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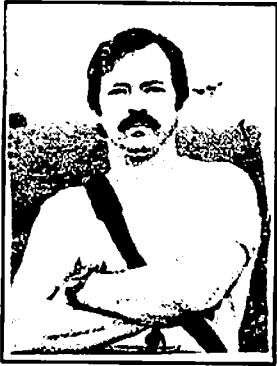
BANKHEAD MONITOR

TAKING THE PULSE OF THE BANKHEAD NATIONAL FOREST



**SUN SETS ON
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
MISMANAGEMENT**

" FIGHTING FOR THE LAST WILD PLACES "



Lamar Marshall

Well, hello fellow Alabamians who want to see the last great places of our state preserved. The beginning will be the National Forests that belong to you, the public. Perhaps you have seen the headlines heralding the beginning of the era of litigation in the fight to manage our public forests with integrity. Recently, the USFS was once again caught negligent in caring for the land and serving the people. The Bartram Trail was damaged by the scourge of clearcutting. This goes on all the time. Hundreds of beautiful places across the

National Forests of Alabama are damaged and destroyed every year. Historical sites are cut. The unofficial trails of the Backcountry are crased without a thought by the USFS timber quotas. The Monitor is working on maps showing the last ten years of timbering with all its fringe benefits of conversion, poisons and roads. One thing is clear. The Sipsey Wilderness is being ringed with clearcuts. The habitat of Rare and Endangered Mussels in the Brushy Drainage as well as our Wild and Scenic River are impacted by the unslowing clearcutting that goes on right to the blufflines. Extensive cutting is planned for the entire areas across the river from the Sipsey Recreation Area. Perhaps the Forest Supervisor plans to apologize after the fact as he did after the Bartram clearcutting. It is his responsibility to oversee all plans that affect the forests. All designated trails should have mandatory 1/4 mile setbacks but our Federal Timber Company squeezes out every stick it can get. Don't worry, the Bartram Trail will grow back in 20 or 50 years. I call on all who are sick and tired of this kind of management to join with the Monitor and become part of our growing army who is fighting for our last wild places. You cannot glue the trees back on the stumps when they are mistakenly cut down.

There is nothing wild about a big tree farm. The state is full of them. There is a great need to preserve more wilderness and natural places. We need Monitor chapters across the state. Let's get on with public outcry before they tear everything wild to pieces for its components. We ask for conservation and they give us desolation; we ask for beauty and they give us stumps, we ask for protection of our endangered mussels and they pour more silt on them.

It is impossible to manage for the health of ecosystem and natural successional bio-diversity while trying to extract millions of board feet of timber. Sheer impossibility. Where money is involved, the ecosystem will always be the loser.

They think that you are apathetic, show them that you mean business. Write your congressman and senator today. Call a local newspaper and tell them about the destruction. Tell them to call me and I will personally carry them on a lovely tour where they can film, photo and get a good story.

More and more foresters are waking up to the fact we are entering a new age of preservation. History will prove us to be the good guys. Lamar Marshall

Any cartoons that even remotely resemble living persons is strictly a wild and crazy coincidence.

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ABOUT THE FRONT COVER

The blazing Bankhead summer sun looks more like the red planet, the god of war. And war it is. The lovers of the Black Warrior Mountains are ready to fight for the homeland in the federal courts around the land. Charlie Seifried can photograph with awe the elements on the firmament and the heavens alike. May the sun set on the past practices of the US Forest Service in the national forests of Alabama.

Walking The Sipsey Wilderness: Part 7

by Jim Manasco

Blossoms Herald Spring On Thompson Creek Trail

A trail leads downstream along the east side where Northwest Road crosses Thompson Creek. The trail is about six miles long and loops deep through the wilderness and comes out to the road on the mountain above Bee Branch. The first mile of the trail will take you to White Oak Branch. A short hike down the trail and then back out the same way will treat you to an array of native wildflowers.

The continental United States is divided into three major frost zones. These zones are established by the dates of the last frost.

"A SHORT HIKE DOWN THE TRAIL AND THEN BACK OUT THE SAME WAY WILL TREAT YOU TO AN ARRAY OF NATIVE WILDFLOWERS."

On Thompson Creek the northern and southern zones overlap, splitting the central zone. Here on this part of the forest is the only place that this happens. The valley here is also seven degrees warmer than the ridge above in the winter and seven degrees cooler in the summer. To predict when something will bloom here is not possible. It changes every year.

The only way you can predict what flowers will bloom a week in advance is to go look a week before for the ones still in bud. Wildflowers do not last as long as the cultivated varieties so if you go to the same place once a week you will see a different set. The wildflowers that you will see along the trail are as follows:

TRILLIUM. Several species will be blooming including the dark red twisted petal and the Big Whites. Trilliums get their names from having three of everything, three leaves, three sepals and three petals.

MAY APPLES. It is interesting to note that only



BIG FLOWERED WHITE TRILLIUM

the plants with forked stems will bloom.

RED BUCKEYE. These buckeyes never reach tree size and are the ones that grow the Lucky Buckeyes.

PAWPAWS. Most everyone knows what a pawpaw looks like but how many would recognize the bloom?

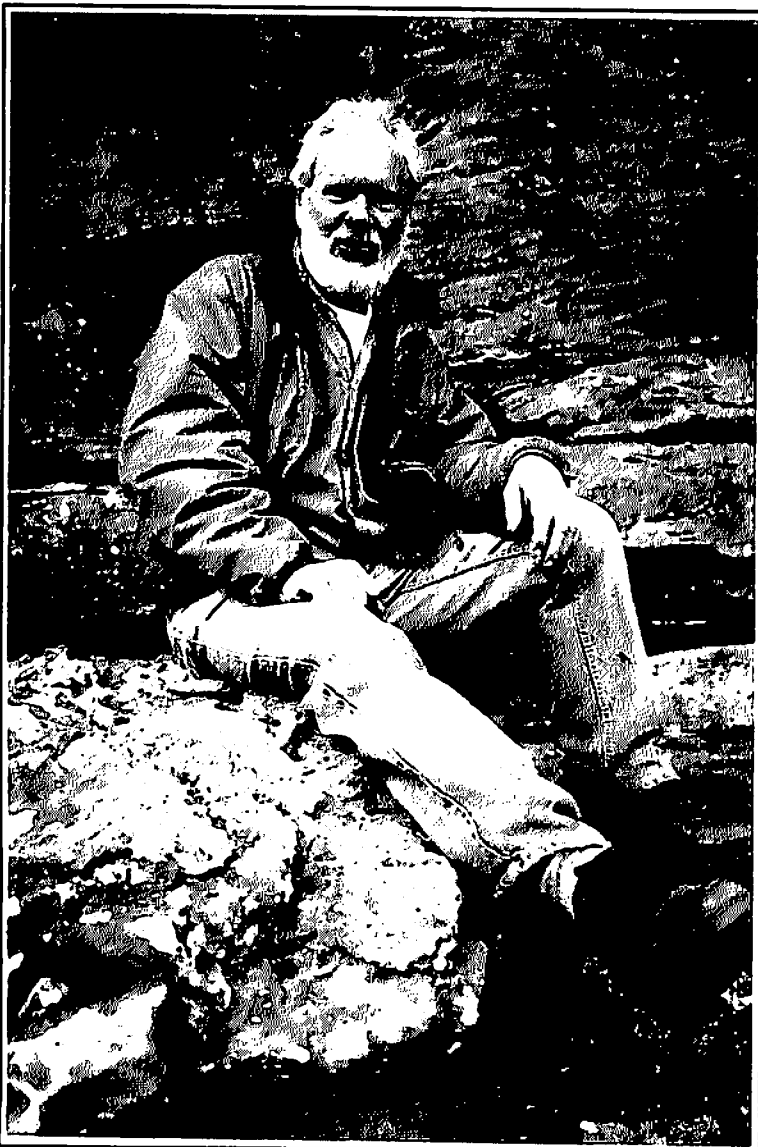
DOLL'S EYES. The flowers are not as showy as the seeds. This fall these blooms will look like a cluster of grapes growing upside down. The grapes will be white and each will have a black dot on it. The vine part will be bright red. They are as poison as they are colorful.

WILD GERANIUMS, White Larkspurs, and Blue Phlox will line the trail as you walk down the stream.

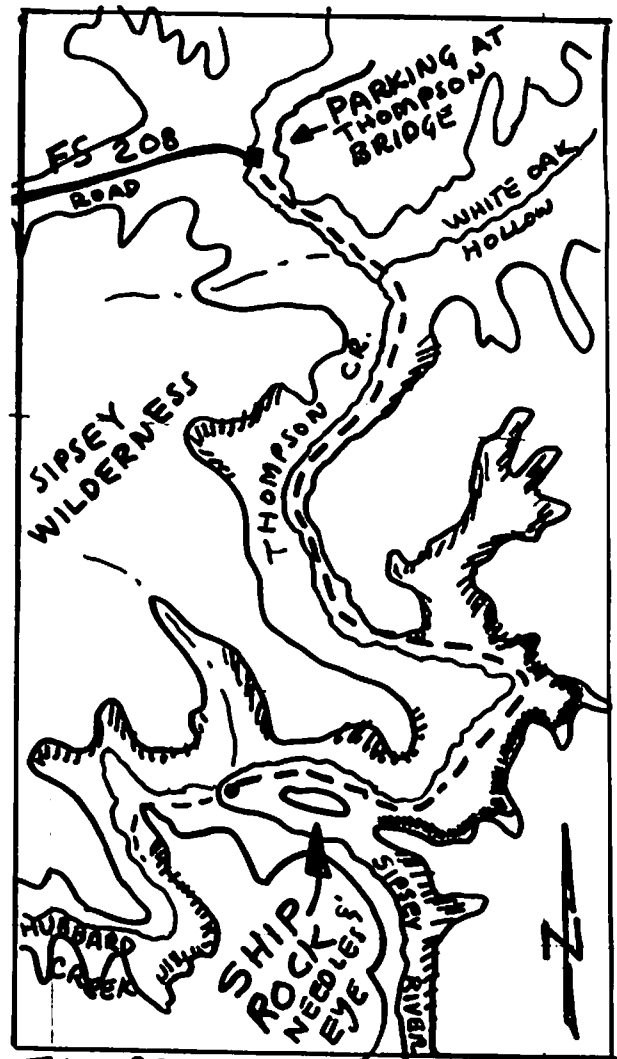
Moving off the trail to the bluff, the big moss covered rocks are hanging gardens of ginger and ferns.

The above listing of wildflowers are only a small sample of all the varieties of flowering plants to view on your hike. Take time to behold the beauty of the wildflower array as you walk the Thompson Creek Trail.

Do not pick the flowers or you may have to pay!



JIM MANASCO IN THE WILDERNESS



THOMPSON CREEK TRAIL
2.5 MILES FROM BRIDGE TO
SHIP ROCK .

THE FANTASTIC BOTANICAL GARDENS OF BANKHEAD

The northern slopes of the Tennessee Divide (known in the old days as the High Town Path or the Ridge Path) fall into the drainages of numerous creeks that make up the Flint Creek drainage. Gillespie of Indian Tomb, Lee,

By Bill Weatherford
recognised by the USFS and designated as botanical areas as required by law is beyond me. I have found that the greatest critics of our Bankhead Forest fan club have never walked the back country. They don't even know what treasures are hidden away here. They are merely



ACRES ON ACRES OF DENSE BEDS OF BLOODROOT TRILLIUMS AND OTHER FLOWERING PLANTS

Thompson, Indian, Sheats, and Wiggins are the Bankhead tributaries that make up outstanding botanical areas of the limestone valleys. Along these streams and hillsides are the densest of the Bankhead flora.

I have walked through three feet tall false soloman seal, great beds of the queen of herbs - golden seal, acres of trillium grandiflora, and numerous other flowering herbs.

Rue anenome, foamflower, blue cohosh, rattle-root, great soloman's seal, and allegheny spurge form green carpets. Why these areas are not

uncaring spokesmen for the timber industry. We that have tasted of the rare beauty of the walled canyons and flowering paradise know why we must continue to push for protection.

Several times I have heard the Forest Supervisor John Yancy say that he personally had not seen the areas that we asked for special protection, but that his staff had assured him that the area was not special. Could it be that his staff has no appreciation or ability of recognition for scenic and biological treasures? Something is wrong. He should come to the back country and see with

his own eyes the diminishing native Bankhead. These are areas that compare with the uniqueness of the Sipsey Wilderness and should be given the official designation of botanical areas. Just look at the multitude of plants found here.



DECIDUOUS GINGER



4-PRONG GINSENG PLANT

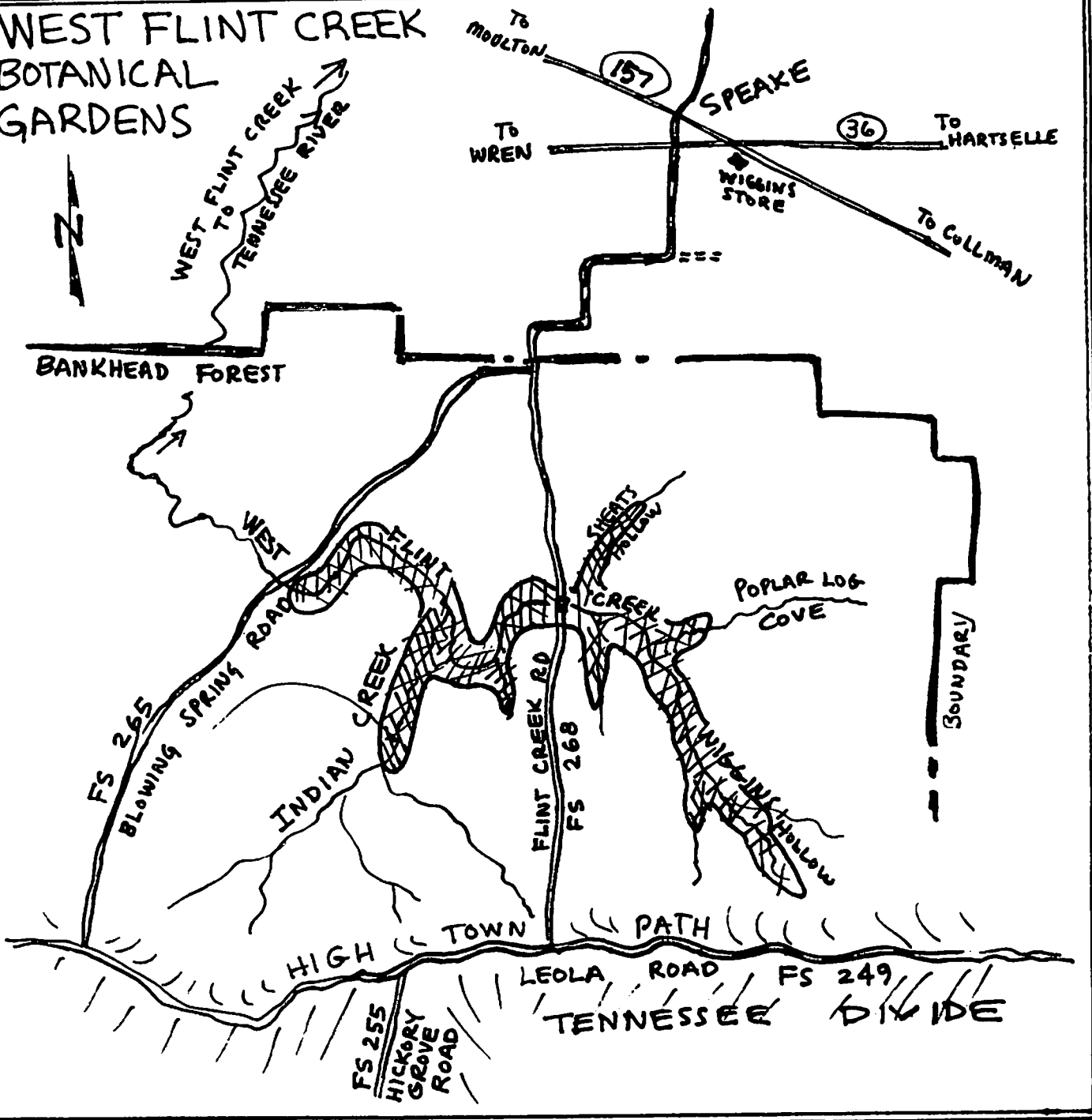


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MEDICINAL PLANTS OF THE CREEK NATION

by Darryl Patton

Among the many who have made the hardwood hills and hollows of North West Alabama home, those calling themselves the Esti Mvskoke have left an indelible footprint on the history of this region.

