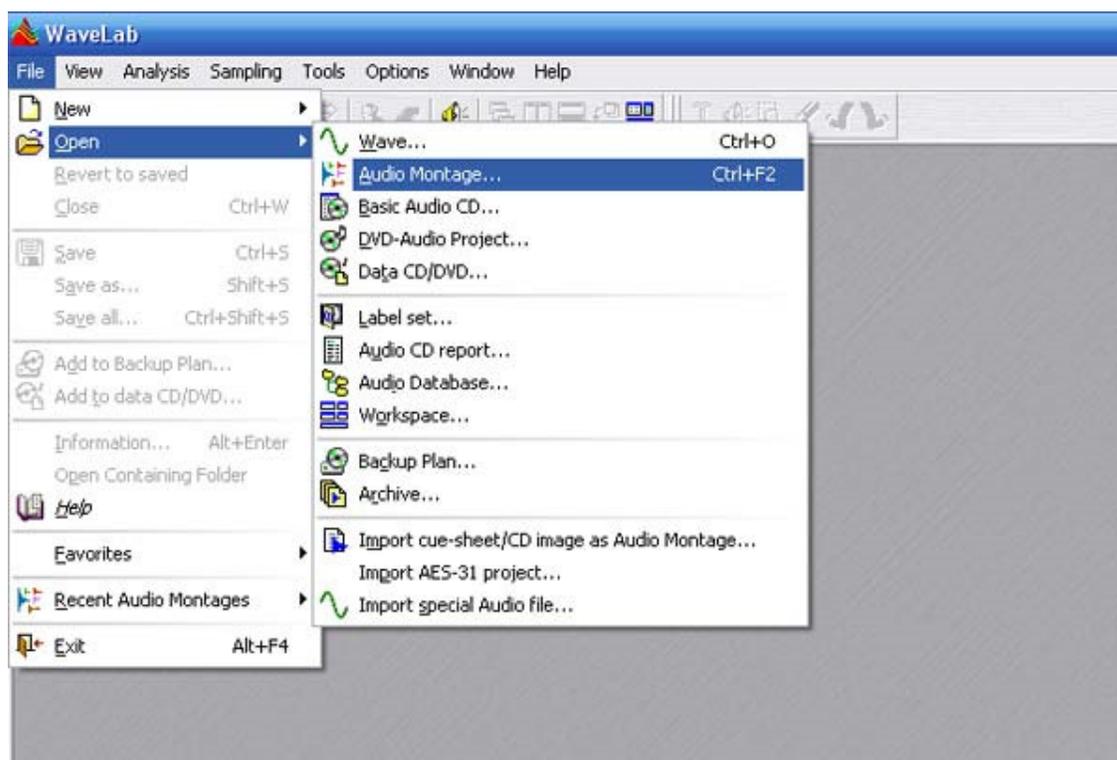


Wavelab 5.0 Matrix How-To:

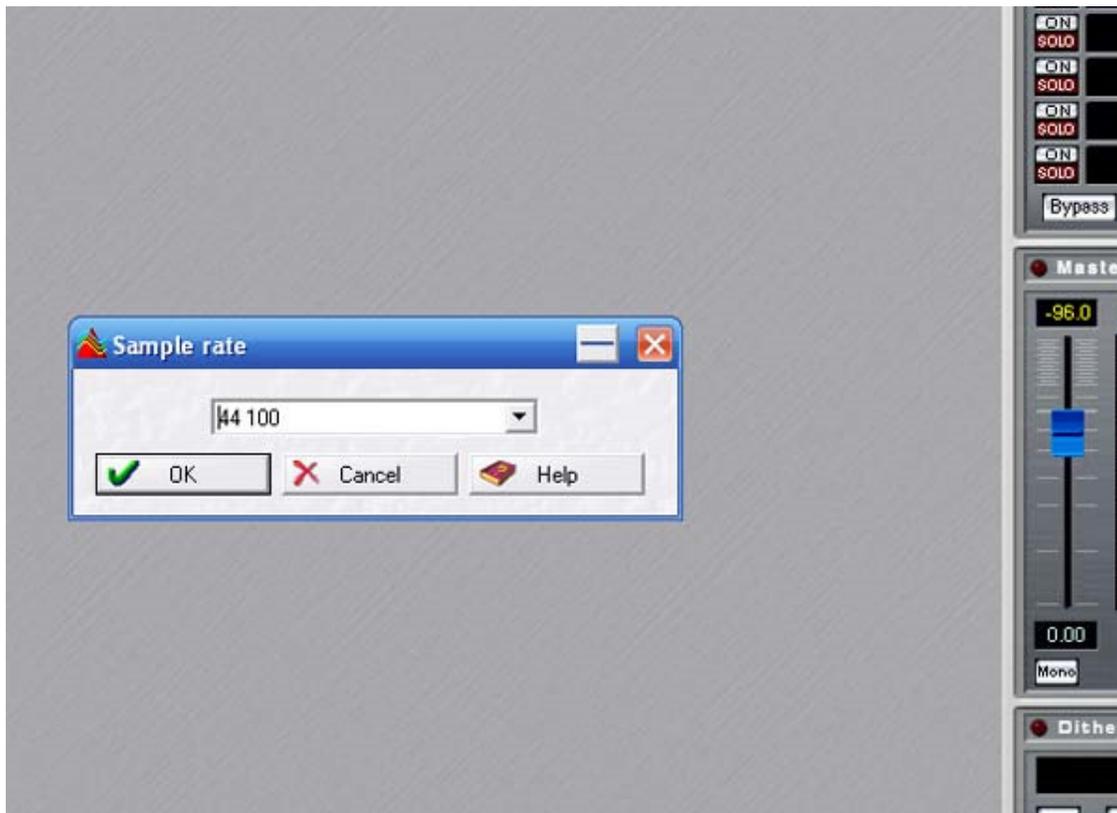
How to make a post recording Matrix with Wavelab. I used Wavelab 5.0 for this. Other versions of Wavelab might be a bit different. This tutorial will also give you the basic idea how to do this with other audio programs.

To make a matrix you will need TWO DIFFERENT sources of the same concert. Usually this will be from the soundboard (SBD) and a audience microphone source (AUD). The mix done here is with the SBD and AUD sources, but you could use two different AUD sources if you wanted to.

