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## UNIVERSAL ADVERSARY DYNAMIC THREAT ASSESSMENT

# Ecoterrorism: Environmental and Animal-Rights Militants in the United States

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The term ecological terrorists,<sup>1</sup> or ecoterrorists, refers to those individuals who independently and/or in concert with others engage in acts of violence and employ tactics commonly associated with terrorism to further their sociopolitical agenda aimed at animal and/or environmental protection. The ecoterrorist movement is a highly decentralized transnational network bound and driven by common ideological constructs that provide philosophical and moral justification for acts of violence against what it perceives to be the destructive encroachment of modern society on the planet's habitat and its living organisms.<sup>2</sup> The ecoterrorist movement represents the fringe element of the broader ecological and animal-rights community that argues that the traditional methods of conserving and preserving the Earth are insufficient, and is willing to use violence as the principal method of the planet's defense against anyone "guilty" of exploiting and destroying the Earth. (U//FOUO)

The overall strength of the movement is impossible to determine given that individuals who take part in ecoterrorist activities generally lack a common profile and exercise a high level of operational security. Nonetheless, ecoterrorists are known to have a global presence and are particularly active in the industrialized West (North America and Western Europe). In the continental United States (CONUS), militant ecological and animal-rights activists are geographically dispersed and operate in both urban and rural settings. The movement has demonstrated a great deal of tactical and strategic sophistication. Ecoterrorists have shown a high level of ingenuity through their ability to "weaponize" common objects and use them to perpetrate acts of economic sabotage and terror with virtual impunity. Ecoterrorists have also proven to be particularly adept at using media and the Internet, for both propaganda purposes and to disseminate vital training, technical, and targeting materials. (U//FOUO)

From a security standpoint, the activities of the ecoterrorist movement are significant for several reasons and should be of interest to domestic security and law enforcement officials. First, Ecoterrorists have perpetrated more illegal acts commonly associated with terrorism on U.S. soil than any other known group, including al-Qaeda and radical Islamic militants. At present, the economic cost of these acts exceeds \$100 million and is likely to grow in the future. In addition, while ecoterrorists thus far have generally refrained from harming individuals, there are indications that some within the movement are advocating more drastic measures to further their sociopolitical agendas. Finally, if ecoterrorists choose to target nuclear or chemical facilities in the United States, as some reports suggest, the ramifications of such attacks could have devastating consequences for the general public and U.S. national security. (U//FOUO)

## COMPOSITION

The ecoterrorist movement in the United States is an elusive and highly decentralized collection of individuals and groups operating on the fringes of the mainstream environmental and animal-rights community. It is comprised of like-minded individuals committed to environmental and animal protection by any means necessary, including tactics commonly associated with terrorism. Although they all believe that the planet is facing impending

environmental catastrophe, the principal force uniting heterogeneous and geographically dispersed radical environmental and animal-rights activists is a willingness to engage in illegal, and often violent, activities in what they perceive to be a defensive struggle against the destructive and exploitative nature of profit-driven society. (U//FOUO)

A number of extreme environmental and animal-rights organizations operate in the United States. Among those, the following are known to be or suspected of being involved in activities commonly associated with ecoterrorism:

- Animal Liberation Front (ALF)
- Earth Liberation Front (ELF)
- Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC)
- Arissa<sup>3</sup>
- Animal Rights Militia
- Band of Mercy
- Animal Liberation Brigade
- Vegan Dumpster Militia
- Sea Shepherd Conservation Society
- Direct Action Front (U//FOUO)

ALF and its sister organization ELF are considered to be the most active, the most dangerous, and the largest domestic terrorist groups in the United States.<sup>4</sup> Therefore, this Dynamic Threat Assessment (DTA) largely focuses on what is known about these two organizations and addresses all other individuals and/or groups involved in ecoterrorism only when pertinent. Moreover, this DTA focuses primarily on ecoterrorist activities in the United States. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 1.**

One of the numerous logos used by ALF



ALF, created in England in 1976 as an outgrowth of mainstream environmentalist organizations such as Greenpeace and the Sea Shepherds Conservation Society, is predominantly concerned with animal-rights issues.<sup>5</sup> The organization migrated to the United States in the 1980s and is active in more than twenty countries.<sup>6</sup> In 2001, ALF's strength in the U.S. was estimated at approximately one hundred hard-core members.<sup>7</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 2.**

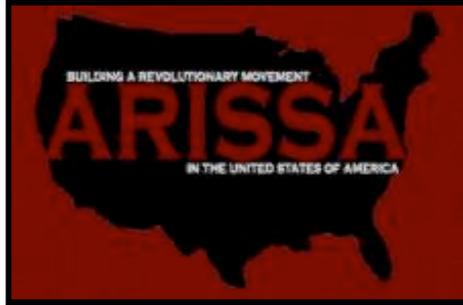
Original ELF logo by Awest, Santa Cruz, CA.



ELF was founded in the early 1990s in England and like ALF later migrated to the United States. Also like ALF, ELF emerged as a derivative of another environmentalist organization, Earth First! (EF), which had abandoned its illegal and violent activities by 1992 and become more mainstream. The first known ELF activity occurred in 1996 when members set fire to a United States Forest Service truck in Oregon.<sup>8</sup> The group has since perpetrated major attacks across the United States. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 3.**

ARISSA's logo clearly depicts the organization's revolutionary nature and nationwide ambition.



Arissa and Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) are two splinter groups that evolved from ELF and ALF, respectively. Arissa, founded in 2003 by two former ELF spokesmen, is a militant faction of ELF that advocates more radical tactics, including assassination of individuals and entities deemed threatening to the environment. SHAC, an ALF splinter group, was founded in 2000 and is spearheading a campaign of economic terror against the Huntingdon Life Society (HLS), a pharmaceutical company that engages in animal drug testing, and other corporations involved in similar activities. (U//FOUO)

The information available in open source material precludes accurate estimates of the number of individuals and/or groups who participate in or advocate acts of ecoterrorism. The principal impediment to assessing the composition of the ecoterrorist movement and its strength is that individuals are not required to join groups engaged in ecomilitant activities. Groups such as ELF and ALF are not composed of members in the traditional sense. Rather, individuals willing to engage in illegal acts, including violence, to protect animal and earth “rights” are considered to belong to the movement by the virtue of their actions. (U//FOUO)

Despite the lack of a uniform “ecoterrorist profile,” one can make certain observations about individuals involved in ecomilitant activities. People who tend to be attracted to ecoterrorist activities are usually under the age of twenty-five, are from industrialized Western nations, and support animal-rights and environmental causes, but have nonetheless become disenfranchised with what they perceive to be the lack of progress among mainstream groups.<sup>9</sup> It appears that the majority of ecoterrorists tend to be Caucasian, middle- or upper-middle-class individuals. (U//FOUO)

## IDEOLOGY

The ecoterrorist movement does not have a clearly articulated singular ideological platform. Rather, individuals who engage in illegal and violent activities in the name of environmentalism and animal protectionism are motivated by several overlapping and complementary philosophies designed to protect the environment and animals from perceived peril. (U//FOUO)

The dominant idea behind the ecoterrorist movement is biocentrism, more commonly known as deep ecology (hereafter, these two terms are used interchangeably). The central premise of this philosophy rests on biospheric egalitarianism: a belief that all forms of life in the universe are equally valuable and have a right to live and flourish.<sup>10</sup> Deep ecology asserts that humans are merely one strain in a web of life and, as such, are no more valuable than any other living organism on the planet Earth. Not only does this philosophy stress equality among species, but it also advocates the need for the human race to adopt a more active and critical view of its role in the overall ecosphere. According to proponents of deep ecology, humans need to start “[e]xperiencing [themselves] as part of the living earth and fin[d] [their] role in protecting the planet. In this approach, the relationship is more of an involved participant, who feels connected with and part of the world around them.”<sup>11</sup> (U//FOUO)

Similarly, individuals who engage in violence in the name of animal liberation invoke the principals of speciesism, an ideological construct that differentiates between humans and animals but does not adhere to the supremacy of the former. Followers of this ideology generally embrace the same ideological tenets outlined by biocentrism; however, they place particular emphasis on the need for humans to radically alter their approach toward animals. Radical animal liberation activists reject any notion that would place animals in a subordinate role to

humans, and charge that modern Western civilization is unlawfully subjugating and exploiting animals. They do not believe that humans should keep animals as pets, consume and/or exploit them for food, or use any animal products in their daily lives.<sup>12</sup> Rather, radical animal-rights activists advocate that animals should be accorded the same rights as humans. This is clearly visible in Dr. Steven Best's<sup>13</sup> 2004 work, *Terrorists or Freedom Fighters?: Reflections on the Liberation of Animals*, when he declares that "animals have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, all of which contradicts the property status that is often literally burnt into their flesh."<sup>14</sup> (U//FOUO)

Perhaps the most extreme ecoterrorist ideology is anarcho-primitivism, a philosophy that seeks a return to primitive societies based on a hunter-gatherer way of life.<sup>15</sup> Proponents of this view embrace individual freedom in the context of free communities living in harmony with each other and the biosphere.<sup>16</sup> According to anarcho-primitivism, for the symbiosis between humans and their environment to take place, earth's natural equilibrium needs to be restored through the systematic deindustrialization of modern civilization. Hence, a return to primitive society would lead to revolutionary changes that would abolish the existing social and economic stratification of society and pave the way for the coexistence of all living organisms in harmony with nature. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 4.**  
One of many ELF  
propaganda  
posters  
denouncing the  
damaging effects  
of capitalism on  
the environment



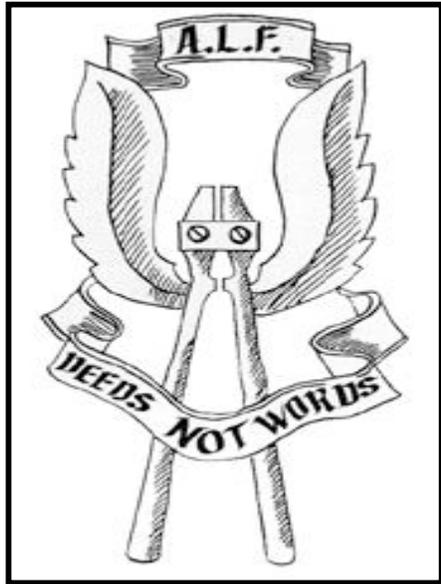
All of these beliefs stand in direct contrast to the notion of individualism as promoted by Western culture. Ecoterrorists argue that the concept of "self" has enabled the human race to disregard the degradation of the earth's habitat and that Western sociopolitical and economic concepts of civilization, modernity, and capitalism are exploitative in nature and have altered the equilibrium among species in pursuit of fiscal benefit. Therefore, they need to be countered

through "direct action." The concept of direct action, as ecoterrorists practice it, is a euphemism for illegal and violent activities designed to halt the destruction of the environment and liberate animals.<sup>17</sup> It is precisely this willingness to engage in illegal acts to further their sociopolitical aims that separates ecoterrorists from mainstream environmentalists and animal protectionists. (U//FOUO)

Ecoterrorists consider themselves to be freedom fighters engaged in a defensive conflict against the damaging encroachment of capitalist societies whose sole concern is profit regardless of any social or ecological costs or consequence.<sup>18</sup> They believe they are the "voice of the voiceless" and "the defenders of the defenseless." Extreme environmental and animal-rights activists do not consider themselves to be terrorists; rather, they believe it is the anthropocentric<sup>19</sup> nature of modern societies that allows the wholesale destruction of the environment. For as Paul Watson, the founder of the environmental organization Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, asserts:

There are indeed eco-terrorists. Exxon committed eco-terrorism in Alaska. Union Carbide committed acts of eco-terrorism at Bhopal, India. The forest industries commit eco-terrorism each day. These corporations will not be found on any federal list of "terrorist" organizations, because they have money, and money calls the shots in what Mark Twain once described as the "Parliament of Whores" in Washington, DC. The wholesale destruction of our oceans and forests and the incredible assault on biodiversity is terrorism of the highest order—terrorism that is accepted by anthropocentric culture as normal.<sup>20</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 5.**  
This ALF logo clearly depicts an emphasis on actions.



Jeffrey Luers, an ELF activist currently serving a twenty-two-year sentence for acts of economic terrorism and sabotage, perhaps articulated the movement's ideological mind-set best when he declared that radical environmentalists and animal protectionists "have no choice but to fight. Literally fight, in the physical sense of the word. There is too much at stake for us to be tame in our struggles."<sup>21</sup> (U//FOUO)

In sum, ecoterrorists adhere to a utopian ideological construct that borrows from, and merges together, several complementary philosophies and "are dedicated to the ideal of all living beings (plants, animals, even ecosystems as a whole) living together without being 'commodified' as resources or used, oppressed or destroyed for economic reasons."<sup>22</sup> Ecoterrorists contend that the U.S.-led Western capitalist system represents the single most important threat to the global environment and are willing to oppose it by any means necessary. (U//FOUO)

## OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

The overarching objective of the ecoterrorist movement is to change the prevailing social attitudes about the environment and establish biospheric equality among all species. This new form of biospheric egalitarianism, as promoted by radical environmentalist and animal-rights activists, not only would fundamentally alter the nature of social norms regarding the planet's habitat and its living organisms, but ultimately would lead to a new system of governance and social relationships that is anarchist and antisystemic in nature.<sup>23</sup> In practice, this would mean a return to a quasi-preindustrial society and the abolishment of all forms of economic, social, and political structures, as defined by modern civilization. (U//FOUO)

The movement does not have a comprehensive strategy to achieve this aim, however. Rather, groups such as ELF and ALF define their goals in more modest, but consistent, terms. ELF states that its primary objectives are:

- To inflict economic damage on those profiting from the destruction and exploitation of the natural environment
- To reveal and educate the public on the atrocities committed against the earth and all species that populate it
- To take all necessary precautions against harming any animal, human and nonhuman<sup>24</sup> (U//FOUO)

As a sister organization, ALF objectives closely mimic those of ELF, but place particular focus on the plight of animals. As such, ALF seeks:

- To liberate animals from places of abuse (e.g., laboratories, factory farms, fur farms, etc.) and place them in good homes where they may live out their natural lives free from suffering
- To inflict economic damage on those who profit from the misery and exploitation of animals
- To reveal the horror and atrocities committed against animals behind locked doors, by performing nonviolent direct actions and liberations
- To take all necessary precautions against harming any animal, whether human or nonhuman

- To analyze the ramifications of all proposed actions and never apply generalizations when specific information is available<sup>25</sup> (U//FOUO)

On the other hand, Arissa, an ELF splinter group, argues that the goals of single-issue organizations such as ELF and ALF are shortsighted and will never bring about the necessary changes. The primary goal of Arissa is to “create social and political revolution in the United States.”<sup>26</sup> (U//FOUO)

To meet their stated objectives, radical environmental and animal-rights activists use “direct action,” a euphemism for an organized campaign of illegal and violent activities, designed to inflict monetary damages on entities and individuals engaged in practices deemed detrimental to the environment and animals.<sup>27</sup> Through a prolonged campaign of economic sabotage and intimidation, ecoterrorists hope to drive up the costs of environmental and animal exploitation. Although ecoterrorist “direct action” campaigns often use violence, ELF and ALF, in particular, pride themselves on taking extraordinary measures to avoid any physical harm to humans and insist that their activists act accordingly.<sup>28</sup> (U//FOUO)

