

Forest service employee seeks free speech protection

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former Forest Service employee is calling on Congress to provide more freedom of speech protection to service workers critical of their administrators' efforts to excessively log national forests.

In testimony prepared for a House subcommittee hearing Thursday, Jeff DeBonis of Eugene, Ore. said the Forest Service is "often less than honest in its public disclosure of the environmental impacts" of logging.

"The agency is purposefully and knowingly overcutting our national forests to meet the demands of the timber

industry and short-sighted politicians," he said.

DeBonis is the director of the Association of Forest Service Employees For Environmental Ethics. He worked more than 12 years for the Forest Service before resigning in February.

"The Forest Service is not protecting your resources. It is not meeting its obligation to the American people and their public trust," he said during a news conference Wednesday.

"We are finding that the past practices of turning old-growth forest ecosystems into tree plantations is not working," he

said.

DeBonis said 5 percent of all Forest Service workers now belong to his organization. He was scheduled to testify Thursday before the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee's subcommittee on Civil Service.

"More employees are speaking out in support of a more environmentally ethical agency and being subject to varying amounts of reprisal," he said in his prepared testimony.

"Congress needs to review and standardize the myriad conduct and ethics policies of government agencies to

strengthen free speech rights of government employees," he said.

Subcommittee chairman Rep. Gerry Sikorski, D-Minn., confirmed that the panel is receiving complaints "in escalating numbers, collectively and individually, privately and in public fashion" from the 40,000 civil servants employed by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

DeBonis said Forest Service biologists and other resource specialists are "isolated and pressured to conform — be 'team players' so as not to interfere with getting the cut out.

I'd never have believed that one little computer could make such an incredible difference in my academic and working life.

Miriam Stall
B.A. History, Dartmouth College
M.B.A. Stanford Graduate School of Business



"I became a Macintosh convert in business school. At our computer lab I'd always find lines of people waiting to use the Macintosh computers, while other computers just sat there. So I had a choice: wait for a Macintosh, or come back at 6 A.M. to grab one before they'd all be taken. After business school, I took a job at a large bank and used my Macintosh for producing everything from spreadsheets to a company newsletter.

"Today I use Macintosh to help me run my own management consulting firm. When I give a presentation, I can see in people's faces that they're really impressed. And that makes me feel great.

"Sometimes I take Friday off, put my Macintosh and skis in the car, and head for the mountains. I ski days and work nights. It's perfect.

"You know, I can't say where I'll be in five, ten, or fifteen years, but I can say that my Macintosh will be there with me."



Why do people love Macintosh?
Ask them.

**Tuesday, October 9
11am-4pm
EMU Fir Room**

Pick up a free stadium cup and register to win an Apple Scanner!

Call the Microcomputer Support Lab at 346-4402 for details.

© 1990 Apple Computer, Inc. Apple, the Apple logo, and Macintosh are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc.

Inventor debates suicide machine

DETROIT (AP) — Suicide-machine inventor Dr. Jack Kevorkian said "I am not a martyr" as he defended his use of the controversial device Wednesday, contending that officials are persecuting him.

"The courts would love to burn me at the stake. The prosecution is, figuratively speaking," he said during a lecture with former Oakland County Prosecutor L. Brooks Patterson, now in private practice.

"But a patient comes to me dying of disease, needing help," Kevorkian said. "As a doctor, what am I supposed to do? I am not a martyr."

Patterson said it's not courts that oppose the retired Royal Oak pathologist, but the public.

"I think he's shooting the messenger. By today's law in the United States — that's in the 50 states and United States territories — no one defines suicide as a crime. That brings us to assisted suicide," he told his audience at the Detroit-area chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

"In 22 states and in three U.S. territories, assisting suicide is a crime, it's a stated public policy," Patterson.

On June 4, Kevorkian hooked his machine to Janet Adkins, 54, of Portland, Ore. Adkins, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease, pressed a button on the machine to make lethal drugs flow into her veins, and died in the back of his van in a suburban Detroit park.

Prosecutors obtained a temporary injunction against Kevorkian to keep him from using the machine, which they seized, or from aiding any other suicides. Criminal charges haven't been pressed.

Having a Party?

Let us typeset your invitations in one of our 30 typefaces.

Call to find out about our low prices! 686-5511

LETTER PERFECT

Graphics

Suite 300 • EMU • ODE Offices

Thursday, October 4, 1990