



REGIONAL GROUP OF THE SIERRA CLUB

# Otzinachson

## Governor Slashes Conservation Funding Biggest Slash in State History

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10th Annual  
**Pennsylvania Land  
Conservation Conference**  
May 3-5, 2012  
Inn at Pocono Manor  
(Monroe County)

Learn more at  
**ConserveLand.org**

### QUOTE

“I am the Lorax. I  
speak for the trees. I  
speak for the trees, for  
the trees have no  
tongues.”

-The Lorax  
By Dr. Seuss

Governor Corbett’s pro-  
posed 2012-13 budget  
ELIMINATES ALL CONSER-  
VATION, PARK and REC-



REATION FUNDING from the Keystone Recreation, Park and Con-  
servation Fund. The budget goes on to propose that the termina-  
tion of funding be made permanent. This means a loss of \$30M for  
conservation in 2012-13 and far more in the long-run. It would be  
the biggest cut to conservation funding ever proposed in Pennsyl-  
vania. (Keystone funding for libraries and historic preservation  
would remain intact.)

For 19 years, the Keystone Fund has consistently delivered  
tangible and lasting results:

- ✓ Helping communities to forever protect new parkland,  
natural areas and other greenspaces important to them;
- ✓ Supporting thousands of municipal and county park pro-  
jects including construction and renovation of play-  
grounds, athletic fields, picnic pavilions and pools;
- ✓ Building hundreds of miles of trails, whether the multi-  
state Great Allegheny Passage, multi-county trails like  
the Pine Creek Trail, or county and local trails;
- ✓ Improving recreational facilities in our award-winning  
State Parks and sustainably managed State Forests;
- ✓ Enabling local libraries to expand and renovate their fa-  
cilities;
- ✓ Preserving Pennsylvania's historical landmarks, struc-  
tures and museums.

Learn more about the Keystone Fund and the type of projects it  
supports by visiting [KeystoneFund.org](http://KeystoneFund.org). To learn more about  
what you can do, visit [ConservationAdvocate.org](http://ConservationAdvocate.org). ☐

## Message from the Chair: Otzinachson Needs You!

As I begin another run as Chair of the Otzinachson Excom Committee, I return to the theme of the need for more volunteers to make our Group more successful. I have been active with the Otzinachson Group for a little more than 10 years and in that time I have looked at pretty much the same faces at our committee meetings. While I am very grateful that these members have continued their service to the Group and sincerely hope they continue, I hope to see more new faces involved with the Group's activities and the mission of the Club. We have had some new faces over the years, but not nearly enough. A little new blood is always needed by volunteer organizations.

The threats to the environment and our health seem to be never ending. Unconventional drilling in the Marcellus Shale is just another in the catalogue of threats we face. Each member who helps us allows us to do a little more in achieving our goals. The threats we all face are so varied that what ever each individual's central concern is an opportunity to serve. There are no requirements of expertise or experience to help the Group. Time requirement is what every time you wish or can give.

I know that many members join as a donation to the club. I too have many memberships with groups in which I am not active. If this is your position, I thank you very much for you membership and hope that you will continue your support. Maybe you could help the Club by asking some friends you know who are concerned about the environment to join. All members and the public are invited to our programs and hikes, please join us sometime.

Less than 2% of our 800 Group members are active volunteers. If we could increase that just 1 or 2% it would have a great effect on how well the Group could function. Please if you are at all interested contact me at [jmiller1018@yahoo.com](mailto:jmiller1018@yahoo.com). Feel free to contact other members of the executive committee. You will find them listed at our website [pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/otzinachson](http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/otzinachson).