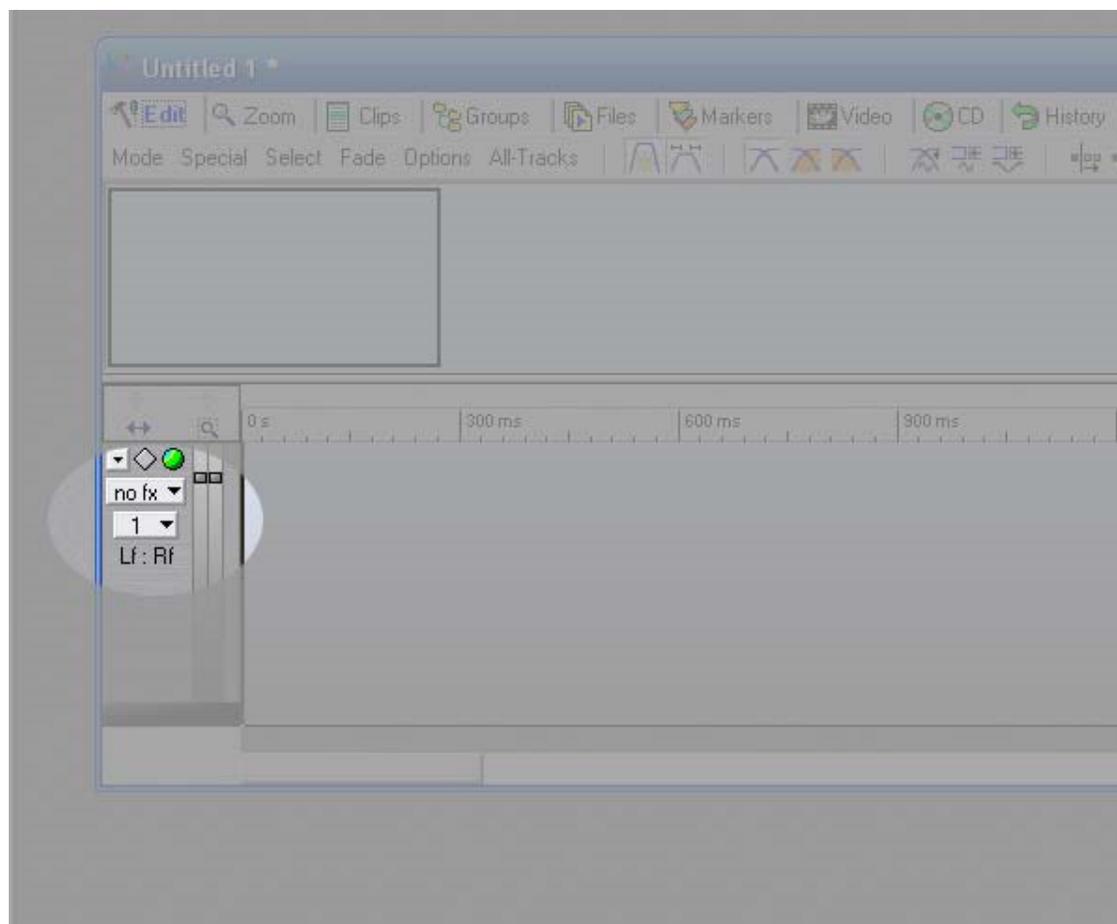
1. Open Wavelab.
2. Choose File > Open > Audio Montage...



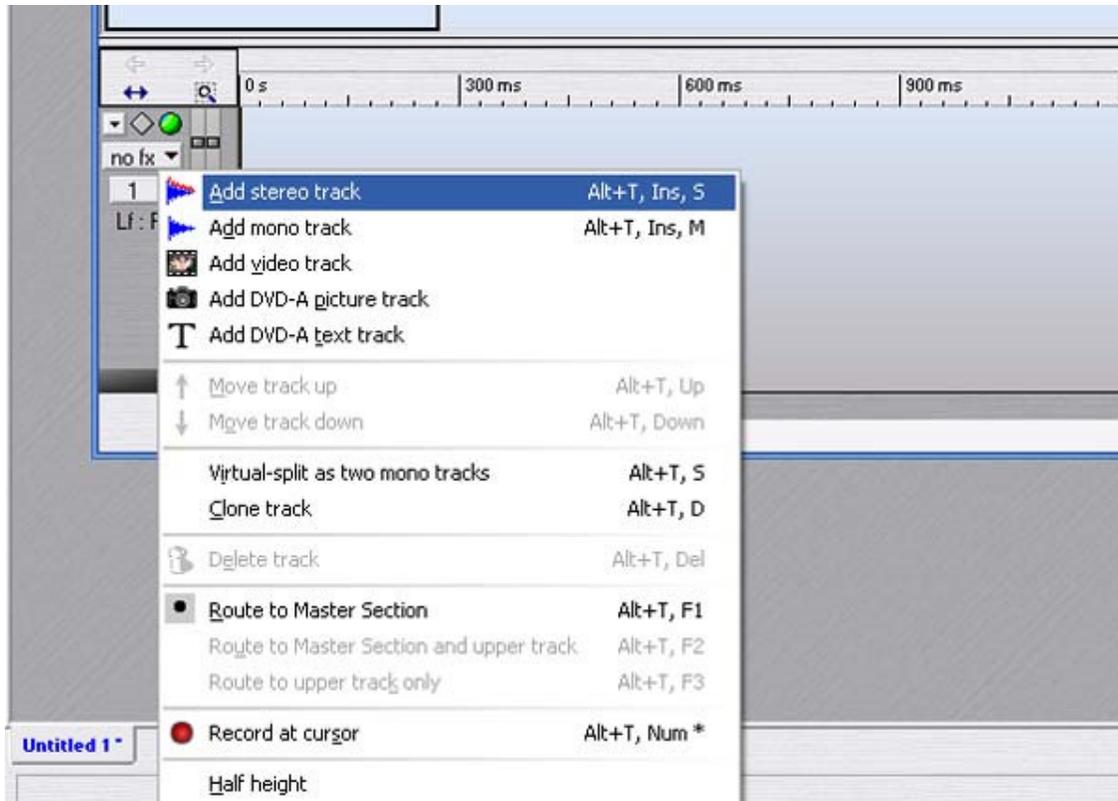
3. A window will pop up. Choose your Bit Rate. I am going to choose 44,100 because I plan to burn to CD once the mix is done. You could choose anything if you plan on burning a DVD-A. Eventually I will add another section here on making DVD-A mixes (surround mixes) with Wavelab. It's pretty similar, but with a few added steps.



