the best way to improve the salvage program.

Q: Slade Gorton has said that he will fight any major legislative changes to this program. Do you think the kind of legislation you are proposing has any chance of passage?

A: Clearly there is growing concern in the Pacific Northwest and in other areas of the country about the impacts of this legislation -- especially in light of the extreme decisions that have come out of the courts on this. Elizabeth Furse has more than 100 cosponsors of her bill; Senator Murray is building a coalition in the Senate; Senator Bradley and others are becoming increasingly active on this issue, and this Administration will fight hard to get the changes through. So yes -- this will be a fight and no doubt people like Senator Gorton will be working against us -- but I think people are demanding action, so we will be able to get the job done.

Talking Points

Fax to Jim Peterson + Lisa Guide
From Brian Johnson

3 pages

I am calling on Congress to act now on the timber rider. First, the old growth provisions must be repealed. We are losing ancient forests. We are losing valuable fish runs. Wild places that people in the Northwest and across America want to protect are being lost forever. This has to stop.

The timber rider has reopened wounds that were just beginning to heal under my Northwest Forest Plan. It has shut the courtroom door to citizens. This has to stop.

Second, in addition to repeal, we need to be able to address a number of the old growth sales the courts have already forced us to release. Therefore, I am calling on Congress to give us broader flexibility in offering replacement timber, and for extreme cases, buyout authority.

Third, we need to take a hard look at the salvage program. The salvage program has to be based on sound science. It has to meet environmental laws. I have directed the agencies to meet these standards. Yet we have heard many concerns about the salvage program. We have to restore peoples' confidence and their ability to hold public officials accountable. To accomplish these goals, we will work with the Congressional delegation, industry, labor and environmental groups to review our options, including repeal.

We're concerned that the prospect of new legislation might cause some companies that hold old growth sales contracts to mistakenly rush out and cut the trees. They don't need to do this. We will honor their contract rights. I'm calling on those companies to hold off on any more cutting until we find another way to honor their contract rights. And I am asking the leaders of the timber industry to help us resolve this conflict.

Finally, I understand that Senator Murray is working on this kind of legislation. We will work with Senator Murray, Senator Wyden, Senator Bradley, Congressman Dicks, Congresswoman Furse, Congressman DeFazio, others in the Northwest delegation, the Governors and all the stakeholders to get forest management back on track and to restore the balanced and reasonable approach under my Northwest Forest Plan.

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**Timber Salvage Talking Points/Q&A/Clips
(White House)**

**White House Talking Points - "America is Moving in the Right
Direction Under President Clinton"
(North Carolina and Georgia)**

ENERGY & WATER APPROPRIATIONS (DOE, DOI/BuRec, Army CoE) (HR 1905):

- **Exempt the Bonneville Power Administration from salmon recovery obligations.** Following the President's veto threat, the Administration and Sens. Hatfield, Baucus, and Murray negotiated a workable solution for both salmon recovery and BPA's finances (10/23/95). (S)
- **Waive environmental laws for Animas La Plata dam (CO).** Following a veto threat by the President (10/13/96), Republicans in Congress dropped their attempt to jump-start construction of this water project by waiving environmental laws. (S)

AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS (HR 1976):

- **Halt new standard for meat inspections,** designed to protect people from *E. coli* and other meat and poultry contamination. (H)
- **Eliminate salary for head of the Undersecretary for Natural Resources.** (S)

COMMERCE, STATE, JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS (HR 2076):

- **Transfer 200 tax and environmental attorney positions to U.S. attorneys' offices.** (H)

BUDGET RECONCILIATION (HR 2491):

- **Close National Parks.** (H)
- **Sell national forest land to ski resorts.** (H)
- **Eliminate tax incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency.** (H)
- **Repeal certain environmental safeguards for grazing,** which DOI issued after two years of extensive public hearings. (H)
- **Exempt certain federal actions from ESA requirements.** (H)

DEBT CEILING (HR 2586):

