



The Hapless Conservationist

50 Ways NOT to Save the Planet. The real Ecowatch.



Planet Earth.

This Earth of ours is an incredibly beautiful and precious biosphere and if we're going to save it we'll need to know exactly what it is we are doing in order to do so. It is positively not for a bunch of wannabe fixers to let loose on but increasingly this is exactly what it is we've got. Depicted in the picture-header is a well-meaning enough but blundering gent doing his level best to patch up and repair a rapidly deflating globe. The fumbblings of an amateur of course, no doubt full of good intentions, sending us onto a collision course with ruination. Which pretty well sums up the pitiful state of conservation today.

Ever increasingly it's the clumsiness of these would be saviours as much as anything else even though the very simplest adjustments are probably all that's needed. It's this common assumption all we need do is turn the world's surface into one giant green-industrialisation complex and things will come right from then on. Once done it's also and again rather falsely assumed we can continue on with our frivolous lifestyles with no other thoughts for the planet at all. But as we shall see as we read further far from helping this generally only adds to yet further destruction.



Sustainability?

It's like a creeping cancer threatening to invade horizon to horizon. It's not to say true green energy is not possible to achieve but it has so much further to go than anything the way things are currently run. So until we can actually get there and do things right perhaps more emphasis should be given to enforce the general public to clean up their acts by making it a serious offence for people to both litter and pollute. Clamp right down on those MOT stations who are currently waving vehicles through their tests. Force bus and train companies to turn engines off at all terminus and long stop stations. Cut-out engines should be standard for vehicles while on standstill. Insulating housing, switching off many of the office lights that are currently left on all night.

Non-plug in hybrid cars do their recharging using dynamos combined with a process known as regenerative braking, the energy harnessed when the brake pedal's applied, which unlike pure electric obviously puts no extra demand on the National Grid. Banning all palm oil products and Brazilian beef. Perhaps even imposing inaffordable tariffs on passenger flights and meat production altogether. And farming in general has been getting away with murder forever so that too could be forced to change. There are any amount of minor adjustments that could be made before even considering wind farms which collectively would make one enormous difference.

These are all simple and straightforward enough ideas that could go a very very long way towards decarbonising the planet and without destroying every last lifeform on it. But we are up against those whose only thoughts on 'saving' things, taking us on this clumsy and very destructive heavy industrialisation route, is by trampling on and alienating everyone along the way.

Allowing Forests to Earn Their Keep.

Yet another far more rational solution would be to allow the rainforests to earn their keep, thus enabling them to save themselves many many times over, a system that could actually increase their size and not diminish it.

And here it all is.



Plant Forests and Make a Fortune.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_849b9b810c2f4ef58093b651371de717.pdf

It's about conservationists doing the job and keeping those highly exploitative outsiders with their commercial interests completely out of the way.

Wild species Oil Palm trees grown in their native C.W. Africa for the creation of habitat in that region. Wild Rubber and wild Cocoa native to Amazonia, which could be worth a \$multimillion annual turnover incidentally, again grown by conservationists creating habitat. They'd be systems for encouraging birds and fruit bats which would then in turn drop seeds and increase biodiversity. If carried out properly, keeping out all other commercial interests, this could earn vast sums for wildlife projects around the world.

Creating wealth out of planting up habitat if done could turn out to be a real planet saver.

The Education System.

Now moving away from simple ideas that would actually work very well to this. It all begins innocently enough in the schools with initiatives like these where children from an incredibly young age are literally being programmed into what society would have them become.



Fresh in school and already enjoying a good fun brainwashing experience.

Isn't this just wonderful! Note the plastic windmills they're clinging onto in order that their interests might be captivated that bit more effectively. But be aware, most things, even these inoffensive looking toys are a ploy to manipulate young minds and it's happening on an industrial scale.

With state run education nothing is ever necessarily about positive ideas which could very effectively save the planet in fact there are no concerns about saving much at all. To them it's all about getting the kids into their future careers, positively corporate-led, and moulding them into modal productive tax-paying citizens. And in this particular case it's about giving them some thoughts about one day getting into the wind industry maybe.

Going back some time ago now we were attending a harvest festival at our children's school where we were asked to say a prayer for the scientists who were helping farmers to grow their crops. Such was the perversion of the education system then. **And if this were all a ploy by governments and industries to win youngsters over on mass then nothing would surprise.**

When I was younger I had lots of plans of becoming different things, everything from an actor to a scientist, but then my teachers at school told me about climate-change, that was sort of an eye opener to me.

Greta Thunberg. Activist.

Kids these days don't stand a chance! They come out of a bent education system, they're drip-fed by a bent media, then when they go on line to gen up on it all they're fed with the same old bent conservation hype of wind farms and sustainability by the various charities. So what hope is there?

In fact with all of this going on and everyone's gullibility I'd say they've got things pretty well stitched up.

'Cos if you thought things were bad here there are other parts of the world which have positively left us in the shadows.

Foreign Schools. Please take a read.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_c5b49f2a700a4066bb933456f5ce88f7.pdf





From brainwashing in schools to brainwashing when they get home to play and at all ages too. Here's Lego (leg over more like) which has teamed up with Vestas.

Carbon.

There are any amount of ways of tackling pollution without obliterating all life on Earth. So rather than force-feeding everyone with hype let's go for the technologies that would genuinely do the least amount of harm to the natural world.



Zero Carbons the Options.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_abd274624d0d4e1ca0880a4993bdb33a.pdf

Green energy - If the industry were to put the good of the planet ahead of personal ambition things could be much improved.

Renewable Energy.

Powered by Renewables. Just how often do we hear these brazen claims? But let's take a look at what it all actually means.

Wind Farms.



Blades that spin at over 180mph at the tips. With more than adequate spacing for things to fly between they could hardly have been designed to be more lethal. Millions of birds and bats, and countless zillions of flying insects each year, rotating blades visually drawn in like moths to a flame, with every turbine acting like a gigantic vortex sucking in our wildlife and spiting it out the other side. The evidence is there. Take a look!

A Vulture being hit. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NAAzBArYdw>

Bats being hit. <https://youtu.be/mUhEnEMcolA>

Conventional Solar.



Around the planet landscapes which were once valuable natural habitats are now literally covered with panels spanning in some places to the very horizons. The problem is their inefficiency. If we were to need say a football pitch sized piece of land in order to power up a town, two or three, or seven to ten pitches say then even that would be acceptable, but as it is so much land is required. And if a solar panel on a mud hut in Africa were able to replace a wood burning stove to help save the local forests then that too would be great but it's not.

See also. Why Do Solar Farms Kill Birds? Call in the AI Bird Watcher.

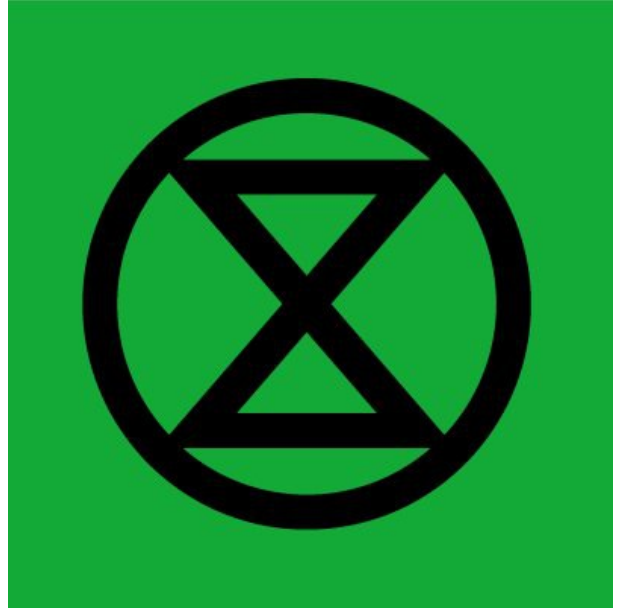
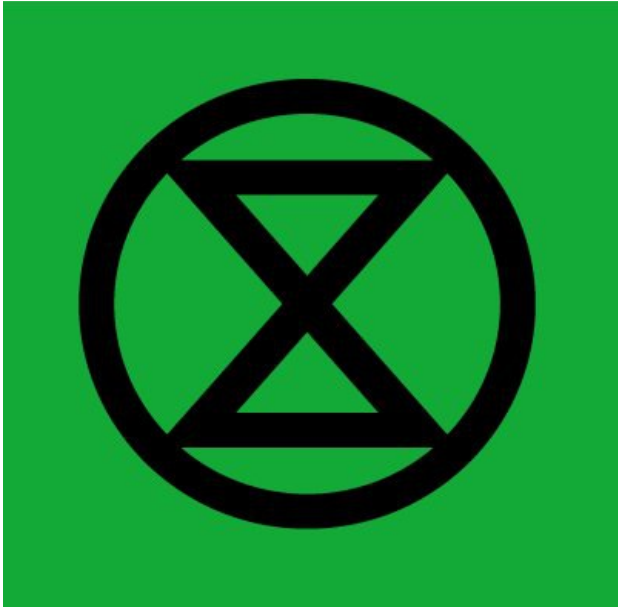
<https://www.wired.com/story/why-do-solar-farms-kill-birds-call-in-the-ai-bird-watcher/>

Concentrated Solar.



Even worse. Scorched birds which have flown through the intense light beams. An illuminated tower like this, as with the turning wind blades, is a visual attraction that acts like a magnet drawing things in.

So Extinction Rebellion be careful what you wish for!



The Blue Horizon Campaign.



“YES to offshore wind NO to nearshore wind.” What a bunch of 'out of sight out of mind' airy-fairies.

Kittiwakes

Offshore wind farms pose a significant danger to Kittiwakes because they fly up to 40km from land to feed. They are protected by EU Birds Directive and 4 other international agreements and unfortunately, are now on a Red List of threatened bird species. There are multiple Kittiwake colonies on the Waterford coast.

Several studies indicate that seabirds are affected by the presence of offshore wind farms; through avoidance behaviours, habitat displacement, and collision mortality. —Gareth Bradbury, Furness P119, 56–66, Garthe P41, 724–734.

Under the EU's Birds Directive and Habitats Directive the law requires “that Member States protect species of EU importance throughout their natural range within the EU, ie also outside Natura 2000 sites (article 5 of Birds Directive and Article 12 of Habitats Directive)”. — European Commission

<https://bluehorizon.ie/>

They obviously have no concept that all true seabirds live out at sea and not just around those locations where they happen to breed. They will therefore encounter these turbines any time they're feeding or are not breeding.

Finnish artist Erik Bruun.



Using bird feathers to promote wind energy. What a wonderful idea. He could pluck them from the dead birds he finds.

After Bruun himself flew to Lapland and saw the sport fishermen with their spinning rods in the cabin, he realized that fish would make the perfect symbol for the Lapland flight. This poster was initially met with resistance by the client Finnair, "who would want to travel in a fish plane?" But the poster later on became a success. Naturally enough.

<https://cometofinland.fi/product/the-salmon-flight-by-erik-bruun-poster-50-x-70-cm-offset-print/>

He's not as carbon-neutral as you might think either. Here he is promoting Finnair.



And in this he celebrates the crayfish season. I wonder if the crayfish are as delighted?

Following the Science.

We are constantly reminded we should follow the science and there are those on both sides ignoring what they don't want to hear. Ignoring the science is everyone's favourite accusation against those who don't like wind farms but it shouldn't be forgotten it was corporate-led science that got us into this mess in the first place.

So what is the answer?

The very last thing the world's few remaining wild places need is for them to be turned into power producing factories. This would only make matters many many times worse than they are already. Bird numbers would quickly go from few birds to zero birds within a few short years and countless zillions of flying insects would follow. It cannot be underestimated just how devastating things would become.



Scientists - They think they have the answers to everything. Intelligence without wisdom can be an extremely dangerous thing.

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Al Gore.

A leading figure that made it all happen.

Democrats and Republicans are both in bed with Monsanto.

In the 1990s, during the administration of President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore, agribusiness giant and GMO king Monsanto had good friends in the White House.

As noted in the September 2015 issue of Harper's Magazine, the love shown to Monsanto by the Clinton Administration was consistent with the White House's corporate-friendly approach to issues concerning the environment.

When the French government hesitated in permitting genetically modified corn into the country over concerns of consumer safety and threats to non-GMO crops, President Clinton, along with his Secretary of State, National Security Advisor and assorted U.S. senators, all took up Monsanto's cause. Eventually, the French government agreed when Gore himself telephoned the French prime minister in a bid to lobby on Monsanto's behalf.

Also, the magazine noted:

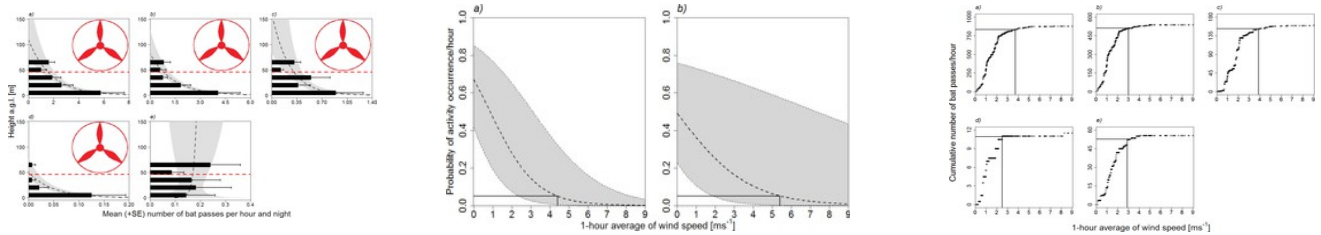
Washington's revolving door whirled many Clinton Administration officials onto the Monsanto payroll, while the president's committee of science and technology advisers included Virginia Weldon, the corporation's senior vice president for public policy.

In those days, the magazine reported, glyphosate – the primary ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup herbicide – was the company's primary moneymaker. And though it was opposed from the outset by a number of environmental organizations, the Clinton Administration doubled down on Monsanto.

https://www.naturalnews.com/051165_Monsanto_Democrats_Republicans.html

He's so creepily greeeeeeeeeeeeeeeen he once telephoned the French prime minister asking him to allow GMOs into Europe. While Hilary back then was working as a Monsanto lawyer of course.

Blinded by Science. For anyone wishing for such a comatosing experience I can strongly recommend this for some good reading.



<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0192493>

The Science of Ignoring. Why do people ignore You?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkxauglWgM0>

Jason Hickel - The Divide RT - Renegade Inc. A valuable insight as to what's really happening in the world today.

According to what this documentary is saying, and it all makes perfect sense, nothing is in fact failing but everything is very much on track. **Things such as conflicts, famines and the degradation of just about everything we're witnessing today, is part of the big plan being unleashed on the world.** We can be very sure most of the conservation groups are in on this as well. Much of what they say reeks of corruption of some kind or another.

Just think about what's happening out there to know that nothing's failing and it's all happening by design. Added to this of course we now have the well-intended but very misguided loony-lefties who are fuelling things to even greater intensity calling for more wind farms and sustainable palm oil.

Take a look everyone and let it be a wake up call. <https://youtu.be/C1CtT5kvdjQ>

Coral Reef Restoration Through Human-Assisted Evolution



Some outcomes of human-assisted evolution include a) wide variety of dog breeds, rice which has been genetically altered to increase nutrient content and cattle bred for increased meat production.

Humans have been utilizing evolutionary processes to create beneficial alterations to organisms for thousands of years. Who loves their golden retriever? You can thank selective breeding for the wide variety of dog breeds present today. Selective breeding is a process by which humans chose specific desirable traits and selectively breed individuals to, overtime, create a new dog (or horse, or cat, etc). A variety of animals and even plants and microbes have been selectively bred for human benefit.

More recently, techniques like acclimatization (a process by which an organism adapts to changes in the environment over the course of its own lifetime), trans-generational acclimatization (where the environmental changes can force adaptations that are actually handed down to the next generation), and genetic modification have been utilized in areas such as agriculture and farming. These techniques have given rise to crops that are able to withstand more stressful environments, plants capable of increased nutrient values (Fig 1b), and increased growth rates and meat yields in some livestock (Fig 1c). Though controversial, current technology allows us to alter organisms at a faster rate than would normally occur through the natural processes of evolution.

<https://oceanbites.org/coral-reef-restoration-through-human-assisted-evolution/>

Man-Made Human Assisted Evolution! - Sounds absolutely terrifying doesn't it!

Do reefs even need this kind of interference? These are such bloody awful people, who just cannot see how damaging they are, and whilst it's not a GMO technology it is nonetheless interference which goes well beyond what's right and ethical or even desirable.

Who wants to dive onto a reef where natural systems have been exchanged for unnatural ones in any case? It would be like trying to botanise in a garden instead of a natural meadow and if anyone doesn't understand that then there's really no point in me trying to explain it.