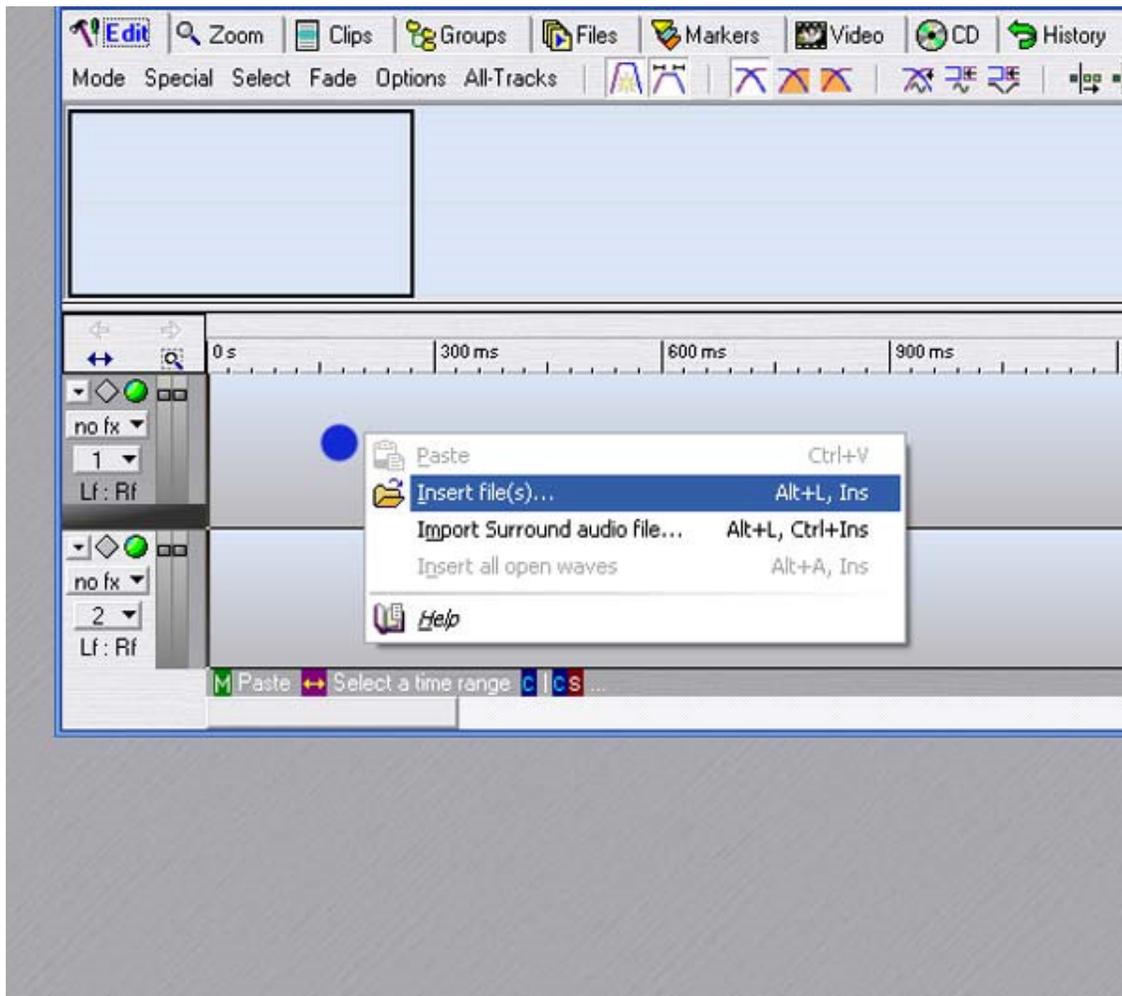
4. The Montage window will now open. This is where you will be assembling your tracks. To add the second stereo track left click on the little "1"



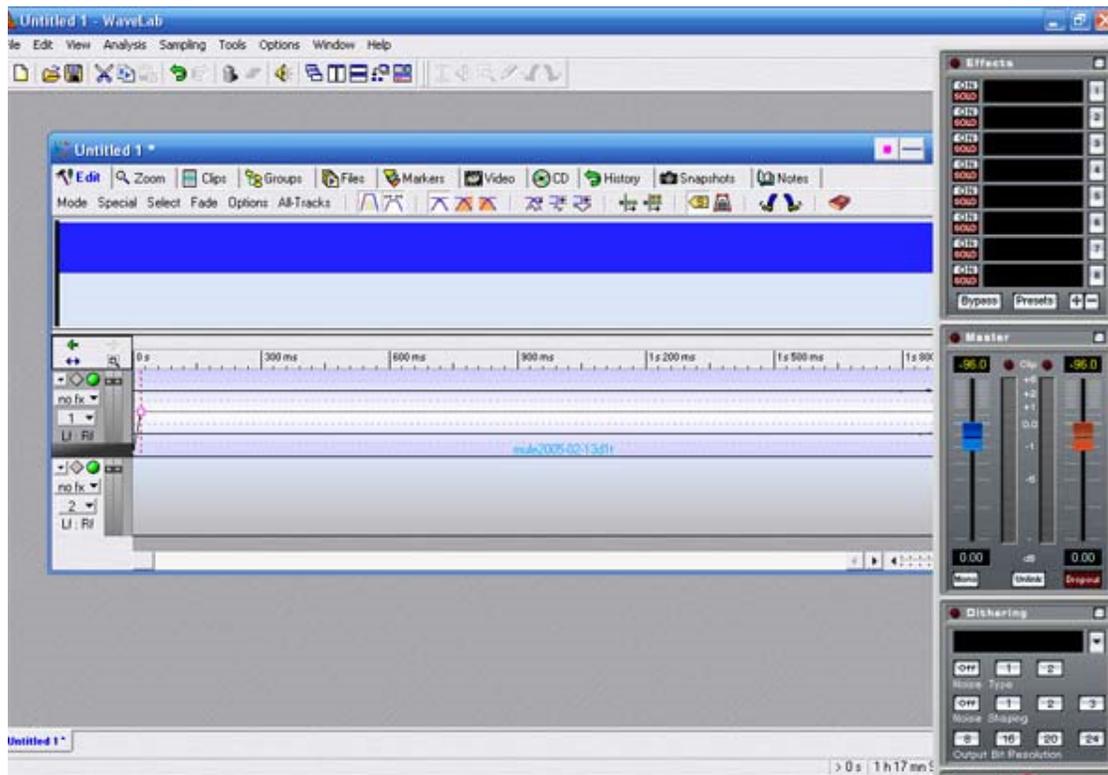
5. A pop up menu will appear. Here you should choose "Add Stereo Track"



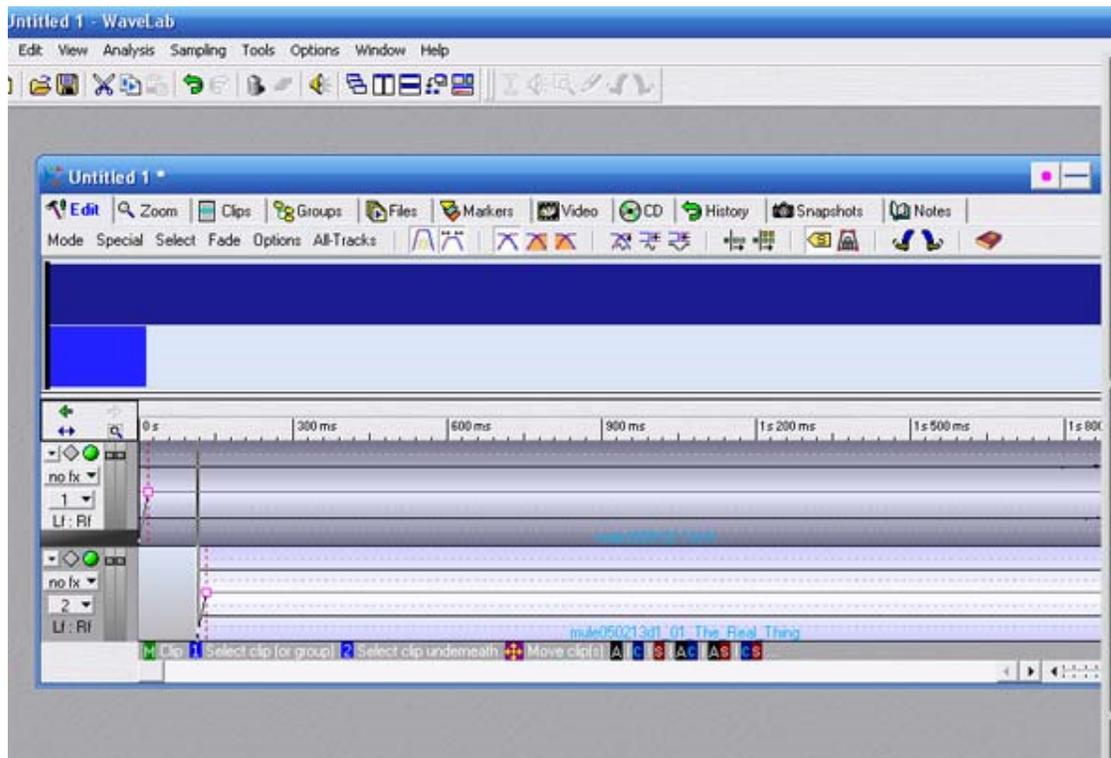
6. Now you have all the tracks you need to start pasting your tracks. Next, RIGHT-CLICK anywhere in the area to the right of track one (I have put a blue dot where you should do this). A pop up menu will appear. Choose "Insert files(s)..." Now find your big AUD .wav file.



