

Date: Mon, 6 Jan 2003 16:53:27 -0400
From: Jennifer Chesworth <Cafesombra@aol.com>
Subject: PABIODIV: Reminder: PA Wildlands Conference

ANNOUNCEMENT

The second Pennsylvania Wildlands Conference, "Prospects for Recovery and Rewilding," will be held on February 1, 2003 in State College at the Penn Stater Conference Center. Wild Earth publisher Dave Foreman will again present the keynote address, "Crafting a Regional Wildlands Plan: Lessons from the Sky Islands". Advance registration for this all-day event is \$30 (\$35 at the door), \$15 student/low income. For more information, contact Tonya Boston-Sagar at t.bostonsagar@worldnet.att.net. For more information about PWRP contact Alan Gregory at meg5@psu.edu, 570-788-1425 or visit www.wildpennsylvania.org. Exhibit space is available; the basic rate is \$35 + registration. Contact Jennifer Chesworth, 814-466-7264, cafesombra@aol.com, to reserve a table.

BACKGROUND

More than 150 people attended the first Pennsylvania Wildlands Conference held in State College in January 2001, a conference organized completely on a grassroots level. The excitement and energy generated by that event spurred the creation of the Pennsylvania Wildlands Recovery Project (PWRP), a new 501(c)(3) educational and scientific organization dedicated to the development of a comprehensive conservation network plan. Several such plans have already been developed by conservation biologists and supporters in other regions of North America. Some of the better known examples include Yellowstone to Yukon (Y2Y), the Sky Islands Plan in the Southwest and, more recently, the Maine Wildlands Network. A growing array of state-based and regional groups like PWRP are springing up across the continent. Most, if not all, are working in close affiliation with The Wildlands Project office in Vermont. Wildlands Project board members include such well-known conservation biologists as John Terborgh of Duke University, Michael Soule, and Reed Noss. As the threats to the natural world intensify, conservationists and environmentalists everywhere need to combine forces and go on the offensive. It's time to craft our own, positive vision for a wilder--andsaner--future. If we wait to protect natural areas until the bulldozers are at the gates, may already be too late. Ask the brook trout. Ask the goldenseal. Ask the cerulean warbler. Every wild place is special. Let's save them all.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AND PRESENTERS

7:15 a.m. -- Registration begins; continental breakfast available

8:45 a.m. -- Welcome and introduction

9:00 a.m. -- Dave Foreman, Chairman of The Wildlands Project and publisher of Wild Earth. "Crafting a Regional Wildlands Plan: Lessons from the Sky Islands"

10:30-10:45 a.m. -- Break

10:45 a.m. -- Conrad Reining, Northeast Region Coordinator, The Wildlands Project "Northeast Wilderness Recovery"

11:30 a.m. -- Steve Hoffman, Bird Conservation Director, Audubon Pennsylvania "Pennsylvania's Important Bird Area Project in Relation to Wildlands Conservation"

12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Lunch (buffet, vegetarian selections will be available)

1:15 p.m. -- Panel: "Some Practical Considerations for Wildlands Recovery" Susan Hagood, Humane Society, Clare Billet, The Natural Lands Trust, Robert Lonsdorf, Brandywine Conservancy, Bob DeGroot, Maryland Alliance for Greenway Improvement and Conservation (MAGIC)

2:45-3:00 p.m. -- Break

3:00-3:45 p.m. -- Chris Bolgiano, Vice President of the Eastern Cougar Foundation "Eastern Cougars: Science, Skepticism and Scats"

3:45 to 4:45 p.m. -- Ed Perry, retired Assistant Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Pennsylvania Field Office "Where Do We Go From Here?"

REGISTRATION DETAILS ~Please send the following information~ NAME, AFFILIATION, ADDRESS

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR \$30 (\$15 student/low income) PAYABLE TO: Pennswoods Wildland Recovery [our legal name]

MAIL TO: PA Wildlands Recovery Project, PO Box 972, State College, PA 16804-0972