

After suffering a horrendous setback in securing a Copenhagen Protocol to impose international cap-and-trade laws in December 2009, the United Nations is now turning its attention to nationalizing all property rights, allegedly to protect biodiversity. A U.N. treaty we once miraculously defeated is again in the wings of the Senate, ready for ratification.

It must be stopped.

The spectacular failure to secure a global-warming treaty at the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, in December dealt a crippling blow to the global agenda to control the world's economy. Although the East Anglia Climate Research Center email scandal in late 2009 was white-washed, doubt is still increasing. The knock-out blow for the Copenhagen Protocol may have come in late August 2010 when an Inter-Academy Council (IAC) investigation found that the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) provided "little evidence" for some of its claims about global warming.

The IAC is an international science council created by the top national academies from around the world. Its scientists also said the IPCC had emphasized the negative impacts of climate change and made political conclusions based on little proof. There was immediate demand that the IPCC be completely restructured or totally disbanded. At the same time, the U.N. preparatory talks for the next global-warming confab scheduled for December 2010 in Cancun, Mexico, are degenerating faster than Copenhagen, guaranteeing failure again. It should be several years before the world has to worry about international global cap and trade again but it is not the time to breathe a sigh of relief. The globalists were so confident that they would secure the Copenhagen Protocol that they had already planned more drastic measures starting in 2010.

The U.N. 2010 International Year of Biodiversity kicks off a 10-year strategy to protect biodiversity by law in every nation. If the globalists are successful, it could mean the eventual loss of nearly 50 percent of America's

WATCH OUT!

BIODIVERSITY REPLACING GLOBAL WARMING AS THE NEXT CRISIS

By Michael S. Coffman, Ph.D.

land area to wilderness and the end of private property rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

The focus on biodiversity is not new. It actually started when the United Nations trotted out the Convention on Biological Diversity (Biodiversity Treaty) during the 1992 Conference on Environment and Development (aka the Earth Summit) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Since then, 192 countries have become parties to the Biodiversity Treaty. Fortunately, even though President George H.W. Bush signed the treaty in Rio, to become law in the United States it has to be ratified by the Senate. The United States is the lone holdout but that was only accomplished by a nail-biting miracle. But first, a bit of background is needed.

Just as the theory of man-caused global warming is propped up with bad science, the science supporting the need for strong legal action to protect biological diversity is also poor. That doesn't mean we shouldn't be good stewards of the environment. We should. But the science used to justify onerous regulations is based almost entirely on a relatively recent faith-based science called conservation biology.

Although conservation biology has its place, it is based more on pantheism—the belief that nature is god—not hard science. Dr. Michael Soulé, co-founder and first president of the Society of Conservation Biology, believes "natural" is better than "technological" management by man. Soulé said in the society's first publication in 1987: "*We assume implicitly that...the worst biological disaster in*

the last 65 million years can be averted.... We assume implicitly that environmental wounds inflicted by ignorant humans and destructive technologies can be treated by wiser humans and by wholesome technologies."

Soulé's wild-eyed claim arrogantly refers to modern-day management technology used by farmers, ranchers, foresters and other land managers. If these "wiser" fanatics were relegated to the backwaters of science and policy, no harm would be done. Tragically, however, billions of dollars have been spent to ensure that university programs, as well as federal and state agencies, are heavily influenced by the religious theories of conservation biology.

During the Clinton administration the primary purpose of land-managing federal agencies shifted from serving citizens to protecting Mother Nature from citizens. This has made life difficult for rural residents trying to make a living off the land, especially in the western states. Many ranchers, farmers and loggers have gone out of business and entire communities in the West have been destroyed.

Central to the ideology of conservation biology is the need to protect biodiversity by locking the land up to prevent all or most human activity. Only then can nature be healed. This led to the development of what is called the Wildlands Project (now named Wildlands Network), which calls for withdrawing half of the American landscape and waters into wilderness core reserves and inter-connecting corridors. Its purpose is to create a continuous network of wilderness down and across the North American continent, connecting with a similar network in South America.

