Number IX • Yule Winter 2012/2013

# Earth First! News

ON THE FRONTLINES OF ECOLOGICAL RESISTANCE

# FULL TIME DIRECT ACTION AGAINST THE TAR SANDS IN TEXAS

#### JULY 25 - TWO YEARS AFTER KALAMAZOO TAR SANDS SPILL

On the second anniversary of the costliest onshore oil spill in US history, environmental groups held rallies in several states to raise concerns about transporting tar sands oil in underground pipelines. Demonstrators walked along the riverfront in Battle Creek, near the southwestern Michigan site where a pipeline ruptured in 2010 and spewed hundreds of thousands of gallons of heavier-than-water-bitumin into the Kalamazoo River.

#### AUG 16 - TAR SANDS BLOCKADE KICKS OFF

As TransCanada broke ground on the Keystone XL (KXL), in Cushing, OK, landowner advocates climbed atop stacks of pipes in an East Texas construction yard, unfurled a banner and flew a "Don't Tread On Me" Gadsden Flag to demonstrate the diverse and unlikely alliance of environmentalists and Tea Partiers who all oppose Keystone XL. Tar Sands Blockade (TSB) is born.

# AUGUST 22 – JUDGE RULES TRANSCANADA CAN SEIZE PRIVATE LAND

TransCanada can take over land owned by a Texas farmer to build its pipeline, a county judge ruled. In a 15-word ruling sent from his iPhone, Judge Bill Harris of Lamar County Court at Law up held TransCanada's condemnation of a 50-foot strip of land across Julia Trigg Crawford's pasture. Ms. Crawford plans to appeal the ruling. "We may have lost this one battle here in Paris, Texas, but we are far from done," she said in a statement. "I will continue to proudly stand up for my own personal rights, the property rights of my family, and those of other Texans fighting to protect their land."

#### SEPT 3 - LET THE LOCKDOWNS BEGIN!

Six people arrested for shutting down operations at the Livingston pipe yard and cut off the transportation of pipes to construction sites across the southern leg of the pipeline. Police were forced to dismantle a truck used in the blockade.

#### SEPT 6 - LANDOWNERS RISE UP

Three landowners and organizers locked themselves to feller buncher machines used for clearing large trees in the path of the pipeline, halting work on a segment of the pipeline outside of Saltillo, TX.

#### SEPT 19 - BLOCKADERS HALT TREE CLEARING

Three more locked themselves to a massive wood chipper and a skidder, delaying construction. Five arrests were made.

#### SEPT 24 - A FREE STATE IS BORN IN EAST TEXAS

Eight people climbed 80 feet into trees in the path of pipeline construction initiating a full time direct action campaign.

#### SEPT 25 - LOCKDOWN DEFENDS TREE VILLAGE

TSBers locked to logging equipment in protecting the tree village on property that TransCanada now claims ownership of through



# **NEWS FROM THE ECO-WARS**

#### JULY 19 - ACTIVISTS SHUT DOWN 74 SHELL STATIONS

Greenpeacers in the UK block-aded Shell stations in Edinburgh and London to protest the company's plans to drill in the Arctic. Actions resulted in 24 arrests: 18 in London and six in Edinburgh. Campaigners attempted to shut off petrol to London's 105 Shell stations and Edinburgh's 14. Seventy-one were closed in London and three in Edinburgh.

#### JULY 26 - GETTIN' ROWDY AGAINST EXTRACTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

A group of 30 masked demonstrators with green and black flags showed up in Quezon City at the State of the Nation Address by President Benigno

Simeon Aquino III to oppose the business industrialists and foreign capitalist investors eyeing to make huge profit at the expense of the degradation of the environment through natural resource extraction. They vandalized corporate and government property. Go team!

#### JULY 28 - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTESTERS TRASH GOVT. OFFICE IN CHINA

Angry demonstrators occupied a government office in Qidong, eastern China, destroying computers and overturning cars in a violent protest against an industrial waste pipeline they said would poison their coastal waters. This was the latest in a string of protests sparked by fears of environmental degrada-

tion, highlighting the social tensions the government in Beijing faces as it approaches a leadership transition this year.