For me there's only one thing more frightening than global-warming and that's what scientists will do to help.

Friends of the Earth.



“We need people standing shoulder to shoulder with us building the world we want.” Just one of their classic lines.



And yet it's FoE's relentless drive for ever increasing amounts of wind-energy that's created the greatest divide ever witnessed in conservation. Each side's equally committed, both wanting a decent planet to live on, except no-one's 'standing shoulder to shoulder,' there. It's only bitter infighting.

THE CROWN ESTATE



The Crown Estate.

Talking about saving species, ecological this, and protecting the environment something else. When they're not mutilating animals on their country retreats they're selling out the nation's seabeds for off-shore wind developments.

Switch-on for daffodil-inspired Royal Mint wind turbine



A daffodil-inspired wind turbine is to be unveiled in South Wales by The Royal Mint later.

The 214-ft turbine was previously in the Netherlands and will now be sited at the Royal Mint to reduce fuel use.

Anne Jessop, CEO of The Royal Mint, said the area's "hilly nature" made it the perfect place for the installation.

The four-year project has been carried out in conjunction with wind and solar energy project developer Infinite Renewables.

Ms Jessop said: "The hilly nature of our location gave us the perfect opportunity to install a wind turbine behind The Royal Mint site to help with our energy consumption and enhance our use of natural power.

"I think that it is particularly apt that our daffodil-coloured turbine originally saw service in Holland - the land of flower bulbs."

Once fully operational, the turbine will be able to harness 850kW of power - enough energy to boil 850 kettles of water in an hour.

Andrew Crossman, of **Infinite Renewables**, described the turbine as "one of the more unusual projects" his team had worked on.

"We are proud of the part we played in creating what is not only a source of low cost, green electricity, but also an iconic landmark for visitors to **The Royal Mint Experience** and the surrounding region," he added.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-45419855>

Welcome to the Royal Mint Experience.

The Infinite Renewables Group. A 'daffodil-inspired' Royal Mint wind turbine.

Are they out of their fkin' minds? Yellow draws in and will kill more insects than any other colour. Try lying in the grass wearing a yellow tee-shirt and see how many small black beetles you get landing. The central part of a flower is yellow in order to attract pollinators.**



The Green Party.

It would be wrong to say all their policies were bad because they are not. Anti-whaling, anti-pesticides, anti-deforestation and anti-pollution, all of which are great attributes for any party to have. The problem is it doesn't end there and to those ends they're totally off the scale.

Their vision is one of green-industrialisation on a monumental scale, the liberal opening up of floodgates, and free handouts for all those who want to breed. No way is any of this about the ecology they purport to be on side of. To them it's all about their ideals and what they want to foist upon us all.

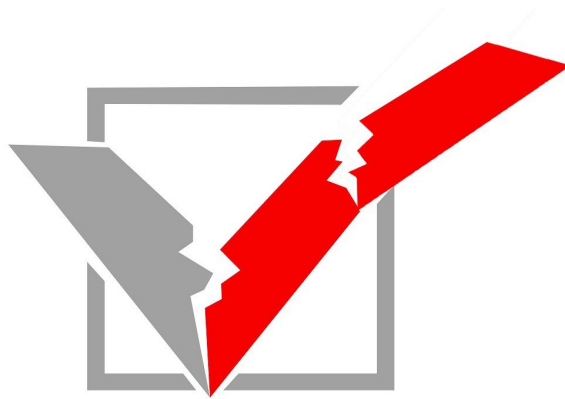
But the final realisation that the Greens really had lost the plot came I think with this announcement.

Peer proposes 6PM CURFEW for all men.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpoZ9XHel8k>

Throughout the world there are bullies, those who think they can piss on everyone or their values, and the greens despite their claims are as good at that as anyone else.

Splitting the Green Vote.



Nothing has done more to split the green vote right down the middle than the issue of wind farms and still they blindly continue to support them. Yet it's as a direct backlash to all of their unpopular green agendas right-wing governments are being elected around the world with no-one even noticing why that might be. The main concerns are these world leaders are far less likely to care about very much at all and problems for the natural world will only increase. But this bigger picture is not what they want us to see. They like to keep that one safely locked away in a cupboard. And even if what's perceived as the more 'caring' parties are voted for in one election, these underlying resentments remain below the surface as strong as ever, and so the chances are they won't get in again next time.

Nothing tests the mood of the general public like elections.

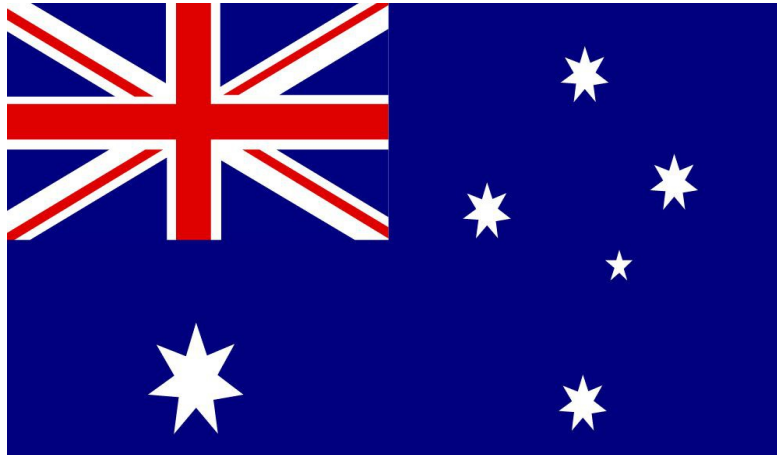
Just how accepting are they of the policies being metered out? Currently it can be argued no one agenda has led to more votes being lost like current 'greens' have accomplished. In fact the lefties could hardly have done a better job of losing electoral support if they'd tried. They would turn the countryside into one giant wind factory, causing ill-health and property values to slump, they would open up the floodgates to all comers, and would encourage families to breed with free handouts. None of which has anything at all to do with real conservation incidentally and never has done. And yet we see their policies being rolled out within the mainstream parties and they're amazed when it all so often goes horribly wrong.

The Unforeseen Consequences of Green Politics.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_31671db4a655453dbf5b16358c0bfd0b.pdf

The not so unforeseen maybe. In order to save the natural world we need not to alienate those who would otherwise be on side.

Australian Politics and the Ecology. Taking a look at what's happening there.



Nowhere else in the world has a country literally alternated from one destructive political force to another for quite so long. There's the 'greener' option government on one side, with their wind farms, bird-deaths and unreliable energy sources, and the hell-bent destroyers of habitat and species on the other. And both in their own way are wreaking as much havoc to their fragile ecology as the other. As one party's voted out with its set of appalling policies another one replaces them with theirs and bad things continuing to happen thereon.



Australian Politics and the Ecology.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_6a9cdc746f554024b3c2d7f48a56a41e.pdf

One year on from Australia's massive bushfires have lessons been learned? More to the point have the conservationists learnt anything at all? It's all about both understanding Australian politics and working with the ecology and not against it.



Moving away from Australia now to countries like Spain, Portugal and also in California and Oregon the horrendous fires have long been down to Eucalyptus plantations. True to reporting form they never gives the full story but call for more wind farms instead.

And as always there are those who like to make their problems everyone else's problem.



In Spain there are those using goats to prevent forest fires.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfau-zrO6Po>

So this is their answer then?

Not content with bringing Eucalyptus into Europe in the first place they are now going on to promote desertification as well as eat up any bird's nests that get in the way. Some are even advocating sending these goats over to Australia right now to sort out the problems they've got there.



But we need only look at the destruction goats are causing in Sub-Saharan Africa, nibbling out trees and other vegetation and creating dust bowls, to know what an utter disaster that would be.

Cradle to Grave.

Back in the day Friends of the Earth had this extremely far sighted cradle to grave philosophy. An ideal, which stood them in good stead for decades, now sadly abandoned with their increasingly insane support for wind.



Birth: A dystopian lake filled by the world's tech lust.



Life: A career working with the wholesale obliteration of birds, bats and flying insects throughout the entire working span.....



..... together with failing health issues for many, falling property values, political divides and the general alienation of those living with the consequences.



Death: Finally the vast swathes of land required to eventually dispose of them.

A sad end to such a fine principle.

Governments & Corporates.



Everyone's getting in on the act with each and every one of 'em clambering to be that much greener than the next. They need to be seen to be green and it's a truly sickening spectacle to witness knowing they do not have a real care in their bodies. It's all a veneer that we might feel a sense of calm about what's happening in the world and we can forget about the environment knowing it's all in safe hands. Or at least that's what they want us to feel and then we can all go back to the serious business of plundering whatever we like.

Amazon TV Commercial, 'The Climate Pledge'

Amazon says it doesn't just think big; it does big. The online retailer pledges to be net zero carbon by 2040, power its operations with 100% renewable energy by 2025 and has created a \$2 billion Climate Pledge Fund.

<https://www.ispot.tv/ad/nrEi/amazon-the-climate-pledge>

Bird song in combination with the gently rotating blades. Typical corporate prettying things up, so that they might somehow improve their own personal image, whilst becoming an even bigger problem than they already were.

Always be aware when heavy aggressive industries like this purport to be going green. It will invariably spell out wind farms and rainforest destroying palm oil biofuel etc.

We're fully committed to taking action on climate change and have invested more than £100 million to improve sustainability – including switching to electric vehicles and renewable power – and remove 90% of carbon from our operation.

Heathrow Airport.

The United Nations.



The United Nations has issued a 168 page report calling for a total transformation of society.

The report calls for a dramatic reduction of individual freedom in favor of government, particularly UN control, all in the name of "science."

Read the full UN report: **Making Peace with Nature:** A scientific blueprint to tackle the climate, biodiversity and pollution emergencies.

<http://www.cfact.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/UN-Report-Making-Peace-With-Nature.pdf>

Making Peace with Nature. A 168 pages of bumf.

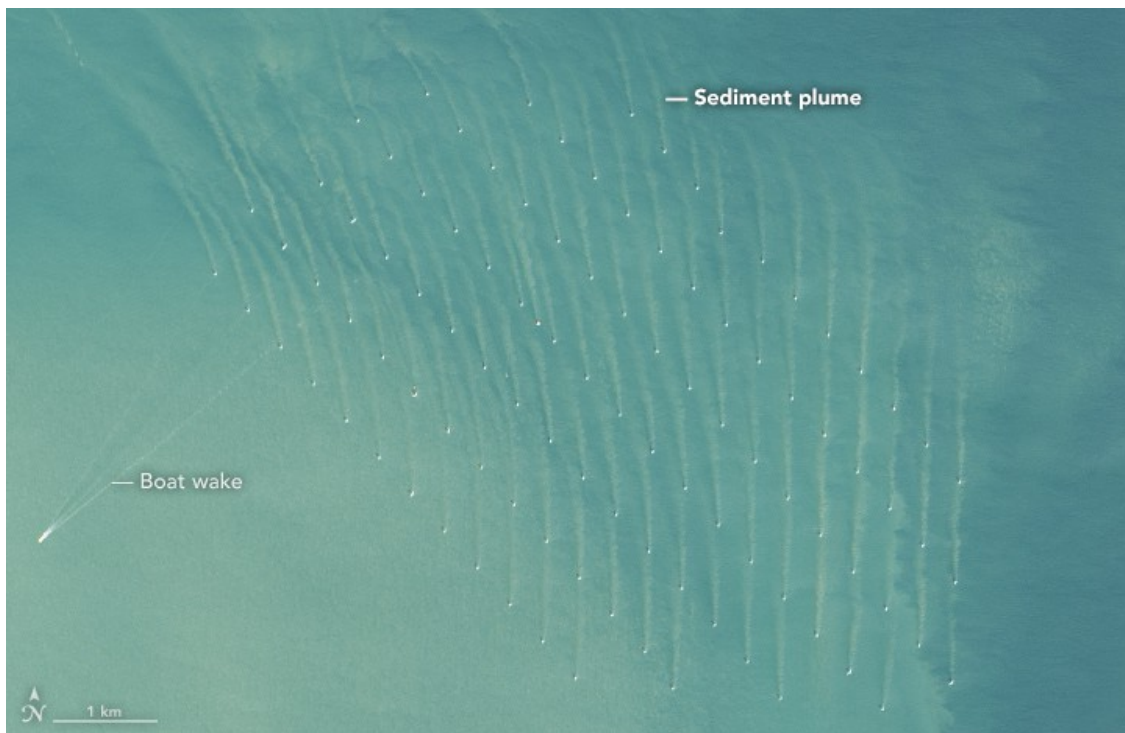
What really worries me about these kinds of reports, with their lust for many more wind farms aside, are the people involved in putting it all together. These are just some of the names we've picked out.

Co-funded by the Norwegian Government with its whaling activities. The International Monetary Fund, World Bank, World Trade Organization etc. There's a whole list of other names that just makes my skin crawl. Many of them in fact caused most of the world's problems in the first place.

Coral Bleaching.



Highly worrying events like these are invariably put down to the rising sea temperatures caused by global-warming, especially by those who want nothing more than to further their cause, but all too often it's far more likely to be farm runoffs or other pollutants.



And these ain't exactly helping either. Look at the sediment these wind machines are kicking up.

The European Union.



Going on about the environment, the environment and the environment, and now they seek to plunder the UK's fish stocks. I personally don't give a stuff about our own fishing industry but I do care about the fish and where are they in all of this?

What eludes people like this is the environment encompasses so much more than their infantile over-simplistic understandings could even begin to imagine. These fish belong in the sea EU. I'm glad we're out. Good riddance!

Commissioner says Europe will seek fishery access and UK will want concessions for City



The EU's trade commissioner has suggested there could be a last-minute trade-off with Brussels offering the City of London access to European markets in return for European fleets retaining their fishing rights in British waters.

The UK's financial services sector will lose its automatic right to serve Europe-based clients at the end of the transition period and the EU will need to negotiate access to UK waters for its fishing boats.

Phil Hogan, the former Irish minister who is now trade commissioner in Brussels overseeing the next stage of the Brexit negotiations, told the Irish Independent. "There certainly will be trade-offs, particularly at the end of the negotiations." The EU will be seeking concessions on fishery access and the UK will very probably be seeking concessions on financial services."

Hogan, a longstanding critic of prominent Brexiters including Boris Johnson, described claims that the EU would be put under pressure to seal a deal by parallel UK-US negotiations as “fairytale economics.” Negotiations on the future relationship between the EU and the UK after 31 January, the scheduled date for Brexit, are expected to start in early March once both sides have settled positions on the main issues.

EU diplomats were presented with the main principles of the free trade agreement on Monday in which “access to waters and quota share for fisheries” would be made “within the context of the economic partnership.” Speaking in Luxembourg on Monday, Ursula von der Leyen, the European commission president, reiterated that the British government would also need to sign up to a series of commitments on state aid, environmental and labour standards to allow tariff- and quota-free trade.

She said: “Great Britain is our friend, the Brits are our friends, it is a friendship that has been growing for a long time but we have to break new ground with each other, and here it applies as well: it is the decision of Great Britain how close or distant of the biggest single market in the world they want to be.

“The closer they are, meaning a level playing field, the more they are ready to respect the European rules, the easier accession to the European single market will be. The further away, the less there is of a level playing field, the more difficult their access to the European single market will be. It is a decision Great Britain has to make and in the negotiations we will have to sound out the scope that we want to use to then determine the negotiations accordingly.”

Last week, Andrej Plenković, Croatia’s prime minister, whose country is taking over the presidency of the EU, conceded that Brussels would be unashamedly “political” and could threaten to block the City of London’s access to European markets if Johnson tries to exempt the UK from its laws. He also warned of the risk of skirmishes at sea similar to those during the 1970s cod wars if a deal on fishing rights was not secured.

Asked whether the EU would use its power to switch off the City’s ability to serve European clients, to gain leverage in the coming negotiations with Britain, Plenković said, “I wouldn’t go into the vocabulary of weapons but what I have learned in international and European negotiations [is] that all arguments and considerations are treated as political.”

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jan/13/city-access-eu-markets-eu-fleets-uk-fishing-rights-brexit>

The EU as it happens have an absolutely appalling track record when it comes to real environmental care.

All of us I hope can remember the infamous fish discard farce in which fishing fleets were routinely allowed to catch as much fish as they liked only to dump back dead anything that was over-quota.

They're blatantly allowing the use of diclofenac in veterinary medicines which no doubt has had devastating effects on the Southern Europe vulture populations. Not content they've enforced a policy of incinerating all dead livestock, thus causing these scavengers to starve, which is perhaps more of a blessing knowing their veterinary practices.

Wind farms are found everywhere and it was only intervention by the courts which has prevented GMOs from becoming widespread.

Infiltration.

The Driving Force of all the evils that are happening.