*Jack Miller, Chair*

*Visit us online:  
[pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/otzinachson/](http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/otzinachson/)*

### Otzinachson Leadership

#### Executive Committee:

Jack Miller, Chair  
Sam Pearson, Vice Chair  
Roy Fontaine, Treasurer/Secretary  
Dave Clemens  
Nicole Faraguna  
Dave Hafer  
Lana Gulden  
Richard Sahn  
Paul Shaw

#### Committee Chairs:

Nicole Faraguna, Political, State Forests  
Roy Fontaine, Waste Water Quality  
Dave Hafer, Conservation  
Susan Loftus, Membership  
Sam Pearson, Energy, Sprawl  
Paul Shaw, Outings  
David Young, Environmental Education

There are a number of committee openings available. For a complete list of committees, visit our website at <http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/Otzinachson/leadership.html> If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact the committee chair (contact information available online).

## Attend a Meeting!!

*All Sierra Club members & interested non-members are welcome!!!*

**May 1**  
**July 10**  
**September 4**  
**November 6**

All meetings are held at  
7:00 P.M.

**Mondragon Book Store**  
**111 Market Street**  
**Lewisburg**

Please note that this location is not handicap accessible—if you can suggest a new (handicap accessible) location for the Group to meet, please contact Dave Hafer (570.523.3107) or Jack Miller (570.837.6546)

If you have something that you wish to bring to the group's attention please contact Jack Miller, Chair, at [jmiller1018@yahoo.com](mailto:jmiller1018@yahoo.com) at least one week ahead of time.

# Clean Up, Clean Up, Everybody, Everywhere

By Sam Pearson

That line might be closely associated with the most annoying purple dinosaur ever, but the sentiment is solid. This spring, there are two community clean ups coming up in the Lewisburg Area. Come on out for one of them or organize one of your own in a place dear to you.

On Sunday, April 1, after you get all fired up from watching the Linn Conservancy's 1 pm showing of "The Lorax" (the old animated short) and "Mother Nature's Child" at the Campus Theatre come on out to Wolfe Field on St Anthony St in Lewisburg at 3 pm to do a litter clean up. We'll meet in the playground.

Call 570.522.8159 or email sam.z.pearson@gmail.com to sign up. And on Saturday, April 21, from 1-4 pm, there will be a season-starting clean up along the Buffalo Valley Rail Trail. Call the LARA office 570.524.4774 or email info@golara.org for more details or to sign up. ☞

**As Seuss says in The Lorax: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." Now get out there!**

## Tips for organizing your own clean up:

**Pick a date.** Maybe try to coordinate with Earth Day (April 22) and definitely work around other local events (in the case of Lewisburg, the Arts Festival). It's best to choose a date in April because if you wait until May undergrowth may have come in too heavily to permit you to reach many areas and earlier than that, you're more likely to run into snow covering the trash.

**Get permission.** If you want to do a clean up in a park or other public amenity, check with the people in charge. This may just be a courtesy, but they may ask for a more formal notice of your intentions. This might even get you help with the final piece of the puzzle (see disposal).

**Spread the word.** Let people know you're planning on doing it. You can usually put an item in the local newspaper community calendar with a couple weeks notice. Tell your friends. Post it on the Great American Clean Up of PA website, gacofpa.org. If you know local contacts for the scouts, check in with them. Give people the date, time, location, contact information for the person coordinating (both phone and email if possible), and any logistical info (let them know whether there are rest rooms on site or not, remind them to wear boots, long pants and long sleeves and to avoid burr-attracting fabrics, i.e. knits and fleece, and whether they should bring their own gloves, small loppers, water, a snack, etc).

**Equip yourself.** When you have a sense of how many people you expect to show up, get together some extra work gloves, disposable latex gloves, garbage bags and if you can get one, a grabber. Depending on your project, there may be some supplies available from PennDOT through the Great American Clean Up. Remember you are likely to end up with several different categories of items: trash, recyclables, and (depending on the crowd) treasures.

**Get started.** Convene at the time you said. Expect some to show up even if the weather is not glorious. Only snow, thunder or a downpour should cancel. Remind everyone to stay safe, be careful with broken glass, thorns and tricky footing. Hand out disposable gloves and trash bags. Designate the spot to bring the trash and recyclables (and brush if that's part of your brief).

**Disposal.** Ideally if you have gotten permission, the body in charge of the site should provide you with a place to dispose of your haul or a spot to leave it for pick up.