# JULY 29 - BUSTIN' THROUGH **BARRICADES AGAINST NUKES IN JAPAN**

Tens of thousands protested against nuclear power plants outside Japan's parliament. The protesters were pressed up against a wall of steel thrown around the parliament building. Some broke through the barriers and spilled onto the streets, forcing the police to bring in reinforcements and deploy armored buses to buttress the main parliament gate.

# JULY 30 - BRAZIL OPENS INDIGENOUS LANDS TO MORE DAMS, MINING AND BASES

A directive signed by Brazil's Solicitor-General could hamper the efforts of indigenous tribes to win government recognition of their traditional lands, reported Survival International, a human rights group focused on native peoples. The directive opens up all indigenous

AUGUST 6

areas to mineral, dams, roads, military bases and other developments of "national interest" without the need to consult with or address concerns of indigenous peoples. It also restricts demarcation of new indigenous territories.

# **AUGUST 4 - PUREPECHA** CONTINUE ARMED BLOCKADE OF LOGGING

August marked sixteen months of permanent burning barricades in the indigenous Purepecha community of Cherán, in the state of Michoacán, 310 miles west of Mexico City.

Last November, in a court appeal, Cherán acquired a degree of autonomy from the Mexican government; the town still receives federal and state money, and its people must pay taxes, but they are allowed to govern themselves under a legal framework called "uses and customs" that has been granted to some indigenous communities. Legal experts and academics say that Cherán is the first community to be granted this right as a result of a conflict over natural resourc-

MONSANTO SOY BLOCKED BY

YUCATAN BEEKEEPERS

Echoing a recent block in Poland, beekeepers have suc-

ceeded in preventing, through two suspensions obtained in

Yucatan, Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosi, Veracruz, and Chiapas.

Fifty-nine organizations of beekeepers, environmentalists,

amparo (specialized protection), the seeding of transgenic

soy for 253,500 hectares in Campeche, Quintana Roo,

and NGO's have maintained that the amparos granted by

the second district court of Campeche, are setting a prec-

edent to continue demanding the definitive suspension of

The organizations added in their press release communi-

cation that they will not cease in their fight for production

permits that have been issued to Monsanto.

that is free of transgenic interference.

es with one of the country's powerful criminal syndicates.

#### **AUGUST 5 - PLANS FOR** MORE GE MOSQUITOES

British biotechnology company Oxitec announces plans to expand release of genetically engineered mosquitoes. Controversial experimental releases of 3 million GE mosquitoes produced by Oxitec have already taken place in three countries: the Cayman Islands in 2009 and 2010, Malaysia in December 2010 and in Brazil in 2011. According to Oxitec, future experimental releases are planned in other countries, including Panama, India, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the Florida Keys of the US, as well as discussed in the Philippines, Costa Rica and Trinidad & Tobago. Plans in the US have been delayed pending a regulatory assessment.

Oxitec says these developments are meant to counteract the quickly spreading mosquitoborne viral infection dengue fever.

# **AUGUST 6 - TOXIC FIRE** AT CHEVRON REFINERY IN RICHMOND, CA

Thousands of East Bay residents were ordered to stay in their homes with the windows and doors closed after a series of explosions and fires tore through Chevron's Richmond refinery.

The explosions started about 6:15 pm, and at least two large fires spewed thick, black smoke into the darkening sky. The fire started at the refinery's No. 4 Crude Unit, Chevron officials said. Just before 6:30 pm, an inspection crew discovered that there was a diesel leak in a line in the unit, and that the leak was growing. Shortly after the crew evacuated the area, the diesel ignited, said Nigel Hearne, manager of the refinery.

# **AUGUST 9 - EARTH FIRST! HUMBOLDT BLOCKS** SAWMILL ENTRANCE

Thirty Earth First! activists protesting Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) logging practices rallied peacefully outside the gates of SPI's Arcata mill, demanding a

stop to the company's logging of old-growth. Demonstrators blocked the logging truck entrance to the mill. In addition, three activists delivered a list of demands directly to the administration office at the mill stating that EF! Humboldt wants "Sustainable, light, selection logging, restoration of wildlife habitat and a rate of harvest that restores rather than depletes the forest."

