collection boxes and leaflet dispensers in shops and businesses.'

If you can help with any of these events, would like any further information or if you have an idea of your own, please contact Patrick Alley at EIA on 071 704-9441. Your support will make a vital difference, these events can only work with your help.

Right: Richard E. Grant, Dolphin Friends supporter

Below: Confiscated poached ivory in the Dar-es-Salaam ivory room



E IA would like to thank all those whose support, hard work and dedication have made our success over the last six months possible. It could not have been done without you.

Our special thanks to:

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To all our members and supporters and all those too numerous to list.



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Keep wild birds free

### EIA LEADS FIGHT TO END THE WILD BIRD TRADE

EIA's campaign to end the international trade in wild-caught birds is gathering great momentum. First launched in 1985, EIA's objectives are now in sight. On both sides of the Atlantic EIA's information, film, photographs and lobbying activity are proving highly successful. "We're moving into the final phase of our campaign and have new information to forcefully support our arguments" says Peter Knights, EIA's wildlife campaigner.

In Europe, EIA has successfully lobbied the German airline Lufthansa to stop transporting wild birds. Lufthansa was previously the largest carrier of wildlife. On November 29th 1990 their General Manager admitted that his company had a moral obligation to avoid animal suffering caused by the transport of exotic birds. EIA is keeping up the pressure to get other airlines, including British Airways, to follow Lufthansa's example.

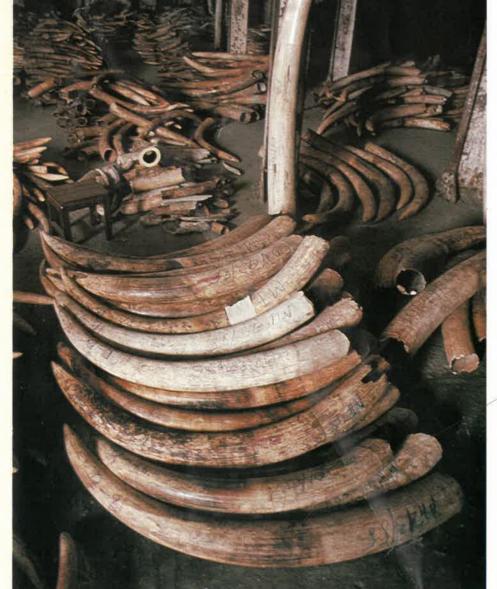
Following the presentation made by EIA to the European Parliament last year, a report is being prepared on the wild bird trade by the Environment Committee.

In the United States of America, EIA has taken an active role in discussions on the proposed five year phase-out of the wild caught bird trade. However the draft bill could take two years to come into force. EIA is lobbying for more urgent

action and has prepared a television advertisement calling for a ban on the pet trade in wild caught birds.

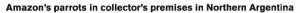
In the UK, the Ministry of Agriculture has just published the latest statistics showing 23,000 bird mortalities in air transportation and quarantine in the UK alone. The Ministry is reported to have appealed to the public not to buy imported captive birds. They said this was the most effective way of saving the lives of these fragile creatures.

The media have shown considerable interest in the issue in the last few months. Newspapers and magazines have run information supplied by EIA, and BBC











Hyacinth macaws. This very rare Brazilian bird is smuggled out via Argentina

television's "Blue Peter" showed a film prepared with EIA's co-operation. EIA has one of the few films depicting methods involved in catching exotic birds, which has consequently been shown extensively.

#### New investigation just completed

A recent EIA investigation in Argentina into the bird trade has just been completed. Information gathered by the undercover team will provide valuable new facts, film and photographs to re-launch EIA's public campaign.

Argentina is the world's largest exporter of parrots for the pet trade. The EIA team was able to film and photograph the capture of parrots, their collection, transportation and export. The pictures are horrifying. "Birds died as we were filming" says Dave Currey, EIA's executive director. "If Europe and the USA don't stop importing these parrots very soon, they will disappear forever."

The team had to present themselves as traders, film-makers, and tourists to obtain their documentation and information. All the information gathered shows that the bird trade in Argentina is out of control. "As in other parts of the world the traders run the show" explains Dave Currey. "The movement of birds is sanctioned by meaningless documents, some of them

companies and bank accounts to launder money and birds."