It was once the preserve of governments and the media to receive attention like this but now it's crept into every niche with hardly an organisation left unaffected. With it the environment, eco-this, eco-that and sustainable everything else, have all become mere terms which mean different things to so many different groups. They are often sugar-coated meaningless words that are downright nauseous to listen to. Conservation in its initial concept was relatively straightforward. Back then it was all about protecting species, preserving habitats and fighting pollution, but now it includes so much more besides. And it's all been brought about by those forces positively scheming away from behind the scenes.

Those with outside interests have quietly move in and have begun messing with things from within with none of the ideals or principles the original organisations once had. These people have been worming their ways into the various authorities for decades seeking to subvert and profit whilst caring not about what they destroy. For be in no doubt, working along side the general run-of-the-mill activists and charity fund raisers, the interests of the big corporates have crept in.

We certainly know they've infiltrated just about every conservation organisation, they've been inside governments forever, the media, and are also within the education system influencing any curriculums which may then go on to pervert the minds of young children. In fact they're into just about every sphere of society we could ever possibly imagine.

How it Works.

Someone gets in there, spirals his or her way up into a position of trust and responsibility at the top, and then the real work begins.

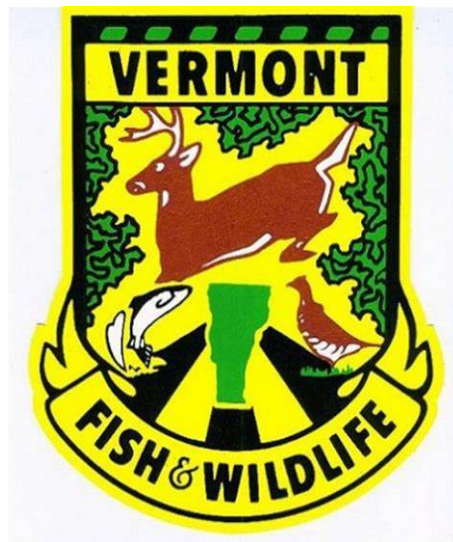
A person in charge of recruitment as a case in point can thumb their way through any number of CVs, see what each applicants' outside interests might be, hunting or trapping in a worst case scenario, and then it's bingo. Once there are enough mouldy apples in the barrel, so to speak, gravity takes over and the tipping point is achieved. From there on, especially if things go unchallenged, entire outfits become rotten to the very core in not much time at all. But it goes on, possibly a bit more subtly in some quarters than others, and it's happening throughout for any number of twisted political agendas.

Principles which have held conservation in good stead for decades are abandoned and replaced with new and invariably bad ways of doing things. Entire policies and practices can be rewritten over night but the really sinister part in all this are those friendly looking logos which remain exactly the same. So even with all of these appalling modifications creeping their ways in, by those incidently who were never in the organisations in the first place, with the help of some nice little photos and reassuring stories in their quarterly glossy magazines people will still support them.

Infiltration is insidious with very few noticing what's occurring. Everything that once worked well has been watered down and diluted or has changed direction altogether. Even the most committed are losing their way with it all and conservation has never been so disconnected. No-one seems to realise what's happened, what a con it all is, and that they and the natural world are being duped. These new and often not such great ideas are finally decided upon and shuffled in behind closed doors where they quickly become embroiled into policy. And once there anyone who then questions what's happening immediately find themselves up against a brick wall.

The hunting lobby always did have some kind of claim over conservation, which never did fool anyone, but even they have become more plausible for some. But these other persuasions have snuck their ways in far more insidiously and in some ways are a lot more damaging. So much so we're seeing this hodgepodge unfolding before us which actually saves nothing at all.

It's an extremely simple process which American state-run conservation has practiced forever.



Vermont Fish & Wildlife.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_d6bdbec0d9cf4045ab04c5a03005de1e.pdf

Trapping in Vermont.

The official trapping season in Vermont starts on the 4th Saturday of October each year and runs through March 31st where bobcats, foxes, otters, and others will be trapped and killed in steel-jawed leghold, drowning, and body gripping kill traps. Due to the indiscriminate nature of traps, non-targeted animals including dogs, cats, and also protected and endangered species like bald eagles, find themselves trapped, often with fatal injuries. Click here for Vermont trapping facts:

<https://www.protectourwildlifevt.org/trapping>



Nice Bernie with his cute little bird image.

So where's Bernie Sanders the senator for Vermont in all of this? Well even he may not be as wildlife friendly as many imagine.

"People in my state have been hunting — It's part of the culture of the state of Vermont, it's part of the culture of New Hampshire, and I believe in that culture."

Bernie Sanders

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/christophermassie/sanders-i-believe-in-hunting-culture>

He may well have said that in order to gain the hunting vote of course but either which way there you have it.

Recycling.



Local councils in western countries, so it would seem, ship it over as in this case to Malaysia where one or two of the more choice materials are selectively removed and the rest of it's dumped in the countryside or the rivers.



Council recycling bags with councils' name's printed on each one.

Western recycling shipments, presumably in the full knowledge of what's happening, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall follows the trail. In his very revealing programme, War on Plastic, he identifies the precise councils engaged in the practice, takes evidence back and confronts them with it.

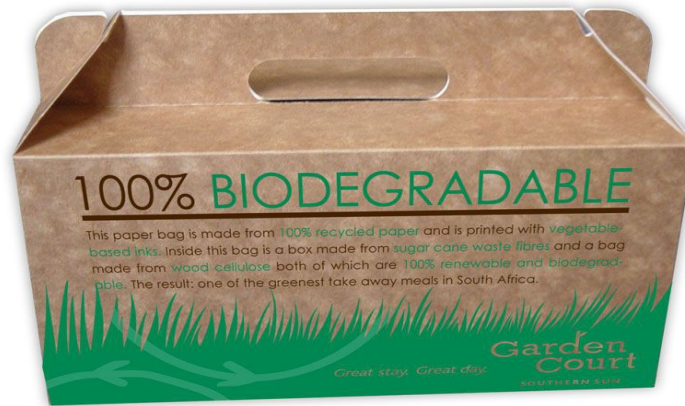
So do most councils even recycle?

The big skips where glass, cans and cloth are individually selected definitely are. While living in the real world, reading between the lines as it were, from the evidence we've seen. It's a pretty fair assumption to say most of the fortnightly collections probably aren't, while other authorities might, although probably not nearly enough as they should. But to be fair though, councils are expected to clear up the utter filth relentlessly created by society, positively promoted by commerce, and wilfully allowed by governments. So really they can hardly received all of the blame.

Recycling. Please see the link below.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_4c098a702bf547b2a25d49b327fffd08.pdf

Environmentally Friendly Packaging.



This covers anything from boxes to bottles to just about everything else. Basically trying to find alternatives to the trash we're throwing out today. In the olden days we had returnable glass bottles, which used to work very well, and the iron, what were then known as the tin cans, were a whole lot less polluting than the aluminum ones that largely replaced them. So anything that did end up in the hedgerows was a good deal less damaging in any case.

Of course in those days it was more about make do and mend. When we did our shopping back then we used to take shopping bags with us, such a novel idea it seems today, none of this shoveling out the plastic bags retailers are now doing. Hospitals have throwaway down to a fine art, and I know we shouldn't criticise the NHS, with just about everything disposable. Waste is a universal problem in just about every sector of society so in order to find an answer to this let's take a look at some of the ideas that are currently being suggested.



Madagascar, the home of lemurs and the famous Aye-aye, where sisal is grown for the 'environmentally friendly packaging' industry on a huge scale replacing the natural indigenous habitat.



And let's not forget Kristján Loftsson with his 'environmentally friendly' frozen whale meat boxes.

This is not to say eco-packaging shouldn't be the way forward but as always it's about where and how it's produced and having a bad product in a good container hardly makes a bad product good.

Looking at the various other alternatives.

TBM Announces the Concept Model of Alternatives to Single-use Plastic Bags at COP 24

Products made from a limestone-based material is close to launching LIMEX and Plax bags as alternatives to single-use plastic bags

TBM Co., Ltd. (TBM), a company that develops, manufactures and sells paper and plastic alternative products made from a limestone-based material known as 'LIMEX', is close to launching LIMEX and Plax bags on the market as alternatives to single-use plastic bags.

Furthermore, TBM is honored to participate in COP24 (Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) as a delegation of Japan. On 12th December 2018 (Local Time 13:15- 14:30), TBM will host an event, 'LIMEX – Limestone paves the road to a de-carbonised circular economy', in Japan Pavilion. Here, TBM will introduce the concept model of alternatives to single-use plastic bags made of LIMEX and Plax.

TBM Announces the Concept Model of Alternatives to Single-use Plastic Bags at COP 24

<https://news.bio-based.eu/tbm-announces-the-concept-model-of-alternatives-to-single-use-plastic-bags-at-cop-24/>

Limestone is a finite resource and this has simply not been thought through. It's bad enough being squandered by farming and construction as it is. This will only add to yet further depletion.

Palm Leaf Tableware.

With the growing amount of annual disposable plastic waste produced in the catering industry, businesses are looking for alternatives to plastic & polystyrene to reduce the impact on the environment.

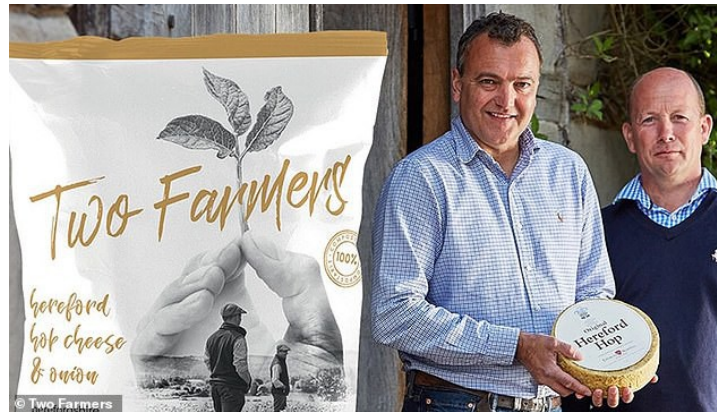
A new plastic alternative is becoming more popular within the catering industry. Palm leaf products like the name suggests are made from fallen areca palm leaf's that are cleaned with water, dried and then stretched and flattened. Various plates and bowl shapes are then moulded using a heated press.

The fallen leaves used are sustainable and easily renewed, and the production sites are near to zero-emission micro-farms. The palm leaf products themselves can be regarded as 100% naturally biodegradable and compostable, making palm leaves disposable products one of if the most environmentally friendly product on the market.

<https://www.buzzcateringsupplies.com/catering-blog/article/palm-leaf-tableware%20eco-friendly-packaging>

This product is a great alternative in itself but if it were ever to become mainstream and unregulated the palm oil growers would have a field day.

First Biodegradable Crisps Packaging Made From Eucalyptus



The packets are made from cellulose and **sustainably grown eucalyptus trees** and are compostable in 26 weeks.

<https://bioplasticsnews.com/2018/10/19/biodegradable-crisp-packaging-eucalyptus/>

And again a viable enough alternative to plastic. But it's where these eucalyptus leaves are grown that's the all important question. Because we should be all too aware of the devastating effects eucalyptus plantations are having in various countries around the world. From habitat destruction to being highly invasive as well as fuelling forest fires etc. Whereas if they were grown in Australia by proper conservationists they would actually be helping to preserve the local ecology by making eucalyptus profitable in that country. But when writing to them on this they confirmed they were not.

Most people too are simply not that discerning when it comes to the disposing of their waste. They might put bioplastic in with other plastics, contaminating those, or, if they get into the habit of bio they might try composting conventional plastics which obviously wouldn't work either. And many of the so-called bioplastics coming onto the market these days even contain toxic PSA chemicals.

Why Composting Sites are Banning Compostable Plastics.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKJSII63DJw>

Things could be just fine if everything were above board. For example bioplastic made from Australian organically grown eucalyptus leaves, with no nasty surprises like PSA chemicals or toxic inks, with the word compostable clearly marked on the packet or utensil in question. Everything then would be made simple. The problem is everyone wants to take the shortcut, stick the word sustainable on the packets, and to hell as to whether it's any good or not.

This clearly isn't good enough and if we really want to sort out our appalling pollution problems then far more commitment is needed throughout the entire single-use plastics' industry as well as within commerce itself.

Media Misinformation.

And the key to it all of course is media misinformation. The manipulation of the truth so that events can be steered into different outcomes. Get enough people hooked on an idea and a natural movement within the nation's psyche is achieved and they are doing this in many ways. Drip, drip, drip-feeding us. Terrifying us all into wanting more and more of their disastrous wind farms being just one. Nothing these ecoterrorists as I call 'em would like better.

The BBC.

A corporate network broadcasting a corporate agenda with a veritable catalogue of messages that are not altogether helpful.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_1f8ae4b9fe874d62966c389f29144e4f.pdf



Perfect Planet.

Shame about the programme! Just one of their productions, with Attenborough at the helm, he describes how the planet could be 'saved' using some of the most murderous machines known to man.

Never before have we had such an awareness of what we are doing to the planet and never before have we had the power to do something about that.

Sir David Attenborough.

Those who claim awareness are often the least aware.

Not content they will all too often and routinely reveal, in their informative wildlife programmes, vital information as to where exploiters can go to fish and hunt. This is not to say all their broadcasting is flawed. Their Blue Planet coverage of plastics in the oceans was one enormous eye opener for the world to see and as always their Fish Fight and War on Plastic series. But these are the exceptions rather than the rule.

Galapagos.



This programme was one of their worst. In it Steve Backshall said, “the waters around Galapagos have the largest concentration of Hammerheads anywhere on the planet!” To the casual observer this may not have seemed like a big deal that is until the consequences are fully weighed up and the realisation of what was said hits home.



Because within a few short months after he'd so thoughtlessly blurted this out for the whole world to hear this happened.....

Giant Chinese fishing fleet made up of 245 ships depredates the Galapagos protection zone.



Boats are located two nautical miles from the Galapagos protection zone. A gigantic Chinese fishing fleet made up of 245 ships depredates the marine fauna a few miles from the Galapagos protection zone.

The National Navy announced that this activity has been extended for months but it can not be prevented. According to the authorities, an Ecuadorian ship supplies these vessels with fuel.

The National Navy calls for an international law that prohibits these activities. These tasks have been carried out for three months two miles from the limits of the Galápagos protected area. In March, April and May several marine species travel to the archipelago to feed.

Darwin Jarrín Cisneros, commander of the Navy, commented that in the monitoring they have detected how the Chinese ships are being supplied with fuel. "This has been a surprise indeed because it is an Ecuadorian flag vessel," María del Carmen 4 ", which has participated in procurement operations," he said.

Jarrín said that nothing can be done about this type of action because the ship "María del Carmen 4" has worked in international waters and abide by the law. In 2017, a Chinese vessel with more than 6 tons of fishing was captured.

"For Ecuador represents a big effort to generate protection in our space." He commented that it is necessary to generate policies that allow to contain this type of actions. (BGV)

<https://greenworldwarriors.com/2019/04/30/giant-chinese-fishing-fleet-made-up-of-245-ships-depredates-the-galapagos-protection-zone/>

Chinese fishing fleets visible from space invade the waters around Galapagos.

Whether or not this information directly led to this, and it's by no means certain it didn't, there are some things that should never be aired on TV where they can literally be picked up by anyone. No-one has the right to endanger the safety of wildlife in order to somehow enhance the production of a programme and under no circumstances should it ever have been allowed.

Rediscovering Extinct Species.



Neil Waters. Searching for the Thylacine.



The one thing you positively do not do, when you think you've rediscovered something as sought after as a Thylacine, is to give exact locations by drawing bloody crosses on maps and putting it out there in the public domain.

What they'd actually found was a Fox, which really isn't the point, this was recklessly intended and had it been a genuine sighting it could have been fatal for the animal concerned.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qT1B8eKGd4>

Ornithologists discover more rare hornbills than thought on Philippine island



MANILA — As a rare species of endemic hornbills disappeared from island after island in the Philippines, [REDACTED] a little-surveyed island in the center of the Philippine archipelago, whose remaining forest areas could potentially hide a population never before seen or recorded by experts.

This year, their speculations were confirmed: a recent study led by leading Filipino ornithologist Lisa Paguntalan proved that thousands of Visayan tarictic hornbills (*Penelopides panini*) [REDACTED]

Philippine hornbills are among the most threatened birds in the world. Of the 11 recognized hornbill species in the Philippines, nine are threatened by habitat loss, which heightens competition between mature birds for nesting trees; and hunting for sport and poaching for the illegal wildlife trade.

The Visayan tarictic hornbill is classified as endangered on the IUCN Red List, while the Philippines' environment department has bumped it up to critically endangered on the national red list. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A subspecies, the Ticao hornbill (*P. p. ticaensis*), was the first hornbill in the Philippines to be declared extinct, in 1913, after it disappeared completely from the island of the same name.