# **AUGUST 9 - TERIBE TRIBE OF** COSTA RICA FIGHTS TO END HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

Pablo Sibar, a grassroots leader from the Teribe native tribe of Costa Rica celebrated UN International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples with a protest before the National Assembly. He has been doing so over the last ten years. Mr. Sibar wants the voice of his people heard on a legislative proposal that has been stuck at the Assembly for the last thirty years: autonomy for the indigenous people of

# **AUGUST 9 - VILLAGES IN** SENEGAL VOW TO STOP BIO-**FUELS PROJECT**

Villagers from northern Senegal vowed to fight a project by Senegalese and Italian investors to produce biofuels on their land. The venture was already forced to relocate once before by deadly protests. "We will fight those who want to take our land. It is the land of our ancestors, an area of 26,000 hectares which houses villages, thousands of heads of cattle, mosques, cemeteries," Oumar Ba, a representative of a collective of affected villages. "Whoever wants to take our land will first walk over our dead bodies." Ba lives in the village of Ndiael in the region of the same name.

# AUGUST 11 - SHALESHOCK BLOCKS SCHLUMBERGER FRACKING OPERATION

Over 150 people in NY blocked the main truck entrance to Schlumberger, a huge service facility for the fracking industry which provides chemicals, frac sand, truck servicing and other

aspects, along with being a corporate headquarters. Twenty of the 150 came prepared to use their bodies to blockade the facility until they were removed by police. Faced with such organized resistance, Schlumberger did not have their normal daytime shift. People stayed for over 5 hours, stopping the operation of this 24/7 facility and then left of their own accord.

### **AUGUST 16 - DECADE LONG** FIGHT AGAINST LA PAROTA **DAM VICTORIOUS!**

After nearly 10 years of struggle. campesinos in Mexico fighting to defend their way of life from La Parota Dam won a definitive victory with the signing of the "Cacahuatepec Agreement," signed between Guerrero Governor Ángel Aguirre and the Council of Ejidos and Communities in Opposition to La Parota Dam (CECOP), the primary organization opposing the dam.

# AUGUST 19 - RUSSIAN ECO-**ACTIVIST SENTENCED IN PUSSY RIOT TRIAL**

One member of the punk trio Pussy Riot, Maria Alekhina, has a history of involvement with environmental groups, working with Greenpeace Russia, and animal liberation activism (she has a support page demanding vegan food in prison). During the trial, prosecutors reportedly tried to humiliate her for her ecological activism. The group was found guilty of "hooliganism" and sentenced to two years in prison.

Meanwhile the Russian Orthodox church is building on more than 500 acres of parks and other green spaces in Moscow.

# **AUGUST 21 - SAVE THE** PEAKS CAMPAIGN ERECTS TREE-SIT IN ARIZONA

A treesit was erected to protect the community from the city of Flagstaff's sanctioning and use of hazardous sewage in public spaces. The ropes securing the treesit stretched across the projected path of the Arizona Snowbowl Ski Resort's effluent pipeline, which was under construction near Thorpe Park. After years of construction delays, court challenges and resistance from community members, a 14-mile sewage pipeline carrying millions of gallons of treated sewage yearly from the City of Flagstaff to Snowbowl is now completed.

## **AUGUST 25 - GREENPEACE** OCCUPIES RUSSIAN ARCTIC OIL RIG

Six activists occupied a Russian oil rig to protest drilling in the Arctic. The rig belongs to the Russian state-owned energy giant Gazprom, which was set to become the first company to produce Arctic oil through drilling operations in the Pechora Sea. Greenpeace's executive director, Kumi Naidoo, who took part in the action, said, "We want to draw global attention to what is the defining environmental struggle of our time, and time is running out for us to avert catastrophic climate change."

#### AUGUST 29 - UNIS'TOT'EN **ACTION CAMP BLOCKS** PACIFIC TRAILS PIPELINE

This year's camp attracted over 150 people who came from as far east as Montreal and as far south as Florida. The camp organizers opted not to tap large environmental NGO's for material support, and instead reached out to grassroots, community based allies. The camps focus is on the struggle to stop a natural gas transport project called the Pacific Trails Pipeline (PTP). The Unis'tot'en, a clan of the Wet'suet'en Nation, have built a protection camp to block PTP, in so-called British Columbia, Canada. This is the third time the Unis'tot'en have called for a convergence in their territories.