The EIA team were even offered extremely rare birds while in Argentina, proving that the existing legislation is not affect wildlife in Argentina. Because of the lax border controls, birds from Brazil, Paraguay and Bolivia are being smuggled markets of Europe and the USA. Although

bought and some faked. Traders have many many of these countries already have prohibited trade in their wild birds, information given to the EIA team in Bolivia shows that this country's wild birds are under serious threat.

"Some of the birds being offered are so working. However this trade does not only rare that only a few thousand remain in the wild" says Dave Currey. "As long as this socalled legal trade continues we will lose one species after another. If Europe, the USA into Argentina under the guise of "legal" and the Far East stop buying wild birds, trade", before being transported to the some poorer countries will have a real chance to protect their wildlife."

#### What is the Environmental Investigation Agency?

The Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) is an independent, non-profit making environmental group, working to protect the natural environment and the species which inhabit it.

EIA was established in 1984 and has a small but dedicated team of staff and volunteers. Staff receive minimal salaries. We have built up a reputation for our indepth investigations into environmental problems and abuses.

These investigations take us all over the world into some extraordinary and dangerous situations. Dubbed the 'Eco Detectives' by the British press, information we gather from home and abroad is used to develop solutions to the identified problems.

The results of our research are used to brief other conservation and animal welfare organisations, as well as governments and intergovernmental organisations. We work through international conventions to develop workable and effective solutions to environmental abuses, and to implement changes which will protect exploited species.

Our headquarters are at 208/209 Upper Street, London N1 1RL, UK Tel: 071 704 9441 Fax: 071 226 2888 Our affiliated office in the USA is at 1506 19th Street NW, Washington DC 20036, USA Tel: 202 483 6621 Fax: 202 483 6625

## **African Elephants**

The ivory trade remains the major threat to Africa's elephants. Already plans are underway to overturn the highly successful international ban on ivory trading agreed by CITES - the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species - which has dramatically reduced elephant poaching across most of Africa.

Southern African countries, led by Zimbabwe and South Africa, are leading efforts to reopen the ivory trade with Botswana, Malawi, and Zambia joining in the effort. All five nations took 'reservations' on the ivory trade ban which exempts them from its provisions. They now intend to set up an 'ivory cartel' to sell the ivory.

They argue that their elephant populations are abundant and well managed and that poaching and ivory smuggling are insignificant. But EIA successfully challenged these claims and exposed extensive poaching by the Zimbabwean army in the Gona Re Zhou National Park which accounted for around 1,000 dead elephants. EIA also revealed how Zimbabwe and Botswana were "double counting" many thousands of elephants

which migrated across their shared border as "resident" animals. Zimbabwe still refuses to release scientific data to back up their elephant population estimates the activities of their national Parks and Wildlife Department are shrouded in secrecy.

Meanwhile Zimbabwe is attempting to find buyers for their ivory in the Far East.

Until recently, Botswana has enjoyed one of the largest unmanaged elephant populations in the world. Unfortunately, it has come heavily under the influence of Zimbabwe and is now planning to "cull" as many as 2,500 elephants each year. Conservationists in Botswana oppose an elephant kill, pointing to a virtual lack of scientific data which points to the need or usefulness of "culling", but commercial interests-who will carry out the elephant kill using Zimbabwean shooters-are lobbying hard to get a contract to kill the elephants. How ironic it is that many elephants from Angola and Zambia crossed the border into Botswana to find sanctuary from the heavy poaching in those countries. Now Botswana will allow them to be legally killed.

Zambia has lost 75% of its elephants to poachers since 1979 alone, but the government there

is still dedicated to an international ivory trade. Highly active poaching gangs continue to destroy the remaining elephant herds in Zambia and the government is unwilling or unable to stop such poaching. Information from Malawi suggests that their reservation to the ivory ban was taken as a gesture of solidarity with Zimbabwe.

The most worrying aspect of the Southern African stance is that there is far more to be gained by using live elephants as a tourist attraction than any revenue which ivory from dead elephants could



Mother and calf in Mikumi National Park, Tanzania

bring in. The Zimbabweans have openly stated that their opposition to the ban is ideological and by a desire not to be dictated to by the developed world. It is disturbing to think that the future of the African elephant may be determined by such childish sentiments as these.

