

TEXAS EAGLE FORUM

May 2022

Dear Eagles,

John Adams once said: *“Private property must be secured, or liberty cannot exist.”* Yet, it seems every time we turn around, the Biden administration erodes another one of our liberties through an executive order. This month’s *Torch* deals with the attack on private property rights via a federal land grab called “**30 x 30**,” which is part of the **United Nations Agenda 2030** dealing with **climate change**.

There is no one better to address this issue than Texan **Margaret Byfield**, President of American Stewards of Liberty, who defines 30 x 30 and spells out how “We the People” can protect our Constitutional right to own property. Her organization’s mission is “to confront the radical environmental movement and help citizens protect their lands and protect our country.” ASL was instrumental in defeating the Trans-Texas Corridor boondoggle in 2009, and TEF will be working with them to defeat 30 x 30 in Texas.

Congratulations to **Beth Biesel**, Texas Eagle Forum Election Integrity Chair and President of American Liberty Forum, for heading up the data-rich and solution-rich “**Election Transparency Seminar**” in Dallas on April 30th. We had an overflow in-person crowd and hundreds more attending through a live Zoom link. If we have your email address, we will send you a link so you can watch it. Be sure to have a notebook and pen ready!

The outcome of the 2020 Presidential election was clearly not right to anyone paying attention. It was particularly suspect that RINO king-makers like Karl Rove were telling everyone to sit down and shut up. Thankfully, patriots didn’t heed his controlling advice and sought answers to how the lackluster and cognitively-impaired Joe Biden happened to win more votes than any other presidential candidate in American history.

Those who attended the Seminar witnessed how easy it was—and *is*—to hack into a city or county’s voter database and voting machines to change the outcome of an election. Moderated by international journalist Lara Logan, speakers included cyber-security experts Mark Cook, Pete Morocco, Col. Phil Waldron (Ret.), Russ Ramsland, and others who showed proof the 2020 election was indeed rigged. We heard from speakers on other election-related topics as well. Unfortunately, the mainstream media, politicians on both sides of the aisle, and uninformed Americans say Biden won fair and square. Nothing to see here ... but as more information comes to light, there is hope truth will prevail.

On the same subject, documentary filmmaker Dinesh D’Souza has a powerful new movie out this month, **2000 Mules**. Gary Bauer (American Values, 4/25/22) reviews the film: “*2000 Mules* focuses on the unprecedented use and abuse of mail-in balloting and ballot drop boxes in 2020 election and how the left conspired to rig the election. Through the use of surveillance video and cellphone geotracking, D’Souza shows that thousands of ‘mules’ delivered hundreds of thousands of suspect ballots to drop boxes in key swing states. In some states, it was potentially enough to change the results. In the future, we need to make sure our elections are secure, and that no one can steal future elections by ‘rigging’ laws and procedures at the last minute.”

(over, please)

To get these problems fixed, Americans have to be willing to speak out about 2020 election irregularities and hold their legislators accountable. Texans must demand paper ballots and hand counts, no mail-in ballots except for the military, limited early voting, and stronger penalties for voter fraud when our legislators meet next year. Election Integrity is one of TEF's Legislative Priorities for 2023.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the **GOP State Convention** in Houston, June 16–18th. Please stop by Booth #314 and say hello. Eagles Beth Biesel, Deana Johnston and Marilyn Statler will be manning the booth, and we will have samples of a very secure paper ballot for you to explore. TEF is also hosting a Meet & Greet reception at the Hilton on June 16th, and we hope you will join us. Check our booth for room and time.

Eagle Council 50 will be held in St. Louis on September 23–24, and I would love for you to join us! For 50 years, Eagle Council has been on the forefront of equipping and activating citizen-activists on national issues to work for conservative principles and the ideals of our founding fathers. I have attended many EC's and have always come home informed, energized, and thrilled to have met so many like-minded Eagles from across the country.

The early-bird registration fee for Eagle Council is \$249 for individuals, but if we sign up 10 or more, the group rate is \$199 (includes meetings and meals). There is also a \$50 add-on trip to the Arch on Friday morning before the conference begins at 1 pm. The conference ends on Saturday night with a 50th Anniversary Dinner and Program—"A Party with a Purpose!" The host hotel is the St. Louis Airport Marriott (\$109 plus tax for 1–4 people). If interested in the conference only, please send a \$199 check payable to TEF by July 15, 2022. If adding on the Arch trip, please send \$249. For more information, go to TexasEagleForum.com, or contact us if you have any additional questions. See you in St. Louis!