## Having the Faith to Care for Our Earth

By Lana Gulden

In 2008 the Sierra Club recognized one faith based environmental initiative from each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Twenty years ago religious leaders began linking stewardship and justice with environmental concerns. Pope John Paul II urged Catholics to connect their belief in God as creator with care for the environment. The Sierra Club then began partnering with faith groups.

In the 1990s the alliance of religion and science was encouraged by Carl Sagan who wrote to religious leaders of the "intrinsically religious" nature of the environmental crisis. E. O. Wilson, the renowned biologist, supported the uniting of science and religion. In his book, *The Creation*, he states, "science and religion are the two most powerful forces in the world today."

People of faith saw the growing threat and established organizations to protect the planet. The National Religious Partnership for the Environment ([www.nrpe.org](http://www.nrpe.org)) was established in 1993, the Interfaith Power and Light, ([www.ipl.org](http://www.ipl.org)) formed in 1998 has chapters in 29 states and 10, 000 congregations.

The Pennsylvania chapter ([www.papl.org](http://www.papl.org)) is located in State College. The flagrant environmental assault by the Marcellus Shale Gas drillers has spawned a local interfaith group, the Sacred Earth Coalition, located in the Sunbury area.

Religious leaders of all faiths and all other interested people are invited to attend. To plan for lunch, please send your name, ad-

dress, affiliation, email address, and a \$10 check made out to Rivertown Coalition, PO Box 205, Selinsgrove, Pa 17870.

For additional information email [river-towncoalition@gmail.com](mailto:river-towncoalition@gmail.com). ☞

### Green Screens

At the beginning of the 2011/2012 academic year, in cooperation with the Campus Theatre in downtown Lewisburg, the Bucknell Environmental Center introduced the Green Screens Documentary Film Series to bring major films on sustainable themes to the area. Each event includes a screening and a post screening facilitated discussion or expert panel.

Last semester's screenings included "Fresh" on local and sustainable food systems, "Tapped" on the issue of bottled water, "Manufactured Landscapes" which showed the back story for the consumer goods we buy, and "Consuming Kids" which sounded the alarm on radical expansion of marketing to children. The first two events of this semester were a shorts double feature of "The Story of Stuff" and "The Story of Electronics" in February, followed by "FUEL" in March.

The remaining films in the spring series will focus on the critical role that the water infrastructure plays in protecting public health and promoting economic prosperity ("Liquid Assets" on March 27), and on the people who are displaced by climatically induced environmental disasters ("Climate Refugees" on April 24).

For more information or to suggest films for the fall series, please email [sam.z.pearson@gmail.com](mailto:sam.z.pearson@gmail.com).

**OTZINACHSON REGIONAL GROUP OF THE SIERRA CLUB**  
Edward Abbey Hiking Society / Spring-Summer 2012 Outings Schedule

*For more information contact Paul Shaw, Outings Chair at 717-215-8339 or [pshaw@ptd.net](mailto:pshaw@ptd.net).*

**Saturday, March 17: Mid State Trail Work Day, Union County**

Kick off the hiking season by helping make sure Otzinachson's section of the Mid State Trail is in ship shape with a walk thru from RB Winter State Park to the Sand Mountain fire tower. Bring work gloves. Meet in parking area of RB Winter SP dam at 10 a.m. Leaders: Catherine McLaughlin and Ed Lawrence; [cathyed@nationi.net](mailto:cathyed@nationi.net) 570-925-5285.

**Saturday, March 31: Rider Park & Loyalsock State Forest, Lycoming County**

10 miles, *strenuous*. Hikers looking for an easy to moderate hike can easily exit the hike after 2.5 or 3.5 miles. At Rider Park we will walk the Katy Jane, Francis X. Kennedy, and Cheryl's Trails onto adjoining trails on the Loyalsock State Forest before returning to Rider Park. Rider Park contains forests, fields and meadows and sports 3 breathtaking vistas and is a special piece of northcentral PA wilderness. Meet at the large pull out on Warrensville Road next to Loyalsock Creek just beyond the Interstate 180 overpass over Warrensville road at 8:30 am or 8:45 am at the Rider Park parking lot 1.6 miles up Calebs Creek Road. Bring water and a snack/lunch. The entire hike should take between 5 - 6 hours. Leader: Tom Schmick 570-435-5539.