- **Regulatory "Reform."** The President vetoed the GOP debt ceiling, to which the Republican leadership in Congress had attached their regulatory "reform" legislation, saying, "It would increase pollution and decrease the purity and safety of our air, water and food." (11/13/95) (H, S, C)

clean water; this was an apparent attempt to try to pressure the Senate and the Administration to support it.) (H subcommittee)

- **Undercut EPA standards limiting air pollution from small gasoline engines, which produce 10 percent of the air pollution in U.S. cities. (S)**
- **Eliminate EPA research on the health effects of electromagnetic fields. (S)**
- **Impede EPA's STAR program -- Science to Achieve Results. (S)**
- **Allow states to adopt unworkable plans for limiting auto emissions, defying Clean Air Act requirements. (H)**
- **Require EPA to abide by state audit privilege and voluntary disclosure immunity laws. (H)**
- **Eliminate Council on Environmental Quality. The conference report preserved CEQ, but at a 54 percent cut. CEQ advises the President on environmental matters, coordinates environmental agencies and otherwise oversees the National Environmental Policy Act. (H)**

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS (DOI, USDA/FS, DOE/energy conservation)
(HR 1977):

- **Lift the moratorium on offshore oil drilling. (H subcommittee.)**
- **Lift the mining patent moratorium, which temporarily blocks new claims on public minerals under the 1872 mining act, where a billion dollars of minerals can be had for as little as \$275. (S, C³)**
- **Eliminate U.S. Geological Survey. The Contract with America included as an attachment a plan to eliminate the USGS. Following protests from the Administration, Democrats in Congress and the public, this measure was dropped.**
- **Eliminate National Biological Service. The GOP budget resolution called for the elimination of the NBS. The current funding measure merges it with the USGS. (H, S)**
- **Delay Implementation of Rangeland Reform. (S)**
- **Prohibit biological surveys on private lands, even with permission of the owner, and prohibit the use of volunteers. (H committee)**

³ This provision was dropped after the conference report was rejected on the floor of the House twice, over this provision and the Tongass provision.

LIST OF 33 DEFEATED ANTI-ENVIRONMENT MEASURES

VA/HUD APPROPRIATIONS (EPA, CEO) (HR 2099):

- **Eliminate all drinking water state loan funds.** The conference report still includes a 45 percent cut from the President's request. (H¹)
- **Halt action or enforcement of Great Lakes Water Quality Initiative.** The Great Lakes contain 95 percent of the nation's fresh water and supply drinking water for 23 million Americans. (H)
- **Halt EPA action or enforcement to keep stormwater pollution out of the nation's waterways.** (H)
- **Prohibit EPA enforcement to keep raw sewage off beaches and out of waterways, by limiting enforcement of pollution controls for combined sewers and sanitary sewers, creating the potential for raw sewage to overflow onto beaches, into rivers, or even onto city streets.** (H)
- **Eliminate EPA's ability to set standards to prevent industrial water pollution (e.g., effluents) that would result in 15 million pounds of toxic pollutants entering our nation's waterways in 1996, benefitting the pulp and paper industry, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and the metal products and machinery industry.** (H)
- **Curtail protection of toxic air pollutants from all oil refineries, creating a loophole for a single industry by blocking public health protection for the 4.5 million Americans who live near these facilities in states like CA, TX, LA, NJ, and PA.** (H)
- **Block upgraded pollution controls at individual hazardous waste facilities.** (H)
- **Prevent federal ability to ensure that states will meet minimum clean air standards, penalizing states, citizens and industries who work together to create viable clean air plans and letting others off the hook.** (H²)
- **Prohibit funding for Superfund on beyond December 31, 1995 if Superfund reauthorization is not passed and signed into law.** (H)
- **Block use of state loan funds to help construct wastewater treatment plants that keep raw sewage out of our waterways, until Clean Water Act is reauthorized. (The President has vowed to veto the House CWA "reform" because it rolls back standards for**

¹ Denotes location of the measure (H=House, S=Senate, C=Conference report).

² Report language pertaining only to the State of Virginia still exists.

Exempt Bonneville Power Administration from Salmon Recovery obligations.

