

Montana de Oro

This photo shows the frame providing my wife and I with a shelter on a primitive camp site that we would rent for a week at a time. As seen, the covering can be opened for fresh air in the day time.

This strong 200+ sq. ft. structure would be set up in about an hour and a half. The amenities included a self contained flush toilet that could be emptied as needed.

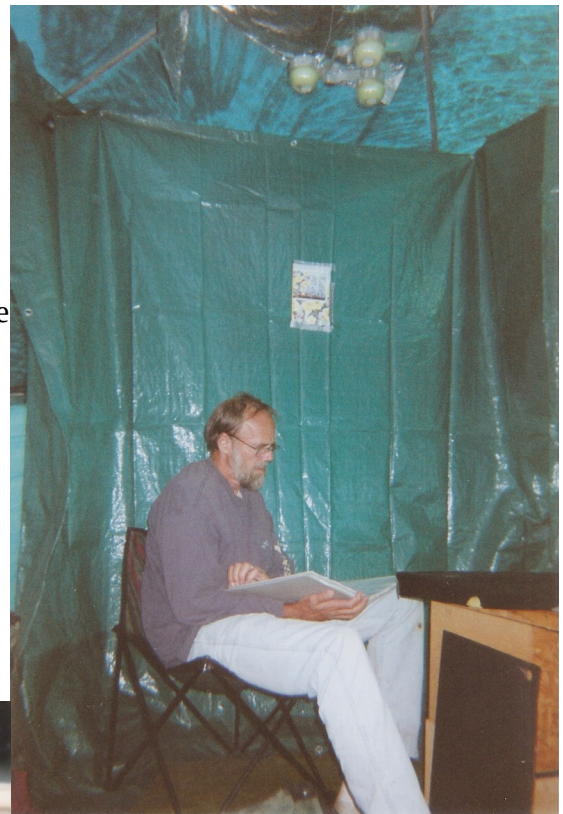
An adequate supply of solar heated water would await us for hot baths when we returned in the evenings from a day of touring up and down the coast.

The environmental impact is of course, is negligible.

Other embellishments included the kitchen, wood stove space heating, lighting, chairs and hammocks as desired. It was really quite comfortable.

This interior view shows the partition that walls off the master bedroom and bathroom from the kitchen-dining-living room. You can also see the chandelier comprised of scroll-work from a screen door decoration – with a capacity of up to six votive candles. (Yes, there's even artwork on the walls).

At a rent of less than ten percent of mainstream fare, the materials involved in the shelter itself would be well paid for in less than a year. Herein lies the empowerment opportunity, in that most SSI, disability payments, or recycling efforts could cover this. In many cases, occupants could soon own their shelters and focus on renting fenced areas of backyards and businesses.



The frame dismantles down to a bundle of struts a little over 5 feet long, weighing about 135 pounds, and the entire camp loaded nicely into the 6'-long bed of a compact pickup. A large SUV might also have handled it. From this campsite base we would tour an area with all the convenience of a nearby home (using the economy vehicle that carried the camp).