It's this precarious situation that has propelled the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation (PhilBio) to roll out its Philippine Hornbill Conservation Programme, which includes experts like Paguntalan, who's also the foundation's executive director, searching for the country's fast-disappearing and endangered hornbill populations since 1996.

Altogether, these areas have nearly 113,000 hectares (280,000 acres) of forests — 4% of the island's total land area — and fall under the government's protected areas program.

By the 1990s, local government units initiated reforestation programs; the three protected areas included in the study have their share of regenerated logged-over forests.

The research team used existing biomonitoring trails established by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in its protected areas. They added to and adjusted these trails when necessary to avoid double-counting the birds. What made this survey rigorous, though, is that it required numerous teams to conduct synchronized surveys simultaneously over different transect points over a specified period of time.

"Each assigned group walk and record birds (hornbills) simultaneously at 0600hrs within each Protected Area," Paguntalan describes in an email. "We synchronized the conduct of the count strictly following counting of birds for eight minutes at each point within the line transects and adding distance estimates everytime a bird was encountered (see or heard calling)."

The group then combined these encounters — both visual encounters and records of the hornbills' notorious raucous calls — to calculate hornbill density using DISTANCE, a widely accepted computer program for species estimates. In NNNP, they estimated a population of 1,580; 532 in Mount Kanlaon; and 1,452 in Balinsasayao.

The estimate was within a 1,200-meter (3,900-foot) elevation since previous studies determine hornbills as mid-elevation birds. Forest cover in the three protected areas only begins at 800 to 1,000 meters (2,600 to 3,300 feet) and each has different tree distribution, according to the study.

The state of trees in these protected areas influenced the team's hornbill encounters. "This difference in the forest structure influenced the population density of hornbills in each protected area," the study says. "It also indicates the main habitat preference of the Visayan tarictic hornbill."

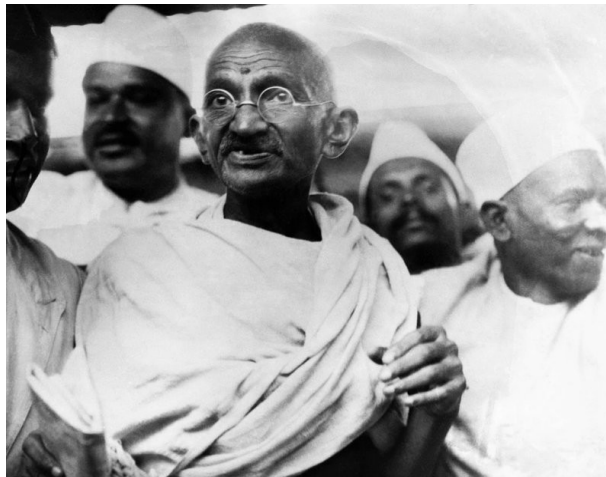
In NNNP, which covers more than 70,000 hectares (173,000 acres), the group encountered fewer birds because it has the least number of tall, mature trees to host flocks of tarictics.

What makes an ideal habitat for hornbills then, says Paguntalan, are a combination of these protected areas: large tracts of forests with mature, tall trees. "The Visayan Tarictic hornbills are canopy dwelling birds and would require a large tract of forest with tall and large trees in order to survive," she says.

In this report we've heavily redacted we can only emphasise a need for caution. Putting information like this out there into the public domain, with maps what's more, is simply asking for trouble. And although these are not the sought after Helmeted Hornbills the Chinese need no excuse for killing. Indeed the smaller horns of rhino species found in S.E. Asia, for example, are preferable to the larger African ones because they are said to have greater potency.

Pacifism or Non-Violent Direct Action.

Pacifism as a campaigning tool very much has its place in the conservationist's armoury but only as and where it can be successfully applied. As with all strategies both its uses and its limitations must be fully recognised if it's to work. It can be extremely effective where a person or an organisation can be successfully shamed or wherever there's a mass following. With actions ranging from leafleting, strikes, trade sanctions to the boycotting of goods with its effects as a force for good being far and wide. But it only works where it will work and there are many fights in the world where it will not and so that then must be recognised.



Pacifism was used very successfully in the case of Gandhi against British rule. But that was a movement that literally had millions of followers within that country itself who were never going to back down. At that time the British had lost every bit of respect they'd ever had and were left with no option other than to get out of India.

Shaming can be extremely effective and all it takes in some cases is very few people to do it what's more. It may well have played its part in getting Iceland to quit whaling. They have a green Prime Minister in charge of the country, and you can hardly have a whaling 'green' Prime Minister and keep a straight face, so I do think that may well have played its part in that particular case. Shaming can also be used very effectively against those who don't mind sharing sordid secrets with one another but are a whole lot less keen to share them when it comes to their partners, friends or neighbours etc.

When the then Bradley Manning leaked the appalling footage for the world to see the US was a whole lot less keen for that to be shown even though they'd been perfectly happy to know about it themselves. There are some killers who share trophy hunting photos with each other but don't like it when it gets into the wider public. And there are others of course who simply do not give a damn and that then is where shaming comes to an abrupt end. Because those people are without shame and therefore cannot be shamed.

And that is the point where shaming can no longer effectively be used.

Neo-Namby-Pambyism. Why it's taken such a destructive hold.



Most campaigners these days make the tragic mistake of confusing constructive pacifism with laid back, let the world piss all over us, passivism. And they are positively not the same thing at all! You will never shame countries like Japan or Norway into giving up whaling anywhere near as easily as it was with Iceland, and even they could go back to it any time they liked, and it would take the cooperation of many governments if trade sanctions were ever going to work. And so realistically this will never happen unless the greenest of governments imaginable get into power. So in order to make any inroads into their activities a far more forceful approach was always needed.

There was a time when things were going well, when we were simply not going to put up with the same old stuff we had in the past, instead there was this radical new way of getting things done. At last there were those with the audacity to do the job in hand which then gave any one of us the chance to get involved too by raising the funds needed for them to get on with it. Life back then was simple, raise the funds and send it over to the boys in charge, then good conservation efforts were thus assured. Since then things have taken on a very down hill trajectory. Instead a modern approach of education trying to somehow win them over by being nice to them is the way of things. But ultimately there is only one type of 'education' these people understand and it doesn't necessarily come from a classroom.

Earlier there was a spirit, a certain attitude which clearly stated, 'you're not going to do this to us any more.' Something which in conservation at least is so very sadly lacking today. These days it's all of this namby-pamby cap-in-hand stuff. So why have things changed so appallingly? Has money changed hands or do the exploiters have some kind of hold? I don't know what's happened but I do know there are things going on none of us will ever hear about so we can only guess. But this leaves our oceans in particular in an extremely vulnerable state indeed.



Whaling back then when real conservationists were running the show.....



..... and whaling now with passivism dictating things.



In these early pioneering days back in the late 1970s early 80s there were nine die hard whaling nations left and now there are just three. My fear is especially as these right-wing governments become increasingly elected around the world, things could quickly turn around to how they were then, and in the current climate of namby-bloody-pambyism who's gonna stop them assuming ever it did? China is now exploiting the world's oceans like it never has before. It knows, along with every other nation I suspect, it can simply get away with whatever it likes and no-one but no-one will even attempt to stop them.

The current situation is abysmal. We've got the BBC preaching at every opportunity on how we can save the planet whilst at the same time broadcasting at the top of their voices, in their oh so informative wildlife programmes, the precise locations where the oceans can be best exploited. And we've got China taking full advantage of that, as it would, with the rest of the world sitting back and letting them get on with it. So what's to be done? To do nothing surely sends out the worst possible message. We might as well be saying the oceans are up for grabs to all comers to do with whatever they like which of course is what they are doing.

And OK I get it advancing technologies and the general situation may have made things that much more challenging out at sea. But as I also so rightly pointed out at the time there's always more than one way to crack an egg and likewise more than one direction of attack.

Captain Paul Watson.



The man who dismissed Greenpeace throughout his entire campaigning career because of its ineffectiveness only to turn his own Sea Shepherd into the new Greenpeace some years later.



Campaigning today is an embarrassment! It's letting the whales down, it's letting ourselves down, and the whaling industry must be falling about laughing with the message it's sending out. There was a time when to wear the Sea Shepherd logo on the back of a black denim jacket came with a sense of pride but sadly this is no longer the case. And gone are the days, for me at least, when one of their tee-shirts can be worn anywhere other than hidden away under a shirt or a jumper.

The Days of Real Conservation. The day Watson sold out to the whalers!

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_09709a02547c4a17adc138763d9e9f3d.pdf

In order to really understand the mood back then you had to have been there or at least have followed it from the beginning.



Were you there?

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_a465ce2872454a629e10ab64fe58af11.pdf

Edward Snowden.



Often much revered but there was a time he leaked information to the Japanese which if successful could have had serious consequences for the whales. The fact that it didn't was no thanks to him.

Spy-hopping: Leaked document reveals Intelligence agencies involvement in whaling meeting.

The meetings of the International Whaling Commission undoubtedly generate passionate debate from all sides, but “exciting” is probably not a term you would usually use to describe the proceedings.

However, a leaked document published on the Intercept website from whistleblower Edward Snowden, reveals that US officials attending an IWC meeting in May 2007 in Anchorage were supported by the US National Security Agency (NSA). One of the agency’s representatives was working with local colleagues to collate information gathered by counterparts from New Zealand on Japan’s lobbying efforts with countries that might support its position on various whaling issues ahead of votes later in the week. A selection of delegates from the US, New Zealand and Australia met to be presented with the findings each day.

While it is unclear exactly what information was passed to these delegates and how it was used, Japan ultimately failed in its attempt to get any exemptions from the ongoing moratorium at the meeting. The document concludes: “Was the outcome worth the effort? The Australian, New Zealand, and American delegates would all say ‘yes’. I believe the whales would concur”.

<http://uk.whales.org/news/2017/04/spy-hopping-leaked-document-reveals-intelligence-agencies-involvement-in-whaling>

About the only time America does something honourable and Snowden tries to scupper it.

Endangered blue whales, the largest animal in history, have returned to waters of [REDACTED] after 100 years of near extinction.



Scientists have recorded dozens of whales in the area after only a single whale had been viewed between 1998 and 2018.

[REDACTED]

“But we were very favorably surprised by quite how many we did see this year.”

Because these whales were heavily hunted and exploited before whaling was banned, the whales virtually disappeared from the waters.

[REDACTED]

Scientists found 38 sightings of whales on the surface over a few weeks and counted 56 individual whales during research in January and February this year. Scientists could also detect whale sounds on sonobuoys they had placed in the water.

[REDACTED] Scientists were concerned that species of blue whales wouldn't be seen again in those numbers in the area.

And again in the current climate of neo-namby-bloody-pambyism non-protectionism it's never ever wise to give away exact locations.

Edinburgh Zoo and the Norwegian Connection.



"Of course our most famous penguin is Brigadier Sir Nils Olav III who is the mascot and colonel-in-chief of the Norwegian King's Guard. Our connection with Norway started over 100 years ago when a Christian Salvesen whaling fleet brought the penguins to the zoo. The Norwegian army came to visit in the 60s as part of the military tattoo and they fell in love with the King penguins as they look very regal. Ever since then, they have visited and bestowed honours upon the King penguins."

<https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/i-think-they-are-wonderful-creatures-they-do-stink-day-life-penguin-keeper-edinburgh-zoo-1367933>

These guardsmen represent the country of Norway and Norway still whales to this day. An issue made even more poignant considering the penguins were originally donated by whalers in the first place.

The message this sends out is one of contempt both for the whales and for all those conservationists who are still fighting to save them.

Dolphin Friendly Tuna Campaign.



An extremely necessary campaign at the time and probably still is.



But then the industry switched to longline which began killing albatrosses. The very best ecological fishing practice anyone can ever hope for is pole-and-line caught where the fishes' brains are dashed onto the deck. It's for this reason I now never eat fish.



The UK Government has today promised that £3 billion of international climate finance will go to nature. It needs to make same sort of investment at home in our #vanishing species #OnePlanetSummit says @ukyouth4nature

<https://www.facebook.com/1002029769993615/videos/403295054296895/>

Calling for the government to invest more money into funding conservation. A really great message which in itself cannot be faulted. But the issue everyone needs to know is the government cannot be trusted an inch and it will never be enough for most governments to give extra funding towards conservation. People need to know exactly where the money's going and what it's being spent on.

The last time this government funded the rainforests for example, they gave a large portion of it over to a so-called sustainable rubber plantation somewhere in Malaya, which actually had nothing at all to do with conserving the rainforests.

Any money given here in the UK would doubtlessly end up in the hands of the various government conservation bodies such as NRW, SNH and EN. But what would they be spending it on? Here are some examples and again it ain't necessarily pretty or even useful for conservation.

Scottish Natural Heritage for example gunning down Barnacle Geese for 'conservation' purposes.

<https://youtu.be/dFiZV7d5vws>

Or Natural Resources Wales allowing rare plants to be nibbled out of existence.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_c664930944eb45a487024610b783df28.pdf

This is not to say money shouldn't be allocated towards conservation but we need to know exactly what the policies are and how it's being spent.

The Sordid History of Bird Charities.

The biggest lie of all of course came in the 1970s when bird numbers were plummeting like flies. This was when agricultural chemicals, particularly with the increased use of organophosphates, were rendering many species infertile. These chemicals never went away of course, they're still out there today doing their level best, only nowadays it's all conveniently lumped together with global-warming so as not to upset the farmers too much. Since then wind farms have crept in everywhere and it is these that have become the final nail in the coffin for so many species.



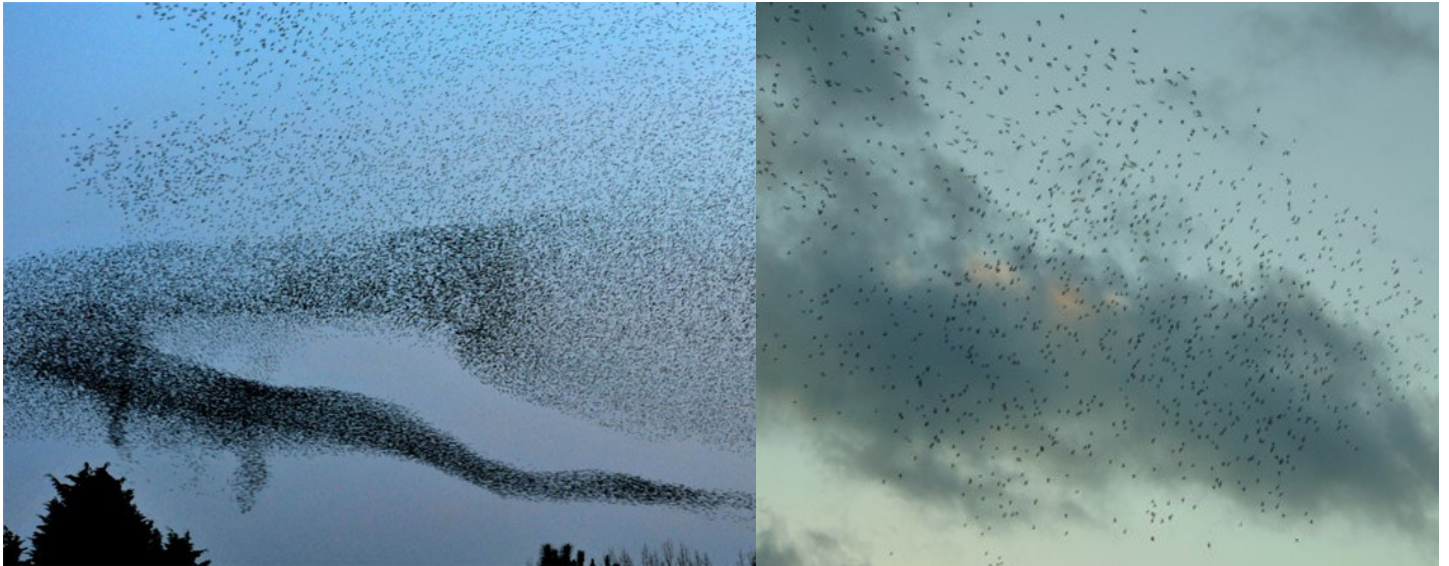
Go for that walk into the wider countryside and you will find empty skies and eerily silent trees.

After World War II, American companies gained access to some information from Schrader's laboratory, and began synthesizing organophosphate pesticides in large quantities. Parathion was among the first marketed, followed by malathion and azinphosmethyl. The popularity of these insecticides increased after many of the organochlorine insecticides such as DDT, dieldrin, and heptachlor were banned in the 1970s.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organophosphate>

Use the evidence of your own eyes by taking that walk, see for yourselves how many birds are out there, and recognise the countryside for the abysmal void that it is. It has little to do with climate-change but everything to do with wind farms, pesticides, land management and hunting, probably in that order. You might see an odd flock of Crows or Jackdaws, see a few Blackbirds or perhaps some Robins, and you might even hear a Cuckoo in the spring, but the huge numbers of what should be there simply no longer are.