Known as Creeks, Upper Creeks, Lower Creeks, Muskogee and Mvskoke among many, they lived in a highly civilized world with a keen sense of oneness with the natural environment around them.

What modern man knows as the Creek Nation was more appropriately called the Mvskoke Nation. Comprised of many sub-groups ranging from the Appalachees to the Hitchitis, they all fell within the great Mvskoke Confederacy. Each sub-group existed with its own dialect and traditions but called the Creek language their mother tongue and Lingua Franca or trading language.

One of the more highly developed areas of this Confederacy aside from its contributions to our democratic form of government was in the realm of natural healing and the use of the herbs and roots that they felt HSVKE, the Creator and Master of Breath had provided as a means of health.

Creek medicine encompassed then and today still encompasses many more areas than simply herbal remedies. The Creek Maker of Medicine, or as James Fenimore Cooper phrased it, the Medicine Man functions in many different areas of healing with plant remedies being just one area of many.

The Maker of Medicine is more than just an herbalist. He is a repository of history and culture, and a unifying thread linking the tribal community with it's past. "Medicine" is a modern term that

doesn't adequately describe the multi-faceted aspects of his position.

In any modern Creek community there are those who function strictly as herbalists, while the Maker of Medicine will deal with some herbs in what people think of as traditional herbal medicine and other herbs in a more ceremonial context. Many families will also carry on a tradition of herbal simples passed down within the family.

It is also impossible to discuss some of the herbs used by the Muskoke's without a simple language lesson. As you can see, the "Nation" is called Muskogee and Mvskoke, with both being correct. Muskogee is simply the modern rendition of the Creek word Mvskoke.

In Creek, what looks like your typical abc's is not what it seems. Some letters have a totally different pronunciation. For example: the "V" is pronounced as a short U as in

the word mug. It also sounds like a short "A". The C sounds like the letter "J" or soft "G". The "K" is pronounced as a hard "G" as in goat. The letter "T" in Creek is pronounced as the letter "D" as in dog. The letter "P" is pronounced like the "B" in boy. A good example would be the word Cate which means stone. It is actually pronounced Jahdee. These are some of the most commonly mispronounced letters when trying to read modern day Creek which is spoken as a first and second language by many native speakers in Florida and Oklahoma.

The following herbs are just a few of the many medicinals still employed by modern day Creeks. Spelling and pronunciation may differ slightly from area to area. Variations also occur when discussing Creek as spoken in the South and Creek as spoken in



Oklahoma. Creek spoken here in the South is a much more ancient variety of the language.

MULLEIN (Wacace hitci) - Roots were pounded and mixed with willow for coughs. leaves smoked for the sinuses and poulticed on swellings. Flowers used as a sedative.

RABBIT TOBACCO (Aha Lvbykca) - Used for smoking, deliriums, sinus problems and congestion. Also used as an astringent for poison ivy, oak and sumach.

SUMACH Creek (Tawa Cati) Seminole (Tawa Lakko) - Leaves poulticed on swelling joints, arthritis and hemorrhoids. Bark and berries used for kidney problems, mouth ulcers and canker sores, gargle for sore throats. Leaves mixed with willow were used for "tobacco". Roots were boiled as a remedy for dysentery. Mixed with tobacco it was employed for any kind of lung problem. Berries used especially for the kidneys and bladder stones. Leaves and bark were utilized as a hemostatic to staunch bleeding.

HORSEMINT (Kofvtcka Lakko) - Green leaves were mashed and drunk for backaches. The entire plant was drunk hot to induce sweating. Boiled together with rabbit tobacco it was used for deliriums. It was boiled with red willow for swelling in the legs. The tops were used for chills. It could be combined with fleabane and golden alexanders for a sick headache. It was also used for congestion, swollen sinuses and bronchitis.

PINE (Cule) - Young needles were brewed into a high vitamin c tea useful for colds and fevers. Inner bark was used as a food source during the lean times when other staple crops failed.

WHITE OAK (Kvly) - Highly valued by the Creeks for the useful flour coming from the highly nutritious and sweet acorns. Some varieties needed no leaching. Medicinally used for internal bleeding, soft spongy gums and occasionally for coughs.

SOUTHERN RED OAK (Lokcvpe) - Inner bark was used by itself or in combination with blackberry root for severe dysentery. Occasionally used for liver complaints and also for mouth ulcers and canker sores.

SLIPPERY ELM (Lupakv) - Inner bark was dried, pounded and prepared as a gruel in time of famine or for the sick. Also used for burns and any type of stomach and intestinal complaints.

SWEETGUM (Heluk Vpe) - Young leaves at the terminal end of the branches soaked in hot water and poulticed on arthritic joints. Sap used as an expectorant and for burns and other hard to heal cuts.

AMERICAN BEECH (Nofvpe) - A strong hot tea utilized as a soak for poison ivy and oak.

WILD CHERRY (To Fvmpe) - Tea used for measles, chickenpox, colds, coughs and congestions.

DOGWOOD (Atapaha) - Used for intermittent fevers. Occasionally used for the "flux". Sometimes used for ball clubs.

BLACK WALNUT (Ahawv Em Vpe) - Green hulls were split and applied to ringworms and other fungal infections. Inner bark also used for intestinal worms.

EASTERN RED CEDAR (Vcenv) - Berries used to ward off contagious diseases. Berries and branches used to fumigate sick rooms. Inner bark also used to promote fertility.

MULBERRY (Ke Vpe) - Favorite wood for the keco and kecvape (mortar and pestle). Fruity and inner bark used to treat worms.

PERSIMMON (Svtv Mvpe) - One of the favorite Creek food staples. Inner bark used for mouth and stomach ulcers. Excellent for diarrhea and the flux. Some tribes used bark for the thrush.

SASSAFRAS (Weso) - Tea used for measles, chickenpox and to reduce fevers. Leaves dried and used as a thickening agent. Root tea used to cleanse blood. Tea also used as a wash for lice.

MAGNOLIA/SWEETBAY (Tolv) - Inner bark used for arthritis, gout and rheumatism. Used for nervous complaints and also fevers. Popular today for breaking the nicotine habit.

WILD PLUM (Pvkanv Seminole) - Popular in the treatment of coughs, congestion, bronchitis and particularly for asthma.

SARSAPARILLA (Lvlunk Lane) - Used to increase the bust line, a source of hormones and for stomach trouble.

PRICKLY ASH (Tokvsappv) - Known to settlers as "Toothache Tree", it was used to treat toothaches, arthritis, and berries as a dye.

HICKORY (Oce) - Sap used as substitute for maple syrup. Occasionally used to treat arthritis. Main wood used for ball clubs, and as a source of cordage.

MUSCADINE (Coloswv) - Stems were dried, burned to an ash and used in water to treat diabetes, and internal cancers.

BLACKBERRY (Kvco Heurv) - Combined with Red Oak bark for the treatment of diarrhea and other types of the bloody flux. The roots and unripe fruit can be used.

JERUSALEM OAK (Ue Lane) - Used as one of the more popular worm killers. It means yellow water in Creek as it turns your urine that color. It was also used for the kidneys and liver.

GINSENG (Heles Hvtke) - An infusion used for shortness of breath, croup and coughs. Also used in "medicine".

MAPLE (Heno) - "Syrup", an eyewash for sore tired eyes, and for "female" complaints.

PASSION FLOWER (Opaga) - Employed as a safe but powerful sedative and as a blood tonic.

Passionflower is now used as a commercial sedative prescribed by physicians in Europe. It is popular in health food stores in the U.S.



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**HEARTWOOD -
PAOLI, INDIANA**

" SHIP ROCK " OF THE BLACK WARRIOR

by Rickey Butch Walker

This article first appeared in the Moulton Advertiser in Walker's column - Bankhead Back Trails

The mighty "Ship Rock" of the Black Warrior is sailing east, dragging the mountains and canyons of unspeakable beauty through the universe. In front of her awesome sandstone bow is the

caught from setting sun, providing brief sailing light toward the east before darkness dims the mighty ship's journey.

The forces of time blasted the hole called the Needle's Eye at the stern of Tugboat Rock thousands of years ago; yet -- undaunted -- the little sandstone tug maintains a true course guiding the mighty Ship Rock through the earth's celestial sphere.

Out of Hubbard Creek Canyon and through the middle of King Cove, she sails, leaving a deep botanical trough and solid standing waves of sandstone, which begin to close at the falling waters of Parker, Quillan, and Kinlock. The waterfalls of the Warrior Mountains send



BOW OF SHIP ROCK



TUGBOAT ROCK

"Tugboat Rock" of the forest, leading the way and breaking the bonds of time to allow the Ship Rock to meet her destiny beyond the knowledge of humankind.

The Tugboat Rock is always at her bow, never allowing her voyage to be slowed by the forces of time. Near the stern of Tugboat Rock is the Needle's Eye, which focuses the last flowing rays

melodious sound waves from the true wilderness to lap at her sides.

At the bow of Ship Rock, the crest rises high, creating the vast depressions of the beautiful valleys through which Sipsey and Thompson flow. Forever eastward toward the rising sun of a new day, she plows through the forested sea and pulls the high bluffs churning constantly

through the land of a thousand waterfalls. From the botanical gardens of the limestone valleys to the hardwood ridges of the sandstone slopes, she has sailed from before the time of the dinosaurs toward eternity, with the timeless canyons of the Warrior Mountains lashed firmly to her stern.

Ship Rock has a great deck nearly 1,000 feet in length over 100 feet wide. Her bow is a sharp

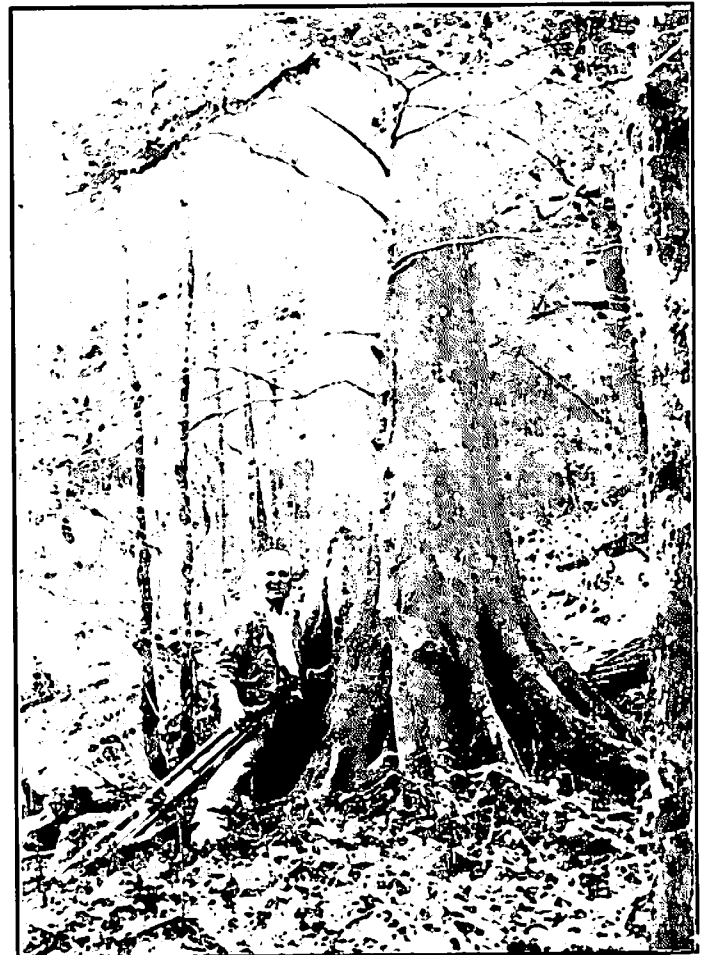


NEEDLE'S EYE

rising crest which rides high in the waves of the air, reaching nearly 60 feet above first contact with her timbered and stony sea. Her stern is broad, with the great force of Mother Nature driving her through the mountainous sea...always leaving the beginnings of Sipsey in her wake. Her sides, adorned with big flowered trillium, Virginia bluebells, blue cohosh, and Dutchman's breeches, rise some 50 feet to the mountain laurel and Virginia pine-covered deck. Ship Rock is a monument in time and a symbol of persistence. She was created before the age of

the great reptilian dinosaurs, the age of the gigantic mammals, and the age of the red man who once inhabited her great forested seas. No time, force, or age is her master, for God is her pilot and only He knows her true destiny. As God spins the eternal swirl of the universe, Ship Rock holds steady, while dragging the Warrior Mountains along with the rest of the world. Where is the huge Ship Rock, Tugboat Rock, and the Needle's Eye? These geologic wonders are woven into the fabric of Lawrence County's Warrior Mountains. The magnificent Weaver left His Needle's Eye as a guide, for those who may think they are lost, to the great ship and little tug.

Now for directions: From the Byler Road, turn east on the Northwest Road and go to the dead end at Thompson Creek Bridge. Take the wilderness trail, which turns south down the east side of the beautiful Thompson Creek Canyon. You will hike about one and a half hours before you see a large hole in the face of the bluff just prior to reaching the forks of Thompson and Hubbard Creeks. You have arrived! (editors note: see map on page two.)



BUTCH WALKER WITH A GIANT

FIGHTING FOR THE LAST WILD PLACES !

" Wise in the Ways of the Wilderness, and Strong with the Strength of the Wild " Service

The wild places of the state of Alabama are rapidly falling to the onslaught of industry, development, and urbanization. The results are less lands that are left in the natural state. To hunters, this means less land to hunt on, to photographers it means less lands to photograph, to campers and hikers it means less of the great outdoors, to rare and endangered plants and animals, it means extinction forever.