Some individuals in radical environmental and animal-rights circles, however, believe that the current strategy of direct action, as practiced by the majority of ecomilitants, is inherently flawed and champion more radical measures. They point out that many companies engaged in animal research or urban development have insurance policies in place against such attacks, thereby becoming largely immune to punitive financial measures. Moreover, certain individuals, mainly within the militant animal-rights community, also argue that the policy of “no physical harm” should be reconsidered and, in some cases, supplanted by more radical measures. For example, Dr. Jerry Vlasik, a passionate animal-rights advocate and the current ALF press officer, was quoted as saying at the 2003 Animal Rights Conference in California, “if vivisectors were routinely being killed, I think it would give other vivisectors pause in what they were doing in their work.”<sup>29</sup> A similar reference to escalating the use of violence was echoed in 2002 when an anonymous ecoterrorist claimed that the movement “will no longer hesitate to pick up the gun to implement justice, and provide the needed protection for our planet.”<sup>30</sup> (U//FOUO)

Whatever the shortcomings of ecoterrorist direct action strategy may be, the calculated and systematic use of violence is also designed to bring publicity to issues related to the politics of nature that otherwise would remain marginal and foreign to the public at large. For ELF and like-minded groups, “publicity is a key part of their agenda” and can be seen as the “oxygen of the movement.”<sup>31</sup> (U//FOUO)

In the final analysis, extreme environmental and animal-rights activists feel that “the legal means of affecting change have been exhausted” and have opted for a strategy of violent and highly visible attacks, as a means of forcing public debate on issues pertinent to the environment and animals.<sup>32</sup> Through the use of illegal and violent measures, ecoterrorists seek the publicity needed to force the public to actively tackle what they perceive to be an impending environmental catastrophe. (U//FOUO)

## TARGET SELECTION

Broadly speaking, ecoterrorists target anyone perceived to be engaged in, or benefiting from, activities deemed detrimental to the “welfare” of the environment and animals. Ecomilitants have systematically targeted both governmental and nongovernmental entities as well as private individuals. Despite the wide range of potential targets, ecoterrorists, nonetheless, apply a two-tier approach to their targeting selection process and differentiate between primary and secondary targets.<sup>33</sup> (U//FOUO)

## Primary Targets

Ecomilitants target primarily those entities and individuals who, in their view, *directly* engage in exploiting animals and desecrating the environment. As such, the most frequent targets of ecoterrorist groups such as ELF and ALF are:

1. Commercial enterprises and/or individuals engaged in housing and urban development
2. Commercial enterprises and/or individuals involved in the logging industry
3. Sport utility vehicle (SUV) dealerships
4. Commercial enterprises and/or individuals involved in the production, sale, and distribution
5. of animal products (leather and fur producers, sellers, and distributors; restaurants; and meat, poultry and fish producers)
6. Animal research facilities and personnel
7. Commercial enterprises and universities involved in genetic engineering
8. Animal farms and nurseries
9. Hunting clubs and associations
10. Animal service facilities and personnel (animal shelters and veterinary clinics) engaged in animal vivisection procedures (U//FOUO)

**Figure 6.**

SHAC-sponsored protest outside a congressional hearing on ecoterrorism depicts ecomilitant views on the government's impact on the environment.



Ecoterrorists also consider certain federal, state, and local government entities to be primary targets. Ecoterrorists have targeted government departments and personnel associated with environmental preservation and food production, such as the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, on several occasions.<sup>34</sup> Occasionally, legislators and politicians perceived to be “soft” on environmental and animal-rights protection have also come under attack by groups such as ELF and ALF. Although attacks against government infrastructure and personnel have been less frequent than those on nongovernmental entities, this may change in the future as ecomilitants appear to become increasingly

convinced that the government is all too willing to abandon environmental conservation and animal-rights protection in favor of business interests. (U//FOUO)

## Secondary Targets

The secondary targets involve entities *indirectly* involved in activities “detrimental” to the environment, species, or any other aspect of the politics of nature. The “guilt” of secondary targets stems from their association with primary targets. Companies and individuals engaged in business and financial relationships with principal “offenders” become “legitimate” targets by default and are therefore harassed, intimidated, and attacked by extreme environmentalist and animal-rights activists. The principal notion behind this type of targeting is to deprive primary targets of business partners. In other words, groups such as ELF and ALF are determined to intimidate those willing to associate or do business with entities guilty of environmental and/or animal exploitation.<sup>35</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 7.**

SHAC activists protest in front of GlaxoSmithKline, a company with extensive business ties to the Huntingdon Life Society.



A perfect example of a secondary target is Wachovia, one of the largest banking and financial institutions in the United States. In 2007, ALF and SHAC activists repeatedly targeted Wachovia Bank because of its financial ties to the Huntingdon Life Society. As the second-largest owner of Huntingdon Life Society shares, several Wachovia branches in California were vandalized, and ecoterrorists placed a small incendiary device in one of the bank's after-hours deposit boxes.<sup>36</sup> Ecoterrorist attacks against Wachovia were not limited to the bank's facilities; ALF activists claimed responsibility

for vandalizing a Wachovia executive's vehicle in Portland, Oregon.<sup>37</sup> Similarly, ALF activists hacked the web page of LaGrange Capital Management, another investment firm and Huntingdon Life Society shareholder, temporarily depriving three hundred mid-level managers of access to the company's electronic communications.<sup>38</sup> In fact, SHAC activists regularly post the names and contact information of employees from companies doing business with Huntingdon Life Society on the SHAC website.<sup>39</sup> While any employee may be targeted, SHAC particularly encourages its activists to direct attacks toward mid- and high-level management.<sup>40</sup> Some reports suggest that at "least 100 companies, including a security company have severed their business relationships with Huntingdon Life Society as a result of being targeted by SHAC."<sup>41</sup> (U//FOUO)

Finally, evidence indicates that ecoterrorist groups such as ELF may intend to target nuclear facilities in the United States. For example, in statements to a grand jury, a self-proclaimed ELF sympathizer declared, "if the [Bush] Administration encourages expansion of the nuclear power industry, nuclear plants will be targeted."<sup>42</sup> Although targeting nuclear facilities appears to be confined to the most militant fringes of the radical environmentalist movement and does not appear to be on the movement's "standard" targeting list, it should not be dismissed completely. After all, in 1989, federal authorities broke up one radical environmental group and charged its members with conspiring to attack nuclear power plants in three states (Arizona, California, and Colorado).<sup>43</sup> (U//FOUO)

## INTERNAL STRUCTURES AND ORGANIZATIONAL DYNAMICS

The ecoterrorist movement operates as a sophisticated and highly decentralized network. It has no overarching hierarchical structure, nor does it have an elaborate organizational infrastructure. Rather, the movement embraces the concept of leaderless resistance, an organizational model that has no uniform authority or centralized control and command structure.<sup>44</sup> Shared ideology and a willingness to engage in illegal and violent activities in pursuit of environmental and animal protectionism provide independent actors with structural cohesion through a commonality of purpose. After all, any individual willing to take direct action in support of the movement's overall aim—to counter environmental and animal exploitation—is automatically considered to be part of the movement.<sup>45</sup> (U//FOUO)

Organizational dynamics are barely present, and, to a great extent, activists operate underground. Personal contacts may play into organizational dynamics, to the extent that individual cells or activists exchange information with each other. However, in the vast majority of cases individuals involved in acts of ecoterrorism are not in contact with other individuals or cells engaged in similar activities. Although autonomous cells and individuals are known to take guidance from Internet materials, which provide the parameters and, often, instructions for an action, they tend to execute their activities independently of one another

and the movement at large, yet they are consistent with the overarching slogan, “Think global, act local!”<sup>46</sup> (U//FOUO)

## EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS AND INTERORGANIZATIONAL TIES

External relationships and interorganizational ties are difficult to assess because the groups that constitute the ecoterrorist movement have highly decentralized structures and do not require conventional membership. Yet, it is clear that there is some degree of interaction between various ecomilitant groups and/or individuals. After all, ELF and ALF are considered to be sister organizations and the newer, more radical groups, such as Arissa and SHAC, are their respective derivatives. The following radical environmental and animal-rights groups share some ideological tenets and operational aims; however, the precise nature of their ties remains unclear:

- ELF
- ALF
- Arissa
- Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC)
- Sea Shepherd Conservation Society
- Animal Rights Militia
- Animal Liberation Brigade
- Direct Action Front
- Band of Mercy (U//FOUO)

In addition, various groups that constitute the ecoterrorist movement are also believed to interact, to one degree or another, with mainstream environmental and animal-rights organizations and/or individuals. Although none of the mainstream organizations officially endorses or participates in the illegal and violent activities championed by ecomilitants, some prominent members of mainstream groups are known to sympathize with the ecoterrorist movement. Mainstream organizations with known or possible links to ecoterrorism include the following:

- Greens
- People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)
- The Sierra Club
- National Wildlife Federation
- Audubon Society
- Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
- Friends of the Earth
- Greenpeace
- Earth First!<sup>47</sup>
- Coalition to Save the Preserve (CSP)
- Environmental Task Force
- The Frogs
- In Defense of Animals
- New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance
- Fund for Animals (U//FOUO)

Among the highlighted organizations, PETA, the Fund for Animals, In Defense of Animals, the New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance, and certain individuals within the HSUS are known or suspected of having financial ties to individuals and groups associated with ecoterrorism.<sup>48</sup> In addition to financial ties to ecomilitancy, both HSUS and PETA, or at least individuals within those organizations, have an established record of supporting individuals and/or groups commonly associated with ecoterrorism. David Martosko, director of research for the

Center for Consumer Freedom, in his testimony before the U.S. Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works in 2005, gives examples of HSUS's links to ecomilitants:<sup>49</sup>

- According to Martosko, Miyun Park, an HSUS employee listed as a benefactor, has been named in at least six federal wiretap warrants in connection with a Federal Animal Enterprise Terrorism trial. Martosko claims that these warrants also include University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) professor Steven Best, PETA grantee (and terror defendant at the time) Joshua Harper (convicted ecoterrorist), and PETA employee Joe Haptas.
- Martosko further claimed that Daniel Andreas San Diego, wanted by federal authorities for involvement in the detonation of ten-pound shrapnel bombs in 2003 at two California biomedical research companies, also had links had to the HSUS. According to Martosko, an FBI evidence recovery log from the search of San Diego's automobile describes a check written to him by Ariana M. Huemer, an employee of HSUS at the time.
- Martosko recounts the story of John Paul "J.P." Goodwin to illustrate another tie between the HSUS and violent animal-rights activists. In 1997, when Goodwin was the national director of the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade, he wrote in *No Compromise* that he and his group "support these [ALF] actions 100%. We will never, ever, ever work with anyone who helps the FBI stop the ALF....this is one of the best things to happen in a long time."<sup>50</sup> In March 1997, after the ALF arson of a fur farmers' feed co-op in Utah that resulted in \$1 million in damages, Goodwin told reporters, "We're ecstatic." In 2000, the HSUS sent Goodwin as its emissary on a tour of Chinese fur farms. By 2001, he was an HSUS employee and remains on the HSUS's full-time staff. (U//FOUO)

Martosko's testimony also goes into great detail about PETA's links to ALF, ELF, and other groups, some of which are clearly ecoterrorists and others are ideologically connected but not clearly involved in violence:<sup>51</sup>

- Publicly, PETA has consistently claimed to have no information about the identity of any ALF activists. Yet, at least twice PETA has published interviews with self-described ALF members in its own newsletter. Early in its history, this newsletter included a full-page advertisement promoting the ALF as a "rescue" organization. Also in this newsletter, PETA advertised Ingrid Newkirk's<sup>52</sup> first book *Free the Animals!* as "an intimate look at the ALF," and wrote that Newkirk "speaks for the Animal Liberation Front."
- In 2001, PETA campaign director Bruce Friedrich told an animal-rights convention audience that "blowing stuff up and smashing windows is a great way to bring about animal liberation....Hallelujah to the people who are willing to do it."
- The current crop of ALF spokespersons, who now call themselves "press officers," includes a New Jersey activist named Angi Metler, whom *PETA News* once described as a "PETA spokesperson." Another self-appointed ALF "press officer" is Dr. Jerry Vlasak. In 2003, while acting as a spokesperson for the PETA-affiliated Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM), Vlasak openly endorsed the murder of doctors who use animals in their medical research. "For 5 lives, 10 lives, 15 human lives," he told an animal-rights convention, "we could save a million, 2 million, 10 million non-human lives." When an audience member objected, comparing his strategy to that of violent criminals who bomb abortion clinics, Vlasak responded: "Absolutely. I think they had a great strategy going."
- In 2001, the PCRM engaged in a letter-writing campaign with the president of another terrorist threat group called Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC). The letters were designed to threaten and intimidate companies targeted by SHAC for their business dealings with a biomedical research firm that uses animal-testing

models. In addition to both veiled and overt threats of death and bodily harm, SHAC's tactics have included car bombings, identity theft, physical assault, and interstate stalking. SHAC's current U.S. president is Pamelyn Ferdin, who is married to Vlasak. Ferdin carries a PCRM business card. (U//FOUO)

Beyond the highlighted mainstream organizations, ecoterrorists are believed to have tentative links to the Ruckus Society, an organization that provides environmental, human rights, and social justice organizers with the comprehensive training and tools needed to achieve their aims. Some individuals involved in ecoterrorist activities are suspected of attending Ruckus Society-sponsored direct action training sessions. Moreover, the founder of Ruckus Society Mike Roselle was a high-ranking member of Earth First! when this organization was involved in direct action activities and is known to harbor sympathies toward the ecoterrorist movement. (U//FOUO)

## GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND STRENGTH

The ecoterrorist network draws on individuals and cells from around the world. Despite their global presence, individuals and groups involved in acts of terrorism appear to be most prevalent in North America and Western Europe, the centers of industrialization and globalization. In Europe, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Italy, and the Netherlands are known to host the largest number of individuals and groups commonly associated with ecoterrorist activities. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 8.**  
This map depicts the type and geographical location of various ecoterrorist activities from 1996 to 2004. (Source: O'Connor, T., <http://www.apsu.edu/oconnor/images/maps/elfmap.jpg>)



In terms of their geographical disposition in the United States, extreme environmental and animal-rights activists operate both rural and urban settings around the country. They are particularly active in the Western and West Coast states.<sup>53</sup> In particular, states such as Oregon, California and Washington have a well-established record of ecoterrorist activities and are known to host individuals and groups that both advocate and participate in such activities. Although the Midwest and East Coast have a smaller percentage of eco-terrorist incidents, neither area is immune to nor free from ecoterrorism. (U//FOUO)

East Coast have a smaller percentage of eco-terrorist incidents, neither area is immune to nor free from ecoterrorism. (U//FOUO)

The strength of the ecoterrorism movement is virtually impossible to estimate. Its structural fluidity and stringent security measures have made ecoterrorism virtually impenetrable to law enforcement infiltration, thereby precluding comprehensive understanding of the movement's strength. An additional obstacle in assessing the strength of ecoterrorists is that groups such as ALF and ELF frequently overlap in activists. Furthermore, not all ecoterrorists are connected to known activist groups; some are known to operate entirely independently or may be dormant until something triggers their activity. Nonetheless, "[t]he number of activists brazen enough to commit arson and serious vandalism is believed to be quite small."<sup>54</sup> In 2001, it was estimated that ALF had approximately one hundred hardcore members<sup>55</sup>; no figures are available for groups such as ELF, SHAC, and Arissa. (U//FOUO)

Perhaps the more constructive way to gauge the current and future strength of ecoterrorists is not to think in terms of actual numbers, but as a growing trend. The general perception that the planet is in peril, and the reluctance or even refusal of some parts of the U.S.