I can remember flocks of two hundred Lapwings being a regular if not every day sight with Golden Plovers and Curlews flying around in reasonable abundance. The largely untrimmed hedgerows back then literally haemorrhaged Fieldfares and Redwings as we walked along them in the winter months. I can once remember finding three occupied Linnet nests in a single Hawthorn bush. It was a pretty unusual find even for then but it happened. Kestrels, Turtle Doves, Bullfinches and all those other birds that were once familiar, look around and none of them are there any more.



Starling murmurations. One taken over twenty years ago and the other a few years back.

Don't believe anything the bird organisations, above all the media or even what we're telling you, but do at least believe your own eyes. **Next time you witness one of these murmurations for example, dim flickerings these days more like, and see for yourselves which one of the two pictures they most closely resemble.** Or maybe just look around the countryside. There really is hardly anything out there any more!

The RSPB.



Don't rely on them either.

Having handed your subscriptions over, thinking you've given your money to the birds, you've actually supported the organisation who are making things worse for them than they already are.

Because they are the go to guys of information if you like.

When writing to an MP for example with your concerns about wind farms. More likely their assistant will receive the message, but if they do get to see it and if they then decided to look into it, they would then contact these 'experts' who would simply deny there's a problem. And so sad fact is unless that MP is particularly discerning the argument at least as far as they're concerned is pretty well sown up.

But turn away from their green-speak, the data, and the graphs, obviously drawn up by wind supporters, and gaze upon some real evidence.....

A Case Against the RSPB. In the RSPB's own words go to pages 29-33 and see who's paying them their wages.

http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_8183b59e65b646ba912315b53efb38d7.pdf

The RSPB State of UK Birds Report 2017.

And the deception doesn't end there.

As we can see in their annual reports it's climate change, climate change followed by yet more climate change which in fact has had very little to do with declining bird numbers over the decades.

Throughout the entire text, to the virtual exclusion of every other threat, you'll find it bedaubed on every page making an astonishing appearance of no fewer than 73 times. And we've not even included the variables such as climatic conditions, climate warming or climate-related etc. **Issues like pesticides, plastics, industrial fishing, silage-cutting, illegal killing and wind-farm collisions, which are the real dangers birds are facing, they're either hardly mentioned or ignored altogether.** To be fair though Rats did feature reasonably high, and with the appalling consequences Rat infestations have on island species being taken into account, it's at least good to know they're still actively engaged on this particular issue. Other than that however it is extremely poor and lacking report.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_d1401f163dfa4ddd9886576c95a655ab.pdf

By contrast please see our own summary of events and find out what's really happened.

The CATES State of UK Birds Report 2017.



http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_4923e966f01f444cb641c85a823f0573.pdf

Always read the small print.

Go through it very carefully before supporting or signing up to any organisation you're sending your donations to and never ever be fooled by green-speak coming from anyone whoever that someone might be. Instead of taking things at face value, with their friendly looking wildlife logos, we all need to examine a little deeper in order to see exactly what things are really about.

Trump Administration Continues to Defend its Illegal Bird-Killing Policy



WASHINGTON – “It is past time to end this futile attempt to weaken the 100-year-old Migratory Bird Treaty Act,” said Sarah Greenberger, interim chief conservation officer for the National Audubon Society. “We’ve lost 3 billion birds in North America in the last 50 years and two-thirds of those birds are at risk of extinction due to climate change. It is unconscionable that the administration is continuing this effort.”

On the eve of World Migratory Bird Day (October 10, 2020), lawyers representing the Department of the Interior filed an official notice that the administration intends to appeal a United States District Court’s ruling earlier this year, that the legal opinion which serves as the basis for the Trump administration’s rollback of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act does not align with the intent and language of the law. The case was the result of a series of lawsuits brought in 2018 by Audubon, several other conservation groups, and eight states.

“We’re confident the District Court’s ruling will be upheld and we will continue to fight this bird-killing policy in the courts and through pro-active legislation in both Congress and in legislatures across the United States,” said Greenberger. “Just this week, Vermont joined California in establishing state-level migratory bird protections to help fill the gap left by the Trump Administration’s weakening of the MBTA.”

Despite the court loss earlier this year, the administration is continuing to advance a regulatory process to make the legal opinion at the center of this legal fight permanent in the form of regulation. The changes overturn decades of bipartisan precedent to say that the MBTA’s protections apply only to activities that purposefully kill birds, exempting all industrial hazards from enforcement. Any “incidental” death—no matter how inevitable, avoidable or devastating to birds—becomes immune from enforcement under the law.

“The administration’s rollback has bipartisan opposition including members of Congress, more than 25 states, numerous tribal governments, scientists, sportsmen, birdwatchers, and 250,000 people who submitted comments opposing the proposed rule change,” added Greenberger. A bipartisan group of more than 90 members of the U.S. House of Representatives has sponsored the Migratory Bird Protection Act which would secure protections for birds and direct the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to develop a permitting process for “incidental take” through which relevant businesses would implement best management practices and document compliance, further driving innovation in how to best prevent bird deaths.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act is a common-sense law that requires companies to take basic precautions like covering oil waste pits, which birds mistake for bodies of water, and implement best practices for power lines to reduce bird electrocutions and collisions, among other actions. If the administration’s legal opinion had been in place in 2010, BP would have faced no consequences under the MBTA for the more than one million birds killed in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

<https://focusingonwildlife.com/news/trump-administration-continues-to-defend-its-illegal-bird-killing-policy/>

As appalling as this situation is not one of the larger bird charities said a word against Obama when he granted wind companies a 30 year no-penalty amnesty on killing eagles when he was in office. Yet here they all are, when Trump effectively does the same thing, but double standardly looking the other way when things didn't suit.

Wind power company vows to help save critically endangered Californian Condor.



An energy company in California is teaming up with federal wildlife officials and the Oregon Zoo in an innovative project to ease the plight of the mighty, soaring condor, a critically endangered species of vulture threatened by giant wind turbines in the Tehachapi mountains north-east of Los Angeles.

Avangrid Renewables, which operates 126 turbines as part of its Manzana wind power project, will finance the breeding of birds in captivity to replace any that might be killed by the 252ft diameter turbine blades.

The company will be “working with a captive breeding facility to fund the breeding of additional condors for release into the wild”, according to a statement by Scott Sobiech, field supervisor for the US Fish and Wildlife (FWS) service’s Carlsbad and Palm Springs office, and reported by the Los Angeles Times.

The California condor, North America’s largest flying land bird with a 9.5ft wingspan, remains critically endangered, having been brought back from the edge of extinction four decades ago to a current population of about 518 birds in the wild, according to FWS.

There is no record of any condors having been killed at the Manzana plant, which opened in 2012. But the breeding initiative reflects the increasing threat to the species.

“Our goal is to minimize the risk of mortalities. We see this as a win for condors,” Amy Parsons, Avangrid’s operations wildlife compliance manager, said.

About 100 California condors currently inhabit the region in Kern county where the turbines are located, all the product of a captive breeding program established by FWS in 1987, when barely two dozen of the birds remained.

The service began releasing birds back into the wild in 1992, and by 2008 numbers of wild condors overtook those in captivity for the first time in decades. The Times said some condors have recently been found roosting near Yosemite National Park, 300 miles north of the Manzana power plant, for the first time in half a century.

The threat to wildlife from renewable energy turbines has been a growing concern for environmentalists. In 2013, a study by the Wildlife Society into bird and bat fatalities at California’s Altamont Pass wind resource area projected 573,000 bird deaths a year nationally, including 83,000 raptors, and 888,000 bat fatalities.

The proposed Avangrid mitigation project anticipates incidental fatal injuries of up to two free-flying adult condors and the loss of their two chicks or two eggs over 30 years, the Times reported.

The company will pay \$527,000 over three years to produce six condors at the Oregon Zoo’s Jonsson Center for Wildlife Conservation, one of four facilities that breeds condors. The Avangrid Foundation has previously funded the purchase of freezers and other equipment at the venue.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/mar/01/california-condor-endangered-wind-turbines-breeding>

Talk about a sticking plaster approach!

The Langholm Moor Community Sell Out. An iconic area of Scotland's landscape protected forever by 'renewable energy.'

The Langholm Moor Community Buy Out.



We have a unique opportunity to create an ambitious legacy for the future. Langholm Moor, a special place populated with some of our rarest and most beautiful wildlife, could become a community-owned nature reserve - promoting positive climate action, community regeneration and **small scale renewable energy**.

This is one of the most innovative and forward-thinking community plans in the UK. We are at a crossroads in the climate emergency and the decisions we make now will have a massive impact for generations. This land also holds huge cultural significance to local people who care passionately about its future.

But we need your help. After a careful joint valuation process we know the total cost of purchasing the land (10,500 acres or 5,600 football pitches) is just over £6m. We have applied to the Scottish Land Fund for £3m and hope to raise an additional £3.4m. The Langholm Initiative are continuing to investigate a number of funding options which we hope will help us towards this figure.

We are delighted that the John Muir Trust has kick-started the fundraising by pledging £100,000 towards the purchase. This is a great start and the highest compliment for the plans put forward by the community.

We can only do this if everyone is able to pitch in and give what they can. The benefits are clear for the environment, the community and our future. Will you join us in making sure this **iconic area of Scotland's landscape is protected forever?**

<https://www.langholminitiative.org.uk/>

Recommendations

It is GCR's opinion that while a single wind turbine at Tarrasfoot Hill would produce the greatest revenue for LI, solar technology **offers least risk of refusal at planning**.

A single turbine wind development at Tarrasfoot Hill would have the capacity to generate an estimated income of £4,269,720 - £4,952,875 over a 25 year operational lifespan. However, due to having a greater estimated impacts on environmental receptors, this development is anticipated to present more risks during the planning process.

https://4c999f93-ad9c-4916-93d0-256b326d7440.filesusr.com/ugd/0cb14b_22a4380e464b4d569b25430df52335ca.pdf

Not being sure what this 'small scale renewable energy' was, a small scale water mill would have been acceptable, I looked into what their intentions were. And so what they actually have is this rather nice picture of a Hen Harrier with a proposal to build what they described as 'a small wind turbine' on the site.

There's even reference on how they might best get passed the planning rules. At around 4.5 £million for each turbine over 25 years it's no wonder landowners luv 'em.



Lead-Shot.

What we are doing

To tackle this lethal and insidious problem, WWT continues to encourage shooters to use non-toxic alternatives to lead shot. **We believe voluntary behaviour change is better than law change, but law change is necessary if and where this doesn't work.** Working with the shooting community and governments in the UK and Europe is key to ensure that we realise our shared goal of having sustainable and healthy populations of wild birds in the countryside.

Through our scientific research, we continue to build on our substantial body of evidence to help us understand and communicate how severe this problem is for birds, the risks to people from eating game meat contaminated with lead shot and the socio-economic and cultural barriers to hunters choosing non-toxic ammunition. Being on the 'frontline' of this issue and in a position to access and examine birds in wetlands, we are often the first to see the grisly extent and realities of the suffering brought about by the ingestion of lead shot.

By alerting hunters, policymakers and other decision makers to the deadly effects of lead, we can encourage the use of non-toxic ammunition. This is an issue which involves the shooting community, the veterinary and medical communities, wildlife rehabilitators, regulators, governments, non-sports shooting ammunition users, land managers, conservationists and the wider public. Depending on the audience, we have been promoting change using a wide variety of mechanisms such as events, literature, presentations, films and face-to-face discussions. For example, as part of our Flight of the Swans project we produced a short film to engage shooting communities in states along the Bewick's swan's migratory route.

Success!

A huge leap towards ending the suffering of millions of waterbirds from lead poisoning has been taken following a momentous vote to ban lead shot in and around wetlands.

<https://www.wwt.org.uk/our-work/projects/tackling-lead-ammunition-poisoning/>

This is an issue that's been around for decades with shooters dragging their feet every inch of the way. **The Wildfowl & Wetland Trust has always maintained its position of not necessarily wanting an outright ban whereas we and other right minded people would request nothing less on principle alone.** They assume too these concerns need only apply to wetlands.

Palm Oil & Other Forest-Grown Products.



Sustainability. That wonderfully overused and much abused term.

Sustainable palm oil, along with responsible soya and bird-friendly well-sited wind farms, along with wildlife friendly trophy hunting and 'sustainably' produced Amazonian beef if you can believe that. And who knows perhaps there could even be respectable whaling or conscientious genocide one day. But of course contrary to what anyone would have you believe they're far from the benefit of conservation but are positively bad for it.

They're basically terms conjured up by the eco-crooks who are in it for the dough, or, by those who simply want a quiet life and will go along with anything themselves. So you really do need to be on the ball and read the small print like a lawyer before figuring out who the good guys are, those you might want to support with donations or membership, and those you wouldn't give the time of day to. Because this is all about getting to the crux of the matter. Basically anything other than what sounds like real deal conservation probably isn't.

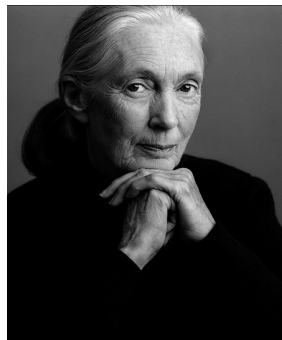
If any one of 'em so much as utters the words sustainable and palm oil in the same breath other than in jest when talking about conserving the rainforests their credibility from there on should go out of the window. It either means they've been bought out and paid for by the industrialists in some way or they're grossly misguided. Either which way they are clearly not on side and are positively not to be trusted.

Could palm oil ever be produced sustainability?

Some would say yes it's already available, while others would argue no it never could be, but I believe there could be some middle ground. If the wild species tree was grown in its native Central Western Africa in order to create habitat then the products from this could rightfully be considered sustainable. Or, if plantations were ever bought up for the genuine purpose of converting them back to more natural vegetation, the interim period's crops prior to this happening could also be considered sustainable. Likewise Rubber Trees and wild Cocoa, native to Amazonia, which could be worth a \$multimillion annual turnover incidentally. Again if these species trees were grown there by conservationists creating habitat then those products too could be considered sustainable.

So why aren't conservationists getting in on the act and beating the multinationals at their own game? They could buy up land and grow their own rainforest crops on it instead. They would take charge, they would grow whatever crops they liked on it, and would make money doing it. Instead of that they go for this humiliating cap-in-hand stuff they're currently engaged with.

The Jane Goodall Institute.



A New Standard for Sustainable Palm Oil.

Palm oil has received a lot of attention in the last few weeks, and we are proud to say that a member of our JGIA team, Natasha Coutts, has been plugged in representing JGI in the Australasian Responsible Palm Oil Network.

Recently, there was a vote on the new Principles and Criteria for the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) with the new standard taking immediate effect.

<https://www.janegoodall.org.au/2018/11/a-new-standard-for-sustainable-palm-oil/>

Whilst there may be no question of personal commitments of some there is for good reason this ever nagging doubt as to why conservationists should belittle themselves like this. It's really no wonder conservation's lost its way and has become so out of touch. Please read the paper below which includes incidentally that 'sustainably' produced Amazonian beef stuff.

What the Conservationists Don't Want You to Know.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_3613f6c81f834e59a2efcac16c21bd0e.pdf

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The theft of Brazil's Rubber Trees.

For the Royal Botanic Gardens, the 'saviours' of the world's botanical treasures, to involve itself with such sordid underhandedness was about as treacherous as was possible to get.

The Rubber Thief of Brazil



Hevea brasiliensis, the Para rubber tree, sharinga tree, or, most commonly, the rubber tree, is a tree belonging to the family Euphorbiaceae. It is the most economically important member of the genus *Hevea*. It is of major economic importance because the milky latex extracted from the tree is the primary source of natural rubber.
SourceGetty

WHY YOU SHOULD CARE

Because the earliest biopiracy stretched from the Amazon to your car tires.