"I am trying to say "timeout" so that silly things will not happen, so that bait fish and... salmon that are running the wrong way in a stream will not take precedence over the rights of farmers and ranchers...."

- Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), explaining an amendment to the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations/ Defense Bill (H.R. 889) earlier this year. The amendment rescinded FY 95 funding for the listing of species as threatened or endangered and for designation of critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Congressional Record 3/16/95).

Proposal: Republicans in the Senate proposed a measure to improve the financial situation of the Bonneville Power Administration, which faces increasing competitive pressures, by capping the amount of money BPA would spend on salmon recovery and exempting BPA and other regional utilities from environmental laws. The measure was contained in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill (HR 1905).

Administration Response: The Administration threatened to veto the entire bill if this provision was not removed. In response, the Administration and Senators Hatfield, Baucus, Murray and others reached an agreement which, in the Vice President's words, "proves that Bonneville's financial problems can be addressed without abandoning or overriding environmental laws" (10/23/95). The Oregonian said, "Northwesterners ought to be ecstatic with the deal" (10/25/95). According to Hatfield's staff, it was the veto threat that caused him to abandon the strategy of waiving environmental laws (Oregonian 10/20/95).

dollars. They sought to lift the moratorium through the Interior Appropriations bill (HR 1977), and the House-Senate conference committee accepted the measure.

Administration Response: The Administration repeatedly objected to this measure, with the President saying, "Just think of it: The Republican budget proposes to raise taxes on working families with incomes of less than \$27,000, to increase the cost of college loans and cut the number of college scholarships, but they're determined to keep giving away \$1 billion worth of minerals on government land for \$275." (11/4/95).

Democrats and moderate Republicans in the House of Representatives rejected the conference report on September 29, 1995, mainly over this provision. The GOP leadership so wanted to continue the mining giveaway, that they brought it back to the floor of the House a second time. Speaker Gingrich went to the extraordinary length of signing a "dear colleague" letter in support and of voting (traditionally, the Speaker does not vote). Despite his efforts, the bill was rejected a second time on November 15, 1995. The moratorium was finally reinstated, and appears in the later version of the Interior Appropriations bill. (The GOP Budget Reconciliation bill still contains a sham reform of the mining law that is opposed by the administration.)

Regulatory "Reform."

"Not harmful"

- House Republican Tom Delay (R-TX) of the chemical DDT.
(Washington Post 7/1/1995)

Proposal: The Republican Contract with America included so-called "regulatory reform" as one of its core principles. In reality, the Republican proposal would create a regulatory system that is more burdensome and costly to taxpayers, and would allow a rollback of our nation's public health and environmental protections. After passing the House, the bill was defeated three times on the floor of the Senate in procedural votes. Seeking to revive it, the Republican leadership attached a similar measure to the Debt Ceiling legislation (HR 2586).

Administration Response: The President vetoed the Debt Ceiling legislation, saying this provision would "reverse a 30-year bipartisan commitment to environmental protection and public health. It would increase pollution and decrease the purity and safety of our air, water and food" (11/13/95).

most sensitive coastlines on my watch. America's coastlines are simply too important to our economy and our way of life."

The moratorium was reinstated by the full Appropriations Committee because of widespread public support.

Halt New Food Safety Standards For Meat and Poultry.

"Not that I can think of."

- Rep. Tom DeLay (R-TX), when asked if there are any federal regulations he would keep (Greenwire 3/6/1995).

Proposal: The House Republicans included a provision in the Agriculture Appropriations bill (HR 1976) which would have delayed a new Administration reform of the meat and poultry inspection program designed to protect people from *E. coli* and other harmful bacteria. Each year, it is estimated that thousands of people die and hundreds of thousands of people get sick from *E. coli* and other meat and poultry contamination. The new inspection reform, called the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system, is a science-based system of food safety control to improve the safety of meat and poultry products and to better protect Americans from food-borne pathogens.

Administration Response: The President strongly supported the new food safety reforms, saying, "the federal government has been inspecting meat the same old way since the turn of the century. ...they touch it and smell it to see if it's safe, instead of using microscopes and high technology. That's crazy, and for the last two years we have been working hard to change that, to reform the meat inspection rules so that Americans can be confident they're protected" (7/15/95). The Administration strongly objected to the measure to delay these important food safety reforms (7/18/95).