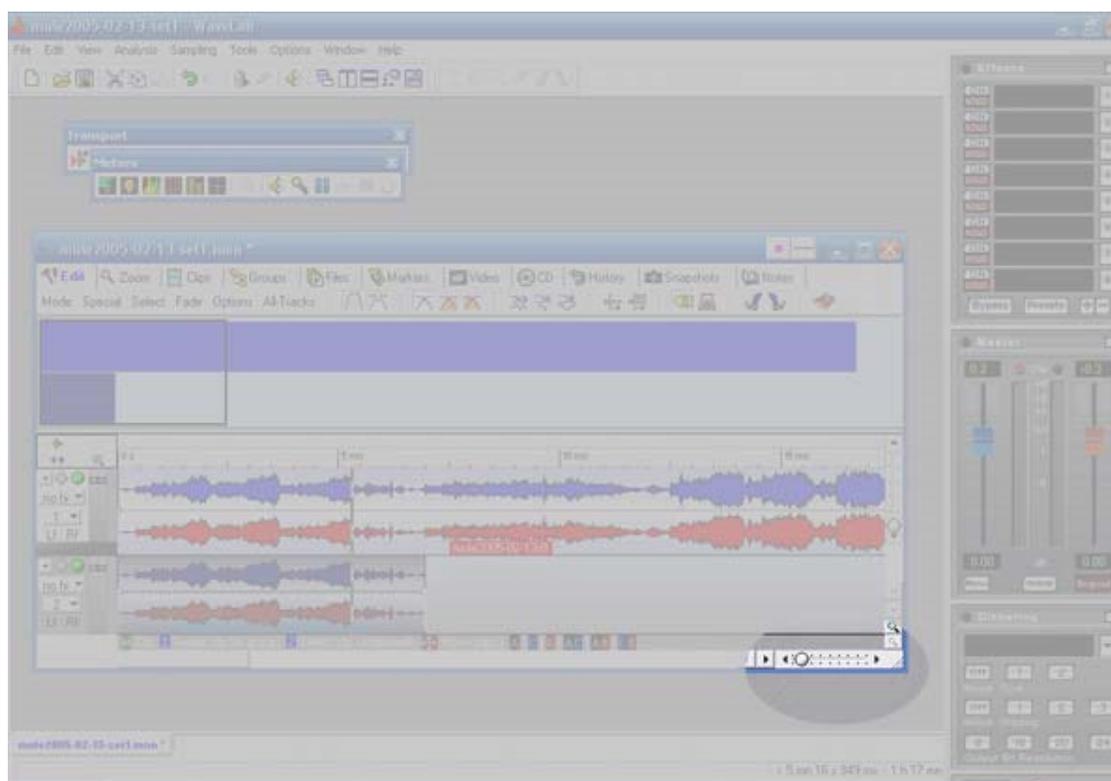
7. Wavelab will place the big AUD .wav file in track one. It should look something like this (please note the wave form is quite at this point so there isn't much of a wave form. You can, however see the name of the file. If you were to scroll over you would see the wave form get larger as the band starts playing).



8. Now it is time to start pasting the SBD files. You should have already chopped them up into tracks. The reason you do this is because most recording devices will record at slightly different speeds, so if you tried to mix the AUD and SBD sources as large files they would end up not syncing up properly. To insert the first SBD track RIGHT-CLICK anywhere in track 2's area where the waveform goes (just like step 6, except use track 2). Then do the same as in step 6. Choose "Insert file(s)...", and find your first track. This track will appear just in track 2, just as the AUD source appeared in track 1. Now Wavelab should look like this:

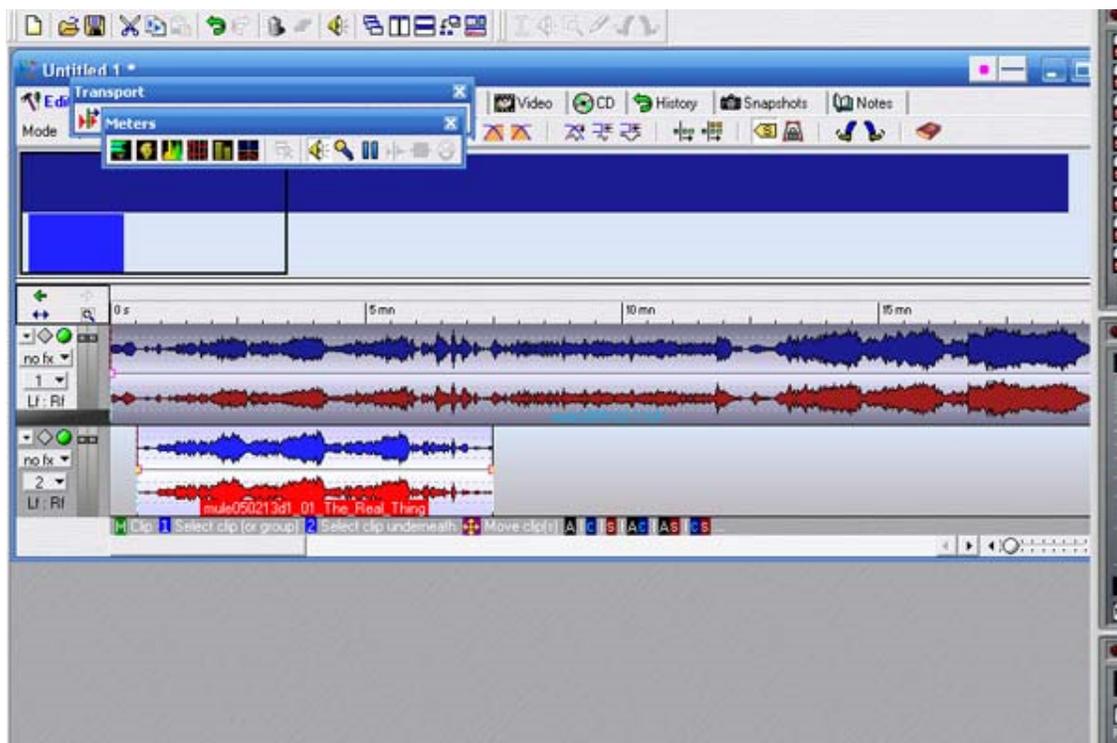


9. Now the fun begins! This is where we start syncing the two sources. To do this first you should zoom almost all the way out on the waveforms to ROUGHLY line up the two sources. The zoom bar is located on the bottom right corner of the Montage window. Slide it all the way to the left (not all the way) to zoom out almost all the way. See the picture below:

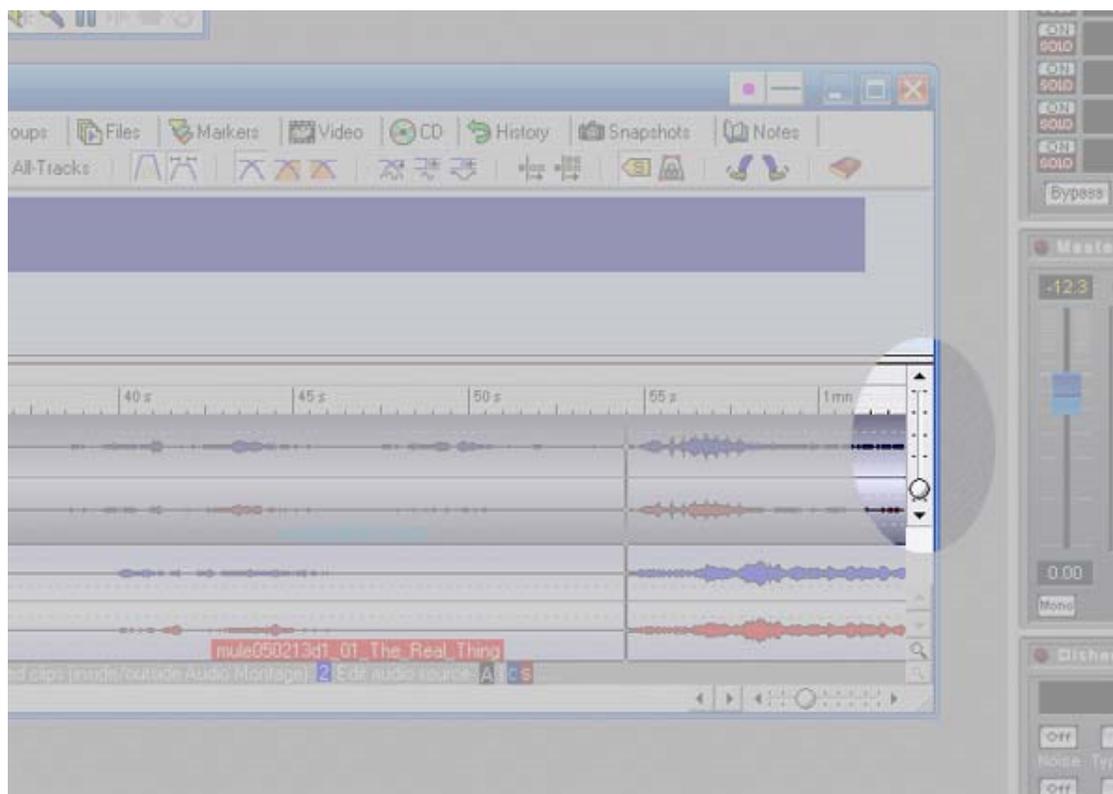


10. Now you may need to slide one of the sources to the right to sync them up. To do this mouse over the LOWER portion of one of the

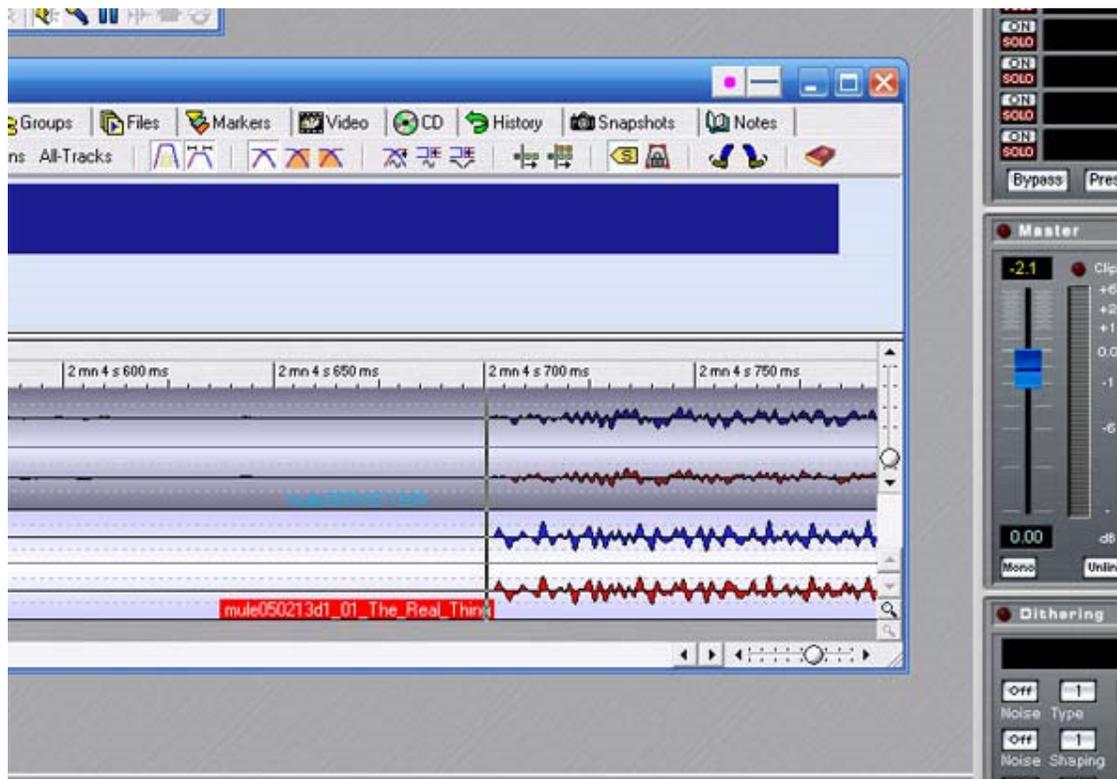
waveforms. A "+" shaped cursor with arrows at the end of the plus will appear. This tells you that you can move the wave form to the left or right to sync the waveforms. At this point we are just roughly syncing them up. Later you will zoom in and match them up exactly. Note the two waveforms look similar.