**Sunday, April 1: RB Winter State Park, Union County**

10 miles, *moderate to strenuous*. We'll hike a variety of trails to make a 10-mile loop. Meet at the park at the breast of the dam along Rt 192 at 8:30. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Joe Rebar 570-259-0134.

**Saturday, April 14: Loyalsock Trail, Sullivan County**

6.5 miles, *easy to moderate*. We will hike the LT from Sones Pond to the end of the LT on Route 220 via the Haystacks. Meet 8:30 am at the McDonald's in Hughesville. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Roy Fontaine 570-220-4707.

**Thursday, April 19: Bartley Gap Trail, Union County**

4 miles, *moderate* with rough footing. A mid-week hike for a change. This is a nice way to get to know Bald Eagle State Forest. We'll go up a stream valley and onto a ridge and try to work our way back down along the Halls Pike Trail, and loop back along the forest road. Meet at the Lewisburg PO parking lot at 9:00 am or at the trailhead at 9:45. The ground is very rocky and there are multiple stream crossings, so wear boots. Also bring water and a snack. Leader: Sam Pearson, 570-522-8159; [sam.z.pearson@gmail.com](mailto:sam.z.pearson@gmail.com).

**Sunday, April 22: The Pinnacle on the Appalachian Trail, Berks County**

13 miles, *very strenuous*. This loop hike on the Appalachian Trail and adjoining side trails leads to the spectacular Pinnacle, one of the finest vistas in Pennsylvania. Meet at parking lot behind Lewisburg post office at 8:30 am, Sheetz on Rt. 54 in Elysburg at 9:10, or Hamburg Reservoir parking lot at 10:30. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Paul Shaw 717-215-8339; [pshaw@ptd.net](mailto:pshaw@ptd.net).

**Saturday, May 5: Rider Park, Lycoming County**

6.2 miles, *easy to moderate*. We will walk a figure 8 loop centered around the parking lot. 6.2 miles total but the tired hiker can bail after only 2 miles. Rider Park is a real gem and a good place to see migratory spring song birds. Meet on Warrensville Road next to Loyalsock Creek just beyond the Interstate 180 overpass over Warrensville road at 8:30 am or 8:45am at the parking area 1.6 miles up Calebs Creek Road. Bring water and a snack if you want. We should be done by noon. Leader: Roy Fontaine 570-220-4707.

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**OTZINACHSON REGIONAL GROUP OF THE SIERRA CLUB**

Edward Abbey Hiking Society / Spring-Summer 2012 Outings Schedule (continued)

**Sunday, May 6: Molasses Gap Trail Family Hike, Union County**

2 miles, *easy* (for grown ups). This is a short hike with a quick payoff as you encounter lovely streams right away. Go further and find fun wooden bridges. Good for those with younger children. Out and back for those with kids 7 and under. A slightly longer and harder loop on the Mule Shanty Trail can be worked in for those with more endurance. We will meet in the Lewisburg PO Parking lot at 1:30pm or at the trail-head at 2:15. Dress for stream encounters. Bring water and a snack. Leader Sam Pearson: 570-522-8159; [sam.z.pearson@gmail.com](mailto:sam.z.pearson@gmail.com)

**Sunday, May 13: Golden Eagle Trail, Lycoming County**

9 miles, *moderate to strenuous*. One of the best hikes in PA with excellent views. Meet at 8:00 am at the Sovereign Bank parking lot, Southern Avenue between Market and Hastings Streets (Rt. 15) in South Williamsport or at the trail parking lot along Rt. 414 at 8:50 am. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Roy Fontaine, 570-220-4707.

