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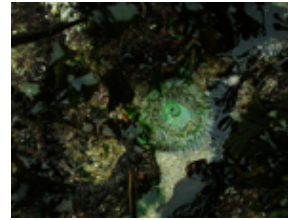
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# Knowledge Farm

## Newsletter

September 1, 2006

### Water

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- **NEW** [KF Photography Master Archive](#)

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### Red Sky at Morning

James Gustave Speth

#### Threats to Biodiversity and Ecosystems - 4 of 9

- Read [Threat #1](#) - Land use conversion
- Read [Threat #2](#) - Land degradation
- Read [Threat #3](#) - Freshwater shortages
- Read [Threat #4](#) - **Watercourse modifications**

- [Red Sky at Morning web site](#)

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### Blue Frontier

#### Dispatches From America's Ocean Wilderness

by David Helvarg

"If there is much we still don't know about this, our final physical frontier, we know that it is our lifeblood. The seas cover 71 percent of the earth's surface, giving our ocean planet its blue marble appearance. Although the tropical rain forests have been called the lungs of the world, the oceans actually absorb far greater amounts of carbon dioxide. Microscopic phytoplankton in the top layer of the sea act as a biological pump, extracting some 2.5 billion tons of organic carbon out of the atmosphere annually (replacing it with 70% of the life-giving oxygen we need to survive). The top two feet of sea water contain as much heat as the entire atmosphere. Scientists recently have come to recognize ocean currents as key to the creation of climate, clouds and weather, but they still don't know enough about the internal workings of the sea (or have the historical records) to fully incorporate the ocean's thermodynamics into computer models of global warming. More is known about the dark side of the moon than is known about the depths of the oceans."

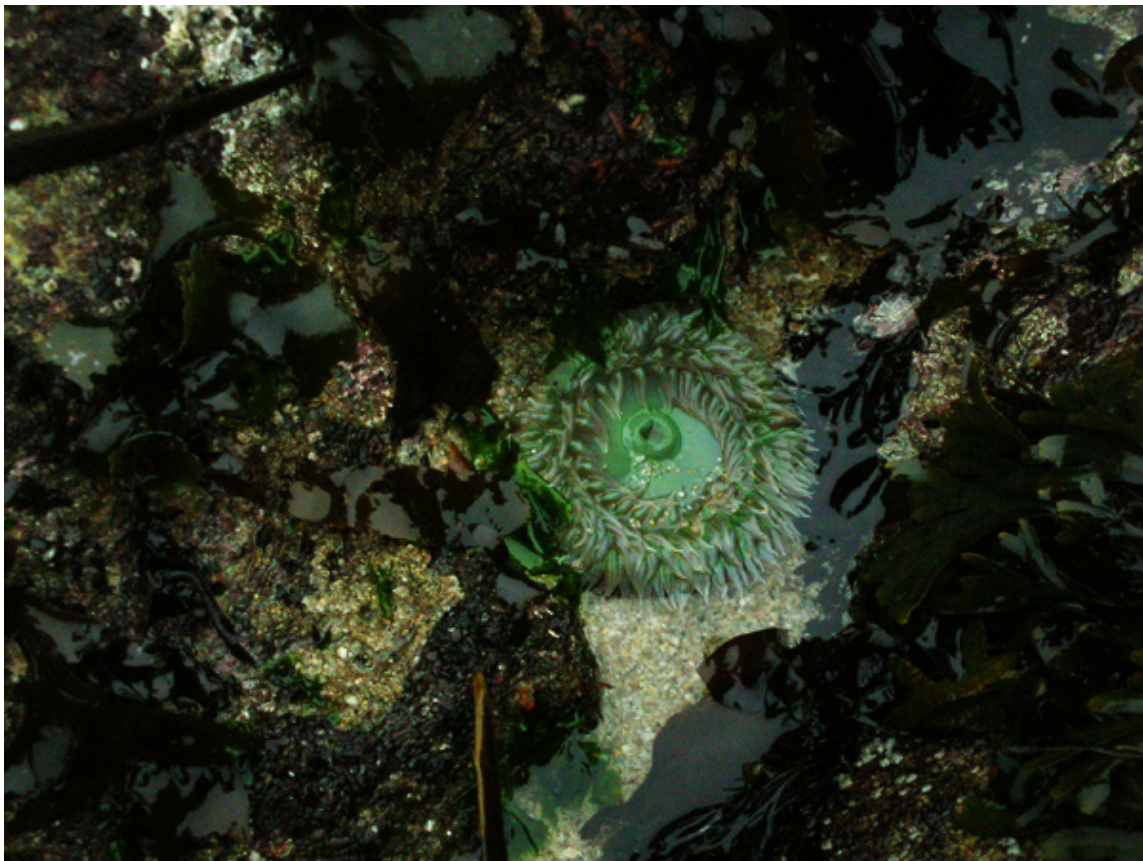
"Along with its practical role in maintaining the tides of life, our ocean planet also holds a spiritual resonance for our species, calling us back to the common waterborne birth state we all have experienced on both an individual and evolutionary basis. Our bodies, like the planet, are 71 percent salt water; our blood exactly as salty as the sea was when our ancestors first emerged from it. This may explain why it's easier to fall asleep to the sound of the ocean. The rhythm of the waves is like our mother's heartbeat."

## Travelogue

Rich Kurczak - [8/20/2006 edition](#) - Falling Trees & the Hopi Reservation  
Rich Kurczak - [7/20/2006 edition](#) - Last Days in Cliff, New Mexico  
Rich Kurczak - [7/09/2006 edition](#) - SW New Mexico  
Rich Kurczak - [6/23/2006 edition](#) - Yampa River, Green River, Grand Staircase Wilderness



Photo - 2006



Low Tide - Anemone - Monterey Bay - July 2006

[Click here to view the KnowledgeFarm Photography Master Archive](#)

### ... Help add new subscribers to KnowledgeFarm ...

KnowledgeFarm has issued over 75 newsletters since Bill Katavolos coined the name to reflect his vision of small rural learning centers tucked into the interstitial "left-overs" of circular irrigation fields on the great plains. KF subscribership has remained small and friendly - currently a master list of 33. KnowledgeFarm is a weekly portrait of someone or someplace that seems to be making a difference for the health of the planet mixed with a collection of photographs I take along the way and quotes that I find particularly inspiring. Recently the Travelogue was added as a way to follow Rich Kurczak on his way to Africa and back and this section may grow as others contribute similar adventures.

If you have found the KnowledgeFarm newsletter interesting or thought provoking please take a few minutes and forward this page to some friends.

Thanks for your referrals.

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### Redbud Wind - energy project archive

**Updated 5/19/06**

Click the wind turbine icon to see progress notes for the Redbud Wind I site at Enid, OK.

● **Page Link** - [See data sheets for Redbud Wind](#)

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George Beggs 8/2006 - [click here to send feedback](#)