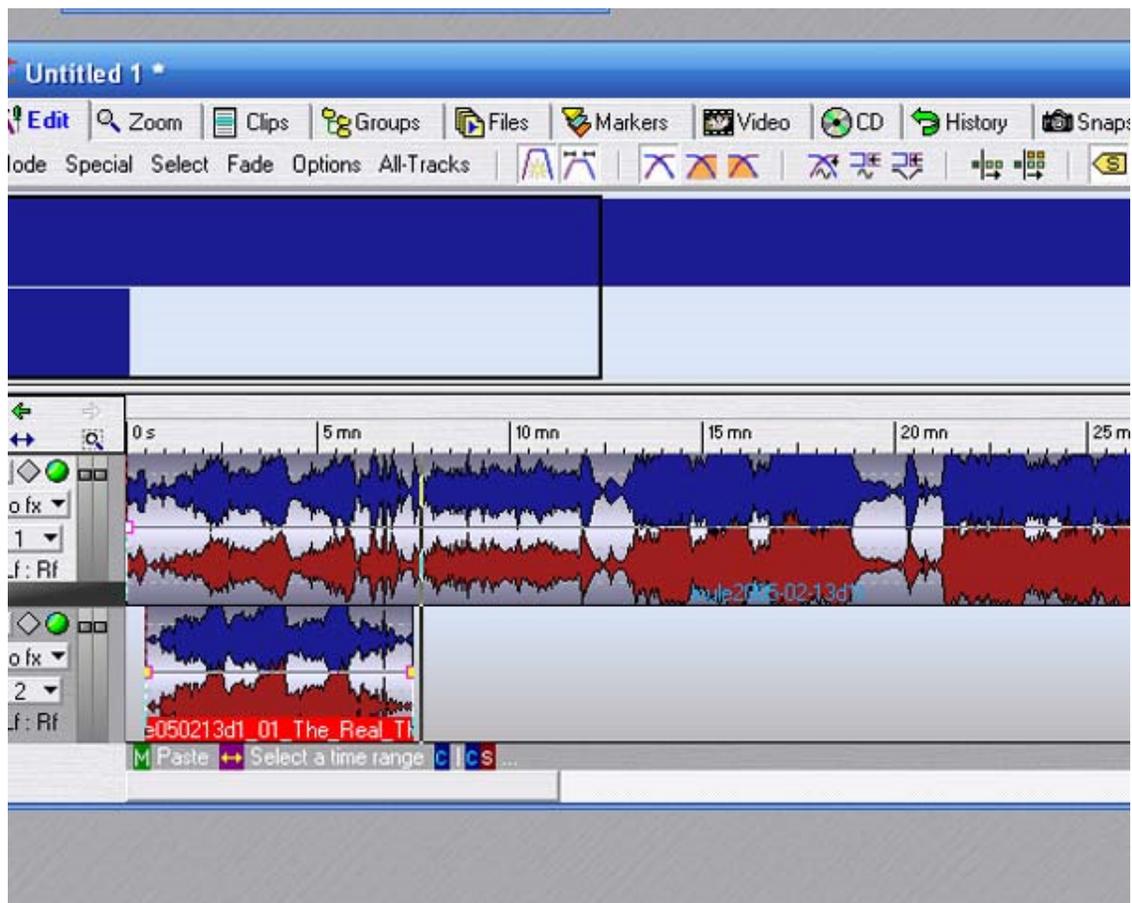
11. Now you need to zoom in enough that you can really sync up the two sources. First zoom in a bit. You might need to amplify the waveform if some of the levels are too low. To do this you use the amplify bar which is located on the right side of the Montage window (see below):



12. Note that I have zoomed in part of the way, and somewhat matched up the two sources. You will need to zoom in a bit more to dial it in. The easiest way to sync up the two sources is to find a louder part of the wave form. You might need to try this out on a few different parts of the song. Basically I usually try to get it close. Give it a listen and keep trying again until it sounds perfect. This will get easier once you get the hang of it. Below I zoomed in a bit more, picked out a sudden volume change (where the singer starts singing), and gave it a go. It ended up syncing fine. Now don't forget to **SAVE YOUR WORK FREQUENTLY!!!** I save at the end of each track, so if something goes wrong, you don't have to start over!!

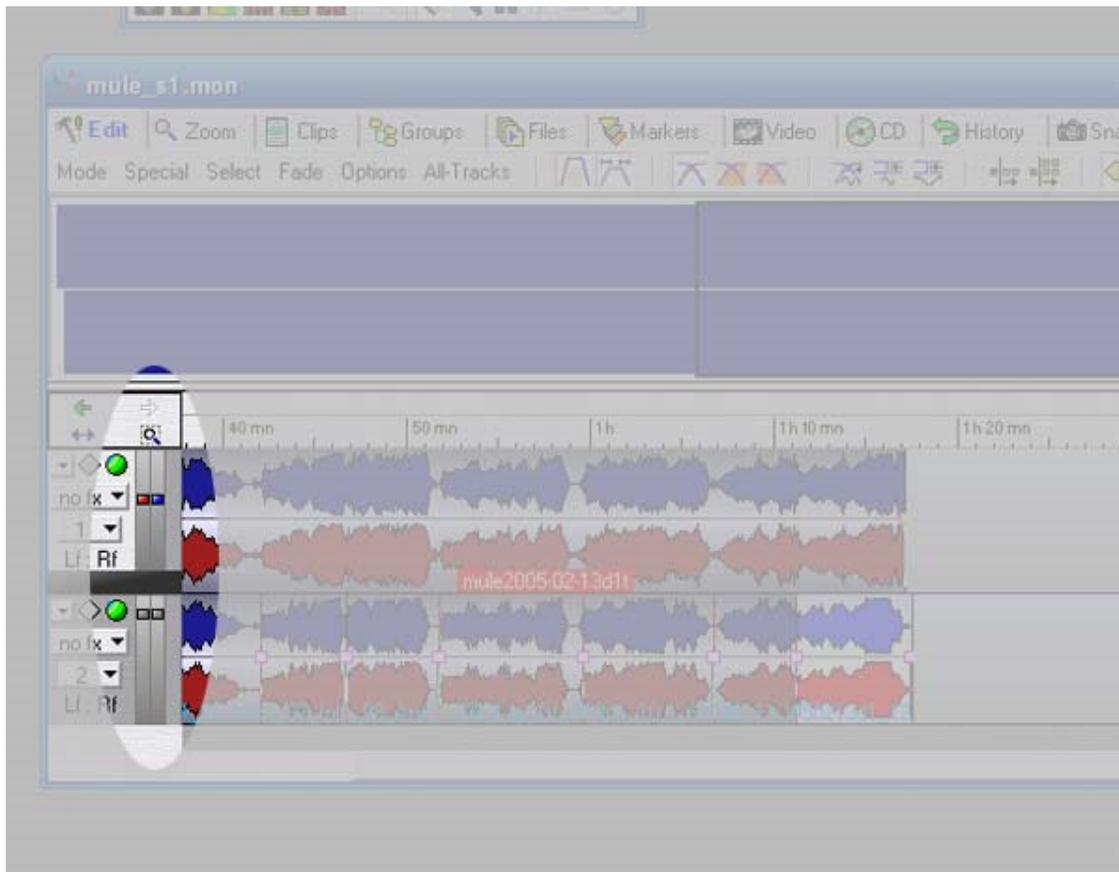


13. Now that the first song is all set, you can sync up the second song. To open the second songs file and place it in track 2, first zoom out again so you can see the end of the first songs waveform. Then place the cursor somewhere near then end of it on track 2.



14. Now open up the second song like you did when you added the first track (right click in track two somewhere near the cursor and chose "Insert files..."). The second song will appear next to the first on track 2. Now just sync that one up just like the first. Continue with all of the tracks until you are finished. It will be a lot easier from track 2 on because you can bump the new file to the end of the previous file and you should be pretty close. Once again, due to fluxuations between recording devices they two tracks might not touch all the way, or they may even over lap. Usually this isn't a big deal. Even if there is a gap it will only be for much less than a second, and the AUD source will cover up any part of the SBD source that has a micro-gap.