Defeat of the Biodiversity Treaty

The Wildlands Project is at the heart of the 1992 Biodiversity Treaty. (See "The Greening of America Part I," *RANGE*, Fall 2006 at www.rangemagazine.com.) Not surprisingly, the treaty does not mention the Wildlands Project, even though the 18-page seemingly innocuous treaty does use the same language found in the Wildlands Project. Environmentalists and others typically use innocent-sounding verbiage to hide radical plans that the majority of Americans would reject if they knew the true intent. Knowing this and having extensive experience in most ecosystems in the United States, I constructed a map detailing what land area would likely be placed into wilderness by the Wildlands Project and, by extension, the Biodi-

Simulated Reserve and Corridor System to Protect Biodiversity As Required by the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity, Wildlands Project, U.N. and U.S. Man and Biosphere Programs and World Heritage Program as a Vital Step in Attaining Sustainable Development

This map was used in the United States Senate to stop the ratification of the
United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity



versity Treaty. (See map)

The treaty was scheduled for a ratification vote in the U.S. Senate on Aug. 9, 1994. The previous month I had visited key Senate leaders on both sides of the aisle, using the map to show the intent of the treaty. Unfortunately, because there was no hard link between the treaty and the Wildlands Project, the Senate ignored it. However, I did meet three others who were also fighting the treaty: Tom McDonnell, then of the American Sheep Industry; Henry Lamb, president of the Environmental Conservation Organization; and Bob Voigt, president of the Maine Conservation Rights Institute. We agreed to work together.

Email did not exist at the time, so on August 4, as a last-ditch effort to derail the treaty, I sent out 4,000 faxes through the Alliance for America Fax Network. The fax contained the map, explanation of the treaty, and the Senate phone number. The effort had little chance of success but the result was stunning. By noon on August 5, I received a call from a staffer from the Republican Senate Foreign Relations Com-

mittee saying the Senate was being inundated with phone calls decrying the treaty and that I should keep up the good work.

By 3 p.m. I heard from an aide in Majority Leader George Mitchell's office who told me the Senate's computerized phone system was overwhelmed by callers and had crashed. Every time it was rebooted, it crashed again. I was asked to "call off my dogs." The fax had been re-faxed until, according to Mitchell's aide, "millions" of concerned Americans had called the Senate to protest the treaty.

I had asked Sen. Mitchell in July to get a copy of the U.N. Global Biodiversity Assessment (GBA), which is the supporting document for the treaty. He contacted the United Nations but was told that the document did not exist, and there were no plans to write it. Whether the United Nations deliberately lied or it was a case of the right hand not knowing what the left was doing is not known.

Sen. Mitchell rescheduled the ratification vote for Sept. 29, 1994. On September 19, Henry Lamb sent a letter co-signed by 293 organizations to every senator warning of the dangerous treaty. At the same time, Tom

McDonnell tried to get the GBA report out of Europe. He indirectly connected with an international environmental group headquartered in Switzerland, whose staff apparently thought McDonnell was an environmentalist. They overnighted the draft Chapter 10 of the GBA to McDonnell, who received it on September 29. That single chapter was more than 400 pages and was horrifying.

Chapter 10 (Chapter 13 in the final published GBA) extolled the virtues of the feudal form of government in which the proletariat (you and me) would be so poor (like serfs) that they could not inflict environmental damage on Mother Earth. The GBA also called for a vast reduction in human population, to one to two billion people, and the nationalization of all property rights. Most important, however, the GBA provided the smoking gun. The Wildlands Project was identified as the template to protect biodiversity in the treaty.

McDonnell overnighted Chapter 10 of the GBA to the Republican Foreign Relations Committee. I supplied the map. The Senate received the documents the morning of Sep-

tember 30, the day of the cloture vote. Copies were made of Chapter 10 and the map was enlarged to a four-by-six-foot poster. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R-TX) took these to the Senate floor at 3 p.m., one hour before the cloture vote was scheduled. The information stunned those on the Senate floor and the treaty was stopped dead in its tracks. It was never voted on. (See Congressional Record S13790.)

The United States remains the only nation that is not a party to the treaty, but that is a precarious position. With the new goal on biodiversity protection by the United Nations, however, that may change—soon!

Get Ready to Act!

In announcing the U.N. 2010 International Year of Biodiversity, Ahmed Djoghla, executive secretary of the Biodiversity Treaty, proclaimed in June 2010: “Despite the significant progress achieved, we have failed to fulfil [sic] the promise to substantially reduce the rate of

loss of biodiversity adopted eight years ago by the 110 heads of state and government attending the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development.”

The 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development was the 10th anniversary of the 1992 Earth Summit. Describing one of the six key components of the 10-year strategy, Djoghla warned that the greatest need lay in stopping indirect losses of biodiversity, including: “excessive consumption, for example of fossil fuels and meat, population growth, environmentally harmful subsidies, and a lack of public awareness about the harmful consequences of biodiversity loss.”