government to acknowledge the damaging effects of global warming may increase the number of potential ecoterrorists. Individuals sympathetic to ecoterrorist philosophy or those generally concerned with the welfare of the environment, may become increasingly tempted to abandon traditional methods of environmental conservation and animal protection (nonviolent acts of political opposition consistent with legal democratic principles) and embrace militant tactics as a viable alternative to air their concerns and grievances. (U//FOUO)

## TACTICS AND OPERATIONS

Ecoterrorists' tactics and operations vary in scope and sophistication according to the level of expertise and determination of the individual or cell. Nonetheless, individuals and groups engaged in acts commonly associated with ecoterrorism do follow certain tactical and operational patterns. Ecoterrorists carefully plan and train for individual and small-unit attacks and primarily conduct operations against low-security targets.<sup>56</sup> John E. Lewis, the FBI's deputy assistant director for the Counterterrorism Division, noted the high degree of tactical and operational planning in his 2004 testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee, stating that ELF and ALF "activists are believed to engage in significant intelligence gathering against potential targets, including the review of industry/trade publications and other open source information, photographic/video surveillance of potential targets, obtaining proprietary or confidential information about intended victim companies through theft or from sympathetic insiders, and posting details about potential targets on the Internet for other extremists to use as they see fit."<sup>57</sup> (U//FOUO)

ELF, ALF, and similar groups conduct operations mainly against the logging industry, genetic engineering (GE) industry, housing developers, automobile dealerships, the energy sector, research laboratories, food processors and retailers, and other entities perceived to be involved in the exploitation of the environment and animals.<sup>58</sup> (U//FOUO)

The principal tactic used by ecoterrorists is "direct action," a form of political activism that seeks immediate remedy for perceived ills, and whose work can be divided into legal and illegal activities.<sup>59</sup> Legal activities are usually confined to letter writing and call-in protests and public demonstrations. Illegal activities range from less menacing acts of civil disobedience to more violent activities such as arson. However, the term direct action, as used by the extreme environmental and animal-rights activists, has become a euphemism for illegal and often violent activities. (U//FOUO)

Typical ecoterrorist operations can be divided into two broad categories: (1) activities aimed at causing property damage, and (2) activities aimed at intimidation. In both cases, militant environmental and animal-rights activists use the following tactics when conducting operations against their targets. (U//FOUO)

### "Monkey Wrenching"

**Figure 9.** Caricature of a "monkey wrencher," a well-known symbol of the movement.



Monkey wrenching, a euphemism for acts of sabotage and vandalism, is among the most common tactics used by extreme environmental and animal-rights activists. Initially, it was perceived to be prankish in nature and revolved around activities such as gluing locks, pouring blocking agents into sewage lines, tree spiking, and changing or damaging padlocks.<sup>60</sup> However, it has significantly evolved and ELF, ALF, and like-minded organizations have used it to demonstrate the vulnerability of companies or government departments. (U//FOUO)

## Raids and Infiltrations

**Figure 10.**  
ALF activists raid a  
chicken farm.



Ecoterrorists frequently undertake attacks on facilities to disrupt the work of a facility or demonstrate the target's inability to secure the facility or its employees.<sup>61</sup> Often during raids animals are released and documentation is ruined, destroying years of scientific study. In the majority of laboratory raids, an insider was suspected of aiding the infiltrators.<sup>62</sup> Activists also have obtained jobs in targeted companies to expose mistreatment of animals.<sup>63</sup> (U//FOUO)

## Hoaxes

Ecoterrorists use hoaxes with considerable success. A threat results in the expected target's devoting time and effort to ensure its security. A bomb threat can close a biological laboratory, empty an academic building, or delay a real estate development at no cost to ALF, ELF, or a like-minded consortium. False alarms dull the analytical and operational efficiency of key security personnel, thus degrading readiness. (U//FOUO)

## Assaults and Blackmail

Assaults can range from throwing a pie in someone's face to mailing envelopes containing razor blades coated in rat poison, which in fact were sent to more than eighty people in the United States and Canada in 1999 by ecomilitants.<sup>64</sup> Stalking, harassment, threats, and blackmail against those (as well as their loved ones and property) deemed guilty of harming animals and exploiting the environment are common ecoterrorist tactics. These tactics are designed to coerce concessions or provide support for the movement's activities and goals. Targets include government officials, corporate officers or employees, and community leaders.<sup>65</sup> (U//FOUO)

## Arson/Firebombing

**Figure 11.**  
Housing  
development site  
set ablaze by the  
ELF activists



Arson and firebombing are frequent tactics used by militant environmental and animal-rights activists, particularly ELF. There is an abundance of arson-related material available to potential militants both in print and online. These how-to manuals cover a vast array of fire-starting components and methods such as instructions for constructing igniters and other incendiary compounds, including a form of napalm and crude improvised explosive devices (IEDs). IEDs can be inexpensive to produce and, because of the various

detonation techniques available, may result in low risk to the perpetrator. Other advantages of IEDs include their ability to generate publicity and to control casualties through timed detonation and careful placement of the device.<sup>66</sup> While the use of Molotov cocktails and more common incendiary devices may be less dramatic, the results are often the same. (U//FOUO)

## Cyber Attacks

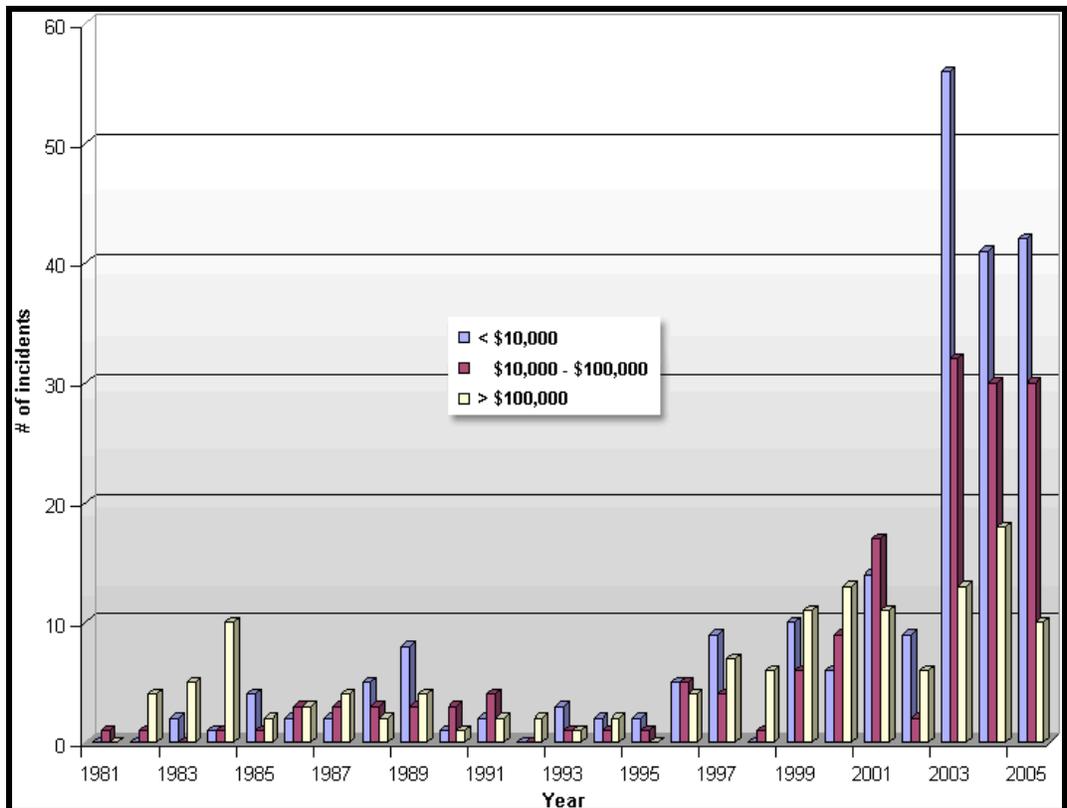
Although less frequently used, cyber attacks by extreme environmental and animal-rights activists have been successful. There are also indications that this tactic is growing in popularity. Denial of service (DoS), the computer equivalent to flooding a switchboard with phone calls, has been used to overwhelm and temporarily paralyze web servers. These attacks are known to have been launched against Huntingdon Life Society vendors and business associates and appear to be relegated to secondary targets.<sup>67</sup> (U//FOUO)

Figure 12 illustrates the breakdown of various ecomilitant tactics carried out between 1981 and 2005.<sup>68</sup> Figure 13 depicts the increase in severity of ecoterrorist attacks in recent years.<sup>69</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 12.**  
The breakdown of various ecomilitant tactics carried out between 1981 and 2005.



**Figure 13.**  
The increase in severity of ecoterrorist attacks in recent years.



Based on a compilation of material from ALF and ELF communiqués and publications, media reports, and law enforcement, it is clear that these extremists have committed thousands of violent criminal acts in recent decades. Table 1 lists some illustrative operations that occurred between 1984 and the present.<sup>70</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Table 1.**  
Select operations

Date	Location	Target	Mode	Outcome
03/03/08	Woodinville, WA	Housing development	Arson	ELF suspected of setting ablaze several model homes, causing \$7 million in damages.
02/06/08	Los Angeles, CA	University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) professor	Attempted arson	ALF claimed responsibility for firebombing the home of a UCLA professor engaged in primate research.
02/05/08	San Diego, CA	Scripps "Mercy" Hospital (The hospital engages in animal breeding.)	Raid	ALF claimed responsibility for releasing several dozen animals.
02/04/08	Westside, CA	UCLA professor	Attempted arson	ALF claimed responsibility for firebombing the home of a UCLA professor engaged in primate research.
11/04/07	Las Vegas, NV	Private vehicles	Vandalism	Unidentified environmental extremists suspected of smashing the windows of 30 SUVs.
10/20/07	Westside, CA	UCLA professor	Vandalism	ALF claimed responsibility for flooding the home of a UCLA professor engaged in animal research.
08/13/07	Hinsdale, MA	Mink farm	Raid	Approximately 500 mink were released, causing estimated damage of \$100,000.
07/31/07	Lake Oswego, OR	Oregon Health and Science University primate researcher	Vandalism	ALF claimed responsibility for vandalizing a researcher's residence and vehicle.
07/03/07	Austin, TX	Local restaurants	Vandalism	ALF activists suspected of spray-painting seven restaurants serving veal and foie gras with obscenities.
06/27/07	Los Angeles, CA	UCLA primate researcher	Arson	"Animal Liberation Brigade" firebombed researcher's vehicle.
06/07/07	Boyers, PA	Oakwood Mink Farm	Raid	2,800 mink released.
05/24/07	Portland, OR	Private vehicles	Arson	Seven trucks and SUVs were set on fire, and a number of vehicles were vandalized, causing tens of thousands of dollars in damages.
05/21/07	Studio City, CA	LA Department of Animal Service (LADAS) volunteer coordinator	Vandalism	ALF vandalized LADAS SUV and pickup truck with paint stripper.
05/14/07	Sheboygan, WI	Hunting club	Vandalism	Animal-rights extremists slashed the tires on nine work vehicles, defaced signs, and released quail, causing an estimated \$12,000 in damages.
04/23/07	Denver, CO	Private vehicles	Arson	ELF suspected of setting ablaze several SUVs in two neighborhoods. Incendiary and detonating devices were recovered near one of the burned-out cars.
03/10/07	Portland, OR	Vice president of Wachovia Securities, a shareholder of GlaxoSmithKline company (a Huntingdon Life Society customer)	Vandalism	ALF activists spray-painted the home and car of a Wachovia Securities vice president.

Date	Location	Target	Mode	Outcome
02/24/07	San Diego, CA	Torrey Pines Therapeutics (The company has business with the Huntingdon Life Society.)	Vandalism	ALF activists claimed responsibility for spreading glass-etching fluid on all the office windows of the Torrey Pines Therapeutics company.
02/18/07	Inglewood, CA	Hubnet Express (a company serving Huntingdon Life Society)	Vandalism	ALF activists spray-painted company buildings and poured red dye onto carpets.
01/05/07	South Jordan, UT	University of Utah researcher	Vandalism	ALF activists vandalized the researcher's house and threatened further damage to his property.
12/18/06	Griggstown (Somerset County), NJ	Quail Farm	Raid	ALF activists released approximately 2,500 birds and caused \$80,000 in damages.
04/29/06	Howard Lake, MN	Ferret farm	Raid/ vandalism	ALF activists released pet ferrets and destroyed the farm's breeding records.
03/25/06	Litchfield, CT	Chicken farm	Raid	Animal activists stole 120 chickens from a local egg farm.
01/17/06	Camano Island, WA	Luxury house	Arson	ELF activists set ablaze 9,600-square-foot house, causing \$2 million in damages.
11/20/05	Hagerstown, ME	Housing development	Arson	ELF activists set fire to housing development, causing \$225,000 in damages.
10/03/05	Bozeman, MT	Kenyon Noble Lumber & Hardware store	Vandalism	ELF activists destroyed construction equipment, causing \$3,000 in damages.
09/11/05	West Old Town, ME	West Old Town Landfill	Vandalism	A dozen large vehicles had their ignitions ripped out or superglue poured into them, tires slashed, fuel tanks tampered with, causing \$30,000 in damages. ELF activists suspected of involvement.
07/08/05	Success, NH	T. R. Dillon Logging	Arson	ELF activists set ablaze logging equipment, causing \$500,000 in damages.
05/26/05	Richland Township, PA	Peonyland nursery (The nursery had bid to provide housing for monkeys destined for research laboratories.)	Vandalism	1,000 plants destroyed (including some rare breeds), paint stripper poured on two vehicles, causing tens of thousands of dollars in damages. ALF activists suspected of involvement.
04/13/05	Sammamish, WA	Housing construction site	Firebombing	ELF activists firebombed one house under construction and attempted to set another ablaze, causing \$300,000 in damages.
12/27/04	Lincoln, CA	Housing construction site	Incendiary devices	Incendiary devices with timers were found inside three homes. ELF member Ryan Lewis was sentenced to 6 years in jail, Eva and Lili Holland to 2 years.
11/14/04	Iowa City, IA	University of Iowa Psychology Department Lab (primary animal researcher lab)	Raid	ALF activists released more than 400 animals, and vandalized over 30 computers and three offices, causing \$450,000 in damages.
11/04	Duluth, MN	University of Minnesota, Duluth	Vandalism	A science building under construction had its drains plugged, water turned on, and windows broken, causing over \$1 million in damages.
10/11/04	Philadelphia, PA	Highway	Hoax	ELF activists suspected of attaching a suspicious metal box to a PECO Energy Co. electric transmission tower near a major highway, causing temporary closure of the highway during the rush hour.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Mode</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
08/04/04	Liberty Lake, WA	George Gee automobile dealership	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for setting ablaze two Hummer vehicles at a local dealership, causing tens of thousands of dollars in damages.
07/08/04	Provo, UT	Brigham Young University farm (a facility engaged in animal feed experiments)	Arson	Harrison Burrows and Joshua Demmitt, ALF activists, were convicted of setting ablaze two tractors and causing \$30,000 in damages.
06/14/04	West Jordan, UT	Stock Building Supply	Arson	ELF was suspected of burning a storage facility and a truck, causing \$1.5 million in damages. ELF activist Justus Ireland was convicted of the crime.
05/27/04	Prairie City, OR	J&D Logging	Vandalism	ELF activists suspected of vandalizing five pieces of logging equipment, causing \$100,000 in damages.
05/16/04	Salt Lake City, UT	Brigham Young University barn (a facility engaged in nutritional research)	Theft	ALF activists stole six rabbits and seven birds.
04/20/04	Lobo Ridge, WA	Housing construction site	Arson	Extreme environmental activists set a blaze two new homes and partially damaged two more, causing estimated damages of \$1 million.
04/09/04	Roxborough, PA	W. B. Saul High School of Agricultural Sciences	Raid/theft	ALF activists suspected of stealing 48 animals.
02/28/04	Bloomington, IN	Private SUVs	Vandalism	ELF activists vandalized nine vehicles with an acidic substance, destroying windshields and causing thousands of dollars in damage.
02/07/04	Charlottesville, VA	Hollymead Town Center construction site	Vandalism	ELF claimed responsibility for vandalizing construction equipment, causing \$30,000 in damages.
10/05/03	Rio Cebolla, NM	Local fish rehabilitation facility	Vandalism	ELF suspected of vandalizing construction equipment used for a fish rehabilitation project near Los Alamos.
10/02/03	Santa Monica, CA	Head of local animal services	Attack	The home of the head of Animal Services for Los Angeles was vandalized. Red paint was splashed on his car and the initials "ALF" left behind.
09/23/03	Baton Rouge, LA	Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine	Raid/vandalism	ALF claimed responsibility for ransacking a research lab and causing damages estimated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.
09/22/03	Mecosta County, MI	Ice Mountain pumping station	Attempted arson	ELF claimed responsibility for a failed attempt to set ablaze the pumping station. Incendiary devices were found inside the station, but failed to ignite.
09/19/03	San Diego, CA	Housing construction site	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for setting fire to four homes under construction, causing estimated damages of \$1 million.
09/05/03	Santa Fe, NM	Car dealership	Vandalism	A dozen vehicles were spray-painted with graffiti, including "ELF," at the local Land Rover dealership.
09/02/03	Houston, TX	Car dealership	Vandalism	Vandals shot out windows with pellet guns; slashed tires and keyed 22 vehicles at a local dealership, causing \$60,000 in damages.