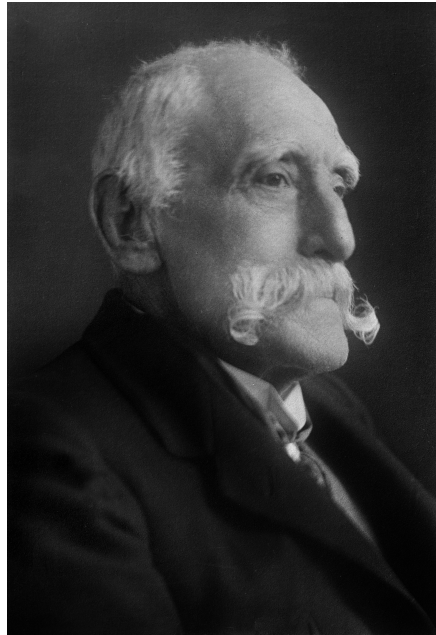
The pale-skinned, 30-year-old Brit made his way down the Amazon River in 1876, searching for trees. He hung a left down the Tapajós River, drifting eventually onto the riverbank near the town of Boim. After clearing a path up the highlands with a machete, he reached the sweet spot, where legend said the strongest trees grew.

He paid local families to fill woven baskets with as many seeds as they could, and to wrap them individually in banana leaves. Loading all 70,000 seeds onto his boat and casting off toward the Atlantic horizon, Henry Wickham might have looked back at the jungle and smiled. After all, he had just become the world's first biopirate.

Today, when you roam through the Brazilian Amazon, you'll hear his name mentioned in the forest, in museums, even in the poor riverside villages. Though you may have never heard of him, Wickham's name is legendary in Brazil — and not in a good way. If you compliment the beauty of Teatro Amazonas, the Amazon's grandiose theater made of European marble and gold-rimmed balconies, locals will point out that it's one of the only signs remaining of the region's former wealth, thanks to Wickham.

The Amazon's 19th-century villain may not have been shooting for infamy, but he might not have minded either. The son of a British lawyer who fell victim to cholera, Wickham found himself scrambling to regain his family's lost fortune. As Joe Jackson, author of *The Thief at the End of the World. Rubber, Power, and the Seeds of Empire*, told OZY, at that time "the way to become rich was as an adventurer or a planter." Which explains why Wickham was traipsing around the Amazon, asking through a translator how to find *Hevea brasiliensis* — aka rubber trees.

He brought his haul back to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew in London, where botanists worked to resuscitate the seeds, soggy and in rough shape after months at sea. Against all odds, and thanks to those carefully wrapped banana leaves protecting them (sopping up their natural oils), 12 percent germinated successfully. British scientists grew those seeds until they became sturdier, and then sent them across the world to British Asian colonies in Malaya and India. There, back in a more familiar tropical climate, the plants flourished, and Britain would soon end up controlling 95 percent of the global rubber economy. With his bold act, Wickham had singlehandedly broken the back of Brazil's rubber monopoly, "collapsing the Amazon economy in a single year," and plunking the region back into the jungle.



Portrait of the world's first biopirate? Source Getty

It's perhaps a little unfair to label Wickham a biopirate. Back then, Wickham was just a businessman, and not a very good one. He left a trail of failed plantations, from Australia to Honduras, and he never returned to Brazil after making off with the seeds. Famed Brazilianist author Warren Dean went on record in 1989, defending Wickham in an op-ed for The New York Times. "The British did not 'sneak' rubber seeds out of the Amazon. An open and unfettered exchange of commercially valuable plant materials was characteristic of the 19th century," he wrote. But Wickham was not exactly forthcoming. He told Brazilian customs officials he was exporting "exceedingly delicate botanical specimens designated for delivery to Her Britannic Majesty's own Royal Gardens at Kew." And Jackson agrees that while Wickham didn't break the letter of the export laws at that time, "given the magnitude of his theft, he certainly broke the spirit of the law."

And that's why people in the Amazon remember him as a thief. His theft became a symbol of malicious imperial forces stripping natural resources from Brazil for their own greedy gain. Jackson found this out firsthand when, in 2008, he retraced Wickham's boot-strapped steps up the banks of the Tapajós. Everyone had heard of the renowned Brit, Jackson says, and "there was still an awful lot of anger about what he'd done."

<https://www.ozy.com/true-and-stories/the-rubber-thief-of-brazil/60424/>

Kew never did need to involved itself of course but involved itself it did. And why we should care has nothing as irrelevant to do with what goes in our tyres because I believe this was the very start of the rot for forests around the world.

This appalling act not only stole Brazil's chance to earn a pretty substantial living from its own rainforests, where the trees were native and actually supported wildlife, but went on to destroy other rainforests throughout SE Asia where they weren't and did not. And probably fed the very idea that eventually pathed the way for the palm oil plantations there today.

FINAL COUNTDOWN

Now or never to reform the palm oil industry.



In the last two years, many palm oil traders have taken a welcome step towards transparency and the implementation of NDPE commitments by publishing details of the mills that supply them, usually as part of the online 'sustainability dashboards' on which they publish statistics relating to their progress towards their NDPE commitments. Since the palm oil industry is vertically integrated, with most traders engaging in refining of crude palm oil (CPO) and palm kernel oil (PKO) and manufacturing oleochemicals and specialty fats, this information is often presented in the form of summary reports for each of the trader's downstream processing units, showing the originating mills for all the palm oil or PKO that has entered that unit. Identifying information for each mill may include GPS coordinates, the name of the plantation company that owns the mill (referred to as the 'third-party supplier') and/or the ultimate group owner (parent company).

Anyone who has faith in these endless reams of bumf produced by Greenpeace, read full report below, really has to question whatever else would they go along with. The world's falling apart around our feet, conservationists producing trite like this, very sadly should give us no confidence at all things are going to improve any time soon.

http://www.greenpeace.org/italy/Global/italy/report/2018/foreste/Final_Countdown_Pages_LR_Greenpeace_19092018.pdf

Mangrove Restoration.

Where mangrove restoration is properly carried out the benefits they can bring to the local communities and ecology are enormous but all too often mistakes like these are made.



Demonstrated here is very much the general run-of-the-mill approach to restoration. But mangroves throughout their range have any number of naturally occurring species but only this Red Mangrove *Rhizophora mangle* is generally ever used. This narrow choice reduces biodiversity and apart from anything else is a lost opportunity for getting it right. There are places in China where this one introduced species planted en masse has formed huge monoculture plantations which have become invasive out-competing natural plant communities well beyond the target plantation area. This is having a profound affect on the wider ecosystem but I guess if anything's done wrong anywhere it'll be China that does it.

Also the established tree line, seen in the top right of the photo, is the boundary to where mangroves will naturally grow down to the inter-tidal elevation and it's a valuable lesson to duplicate this by using these natural forests as a reference before going ahead with anything. These saplings, assuming they even survive, will eventually shade out this valuable bed of seagrass which is an important ecosystem in its own right for manatee, dugong, fish and sea turtles etc.

But if restoration projects are carried out well they can indeed make all the difference, in a country like Bangladesh, between a productive secure thousands of miles of coastline to barren eroded one instead. It's also important to retain open habitats such as mudflats which are important for shellfish and sand worms which in turn are vital for migratory shorebirds.

Mangrove Restoration. How the mangroves should be restored.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_0aa265ee5b754fc4a750b84ba8e02f71.pdf

Artificial Reefs made from Old Tires – A Bad Idea



The invention of tires has made car travel more easier and smoother but when tires are worn out, having an average life span of 50,000 miles, they need to be replaced with new ones. While more and more people are using cars, the quantity of old tires trash each year at junkyards, is also increasing. As old tires are piling up, they have become a good raw material and one of this is an artificial reef made of used tires.

In Florida alone, some 700,000 old tires were clustered in groups and dumped in the sea to become an artificial reef. At first, it proved to be efficient where marine organism has started to take refuge from the artificial structure. But as time goes by, the structure collapse as the nylon and other tying material snapped due to the wear and tear. The scenario was worsened during hurricane season where old tires are scoured by waves and strong tides ending up in natural reefs and up in the beaches.

Well, artificial reefs made out of used tires are not just deployed in Florida, but in other parts of the world especially in areas with high concerns for reef conservation. In fact, Costa Rica has its fair share of using old tires for artificial reef mostly concentrated in the areas of Guanacaste.

But how did it became a bad idea?

Aside from serving as a fish attracting device and refuge for marine critters, its negative effects have overwhelmed what was supposedly a good idea both for waste management and reef conservation. Here are some of the negative effects and reasons why an artificial reef made out of old tires has become a bad idea:

As water constantly moves, the tying material such as nylon loosens down over the years causing the heavy structure to collapse. Imagine the damage it causes to the marine critters that is supposedly taking refuge to this artificial structure. When the structure collapses, the tires can easily be taken by the waves and tidal flow where some have reported seeing hundreds, if not thousands of old tires washed up along the beach. This event can be worsened during seasons of severe weather condition like hurricanes.

Artificial reefs are usually located outside the reef system in a sandy flat bottom. When the structure collapses and loosen up, detached tires from the structure can come in contact and damage a nearby reef. A worst-case scenario would be several detached old tires getting entangled in the reef causing a continuous 24/7 destruction.

It releases toxins and pollutes the water

Although the composition of a brand-new tires is made differently depending on the manufacturer, there are ingredients that are common in making a tire like black carbon, sulphur, zinc oxide and peroxides. These ingredients are exposed to its environment especially if the tire is already worn out. In the case of artificial reefs, we are not using brand new tires and of course, this is not the logical thing to do. When deployed underwater, the decomposition of worn-out old tires is hastened causing the early release of tire chemicals which are considered toxic to the marine environment. An early manifestation that tire chemicals are starting to pollute the water is the growth, if not, the dominance of marine algae.

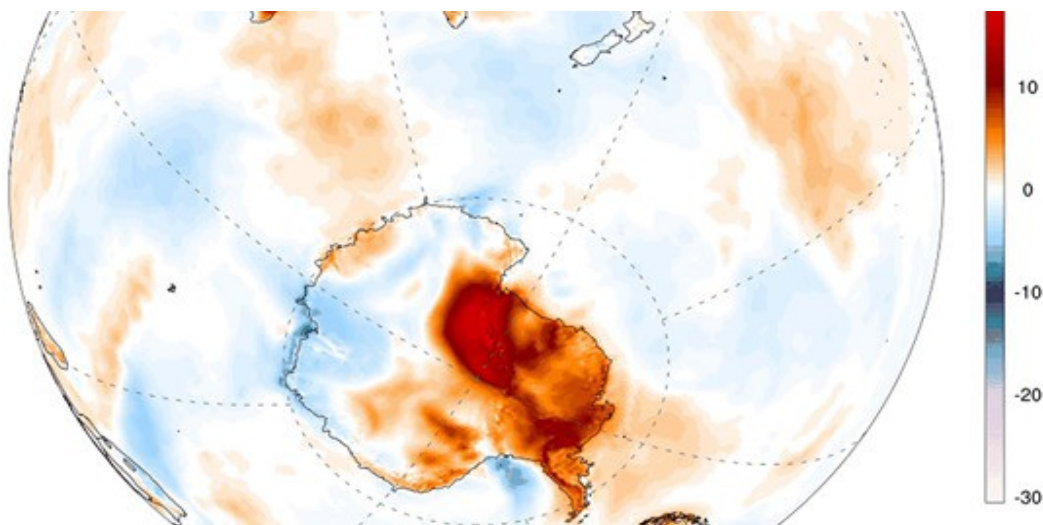
<http://www.costarica-scuba.com/artificial-reefs-made-from-old-tires-a-bad-idea/>

This was so obviously such a bad idea from day one. Tyres were clearly going to break down releasing toxins into the oceans and cause all kinds of problems. I suspect it was all a ploy by the waste management teams to help them dispose of their ever increasing amounts of old tyres. If reefs are to be artificially created they should surely be of moulded concrete or cast iron maybe.

With weird stuff happening around the Southern Hemisphere, like flooding in Indonesia and burning in Australia, this in fact had all the hallmarks of an El Niño year. This however was kept very quiet by the media who never mentioned it once. So determined were they to concentrate their reporting only on the climate-change issue letting nothing else get in the way of a good story. El Niño years are when everything goes wrong with our weather patterns and seabirds starve due to fish disruptions etc.



Instead they further sensationalised it with an alarmist image like which shows much of Antarctica down to the very pole in total meltdown. If this were in any way true we would indeed have something to be very worried about but it isn't. The Antarctic Peninsular (above) is just that tail of land sticking out to the south of South America.



Anyone can draw whatever they like on a globe. It doesn't necessarily make fact.

Conservation Grazing. The before and after shots.



Basic 'light grazing' conservation efforts which are now commonly practiced.



Compared to what real conservation looks a bit more like with no grazing at all for just two months.

Both pictures were taken at the end of June.

Conservation grazing has become merely another term. There was a time once land was allocated for the protection of its rare plants and insects it was grazed throughout the autumn and winter months only. But now the modern approach, which actually benefits farming more than wildlife, is to have animals present throughout the whole year.

It was only after around eight long years of heated letter writing and bitter wrangling did we finally achieved this and even this is far from ideal. Compare the top picture above (both were taken at the end of June incidently) where the site was completely nibbled down to the nub, to the one below it where the vegetations been allowed to naturally grow. And although the no grazing period begins a full month later than is ideal it still demonstrates a considerably improved appearance. **And yet both the landowners and NRW who oversee the site were saying they were doing a great job and would no doubt have concluded they were doing their bit for conservation.**

A Case Against Natural Resources Wales.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_c664930944eb45a487024610b783df28.pdf

Keep Meadows Special Campaign. A good meadow should be left strictly alone during the spring and summer but nibbled to within an inch of its life throughout the autumn and winter.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_31818479d41b4569aa695aaab7d74029.pdf

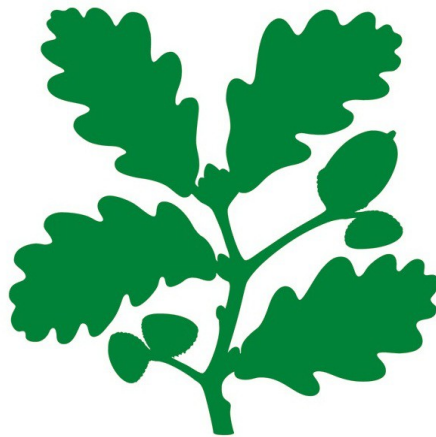
Management. If it destroys more than it helps it's not actually helping.

Scottish Natural Heritage.



Meanwhile gunning down Barnacle Geese is what conservation means to SNH.

Please view the link. <https://youtu.be/dFiZV7d5vws>



Ash dieback

National Trust suffers 'worst year' for ash dieback



Ash tree silhouette, Cumbria (Image courtesy of National Trust Images and Peter Tasker)
image copyrightNational Trust Images/P.Tasker

The National Trust has said it has experienced the worst year on record for ash dieback on its estates.

It says a combination of the coronavirus lockdown and the driest spring on record created a "perfect storm" for the disease to spread. The charity says it will have to spend £2m on felling infected trees this year - four times more than the average cost of felling trees. Sites affected are places that inspired Beatrix Potter and John Constable.

"Ash dieback is a catastrophe for nature," said the trust's national tree and woodland adviser, Luke Barley. "Our landscapes and woodlands are irrevocably changing before our eyes, and this year's combination of a dry spring and late frost may have dramatically sped up the severity of ash dieback."

Lockdown impacts

Mr Barley went on to explain that the charity's estates across the country were being hit hard by the pathogen.

From author Beatrix Potter's Troutbeck Farm in the Lake District to the trees around John Constable's hometown of Flatford, Suffolk - which is said to have provided the inspiration for his masterpiece, the Hay Wain - all were feeling the impact of the disease spread going largely unchecked over the past six months.

"Lockdown has meant we were not able to undertake regular conservation work and many of our rangers who have returned are now forced to spend time felling to manage safety," Mr Barley added. "Vital conservation work, such as tree planting, managing flower-rich meadows and important maintenance work is having to go on hold as a result." The issue of biosecurity is set to become increasingly important to prevent alien invasive pathogens entering UK habitats

Ash dieback, triggered by a fungus called *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*, causes dieback of leaves and branches by shutting down tubes in the trunk that the trees use to transport water and nutrients through its woody frame. Although the disease, originally from eastern Asia, has been present in mainland Europe for a number of decades, it arrived in the UK back in 2012.

In less than a decade, it has spread to all parts of Britain and affected hundreds of thousands of ash trees, if not millions. Ash trees are one of the UK's most abundant tree species, and studies suggest the dieback disease is going to cost the UK economy billions of pounds.

The UK government has recently held a public consultation on its forthcoming tree strategy, which includes ways to increase the resilience and biosecurity of the nation's trees. Earlier this year, the National Trust announced that it was going to have to find savings of £100m each year as a result of the lost income from the coronavirus lockdown. **Yet the cost of the felling of diseased ash is set to cost millions of pounds, the charity said.**

In a normal year, rangers would expect to fell between 4,000 and 5,000 trees on the trust's land. However, it expects to have to cut down an estimated 40,000 trees this year. In order to help cover the additional costs, the National Trust is asking for donations from the public.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-54373214>

The National Trust Fells 40,000 Albeit Dead Trees.