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to realize that of all the nations in the world, the one that would be hurt most by this strategic goal is the United States and its citizens.

There is near certainty that with U.N. pressure, that the Convention on Biological Diversity will be dusted off for a second run at

ratification sometime soon—perhaps even during the upcoming lame-duck session. It was a miracle we stopped the treaty's ratification in 1994. But we can't depend on another miracle to stop it again. Will we all be prepared to do everything we can when the treaty hits the Senate floor the next time? That is up to you. ■

Dr. Michael Coffman says to watch for developments at epi-us.com. He is president of Environmental Perspectives Inc. in Bangor, Maine, and a regular contributor to RANGE. He has a Ph.D. in ecosystem analysis and climate influence and is well qualified to discuss biodiversity. To view an interactive show on what is happening, go to takingliberty.us. The article above is also discussed in Chapter 8 of his new book, “Rescuing A Broken America: Why America is Deeply Divided and How We Can Heal It Constitutionally.” For more information go to RescuingAmericaBook.com.

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES OR LIVING HELL?

The Livable Communities and CLEAR acts, likely to be up for vote during Congress' lame-duck session, sound like motherhood and apple pie, but are really key pieces of the dangerous U.N. Agenda 21 and the Biodiversity Treaty. By Michael S. Coffman, Ph.D.

The Livable Communities Act, sponsored by outgoing U.S. Sen. Chris Dodd (D-CT) sounds like motherhood and apple pie. It allegedly helps local governments to combat suburban sprawl and traffic congestion by providing \$4 billion a year for comprehensive planning by local governments. Although independent of the Livable Communities Act, the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act of 2010 (CLEAR) is sponsored by Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA). Both bills fulfill several goals of the U.N. Agenda 21. Both have already passed the House of Representatives.

Agenda 21 is a 40-chapter U.N. document signed by President George H.W. Bush at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. It lays out a global plan to micromanage the human population, their property rights, what they can buy and sell, how they live, the energy they use, and what kind of communities they should live in—all in the name of

protecting the environment. It is widely discussed around the world—except in the United States. Google lists nearly 17 million documents on the Internet concerning Agenda 21, yet most Americans, including congressmen and -women, have never heard of it and are called conspiracists (or worse) if they mention it.

Agenda 21 has no legal basis to force nations to comply. Instead it relies on international treaties like the Kyoto Protocol for global warming and the Convention on Biological Diversity to legally impose its dictates at the global level. Failing that, legions of national and international environmental and social organizations use fierce pressure on Congress to pass national legislation to do the same thing. Most of the time members of Congress sponsoring the bill for the activist groups don't even know it is directly linked to Agenda 21.

Agenda 21 was brought into the federal

government by President Bill Clinton's Council on Sustainable Development, of which Google lists over 125,000 documents. The President's Council published “Sustainable America: A New Consensus for Prosperity, Opportunity and a Healthy Environment for the Future” in February 1996. A dozen more publications followed that brought specificity to “Sustainable America.” These publications outline the strategy for bringing the United States into conformance with Agenda 21 and its goal of making Mother Earth the central organizing principle of the world. Rather than serving the American people, federal agencies (and, increasingly, state agencies) are now mandated to protect nature from the American people.

The shock troops to implement sustainable development are provided by the American Planning Association (APA), the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI, now called Local Governments for Sustainability), and a host of smaller groups. The APA and ICLEI have direct or indirect connections with the United Nations and are heavily involved in providing smart growth and/or sustainable development planning templates for local communities to pass into their ordinances. Most people