Date	Location	Target	Mode	Outcome
08/28/03	Emeryville, CA	Chiron Corp. (Chiron is a customer of animal-testing company Huntingdon Life Sciences.)	Firebombing	Revolutionary Cells, an unknown ecoterror group, claimed responsibility for firebombing of this biotech company.
08/22/03	West Covina, Duarte, Arcadia, and Monrovia, CA	Multiple car dealerships	Vandalism/arson	ELF claimed responsibility for damaging 125 vehicles, mostly SUVs, at four auto dealerships near Los Angeles. A warehouse at the West Covina dealership was also heavily damaged by fire. The combined damage was estimated at \$3 million.
08/01/03	University City (San Diego), CA	Housing construction site	Arson	ELF suspected of setting ablaze a 206-unit condominium project under construction, causing \$50 million in damages.
07/08/03	Sonoma, CA	French-style chefs	Vandalism/threats	The owners of Sonoma Saveurs, a foie gras specialty store, were repeatedly attacked. The attacks included spray-painting homes, vandalizing cars with acid, and sending threatening letters and videotapes. In addition, vandals broke into the store, plugged the drains, and flooded the premises. Combined damage from all the attacks exceeded \$60,000.
06/04/03	Macomb County, MI	Housing construction site	Arson	ELF suspected of setting ablaze two homes with a combined value of \$700,000.
04/08/03	Santa Cruz, CA	North Bay Ford and Lincoln Mercury car dealership	Vandalism	45 SUVs and trucks were spray-painted with antiwar messages at the dealership; 18 or 20 vehicles parked nearby were also vandalized. The graffiti also included references to ELF.
04/04/03	Lockport, IL	Czimer's Game and Seafood store	Arson	ALF claimed responsibility for setting fire to the store the day after the owner was convicted of selling tiger and leopard meat.
03/22/03	Petaluma, CA	Rancho Veal slaughterhouse	Arson	ALF claimed responsibility for setting fire to the building, causing \$10,000 in damages to the roof.
03/21/03	Montgomery, AL	Navy recruiting station	Vandalism/arson	A cargo truck was set ablaze; five other vehicles spray-painted with antiwar messages and the initials E-L-F.
03/21/03	Superior, MI	Housing construction site	Arson	ELF activists suspected of setting ablaze two homes under construction with a combined value of \$1 million.
03/03/03	Chico, CA	McDonald's	Attempted arson	An ALF attempt to set ablaze a McDonald's was thwarted.
01/20/03	Seattle, WA	McDonald's	Arson	The arson caused \$5,000 in damages. Christopher McIntosh, an ALF and ELF activist, was sentenced to eight years in prison for taking part in this act, among other acts of arson and vandalism.
01/02/03	Villa Park, IL	Supreme Lobster and Seafood	Vandalism	ALF claimed responsibility for cutting off brake and refrigerator lines to 38 transport trucks, causing undisclosed monetary damages.
01/01/03	Girard, PA	Bob Ferrando car dealership	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for setting ablaze four new SUVs, causing \$90,000 in damages.
07/10/02	Seattle, WA	Firms insuring Huntingdon Life Sciences (company engaged in animal testing)	Bombing	SHAC activists set off smoke bombs in two downtown buildings, sending 700 office workers fleeing into the streets.

Date	Location	Target	Mode	Outcome
05/03/02	Bloomington, IN	Sims Poultry	Arson	ALF activists suspected of setting transport truck ablaze.
03/24/02	Erie, PA	Highway project	Tree spiking and arson	ELF claimed responsibility for this attack, which caused \$500,000 in damages.
01/29/02	Fairfield, ME	Jackson Labs (animal testing business)	Sabotage	A sand and mortar mix was used to wreck construction equipment at the building site of biotech plant. ELF and ALF claimed responsibility for this act of sabotage.
01/29/02	St. Paul, MN	University of Minnesota's Microbial and Plat Genomics Research Center	Arson	ELF activists set ablaze research facility under construction, causing \$250,000 in damages.
11/11/01	San Diego, CA	Sierra Biomedical	Vandalism	ALF activists suspected of destroying a contract animal research lab facility, causing \$50,000 in damages.
11/05/01	Houghton, MI	U.J. Noblet Forestry Building and U.S. Forest Service laboratory at Michigan Tech University	Attempted arson	ELF activists planted incendiary devices at the facility following a series of e-mail threats. Security guards discovered and disarmed the devices.
11/05/01	Idaho County, ID	Nez Perce National Forest	Tree spiking	ELF claimed responsibility for tree spiking to prevent timber sale.
10/24/01	Long Island, NY	Bank of America offices	Vandalism	ALF activists claimed responsibility for smashing 30 windows.
10/15/01	Susanville, CA	Bureau of Land Management corral	Firebombing	ELF claimed responsibility for firebombing a barn, causing \$85,000 in damages.
09/20/01	Alamogordo, NM	Coulston Foundation's White Sands Research Center	Arson and threats	An unidentified ecoterrorist set the facility ablaze, causing \$1 million in damages. Dr. Fred Coulston, the laboratory owner, also had a bomb scare at his home and received razor blades in the mail.
09/08/01	Tucson, AZ	McDonald's	Arson	ALF and ELF claimed responsibility for setting a restaurant ablaze, causing \$500,000 in damages.
07/24/01	Sands Point, NY	21-foot boat of a Bank of New York employee	Vandalism	ALF activists unsuccessfully tried to sink the boat.
07/04/01	Detroit, MI	Executive office of Weyerhaeuser, logging company	Arson	ELF set ablaze company's facility and staged a protest against company's financial support to Oregon State University and the University of Washington's poplar and cottonwood genetic engineering research programs.
07/01	Cowlitz County, WA	Timber land in Cowlitz Valley	Tree spiking	ELF claimed responsibility for destroying hundreds of trees slated for timber sale.
06/14/01	New York, NY	Karl Lagerfeld and Calvin Klein	Assault	PETA activists threw tofu cream pies at designers to show their opposition to the use of fur.
06/01/01	Estacada, OR	Schoppert Logging	Arson	Michael "Tree Arrow" Scarpitti, an ELF activist, charged with destroying one logging truck and damaging another two.
05/21/01	Seattle, WA	University of Washington's Center for Urban Horticulture	Arson	ELF activists suspected of setting the facility ablaze and wrecking years of research on genetically altered poplar trees and similar projects. Total value of the damage was estimated at \$5.6 million.
04/15/01	Portland, OR	Ross Island Sand & Gravel	Arson	ELF activists used time-delayed fuses to set ablaze cement trucks, causing \$210,000 in damages.

Date	Location	Target	Mode	Outcome
04/05/01	Arlington, WA	National Food Corporation egg farm	Arson	ALF suspected of starting a fire that caused \$1.5 million in damages.
03/30/01	Eugene, OR	Car dealership owned by Joe Romania	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for setting ablaze 30 SUVs, causing \$1 million in damages.
03/02/01	Douglas County, OR	Umpqua National Forest	Tree spiking	ELF claimed responsibility for this attack aimed at preventing timber sales.
02/20/01	Visalia, CA	Delta & Pine Land's Research cotton gin	Arson	ELF activists started a fire at this firm because of its ties to Monsanto's genetically engineered seed program.
01/23/01	Capitola, CA	Capitola City Hall	Attempted arson	Peter Schnell and Matthew Whyte, members of the Animal Defense League, were found behind the building with plastic milk bottles, gasoline, and candles. Five containers of gasoline were found in Whyte's car.
01/01/01	Glendale, OR	Superior Lumber Co.	Arson	ELF activists started a fire, resulting in \$400,000 in damages.
12/29/00	Mount Sinai, NY	Four new homes at Island Estates	Arson	Five ELF activists were suspected of the arson.
12/19/00	Miller Place, NY	A house under construction	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for the destroyed building.
11/27/00	Boulder, CO	Legend Ridge mansion	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for the fire that caused \$2.5 million in damages.
09/09/00	Bloomington, IN	Monroe County Republican Party	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for a minor fire at party headquarters in protest of party's support for a highway project.
07/30/00	San Francisco, CA	Ted Nugent	Threats	An activist of the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade threatened Nugent outside a Neiman Marcus department store.
07/02/00	North Vernon, IN	Rose Acre Farm	Arson	ALF activists suspected of destroying chicken feed truck, causing \$100,000 in damages.
05/30/00	Washington, DC	U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman	Assault	A PETA activist threw a pie at Glickman at the National Nutrition Summit.
01/24/00	Redwood City, CA	Primate Products (medical research facility)	Arson	ALF activists suspected of a failed attempt to burn down facility.
01/23/00	Bloomington, IN	A house under construction	Arson and vandalism	ELF claimed responsibility for setting fire and property destruction that caused \$200,000 in damages.
01/15/00	Petaluma, CA	Petaluma Farms (chicken farms)	Incendiary devices	ALF claimed responsibility for destroying two trucks.
01/03/00	Petaluma, CA	Rancho Veal meatpacking plant	Arson	ALF claimed responsibility for starting a fire that resulted in \$250,000 in damages.
12/31/99	Lansing, MI	Michigan State University (The university was targeted because of its affiliation with Monsanto, a company engaged in genetic engineering.)	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for starting a fire that resulted in \$400,000 in damages.
12/25/99	Monmouth, OR	Boise Cascade regional headquarters (logging firm)	Arson	ELF claimed responsibility for the fire that destroyed the building.

Date	Location	Target	Mode	Outcome
12/04/99	Las Vegas, NV	Rodeo showgirl Brandy DeJongh	Assault	PETA activist Dawn Carr hit DeJongh in the face with a pie.
11/01/99	Seattle, WA	Gap clothing store	Firebombing	ALF activists were suspected of throwing four gasoline bombs into the store.
10/22/99	Warwick, RI	Harris Furs	Arson	ALF claimed responsibility for starting a fire that destroyed four vehicles.
10/99	Various cities	Animal researchers, hunting guides, and others	Mail threats	An ALF faction called the "Justice Department" was suspected of mailing 80 razor blade-laced envelopes containing threatening letters to a number of individuals.
09/23/99	Phippsburg, ME	Phippsburg Sportsmen's Association	Vandalism and attempted arson	ALF activists turned over coffee pots, left plastic cups on the burners, and turned on a gas line.
08/31/99	Fulton County, GA	McDonald's	Arson	ALF activists suspected of burning down the restaurant. The crime was announced by PETA's Bruce Friedrich on AR-News, an online animal-rights news service.
08/29/99	Orange, CA	Bio-Devices Inc. research laboratory	Raid and theft	ALF activists stole 46 dogs and caused \$250,000 in damages.
08/09/99	Plymouth, WI	United Feeds (mink feed supplier) and Gene Myer's Fur Farm	Arson and raid	ALF claimed responsibility for burning down a United Feeds building and releasing a number of mink.
08/07/99	Escanaba, MI	Veterinarian James Boydston	Arson and vandalism	ELF claimed responsibility for destroying two fishing boats.
06/25/99	Miami, FL	Worldwide Primates	Firebombing	ALF claimed responsibility for destroying a truck.
05/09/99	Eugene, OR	Makah tribe's whaling support vessel	Felony assault	The Sea Defense Alliance was suspected of igniting smoke canisters and firing flares at the vessel.
04/05/99	Minneapolis, MN	Laboratories at the University of Minnesota	Vandalism and theft	Unidentified extremists vandalized laboratories and stole dozens of research animals, wrecking research into Alzheimer's and cancer.
03/27/99	Franklin, NJ	Big Apple Circus	Firebombing	ALF activists destroyed two trucks.
03/11/99	Hampton, NH	University of Wisconsin geneticist Neil First	Assault	"Biotic Baking Brigade" activists threw pies at First, who was speaking at the University of New Hampshire, to protest genetic engineering at the University of Wisconsin.
03/05/99	Eugene, OR	Sierra Club staffer Charlie Raine	Assault	"Biotic Baking Brigade" activists threw a pie at Raine to protest the Club's support of land exchanges between the government and timber companies.
02/18/99	Chicago, IL	Procter & Gamble executive John Pepper	Assault	PETA activists threw two pies at Pepper to protest the company's animal testing.
12/26/98	Medford, OR	U.S. Forest Industries	Arson	ELF suspected of the arson, which caused \$500,000 in damages.
11/29/98	Burns, OR	Bureau of Land Management's wild horse corrals	Arson	ELF and ALF suspected of the arson.
11/16/98	Manalapan, NJ	Leather and Fur Ranch	Firebombing	ALF claimed responsibility for the destroyed van.
10/18/98	Vail, CO	Vail Associates ski facility	Arson	ELF activists were convicted of the arson, which destroyed seven structures and caused more than \$12 million in damages.
07/16/98	Paramus, NJ	Steven Corn Furs	Arson	ALF suspected of destroying a truck.