# AUGUST 30 - RUSSIA **DUMPED TONS OF NUCLEAR** WASTE IN THE ARCTIC

Enormous quantities of decommissioned Russian nuclear reactors and radioactive waste were dumped into the Kara Sea in the Arctic Ocean north of Siberia over a course of decades. The catalogue of waste dumped at sea by the Soviets, according to documents which were

Thousands of villagers from Navelim in Bicholim Taluka of

released by the Norwegian daily, Aftenposten, includes some 17,000 containers of radioactive waste, 19 ships containing radioactive waste, 14 nuclear reactors, including five that still contain spent nuclear fuel; 735 other pieces of radiactively contaminated heavy machinery. and the K-27 nuclear submarine with its two reactors loaded with nuclear fuel.

#### AUGUST 31 - EVERGLADES EF! BLOCKADES COAL PLANT AT RNC IN TAMPA

Seven people in total were detained for blocking the roads which stopped all traffic into a coal plant owned by TECO (major Republican National Convention sponsor and mountain top remover). Six were locked down in the road and one other on top of a truck. Coal transport was stopped for four hours. Around 150 people showed up to support the blockade, many with the buses of Occupy Wall Street's contingent from NYC, and dozens of media outlets in town for the RNC reported on the action. No arrests were made.

#### SEPT 5 - RISING TIDE SHUTS DOWN COAL HAULAGE RAILWAY IN AUSTRALIA

A Rising Tide activist secured himself to a 33 foot-tall tripod during a pre-dawn action the

COKE/COAL PLANT SHUT **AUGUST 27** DOWN BY PROTESTS IN INDIA

Goa observed a day-long Bandh against the Sesa Corporation's Goa metallurgical coke plant in the village, with complaints that it is polluting their surroundings.

Originally a Hindi word meaning "closed," bandh is a form of protest used by political activists, during which a political party or a community declares a general strike. The bandh started at 6 am, with locals blocking the entire stretch connecting Panaji to Bicholim Taluka.

# government had contributed \$114 million to the project. SEPT 6 - GAS FREE SENECA **BLOCKADE AT INERGY**

small city of Rutherford, where

a consortium of companies is

planning to build a rail line to

increase coal haulage to 200

million tons a year. The federal

While chained up to the fence, Co-Founder Yvonne Taylor, of Gas Free Seneca, a coalition concerned about the proposed liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) facility in Watkins. storage exclaims: "I am chained to a fence outside an Inergy facility... and I am not alone. We are protesting the gasification of New York. We don't want fracking in this state, or any state, and we don't like Inergy's plans to build a gas storage hub in Seneca Lake salt caverns."

### SEPT 11 - CLIMATE JUSTICE COLLECTIVE BUILDS ICE BLOCKADE AT SHELL HQ IN LONDON

Environmental protesters opposed to Shell's Arctic oil drilling plans stacked a wall of ice blocks in front of an entrance to the company's London headquarters. 15 activists from the group Climate Justice Collective participated in the action against Shell, saving its drilling efforts off the coast of Alaska are both taking

First! New

advantage of and contributing to the problem of receding sea ice.

#### SEPT 14 - POLICE KILL ANTI-NUKE PROTESTER IN INDIA

Despite the killing of an anti-nuclear protester by police on Sept 10, hundreds of protesters forming a human chain stood in sea waters, for the second day in a row, demanding a halt to preparations for fuel loading into the reactor of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) in Tuticorin district. Women and men stood in the sea waters for two hours in turns.

# SEPT 20 - ACTIVISTS CRASH SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY **INITIATIVE CONFERENCE**

Activists in Milwaukee crashed the phony "eco-label's" 2012 annual conference and participated in a banner drop stating, "Don't Buy SFIs Green Wash."

#### SEPT 22 - "GLOBAL FRACK-DOWN" DAY OF ACTION

Thousands of activists on five continents came together for over 200 events to send one, definitive message—Ban Fracking Now! The movement to ban fracking is growing!

#### SEPT 24 - COMMUNITY **DEFEATS GIANT CEMENT** COMPANY IN MEXICO

In a statement released by GAIA, the Huichapan community in the central México's state of Hidalgo, declared a historic victory, after six months of protests and legal actions that drove to the closure of the plant of Proambiente company, a subsidiary of Cementos Mexicanos, CEMEX, by the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources. This plant was responsible for receiving and processing a large part of the 12,000 tons of solid waste generated daily in Mexico City, to be burned as an alternative fuel in the kilns of CEMEX plant in Huichapan.