**Saturday, May 19: Zindel Park, Clinton County**

10 miles, *strenuous*. We will be hiking various trails in Zindel Park including trails used for the Bald Eagle Megatransect in a beautiful area near Lock Haven. Meet at 10:00 am at the McDonald's at the McElhattan exit off Rt. 220 northeast of Lock Haven. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Joanne Heimer, 570-295-1431; [jheimer@comcast.net](mailto:jheimer@comcast.net)

**Saturday, May 26: Hickory Run State Park, Carbon County**

9 miles, *moderate*. We will return to Hickory Run State Park and hike another loop of its extensive trail system. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the McDonalds off Rte. 80 at the Mifflinville/339 exit #242. Leaders: Catherine McLaughlin and Ed Lawrence, 570-925-5285; [cathyed@nationi.net](mailto:cathyed@nationi.net)

**Saturday, June 2: National Trails Day at Woolrich, Clinton County**

Celebrate National Trails Day at the Woolrich flagship store in Woolrich with Randy and Sheri Propster and the Backpacker Magazine GET OUT MORE TOUR. Woolrich is sponsoring this event to help promote the Mid State Trail and the Great Eastern Trail. Various events, workshops and hiking opportunities will be offered. Woolrich Store. Time to be announced. Contact Ed Lawrence for more information: 570-925-5285; [cathyed@nationi.net](mailto:cathyed@nationi.net)

**Sunday, June 3: Old Loggers' Path, Lycoming County**

8.5 miles, *moderate to strenuous*. We will hike the middle section of OLP from Yellow Dog Road to Ellenton Road and back to complete a loop. Meet 8:30 at the Steam Valley Restaurant on Route 14 just off Route 15, north of Williamsport. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Roy Fontaine 570-220-4707.

**Sunday, June 10: RB Winter State Park, Union County**

10 miles, *moderate to strenuous*. We'll hike a variety of trails to make a 10-mile loop. Meet at the park at the breast of the dam along Rt 192 at 8:30. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Joe Rebar 570-259-0134.

**Sunday, June 17: Mason-Dixon Trail, York County**

14.8 miles, *very strenuous*. We will hike from Otter Creek Campground to historic Lock 12 through the River Hills on the west side of the Susquehanna River in York County. This is a fast-paced preview hike offered to participants in the Susquehanna Super Hike (September 8), but all are welcome. Meet at K-Mart parking lot on Rt. 15 in Shamokin Dam at 6:30 am or Clarks Ferry Truck Stop along Rt. 322 in Duncannon at 7:15 am. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Paul Shaw 717-215-8339; [pshaw@ptd.net](mailto:pshaw@ptd.net).

**NOTE: All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the Liability Waiver before you choose to participate on an outing, please go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.**

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**OTZINACHSON REGIONAL GROUP OF THE SIERRA CLUB**  
Edward Abbey Hiking Society / Spring-Summer 2012 Outings Schedule (continued)

**Saturday, June 23: Shingletown Gap: Bald Knob Ridge, Centre County**

6.2 miles, *moderate*. This loop hike will start out along Roaring Run and gradually ascend to Bald Knob. From Bald Knob, there is a steep ascent on the Clemons Trail followed by a long downhill that passes the ruins of an old cabin. Meet at the parking lot behind the Lewisburg Post Office at 8:00 am or the trailhead parking lot on Mountain Road at 9:30. To get to the trailhead, in Boalsburg, continue west on Rt. 45 for 1.8 miles to the village of Shingletown and turn left on Mountain Road. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Tony Robbins, [tony.robbins@excellservices.com](mailto:tony.robbins@excellservices.com).

**Sunday, July 1: Bear Meadows, Centre County**

6.8 miles, *easy to moderate*. This is a figure 8 hike combining the Bear Meadows Trail and the Jean Aron/Tuxedo/Lonberger paths. Bear Meadows is an unusual remnant boreal bog with vegetation usually only found much further north. The Bear Meadows Trail can get quite soggy, so bring extra socks or waterproof boots. Meet at the parking lot behind Lewisburg Post Office at 8:00 am or the Bear Meadows parking area at 9:30. To get to Bear Meadows, turn onto Bear Meadows Road from Rt. 322 at the entrance to Tussey Mountain Ski Resort, and follow the road for 3 miles to a stone monument with ample parking. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Tony Robbins, [tony.robbins@excellservices.com](mailto:tony.robbins@excellservices.com).