The Bankhead National Forest is a last reservoir of native wildness in this part of Alabama. It must be saved. Saved from the hands of your own government.

Every square inch of our public lands does not have to be exploited for its resources. The resource called beauty is sacrificed for boards. The tiny

living tribes of mussels that live in the streams should find a safe haven here in the miles of shaded canyons of the Bankhead. But they are being exterminated. They cannot tolerate sediment buildup on the stream bottoms.

Already, there are blank stretches of streams that do not have the mussel beds of history.

The USFS has indicted itself by its own words. I have dozens upon dozens of quotes and figures where the USFS states that it is injecting sediment into the habitat of the endangered mussels. Tons of silt. The mussel experts and scientists all agree that sediment degrades this habitat. Yet, the siltation continues to run into the streams of Bankhead in violation of federal law.

The Bankhead Monitor has documents containing studies from many years ago on the stream bottom conditions of Rush, Brushy, Capsey, Brown, Owl, Sipsey, Inman and numerous other Bankhead streams.



A current study will prove that the habitat of the mussels has and is continuing to degrade.

This degradation is merely the side effect of the even-aged management which includes herbicides, burning, roadbuilding, clearcutting and other abominable practices carried out on your public lands.

These practices each and independently cause erosion and sediment that cannot be stopped from reaching the streams. The result is destruction of your last wild places. As a Monitor member, you are fighting for what belongs to you and to your children.

A true plan of conservation and wise use must be implemented in order to preserve this piece of planet

earth that has been called down through the corridors of time the Black Warrior Mountains. We must put an end to the disastrous cumulative effects that are destroying the forest. Sometimes the wisest and best management plan for our forest is to do nothing. Let the forces that God almighty designed and set in motion do their work to produce a perfect balance. Only a few people make their living from this forest. They can continue to do so under a management plan for restoration of Bankhead. There are enough pine plantations that a limited amount of trees could be cut for 20 years as the ridges are allowed to return to hardwoods. This way the timber interests, the ecosystem, and the majority of the public who want their last wild places left intact will win.

Lamar Marshall

the Outdoor Omnibus



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WE WANT TO SEE MORE ASPHALT, LESS WILDFLOWERS, MORE CONCRETE, LESS DEER, MORE SMOKESTACKS, LESS MOUNTAINS, MORE MONO, LESS DIVERSITY.

KEEP YOUR CHILDREN OUT OF THE FORESTS, SAFE AMONG THEIR INNER CITY GANG FRIENDS AND HIGH ON DRUGS. AND REMEMBER. IF SOME NATURE NUT APPROACHES YOU ABOUT SAVING MORE FORESTS, ---

JUST SAY NAW !

JOIN NAW
" NERDS AGAINST WILDERNESS "



CHICKASAW CONNECTION



by Charles Hubbert

munitions on the trade path from Carolina, leaving the Chickasaw unarmed and vulnerable.

**"...THE WOODED HILLS OF
BANKHEAD FOREST WERE
STREWN WITH THE BONES
OF DEAD MEN. "**

In the year of 1757 the wooded hills of the Bankhead National Forest were strewn with the bones of dead men. They had been murdered along the western end of the High Town Path. They were both red men and white men. They were traders enroute to the Chickasaw Nation and they were the Chickasaw men who had gone out to protect them. They were Choctaw warriors and French instigators. Now their bones lay scattered in the leaves alongside the Ridge Path, or tucked into some shadowy niche in the rocks.

The towns of the Chickasaw, located mostly in the upper end of the Tombigbee River Valley, were kept alive only by a thin string of commerce that crossed the vast wilderness between the coast of South Carolina and the Tombigbee. The Chickasaws were surrounded by a host of enemies who were determined to wipe them out, one and all. The French and their allies had made war on them for the better part of a century.

Chief among their enemies were their more numerous neighbors, the Choctaw. The towns of the Choctaw Nation were located further south in western Alabama and eastern Mississippi. The French kept the Choctaw well supplied with guns and ammunition by way of the Mississippi River and Mobile Bay. The Choctaw kept war parties in the Chickasaw territory almost constantly. Often the French would bring Iroquois war parties from the Great Lakes area to aid the Choctaws. Choctaw strategy was to intercept British

The Chickasaw were fierce warriors, but the constant attacks sapped their strength and placed them under great stress. The loss of their best and strongest young men in the fighting left them severely weakened in numbers. As the years wore on and their numbers dropped, they became increasingly dependant upon the British for weapons and munitions. The supplies reached them by way of a system of trails through the wilderness from Charleston.

The situation can best be described in the words of ten Chickasaw headmen who wrote a letter to the Governor of South Carolina on April 5, 1756, "We will never give up this land but with the loss of our lives. We look upon your enemies as ours and your friends as our friends. The day shall never come while sun shines and water runs that we will join any other nation but the English. We hope you will give us a supply of powder and bullets and guns to enable us to outlive our enemies, and to revive a dying friend. We have had four armies against us this winter. We have lost many warriors and had our wives and our children carried off alive. Our towns have been set on fire in the night and burnt down, many of our houses and blankets destroyed. We were attacked at our hunting camp where we lost several of our warriors, women and children so that we were obliged to leave our hunting camps and return to our nation. Pray send all our friends that live among you to our nation for they would be of great service to us for we are now reduced to so small a number we can hardly spare men to guard our traders to and from our nation."

Food grew scarce, but guns and ammunition were critical to the survival of the Chickasaw. Sometimes the supplies were not successful at

running the gauntlet of Choctaw and French war parties. On May 25, 1757 trader Danial Pepper wrote, "We fear that the Chickasaw traders are cut off by the enemy as they have been expected for this month past with their horses and not yet arrived, nor any account of them." On June 12, 1757 trader John Buckles reported "Two Chickersaws were killed by a party of Choctaws on the trade path." And in September, "three hundred French men come here with their Indians. The said army camped within a mile of the town all night, and next morning they went off on the paths that leads between the Coosaws and the Chickersaws."

"...the Chickasaw, along with the Choctaw, the Creek, the Cherokee and the Iroquois were torn away from the graves of their Grandfathers, and sent along the gloomy Trail of Tears..."

The Chickasaws sent out warriors to meet the traders and protect them for the last hundred miles or so of their journey. On September 19, 1757 Buckles "got thirty Chickersaws to go out in order to meet the traders and guard them safely here. About eighty miles out from this nation they met about fifty Chocktaws, who had lain on the path waiting for a prey. The two parties engaged and had a smart battle. The Chickersaws put them to the run, killed four of them, and wounded several others, but not without the loss of six men killed on the spot and several others desparately wounded."

There has never been braver warriors or fiercer fighters than the Chickasaws. The British Colonies, and later the young American nation, never had more unwaveringly loyal friends than the Chickasaw. But in the end it won them nothing. Eventually, the Chickasaw, along with the Choctaw, the Creek, the Cherokee and the Iroquois were torn away from the graves of their Grandfathers, and sent along that gloomy Trail of Tears to Oklahoma. They are still there today.

But in June of 1993 representatives of the Chickasaw Nation returned to Alabama to check on the graves of Grandfathers buried near the

Tennessee River. We were able to be assistance to them in that matter. And so, for a moment, we have their ear. This is what I would like to say.

In the Bankhead National Forest are trees whose roots have been nourished by the blood of your Grandfathers, by the bones of men who died fighting for their families and their homes. There is a battle going on in the Bankhead Forest today. The battle is being fought to protect those trees and those graves. I wonder if the Chickasaw Nation would help guard the Ridge Path again?



NATIONAL FOREST NEWS

HAPPENINGS ABOUT ALABAMA'S GREAT PUBLIC LANDS

BARTRAM TRAIL DAMAGED

The nationally famous William Bartram Trail in the Tuskegee National Forest has been damaged by a logging operation. What? No buffer zone? This is standard operating procedure for the National Forests in Alabama.

A prime example is the ringing of the Sipsey Wilderness in Bankhead with cuts right up to the line. The most recent violation of ethics is the "soon to be" scalp job on the rim of Parker Canyon. Although the seedtree clearcut is not in the Wilderness, it will degrade the Wilderness with visual ugliness and violate the Endangered Species Act with silt that is going to go into Parker Canyon and on into Hubbard/Sipse, the home of federally protected endangered mussels. The US Forest Service is about to go to court to decide if the agency is in violation of laws.

BEAR SKINNED OUT IN BANKHEAD

Yep, that's right. No mistake. The beautiful Bear Creek has been clearcut from FS Road 203 nearly a mile around the mountainside on its east bank. The clearcut runs slap up to the roadside. This scenic clearcut is about a mile north of the FS 203 junction with FS 213. A big new clearcut also has been made on the west side of the stream also. The history of visual quality in the Bankhead is a blemish on the entire south 25% of Lawrence County, within which is the Bankhead. New clearcuts include the very north slope of the mountains overlooking Mt. Hope, Landersville and the Moulton Valley. More are scheduled for every year.

MONITOR MEMBER JOINS WATERSHED PROJECT

Flint Creek originates in the Bankhead Forest on the north slopes of the High Town Path and flows into the Tennessee River at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge. Although, the stream is very unpolluted as it passes out of the forest, it is heavily polluted as it winds through the farmlands. Our group is learning to take water samples in order to get bottles of the liquid mud that comes off every new seedtree clearcut in Bankhead and runs into the streams. We intend to have hard evidence of sediment pollution as well as US Forest Service records and estimates of sediment discharged into the bottoms of Brushy, Capsey, Brown, Rush, Inman, Sipsey, Borden, Flannigan, and numerous other creeks. The muddy water

with the suspended solids is called turbidity. We have also installed sediment columns in the stream bottoms below the latest and greatest clearcuts. What a coincidence that one of our legal councilors name is Mudd. Come on rains. Which brings me to the news flash that I almost forgot.....

MONITOR FILES NOTICE OF SUIT!

For almost two years now we have been asking the USFS to obey the law. They refused. Now we must ask a federal judge to order them to obey the law. We are suing them for violations of the Endangered Species Act, the Wilderness Act, the National Historical Protection Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Multiple Use Act and perhaps a dozen more. Stay tuned for the LITIGATION WARS.

FORESTRY EXHIBIT AT FREE STATE OF WINSTON - MONITOR EDITOR INSULTED.

The Free State of Winston is an annual event that thousands of people visit. The Monitor had their exhibit set up. The editor, Lamar Marshall and Darryl Patton, herb doctor from Lookout Mountain wanted to visit the forestry exhibit at the American Legion hall in Double Springs. "I spend much of my time reading the latest college textbooks on silviculture, dendrology and forestry. said Marshall. "Why? Because I come from a long line of loggers. I'm from a long line of mountain people. The sound of a fine tuned chainsaw is like music in my ears." Marshall and Patton went from exhibit to exhibit until verbally attacked by a retired forester named Gordon White, who loudly accused Marshall of publishing lies. Patton and Marshall decided that the forestry exhibit wasn't really open to everybody and left.

Next, White, who evidently doesn't believe in the right of free speech and equal time, wrote letters to an educational center where both his and Marshall's group was scheduled to speak to a forestry workshop. He asked the directors to kick the Monitor off of the agenda.

"That was not nice", Marshall said. "We believe in the right for all sides to present their beliefs. That is what makes our democracy work. If the public only gets the dictates of one party or man, then we run the risk of falling into a dictatorship. I believe that everybody saw through the thin film of "Whitewash".

(retired), PO Box 219, Brooklyn, MS 39425. This gentleman knows the military and is leading the fight to save the wildlife refuge.

TURTLE CLAN DRUMS IN KINLOCK CATHEDRAL

The Council of the Inner Circle of 12 met in the ancient center of the forest to officially launch the next stage of the War For the Bankhead. Ray Vaughan, one of four attorneys employed to represent the people of Alabama in defending their public lands attended.

Is the Bankhead Monitor militant? Only in the sense that a fight is brewing. The weapons? Only the letter of the law. The enemy? The governmental policy that is killing the ecosystem of the Black Warrior Mountains.

COURT BLOCKS EVEN-AGE TIMBER SALES IN TEXAS

Federal Judge Robert Parker has preliminarily enjoined the Forest Service from further even-aged timber sales in the four national forests in Texas, because of Forest Service violations of the National Forest Management Act's requirements as to biodiversity and clearcutting, seedtree, and shelterwood logging.

This is the first such ruling since enactment of the National Forest Management Act in 1976.

Judge Parker found that the Forest Service prescribes even-age management in more than 90 % of its sales, making even-age the rule, in violation of NFMA direction to make it the exception.

Judge Parker found that NFMA requirements are not merely procedural, as the Dept. of Justice argued on behalf of the Forest Service, but are also substantive, particularly in Sect. 6(g)(3)(F)(v), insuring that even-age practices are carried out " only in a manner consistent with the protection of soil, watershed, fish, wildlife, and aesthetic resources, and the regeneration of the timber resources."

This decision will certainly have an impact on the disastrous management of Alabama's national forests which are managed under one system - even-aged management (clearcutting and variants).

DESOTO NATIONAL FOREST UNDER SIEGE IN MISSISSIPPI.

The oldest wildlife area in Mississippi's DeSoto National Forest could be taken over by the National Guard Camp Shelby and converted into tank training grounds. This refuge contains 41,000 acres of diverse, naturally regenerated second-growth forests, protected species of plants and animals, highly erodible soils and numerous streams.

This unnecessary military expansion would clearcut 22,000 acres of forests which just happen to be close to paper mill. Contact Lt.Colonel Walter Denton,

FOREST SERVICE SENDS MONEY TO THE BANKHEAD

After decades of nothing for the Northern Bankhead the Forest Service is attempting to funnel money into projects to pacify the people of Lawrence County and surrounding areas.

This comes after residents calling on their congressmen for a congressional investigation of FS activities, the Indian Tomb Hollow fiasco, and now a lawsuit over the destructive practices carried out by the Forest Service.

Close to a million dollars is included in the 1994 Interior Appropriations Bill coming to build horse trails and a four mile trail in the Sipsey Wilderness. According to a report in the Moulton Advertiser by Steve Oden, \$979,000 was asked for by Congressman Tom Bevill in a package that also included \$7 million dollars for Little River Canyon Preserve in NE Alabama.

" These funds will be used primarily in Lawrence County to construct new trails for horseback riding and hiking, and to rehabilitate existing trails. Part of the funding will also be used for roadwork," said Bevill. " There has been a tremendous demand for trail use in the Bankhead," he added. " The new and improved trails should enhance public enjoyment of the national forest."

Congressman Bevill was contacted by Greg Preston, the Monitor Special Projects Committee head, recently requesting help in protecting the corridor of the proposed Warrior Mountains Trail. This trail would run east west across the Bankhead. Congressman Bevill informed the Monitor that he would bring the proposal before the Forest Supervisor John Yancy. However, he said, " The final decision would be left up to the experts in the Forest Service."

When the trail proposal was brought before Yancy, he said that the issue was too large for him to act upon. We should submit a proposal to the amending proceedings of the Forest Plan of Alabama which will begin this summer.