The only market which still flourishes in in Japan, where ivory name seals (hanko) are still regarded as a status symbol. The Japanese are abiding by the import ban although, under CITES, internal trade is still permitted. Around 55,000 illegally imported hanko have been seized by Japanese customs, - probably only a fraction of the number imported undetected. Even in Japan, however, consumption of ivory in general is down by 50% and EIA has urged the Japanese government to ban the domestic sale of ivory hanko completely.

The next meeting of CITES, in March 1992, will be a crucial one. If we can maintain the solidity of the ban, the elephants will have the chance of a breathing space. We will continue to challenge the claims of the southern African states and will continue our work to strengthen the international enforcement of the ivory ban.

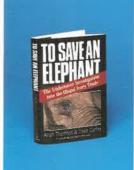
EIA will produce a new report on the African elephant and the ivory trade before the CITES meeting in March.

#### TO SAVE AN ELEPHANT by Allan Thornton and Dave Currey

TO SAVE AN ELEPHANT is an exciting new book written by EIA directors Allan Thornton and Dave Currey. It shows how EIA undertook its two year investigation into the illegal ivory trade and reveals how the explosive information was used

to ban the international ivory trade.

The book follows the EIA undercover investigations around the world - from the killing fields of Africa, to tracking the illicit ivory factories hidden in Dubai, and discovering how the Hong Kong ivory barons moved the poached ivory around the world.



illicit ivory trade evaded international controls, causing the poaching deaths of up to 100,000 elephants annually and pushing Africa's most magnificent creature towards the brink of extinction are outlined in a

fast moving and thrilling account. EIA encountered the "Mr Big" ivory barons, eluded spymasters and corrupt government officials to piece

The details of how the

together the shocking exposé that led to the international ban on ivory trading being passed in October 1989.

TO SAVE AN ELEPHANT is published by Doubleday on 25th April, at £14.99. Available on order from EIA. Send £14.99 and £2 p&p to EIA Book Offer, 208-209 Upper Street, London N1 1RL.

# Are you dolphin—friendly?

DOLPHIN-FRIENDLY
We specify that our tuna must be caught without unacceptable risk to marine mammals

EIA is warning its supporters to be wary of claims of 'dolphin friendliness' by the tuna industry. Many British companies have claimed that their tuna is 'dolphin friendly' – that is, caught without killing dolphins. But, on closer inspection, EIA's Dolphin Friends campaign has found some of the claims to be unfounded and others to be premature.

You may have noticed the above label, or a variation of it, creeping onto the shelves of your local supermarkets in recent weeks. The label has been seen to appear on certain brands of canned tuna – some companies even claiming that they

were 'totally committed to fishing methods which protect the marine environment and its species'. Tell that to the tuna.

Despite some exaggerations, we welcome the move by the tuna industry to recognise the devastating effect certain fishing techniques are having on dolphin populations and on the marine ecosystem in general. But what of the 'dolphin friendly' labels and what is the story behind them?

Some companies claim that they are eliminating all threats to dolphins, but in this case they are referring to two distinct fishing techniques:

Firstly, the deliberate and barbaric setting of nets on dolphins to catch tuna. In certain cases, tuna and dolphins, for reasons unknown to us, often swim together. Tuna fishermen, especially in the Eastern Pacific ocean, use the dolphins near the surface to locate shoals of tuna beneath them. Then powerful speed boats chase and herd the terrified dolphins into massive purse seine nets which are closed around both tuna and dolphin.

Each year, over 100,000 dolphins suffer a horrific death by drowning as the nets close over them.

The second technique is the use of drift nets, some of which stretch up to 90km in length, invisible to fish, mammals, birds or reptiles. These nets are the most destructive and indiscriminate fishing technology ever invented, which are literally wiping out marine life over huge tracts of the world's oceans. A number of tuna retailers claim that they do not sell tuna caught by either of these techniques.

#### The other side of the story

Over the past year, EIA has been working behind the scenes to check these claims.

Common dolphins caught in purse seine tuna net. Many of these dolphins will be drowned or maimed.



When the companies first declared themselves 'dolphin friendly', we set about investigating precisely how 'friendly' they were. Visiting canneries and interviewing fishermen, we have collected evidence to show just how complicated the tuna industry is.

A quick check at your local corner shop will reveal different brands which are labelled 'produce of' at least half a dozen countries. However, much of the fish is not from the country mentioned but is caught elsewhere and then transported to the canning country.