In the past, TEF's main fundraiser has been the Patriotic Banquet at the State Convention. With the rising costs of holding such an event, as well as budget priorities of attendees, we made the difficult decision to forego a banquet. We hope, however, you will continue to support TEF/TEEF with your most generous financial gifts as we stay the course, fighting for faith, freedom, and family.

May God bless you, your loved ones, and the great state of Texas!

Faithfully,



Cindi Castilla
President of Texas Eagle Forum

P.S. With the recent unprecedented leaking of the U.S. Supreme Court draft report striking down *Roe v Wade*, please pray *Roe* is overturned, and for the conservative Justices as they are under enormous pressure to change their votes. The final decision will come down in June or early July, and when overturned, abortion laws will go back to the states where they belong.

THE TORCH

TEXAS EAGLE FORUM

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Stop the 30 X 30 LAND GRAB

Keep Texas Land in Texas Hands

By **Margaret Byfield**, Executive Director, American Stewards of Liberty, 4/26/22

On January 27, 2021, President Biden launched the “30 x 30” initiative by Executive Order¹, implementing in America the international agenda to permanently protect, in its natural state, at least 30 percent of the world’s lands and oceans by 2030.

In 2019 the Center for American Progress, published the primary report

behind this agenda, entitled “How Much Nature Should America Keep?”² In this report, they claim over one million of the world’s species and over one-third of America’s species will go extinct in the coming decades if the lands are not returned to nature. They also state that we are losing a football field of land every 30 seconds to development.

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This equates to approximately 3,000 acres converted a day, or 11 million acres over ten years. That raises the question: Why are they advocating that we must “permanently protect” an additional 400 million acres in 9 short years?

According to the Department of the Interior³, only 12 percent, or approximately 300 million acres of America’s land, is currently “permanently protected.” These include our national and state parks, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, and permanent conservation easements on private lands. To reach the 30 percent goal, they will need to protect the equivalent of one state of Nebraska every year for the next nine years, or two states of Texas, as Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts has stated. This is the largest unauthorized federal land grab our nation has ever faced.

The initial reaction of many Texans has been that this radical notion would only apply to lands the federal government already owns, the majority of which are not in Texas. But this has been a misguided assumption, because the proponents of this program have always had as their primary target American’s private property.

They claim that two-thirds of all development is occurring on private lands, but only one percent of these lands are permanently protected. They believe they must either acquire or permanently control American’s private property to have the regulatory assurance that habitats and species are protected. They will accept progress towards this goal if they do not succeed in getting all of this in one Presidential term.

Thankfully, Governor Ricketts recognized the dangers of this program to private landowners early. Nebraska is 97-percent privately owned, the fifth-best conserved state in the nation, according to *U.S. News and World Report*, and their primary industry is agriculture.

He led his colleagues in opposing the federal program last year with a letter to President Biden⁴ that was signed by 14 other Governors, including Greg Abbott. The letter reaffirms the position that conservation of America’s lands should be left to the states and private landowners, not Washington, D.C. This is an important point given that the lands most in need of restoration are those currently managed by the federal government. Why should we give them more?

While Governor Ricketts has issued an Executive Order⁵ to stop 30 x 30 in Nebraska, New Mexico’s Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham issued an Executive Order calling for the conservation of 30 percent of New Mexico, plus an additional 20 percent for “climate stabilization areas.” That is a total of 50 percent, better known as the “Half-Earth” agenda launched by biologist E.O. Wilson.

You can be assured Beto O’Rourke will quickly follow her lead if given the chance. How much easier will this be to implement if Texans embrace Biden’s call for conservation of our lands?

Our Secretary of Commerce, Gina Raimondo, one of the four Department heads on the 30 x 30 Task Force, has stated the program is just the Administration’s first step towards “Half-Earth” in an interview she gave to Vox Media last year. She said: “30 percent isn’t the end ... 30 percent is the beginning. It’s setting a very strong foundation, and we hope [it] will build the

momentum for longer-term conservation to benefit current and future generations.”

Selling this international agenda in America is more difficult than in other nations. Unique to America is the right of every citizen to own private property with the assurance of its protection, regardless of financial status. In fact, 60 percent of the land in America is still privately owned.

This is a good thing for a society of free people who want to retain control of their government. But to those wanting to control our land, it poses a significant hurdle. Their solution is enticing landowners to voluntarily enroll in federal conservation programs, creating a federal connection to the private lands, eventually allowing for increased conservation restrictions as we move closer to 2030.