The Multiple Use Act states that unique or potential recreational areas must be protected until the time of development or designation, but the Forest Service refuses to protect the Warrior Mountains Trail corridor because it wants to cut out the timber, thereby ruining the scenic canyons along the trail for decades and it's ecosystem for centuries.

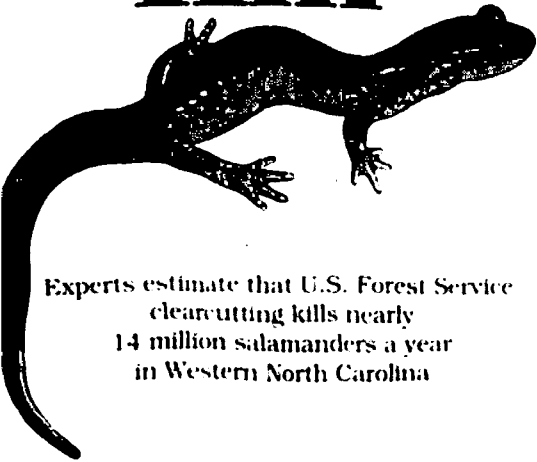
The real issues of the concerned residents of North Alabama are not going to be resolved by a few miles

...ains and 4 new miles of Sipsey Wilderness
il. It is a good start however.

NATION WIDE FIGHT TO SAVE THE FORESTS

National forests of Alabama are not the only imperiled forests in the US. This summer, the monitor team went to Kentucky to see what was happening in other national forests. The Seventh Annual Pow Wow was held in Daniel Boone National Forest. Hundreds of forest fighters from across the country attended. There was little leisure as the 3 days was jam-packed with classes on everything from bio-diversity to the legality of clear-cutting. It was sponsored by Heartwood this year. It was begun by the Forest Reform Network from which Ned Fritz is the coordinator. Also in force was Save America's Forests and dozens of other grass-roots groups just like you.

Clearcuts Kill



Experts estimate that U.S. Forest Service clearcutting kills nearly 14 million salamanders a year in Western North Carolina

Western North Carolina Alliance

POW WOW TEE SHIRT

CHATTAHOOCIE COUNTY COALITION TO SAVE THE FORESTS HALTS LOGGING IN GEORGIA

Press 4/9/93

Alexander, who heads up this citizens group in Chattahoochie National Forest, obtained a court order which maintains that the US Forest Service illegally sold and clear-cut trees on national forest land in Georgia without conducting "proper environmental procedures." The order may stop logging in the area for six months to a year and could force the US to "always complete" environmental assessments before logging.

LAWSUIT FILED IN TENNESSEE AGAINST US

The Forest Service is being sued in Tennessee over alleged violations of the National Forest Management Act of 1976 by allowing roadbuilding and clearcutting that would degrade 62% of the forest's aesthetic resources; altering habitat of area flora and fauna, despite an NFMA charge to protect biodiversity; adversely affecting the areas recreational value and providing below-cost timber sales in contrast with the limited below-cost sales intended by the

BANKHEAD ALMOST GETS BLACK BEAR

A black bear captured in Birmingham was first reported to be released in the Bankhead Forest but instead, Wildlife officials have decided to ship the Bear to Tennessee. The black bear were once numerous in Bankhead until killed off by encroaching settlers who loved bear meat and used the lard similarly as one would a hog.

RAINBOW FAMILY VISITS BANKHEAD

A scouting party for the Rainbow Family held a spring scouting campout in order to find a place for the National Gathering which could muster 20,000 from all across the nation.

Instead, the Gathering was held in Talladega National Forest with only about a quarter of the usual number attending. One reason given was the fear of inhospitality by rural southerners.

The question of environmental impact was a concern in Bankhead. Twenty thousand or even five thousand from any group, even a Sunday school class, could result in crushing rare plants.

There are some very good national forest areas across the nation that have several square miles of open land that will better serve such an event.

ALABAMA'S GREATEST FORESTER?

Alabama is blessed with a man who realizes that the majority of peoples of Alabama want their public lands managed differently today than in the past. His name is John Yancy. He is the epitome of a southern gentleman. He is diplomatic, intelligent and progressive in the sense of future trends.

Recently, he made a speech at Auburn University. The following is the abstract taken from a pamphlet announcing the program:

"Public Forestry is being challenged by individuals who believe foresters are placing too much emphasis on "Caring for the land" and not much value on "Serving the people".

Special interest groups are actively recruiting local and national community leaders with excellent public relations skills to challenge foresters on their stewardship of public forests. Many of these

Individuals are expert in using emotions to gain public support. Public foresters are finding it difficult to win many head-on debates because of the conflicting nature of the resources we manage-- recreation vs. Timber; Range vs. Water; Timber vs. Wilderness; etc. Public foresters are also handicapped by being too slow to realize that good science and maximizing dollars is no longer what our public wants from their public lands. The Forestry profession can move forward; but we must develop new philosophies and methods of management. Because all things are always changing, the profession cannot remain the same and still provide proper stewardship of public forest lands."

THE MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT

The history of the decline of the songbird populations in our area must not omit the history of USFS management practices in the Bankhead National Forest. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act states that it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means, or in any manner, to...kill....any migratory bird, any part, nest, or egg of any such bird. 16 USC 703

The common practice in the Bankhead has been to spray poisonous hexazinone from a sprayer that covers the land like a fire truck hose with a finer stream. This indiscriminately saturates all forms of wildlife in the area. Baby birds and eggs cannot get away. This poisoning is carried on in the nesting season of birds.

The Audubon Society has been contacted in order to put monitoring surveillance personnel in the field behind USFS spraying operations. Injured wildlife and nesting birds will be filmed and documented in order to seek litigation against any offender.

This practice has been and is illegal. Until recently, the Forest Service has not had the public eye focused on its every move in the Bankhead and the other national forests of Alabama.

WANTED ! INFORMATION ON VIOLATIONS.

The Bankhead Monitor is seeking information on the following:

Evidence of Forest Service destruction of archaeological or historical sites by any form of activity. This includes clearcutting bluff shelters where Indians may have lived.

Evidence of any other violations of any kind that may be useful in a federal lawsuit.

The names of any persons with information will be held in strict confidence. Also, anonymous tips that we can investigate ourselves will be helpful.

BLACK CAT FILMED IN BANKHEAD VICINITY

A black cat of very large proportions was videotaped in the vicinity of the Bankhead National Forest. While state wildlife officials deny *the existence* of such a beast, five individuals including the editor of the Bankhead Monitor saw it personally.

A local family first spotted the black cat with a long black tail in the edge of a pasture. The entire family watched it. Several days later it returned. This time the wife grabbed the video camera and began videoing as she walked across the 130 yards toward the leopard(?). The video is several minutes long. A month later, the editor of the Monitor viewed the video. There was no doubt that whatever was in the photo was not canine as it has a slim, black tail three feet long and probably weighed 80 to 100 pounds. It was absolutely not a housecat.

As the editor and Greg Preston were heading for the Forest anyway, they decided to visit the site and just look around for tracks or sign. They parked by a building and while Marshall loaded his camera, Greg and a friend walked up onto a porch. They excitedly called to Marshall that they saw it. The editor loaded his camera and walked toward the field.

Sure enough, there, just over a hundred yards was a black panther/leopard(?). It was stalking around the edge of a field. It was large. Not a coyote. Not a housecat. But an animal that one would expect to see in a zoo. "I stalked across the field trying to get that proving-to-the-world shot. But it was not meant to happen. The grass was higher now than the month before when the first video was made. The cat would move a few yards and crouch down in the grass. Eighty yards; fifty yards; thirty yards and the cat was looking straight at me. Suddenly, he turned and in one one leopardedly leap, gracefully vanished into the swamp." Marshall said. "I have been on the trail of native animals for twenty five years; had a lot of experience with bobcats up to thirty five pounds, but never seen anything like this," he said. It is possible the animal is an escaped pet, or zoo animal. It is also possible that a pair of such animals are breeding and populating the woods with a new predator.

The video was viewed by Ron Eakes and Randal Blocker of the Ala. Dept. of Conservation. At the time Eakes stated that the cat weighed over a hundred pounds and was probably a leopard. When the Decatur Daily did an article later, he stated that it could be a housecat.

You have to watch that professional image, you know.

EUTHANASIAN RANGERS

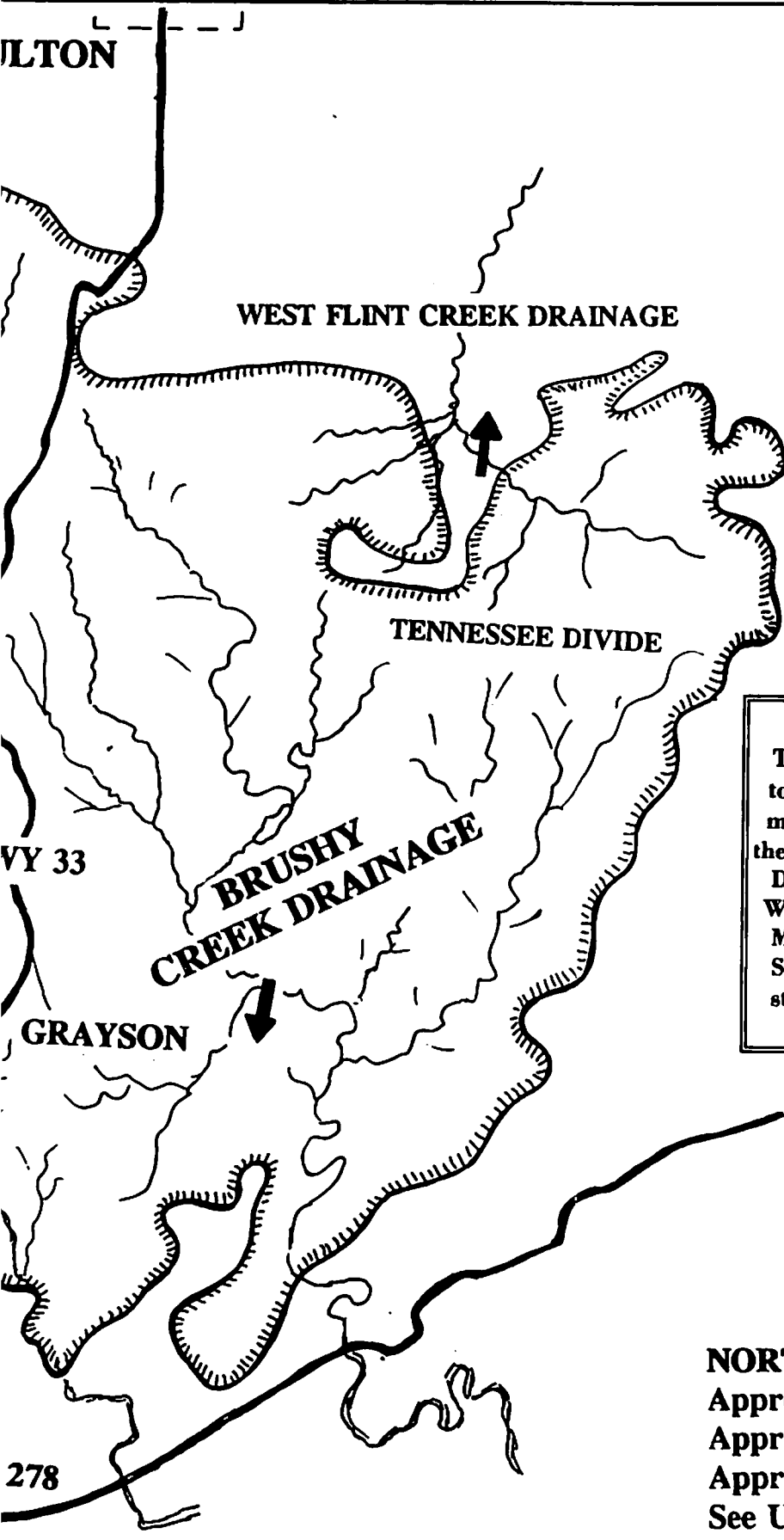
The USFS is practicing medicine without a license. Euthanasia has become an excepted practice in the medieval practice of silviculture in the Bankhead. The older generation of hardwood trees are growing on pine sites and hardwood genocide is the daily prescription. One hundred year old trees that would live to 400 years are being cut down in the prime of life in the name of the Official Land and Resource Management Plan that was designed to turn your Alabama National Forests into Federal Tree Farms. To make room for the new genetically superior test tube unnatural pine trees, the old folks must be done away with. May swarms of pine beetles crawl in their ears.



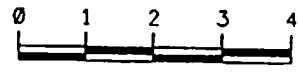
PUBLIC TREE ON DEATH ROW
GOODBYE, OLD FRIEND, HOW MANY TIMES YOU HAVE SERVED US AS THE GREAT OAK TRAIL MARKER TREE ON OUR PATH INTO PARKER CANYON. NOW YOU MUST SUFFER DEATH BY INJECTION AT THE HAND OF THE FOREST KILLERS!







N



SCALE OF MILES

MUSSELS !

The Bankhead Forest is home to several rare and endangered mussels. Shown across page is the Orange-nacre mucket and the Dark pigtoe. Above is Butch Walker - Aquatic Biologist and Mel Warren of the US Forest Service. The Forest Service is studying the mussels. We met their team on Rush Creek.

NORTHERN BANKHEAD

Approx. 150,000 acres
 Approx. 247 sq. miles
 Approx. 400 miles of canyons
 See USFS map for details.
 Note: Some private tracts lie within these boundaries.

**NORTHERN BANKHEAD
 BULK OF PUBLIC LANDS**

THE PEOPLE SPEAK

LETTERS FROM THOSE OF WHOM THE FOREST SERVICE IS SUPPOSED TO SERVE

A LESSON FROM THE GERMANS

Bankhead Monitor,

I am writing to you because of my recent visit to Bankhead. I'm very concerned over the clearcutting issue and the very poor management by the forestry service.

I would like to start by going back to my youth and what the Bankhead forest has meant to me. My Grandfather (Travis Armstrong) and many of my aunts, uncles, and cousins lived in both Lawrence and Winston Counties of Bankhead. I resided most of my life in Moulton, down in the valley. I remember driving through Bankhead in my father's (Hollis Armstrong) '56 Ford and lying in the back windows watching the moon following me. It felt as though the moon had chosen me and me only to follow. I've always felt an almost sacred feeling, a pull toward Bankhead. It was like ancestors of many years past were calling me to this place...for what I never knew. My Grandfather, as many will agree, was one of the best woodsman and hunters that ever roamed the hills and hollows of Bankhead. He seemed to know ever tree in the forest and could walk 10 to 20 miles a day hunting with little to no effort. He taught me many things about the forest but most important he taught me to respect the forest and its past, present and future.

I left Alabama in 1985 when I joined the U.S. Army and was stationed in Ft. Hood, Texas for 18 months. I longed to see a tree that one could walk under. I took it for granted for all those years that trees would always be there. Now I was in an area where the trees were no more than bushes that get 20 ft. in height--Ha! HA!