**Sunday, July 15: RB Winter State Park, Union County**

10 miles, *moderate to strenuous*. We'll hike a variety of trails to make a 10-mile loop. Meet at the park at the breast of the dam along Rt 192 at 8:30. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Joe Rebar 570-259-0134.

**Sunday, July 22: RB Winter State Park, Union County**

10 miles, *moderate to strenuous*. We'll hike a variety of trails to make a 10-mile loop. Meet at the park at the breast of the dam along Rt 192 at 8:30. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Joe Rebar 570-259-0134.

**Sunday, July 29: Conestoga Trail, Lancaster County**

11.8 miles, *very strenuous*. We will hike from the east side of the Norman Wood Bridge to Pequea Creek Campground through the River Hills on the east side of the Susquehanna River in Lancaster County. Outstanding vistas overlooking the Susquehanna River. This is a fast-paced preview hike offered to participants in the Susquehanna Super Hike (September 8), but all are welcome. Meet at K-Mart parking lot on Rt. 15 in Shamokin Dam at 6:30 am or Clarks Ferry Truck Stop along Rt. 322 in Duncannon at 7:15 am. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Paul Shaw 717-215-8339; [pshaw@ptd.net](mailto:pshaw@ptd.net).

**Saturday, August 4: Cherry Run Gamelands Loop, Clinton County**

10 miles, *moderate*. This circuit hike in SGL 295 south of Lamar will take us into the heart of the syncline. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Lewisburg Big Lots off Rte. 15, or at the I-80 Lamar exit McDonalds at 10:00. Leaders: Catherine McLaughlin and Ed Lawrence, 570-925-5285; [cathyed@nationi.net](mailto:cathyed@nationi.net)

**Saturday, August 11: Loyalsock Trail, Sullivan County**

6.5 miles, *easy to moderate*. We will hike the LT from Sones Pond to the end of the LT on Route 220 via the Haystacks. Meet 8:30 am at the McDonald's in Hughesville. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Roy Fontaine 570-220-4707.

**Sunday, August 19: Golden Eagle Trail, Lycoming County**

9 miles, *moderate to strenuous*. One of the best hikes in PA with excellent views. Meet at 8:00 am at the Sovereign Bank parking lot, Southern Avenue between Market and Hastings Streets (Rt. 15) in South Williamsport or at the trail parking lot along Rt. 414 at 8:50 am. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Roy Fontaine, 570-220-4707.

**CST 2087766-40**

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Nicole Faraguna, Editor  
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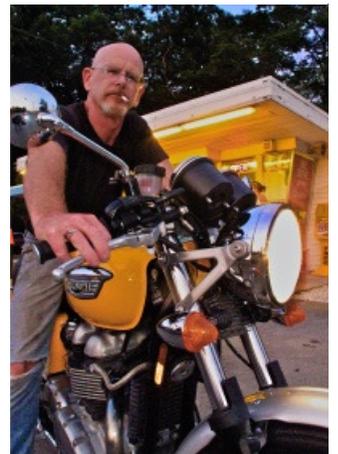
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*The Otzinachson Group of the Sierra Club and the Bucknell  
University Environmental Center welcome*

***Seamus McGraw***  
***Author of The End of Country***

**Friday, April 13th at 6:00 PM**

Barnes & Noble Book Store | 400 Market Street, Lewisburg



*The End of Country is the compelling story about the battle for control that ensued after the discovery of the **Marcellus gas deposits**, a conflict pitting the forces of corporate America against a band of locals determined to extract their fair share of the windfall-but not at the cost of their values or their way of life. Many couldn't resist the offer to lease their land in exchange for the promise of untold riches.*

*Seamus will share his personal experience with the Marcellus Shale as well as his insight on natural gas, its impacts and his thoughts on the U.S. energy crisis.*

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