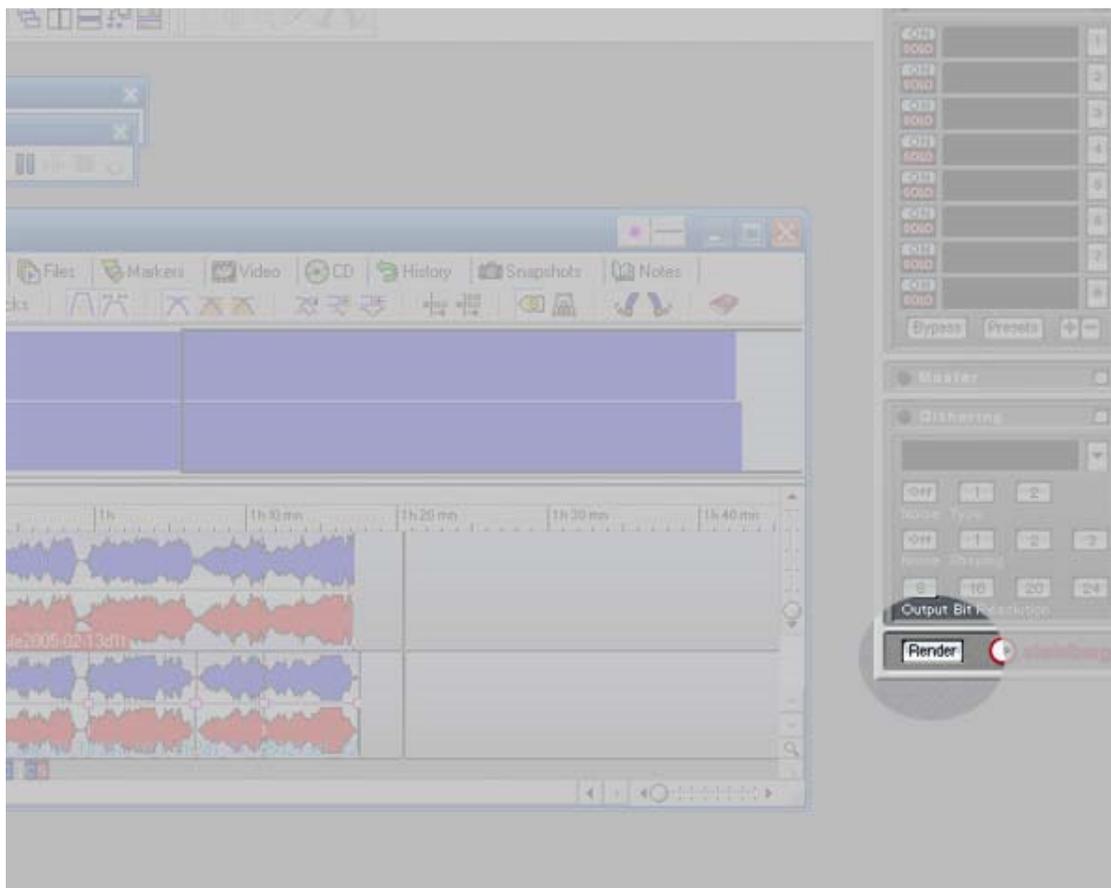
15. You should now have each SBD track synced up with the entire AUD track. Make sure you **SAVE YOUR WORK AGAIN!** Once you have everything synced up, it's time to adjust your levels to the point where you think it sounds the best. You may need to increase the AUD source, or you may need to increase the SBD source. This all depends on a couple of things. First is the mix out of the board. If the board feed is lacking levels on a few instuments you will probably use more of the AUD source. If it's a good mix you might run the SBD feed a bit louder. The second reason would just be your own personal taste. Do whatever you like with the levels to make the mix sound the way you like it. To do this you will either increase or decrease the levels on the left side of each waveform. The faders are highlighted below:



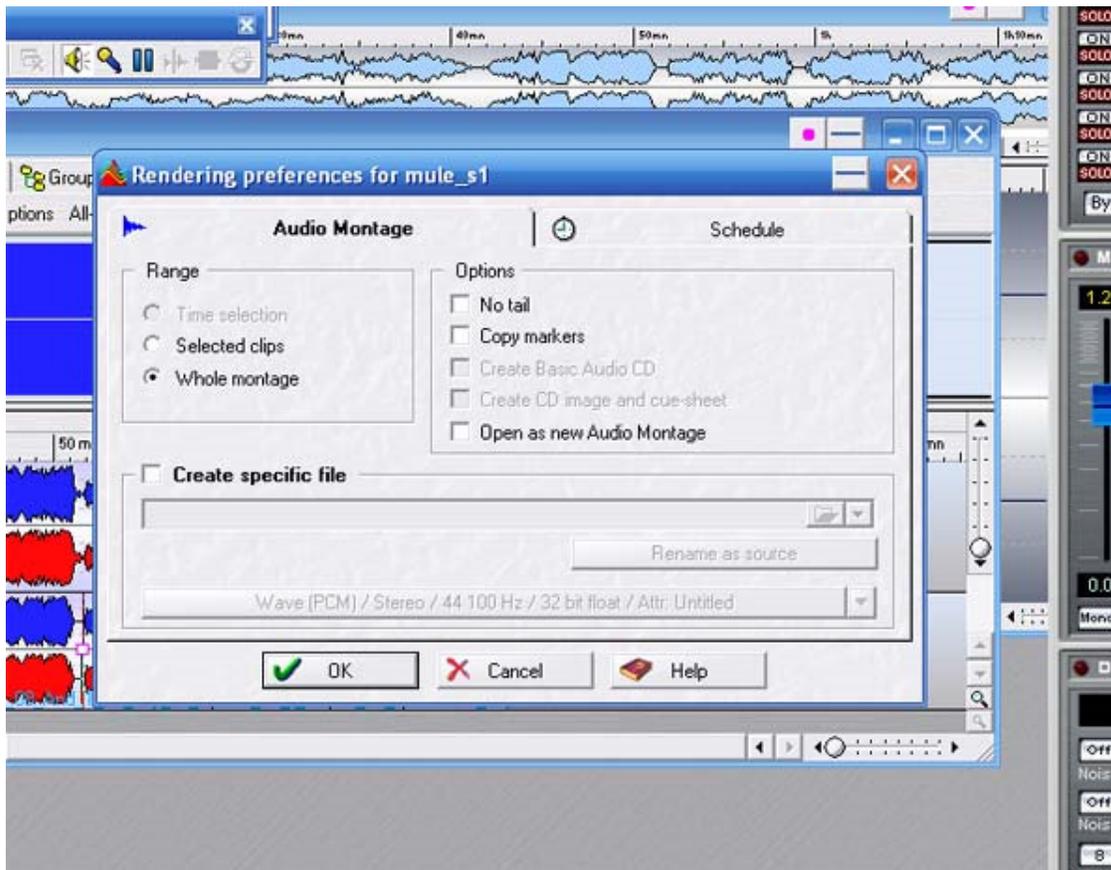
16. When you adjust them a it will tell you how many db's you're increasing or decreasing in each source. I usually just mess with the AUD feed and leave the SBD feed where it is. You can do whatever you like to get the desired mix.