By re-flagging vessels, swapping cargoes at sea, offloading their catches at sea to large freezer vessels, and by using a variety of other techniques, tuna fishermen have shown themselves to be adept at disguising the origin of their catch, avoiding fishing restrictions, import tarriffs and other regulations.

Some UK companies declared themselves 'dolphin friendly' overnight without instituting any kind of verification system to ensure that they can even identify the source of their tuna. Even the 'best' monitoring system instituted by one or two companies were woefully inadequate, consisting of one pre-announced visit by one of their inspectors each year to canneries from which they were purchasing tuna.

EIA has rejected such dangerously inadequate monitoring of tuna purchases and has called on British tuna distributors and importers to institute a comprehensive verification system which includes inspection at: 1. Canneries 2. Dockside landings 3. Fishing vessels and 4. Transhipment cargo vessels, to prevent 'dolphin friendly' tuna from being mixed with so-called 'friendly' tuna.

If you want to help save the dolphins, be sure to ask your tuna supplier if they are instituting a comprehensive verification system as specified above. If they do not guarantee that they have such a system, DO NOT BUY THEIR TUNA. Consumer pressure has forced the tuna industry into taking the first steps to avoid killing dolphins – but so far, these have not gone far enough to justify most of the 'dolphin friendly' claims.

EIA is advocating not only a comprehensive verification system, but also support for a legislative ban on all imports of such tuna into the European Community. Only through such a ban will the tuna industry stop killing tens of thousands of dolphins each year. At the moment, large amounts of dolphin-deadly tuna are pouring into Europe, especially Italy.

Dolphin Friends need to ensure that the UK Government support such a ban and that the British tuna industry is not let off the hook by the half-hearted measures they have so far instituted.



Chilean fishermen with dolphin-baited traps used to catch crab.

#### Italy bans drift nets

The Italian Government has responded to pressure from environmentalists and recently banned the use of all drift nets in their waters. This is a major step in the campaign to abolish drift nets worldwide.

EIA's 1990 report 'the Global War Against Small Cetaceans' documented how thousands of dolphins, whales and other marine animals were being killed in the Italian drift net fishery for swordfish. It had expanded rapidly in the 1980s, ironically because it was considered less environmentally destructive than deep sea trawling.

As with many dolphin kills, it was difficult to estimate precise numbers, as the fishermen would tie weights to the bodies to prevent them being detected, but conservative estimates range upwards from 7,000 dolphins a year as well as hundreds of larger whales.

EIA's Dolphin Friends campaign is pressing for a European Community ban on both the use of drift nets in EC waters or by EC fishing vessels. In addition, all imports of fish caught by driftnet fleets from other countries should be banned to increase international protection for dolphins and other marine animals.

#### Crab eaters — beware!

EIA is investigating a multi-million dollar crab industry in Chile which has been hunting and using rare species of dolphins as bait. Working together with top international biologists and Chilean conservationists, EIA has kept its eye on the developments in the sub-Antarctic regions of South America for some years now, and has determined that the public should be alerted to these devastating practices.

Chilean crab is a luxury product called King crab or snow crab (occasionally also Queen crab), made of two species which are only found in the frigid waters off the tip of the South American continent. The former military government had developed the Chilean crab industry at an explosive rate over the last decade and a half. But despite great investment, a vital detail has

always been neglected: crab fishermen have never been supplied with sufficient quantities of bait, and so take what is most readily available to them – local wildlife.

The Commerson's dolphin is an extremely sociable and uniqely beautiful dolphin which only inhabits the Southern Hemisphere's sub-Antarctic waters. Heartbreakingly, its bright markings and its great friendliness have made

it easy prey for crab bait. Between 1978 and the present, tens of thousands of animals were shot or harpooned – from 2400 animals a year initially to 1700 tonnes per annumn ultimately of illegal bait. Estimates vary, but today the population of Commerson's dolphins are though to be as

few as 300 to 1000 remaining in southern Chile.

Since so few of these easiest bait targets remain, other species of dolphins, porpoises, as well as seals, sea lions and penguins, are being killed by the thousands for this high-priced, export product.