This is nothing short of land-clearance by those who have no concept of just how important dead wood actually is. **If they think this will quell the spread of the disease it will not. The spores are already out there so no amount of felling will change that. It would be far better to seize the opportunity by allowing some really good habitat to develop instead.**

But a concept like this is obviously beyond those of such limited vision. Many trees as it happens are surviving extremely well and it is their seeds that will go on all by themselves, without any further intervention from us, to save the species with new disease resistant strains. There really is no point in depriving countless numbers of insects and birds of food and shelter spending what they describe as 'millions of pounds' in the process.

Their statement, "in a normal year they would expect to fell between 4,000 and 5,000 trees on the trust's land," shows just how heavy handed they routinely are anyway. They are setting an extremely dangerous precedence for other landowners or councils who will no doubt wish to replicate. As a direct result of their actions we'll be seeing dead trees felled everywhere around the country as others queue up to follow suit.

And the BBC's coverage at every opportunity makes doubly sure their clearly outdated message is drip-fed into the nation's psyche as the best practice for our woodlands.

The National Trust has a long and sad history of doing things the wrong way.

The National Trust. Please take a view.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_ee531de71ff1483bb55a02599e196564.pdf

And the haplessness just continues. A never ending catalogue of bad decisions and conservation practices.



From the cosy relationship we so often have with alien invasive species to the dos and positive don'ts of attracting wildlife to the home and garden.



From the releasing of clip-winged birds that were clearly unable to fly to the fiasco of the dog shit laws.

The Hapless Conservationist. Cont'd.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_16ed49b5117043cb951c6e72cdc3a370.pdf

Did Merkel cover up Volkswagen scandal?

Angela Merkel became embroiled in the Volkswagen scandal yesterday as opposition politicians in Germany said her government knew in advance about the firm fiddling its emissions results. The German Green Party said ministers knew in summer about Volkswagen rigging emissions tests but that 'tricks and deceits' were 'accepted with a wink'. The scandal claimed its first major scalp yesterday as the car-maker's chief executive Professor Martin Winterkorn resigned to allow a 'fresh start' – but denied any 'wrongdoing' or culpability.



Hotseat: German Chancellor Angela Merkel, pictured in 2013 with Volkswagen chief Martin Winterkorn who resigned yesterday, is said to have known about the car company cheating on emissions tests. Germany's Greens claim Chancellor Mrs Merkel's Conservative-led government admitted knowing about Volkswagen's emissions test cheating software in an answer to a parliamentary question in July.

Oliver Krischer, the party's deputy leader, told Germany's N24 television channel: 'The government told us in July that it knew about this software, which has been used in the USA, and it's clear they knew the software was widely in use.' He added: "The government worked with the auto industry not to see that emissions levels were reduced, but so that the measuring system was set up to allow the cars to meet the necessary standards on paper."

Mr Krischer's claim centres on a written answer given by the German transport ministry on July 28 to a question from the Greens about so-called 'defeat devices'. This is the industry name for the software that allowed Volkswagen to cheat emissions tests in the US. The ministry wrote that it shared the view of the European Commission 'that there is no extensively proven means of preventing defeat devices'. But it said the ministry supported further development of EU regulations 'with the aim of reducing the real emissions from motor vehicles'.

Professor Winterkorn announced he was stepping down but said he was not aware of 'any wrongdoing on my part'. His statement read, 'I am shocked by the events of the past few days. Above all, I am stunned that misconduct on such a scale was possible in the Volkswagen Group. 'As CEO I accept responsibility for the irregularities that have been found in diesel engines and have therefore requested the supervisory board to agree on terminating my function as CEO ... I am doing this in the interests of the company even though I am not aware of any wrongdoing on my part.'

Professor Winterkorn added that VW needed a 'fresh start' and his resignation was 'clearing the way' for that to happen. He said he was 'convinced' the company would 'overcome this grave crisis'. The Environmental Protection Agency in the US said cars had been fitted with sophisticated software to switch engines to a cleaner mode when they are undergoing official emissions testing. Once on the road, the cars produced nitrogen oxide pollutants at up to 40 times the legal standard.

Why have diesels become so popular in the UK?

Tony Blair introduced the 'dash for diesel' in the late 1990s to meet climate change targets. Under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol wealthy countries had to slash emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), the main greenhouse gas, by 8 per cent over 15 years. Like other leaders, Blair was swayed by the motor industry's argument that switching from petrol to diesel would lead to huge drops in greenhouse gas emissions.

It's true that diesels emit less CO₂ – mostly they are more efficient and go further on one litre of fuel. However, in the 1990s the industry argued the average diesel emitted 13 to 17 per cent less CO₂, a figure that turned out to be hugely optimistic.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3246844/>

Angela Merkel, with her so green and clean energy policies, up to her filthy crooked neck in deception. She's not called murky Merkel for nothing.

Costa Rica.

We've been hearing these extremely worrying reports from that country concerning a Wilma Katz of the Coastal Wildlife Club who it seems is in charge of 'looking after' the turtles there.

COASTAL WILDLIFE CLUB, Inc. (CWC) is an entirely volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to increasing public awareness about coastal areas and particularly the wildlife species which depend upon beach and dune habitats in southwest Florida.

Our primary and most visible project is monitoring beaches for sea turtle activity throughout the nesting and hatching season. CWC has served as the organizing and fund raising organization for the Manasota Key Turtle Patrol since 1997. Zoe Bass, **Wilma Katz** and Carol Leonard administer all of our activities as the Board of Directors.

CWC sea turtle patrol volunteers monitor beaches daily in sections of Charlotte and Sarasota counties – on Manasota Key, where sea turtles nest in greater numbers than anywhere else on the Gulf coast, and on a small section of Knight Island. Our sea turtle patrol is managed and supervised by long time permit holders Zoe Bass and Wilma Katz.

Year round, as part of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network (STSSN), CWC volunteers also respond to reports of dead or injured sea turtles.

Among our other projects, CWC members participate in local festivals and provide programs for school classes and community groups. Our outreach programs are managed by Carol Leonard.

Our webmaster is Andrea Shlasko and our web data is managed by Mike Shlasko.

<http://www.coastalwildlifeclub.org/>

Costa Rica Egg Hoax

Note from Wilma Katz, CWC Board of Directors:

Many of us continue to receive from friends the series of photos showing people collecting sea turtle eggs and the accompanying questions and expressions of alarm.

Leading sea turtle scientist Dr. Karen Eckert recently provided a sample letter with the facts behind the legal and organized egg harvest in Ostional, Costa Rica. Please feel free to use her words to counter the alarm, but please also acknowledge the source.

Dr. Eckert is the Executive Director of the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network or WIDECAST, an organization which promotes and facilitates information sharing and communication in general - the networking fundamental to furthering sea turtle conservation and, in particular, regional sea turtle conservation. The organization's website is outstanding: www.widecast.org.

By the way, WIDECAST was one of the partner organizations for my efforts years ago on the Caribbean coast of Guatemala.

From Dr. Karen L. Eckert:

I don't know how these photos got started, but the originator would have been wise to have done his/her homework first. The photos depict a formal co-management model between the University of Costa Rica, a community organization called ADIO, and the Ministry of Natural Resources (MINAET) in Costa Rica. It's **a legal harvest of surplus eggs** from the Olive Ridley arribada colony at Playa Ostional on the Pacific coast – an arribada is a mass nesting of sea turtles, characteristic of Kemp's and olive ridley turtles (*Lepidochelys kempii*, and *Lepidochelys olivacea*).

In such a nesting strategy, the turtles will nest simultaneously with the result that natural predators may be "overwhelmed" and sufficient numbers of eggs/hatchlings are produced to maintain the species." Arribadas can involve many thousands of turtles nesting day and night for several days. The downside is that the turtles regularly dig up each others' eggs, causing destruction not only to those eggs, but, due to bacterial decomposition of the broken eggs, gross contamination of the surrounding sand. As a result, arribada beaches often realize a very small (1-2%) hatch success. The scenario may seem maladapted, but in reality the Olive Ridley is the most numerous sea turtle species in the world, so the strategy clearly reflects a successful evolutionary strategy.

The egg harvest at Ostional is a strongly regulated and legal, emphasizing a sustainable harvest of eggs that are doomed to be destroyed by subsequent arribadas. The following facts are useful:

The program is regulated under a co-management model between University of Costa Rica, a community organization called ADIO, and the Costa Rica Ministry of Natural Resources.

Every 5 years the program is reviewed and the egg harvest management plan is reviewed and updated as needed, then submitted to the Government for approval.

The current plan notes that:

The current density of nests is 11 nests per square meter (olive ridleys can only sustain about 2 nests per meter without impacting hatchling emergence success).

During the arribadas (which happen more or less monthly), the females dig up the nests of previous nesting events.

Due to the high level of egg breakage, putrefaction rates are very high and the resulting high levels of fungus and bacteria contaminate 100% of nests, reducing emergence success to near zero. Removal of surplus eggs has actually the population because it increases the hatch success by 5%.

Eggs can only be harvested during the first 36 hours of an arribada.

To be declared an "arribada", more than 80 adult females must be nesting simultaneously.

The egg harvest program employs 300 local people and the gross income from the program is about \$150,000 USD. About 15% of the eggs are harvested. While there are constant concerns about the balance between maintaining the community's desire and tradition to harvest and consume (or sell) the eggs and the need to protect this precious resource on balance the program is widely viewed as a progressive example of pragmatic conservation.

Bottom line -- **The program is legal, it is well-regulated, and the population is rising.**

Please take the time to learn more about it. For example this spanish online newspaper:

<http://www.ecocostas.org/index.php/component/content/article/45-socios/189-cinco-casos-de-manejo-de-recursos-naturales-en-costa-rica>

<http://ostionalcr.tripod.com/>

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Additional Information about Costa Rica Egg Harvesting:

Online Newspaper article by CostaRica.com

<http://www.insidecostarica.com/dailynews/2010/january/24/costarica-10012406.htm>

A video on YouTube by abroadervieworg with Jim Toomey reporting

“A legal harvest of surplus eggs.” “A program which is legal and well-regulated, and the population is rising.” Why does this worry me then?

The thing is we've heard it all before. 'Conservation' going hand in hand with general destruction and plundering. Basically you can dress things up any which way you like it doesn't make it right. I just think it wreaks of something not altogether pleasant.

Synthetically produced fake rhino horn.

The idea behind fake horn was to crash the price of horn by flooding the market with a synthetic product. Like the Mark of the 1920s and 30s hyperinflation Germany the price of all commodities without exception is dictated by its abundance/scarcity and so ends the debate. The opposition to this came mainly from the two large Rhino charities who find fault with everything but have no great ideas of their own to offer. They pointlessly argued the need for it to be declared as fake throughout the debate which it positively did not. The whole point of the exercise surely relied on no-one knowing the difference.

Selling Out.

Fighting poaching while selling out to the trophy hunters.



But having turned their backs on fake horn the self same organisations and others are only too pleased to team up with the hunting lobby. Removing in many cases endangered and best specimen animals in the process.

Here's what the two largest rhino charities have to say.

International Rhino Foundation.

http://www.rhinoresourcecenter.com/pdf_files/138/1383898940.pdf

Save The Rhino.

<https://www.savetherhino.org/poaching-crisis/the-dallas-safari-club-controversy/>

Reading through their letters objectively there are some valid points. Please see the paper below for the full story.



The Wrongs of Trophy Hunting. This is about as wrong as it gets.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_0c8b529f7f5240cda809f67f8a9603f2.pdf

Removing the strongest animals from the gene pool leaving the rubbish to breed.

Salvation Army Partners with Safari Club International for Special Sportsmen Against Hunger Community Meal.

<https://www.vegasnews.com/170034/the-salvation-army-partners-with-safari-club-international-for-special-sportsmen-against-hunger-community-meal-on-jan-30.html>

WWF. An organisation where corruption takes on a whole new meaning.



Hunting for Conservation.

https://wwf.panda.org/wwf_news/?14073/Hunting-for-conservation

WWF policy and considerations re trophy hunting.

http://d2ouvy59p0dg6k.cloudfront.net/downloads/wwf_policy_and_considerations_re_trophy_hunting_july_2016_.pdf

Sickness permeates every pore and we really do need to be on our guard to recognise it. Forget those appealing adverts you'll see on the telly this is what they're really about.



From trophy hunting to wind farms, from wind farms to palm oil, WWF is rotten to its very core.

Scotland's wind could power every home across Scotland and North-England.

<https://www.wwf.org.uk/updates/scotlands-wind-could-power-every-home-across-scotland-and-north-england>

Wind power myths and facts.

<https://www.wwf.org.uk/updates/wind-power-myths-and-facts>

Sustainable production of palm oil.

https://wwf.panda.org/our_work/food/sustainable_production/palm_oil/

Industries palm oil.

<https://www.worldwildlife.org/industries/palm-oil>

Making palm oil sustainable.

<https://www.wwf.org.uk/updates/making-palm-oil-sustainable-people-and-wildlife-pictures>



WWF speaking out against climate-change whilst supporting their lovely Canada Goose coyote fur jackets! The reality of what they're actually supporting is below of course.



They couldn't give a bloody damn!



Polar Bears are in crisis. Here's how we can help.

We sent wildlife photographer Jenny Wong to Churchill, Manitoba, to capture a visual story on the work we're doing with Polar Bears International.

Vulnerable. That's the singular word used to describe the current population of polar bears across the world. Shocking. Sad. Devastating. Those are three words to describe how critical this situation has become. Polar Bears International (PBI) is a passionate team of people whose mission focuses on preserving wild polar bears and their habitat through science, media, and advocacy. PBI is the only organization dedicated solely to polar bears' conservation and preservation of the sea ice they depend on.

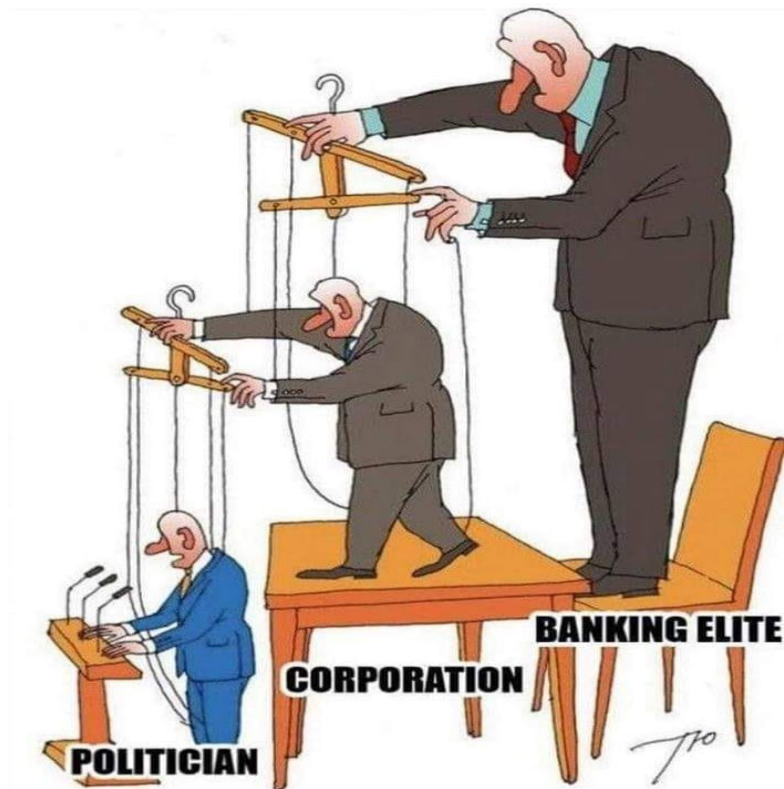
We have a deep connection to the North—our brand is intrinsically linked to the landscape, people, and creatures who inhabit it. That's why, as part of our HUMANATURE commitment, we have partnered with PBI for over 10 years to help preserve wild polar bears and their stunning habitat. Our work won't stop until we generate a deeper awareness of the climate change issues that face the Arctic and its inhabitants.

Wildlife photographer Jenny Wong recently visited the remote community of Churchill, Manitoba—known as the polar bear capital of the world—where PBI is based and where polar bear research and conservation efforts are managed. We asked her to capture the native landscapes, the people, and, of course, the polar bears to make a photo essay that showcased the wild world of the Arctic. Through her lens, she shares the unseen stories of conservation and the collaboration of people who work together so that the wild can thrive.

<https://www.canadagoose.com/en/beyond/polar-bears-are-in-crisis-heres-how-we-can-help/>

HUMANATURE commitment.

Canada Goose teaming up with Polar Bears International. 'Cuse me while I puke.



They've missed out the conservationist!