I was then sent to Muenster, West Germany. It was a small spot in the middle of a patch of woods. Many people and I always thought of Germans as a bunch of Nazis who wanted communism spread across the world. Well, West Germany has been democratic for decades and their lives are very much the same as ours. Many of the European countries are very similar to our own in many ways.

I married a German lady in 1991 and have learned much from her and her family. Her views on the land, nature, and the preservation of the land is much more present there than that of many Americans. Germans saw in the beginning of their democracy after WWII that if they didn't start making laws restricting certain growth, that their cultures as they knew them would be gone within 50 to 100 years as history dictates.

When I first arrived in Germany I didn't understand how people could live in a country that was so restrictive. I was used to the freedom of North Alabama that I was raised in. After meeting my wife (Elli) and her family I began to understand. With the land mass the size of Oregon and 10 times as many people they have to be restrictive in order to preserve the many cultures in such a small area. For instance...the land is zoned for housing, agriculture, industry, wildlife and game areas. My father-in-law owns several tracts of land on hillsides and one plot in their village. His home is built in the village because he couldn't build one on the hillside land. Why? you may ask. Well, because this area is known for its sheep, cheese, and wine and building a house on the side of the hill would take away from the culture that has been there for centuries. So he puts his sheep on the hill. Its wasn't hard for him to do this because that's the way it has always been.

As I traveled through Switzerland, France, Spain, Germany, and Austria one thing that amazed me was that in 80% of the places I visited it seemed as though I was going back in time. In many instances the only signs of modernization was electricity and automobiles. Much of the way of life is in the way it was hundreds of years ago.

It is not my suggestion for us to restrict everyone from their freedoms, but to think before we act. In Germany the forestry service provides natural resources without destroying nature. Their main concern is preserving the resources not for another 20 years, but forever. Only certain trees are cut and many trees are being planted. I never actually saw cut sights because

they are non-existent. They extract trees from the forest, but only a few in each area. They never clearcut.

I challenge Alabamians to look at what they have and examine what's going to be there for their grandchildren. Don't sit in your homes watching cable T.V. Don't educate your children only in computer technology, but in your homeland, your culture, your heritage. If we don't start now our children won't know to start later. Even though I now reside in North Carolina I'm still very concerned about my homeland, Bankhead. I want to be able to bring my children back to God's country as I once knew it. Please take a look at who you are, who you were, and who you are going to be. Get emotional and respond. I know it seems we don't have any say-so in our government now-a-days, but its only because we choose not to speak-out.

Thank you,

Hollis D. Armstrong

GIVE BANKHEAD BACK TO THE INDIANS

May 24, 1993

Dear Mr. Marshall, I am writing regarding the destroying of the Bankhead Forest. I think it is time for America to admit their true mistakes. Christopher Columbus did not discover America. The Indians were already here. The white man hurt the Indians more than enough. When they ran them off and kept only one promise and that was to take their land. But it seems they can't let bad enough alone. Now, they want to destroy their Heritage. To destroy their heritage is the last thing the white man can do to them. I feel , if anyone owes anybody anything. They owe it to the Indians. I am not a prejudiced person. But I feel certain nationalities can get anything they want from the government. But, what do the Indians get? Nothing. And they ask for nothing. Except to be left alone. Certain nationalities should be glad they were brought to America. I'm sure they wouldn't want to trade places with their brothers, not knowing from where and when the next meal was coming. I believe if the Government owns most of the Bankhead land, instead of selling it cheap, they ought to give it back to the Indians. That is the only right thing to do.

Judy Williams - Sanchez

ALABAMIANS MUST FIGHT FOR THE CLEAN ENVIRONMENT THAT THEY REMEMBER

excerpt from The Birmingham News 6/10/93
editorial by Pat Byington

In Alabama we are slowly losing our natural beauty through pollution, poor planning, and thoughtlessness. More and more, as I travel across the state for the Alabama Conservancy, I meet everyday people with stories of personal loss and downright despair concerning Alabama's vanishing natural heritage. Their stories always begin with the simple statement, " I remember when..." Stories such as: " I remember when we had more than 20 shellfish beds in Mobile Bay. Today most, if not all, are gone." " I remember when the Cahaba River was filled with magnificent stands of Cahaba lilies, unlike the secluded patches of lilies today." "I remember when my church could baptize in that creek, but today we cannot because the water pollution burns our skin."

"I remember when a forest was a forest, not a tree farm."

Challenged by these memories, all citizens of Alabama should fight for their right to a clean and healthy environment. The prescription to Alabama's environmental woes is obvious. We need innovative programs, enforcement of current laws, education and the political and moral courage to defend and protect our environment. If we fail to meet these upcoming challenges and to provide a vision for Alabama's natural heritage, we will only leave a hollow, sterile shell and remnants of what was once Alabama the beautiful.

Pat Byington, executive director of The Alabama Conservancy.

THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SAVE THE BANKHEAD FUND!

Many thanks to each and every one of you that have given to the Save The Bankhead Fund. I ought to write individual letters of each of you but we need every penny to go for litigation and every minute of time to go toward preparing the case. This involves field work to collect evidence and research. We will also have to go the District Headquarters and go through about 10 years of public records of silvicultural prescriptions. We have a registry for the Turtle Clan and your names are in it. The necklaces are almost complete and will be mailed shortly.

I am running behind on the Eco-Warrior cards but if you have subscribed in this category, you are in the Registry of Eco-Warriors and I will get you card to you soon.

Also, we have the first three issues of the Bankhead on the slate. All of you who have ordered these issues will get them.

We are looking at an office building and full time employment for the Bankhead Monitor. We have dedicated people who intend to fight for our forests for the rest of their lives.

You, who are standing up for your forests will go down in history as some of the last twentieth century warriors fighting for the last wild places. Thank you for your support.

Lamar Marshall



ECOWARRIOR

Presented in recognition of significant support in the crusade to protect the old-growth, the beauty and integrity of Bankhead National Forest from the ravages of clearcutting, poisons, and conversion by the Forest Killers.

Warrior: _____
By Lamar Marshall - The Bankhead Monitor



3 YEAR OLD TREE!

36" DIA. TREE GROWN IN ONLY 3 YEARS WITH OUR AMAZING NEW GENETICALLY SUPERIOR SEEDLINGS. IMAGINE ROTATIONS OF ONLY 3 YEARS.

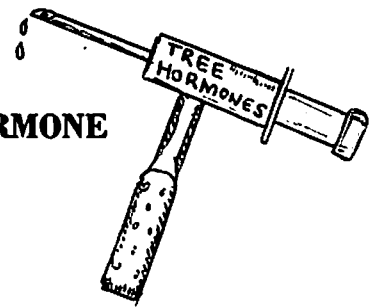
24

THIS TREE WAS ONLY 3 YEARS OLD WHEN CUT. HOW CAN THIS BE? WITH OUR NEW GENETICALLY SUPERIOR TULIP PINE SEEDLINGS YOU CAN PRODUCE YOUR OWN OLD-GROWTH FOREST ON YOUR OWN LAND IN A MATTER OF MONTHS. PURCHASE 5 THOUSAND OF THESE TEST TUBE BABIES AND WE'LL THROW IN A PAIR OF OREGON N.W. SPOTTED OWLS!

contact: Alabama Farcetree Supply

DON'T SETTLE FOR A MERE 36" DIA. TULIP PINE IN 3 YEARS WHEN YOU CAN GROW A 72" DIA. TREE IN 3 YEARS OR A 36" DIA. TREE IN ONLY 18 MONTHS WITH:

OUR NEW HYPO-HORMONE HAMMER



Contact:
ALABAMA FARCETREE SUPPLY

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LOGGING - A PROUD TRADITION OF BANKEAD COUNTRY.

THE BANKHEAD MONITOR SALUTES THE INDEPENDENT LOGGERS AND SMALL BUSINESSMEN

If there is one fiercely independent kind of woodsman left in the south today, it is the family and small time logger who cuts timber for a living. I, myself, come from a long line of logging people. My granddaddy used to tell me how he and his brothers and daddy went into the woods each day to cut timber. Of course, in those days, mules were still used.

Much of what I know about the woods and the Bankhead country I learned from foresters and loggers. When I was a teenager, there was a cutter I knew who would saw with one hand holding his chainsaw while he smoked a cigarette with the other. Not a practice that I recommend but he was a master at laying trees just where he wanted them. His mind could calculate the wind, the heavy side of the tree canopy, and the lean all at one time and drop the tree in a narrow space between other trees so it wouldn't hang up.

When I moved into the woods and lived without electricity for 5 years, I burned only wood for heat. In fact, I had no other heat source for 9 years straight. I learned many valuable lessons from loggers. They taught me what kind of saw to buy, how to keep the chain sharp, and how not to cut my leg off.

I watched them work and soon realized that the work of a logger was men's work. Heavy, hard, dirty and sweaty in the July and August ovens of Alabama woods. There were bugs and breakdowns and weeks at a time when the woods were too wet to work. I envied their freedom but not the hard work.

Today, many free lance loggers own their own machines. They are expensive to buy and to maintain. The skidder that puts food on the family table and gas in the car is a necessity of life. It is as vital to him as the truck is to a trucker that brings groceries to your local store.

Loggers make their living in the Bankhead forest by purchasing tracts of timber that the US Forest Ser

vice has sold to them. With 60,000 acres of pines on the ridges of the Bankhead, the present generation of loggers can cut them out in the coming years as the Bankhead Forest is restored to its native condition and will allow the forest to return to its former domination by hardwoods.

SOME THINGS I LEARNED FROM LOGGERS.

Chainsaws are dangerous. I know of several people killed by carelessness. One man in Birmingham bought a chainsaw and let it kick up and strike his jugular vein. He is no longer in the world of the living.

Another incident was the death of a teenage boy's little brother whom he didn't know had walked close behind him. The youngster bled to death from a cut vein in his leg.

Experienced loggers know how to stay alive in a dangerous business. You can begin to learn chainsaw safety from a good timber cutter.

MY FIRST LOAD OF FIREWOOD

When I first got married and moved to a farm in the country, I installed an Ashley wood heater. Coming home from work one day I spied a huge truckload of 2 foot long seasoned logs that someone had dumped beside the road. Some were 3 feet thick in diameter. I got my truck and drove back, I had to roll the heavy logs up a ramp to load. It took several hours to get the wood back to my yard.

I proudly got my "bustin" maul out and bore down on the first section. It didn't split. In fact, the maul bounced off. I tried again and again. I noticed the elderly Mr. Cox from next door walking up. He was a logger from way back. He laughed from ten feet away. "Son, you ain't never gonna bust that sweetgum." I learned about splitting sweetgum. It doesn't.

THE DULL SAW

Another valuable lesson I learned was not to let your running saw get into the dirt. I always heard that a

little dirt wouldn't hurt anything. The same blade that would slice through a tree like hot butter one minute stopped cutting and began to smoke from overheating. My saw was whining away when two cutters working across my field came over. They could tell by the sound that the saw was dull. They proceeded to teach me how to sharpen the teeth with a rattail file. Of course, when they did it it worked like a charm. When I tried it, I got one side filed different from the other and the saw wouldn't saw straight. Many hours of practice are required to learn this skill.

SAGA OF THE SEED TICKS

Then there was the time that I got mixed up in a dense thicket of laurel on a Bankhead bluff. To make matters worse, the car got lost. I made it out of the forest at last light.

I was so tired that I fell asleep without a bath. When I woke up the next morning, I was greeted with over 200 large welts from my ankles up. The worst itching I had ever experienced began. As I have had intimate relationships with poison ivy and oak, chiggers, and large ticks, I couldn't figure out what this curse was.

I went to the doctor. He didn't know. The nurse guessed fire ants. I think I would have known if I'd been bitten 200 times by fire ants.

I stopped by my neighbors house on the way home. He was a pulpwood cutter by trade. I showed him my legs and he said " Seed ticks. My hunting buddy gets em every time we fall hunt the Bankhead."



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INDIAN ROOTS

FAMILY HISTORY RUNS BACK TO THE DAYS OF THE RED ONES

Desperately holding his unconscious brother's head above the water with one hand, he fought off the attacking indians.

J.V. Strickland lives at the foot of the Black Warrior Mountains near Speake community in Lawrence County. He is the descendant of Indians who were removed around 1838 at the time of the Trail of Tears. His family passed down the family history that he passes along to us, the "Keepers of the Warrior Mountains". Although, his red ancestors lived in this area for many centuries, his historical beginning is in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where his great grandpa Strickland married a Cherokee Indian who had the white name of Betty Nelson. Then they went to Blanchard Springs in Union County, Arkansas.

The family believes his name was Tom. Betty had two Indian brothers named Mon (short for Monroe?) and Hun.

Evidently Betty was born somewhere around 1840 since she had a daughter named Mary born in 1866. Mary was J.V.'s grandmother on his mothers side. Betty also had a son named George who was born in 1856. George's son, James Alonzo, married George's sister's (Mary) daughter, Rosie Tingle. This was a first cousin marriage and not uncommon in the old days. These were the parents of J.V. Strickland, who was born April 6th, 1931.

The migration date of the Strickland family back to Alabama was before 1858 as Betty Nelson Strickland bore at least one child, James (Uncle Jimmie) in Blount County, Alabama. A paper trail shows that Uncle Jimmie was in DeKalb County in 1895 and moved to Alabama City with five children where he worked in a cotton mill.

In 1906 he moved to the Mountain Home community in Lawrence County. He bought 120 acres for \$480.00.

It was in route back to this state that family traditions says the family was attacked by Chickasaw Indians. The family was traveling with several wagons when they came to a stream. There was a foot bridge that the women and children could cross on, but the cattle and wagons had to cross in the shallow ford.

Somehow, the Stricklands knew that there were Chickasaws on the opposite side that didn't seem any too friendly. They began crossing. The Chicasaws

attacked them in the creek. Uncle Hun was hit in the head with a tomahawk and knocked unconscious. Indians were fighting Indians. Uncle Mon grabbed his brother by the hair and held his head above water while he fought off the attackers with the other. They survived to make their way into Alabama.



BETTY NELSON



J.V. STRICKLAND

FORESTER'S FORUM

TREE TROUBLES: A GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE FOR FORESTERS

by V. Alaric Sample, Vice President for Research, American Forestry Association

(*Trilogy* Mar./Apr. 92, pp. 90-91)

There is a global climate change affecting forests and forestry, one that has little to do with the global warming. Important changes are taking place at a rapid rate in the social, economic, and political environment in which forestry professionals operate.

Jessica Tuchman Mathews, writing in a recent issue of *Foreign Affairs*, tells us that international security will soon be defined as much by natural resources and environmental protection issues as by concerns for military and strategic defense. This prediction is coming true faster than even Mathews foresaw.

Against this backdrop, many in the forestry profession continue to rail at "the environmentalists" for forcing adjustments in our livelihoods and communities so that certain plant or animal species can have a fighting chance to survive despite another generation of humanity. but who among us really believes that the sustained and global changes we see in people's values and perceptions are the work of a few shrewd public-relations experts at the Sierra Club or the Wilderness Society? Such groups have merely tapped into a growing shift in society's collective consciousness and articulated it in a number of specific policy issues.