Faced with significant opposition and substantive questions, the Biden Administration released a report last May that attempts to deflect the serious debate by rebranding the program “America the Beautiful.” They assure us their intent is not to preserve the land; rather, it is to “conserve and restore.” Then they fail to define the difference.

They avoid the important questions that address how they will acquire 400 million additional acres in nine years. Instead, they talk about small-sized actions such as more city parks, more access for hunters and recreationists, and more federal funding to keep working lands working. They also assure us this internationally-rooted agenda is locally-led.

Do you trust the Administration, that has abandoned their federal responsibility at our Southern Border and destroyed our economy in one short year, to oversee the “conservation” of Texan’s private property?

The White House has said they will be using all the tools in the toolbox to implement 30 x 30—and they are. The Administration is paying more for conservation set-asides, artificially raising the cost of land and directly competing with working landowners. They are also funding non-profit land trusts to acquire conservation easements on private lands, giving the easement holders primary control of the land, in many cases, forever. And, of course, this must all be done to save nature and humanity.

Yet, the notion that we are losing habitats and species in America is blatantly false. The Heritage Foundation recently released a report authored by Robert Gordon entitled “Land and Habitat in the United States: A Reality Check.”⁶ This report relies on actual data, not scientific models created by environmentalists. It finds that only 5.3 percent of the lower 48 states are developed and that 54 percent of this is considered open space with golf courses, city parks, and large lots.

Over 150 counties across the nation have passed resolutions opposing 30 x 30, and over 60 of these are in Nebraska, where

Governor Ricketts has met directly with the people in town halls across the State. Texas, unfortunately, only has six counties opposed. Those counties leading the way are Edwards, Jeff Davis, Kerrville, Llano, Presidio, and Titus.

More should follow suit, and the Texas Legislature and state government should also consider taking stronger action to keep Texan's lands in Texan's hands. Our Governor could sign an Executive Order similar to Nebraska's Governor Ricketts. Another solution is to limit conservation easements to a maximum term of 30 years, so that the current generation cannot permanently bind the next generation from the grave.

I'll leave you with one last question: Do you trust the Administration that has abandoned their federal responsibility at our Southern Border and destroyed our economy in one short year to oversee the "conservation" of Texan's private property?

Regardless of what name they give this agenda, it is not about conservation, protection, or restoration. It is simply about who is going to control, and thereby own, America—the people or the government.

NOTE: Go to www.stop30x30.americanstewards.us to learn what you can do to help stop the 30 x 30 land grab in Texas.

- 1 Executive Order 14008 ("Order") entitled "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad" (86 Fed. Reg. 7,619 (Feb. 1, 2021)) Section 216.
- 2 "How Much Nature Should America Keep?" By Matt Lee-Ashley, published by The Center for American Progress, August 2019.
- 3 "FACT SHEET: President Biden to Take Action to Uphold Commitment to Restore Balance on Public Lands and Waters, Invest in Clean Energy Future," Department of the Interior, January 27, 2021.
- 4 Governor's Joint Letter to President Biden on Federal Overreach of 30x30 Program, available at americanstewards.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Joint-Letter-to-President-Biden-on-30-x-30-Program-04.21.20.pdf
- 5 Executive Order No. 21-08, "Stop 30x30: Protect Our Land and Water," available at governor.nebraska.gov/press/gov-ricketts-signs-executive-order-help-stop-president-biden-s-30-x-30-land-grab
- 6 "Land and Habitat in the United States: A Reality Check," by Robert Gordon, published by The Heritage Foundation, March 4, 2022.

A Con-Con Could Usher in a New Constitution

Excerpts from an article by
Dr. Ileana Johnson Paugh, 3/31/22

Modern politics have morphed into an all-out assault against our country and against its Constitution. If the Con-Con movement succeeds, the Constitutional Convention will be assembled to amend the Constitution to allegedly reign in the political corruption in Washington. The political class does not follow our Constitution as is, what makes one think that they will follow it with more amendments? And what will prevent a runaway convention in which delegates might replace our Constitution with their latest version?

The Left is drooling with the desire to replace our Constitution with their own version of the Constitution for the World, called The Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development (D.I.C.E.D), 5th Edition. Twenty years in the making, this is a constitution that pays homage and gives power to the new world order, a form of planetary and borderless government as described in Klaus Schwab's Great Reset devised by his World Economic Forum (WEF) and clearly explained in this document as a climate change emergency and the need for their development visioning.

The Covenant (agreement) is described by writers as a "living document." When the world did not believe in global warming, they morphed it into a new euphemism, the climate change. And its profitable fairy dust wind and solar industry grew rapidly at the expense of the hapless American taxpayers.