It's so damn typical isn't it. OK they've got the banking elite, the corporations and the politicians, and rightly so. But they've totally missed out the conservationists as if they've played no part in the overall problem at all. It's as if they somehow don't even feature. But as we've explained throughout they're as much a part of it as all the rest of the crooks only for the most they don't even get it. They're just blind to their own abysmal failings.

Should we ever take the money?



Too damn right we should.

Money is valuable. It can buy equipment and it can do a great deal of good. But we should never cosy up, sell out our values and above all else we should never ever, as is so often happening, campaign for the complete opposite of what's needed.

Yes we should take the money, perhaps feel the need for a good bath after we've done so, then that should be that. You won't get anything more from them afterwards but at least you'll 've gotten something and will still have retained a given amount of dignity having done so.

Katrin Jakobsdottir. Iceland's 'green' prime minister and the world's first.



The Green Witch of the North.....



In Iceland she weaves her unconvincing lines about sustainable tourism whilst welcoming in foreign tourists to hunt Puffins for trophies.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_bd817fae8d864ab6b0dd5a2d8d790c33.pdf

Captive Breeding. Despite the obvious advantages there are so many who oppose it almost on principle.

Forty-Year Captive Breeding Program for Española Tortoises Concludes



Ecuador's Environmental Ministry has decided to end the 40-year captive breeding program for Española tortoises following an ecological evaluation of Española Island, conducted by the Galapagos National Park Directorate (GNPD) and Galapagos Conservancy as part of the Giant Tortoise Restoration Initiative (GTRI). The evaluation demonstrated the recovery of habitat conditions and of the tortoise population that it hosts, thanks to the captive breeding program of the *Chelonoidis hoodensis* species; the breeding program was thus deemed to have met the restoration objectives for which it was created.

"Based on the results of the last census conducted at the end of 2019 and all the data available since 1960 — both of the island and its tortoise population — we developed mathematical models with different possible scenarios for the next hundred years. The conclusion was that the island has sufficient conditions to maintain the tortoise population, which will continue to grow normally — even without any new repatriation of juveniles," said Washington Tapia, director of the GTRI.

"In addition to the recovery of the giant tortoise population, which went from 15 to 2,000 thanks to this program, the management actions implemented for the ecological restoration of the island — including the eradication of introduced species and the regeneration of cacti through Galápagos Verde 2050 project — have helped to ensure that the island's ecosystems currently have adequate conditions to support the growing population of tortoises," added the Director of the Galapagos National Park, Jorge Carrión.

The closure of the Española tortoise captive breeding program will entail the return of the 15 unique breeding adults (12 females and 3 males) originally found on the island, which have allowed the repatriation of tortoises to their natural habitat since the program's inception in the mid-1960s. This week, these breeding individuals began a quarantine process to eliminate risks of seed dispersal from plants that are not typical of the island. The plan is to release them back to Española, their island of origin, in March 2020.

This group of tortoises includes the famous Diego, the male who spent 30 years at the San Diego Zoo before being recruited to contribute to the captive breeding program. Diego, who is over 100 years old, will return to his home island almost eight decades after being extracted from it. In recent years, Diego has become a symbol of the Galapagos conservation, as approximately 40% of the tortoises repatriated to Española Island are estimated to be his descendants.

<https://www.galapagos.org/newsroom/espanola-breeding-program-closure-2020/>

But without it the only alternative would often be extinction. There can be no doubts at all captive breeding has enormous benefits to offer conservation simply as a tool for getting the numbers up to safe levels if nothing else. Increasing numbers of albeit very well-meaning people who will use every argument possible in order to oppose and discredit all efforts being made. But we would conclude that spacious facilities, preferably within the home country of each animal or plant being bred, is far better than having nothing left to save.

Zoos.



Zoos themselves are probably not the answer although some are considerably worse than others. Examples like these which are often found in countries with appalling animal welfare laws in any case. Places like this should be closed down and their animals confiscated. But properly run spacious facilities where good research and conservation work is being carried out is often the only hope some species have.

Rewilding.

The process that allows land to revert back to its original wild condition by leaving it and then by reintroducing extinct species which then take over the management thereof. But there many who are blindly prepared to fill the countryside with just about anything.



By bringing in these long-maned horses for example to somehow replicate this below.



But these early cave paintings depict images of horses that had much shorter upright manes which far more closely resembles these truly wild Przewalski's Horses below.



So why aren't they using these instead?

The 'experts' as per usual insist that they are right and this is despite the fact that there are these wild living herds out there.

Besides this they're bringing in other pony breeds, Heck Cattle to somehow replicate the Aurochs, and domestic pig breeds despite the readily available Wild Boar living out there in the wild. Current rewilding is often nothing more than theme-park conservation. For further reading see:

Rewilding. Getting it right.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_7cffda3f27714f13b93ff73bfe8e2101.pdf



The World Health Organization.

Coronavirus and the wildlife trade connection.

China is a nation that lives like rats and wonders why it's got a problem. The Chinese government knew the risks their animal wet markets were causing decades earlier and yet did nothing to stop them. In fact they wilfully and positively promoted the practice and in so doing created this problem the world is facing today. There should be huge worldwide tariffs put onto all Chinese goods and services, the proceeds from which could then be fed into a fund, whereby the families and loved ones of coronavirus death victims could claim some kind of financial settlement for the troubles they'd endured. China will never ever pay for the mindless damage its nation has exacted on the world's wildlife but this way it might and this is about the least they should face for their reckless acts.

And what has this to do with the World Health Organization? They were the ones who had earlier embraced Chinese traditional medicines which is directly linked to the outbreaks.

The World Health Organization: Embracing traditional Chinese medicine pseudoscience in ICD-11

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_75af71a14e954f5e8e78ce360ab114c1.pdf



Global concert raises more than \$127M for WHO emergency response fund.

Coronavirus: Stars take part in One World: Together At Home concert

Highlights of the Together At Home concert

Some of the biggest names in music have joined forces to celebrate healthcare workers in a globally televised concert.

Lady Gaga, Paul McCartney and Billie Eilish were among more than 100 artists who performed songs from their living rooms, due to the coronavirus lockdown.

The Rolling Stones even managed to play together from four separate locations.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-52333890>

The ultimate dickwad mentality manifests itself of course when everyone comes together to raise huge amounts of cash for an organisation who endorsed the very source of the outbreak that started the pandemic in the first place.

Thankfully others were not so convinced.

ONE FINAL PUSH to help reach 1'000'000 signatures to get this petition in front of the UN, to remove WHO's Director General – Tedros Adhanom from office.



Please sign and share and Tweet and share – As of now – there are 980'500 signatures.

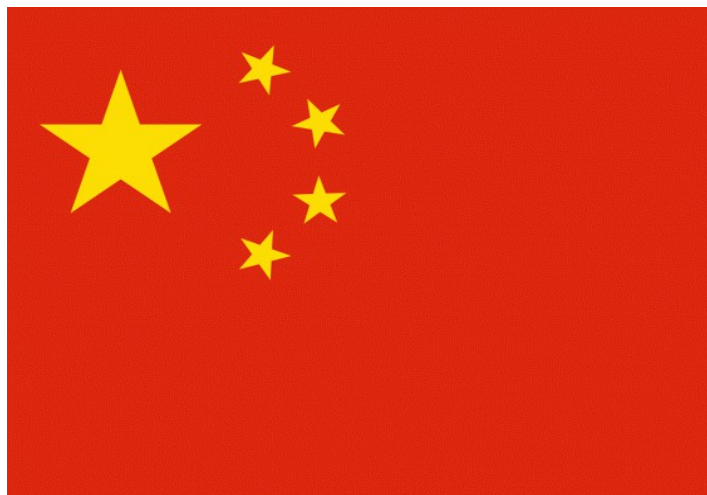
The WHO's endorsement of TCM using animal parts and its inclusion into their medical compendium (with NO scientific evidence), has been responsible for a massive surge in increased poaching, trafficking and slaughter of wildlife. Blame can, therefore, be laid directly at WHO's feet for the catastrophic impact their egregious decision on TCM has had on the ongoing survival of the world's wildlife.

It is, therefore, justified to accuse the WHO of practising double standards and in doing so, they have shown themselves to be ethically and morally bankrupt and reprehensible.

The Chinese appetite for TCM remedies, particularly amongst China's rich, has served to push species including tigers, rhinoceroses, the Sumatran male tiger, sea horses and pangolins to the brink of extinction.

WHO have demonstrated flagrant political bias towards China. They've demonstrated that they are in dire need of a clean out. They have let the world down spectacularly.

<https://www.change.org/p/united-nations-call-for-the-resignation-of-tedros-adhanom-ghebreyesus-who-director-general>



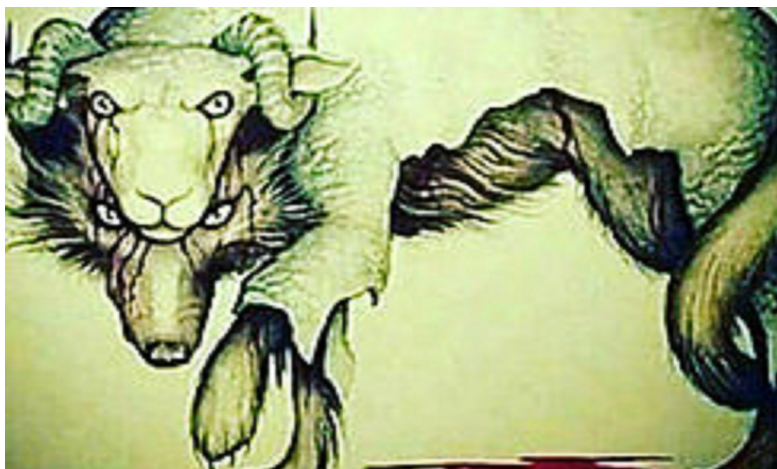
The China File. Please take a read.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_ee24d266669145dc8b496300082a752e.pdf

Holy Fellowshit!



Beware of False Prophets. Always see within and ignore any superficial outer shell and that includes everyone and anyone.



No matter who they may be or what they may look like always recognise the enemies from within. Hence the ever relevant terms, 'beware of false prophets' and 'beware of wolves in sheep's clothing,' Matthew 7-15. Not that this is an anti-wolf sentiment by the way.

Perversion.

As we blindly follow every perversion conservation and other charities currently have to offer it should quickly become apparent we forever need to be on guard. The problem is there are a lot of extremely bad or misguided people out there who are making some of the most appalling decisions imaginable, and there are many many more who are only too willing to go along with them, which is why there's the massive disparity we have today.

Misinformation is being foisted upon us by the very people who should be well and truly on side so it's not difficult to understand just why it is there are so many who have been led completely down the wrong path. Those who are doing this drip feeding, drip, drip, drip, drip, often do not have a clue as to what they are talking about. They talk about planting forests but we can't even protect the forests that are already there. They say they have the technology that will make everything right but refuse to acknowledge the devastation it causes.

It's an uphill struggle.

There's so much duplicity everywhere we look. I've seen those who have been banging on about clean renewables only ten minuets earlier sitting on an allocated seat in a bus shelter being stunk out by diesel fumes even though there was perfectly good clean air just yards away. I've even seen people talking about saving the forests while stuffing cold palm oil ridden mince pies in their amply filled faces. For me it's observations like these just spells out it's all about liking the idea of green without actually giving a damn.

It's not difficult to understand why thing's are going so very wrong with such befeebled approaches at sorting out the world's problems. There are so many out there with such funny ideas who are only too ready to screw things up at every conceivable turn. They do everything wrong that can be done and then wonder why the proverbial shit bucket ends up strewn across the kitchen table each and every time.

Final Speech from the Great Dictator.



When the man famously known for being silent, breaks his silence, it is he who leaves us in silence. Amazing speech for all of humanity from almost 80 years ago!

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=charlie+chaplin+speech+from+the+great+dictator&ru=%2fvideos%2fsearch%3fq%3dthe%2bgreat%2bdictator%2bfinal%2bspeech%26qpvt%3dthe%2bgreat%2bdictator%2bfinal%2bspeech%26FORM%3dVDRE&view=detail&mid=34D3C0869CB2646C117E34D3C0869CB2646C117E&&FORM=VDRVRV>

A great deal has changed since Chaplin made this appearance 80 years ago. Back then it was only governments, newspapers, or perhaps one or two of the larger organisations who were able to communicate to the masses.

Nowadays anyone armed with a laptop can command a confident enough stance on his or her global soapbox. But evil comes in many guises and not all of it necessarily in the form of a power-hungry dictator. There are many power-hungry campaigners out there who are as hell bent on seeing their own just as frightening visions of how the world should look. The likes of which are precisely what this entire paper's been about. The thoughts of those who haven't even considered what they might be unleashing onto the world and if given enough followers can be just as formidable as any dictator.

Those that might be softly spoken, often delivered with great passion, and whose ideas seem all very reasonable, can actually be some of the most dangerous individuals around. In order to save the planet we need to unite ourselves rightly enough, but we also need to know exactly what it is we are doing and what it is we want to achieve, and uniting doesn't mean alienating everyone along the way.



There are many things we may not want in the world but we sure as hell in our right minds cannot want this. But this is precisely what so many are striving for today and much much more of the same. There are those out there who would never be satisfied until most of the Earth's surface has been covered with green industrialisation with their sustainable thises and their bird-friendly thats.

The message we're putting forward is, and why should you trust us more than anything else, just be very careful who you support these days. When sending your subscriptions, or acting upon what these organisations want you to do, just ask yourselves what's it all being spent on and precisely where their aims taking the planet. Because if they're not seeking real ecological progress, and all we're doing is blindly following the mad-masses which incidently is being fuelled by money, then God only knows where the natural world will end up.

Conservationist pitting itself against conservationist is hardly the way forward if we're ever to win the war for the natural world. But how can we pull together with so many determinedly seeking to kill everything with kindness? I'm sometimes not so sure as it's not one deliberate ploy to finish the job off altogether either. What better or more effective way would there be to end conservation once and for all than to have it implode in on itself from the inside?



Kill them with
kindness and
bury them with
a smile.

But killing with kindness is as effective as killing with malice. Just ask any poor bird that's been clonked on the head with a turbine blade or a landscape that's been utterly despoiled by wanton green madness. And so the natural world loses out because in fighting amongst ourselves instead of a common enemy, means we're spending a lot less time worrying them, and we can be sure the true enemies don't mind that at all. But until a far more reasoned approach is forthcoming then fight against each other is what we shall have to do. Indeed what else would they have us do?

All we can ever hope for is that as many can be convinced as possible in order that we may get the right argument over the vital tipping point. Once that's done it's then a downhill fight rather than an uphill struggle. I'm not sure what else we can do other than constantly hammer out the very important message with a publication like as this. It's long overdue and I can't understand why I didn't write the damn thing decades ago. As we can see dubious conservation practices come in many disastrous forms and guises, some are more apocalyptic than others, but none we can be sure are for the greater good.



The Left. Just how out of touch they are in many ways and how they really have not helped.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_fb6e39101f1c4bd09701140ac028a232.pdf

World-Wide Fund for Nature, Rainforest Alliance, Rainforest Action Network, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Extinction Rebellion, Worldland's Trust, NOAA, Roundtable and the World Health Organization. **With friends like these the world doesn't need enemies!** What never to do is to take things at face value. What might seem perfectly reasonable and ecological when explained by some may actually turn out to be the worst thing ever once put into practice and then it's often all too late.

But as bad as things so obviously are this is not to say there are not some extremely good conservation practices being carried out too. Many of the Wildlife Trust's nature reserves are an absolute pleasure to visit. While the RSPB field workers and volunteers are all in the main doing some extremely valuable work out there in their reserves. It's only a pity about the organisation itself. The lady Black Mamba anti-poaching teams which have sprung up in Africa are achieving great results. The Mangrove Action Project who are recreating and protecting mangroves using proper coastal ecology practices. And recently Greenpeace has stepped up its action and is doing some valuable conservation work too.

Those who have raised awareness on the issue of plastics have done the world a huge service. Beyond Pesticides is doing all it can to fight the evils of GMO technology. There are highly organised activists interfering with Lynx culls in Sweden. And even the infamous Bill Gates has invested in lab-grown palm oil technology which could eventually lead to the complete elimination of land-based palm production altogether.

adding to top = bottom = square



Special thanks to Josh for kindly creating the artwork. It really was very much appreciated.

www.cartoonsbyjosh.com

When writing The Hapless Conservationist you can believe it when I say there is no other drawing or photograph anywhere I would rather have as a picture-header than this. Because it was seeing this little fella doing his level best that inspired me to write it. For me he epitomises the do-gooders who albeit with the very best intentions continue to wreak havoc on the natural world today.

From humble beginnings, I only spotted him by chance whilst nosing through someone's facebook page, the moment I saw it I quickly recognised it for the gem that it was.

50 WAYS NOT TO SAVE A PLANET