Fundamental concepts of conservation are being redefined. Existing concepts of sustained-yield and multiple-use are regarded as still necessary but no longer sufficient to protect the full range of resource values or maintain stable rural economies. Sustainable development, the watchword of natural-resource management in the '90s, is defined in terms of maximizing current resource use, but not beyond the point at which future options will be reduced. Future generations should have as many options as we have today. Those include the chance to enjoy clean air and clean water and to share the earth with the full diversity of species that have so far survived human civilization.

Foresters can play a role in this redefinition, but it will call for a broadening in their perception of

themselves and of the resources they are charged to manage and protect. The National Research Council recently assembled a committee of eminent natural scientists from universities and other research organizations around the country. In its report, "Forestry Research: A Mandate for Change," the committee called for a fundamental redefinition of forest science. The report's central recommendation was to broaden forestry research from the agricultural model of improving the production of commodity to one of gaining a better understanding of the functioning of healthy forest ecosystems -- what the report termed an "environmental paradigm." This term alone, however, was enough to elicit a negative response from an influential portion of the forestry profession, which somewhere along the line seems to have defined anyone or anything with the word "environmental" in it the enemy.

If this attitude continues, foresters will see their role as the nation's foremost conservationists continue to erode in the view of the broader public. The tide of change will wash over the forestry profession and render it irrelevant. The fate of the Communist party leaders in eastern Europe may hold some interesting lessons in this regard. Those who acknowledged their shortcomings in the face of popular demand for change still have some role in their nations' governments. Those who refused to make the necessary changes find themselves discredited, dismissed, or worse.

Forests, both public and private, will be looked to increasingly to serve as the focus of stable, sustainable economies, in developing countries but also in rural America. If they are to measure up to that goal, they must be viewed as more than just extractive reserves. Forests will serve an increasing array of public uses and industries, including but not limited to subsistence use, watershed protection, habitat for endangered plant and animal species, protection of air and water quality, recreation and tourism. In many regions of developed nations, forests will

grow in importance as a quality-of-life component to attract and keep high-quality labor to service the needs of a wide variety of advanced industrial manufacturers and services. Issues such as the concern for biological diversity and endangered species have potentially greater impacts on forest management in the U.S. in the 1990s than the wilderness issue had in the 1970s and '80s. Biological diversity is not a surrogate for wilderness setasides. Biological diversity needs and objectives clearly cannot be met by the existing -- or any conceivable -- system of wilderness preserves. This fact implies that substantial changes will be made in the way we manage forest lands that will never be wilderness but will have to meet needs for important ecological and environmental values as well as our needs for wood products and other extractive uses.

Foresters would do well to remember their roots. Dramatic changes in social values and attitudes about our relationship to the land and its natural resources a century ago are what gave rise to American forestry in the first place. If today's forestry institutions focus on serving themselves rather than the public they were created to serve, they will slide into eclipse and new institutions will arise to fill the vacuum in conservation leadership.

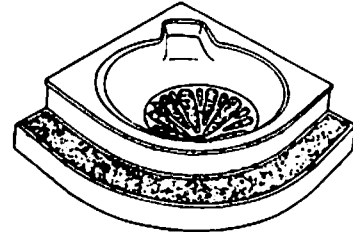
The members, board of directors, and staff of the American Forestry Association have rededicated themselves to staying in the forefront of conservation leadership in these changing times. As the oldest national citizen conservation organization in the U.S., AFA played a central role during the late 19th century in ushering in the first great era of conservation in this country. The concepts of managing for sustained yield and protecting the long-term productivity of soil and water resources were revolutionary ideas at the time. Before long, they were accepted as conventional wisdom. Now they are evolving to the broader concept of sustainable forest ecosystem management mandated by global needs and all that a century of forest science has taught us.

There is work for many hands. Join us.

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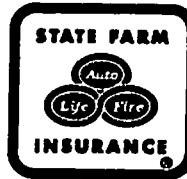
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Tennessee Valley Audubon Society

May 24, 1993

RE: Bankhead National Forest

SUBJ: Proposed spraying and burning

To Whom It May Concern:

The Tennessee Valley Audubon Society wishes to formally protest the use of herbicides and subsequent burning of 43 lots of land in the Bankhead National Forest proposed by Mr. James Ramey. We have read the notice of intent to perform such acts and wish to protest the following:

Any burning and spraying, even manual, select spraying will disturb nesting birds in that area, which is a violation of the Migratory Birds Act. We would prefer that any such acts be performed after nesting and fledging of the birds are complete.

We also protest the general management of the forest in those areas. We have been told by the Forestry Service that there are seedling trees in those areas; if so, then why not let "nature take its course" and let the areas reforest naturally? The Forestry Service may have helped in its destruction, but nature is fully capable of returning to its balanced, natural state without herbicides and burnings.

The Audubon Society is very concerned about the Bankhead National Forest and the rampant clear cutting of its trees. We do not believe that the Forestry Service should engage in cutting trees for profit and exportation to foreign countries; our national forests should not be lumber supermarkets for the rest of the world. They should be for the enjoyment of Americans who appreciate the beauty of an untouched forest, and any transience should come about by a natural course, not assisted by chain saws, bulldozers and Forestry Services concerned with marketable pine lumber.

Sincerely,



Beverly Thomas
President, Tennessee Valley Audubon Society

BORDEN ON HORSES

by Dr. Charles Borden

A lot of exciting things have been happening. The Heart of Dixie 60 mile endurance race in the Bankhead May 22nd was super. The day was sunny with a cool breeze and 23 of the top horses in the Southeast were competing.

My eleven year old daughter, Sommer and I riding Arabians set the pace for the day with Debra

Morisette right on our heels. Several other riders were only minutes behind. The last two miles were completed at a near full gallop as Sommer, Debra and I raced to the finish! Sommer finished first with me second and Debra only a short distance behind!

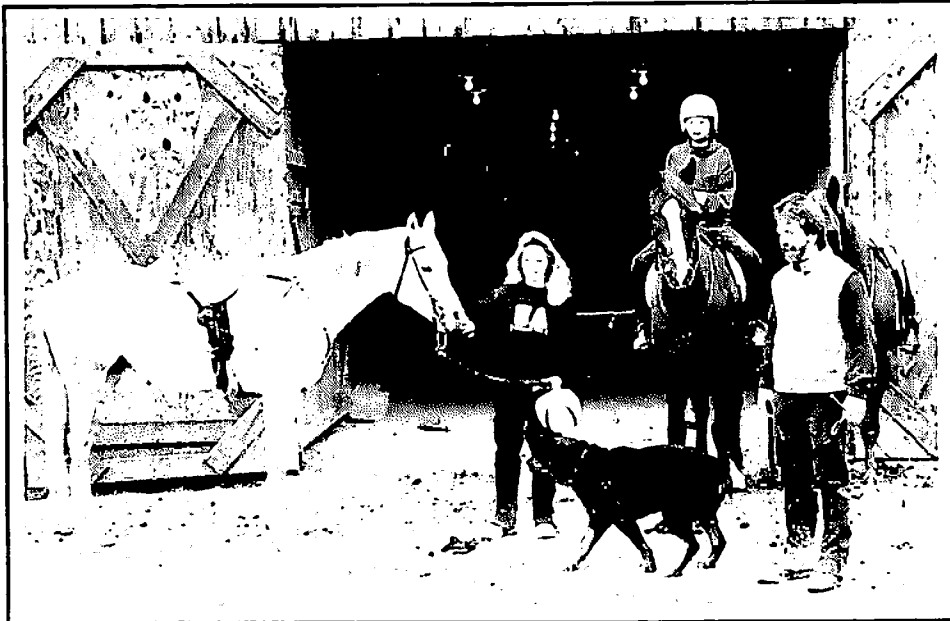
Winning riding time was 4 hours 56 minutes.

Carmen and Roger Blalock deserve a round of thanks for their hard work organizing this race on behalf of the Bankhead Trail Riders Association. All riders had a great time!

In other good news, the B.T.R.A. has been awarded a grant of some \$40,900 in Symms trail funds. This money will be used to expand and improve the existing Owl Creek horse camp plus add another twelve mile loop to the designated horse trail system. Great news from congressman Bevill. Bevill has included nearly a million dollars in a House appropriations bill to fund horse and hiking trail construction in the Bankhead! Passage in the House

seems assured but your help is urgently needed in the Senate. I urge and plead with you to write Senators Heflin and Shelby today to urge them to support congressman Bevills' bill to fund horse and hiking trail construction in the Bankhead National Forest. Immediately contact all of your friends, relatives, plus saddle, wagon, and hiking clubs to

encourage them to write. Mail Bevill a much deserved letter of thanks. This is the greatest opportunity we have ever had to develop a desperately needed comprehensive horse, wagon, and hiking trail system. Much thanks to congressman Bevill for his continuing efforts to promote tourism and recreation in the Bankhead.



SANDI, SOMMER, AND DR. BORDEN PREPARE TO RIDE

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THE SHOT HEARD ROUND THE STATE -

ISSUE No. 1 Fall 91

(PHOTOCOPY, AS WAS THE ORIGINAL)

- ◆ Alabama Chainsaw Massacre - Indian Tomb Hollow
- ◆ Our Vanishing Old-growth Hardwoods
- ◆ Bankhead Plants/Trees
- ◆ Forestspeak Part 1

ISSUE No. 2 Dec./Jan. 91/92

- ◆ Bankhead Gets Death Sentence
- ◆ Clearcut Case Against Clearcutting
- ◆ Bankhead Plants - Bloodroot - Beech Drops
- ◆ Bears and the Bankhead
- ◆ A Bankhead National Park
- ◆ Hemlocks - Redwoods of the Bankhead
- ◆ Guide to Scenic Clearcuts
- ◆ Forestspeak Part two
- ◆ How the Indians Walked
- ◆ Wilderness Shelter
- ◆ Adventures in the Bankhead

ISSUE No. 3 Feb/Mar 92

Black/white Cover Soogahoagdee Falls by Charles Siefried

- ◆ National Recreation Area
- ◆ Canoeing Our Wild and Scenic Sipsey
- ◆ The Forest Killers
- ◆ Bald Eagle In the Bankhead
- ◆ Walking the Sipsey Part 1 by Jim Manasco
- ◆ Early Settlers
- ◆ The Second Battle of Indian Tomb Hollow
- ◆ National Forest News
- ◆ The Herb Doctor of Shinbone Ridge
- ◆ Borden on Horses
- ◆ Guide To Scenic Clearcuts
- ◆ Forestspeak Part 3
- ◆ Woodcraft and Indian Lore
- ◆ People Speak
- ◆ Around the Campfire

ISSUE No. 4 April/May 92

Color Cover Caney Creek Falls by Charles Seifried

- ◆ South Caney Creek Canyon and Falls
- ◆ It's Gone - the Red Cockaded Woodpecker
- ◆ The Forest Killers
- ◆ What the Indians Were Doing Hidden Away in Bankhead
- ◆ Arborglyphs
- ◆ Byler - Oldest State Road
- ◆ Walking Sipsey Part Two

- ◆ Call For Congressional Investigation
- ◆ Borden on Horses
- ◆ Guide to Scenic Clearcuts
- ◆ Forestspeak Part 4
- ◆ Woodcraft and Indian Lore
- ◆ Centerfold Map - Indian Tomb Hollow
- ◆ The Indian Children Speak

ISSUE No. 5 June/July 92

Color Cover Phantom Face Bluff by Charles Siefried

- ◆ Medicine Man Confederate Herbs Part 1
- ◆ National Treasure - Brushy Creek
- ◆ Walking The Sipsey Part 3
- ◆ Wolves in the Bankhead
- ◆ A Forester Speaks
- ◆ Dictionary of the Outdoors
- ◆ Nature's Last Laugh Pine Beetles
- ◆ Centerfold Map - Brushy Creek Canyon
- ◆ Bankhead Caves Clearcut!
- ◆ The Rare Yellow Magnolia
- ◆ A Holy Alliance
- ◆ The Tree Racists
- ◆ Borden On Horses
- ◆ Woodcraft - Make cord from the land
- ◆ Forestspeak Part 5

ISSUE No. 6 Aug/Sept. 92

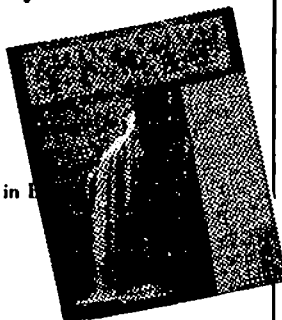
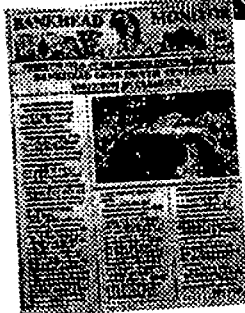
Color Cover Collier Creek Falls by Charles Seifried

- ◆ Forest Service Promises Change with Ecosystem Management
- ◆ Cats of the Bankhead - Black Painters, Cougars and Other Varmints
- ◆ Canoeing Sipsey Part 2 by John Foshee
- ◆ National Forest News
- ◆ Man Killed Chasing A Bear by Ed Herring
- ◆ Centerfold Map - High Town Path
- ◆ The Sacred Fire Than Burns In Our Veins by Ed Herring
- ◆ Confederate Herbs Part 2
- ◆ Walking Sipsey Part 4 Jim Manasco
- ◆ Trackers in the Bankhead
- ◆ Indian Myths by Rickey Roberts
- ◆ High Town Path by Rickey Butch Walker

ISSUE No. 7 Oct/Nov 92

Color Cover Fall Colors of Bankhead Leaves by Charles Seifried

- ◆ Walking Sipsey Part 5 by Jim Manasco
- ◆ Osprey, The Fish Bird Returns Walker
- ◆ Forestspeak Part 6
- ◆ Alternatives For Bankhead Horseback Management
- ◆ The British Come To Bankhead Rickey Roberts
- ◆ George Mayhall of Haleyville Ed Herring
- ◆ The People Speak
- ◆ The Proposed Warrior Mountains Trail
- ◆ Centerfold Map - Draft of Warrior Mtns Trail
- ◆ Conditioning Your Horse Borden



- ◆ State of Art Silviculture - 1962
- ◆ Destruction of Alabama Wilderness
- ◆ Save the Plants! by Darryl Patton
- ◆ Outdoor Writer Bamboozled by Clearcutters
- ◆ Woodcraft The Fabulous Throwing Stick

This is only the beginning of a new era of outdoor writings - An era of Ecological Woodcraft and Alabama Outdoors.

Price for Bankhead Monitor back issues:

Issue No. 1 (photocopy) \$1.00+ .50 post.
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 Issue No. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 \$2.00+ .75 post.
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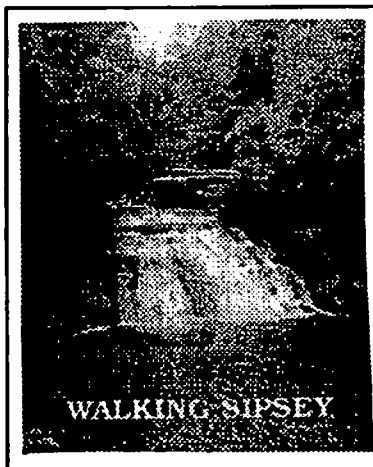
NEW BOOKS!