Date	Location	Target	Mode	Outcome
06/28/98	Olympia, WA	U.S. Department of Agriculture Damage Control building	Arson	ELF and ALF suspected of the arson.
05/04/98	Wimauma, FL	Florida Veal Processor, Inc.	Arson	ALF suspected of the arson, which caused \$500,000 in damages
02/28/98	Indianapolis, IN	Outdoorsman Sport Shop	Arson and vandalism	ALF suspected of the arson and vandalism.
08/26/97	Howell, NJ	Jersey Cuts Meat Co.	Arson	ALF suspected of being behind the destruction of three trucks, valued at \$60,000 each.
08/19/97	Fort Collins, CO	Wildlife Pharmaceuticals	Arson	ALF suspected of the arson.
08/17/97	Morton Grove, IL	Cosmo's Furs	Firebombing	ALF suspected of throwing Molotov cocktails at the business.
08/16/97	West Jordan, UT	McDonald's	Arson	ALF suspected of the arson, which caused \$400,000 in damages.
7/21/97	Redmond, OR	Cavel West horse-slaughtering plant	Arson	ELF and ALF suspected of using napalm to destroy the plant.
04/19/97	Indianapolis, IN	Archer's Meats	Arson	ALF suspected of the arson, which destroyed one truck.
03/18/97	Ogden, UT	Montgomery Furs, a trapping supply store	Arson	ALF suspected of the arson.
03/18/97	Davis, CA	University of California, Davis, Center for Comparative Medicine facility	Arson	ALF claimed responsibility for the arson.
03/11/97	Sandy, UT	Agricultural Fur Breeders Co-op	Firebombing	ELF and ALF claimed responsibility for the firebombing, which destroyed four trucks and leveled the company's offices, causing about \$1 million in damages.
02/15/97	Troy, MI	McDonald's	Vandalism	ALF suspected of the vandalism, which included the use of butyric acid. <sup>71</sup>
11/12/96	Bloomington, MN	Alaskan Fur Company	Firebombing	ALF suspected of the arson, which caused more than \$2 million in damages.
10/30/96	Eugene, OR	U.S. Forest Service Oakridge Ranger Station	Arson	ELF and ALF suspected of the arson, which caused \$5.3 million in damages.
10/27/96	Detroit, OR	U.S. Forest Service	Arson	ELF and ALF suspected of the arson, which destroyed a U.S. Forest Service truck.
04/02/96	Salt Lake City, UT	Egg products store	Arson	ALF suspected of the arson, which destroyed the store and damaged two trucks. Total damage was estimated at \$100,000.
12/24/95	Eugene, OR	Three Dutch Girl Ice Cream trucks	Arson	Unidentified ecoterrorists suspected of placing incendiary devices in a number of trucks, causing \$15,600 in damages.
06/15/95	Murray, UT	Tandy Leather	Arson	ALF activists suspected of the arson, which caused \$300,000 in damages.
04/14/95	Syracuse, NY	Oneonta Beef Company	Arson	ALF activists suspected of placing an incendiary device in the building, which caused \$6,000 in damages.
01/95	Henrietta, NY	Conti Packing Company	Arson	ALF activists suspected of the arson, which damaged two trucks.
02/28/92	East Lansing, MI	Michigan State University's mink research facility	Arson	Rod Coronado, a well-known ALF antifur activist, was convicted of the arson, which caused \$1.2 million in damages.
12/15/91	Yamhill, OR	A Hynek Malecky facility where mink pelts are dried	Arson	This attack was part of an ALF-sponsored antifur campaign carried out by Ron Coronado. This arson caused \$96,000 in damages.

Date	Location	Target	Mode	Outcome
06/10/91	Corvallis, OR	Oregon State University's experimental mink farm	Arson	This attack was part of an ALF-sponsored antifur campaign carried out by Ron Coronado. This arson used timed incendiary devices and caused \$62,000 in damages.
07/04/89	Lubbock, TX	Laboratory at Texas Tech University	Raid	ALF activists were suspected of destroying records and smashing computers and other equipment, causing \$700,000 in damages.
04/15/89	Monterey, CA	Meat company	Attempted arson	ALF activists were suspected of planting timed incendiary devices inside the facility. The arson was prevented when early morning crew smelled smoke and managed to flee to safety.
04/02/89	Tucson, AZ	Laboratory at a Veterans Administration hospital at the University of Arizona	Arson	ALF suspected of the arson, which caused \$500,000 in damages.
11/28/87	Santa Clara, CA	V. Melani poultry distribution company	Arson and graffiti	ALF suspected of the arson and vandalism, which resulted in \$200,000 in damages.
09/01/87	Santa Clara, CA	San Jose Valley Veal and Beef Company	Arson	Animal Rights Militia claimed responsibility for the arson, which caused \$10,000 in damages.
04/15/87	Davis, CA	University of California, Davis, Animal Diagnostics Laboratory	Arson	ALF suspected of the arson, which led to the destruction of a building and 20 vehicles, causing \$5.1 million in damages.
10/26/86	Eugene, OR	University of Oregon laboratory	Raid	ALF suspected of carrying out a raid that caused nearly \$120,000 in damages.
04/01/85	Riverside, CA	Laboratory at the University of California, Riverside	Raid	ALF activists suspected of releasing 500 animals and causing \$700,000 in damages.
12/09/84	Duarte, CA	City of Hope National Medical Center	Raid	ALF suspected of carrying out a raid that caused \$400,000 in damages.
05/84	Philadelphia, PA	University of Pennsylvania Head Injury Lab	Raid	ALF suspected of carrying out a raid that caused \$60,000 in damages.

## RADICALIZATION AND RECRUITMENT

The principal motivating factor behind the ecoterrorist movement is the perception that contemporary society does not take the underlying issues concerning the environment and animals seriously. Not only is society largely ambivalent toward the impending environmental catastrophe, ecoterrorists charge, but mainstream environmentalist and animal-rights groups whose principal purpose is to tackle these issues are unable or unwilling to take adequate measures to ensure environmental and animal protection. The fact that the primary motivating factor behind the ecoterrorist movement is the failure to effect social and political change through mainstream means is clearly visible in an anonymous communiqué posted on the Internet following an arson incident at the U.S. Forest Service Northeast Research Station in 2002:

In pursuance of justice, freedom, and equal consideration for all innocent life across the board, segments of this global revolutionary movement are no longer limiting their revolutionary potential by adhering to a flawed, inconsistent “non-violent” ideology. While innocent life will never be harmed in any action we undertake, where it is necessary, we will no longer hesitate to pick up the gun to implement justice, and provide the needed protection for our planet that decades of legal battles, pleading, protest, and economic sabotage have failed so drastically to achieve.”<sup>72</sup> (U//FOUO)

A similar sign of increasing radicalization within the ranks of the environmentalist and animal-rights community was echoed by Ingrid Newkirk, a former Maryland police officer turned cofounder and president of the animal-rights organization People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), when she asked rhetorically: “Perhaps the ALF exists because of complacency. After all, if peaceful dialogue worked, there would be nothing for the ALF to do; it would not have a job. So when a hundred years or more of writing polite letters fails to effect vital change, should we condemn those who are compelled to try something stronger or condemn those who refused to change?”<sup>73</sup> (U//FOUO)

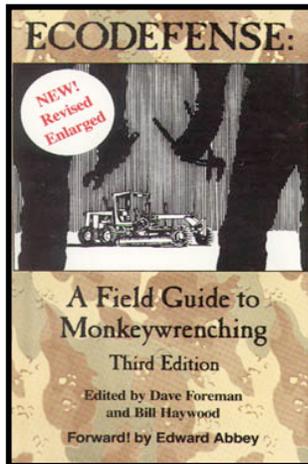
Although media reports and propaganda are used to attract the attention of potential recruits, most ecoterrorists are self-recruited as a result of preexisting interest in or commitment to one or of the movement’s multiple principles. The Internet, in particular, is a potent tool in the extreme environmental and animal-rights recruitment arsenal because it offers an abundance of information, ranging from ecoterrorist ideology and strategic aspirations to tactical and operational methods. Not only is the Internet an effective facilitator for the proliferation of ecoterrorist material, but it also serves as excellent platform for like-minded individuals to develop contacts and exchange information. (U//FOUO)

It is believed that extreme environmental and animal-rights activists are also recruited through universities. Some analysts aptly point out that certain academics routinely incorporate the politics of nature in their curriculum and assign material that encourages or, at the very least, justifies environmentalist and animal-rights extremism, thereby introducing their students to the world of environmental militancy. The primary example of this is Dr. Steven Best, a passionate animal-rights advocate and activist, and the former chairman of the Philosophy Department at the University of Texas–El Paso. Not only is Best known to assign material that some may consider inflammatory and inappropriate for a university setting, but he has also sponsored Animal Liberation Awareness Day events at the university for a number of years, which are heavily advertised by ALF and are known to attract environmental and animal-rights militants.<sup>74</sup> Arguably, the greatest contribution of academics such as Best to the ecoterrorist movement is their willingness and desire to legitimize ecoterrorism in the eyes of the youth on moral grounds, thereby making institutions of higher education potential ecoterrorist breeding grounds. (U//FOUO)

Perhaps the most important recruitment tool is the movement’s ability to provide lone activists with a sense of belonging. Ideological and organizational fluidity of ecoterrorist groups such as ALF or ELF enables individuals concerned with the politics of nature to feel part of a broader movement, thereby legitimizing their personal concerns and channeling their energy and activities through an institutional framework, however loose this structure may be. This is clearly visible in a statement by Rodney Coronado, a seasoned environmental activist and convicted ecoterrorist, when he declared that “a young, disempowered person who may feel alone fighting urban sprawl in their community, now can do so under E.L.F.”<sup>75</sup> (U//FOUO)

## TRAINING

**Figure 14.** This book is one of several instructional manuals on sabotage techniques available in print to ecomilitants.



While extreme environmental and animal-rights activists generally do not undergo any type of formal training, myriad training materials are readily available in the United States. Printed materials offering detailed instructions on how to destroy billboards, sabotage heavy equipment, climb and unfurl large banners, clog waste and sewage pipes, deliver waste products and dead animals to corporate offices, and conduct other sorts of direct action techniques can be found in books such as:

- *The Monkey Wrench Gang*
- *Ecodefense; A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching*
- *The Black Cat Sabotage Handbook*
- *Earth First! Direct Action Manual*
- *The ALF Primer*
- *Earthforce! An Earth Warrior's Guide To Strategy (U//FOUO)*

Similar literature is available and easily accessible online.<sup>76</sup> Most common among online publications are:

- *Arson-Around with Aunty ALF: Your Guide to Putting Heat on Animal Abusers Everywhere*
- *Setting Fires with Electrical Timers: An Earth Liberation Front Guide*
- *Memories of Freedom*
- *A Declaration of War: Killing People to Save Animals and the Environment*<sup>77</sup>
- *Search & Destroy: A Tactical Guide for Intelligence Gathering*
- *The Final Nail: Destroying the Fur Industry – A Guided Tour*
- *Earth Tool Kit: A Field Manual for Citizen Activists (U//FOUO)*

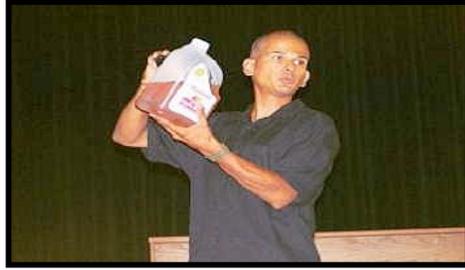
Online sources also offer a variety of additional information pertinent to the lifestyle of an ecomilitant such as going underground and dealing with a grand jury.<sup>78</sup> This type of information is available on websites sympathetic or directly linked to the ecoterrorist movement, such as:

- *No Compromise Magazine* ([www.nocompromise.org](http://www.nocompromise.org))
- *Bite Back Magazine* ([www.directaction.com](http://www.directaction.com))
- ALF website ([www.animalliberation.com](http://www.animalliberation.com)) (U//FOUO)

Finally, potential activists can also find training information commonly associated with ecoterrorist activities on general-purpose websites such as [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). (U//FOUO)

**Figure 15.**

Using a jug of apple juice, Coronado demonstrates how to make a crude incendiary device during the 2003 environmentalist and animal-rights gathering in San Diego.



On occasions when activists come together, there are opportunities for sharing skills and information. Venues such as the National Conference on Organized Resistance and the annual Animal Rights Conference as well as local environmental and animal-rights gatherings, most notable among them “Liberation Now!” offer venues for activists to exchange personal experiences. At one such gathering at American University in Washington DC, convicted ecoterrorist Ron Coronado, demonstrated before an audience of

more than a hundred college-age activists how to build a crude incendiary device using household materials, for a cost of “about \$2.”<sup>79</sup> It is also likely that some individuals have received training from the Ruckus Society, which specializes in teaching direct action techniques. Most of the actions ecoterrorists carry out are relatively easy and inexpensive, yet difficult to defend against. (U//FOUO)

## LOGISTICS

Individuals and cells engaged in acts of ecoterrorism are generally self-sufficient in terms of logistics. Operations are generally carried out either by individuals or small localized cells, precluding the need for elaborate support. In addition, most operations use inexpensive, readily available materials. The Internet serves as the main vehicle for transfer of ideological, technical, and operational information. The only logistical support ecoterrorists are believed to receive is financial, however limited it may be. (U//FOUO)

## Weapon Acquisition

As previously noted, how-to ecoterrorist field manuals are available on many websites. Books containing detailed guidance on turning common materials into weapons and are found in many bookstores. “Direct action” operations generally rely on objects that are easy to obtain, transport, and modify. Arson and incendiary devices do not require unusual or difficult-to-obtain materials. Nonetheless, a few animal rights extremists and eco-terrorists have been known to possess firearms. For example, members of “The Family”, a group of ecoterrorists responsible for nearly twenty acts of economic sabotage in multiple states, had a small weapons cache in the Pacific Northwest. (U//FOUO)

## Communications

The Internet and electronic communications are the lifeblood of this movement. Information on tactics, techniques, and targets is readily available and shared online. All the lone actor/small cell operator needs is Internet access. Apart from indoctrination purposes, extreme environmentalist and animal protectionist-sponsored and/or -affiliated web pages also offer moral, legal, and financial support to convicted ecomilitants. Prime examples of such websites are:

- North American Earth Liberation Prisoner Support Network (NAELPSN)
- Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group (ALFSG) (U//FOUO)

NAELPSN, available at <http://www.ecoprisoners.org/>, encourages other ecoterrorists and/or ecomilitant sympathizers to write letters and send donations and care packages to imprisoned environmental and animal-rights activists. ALFSG, available at <http://www.alfsg.org.uk/>, engages in similar activities. This type of virtual ecomilitant support network allows the movement to preserve structural fluidity and anonymity of its members while at the same

time allowing ecomilitants to “funnel funds and supplies to prisoners to prevent them from feeling isolated and to generate countless letters useful for propaganda purposes.”<sup>80</sup> (U//FOUO)

While cell phones are a primary means of communication for many other threat groups, ecomilitants are likely to rely on them more frequently since they lack overarching hierarchical structure and are not acting on explicit orders. However, cell phones that are outfitted with global positioning system (GPS) capabilities may make them useful to law enforcement for tracking purposes. As a result, extreme environmentalist and animal-rights operatives may move to using disposable cell phones or devise alternative means of communications. For example, the members of “The Family” avoided cell phone use because they believed their conversations could be easily intercepted by the police and/or U.S. government. As a result, they primarily relied on pay phones, email dead drops, code words, and hand-written notes to communicate operational information. (U//FOUO)

## **Financing**

Environmental and animal-rights extremists do not seem to require outside financial support to carry out attacks against their designated targets. However, groups such as ALF and ELF reportedly receive monetary support from various mainstream environmental and animal-rights organizations and individuals sympathetic toward their goals. These financial contributions are largely used for regular operational costs and are suspected to be earmarked for website maintenance, publicity campaigns, and the proliferation of printed materials. Individual ecomilitants are also known to have received outside financial support for legal defense purposes. (U//FOUO)

Among the mainstream organizations that have made financial contributions to groups and/or individuals involved in activities commonly associated with ecoterrorism are PETA, the Fund for Animals, In Defense of Animals, the New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance, and certain individuals in the HSUS.<sup>81</sup> As discussed earlier, David Martosko’s, 2005 testimony before the U.S. Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works included information about PETA’s financial support of ecoterrorism.<sup>82</sup> Martosko claimed that:

- PETA has employed and continues to pay regular stipends to an activist named Gary Yourofsky, who was convicted by a Canadian court of a farm burglary for which a claim of responsibility was issued in the name of ALF. Yourofsky told a reporter in 2002 that he would “unequivocally support” the death of medical researchers in ALF-related arson fires. PETA hired Yourofsky after he gave this interview. The group acknowledges having employed him to speak to children in middle- and high-school classrooms and continues to pay him as an independent contractor.
- During the 1990s, PETA made grants and loans totaling \$70,990 in support of the legal defense of Rodney Coronado,<sup>83</sup> a self-described ALF member who was later convicted of arson at Michigan State University (MSU).
- In 2002, PETA wrote a \$1,500 check to the North American Earth Liberation Front.
- PETA made a \$5,000 cash grant to Joshua Harper, an activist convicted on Federal Animal Enterprise Terrorism charges and sentenced to three years in prison.
- PETA also gave \$2,000 to David Wilson, an activist who served as an official ALF “spokesperson” during the 1990s. (U//FOUO)

Martosko further claimed that the HSUS funded operation of the Internet server *Waste.org*, which was the source of ALF “communiqués” issued after the commission of crimes. (U//FOUO)

## PERSONALITIES

The individuals listed below are profiled according to their involvement in organizations and/or activities associated with ecoterrorism. The vast majority of ecoterrorists remain anonymous until arrested, thereby precluding development of a comprehensive list of personalities. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 16.**  
Dr. Jerry Vlasak



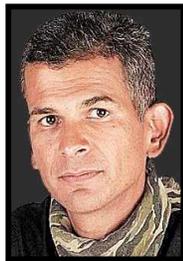
**DR. JERRY VLASAK**, a representative of the PCRM and a passionate animal-rights advocate, is the acting press officer for the North American Animal Liberation Front.<sup>84</sup> At the 2003 Animal Rights national conference, Vlasak called on animal-rights advocates to consider the “political assassination” of doctors whose medical research requires the use of laboratory animals. “I don’t think you’d have to kill—assassinate—too many vivisectioners,” Vlasak said, “before you would see a marked decrease in the amount of vivisection going on. And I think for 5 lives, 10 lives, 15 human lives, we could save a million, 2 million, 10 million non-human lives.”<sup>85</sup> Vlasak is married to Pamelyn Ferdin, a former child actor who is the leading figure in the American branch of Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) and serves as the organization’s scientific advisor. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 17.**  
David Nathan  
Barbarash



**DAVID NATHAN BARBARASH**, a former researcher for the Toronto Humane Society, served as the head of ALF’s North American press office from 1999 until 2003. In 1992, Barbarash and Darren Todd Thurston, another ALF activist, were convicted and jailed for stealing animals from the University of Alberta laboratory. In 1997, the two were arrested on far more serious charges: four counts of attempted murder and twenty counts of sending dangerous objects. Canadian federal authorities claimed that Barbarash and Thurston were connected to four mail bombs and twenty packages containing poisoned razor blades that were sent between May and December 1995 to several animal enterprises and natural resource organizations. One mail bomb was also sent to a Toronto think tank that had been critical of environmental radicals. In 2000, Canadian authorities dropped the charges against Barbarash and Thurston because of insufficient evidence. In 2003, Canadian and U.S. law enforcement officials raided Barbarash’s home in connection with a series of ecoterrorist attacks in British Columbia and Oregon. Charges against Barbarash were dropped again after a British Columbia Supreme Court Judge ruled that the police did not have sufficient grounds to obtain a search warrant. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 18.**  
Rodney Adam  
Coronado



**RODNEY ADAM CORONADO** is a legendary environmental activist and ALF advocate with an extensive history of ecoterrorist activities. He became an activist in 1984 when he joined the Sea Shepard Society, an organization aimed at dramatizing the problems associated with whaling and other marine industries. In this capacity, he took part in the 1986 sabotage of a whaling station and the sinking of two whaling ships in Iceland. The following year, Coronado began to associate with ALF and took part in vandalizing nine fur salons in Vancouver, B.C., Canada.<sup>86</sup> By the end of the 1980s, Coronado has been arrested on three separate occasions in the United States for taking part in minor disturbances associated with animal-rights rallies. His radical activities increased between 1991 and 1992 when he embarked on an ALF-sponsored arson campaign against fur farms in the United States. In 1995, he was convicted and sentenced to fifty-seven months in prison for firebombing a research facility at MSU. Since that time, Coronado has been indicted numerous times on a variety of charges, ranging from sabotage and conspiracy to the use of a destructive device. In March 2007, he was released from federal custody. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 19.**

William C. Rodgers



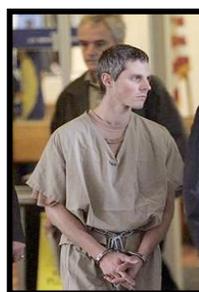
WILLIAM C. RODGERS, a prominent environmental and animal-rights activist, was connected both to mainstream and underground protectionist organizations. He authored *The Black Cat Sabotage Handbook*, an ideological and practical extension of other ecoterrorist works such as *Ecodefense* and the *Earth First! Direct Action Manual*. Rodgers was the principal recruiter and organizer of “The Family,” a group of ecoterrorists responsible for nearly twenty acts of economic sabotage in five states that caused more than \$20 million worth of damages and led to federal indictments of fourteen people. He is perhaps best known for the October 1998 arson in Vail, Colorado. To deter ski area expansion, Rodgers set eight buildings ablaze. In 2001, federal authorities arrested Rodgers in Arizona after Jacob Ferguson, another member of “The Family,” turned over detailed information on the group’s activities to the FBI. Rodgers committed suicide in 2005 while incarcerated.<sup>87</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 20.**Darren Todd  
Thurston

DARREN TODD THURSTON, a veteran activist of the animal-rights movement and a Canadian front man for ALF, eventually became involved with “The Family.” From the age of twenty, he actively opposed the fur industry and published countless materials on the subject on the Internet. Thurston was a close associate of David Nathan Barbarash with whom he was charged with two dozen counts of sending razor blades and makeshift bombs through the mail. He was also charged with impersonation for purposes of fraudulently entering the United States. By the time he joined “The Family,” he had already been incarcerated on two occasions. For his activities with “The Family,” Thurston was sentenced to seven years in prison.<sup>88</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 21.**Chelsea Dawn  
“Country Girl”  
Gerlach

CHELSEA DAWN “COUNTRY GIRL” GERLACH, the youngest member of “The Family,” was introduced to the group by Rodgers when she was sixteen years old. In December 2005, Gerlach was charged with two counts related to the December 30, 1999, destruction of a Bonneville Power Administration power transmission tower near Bend, Oregon. In May 2007, Gerlach was sentenced to nine years in prison.<sup>89</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 22.**Stanislas Gregory  
Meyerhoff

STANISLAS GREGORY MEYERHOFF, a social misfit, joined “The Family” at Gerlach’s urging. Even before his arrest, Meyerhoff disassociated himself from violent activism and attempted to change his life. Nonetheless, in December 2005, he and Daniel McGowan, another “Family” member, were indicted in Oregon for the January 2, 2001, arson at the Superior Lumber Company in Glendale, Oregon, and for the May 21, 2001, arson at the Jefferson Poplar Farm in Clatskanie, Oregon. Damages resulting from the two fires exceeded \$1 million. Despite his cooperation with federal authorities, Meyerhoff received the longest jail sentence of any “Family” member—thirteen years.<sup>90</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 23.**  
Daniel Gerard  
McGowan



DANIEL GERARD MCGOWAN, a native New Yorker, had an established environmentalist and animal-rights record before he joined “The Family.” He was particularly concerned with issues pertaining to deforestation and genetic engineering. McGowan had also been active in antiglobalization circles and is credited with organizing the riots during the 1999 World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle. Along with Meyerhoff, McGowan was indicted for the January 2, 2001, arson at the Superior Lumber Co. and the May 21, 2001, arson at the Jefferson Poplar Farm. He was sentenced to seven years in prison.<sup>91</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 24.**  
Kevin M. Tubbs



KEVIN M. TUBBS, an introvert and the most active member of “The Family,” became involved with mainstream environmental groups at the age of fifteen. By the time he graduated college, Tubbs was an active member of PETA and Earth First! While working on behalf of Earth First! in Oregon, he was introduced to individuals who would comprise “The Family” and began to engage in violent activities. Tubbs pled guilty to seven arsons and one attempted arson between 1996 and 2001. He was sentenced to twelve and a half years in prison.<sup>92</sup> (U//FOUO)

DOUGLAS JOSHUA ELLERMAN, a member of ALF and the Straight Edge movement<sup>93</sup>, was arrested for a series of arsons at the Fur Breeders Agriculture Co-op in Sandy, Utah, on August 28, 1991. In June 1997, federal authorities charged Ellerman on sixteen counts. He pled guilty to three and was convicted in March 1997 and sentenced to seven years in federal prison. Ellerman reportedly received leniency from federal authorities in exchange for his cooperation.<sup>94</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 25.**  
Christopher W.  
McIntosh



CHRISTOPHER W. MCINTOSH, a resident of Maple Shade, New Jersey, pleaded guilty to a federal charge of arson, setting fire to a McDonald’s restaurant near Seattle’s Space Needle in 2003, an act he claimed he conducted on behalf of ELF and ALF. After setting the fire, McIntosh placed an anonymous phone call to the Seattle arson tip line, stating, “There was an E-L-F-A-L-F hit at McDonald’s across from the Space Needle. There will be more. As long as mother Earth is pillaged, raped, destroyed. As long as McDonald’s keeps hurting our furry brothers, there will be more.”<sup>95</sup> McIntosh had been sentenced to eight years in prison. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 26.**  
Michael J.  
“Tre Arrow”  
Scarpitti



MICHAEL J. “TRE ARROW” SCARPITTI is a well-known radical environmental activist who focuses on issues pertaining to forest conservation. Scarpitti began his activist career as a firm believer in antiviolence; however, by 2001 and 2002 he was involved in a series of arson and bomb attacks in Oregon against logging companies. Scarpitti’s activities have caused hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages.<sup>96</sup> Following these attacks, Scarpitti became a fugitive and, at one time, was on the FBI’s ten-most-wanted list. In 2004, Scarpitti resurfaced in British Columbia, Canada, where he was arrested for shoplifting a pair of bolt cutters from a local store. Since then, he has been fighting extradition to the United States. U.S. law enforcement officials claim that Scarpitti is an ELF member, and his attacks against the logging industry were part of ELF’s economic terror campaign, charges Scarpitti vehemently denies.<sup>97</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 27.**  
Jacob Sherman



JACOB SHERMAN is a former Portland State University (PSU) student and member of the Green Party. He became an ELF activist shortly after meeting Michael Scarpitti. In 2002, He was indicted for his role in the Schoppert (Eagle Creek) bombing and was subsequently sentenced to forty-one months in federal prison in Sheridan, Oregon. Sherman also confessed to taking part in the 2001 Ross Island bombing along with Scarpitti.<sup>98</sup> (U//FOUO)

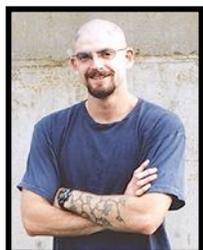
JEREMY ROSENBLOOM, a PSU graduate and ELF activist, was accused of setting fire to three trucks belonging to the Estacada Logging Company in June 2001 and of taking part in the arson of logging trucks at Eagle Creek, Oregon, several months earlier. He entered into a plea bargain with the prosecution and provided federal authorities with incriminating evidence against Scarpitti. Rosenbloom was sentenced to forty-one months in prison. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 28.**  
Angela Cesario



ANGELA CESARIO, another former PSU student turned ELF activist in Oregon, also took part in the arson of logging trucks at Eagle Creek, Oregon. Like Sherman and Rosenbloom, Cesario struck a deal with authorities and provided incriminating information against Scarpitti. She, too, was sentenced to forty-one months in prison and is currently serving her sentence at Federal Prison Camp Dublin in California. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 29.**  
Jeffrey "Free"  
Luers



JEFFREY "FREE" LUERS, a longtime ELF activist, has a long record of environmental activism and close links to the anarchist party in Oregon State. He is perhaps best known for his activities in the March 1998 tree-sitting campaign, a protest against National Forest Service's decision to sell logging rights to ninety-six acres in Willamette National Forest. In June 2000, Luers and fellow ELF activist Craig Marshall were arrested for firebombing Romania Chevrolet, a local SUV dealership in Eugene, Oregon. Police claimed that the two also took part in the attempted arson of the Tyree Oil and Gas facility in Whitaker, Oregon, several weeks earlier.

Luers pled guilty to the dealership attack but denied any part in the attempt on the oil and gas facility. Nonetheless, he was found guilty and was convicted of arson, criminal mischief, and manufacturing and possessing a destructive device. He was sentenced to more than twenty-two years and is currently serving his sentence at the Oregon State Penitentiary. Luers's sentence is the longest an ecoterrorist has received to date.<sup>99</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 30.**  
Craig "Crittter"  
Marshall



CRAIG "CRITTRER" MARSHALL, a radical environmentalist and ELF activist, was active alongside Luers in a number of high-profile protests. Marshall was found guilty of conspiracy in the attack on the Romania Chevrolet dealership, but was not charged in the attempted attack against the Tyree Oil and Gas facility. Marshall was sentenced to five and a half years in the Oregon State Penitentiary.<sup>100</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 31.**  
Eric McDavid



ERIC MCDAVID, a self-proclaimed anarchist and an ELF activist, was arrested on January 13, 2006, in Auburn, California, on charges of conspiracy to commit domestic terrorism.<sup>101</sup> Federal authorities charged that between June 2005 and January 2006, McDavid, Zachary Jensen, and Lauren Weiner planned to carry out terrorist attacks against a number of government and private facilities in California, including the U.S. Forest Service Institute of Forest Genetics, the Nimbus Dam and Fishery Hatchery, cellular telephone towers, and electric power stations. In September 2007, McDavid was convicted of the charges leveled against him and currently remains in federal custody until final sentencing (scheduled for some time in 2008). He faces a minimum sentence of five years in prison.<sup>102</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 32.**  
Zachary Jensen



ZACHARY JENSEN, a native of Washington State, is also an anarchist/ELF activist and a close associate of McDavid's. He pled guilty to the charges leveled against him and began to cooperate with federal authorities in exchange for a lesser sentence. Six months after his arrest, Jensen provided authorities with incriminating information on McDavid and ultimately agreed to testify against him. For these reasons, radical environmentalists widely perceive Jensen as a "snitch." His final sentencing is scheduled for some time in 2008. Jensen is expected to receive a reduced sentence for his cooperation.<sup>103</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 33.**  
Lauren Weiner



LAUREN WEINER, a seasoned anarchist and ELF activist, initially met McDavid and Jensen at a 2004 anarchist gathering (CrimethInc) in Iowa.<sup>104</sup> The following year, Weiner forged closer ties with McDavid and Jensen when she hosted the two while they were in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to protest the BIO 2005 trade conference, a gathering of scientists and researchers concerned with the production and commercialization of goods and services that are derived from native biodiversity. Weiner, like Jensen, pled guilty to the charges leveled against her and agreed to testify against McDavid in hopes of receiving a reduced sentence.<sup>105</sup> Her final sentencing is scheduled for some time in 2008. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 34.**  
Ryan Daniel Lewis



RYAN DANIEL LEWIS, a native of Newcastle, California, is an anarchist and ELF activist. He is believed to have introduced Eric McDavid to anarchist ideology. In February 2005, the Eastern District Court of California, Sacramento, charged Lewis with arson, conspiracy to commit arson, and aiding and abetting. In March 2006, he was sentenced to six years in prison for a string of arsons in Northern California on behalf of ELF. He was also ordered to pay \$243,000 in restitution for the 2005 arson of apartment housing in Sutter Creek.<sup>106</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 35.**  
William Jensen Cottrell



