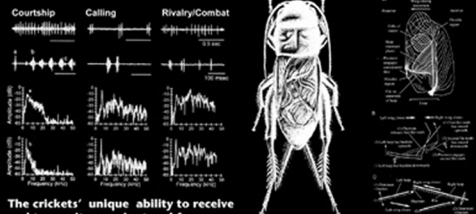


The Cricket-Activated Defense System



After the forests have been logged, primary succession begins to reclaim the devastated landscape. As field grasses grow where redwoods once stood, the common field cricket moves in to populate this new habitat. The crickets' occupation of the boundary between logged and unlogged forest places them in a prime, strategic position for guarding against further human encroachment.

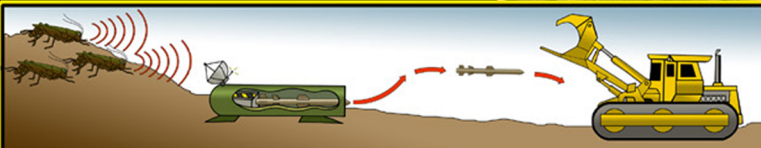


The crickets' unique ability to receive and transmit a precise tonal frequency makes them ideal interspecies collaborators. Much of the research into cricket auditory biomechanics has been performed by military contractors for the development of ultra-micro "bugging" devices referred to as "smart dust."

Designed in response to illegal logging activity in California's threatened redwood forests, the Cricket-Activated Defense System (CADS) is a unique form of extreme bioengineering which recombines trickle-down technologies from the military/industrial complex to establish a system of deterrence through interspecies collaboration.

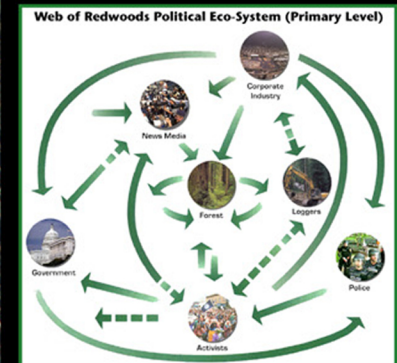


The so-called "Timber Wars" have been waged for almost a hundred years. Although the times have changed, activists have consistently employed non-violent tactics such as tree-sits, blockades, and rallies. However, the response to such tactics have been anything but non-violent. From the hands of rogue loggers and law enforcement alike activists have been subjected to pepper spray underneath eyelids, beatings, gunfire, and, in the case of Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney, a car bombing (shown below). After a decade in the courts, the activists were awarded a \$4 million settlement against the FBI and Oakland Police for numerous violations and misconduct. Sadly, the bomber was never caught and Judi died from cancer before the trial closed.



CADS receives distressed cricket chirps and translates the sound into a firing signal for anti-logger missiles. To avoid a misfire, the system is activated only when significant numbers of the cricket population voice their consternation over a relatively broad area. Through technologically augmenting the natural responses of crickets, the success of CADS relies not only on interspecies collaboration but also on the collective efforts of a greatly disadvantaged and disempowered community.

By combining model rockets with consumer surveillance devices (literally "bugging" devices), CADS relies on the "neutral" trickle-down technologies from the military-industrial complex. In all cases, CADS aims to be thoroughly integrated with the natural environment, so careful measures are taken to insure effective placement. Since each CADS unit is strategically positioned along logging roads in protected areas (areas where logging is illegal), CADS operates strictly as a system of defense designed to deter would-be criminals.



If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound? If an activist dies in the forest and the news doesn't report it, does it change policy, business, or public opinion? The Cricket-Activated Defense System relies on the tools, tactics, and internal logic of the political ecosystem to protect the environment without endangering activists.