"Walking Sipsey"

by Jim Manasco

In the 1960's two young naturalists walked the Sipsey and produced a series of articles on the Sipsey Wilderness and Bankhead area - Jim and Ruth Manasco.

This book is the record of that work. Now, as artists living in the Bankhead, they dedicated this work to be published in a money raising effort money to save the forest that they love.

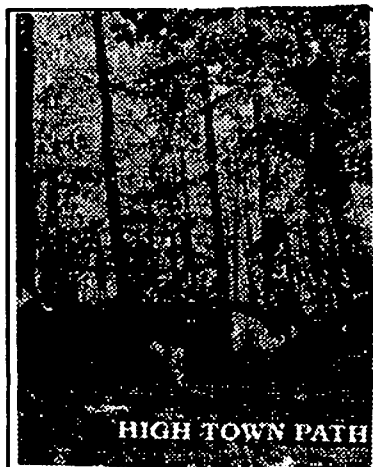


\$12.00 pp

"HIGH TOWN PATH"

by Rickey Butch Walker

Rickey Butch Walker is an outspoken native of the Bankhead Forest who regularly writes a column for the Moulton Advertiser: Bankhead Back Trails. He is of Native American descent and a superb historian and outdoorsman. High Town Path is chock full of photos of the



HIGH TOWN PATH

historic northern Bankhead area. No doubt it is a masterpiece.

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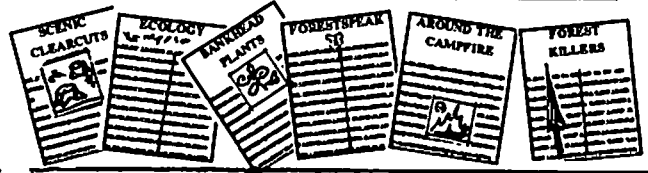
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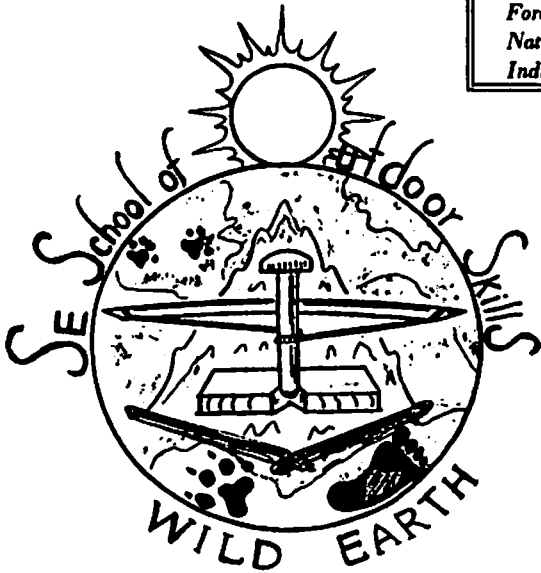


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CAMP CRAFTS

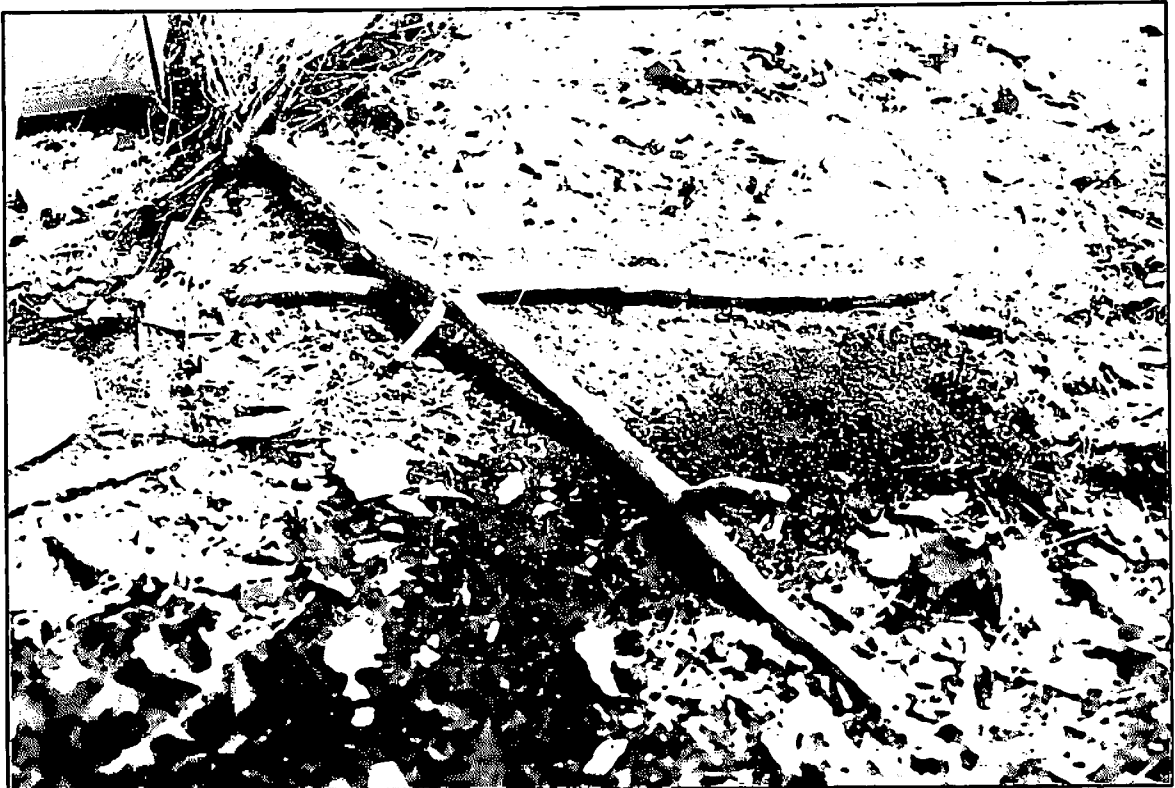
CALL FOR INFORMATION
LOCATED IN CEDAR OAK COVE IN THE BANKHEAD
NATIONAL FOREST. (private property)
Instructors - Lamar Marshall and Darryl Patton
Cost - 8 hours = \$20 per person - minimum 4 persons
4 to 15 persons = \$15 per person
Larger groups = lower rate. Call (205) 974-6166
Free tour in Bankhead Forest included.

S.E. SCHOOL OF
OUTDOOR SKILLS
PICK OUT YOUR CUSTOM COURSE:



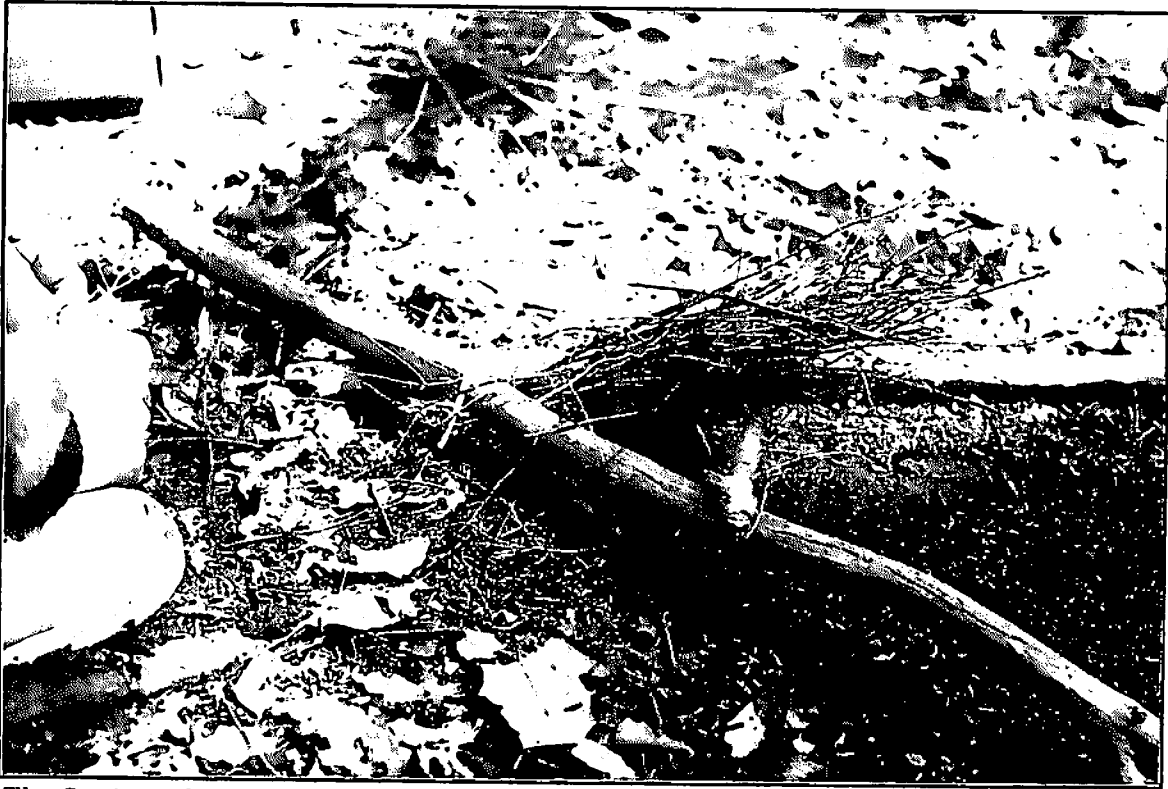
WOODCRAFT AND INDIAN LORE

The Trackerschool of 1993 was held in the remotest and deepest recesses of the Bankhead area. Several excellent instructors were present to teach a group of 15 people for a period of 3 days. The subjects covered were numerous. The instructors were from the Carolinas and Florida. One of the neatest methods for laying a fire was taught. Everyone seems to think that he or she is a master of firebuilding including myself. But this is probably the neatest starting method that I have seen.



Gather two thumb-sized diameter sticks about 18" long for the V. Also a cross piece about 10" long. Gather your starter from hanging dead pine limbs. The tinier the better. I call this threadwood.

Next, bundle up the smallest thread to match-sized material. Place your cross piece over the V as shown in the next photo. Place the bundle in the triangle created by the three sticks and allow it to stick up in the air as is also shown. The crosspiece allows a convenient place to stick a match, lighter or other source of fire so it can light the highly flammable thread-sized sticks. The secret to a fast and good fire is very dry wood and the sequence of starting with small pieces and very gradually increasing the size of fuelwood.



The fire is ready to light. You might want to clear the leaves back so they cannot catch fire.



You can't beat a fire this good. Try to find an old pine stump with some "lighter or fat" in it. It is the ultimate for wet conditions.

THE BANKHEAD MONITOR

A Nonprofit, Educational Corporation
P.O. Box 117, Moulton, Al. 35650



Date: 5/31/93

FIGHTING FOR THE LAST WILD
PLACES!

**BANKHEAD GETS DEATH SENTENCE
EXECUTION BY CLEARCUT**

THE FOREST KILLERS
The Bankhead National Forest

happen? Very easily if you
happen to be the final authority

primary purpose in life is to

Dear co-owner of the Bankhead National Forest: it is high time to

END

CLEARCUTTING-POISONING-BURNING ALABAMA'S NATIONAL FORESTS

The Bankhead National Forest belongs to you, the public. All races, all ages, it is yours. You are responsible in the long run for what happens to it. You must tell your government how you want it managed. Thousands of you have told them just that only to find that they intend to go on clearcutting, poisoning and burning your old hardwood forests in order to grow pine fiber. We represent you and the time has come to employ legal help to fight our battle in the courtrooms. We have a team of good attorneys that are worthy of their wages.

THE ERA OF LITIGATION HAS BEGUN.

Our policy has been to make it on our own and never beg and plead for money in the disgraceful way that some organizations and religious fakes do. We will simply tell you that we intend to sue the US Forest Service in Federal Court. It will take money. If you wish to make a donation, do so, if you don't have money to spare, we don't want anything.

Enclosed is information about the Apache-made turtle pendant. Any donation of \$100 or more will qualify you for a numbered pendant and a card stating that you are a member of the elite
TURTLE CLAN OF THE WARRIOR MOUNTAINS TRIBE.

Send your contribution to: **" SAVE THE BANKHEAD "**
c/o The Bankhead Monitor
P.O. Box 117, Moulton, Al. 35650

Make checks payable to " Save the Bankhead ". All donations go into a special account at Bankfirst of Moulton. The money will be used only for actual payment to attorneys fees. Together, we can stop this madness that is destroying our childrens inheritance.

38

Thanks, Lanna Marshall

NATIVE AMERICAN
APACHE
COMMISSIONED TO HELP
" SAVE THE BANKHEAD "

Julian Nez is a Jicarilla Apache from New Mexico. He lives in Huntsville Alabama and is attending college. He is a professional silversmith. So good, that some of his work is owned by the Smithsonian Institute in the House of Archives in New York City. He was born and raised on the Jicarilla Reservation in Apache country. His mother was half Apache and half Navaho. His father was full-blooded Navaho.

Ricky Butch Walker, well known writer and outdoorsman of the Bankhead forest, is a Creek-Cherokee descendant. Last year, he wrote the following in the Moulton Advertizer:

(from Native American brother from west blesses Indian sites)

"Little did I know the day held the surprise of a dark-skinned warrior of western culture blessing the hallowed grounds of both Kinlock and Indian Tomb...

Arriving according to Indian time, Julian Nez, a Jicarilla Apache of a powerful line of western chiefs, was soon to greet us and anxious to see where the Alabama red men of long ago called upon the Great Spirit...

After explaining about the " Drums of Kinlock " which occurred on March 21, 1992, the group descended into the depths of the canyon.

We entered the great cathedral Indian shelter of Kinlock and discussed the petroglyphs of rock drawings. Nez casually commented that he sensed a tremendous power within the majestic shelter....

At the ashes of the drum-in campfire, the dark warrior kneeled to the earth and with his finger drew the symbol of the turtle. As he picked up a handful of ashes and dirt, facing the north, the Jicarilla Apache warrior, speaking in his native tongue, blessed Kinlock...

After his blessing, he explained the turtle

symbol and what he said in his native tongue. No one had to tell me of the power Nez was feeling, because I could see it in his face, hear it in his speech, and feel it in my heart.

As we drove to Indian Tomb, Nez told us of his people and the ancient traditions working with silver. He showed us some of the most beautiful pieces of silver jewelry I have ever seen. Julian Nez is honored by having one of his silver pieces displayed by the Smithsonian.

...Upon reaching the site, I asked Nez to bless the great Hollow of Indian Tomb.

Standing high on a southern rock cliff overlooking the sacred hollow, Nez faced the north toward the Valley of Indian Tomb. In his ancient tradition, the warrior of pure blood and ancient roots picked up a handful of moss and dirt with which he blessed, in his native tongue of long ago, the Hollow of Indian Tomb.