EIA wants consumers in the EEC to be aware that the industries producing the delicious, gourmet Chilean snow and king crabmeat, sold both canned and frozen, are guilty of the deaths of many thousands of rare and endangered dolphins, as well as other animals. Watch labels for country of origin, and for brand names such as 'Camelio', 'Atlantis', 'Imperial', 'Captain Byrd', 'Perle des Glaces', 'Crablaska' and 'Delices Queen'.

By supporting EIA, and by helping us to spread the word, you are once again saving magnificent animals which may otherwise disapear. Thank you!



Faroese child sits astride pilot whale after a kill. These kills are little more than a sport.

#### FAROE ISLANDS

The Faroese continue to whale.

In 1990 about 916 pilot whales were killed in the Faroe Islands along with at least 50 Atlantic white-sided dolphins. This could be cause for celebration, or cause for sadness. This is the lowest number of whales killed since 1971; in 1981 nearly 3,000 were slaughtered. However, all of the whales killed in 1990 died an agonising death and any whale killed in the Faroese hunt is unacceptable for this reason.

The Faroese Government has continued to ignore resolutions initiated by EIA and passed by the IWC in 1986, and the European Parliament in 1989. If these had been implemented, the whaling would have been less cruel and the

number of whales killed significantly less. In short, positive steps would have been made towards ending these barbaric hunts.

The Faroese Government, under pressure from EIA, has consistently claimed to have restricted the use of the whaling hook or metal gaff. However, film shot by ITN in October 1990 shows whales being gaffed and pulled ashore for the kill, inflicting terrible pain on the whales. The pain suffered by the whales serves no other purpose than to provide meat that is unneeded and often wasted, and to provide for sport; an "exciting" day out.

EIA will be returning to the Faroes in the coming months to put further pressure on the Faroese Government. EIA will continue to work in the Faroes, in Europe and at the IWC. We will not give up until the whaling is ended.

## Okavango delta under threat

British Government staff from the Overseas Development Authority (ODA), a department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, are playing a key role in planning major development projects which will cause irreversible damage to one of the world's most construction of a major "cattle fence" important wildlife habitats.

The Okavango Delta in Botswana has been described as "Africa's last great unspoiled wilderness. It is an unexpected oasis, a glittering expanse of crystal clear waterways, lush green papyrus and fertile floodplains, surrounded on all sides by arid semi desert and Kalahari sandveld".

dredge the Boro River in the Okavango Delta created an international outcry. The dredging is part of a major water development plan to provide increased water supply for the Orapa diamond mine and for domestic supplies to Maun, Botswana's central tourist centre.

The local tribe in Ngamiland strongly opposed the dredging plan. In the 1970's Anglo American dredged another part of the Boro River for the diamond mine, destroying the vegetation and fisheries there. The concerns of the tribe caused the Minister of Water Affairs, Mr Archie Mogwe, to announce a temporary suspension of plans to dredge and a review of the water development scheme. However, proponents of the scheme are pressing for the dredging to continue.

Outrage at Botswana's plans was increased by the decision to go ahead with dozens of miles long which cut across migration routes for many species of wildlife. ODA staff are at the centre of the project and admit that wildlife will die on the fence, but say losses will be "acceptable". However no environmental impact assessment has been carried out and the Botswana government is refusing Plans developed with ODA assistance to appeals to conduct one. The fence is

intended to meet European Community requirements that beef imports be free of disease. Foot and mouth is supposedly transmitted by wild buffalo and Botswana has built many such fences to facilitate exports to the EC.

Many of Botswana's cattle fences have resulted in the mass deaths of large numbers of wild animals including wildebeest, hartebeest, and giraffes.

The EC gives huge subsidies for Botswana's beef production which encourages unsustainable numbers of cattle. Overgrazing and serious habitat degradation result in the expansion of cattle into wildlife habitat.

Unlike other government aid agencies (like Germany's GTZ), Britain's ODA appears to have no environmental considerations or guidelines to follow when involved in overseas development projects. Sadly, just as Britain fuelled elephant poaching by its lax control over Hong Kong's ivory barons, it is now contributing to the destruction of the Okavango through lax control over its own civil

The Chief of Ngamiland who has led the Batawana tribe in opposition to the new cattle fence (below) and the dredging of the Boro River in the Okavango Delta





## development

The development of EIA has progressed at a hectic pace. In each of our campaigns we have not only built upon past achievements, but made further gains.

