

## Dave Foreman and Paul Watson: Putting Earth and Sea First (Rewilding)

As an activist for most of my adult life, it has been my honor and to my lasting benefit, to meet and work with a number of outstanding human beings. Among them, two for whom I have the greatest respect, are Paul Watson, founder of Sea Shepherd, and Dave Foreman, founder of Earth First (who was instrumental in getting me involved in environmental politics at the national level), whose principled efforts on behalf of the natural world have been sometimes spectacular, frequently courageous, very often surprisingly and lastingly effective, and almost invariably inspiring. While we haven't always agreed on specific issues, tactics or strategies, we have always been in agreement on the utter insanity of seeing the world and its inhabitants, as our era usually does, in terms of commodification, as no more than resources for human exploitation; and of the essential and pressing need for the human species to respect the rights of the non-human world, to recognize the community of earthly beings and our role in it as participants and, at best given our present dominance, not as masters or managers but protectors and stewards.

The link here is to an hour and forty-five minute radio interview in which Foreman and Watson discuss their own histories as conservationists and reflect on past and current conditions and opportunities.

<https://rewilding.org/dave-foreman-and-paul-watson-putting-earth-and-sea-first/>