The fifth edition of D.I.C.E.D. has a preamble, forewords to all five editions (the first was published in 1995), and 83 articles. The document is obviously intended to be a "world constitution for global governance," an onerous way to control population growth, movement, redistribute wealth, force 'social and economic equity and justice,' economic control, consumption control, land and water use control, and resettlement control as part of social engineering globalist plans.

The only thing "DICED" is going to be your freedom and your private property, "DICED" in perpetuity among the global elites 'stakeholders.' They have a strong claim and 'stake' in your wealth and everything you have, do, and hold dear in your daily lives now and forever.

The purpose of this constitution is to finally legalize the installation of U.N Agenda 21 now morphed into U.N. Agenda 2030 with its Sustainable Development, the lynchpin of fundamentally changing everything you do in the global visioning of a few elites, supporters, and subscribers to Klaus Schwab's Great Reset in which you "will own nothing and be happy about it." And when you do, you will "build back better," Biden's oft repeated but empty words, with nothing but misery, despair, abject fear, and want.

NOTE: Dr. Ileana Johnson Paugh is a freelance writer, author, and speaker. Her books include, Echoes of Communism, Liberty on Life Support, and U.N. Agenda 21: Environmental Piracy. Her entire article can be read at canadafreepress.com/article/democracy-has-gone-to-your-head.



ALA Elects a Marxist as President

The American Library Association (ALA) has long been considered a left-wing organization, and its latest choice for president confirms this. The ALA has just elected Emily Drabinski, a self-ascribed “Marxist lesbian,” and there is evidence that suggests she will use her position to push sexually explicit material and other sordid texts directed at children. According to The Federalist’s Joy Pullman: “Drabinski posts openly on her Twitter feed in support of sexually exposing children, union-led political strife, socialist politicians, and libraries pushing explicit and far-left material on unwilling taxpayers.” She claims there’s “no big library agenda,” but it is obvious that whoever controls the books placed in public, taxpayer-funded libraries controls the ideas and the discourse of the public. This is a far cry from Benjamin Franklin’s original idea for the public library.

SOURCE: Emily Griffin, “American Library Association: Worst of the Worst,” *The Patriot Post*, 4/26/22

Americans Are Poorer Under Biden

According to the Heritage Foundation, higher prices have cost the average American family \$2,445 in real annual income since President Joe Biden took office in January 2021. EJ Antoni, research fellow with the The Heritage Foundation’s Center for Data Analysis, says, “Under the Biden administration the American people have become demonstrably poorer. The dramatic rise in prices means that American families can’t buy as much today as they could just 14 months ago. Prices have surged so rapidly that real earnings—earnings adjusted for price changes—have dropped 4.5 percent on Biden’s watch. If President Biden and others are serious about helping working Americans, they need to take responsibility for the mess they created, cut government spending, and end the regulatory war on American energy production.”

SOURCE: Heritage Foundation, 4/12/22

Having Second Thoughts?

Florida recently dissolved Disney World’s special “self-governing district,” subjecting the not-so-family-friendly theme park to huge tax implications. There is a hopeful sign that the backlash against Disney is making other companies think twice about going woke. Energy giant ExxonMobil announced that it is no longer permitting so-called “affinity flags” or “external position flags,” like the gay pride flag or the BLM flag, to fly outside its corporate offices. Needless to say, the company is under tremendous pressure from left-wing activists and their media allies to reverse course.

SOURCE: American Values, 4/25/22

Homeschooling Surge Continues

Public schools’ political agendas are pushing more parents to choose homeschooling than ever before. The Texas Home School Coalition (THSC) estimates more than 750,000 Texas students are being educated at home. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the number of Texas families who chose to homeschool their kids nearly tripled in 2020, from 4.5 percent to 12.3 percent. Interest in homeschooling continues to rise due to backlash from COVID policies and what parents see happening in public schools, according to Tim Lambert, THSC President. Parents seeing their local schools push social indoctrination and infuse academics with leftist ideology turned them to homeschooling.

SOURCE: Texas Minute, 4/26/22

Quote of the Month

“Without free and fair elections, we are not a democracy; we are a criminal cartel masquerading as a democracy.”

~ Dinesh D’Souza, from the trailer of his documentary film, *2000 Mules*, 4/2022

Great American Quote

“One’s god dictates the kind of law one implements and also controls the application and development of that law over time. Given enough time, all non-Christian systems of law self-destruct in a fit of tyranny.”

~ President George Washington

Texas Eagle Forum

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