From the launch of EIA's Dolphin Friends Campaign in May 1990 we have focused the attention of the world upon the desperate plight of dolphins, porpoises and small whales (collectively known as small cetaceans). EIA's research, investigations and lobbying at the International Whaling Commission last June, culminated in a fundamental breakthrough in the conservation of all small cetaceans. For the first time in over 40 years, the IWC accepted a resolution covering small cetacea. Over 5,000 dolphins from one species alone, Dalls Porpoise, have definitely been saved as a result of the IWC resolution. We aim to continue the pressure at this year's IWC meeting in Iceland.

EIA's six years of hard work and campaigning to end the trade in wildcaught birds achieved a major breakthrough late last year (detailed on page 1 of this newsletter). Our message and information about this totally unnecessary and cruel trade is now being taken up by organisations throughout Europe and USA. This spring EIA will be launching its own public campaign to end the trade.

On Friday January 18th EIA celebrated the first anniversary of the international ivory ban issued in by the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). This has resulted in a decrease in poaching in all the elephant range countries. For instance Kenya has reported only 46 elephants were killed by poachers in 1990, compared to thousands a year in the years leading up to the ban. It was EIA's undercover investigations and campaigning that directly led to the ban.

However the pressure has to be kept up, as it is now likely that there will be a call at the next CITES meeting in 1992 to open up the ivory trade again. EIA holds the view that the elephant must remain on the protected list, and our investigation teams are at this moment in the field, gathering evidence and information which we will use to prevent any resumption of the trade

and to expose those who still gain profit from a trade in the African elephant.

These achievements are the result of tremendously hard work. However, it would not have been possible without the kindness and generosity of our supporters. Tens of thousands of animals have been saved, major improvements in legislation introduced and more people are now informed about the major wildlife abuses that still continue - an achievement which everyone associated with EIA can be

#### A Call for Help

The efforts and enterprise of our supporters have been truly overwhelming. On New Years Eve, Kit Rogers staged a Dolphin Ball in Southampton, raising over four hundred pounds for our Dolphin Friends campaign. In Poole, Dorset, Niki Brown and a determined group of supporters established EIA's first local group. During January, in Covent Garden Piazza, EIA supporters held an Elephant Week, braving the unfriendly elements to raise over two thousand pounds.

1991 has also seen the first of EIA's street collections around the country. So far we have collected in Sunderland, Derby and Woking, and we have collections planned for over 10 other towns and cities. At the same time more than 130 celebrities, MP's and MEP's have now joined in support of our Dolphin Friends campaign, ranging from Wendy Richard to Julie Walters; Jasper Carrot to Julian Clary.

We have also launched a new Dolphin Friends lottery for 1991. Last year's lottery raised over £15,000. Let's try and beat that figure this year.

Meanwhile, Klaus Armstrong Braun has

pledged to run the entire 26 miles of the London Marathon on April 24th in aid of our wildlife campaign. No ordinary runner this; he's doing it dressed as a parrot. Klaus would like sponsors. Famous wildlife artist Gary Hodges will be holding an exhibition at the Medici Gallery (7 Grafton Street, London W1) between April 18th - May 2nd. The artist will be donating the proceeds from the sale of a drawing to EIA. For further details 071-274 0905.

But we still need many, many more people to help with the events already planned and to stage their own events.

So if you have always wanted to make a positive contribution to saving the world's wildlife and their environment, but have never been sure what you could do, please read on.

#### **Dolphin Friends walk**

On May 19th EIA is staging the first Dolphin Friends nationwide sponsored walk. The main walk will be at London's Trent Country Park, a beautiful open space complete with water gardens, ancient woodland and excellent transport connections. Nearest tube station is Cockfosters. We need the support of our members to come to Trent Park; we also need people to organise walks in other parts of the country. Every member and supporter will receive a sponsor form, please try and persuade your friends and family to walk as well. Every step you take will help to save dolphins.

On May 21st we have a London wide street collection. Again we need supporters to collect or to help organise the event. We are looking for area co-ordinators in every London borough.

EIA also needs help to distribute



EIA Chairman, Allan Thornton and Executive Director Dave Currey at the Senate HOuse in Washington DC, where Senator Heinz presented them with the Schweitzer Medal. This was awarded in September last year for their outstanding contribution to animal conservation and welfare.