The measure was dropped on the House floor.

Lift the Mining Patent Moratorium.

"You might reasonably ask, how can a public official give away a billion dollars without going to jail?"

- Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt (Washington Post 9/7/95).

Proposal: Republicans in the Senate voted to lift the moratorium on new mining patents -- the process under the Mining Law of 1872 by which corporations can lay claim to billions of dollars worth of public minerals for as little as a few hundred

Several weeks later, after twice delaying another vote in an unsuccessful bid to whip their membership into keeping the riders, opponents forced a third vote -- and succeeded in removing the riders.

Close National Parks.

*"If you've been there once [Great Basin National Park], you don't need to go again."
"The question is not whether to close some of the parks, but how."*

- Rep. James Hansen (R-UT), 11/06/94 and 12/08/94, respectively.

Proposal: Republicans in Congress supported a proposal (HR 260), to create a National Parks Closure Commission (HR 1977).

Administration Response: Secretary Babbitt led the charge against the proposal, touring the country and repeatedly saying "As long as I am alive and breathing and Secretary of the Interior, they're not going to do this" (e.g., 3/31/95). President Clinton attacked proposals to close national parks in his radio address from Jackson Hole, WY. (8/26/95) He argued instead for reforms to park concessions and fees to better fund the national parks.

On Sept. 19, this proposal was rejected on the House floor. Not giving up, the House GOP sponsors immediately reattached it -- this time on the Budget Reconciliation bill (HR 2491). Following howls of protest from the Administration and the public, the proposal was finally dropped from the budget bill.

Lift the Moratorium on Offshore Oil Drilling.

"There certainly is an emotional outpouring of sentiment against drilling on behalf of those who believe it is a pollutant."

- Bob Livingston, House Appropriations Committee Chairman (R-LA)
(Houston Chronicle, 6/28/95).

Proposal: Republicans in Congress supported a proposal to lift the moratorium on oil and gas drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf, off the sensitive coastlines of California, Florida, North Carolina, and other states, and in subcommittee defeated a proposed amendment to reinstate it in the Interior Appropriations bill (HR 1977).

Administration Response: When the House subcommittee on Interior Appropriations voted against extending the moratorium on June 20, President Clinton vehemently opposed the measure, saying "I will not allow oil and gas drilling off our nation's

33 BUDGET WINS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

March 6, 1996

Throughout the budget process, the Republican leadership in Congress has used the budget to weaken environmental standards and create special interest environmental loopholes and natural resource giveaways. The proposals -- which had little or nothing to do with balancing the budget -- would have stalled or even eliminated many basic health and environmental protections that the American people have come to expect.

Although several anti-environmental budget loopholes and giveaways are still in dispute, the vast majority of these anti-environmental provisions, more than 30 to date, already have been defeated by President Clinton and Democrats in Congress. Following is a summary of the most important environmental victories:

Special Interest Loophole "Riders."

"EPA, the Gestapo of government."

- Rep. Tom DeLay (R-TX), the third-ranking Republican in the House, on the need for 17 "riders" to the EPA funding bill (Washington Times 7/31/95).

Proposal: Republicans in the House of Representatives attached 17 specific "riders" -- policy changes unrelated to the budget -- to EPA's appropriations bill (HR 2099). These riders would have opened major loopholes for polluters such as oil refineries and hazardous waste incinerators; blocked future actions to improve public health and environmental protections, such as efforts to expand community right-to-know about local toxic releases; and blocked EPA's ability to enforce existing environmental protections, for example by prohibiting enforcement to keep raw sewage off beaches and out of waterways.

Administration Response: The President denounced these riders, saying "[the bill] would be bad for our children, our health and our environment... This is Washington special interest politics at its most effective and at its worst" (8/1/95). After Democrats and moderate Republicans won a vote on the floor of the House to strip the riders, the GOP leadership took the remarkable step of voting again, and re-inserted the riders on a tie vote.