# SEPT 27 - 30-DAY CANOE FLOTILLA AGAINST MINING IN THE NORTH WOODS, WEEK 2

The Precious Waters Flotilla, a 30-day canoe trip from the Polymet Mine Site to the St. Paul Capitol, MN was organized to raise awareness about the proposed sulfide mines in Northeastern Minnesota. Copper/ Nickel Sulfide Mining is a looming threat to the Boundary Water Canoe Area, Lake Superior

# FIRST NATIONS AND ALLIES PROTEST PIPELINE HEARING IN CANADA

A group of protesters greeted the environmental review panel weighing the proposed Northern Gateway pipeline as the hearings returned to British Columbia (BC) where the pipeline proponent will face cross-examination about its plans. Members of the local Carrier Sekani First Nation and conservationists held signs telling Enbridge to go home. The \$6-billion project would carry diluted bitumen from the Alberta tar sands through northern BC to a tanker port in Kitimat for transport to Asia.



and Mississippi watersheds.

It stands to impact everything from the health of the wild rice to the tourism industry. The largest proposed mine would expose 40,000 tons of sulfide-bearing ore per day for 100 years.

# SEPT 28 - SAN CARLOS APACHE MAKE ANNUAL SACRED RUN

The annual week-long San Carlos Apache Mount Graham Sacred Run, which goes up from the Arizona Desert Reservation to the spirit people living on a mountain top more than 100 miles away, has entered its third decade. As he greeted dozens of tired trekkers of all ages at the end of the journey, event sponsor and former tribal chairman Wendsler Nosie Sr., told them: "You are indigenous. This is your home—where you belong—and here in the woods you need to exercise your rights as an Apache. We want this place back,"

# **SEPT 29 - SWEDISH FOREST** OCCUPATION DECLARES **TEMPORARY VICTORY**

Environmental activists have been celebrating a victory on Gotland Island, off the coast of southeast Sweden, as tree felling machinery remained idle this evening. Earlier in the day police had to use cutting equipment to remove Greenpeace protesters who had chained themselves to the machinery. The tree clearance was planned to make way for a controversial limestone quarry in the Ojnare forest adjacent to an EU designated Natura 2000 protected area.

#### OCT 1 - SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS ROADLESS RULE

The US Supreme Court has denied an appeal challenging a federal rule that bars development on 50 million acres of roadless areas in national forests. The state of Wyoming and the Colorado Mining Association said closing so much forestland to development has had serious consequences for residents of Western states and the logging, mining and drilling industries.

### OCT 4 - RALLY TO SHUT DOWN INJECTION WELLS AT OHIO COURTHOUSE

Today, over 80 people gathered outside the Athens County Courthouse to show support for the legal case of Madeline ffitch, and to demand that the Hazel Ginsberg Injection Well be shut down, a well that has a long history of violations. Protesters presented a large scale timeline of violations from 1986 to present, held a giant banner that read "Toxic Frack Waste: We Don't Want It."

### OCT 15 - FRACKING RESIST-ANCE "OCCUPY THE PIPE-LINE" IN NYC

Activists wrapped themselves in yellow caution tape as they stood in front of the pipeline construction site along New York's Hudson River Park, in front of the site where workers have been laboring around the clock on the New Jersey-New York Expansion Project.

The very real risk of explosion along the densely populated regions through which the pipeline passes have made local residents want nothing to do with the project, as evidenced by letters submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission during the pipeline's approval process, when only 22 of the 5,000 letters were in the project's favor. The action was part of a nationwide day of actions against fossil fuel

This action was one of many organized as part of national "Occupy the Pipeline" day.

#### OCT 21 - PROTESTERS, POLICE CLASH IN GREECE **OVER GOLD MINE**

Hundreds of protesters battled riot police for hours over plans for a gold mine in northern Greece's Halkidiki peninsula. One policeman and three protesters were hurt, while 21 protesters have been detained. Prospective miners claim the project will create thousands of jobs at an economically difficult time. A multimillion-dollar gold mining project in a nearby area was cancelled a decade ago after similar protests.

# OCT 21 - BANNER DROP AGAINST COAL SEAM GAS IN **AUSTRALIA**

Protesters opposing coal seam gas production in Queensland have taken to Brisbane's Kangaroo Point cliffs to have their message heard-and seen. As part of the protest involving the Lock the Gate Alliance and environmental groups, seven giant banners with anti-CSG messages were attached to the cliff face. Lock the Gate ran a week of protests across the state, which began with a march and concert.