WILLIAM JENSEN COTTRELL, a graduate student at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena and an ELF activist, was convicted in 2005 of firebombing more than one hundred SUVs at dealerships and area homes near Los Angeles. A federal judge in California convicted Cottrell of ecoterrorist activities and sentenced him to seven years in prison. Cottrell was also ordered to pay \$3.5 million in restitution. He is serving his sentence at Lompoc Federal Penitentiary.<sup>107</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 36.**  
Sarah Kendall  
Harvey



SARAH KENDALL HARVEY, an ELF activist, was indicted by a federal grand jury for her role in the 1998 arson at the U.S. Forest Industries in Medford, Oregon. The fire caused an estimated \$500,000 in damage. In July 2006, Harvey pled guilty to charges of arson and conspiracy for a series of ELF and ALF actions in the Northwest.<sup>108</sup> She was sentenced to three years and ten months in prison. (U//FOUO)

**Figure 37.**  
Craig Rosebraugh



CRAIG ROSEBRAUGH, a former ELF spokesperson currently living in Portland, Oregon, denies membership in ELF. Instead, he claims that he is merely an ELF intermediary receiving all communications anonymously. In 2003, Rosebraugh and Leslie Pickering, another former high-profile ELF activist, established Arissa, a militant ELF splinter group that advocates social and political revolution in the United States and champions more drastic methods of “resistance,” including assassinations, against all who stand in the way of creating a new society based on biocentric egalitarianism.<sup>109</sup> In 2004, Rosebraugh authored and published *The Logic of Political Violence: Lessons in Reform and Revolution*, a political pamphlet that rationalizes the use of violence for social and political change.<sup>110</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 38.**  
Leslie James  
Pickering



LESLIE JAMES PICKERING is a former ELF spokesperson and cofounder of Arissa. In 2007, he wrote and published a biography of Samuel Melville, a lone terrorist who embarked on a bombing campaign against government and corporate offices in New York City in opposition to the Vietnam War and U.S. imperialism, titled *Mad Bomber Melville*. In 2007, Pickering also published *Earth Liberation Front 1997–2002*, an inside look at the ecoterrorist movement in the United States and the development and activities of the ELF.<sup>111</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 39.**  
Kevin Kjonaas



KEVIN KJONAAS, the former president of the American branch of SHAC, is a well-known animal activist. In 2001, Kjonaas went to England to work alongside British animal protectionist counterparts. Soon thereafter, British law enforcement officials began monitoring his activities and seized on the opportunity to deport him after his visa expired. In May 2004, Kjonaas and six other SHAC activists were indicted by a New Jersey grand jury on federal charges for orchestrating an interstate campaign of terrorism and intimidation in violation of the Animal Enterprise Protection Act (AEPA), 1992 legislation that made it a federal offense to physically disrupt animal research facilities or any other businesses using live animals. In 2006, he was convicted under AEPA and federal antistalking and telephone harassment laws and sentenced to six years in prison.<sup>112</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 40.**  
Josh Harper



JOSH HARPER, a native of Seattle, Washington, is a longtime animal-rights activist and a member of SHAC. In 2004, he was arrested with Kjonaas and five other SHAC activists for taking part in a conspiracy against Huntingdon Life Society, a company engaged in animal drug testing. Harper was convicted of the charges leveled against him and sentenced to three years in prison. He is currently serving his sentence at the Sheridan Federal Correctional Facility in Oregon.<sup>113</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 41.**  
Dave Foreman



DAVE FOREMAN, a former environmental lobbyist and cofounder of Earth First!, is a legendary “ecowarrior.” Between 1970 and 1980, Foreman worked on behalf of mainstream environmental organizations and lobbied in Washington, D.C., against logging. He grew disillusioned with the mainstream environmental movement and by the mid-1980s cofounded Earth First!, the most radical environmentalist organization at the time. He authored several books and novels on environmental issues. Arguably, the most important among them is *Ecodefense: A Field Guide to Monkey Wrenching*, an instruction manual on sabotage and other “direct-action” techniques regularly practiced by ecoterrorists. In 1989, federal authorities arrested Foreman and several other Earth First! activists and charged them with conspiracy to sabotage a nuclear facility. Shortly thereafter, Foreman left Earth First! and has returned to more mainstream activism.<sup>114</sup> (U//FOUO)

**Figure 42.**  
Mike Roselle



MIKE ROSELLE, a longtime environmental and political activist, is one of the most visible and influential figures in earth conservation circles. In 1980, he and five other activists established Earth First! Until the mid-1980s, Roselle was in charge of the Earth First! Direct Action Fund, a financial mechanism designed to bankroll the group’s acts of economic sabotage. In 1986, he began working for Greenpeace and is widely credited with establishing the first American “action teams,” coordinated activist cells whose purpose is to conduct organized forms of civil disobedience, both legal and illegal. Roselle was so successful in his endeavors that he rapidly rose through Greenpeace ranks to become a member of the organization’s board of directors. He is also viewed as the driving force behind the Ruckus Society, an organization that provides environmental, human rights, and social justice organizers with the comprehensive training and tools needed to achieve their goals. (U//FOUO)

## MISCELLANEOUS DATA

N/A

## CULTURE

Members of the ecoterrorist movement see themselves in a spiritual relationship with the Earth and other living things.<sup>115</sup> The more extreme activists believe that humans have desecrated the planet’s habitat, and that direct violent action is necessary to halt this destruction. These activists exhibit a strong nonconformist streak that can be interpreted as a belligerent, antisocial, antiestablishment trend. Individual initiative is applauded and encouraged, partly to avoid detection by law enforcement. (U//FOUO)

## THREAT TO THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (CONUS)

Currently, ecoterrorist movement activities do not represent a serious threat to U.S. national security. Although some elements in the ecomilitant community have broader revolutionary tendencies and strive to bring about conditions for the violent overthrow of the U.S. government, their ambitions remain largely unrealistic given that their militant ideology does not have popular appeal. Nonetheless, the activities of ELF, ALF, and other groups and individuals involved in acts of ecoterrorism should not be disregarded and do merit the attention of security and law enforcement officials for several reasons. (U//FOUO)

First, the nature and frequency of ecoterrorist attacks poses a public safety threat to specific segments of American society and the general public at large. Ecomilitants have demonstrated

both the willingness and ability to strike a vast array of targets across the United States with virtual impunity. Their campaign of violence shows no signs of slowing down and is likely to lead to an increase in monetary damages. While their actions are clearly and explicitly designed to cause property damage and affect the ability of commercial organizations to operate, ecoterrorists' use of violence always carries the potential for human death and injury. Federal and state authorities have repeatedly warned that if militant ecoactivities are not stopped, "there will be loss of life at some point in the future."<sup>116</sup> (U//FOUO)

Although extreme environmental and animal-rights groups such as ELF and ALF have been adamant that their ideological and operational etiquette strictly prohibits harming humans, and that their activists have gone to extreme pains to avoid human casualties, there are indications that some elements within ecomilitant circles favor more drastic measures. Influential individuals, such as Craig Rosebraugh and Jerry Vlasak, have repeatedly evoked moral justification for taking lives and suggested that killings may be a necessary step in the ecomilitants' struggle to rescue the environment and animals from decadent and unyielding business interests whose actions are leading toward an environmental catastrophe. Therefore, the potential for more radical attacks aimed specifically at taking lives should not be excluded. (U//FOUO)

An additional point of concern is the potential for ecomilitants to attack nuclear or chemical facilities in the United States. At least one group has consistently planned actions against nuclear power plants. The Evan Mecham Eco-Terrorist International Conspiracy (EMETIC) was charged with conspiring to attack nuclear power plants in three states. In May 1989, key members of the group were arrested and charged with planning to attack the Central Arizona Project and Palo Verde nuclear generating station in Arizona; the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in California; and the Department of Energy Rocky Flats nuclear facility in Colorado. Several members of the group served jail sentences ranging from thirty days to six years.<sup>117</sup> Other ecomilitant groups have not targeted nuclear facilities, although they have conducted operations against energy facilities. However, according to one report, ELF may expand its target list to include nuclear sites, thereby significantly elevating the threat to homeland security.<sup>118</sup> While attacks against nuclear installations could lead to environmental disaster—and therefore seem to signal a fundamental contradiction of ecomilitant aims—radical environmentalists could see such a disaster as a short-term sacrifice in pursuit of their long-term goal of total abandonment of nuclear energy; a nuclear disaster could turn the public at large against nuclear power, forcing both the government and private industry to pursue more ecofriendly energy sources. (U//FOUO)

Although law enforcement authorities have recently been able to penetrate elusive ecoterrorist cells and arrest scores of activists, the majority of environmental and animal-rights militants still remain at large. As of May 2005, thirty-five FBI field offices had more than 150 pending investigations associated with ecoterrorist activities. Ecoterrorist tactical and operational methods, coupled with the structural fluidity, have made the movement virtually impervious to police monitoring, surveillance, and infiltration efforts.<sup>119</sup> (U//FOUO)

More important, however, the general perception that the planet is in peril and the reluctance, or even outright refusal, of some parts of the U.S. government to acknowledge the damaging effects of global warming is likely to play into the hands of extreme environmental and animal-rights activists and groups.<sup>120</sup> Individuals sympathetic to the ecoterrorist ideology or those generally concerned with the welfare of the environment, may become increasingly tempted or willing to abandon the customary methods of political dissent consistent with legal democratic practices and embrace ecomilitancy as a viable and acceptable alternative for addressing their concerns and grievances. (U//FOUO)

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by Helios Global, Inc.**

Please write to [UA@dhs.gov](mailto:UA@dhs.gov), with any feedback, comments, or questions.

## END NOTES

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<sup>1</sup> The terms ecological terrorist, ecoterrorist, radical/extreme/militant environmentalist and animal rights activist, ecomilitant, or their variations are used interchangeably throughout this Dynamic Threat Assessment (DTA) and are all meant to convey the same thing.

<sup>2</sup> Patricia Leigh Brown, "Ideas & Trends; Enabling, and Disabling, Ecoterrorists Ideas & Trends; Enabling, and Disabling, Ecoterrorists," *New York Times*, November 16, 2003, at <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9503E5DD1338F935A25752C1A9659C8B63>.

### COMPOSITION

<sup>3</sup> There is no available information in the open sources that explains the meaning of the group's name; it is unclear whether the name is an acronym or merely a name.

<sup>4</sup> Senate Judiciary Committee, *Addressing the Threat of Animal Rights Extremism and Eco-Terrorism*, congressional testimony of John E. Lewis, deputy assistant director of Counterterrorism Division of the FBI, May 18, 2005, at <http://www.fbi.gov/congress/congress05/lewis051805.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> Stefan H. Leader and Peter Probst, "The Earth Liberation Front and Environmental Terrorism," *Terrorism and Political Violence*, Winter 2003, pp. 37-58.

<sup>6</sup> See [http://www.animalliberationfront.com/ALFront/Premise\\_History/ALF\\_History.htm](http://www.animalliberationfront.com/ALFront/Premise_History/ALF_History.htm).

<sup>7</sup> American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), "Animal & Ecological Terrorism in America," September 4, 2003.

<sup>8</sup> Southern Poverty Law Center, "Eco-Violence: The Record," at <https://secure.splcenter.org/intel/intelreport/article.jsp?sid+29>.

<sup>9</sup> ALEC, "Animal & Ecological Terrorism in America."

### IDEOLOGY

<sup>10</sup> Robert Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S.," August 9, 2005, at <http://www.apinnovations.biz/Documents/Ecoterrorism%20in%20the%20US.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> Chris Johnstone, "What is Deep Ecology?" *The Institute for Deep Ecology* (UK), undated, at <http://www.rainforestinfo.org.au/deep-eco/johnston.htm>.

<sup>12</sup> It should be stressed that not all proponents or participants in ecoterrorist activities are opposed to pet ownership. Furthermore, many prefer to place animals "liberated" during raids in homes, rather than releasing them in the wild.

<sup>13</sup> Steven Best, the former chairman of the Philosophy Department at the University of Texas–El Paso, is a passionate animal rights advocate and an ALF spokesman.

<sup>14</sup> Steven Best and Anthony J. Nocella, *Terrorists or Freedom Fighters?: Reflections on the Liberation of Animals* (Brooklyn, NY: Lantern Books, 2004).

<sup>15</sup> Anarcho-primitivism is not confined to radical environmental and animal rights activists; some militant advocates of antiglobalization also subscribe to the tenets of this ideology.

<sup>16</sup> John Moore, "A Primitivist Primer," *Eco-action*, undated, at <http://www.eco-action.org/dt/primer.html>.

<sup>17</sup> For more on "direct action," see the Tactics and Operations section of this Dynamic Threat Assessment.

<sup>18</sup> Anthony J. Nocella, and Matthew J. Walton, "Standing Up to Corporate Greed: The Earth Liberation Front as Domestic Terrorist Target Number One," at <http://greentheoryandpraxis.csufresno.edu/pdfs/Standing%20up%20to%20Corporate%20Greed.pdf>.

<sup>19</sup> The term anthropocentric refers to the notion that, for human beings, humans must be the central concern, and humanity must judge all things accordingly.

<sup>20</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."

<sup>21</sup> ALEC, "Animal & Ecological Terrorism in America."

<sup>22</sup> Nocella and Walton, "Standing Up to Corporate Greed: The Earth Liberation Front as Domestic Terrorist Target Number One."

### OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

<sup>23</sup> Taylor Horne, "The Radical Environmental Movement: Incorporating Empire and the Politics of Nature," undated, at <http://greentheoryandpraxis.csufresno.edu/articles/horne.doc>.

<sup>24</sup> Leader and Probst, "The Earth Liberation Front and Environmental Terrorism."

- <sup>25</sup> "The Credo/Guidelines of The Animal Liberation Front," undated, at [http://www.animalliberationfront.com/ALFront/alf\\_credo.htm](http://www.animalliberationfront.com/ALFront/alf_credo.htm).
- <sup>26</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>27</sup> *Addressing the Threat of Animal Rights Extremism and Eco-Terrorism.*
- <sup>28</sup> *Addressing the Threat of Animal Rights Extremism and Eco-Terrorism.*
- <sup>29</sup> Metscher,
- <sup>30</sup> "Eco-radicals: Environmental faction decides to 'pick up the gun,'" *Southern Poverty Law Center*, winter 2002, at <http://www.splcenter.org/intel/intelreport/article.jsp?aid=82>.
- <sup>31</sup> Leader and Probst, "The Earth Liberation Front and Environmental Terrorism."
- <sup>32</sup> 10News Investigation, "Former ELF Leader Defends Group's Efforts," *10News*, February 18, 2004, at <http://www.10news.com/investigations/2856840/detail.html>.