Now, when the trails of life seem long and the burdens seem to mount, an Alabama Indian warrior of modern culture and mixed blood can go to his rock and receive the power from within the hollow which was blessed by one of ancient roots, yet powerful native blood. "

RICKY BUTCH WALKER

In May of this year, Julian Nez attended the Indian festival in Moulton. Jim Manasco, the famed artist/naturalist Cherokee of the forest sketched the Bankhead's rare and endangered " flattened musk turtle ". He made one change in the sketch. Where the true turtle has 4 claws on the front and rear leg, Jim put 3 on the front and 4 on the rear in order to create the significant number 7.

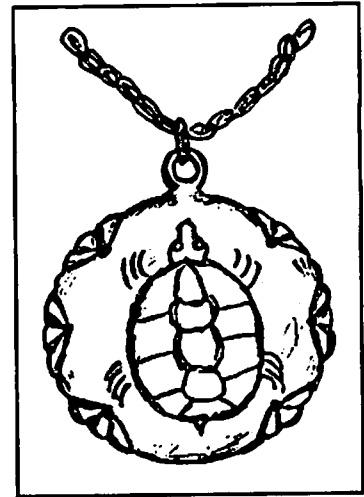
I presented the sketch to Julian and asked if he could hand craft and produce the Bankhead Monitor a numbered series of sterling silver pendant necklaces to help save the Bankhead. He

agreed and I now wear the prototype #1 on my neck.

Born is the
**TURTLE CLAN OF
THE WARRIOR MOUNTAINS TRIBE.**

Our symbol is the endangered turtle of our forest and the ancient symbol of the red brothers - Native Americans allied with all who would stand up and fight for our Native Forests. We are giving one of these numbered pendant necklaces to each person who donates \$100 or more to the litigation fund. Allow 5 or 6 weeks for delivery. They are hand made and signed by Nez. Numbers given in order of donations. They are sterling silver with a 24" sterling silver chain. I donated the first \$100 dollars myself and Ricky Butch Walker the second. The Council of the Inner Circle of 12 has followed.

I am proud to wear mine.
Lamar Marshall



TURTLE CLAN PENDANT

ACTUAL
SIZE

NEWS RELEASE

THE BANKHEAD MONITOR
A Nonprofit, Educational Corporation
P.O. Box 117, Monahan, AL 35659

DATE: 5/25/93

CONTACT: Lamar Marshall (205) 974-6166
Editor

FEDERAL LAWSUIT

Monahan, AL
The Bankhead Monitor, a nonprofit, educational organization has filed a 60 day notice of intent to sue the United States Forest Service for alleged violations of the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historical Preservation Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Wilderness Act and the National Forest Management Act.
The lawsuit will stem from almost two years of research and documentation of USFS activities in the Bankhead National Forest in north Alabama in regards to preservation and management.

National Environmental Policy Act

You are hereby notified that The Bankhead Monitor and Lamar Marshall intend to allege violations of the National Environmental Policy Act due to the failure of the Forest Service to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) on the

Wilderness Act

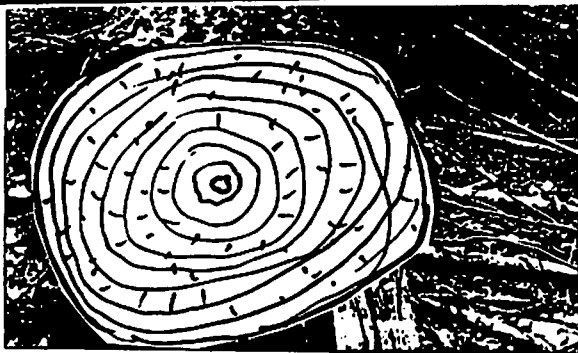
You are hereby notified that The Bankhead Monitor and Lamar Marshall intend to allege violations of the Wilderness Act due to the failure of the Forest Service to consider all the above listed impacts and their cumulative impacts to the Sipsey Wilderness. Failure of the Forest Service to take into consideration all of the above listed items and other things could result in degradation to the Sipsey Wilderness and thus be violations of the Wilderness Act.

National Historic Preservation Act

You are hereby notified that The Bankhead Monitor and Lamar Marshall intend to allege violations of the National Historic Preservation Act due to the failure of the Forest Service to locate, inventory and nominate to the Secretary all properties under the Forest Service's ownership or control, that appear to qualify for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the regulations promulgated under section 470(a)(2)(A) of this Act. Additionally, the Forest Service has failed to exercise caution to assure that any possibly eligible property is not inadvertently demolished, substantially altered, or allowed to deteriorate significantly.

National Forest Management Act

You are hereby notified that The Bankhead Monitor and Lamar Marshall intend to allege violations of the National Forest Management Act due to the failure of the Forest Service to plan based on principles of preservation of important historical, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, as required by regulations issued pursuant to this Act. Additionally, the Forest Service has failed to identify and evaluate public issues and coordinate the same with the Alabama Historical Commission and local Indian Tribes. Furthermore, the Forest Service has failed to provide for evaluation and identification of appropriate sites for the National Register of Historic Places, as required by this Act.



This stand of "brush trees" in the Bankhead National Forest was all that remained April 20 in a clear-cut area. A Bankhead group is hoping for an injunction to stop all clear-cutting.

Watchdog group's chief to sue over clear-cutting at Bankhead

Tree farms: Lamar Marshall says he is hoping for an injunction to stop all clear-cutting

By Katherine Bunn
ADVERTISER STAFF WRITER

The head of a Bankhead National Forest watchdog group has filed notice that he intends to sue the U.S. Forest Service in federal court.

"They're converting the Bankhead native forest into a tree farm," said Lamar Marshall, president of the Bankhead Monitor. "That's what's at issue. Are they allowed to convert our native forest into a tree farm?"

Mr. Marshall said he is hoping for an injunction to stop all clear-cutting and use of pesticides in Bankhead. Clear-cutting is a common form of harvesting pines in which everything in a certain area is cut. Before replanting, the ground usually is burned or covered with herbicides to prevent re-growth of hardwood trees.

The Forest Service allows companies to bid on and harvest tracts of national forest. Much of the land in the Bankhead zone is replanted with pine trees, because that is considered to be most suitable for the land there. Alabama National Forests Supervisor John

Yancy has said.

Mr. Yancy said he had not received Monday's notice yet.

"I have not had a chance to confer with my boss or attorneys about whether there's any substance to it," he said.

Bart Stawson, a Birmingham lawyer, said he plans to sue to enforce several federal environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act and the National Forests Management Act.

"Basically, you have a situation where you have loss of national forests in Alabama that stretch from the Tennessee-Alabama border down to the Gulf of Mexico, and they're all being managed as if they're exactly the same," Mr. Stawson said. "It looks like they're going to be turned into great pine plantations for the benefit of the paper companies."

Mr. Stawson and Mr. Marshall said they are particularly concerned about eight species of mammals living in the Bankhead National Forest that are not included in the plan for managing the forest areas they only recently were listed under the Endangered

Species Act. Plants and animals listed under the 1973 act are protected from intentional and unintentional harm.

Mr. Marshall said the cumulative effect of clear-cutting trees too close to stream banks, burning, and applying herbicides to kill unprofitable tree species is altering the entire ecosystem of the area and polluting the waters.

"I've seen the rivers run brown, like a tea soup," Mr. Marshall said.

"We want a complete biological survey done," he said. "They don't know what plants they're mowing out, because they

don't know what's in there."

Mr. Marshall contends the Forest Service also has violated the Historic Preservation Act by clear-cutting over Indian Tomb Hollow, an area considered sacred by Cherokee Indians.

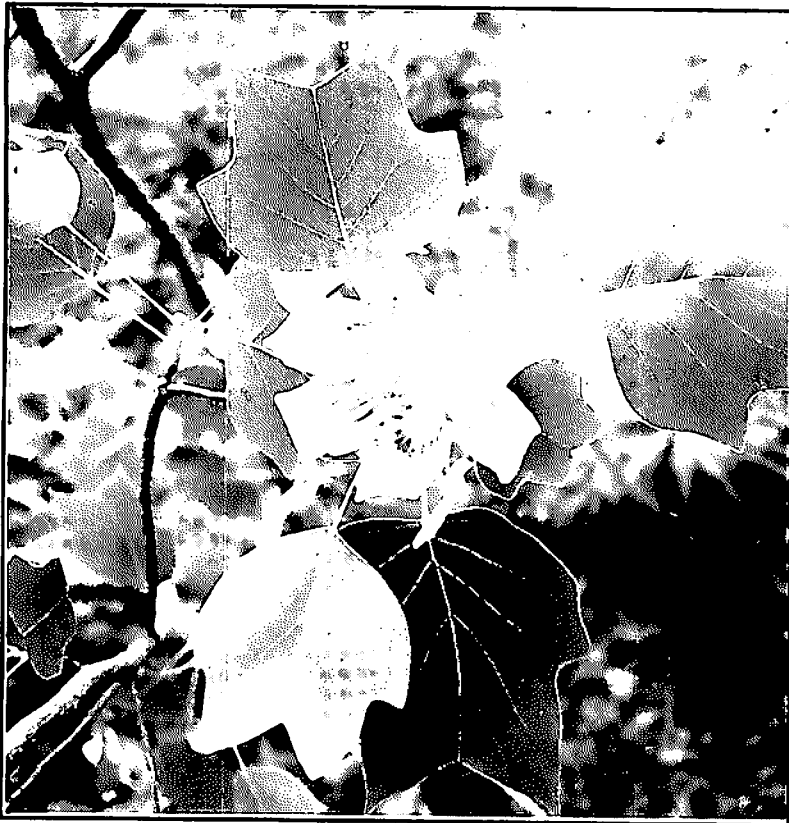
The Bankhead, which lies in parts of Winston, Lawrence and Franklin counties in northwest Alabama, has been a battleground for local Native Americans and environmentalists against the Forest Service for several years.

"They're converting the Bankhead native forest into a tree farm."

— Lamar Marshall
BANKHEAD MONITOR

5/25/93

BANKHEAD TREES



THE TULIP POPLAR OR YELLOW POPLAR

The great tulip tree bloom fills the woods with an uncanny humming drone each May. It is one of those short-lived fascinating experiences that come only once a year. The tulip tree was a valuable tree to the Native Americans who lived in the Black Warrior Mountains. The bark is easily made into baskets and the buds were eaten. Other utensils such as shingles for the roofs of their houses came from this tree. They are beautiful and fast growing and resemble a hickory when they are young and slick barked. But they are very different than the hickory. The hickory is supple, strong and heavy. The poplar will break easily, is weak and light when dried.

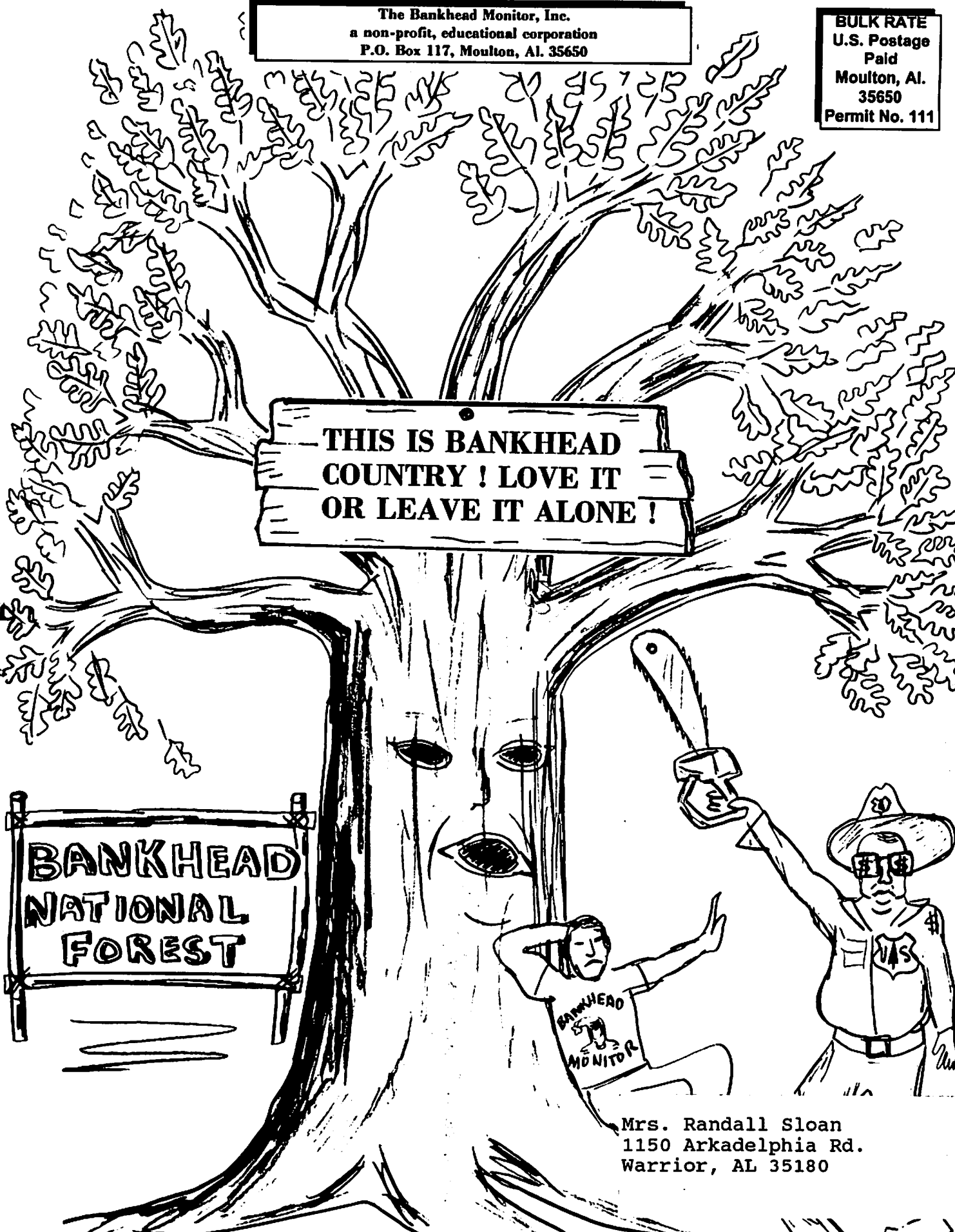


BIGLEAF MAGNOLIA

The Bigleaf Magnolia is the most unique tree in the Bankhead. The leaves get over 30 inches long. They stand out like a sore thumb in the deep, rich hollows of the mountains. When they bloom it is a sight to see. The giant white flowers are the largest in the state as they are easily a full 16 inches across. The leaves were used by the Native Americans extensively in the fall and winter the same way that we use paper towels. They make great camping dish-rags. The Indians also used them as diapers for the babies.

The Bankhead Monitor, Inc.
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P.O. Box 117, Moulton, Al. 35650

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**THIS IS BANKHEAD
COUNTRY ! LOVE IT
OR LEAVE IT ALONE !**

**BANKHEAD
NATIONAL
FOREST**

BANKHEAD
MONITOR

Mrs. Randall Sloan
1150 Arkadelphia Rd.
Warrior, AL 35180