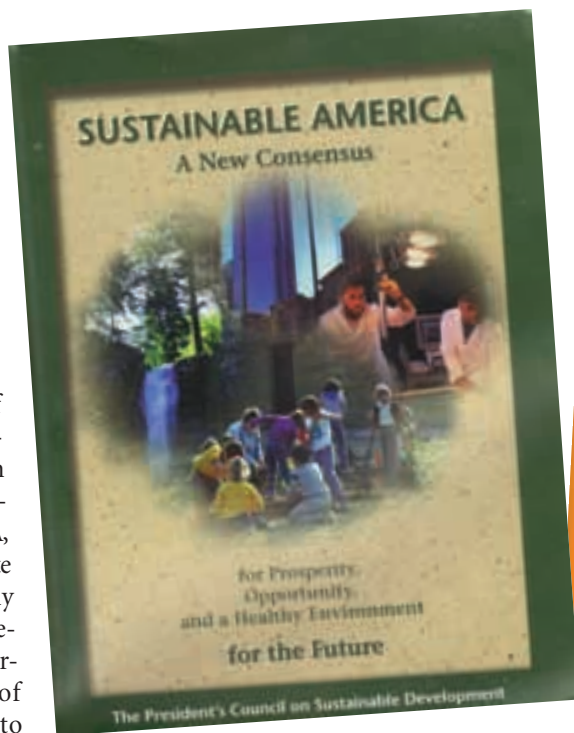
do not know that ICLEI initially called its planning efforts “Local Agenda 21” until the real intent of Agenda 21 was exposed. Hundreds of towns, cities and counties belong to either the APA or ICLEI, not knowing that these plans cause severe harm to their citizens.

By playing on the seemingly altruistic emotional goal of creating open space, population limits, urban-growth boundaries, light rail, greenways and green trails, the APA, ICLEI and other groups create enthusiasm by using catchy names to encourage comprehensive planning that is tailor-made to fulfill the goals of Agenda 21. It is supposed to reduce pollution and traffic congestion while increasing affordable housing and open space.

Smart growth/sustainable development does none of these things. Instead, it makes all these supposed benefits far worse. Study after study shows pollution and traffic congestion actually worsen. Additionally, so-called sustainable development destroys individual property rights and increases the cost of housing by as much as 600 percent according to a Harvard University study. Residents are forced from stand-alone homes into crammed apartments, so that open space can be created.

If passed, Sen. Dodd’s Livable Communities Act will provide up to \$4 billion a year in grants to communities to implement the APA and ICLEI models of central planning. Of course, these two groups, as well as other rent-seeking socialist nongovernment organizations, will directly benefit from most of the \$4 billion when local communities hire them for their plans and expertise. By definition, the APA/ICLEI top-down planning models must destroy property rights in order to control growth by preventing development, create vast areas of open space and force people out of their cars and into exorbitantly expensive mass transportation.

For instance, establishing an urban-growth boundary through farmland can



So-called sustainable development destroys individual property rights and increases the cost of housing by as much as 600 percent according to a Harvard University study. Residents are forced from stand-alone homes into crammed apartments, so that open space can be created.

Agenda 21 lays out a global plan to micromanage the human population, their property rights, what they can buy and sell, how they live, the energy they use, and what kind of communities they should live in—all in the name of protecting the environment.

instantly increase its value from \$15,000 per acre to hundreds of thousands of dollars per acre. A hundred feet away, the value of the same farmland on the other side of the growth boundary will forever remain at \$15,000. Planning bureaucrats have incredible power to make millionaires or paupers depending on where they draw the line. Like all the other planning schemes of Agenda 21, smart growth/sustainable development is wide open to corruption. It is already happening.

Couple the Livable Communities Act with the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act of 2010 and you have a one-two punch that will make the federal government sovereign over the states and the people living in them. Simply stated, the CLEAR Act is a massive extension of federal power that claims control of the oceans, Great Lakes and by extension many other waterways and freshwater resources; mineral mining; solar, geothermal and gas and oil exploration conducted on land or in the oceans in, on or near the continental United States.

The CLEAR Act also regulates oil drilling and production and institutes a stealth cap-and-trade scheme without calling it cap and trade. It establishes a monthly auction in

which fuel producers would bid for carbon credits. To defray the impact of increased energy costs, every household family of four would receive \$1,100 per year back from the federal government. The problem is that study after study shows this scheme will eventually cost the average family of four between \$5,000 and \$8,000 per year.

The CLEAR Act also funds the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) at \$900 million per year from the royalties earned from oil production. The purpose of the LWCF is to buy private land to create open space. This is a direct link to the Livable Communities Act and The Wildlands Project (see companion article).

It is doubtful the sponsors of these two bills are aware of their direct links to Agenda 21 or to the unintended consequences they will impose on citizens. It is imperative that readers of *RANGE* make every effort to contact their senators and demand they vote NO on these bills. ■

Other dangerous bills which intertwine with the Livable Communities and CLEAR acts that should be opposed if they come up during the lame-duck sessions are: The Clean Water Restoration Act (SB 787); The Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act (HR 5101); Clean Energy Technology Act (SB 3738); and Farm Bill Legislation (which may include provision for creating wildlife corridors).