#### TARGET SELECTION

- <sup>33</sup> *Addressing the Threat of Animal Rights Extremism and Eco-Terrorism.*
- <sup>34</sup> "Feds Charge 11 in Ecoterrorism Conspiracy," *Associated Press*, January 20, 2006, at <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,182347,00.html>.
- <sup>35</sup> Metscher,
- <sup>36</sup> For detailed information regarding ALF attacks against Wachovia, see [http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/communiques\\_home.htm](http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/communiques_home.htm).
- <sup>37</sup> "Communiqué from ALF activists," April 17, 2007, at [http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/communiques/2007-04-17\\_wachovia\\_portland.htm](http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/communiques/2007-04-17_wachovia_portland.htm).
- <sup>38</sup> "Communiqué from ALF activists," July 13, 2007, at [http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/communiques/2007-07-13\\_lagrange\\_hls.htm](http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/communiques/2007-07-13_lagrange_hls.htm).
- <sup>39</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>40</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>41</sup> "Illegal Incidents Report: A 25 Year History of Illegal Activities by Eco and Animal Extremists," *Foundation for Biomedical Research*, February 2006, at <http://www.fbresearch.org/AnimalActivism/IllegalIncidents/IllegalIncidentsReport.pdf>.
- <sup>42</sup> Leader and Probst, "The Earth Liberation Front and Environmental Terrorism."
- <sup>43</sup> The "Evan Mecham Eco-Terrorist International Conspiracy," more commonly known as EMETIC, was an ecoterrorist cell formed explicitly to engage in attacks against nuclear facilities. In 1989, the FBI ended a three-year undercover investigation of the group by arresting four EMETIC members who were about to cut power lines feeding the Central Arizona Project, an irrigation plan vehemently opposed by conservationists. EMETIC had been planning to attack four nuclear facilities: two in Arizona and one each in California and Colorado. The arrest and conviction of EMETIC's four known members effectively destroyed the group. House Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, *The Threat of Eco-Terrorism*, testimony of James F. Jarboe, domestic terrorism section chief, Counterterrorism Division, FBI, February 12, 2002, at <http://www.fbi.gov/congress/congress02/jarboe021202.htm>.

#### INTERNAL STRUCTURES AND ORGANIZATIONAL DYNAMICS

- <sup>44</sup> The concept of leaderless resistance was originally developed by white supremacist Louis Beam. For more on leaderless resistance, see Simson Garfinkel, "Leaderless Resistance Today," date unknown, at [http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue8\\_3/garfinkel/index.html](http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue8_3/garfinkel/index.html).
- <sup>45</sup> B. L. Smith, K. R. Damphousse, and P. Roberts, "Pre-Incident Indicators of Terrorist Incidents: The Identification of Behavioral, Geographic, and Temporal Patterns of Preparatory Conduct," *U.S. Department of Justice*, March 2006, at <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/214217.pdf>.
- <sup>46</sup> Horne, "The Radical Environmental Movement: Incorporating Empire and the Politics of Nature."

#### EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS AND INTERORGANIZATIONAL TIES

- <sup>47</sup> Earth First! started out as a radical organization that pioneered tactics associated with monkey wrenching. Since the early 1990s, the group has become more mainstream by distancing itself from illegal and violent activity.
- <sup>48</sup> For more on the financial links between ecomilitants and other organizations, see *Financing* subsection under Logistics.
- <sup>49</sup> Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works, *Environmental and Animal Rights Terrorism and Its Above-Ground Support System*, testimony of David Martosko, director of research, Center for Consumer Freedom, May 18, 2005, at [http://epw.senate.gov/109th/MARTOSKO\\_TESTIMONY.pdf](http://epw.senate.gov/109th/MARTOSKO_TESTIMONY.pdf). It should be noted that the Center for Consumer Freedom is funded by alcohol, tobacco, and food interest groups. Although Martosko's testimony is often detailed and compelling, some of his claims cannot be corroborated by other open sources.
- <sup>50</sup> See <http://www.nocompromise.org/features/4furwar.html>.
- <sup>51</sup> *Environmental and Animal Rights Terrorism and its Above-Ground Support System.*
- <sup>52</sup> Newkirk is a PETA cofounder and current president.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION AND STRENGTH

- <sup>53</sup> "Eco-terrorists Indicted; Trio Foiled in Their Plot to Attack Government and Private Property," *U.S. Newswire*, January 25, 2006, at <http://sacramento.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel06/sc01252006.htm>.
- <sup>54</sup> Brown, "Ideas & Trends; Enabling, and Disabling, Ecoterrorists Ideas & Trends; Enabling, and Disabling, Ecoterrorists."
- <sup>55</sup> ALEC, "Animal & Ecological Terrorism in America."

TACTICS AND OPERATIONS

- <sup>56</sup> Danny Walsh, "FBI: Trio Scouted Targets, Nimbus Dam Among sites Visited by Eco-terror Suspects, Affidavit Says." *Sacramento Bee*, January 18, 2006, at <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1561270/posts>.
- <sup>57</sup> *Addressing the Threat of Animal Rights Extremism and Eco-Terrorism*.
- <sup>58</sup> For a comprehensive list of ecoterrorist targets, see Target Section of this Dynamic Threat Assessment.
- <sup>59</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>60</sup> In 1985, Dave Foreman published *Ecodefense: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching*, an instructional manual on sabotage techniques. The book has nine chapters of instructions on subjects ranging from tree spiking to road sabotage, from disabling equipment to disrupting predator trapping, and from jamming locks and making smoke bombs to propaganda, writing untraceable letters, and evading capture. Foreman was listed as "editor," along with Bill Haywood (a pseudonym). Some think Mike Roselle was "Haywood"; others think that Foreman worked alone. Roselle later repudiated the book as Foreman's and not Earth First!'s; Dave Foreman and Bill Haywood (eds.), *Ecodefense: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching* (Tucson: Ned Ludd Books, 1985).
- <sup>61</sup> Lewis A. Fein, "Extremism at Home, PETA Declares War," *Jewish World Review*, June 10, 2005, at <http://jewishworldreview.com/0605/fein1.asp>.
- <sup>62</sup> Mario Scalora, "Lessons Learned from a Nationwide Survey of Lab Security Breaches," University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Laboratory Security Threat Assessment Project, March 26, 2006, at <http://police.unl.edu/new/doc/Handout%20Security%20Tips%20website.doc>.
- <sup>63</sup> Matt Bai, "Breaking the Cages: Radical Animal Activists Turn to Violence," *Newsweek*, September 29, 1997, at <http://www.newsweek.com/id/97043>.
- <sup>64</sup> In October 1999, the "Justice Department," an ALF faction, claimed responsibility for sending more than eighty razor blade-laced envelopes to targets in the United States and Canada, at <http://www.rationalmind.net/2003/09/13/if-you-build-it-we-will-burn-it/>.
- <sup>65</sup> "Environmental Death Threats," Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise, undated, at <http://www.cdfef.org/threats1.htm>.
- <sup>66</sup> "Environmental Indictments, Information and Warrants," Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise, at <http://www.cdfef.org/indictments.htm>.
- <sup>67</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>68</sup> "Illegal Incidents Report: A 25 Year History of Illegal Activities by Eco and Animal Extremists."
- <sup>69</sup> "Illegal Incidents Report: A 25 Year History of Illegal Activities by Eco and Animal Extremists."
- <sup>70</sup> The select operations were primarily compiled from the following two sources: "Eco-Violence: The Record," Southern Poverty Law Center, at <http://www.splcenter.org/intel/intelreport/article.jsp?sid=29>; "Animal Extremist/Ecoterror Crimes," Fur Commission USA, at <http://www.furcommission.com/attack/index.html>.
- <sup>71</sup> Butyric acid is a yellowish, foul-smelling chemical commonly found in rancid butter, Parmesan cheese, and vomit. It gives off hazardous, noxious, and difficult-to-dispel fumes.

RADICALIZATION AND RECRUITMENT

- <sup>72</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>73</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>74</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>75</sup> Brown, "Ideas & Trends; Enabling, and Disabling, Ecoterrorists Ideas & Trends; Enabling, and Disabling, Ecoterrorists."

TRAINING

- <sup>76</sup> See, for example, <http://www.animalliberationfront.com/ALFront/Activist%20Tips/Ecodefense9.htm>.
- <sup>77</sup> See *Setting Fires With Electrical Timers: An Earth Liberation Front Guide* at <http://images.indymedia.org/umc/mayday/settingfires.pdf>.
- <sup>78</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."
- <sup>79</sup> Taped by the *Center for Consumer Freedom*, aired on ABC's 20/20. Transcript of segment online at: <http://www.nfss.org/Legis/Peta-AA/pet-5.html>.

LOGISTICS

<sup>80</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."

#### FINANCING

<sup>81</sup> *Environmental and Animal Rights Terrorism and its Above-Ground Support System*

<sup>82</sup> *Environmental and Animal Rights Terrorism and its Above-Ground Support System*

<sup>83</sup> *Environmental and Animal Rights Terrorism and its Above-Ground Support System*

#### PERSONALITIES

<sup>84</sup> Steve Best, "Who's Afraid of Jerry Vlasak?" North American Animal Liberation Press Office, date unknown, at [http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/Writings\\_Speeches/whos\\_afraid\\_of\\_jerry\\_vlasak.html](http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/Writings_Speeches/whos_afraid_of_jerry_vlasak.html).

<sup>85</sup> "Animal Rights Leaders Predict Violence, Death," Center for Consumer Freedom, July 15, 2004, at [http://www.consumerfreedom.com/news\\_detail.cfm/headline/2596](http://www.consumerfreedom.com/news_detail.cfm/headline/2596).

<sup>86</sup> Dean Kuipers, "The Green Scare," *Los Angeles City Beat*, May 03, 2007, at <http://www.lacitybeat.com/article.php?id=5450&IssueNum=204>.

<sup>87</sup> "Government's Sentencing Memorandum," U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon, date unknown, at [http://cldc.org/pdf/government\\_sentencing\\_memo.pdf](http://cldc.org/pdf/government_sentencing_memo.pdf).

<sup>88</sup> "Government's Sentencing Memorandum."

<sup>89</sup> William Yardley, "Radical Environmentalist Gets 9-Year Term," *New York Times*, May, 26 2007, at [http://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/26/us/26sentence.html?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/26/us/26sentence.html?_r=1&oref=slogin).

<sup>90</sup> "Government's Sentencing Memorandum."

<sup>91</sup> "Government's Sentencing Memorandum."

<sup>92</sup> "Government's Sentencing Memorandum."

<sup>93</sup> The Straight Edge movement evolved from the hard-core punk subculture and promotes a puritan lifestyle. It advocates against drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and sexual promiscuity, and it discourages the consumption of meat and the use of animal products. Members of the Straight Edge movement are known to occasionally result to violence to promote movement's ethics.

<sup>94</sup> Valerie Richardson, "FBI Targets Domestic Terrorists," *Insight Magazine*, April 22, 2002, at <http://downloads.heartland.org/23233h.pdf>.

<sup>95</sup> Ron Arnold, "Hate-filled Arsonist Admits Torching Seattle McDonald's Restaurant," Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise, September 26, 2005, at [http://www.cdfe.org/seattle\\_elf\\_alf\\_arsonist\\_pleads\\_guilty.htm](http://www.cdfe.org/seattle_elf_alf_arsonist_pleads_guilty.htm).

<sup>96</sup> William McCall, "Two Men Indicted in ELF Arson Attack," *Seattle-Post Intelligencer*, October 19, 2002, at [http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/91992\\_arson19.shtml](http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/91992_arson19.shtml).

<sup>97</sup> Cindy E Harnett, "Tre Arrow Loses Appeal to Remain in Canada," *Times Colonist*, October 20, 2007, at <http://www.canada.com/victoriatimescolonist/news/story.html?id=12a5b48d-6811-49a7-91ef-376116e4b2c6&k=65998>.

<sup>98</sup> Carlton Smith, "Grooming an ELF," *Willamette Week Online*, November 26, 2003, at <http://www.week.com/story.php?story=4575>.

<sup>99</sup> Smith, Damphousse, and Roberts, "Pre-Incident Indicators of Terrorist Incidents: The Identification of Behavioral, Geographic, and Temporal Patterns of Preparatory Conduct."

<sup>100</sup> Smith, Damphousse, and Roberts, "Pre-Incident Indicators of Terrorist Incidents: The Identification of Behavioral, Geographic, and Temporal Patterns of Preparatory Conduct."

<sup>101</sup> *United States of America v. Eric McDavid, Lauren Weiner and Zachary Jensen*, U.S. District Court Eastern District of California, January 13, 2006, at <http://www.thestudentunderground.org/stuff/54/affidavit.pdf>.

<sup>102</sup> "Eco-terrorist convicted," U.S. Attorney Eastern District of California News Release, September 27, 2007, at [http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/press\\_releases/docs/2007/09-27-07McDavidVerdict.pdf](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/press_releases/docs/2007/09-27-07McDavidVerdict.pdf).

<sup>103</sup> Sacramento Prison Support, "The Eric McDavid Story," *Earth First! Journal*, date unknown, at <http://www.earthfirstjournal.org/article.php?id=326>.

<sup>104</sup> For more on CrimethInc, Ex-Worker's Collective, see the organization's web page at <http://www.crimethinc.com/>.

<sup>105</sup> Denny Walsh, "Woman Makes Plea Deal in Eco-terror Case," *Sacramento Bee*, May 31, 2006, at <http://dwb.sacbee.com/content/news/story/14262163p-15075538c.html>.

<sup>106</sup> *United States of America v. Ryan Daniel Lewis*, Eastern District of California-Sacramento, California, February 18, 2005, at [http://eskimo.com/~rarnold/california\\_arsonist\\_arrested.htm](http://eskimo.com/~rarnold/california_arsonist_arrested.htm).

<sup>107</sup> Judith Lewis, "A Terrible Thing to Waste," *LA Weekly*, February 28, 2007, at <http://www.laweekly.com/news/features/a-terrible-thing-to-waste/15782/>.

<sup>108</sup> "Three Plead Guilty to Earth Liberation Actions, More Expected Friday," Associated Press, July 20, 2006, at [http://zoeblunt.gnn.tv/blogs/16888/Three\\_Plead\\_Guilty\\_to\\_Earth\\_Liberation\\_Actions\\_More\\_Expected\\_Friday](http://zoeblunt.gnn.tv/blogs/16888/Three_Plead_Guilty_to_Earth_Liberation_Actions_More_Expected_Friday).

<sup>109</sup> Metscher, "Ecoterrorism in the U.S."

<sup>110</sup> Craig Rosebraugh, *The Logic of Political Violence: Lessons in Reform and Revolution* (Portland, OR: Arissa Media Group, 2004).

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- <sup>111</sup> For more on Leslie James Pickering's activities and publications, see ARISSA's official web site at <http://www.arissa.org>.
- <sup>112</sup> Shaun Waterman, "US court jails animal right activists," United Press International, September 13, 2006, at [http://www.terradaily.com/reports/US\\_Court\\_Jails\\_Animal\\_Rights\\_Activists\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/US_Court_Jails_Animal_Rights_Activists_999.html).
- <sup>113</sup> For more on Harper and the so-called SHAC 7, see <http://www.shac7.com/index.htm>.
- <sup>114</sup> "Environmental Scientist: David Foreman," National Center for Public Policy Research, date unknown, at <http://www.nationalcenter.org/dos7129.htm>.

#### CULTURE

- <sup>115</sup> See <http://www.deepecology.org/deepplatform.html>.

#### THREAT TO THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (CONUS)

- <sup>116</sup> 10News Investigation, "Former ELF Leader Defends Group's Efforts."
- <sup>117</sup> In 1989, the FBI ended a three-year undercover investigation of the group by arresting four EMETIC members who were about to cut power lines feeding the Central Arizona Project, an irrigation plan conservationists vehemently opposed. EMETIC had been planning to attack four nuclear facilities: two in Arizona and one each in California and Colorado. The arrest and conviction of EMETIC's four known members effectively destroyed the group; see *The Threat of Ecoterrorism*.
- <sup>118</sup> Leader and Probst, "The Earth Liberation Front and Environmental Terrorism."
- <sup>119</sup> U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Counterterrorism Division, Domestic Terrorism Analysis Unit, *Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty, A Resource Guide, Practical Information Regarding the Domestic Terrorist Threat Posed by Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty* (Washington, DC: Author, August 2003).
- <sup>120</sup> Bryan Walsh, "Is America Principal Villain in Bali?" *Time Magazine*, December 13, 2007, at <http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1694259,00.html>.