17. Now that you are happy with the mix between the two sources, **SAVE YOUR WORK AGAIN.**

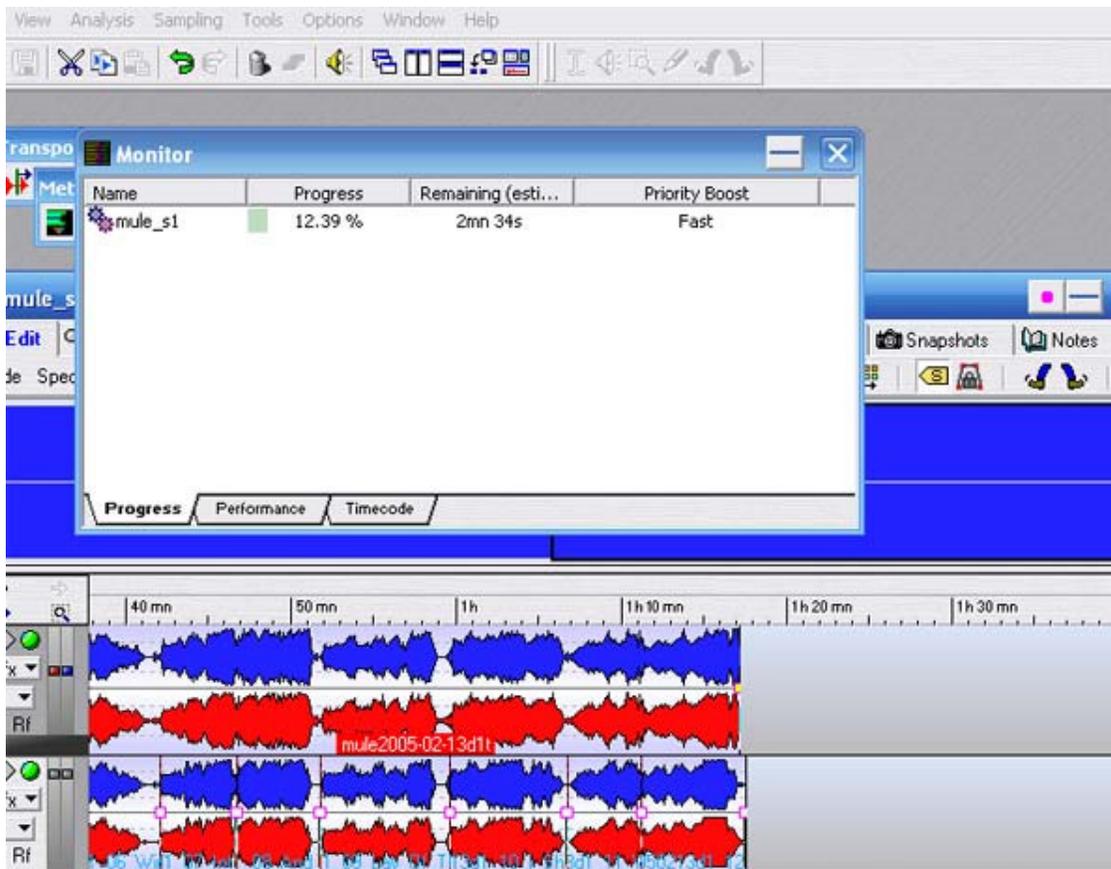
18. Now it is time to **RENDER** the mix to on big wav file. To do this you need to located the **RENDER** button on the right side of the screen. It is located at the very bottom of your Master Section (the area with the Master Faders, Effects Window and Dithering Window). Click the **RENDER** button (see below for help finding it).



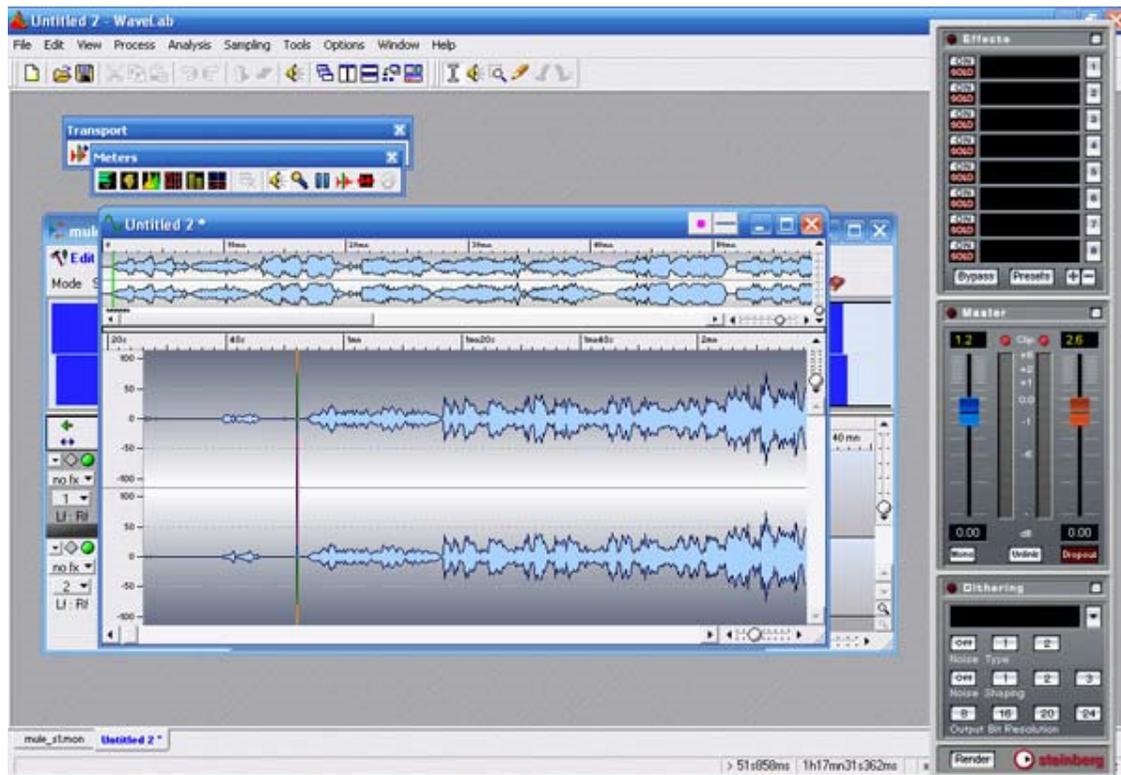
19. After you click the render button a pop up window will allow you to save your work. Make sure "Whole montage" is selected with the radio button, and click on "OK" to render the whole mix.



20. Another window will open to show your progress:



21. When Wavelab has finished rendering your file, it will automatically open up the newly rendered mix. From here you can make any edits (like trimming where only one source is present) or apply fades if you like. To apply a fade you must highlight the area you want to fade in or out. To do this click and hold the mouse button on the newly rendered waveform and drag your mouse over the area you want to fade (to highlight the waveform). Then choose Process > "Easy Fade" from the top menu. You may also choose "Fade In/Out..." for more options.



22. Finally, you need to save the rendered file. I usually name it to etree standards so I can just open it in CD Wave, and track it out.

Hopefully that helped. If you have any questions or comments about this please email me at: [sloppyart AT gmail DOT com](mailto:sloppyart@gmail.com). This is my first attempt at a tutorial, so if you had problems understanding anything please let me know. I may or may not have time to answer other questions. Please try to ask any un-related questions at taperssection.com. There are a lot of good people there that will be more than happy to help you out.

Good luck,

MIKE B

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