# **OCT 23 - MORE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES RISE UP** IN MICHOACÁN

For the second time in less than two years, an indigenous community in the southwestern Mexican state of Michoacán has erected barricades and seized control of security matters. Located in the Purépecha highlands of the Pacific coast state, the small community of Urapicho in Paracho municipality has been under the selfdeclared control of the people for about a month now. The uprising is to bring attention to the lack of money for schools, lack of preservation of natural resources, and respect for their self-organization.

#### **OCT 24 - FIVE CHARGED** WITH FELONIES IN MICHI-**GAN FRACKING PROTEST**

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in Michigan auctioned off 196,000 acres of land in Michigan as one of the first steps toward Horizontal Hydraulic Fracturing in Michigan.

Similar to the last DNR auction in May of 2012, the event was filled with protests and disruptions. Before the auction, activists entered the Lansing Center with two large paper banners tied to dozens of balloons, which floated up to the forty foot ceilings in the main hallway. One read, "If You Frack, We'll Be Back, Earth First!," the other, "Deep Water Earth First!" with a large fist. Another balloon was released carrying a "persynal alarm" (a

small device that lets out a continuous shrill noise for 1 hour). A "persynal alarm" was also set off in the auction room itself. During the confusion, activists attempted to lockdown in front of the podium. Unfortunately, police intercepted them, arresting people and charging them with felonies, which were later dropped to misdemeanor.

# OCT 25 - MASS MOBILIZATION AGAINST TAR SANDS, CANADA

Defend Our Coast pulled off largest civil disobedience against tar sands pipelines and tankers that Canada has seen. Communities across BC took to the streets and linked arms to symbolize the unbroken wall of opposition to tar sands tankers and proposed pipelines, like Enbridge's Northern Gateway, Kinder Morgan's TransMountain, and the danger they pose to the Canadian Pacific Coast's waterways, livelihoods and indigenous sovereignty.

### **OCT 28 - TWO ARRESTS** IN HOME DEMO AGAINST PRIMATE PRODUCTS IN **FLORIDA**

Two Smash HLS activists were arrested during a home demo protest. Smash HLS is a grassroots activist group aimed at shutting down Primate Products, a south Florida-based company that imports and breeds monkeys for use in experiments.

#### OCT 29 - ANTI-COAL PROTESTS CONTINUE IN NEW ZEALAND

Campaigners are protesting outside the environment court in Christchurch as a legal bid to stop coal mining on the West Coast's Denniston Plateau has got underway. The coal mining debate has gotten louder today with the start of a four-week Environment Court hearing over a proposed opencast mine that would be New Zealand's second largest. An application has been lodged for resource consent for a 148-hectare opencast coalmine on the southern edge of Denniston Plateau, near Westport on the



# OCT 28 PROTESTS IN CHINA VICTORIOUS AGAIN!!

Authorities in the eastern Chinese city of Ningbo announced the suspension of a planned \$8.9 billion petrochemical plant expansion after three days of protests by thousands of residents concerned about the health and environmental implications. The decision affects not only a proposed refinery of the state-owned energy giant, China Petrochemical Corporation (Sinopec), but also the production of the industrial chemical paraxylene, known by locals as "PX".

# PROTESTS ROCK INDIA

The alleged demolition of a portion of the nearly 150-year-old "Sir Arthur Cotton anicut" by the technical crew of a private firm for the upcoming 24 MW hydro power project incited action when a section of protesters hurled stones and damaged window panes of a hydraulic excavator that had been used during today's "anicut demolition drive." The police intervened and dispersed the protesters.

## **NOV 4 - ISRAELI ANTI-GAS** PROTESTERS DISRUPT CONFERENCE

About 200 residents of the Hof HaCarmel region protested outside the Fifth Jerusalem Environment and Nature Conference, angry at the idea of establishing a gas transmission site in their region. Eventually, a group of the residents burst inside the actual conference itself, running to the front of the room with a banner following the speech of Environmental Protection Minister Gilad Erdan.

#### **NOV 4 - INDIGENOUS** VS. MULTINATIONALS IN **MEXICO WIND POWER**

Mexico is putting up wind power turbines at a breakneck pace and the expansion is pitting energy companies against the lo-

OCT 31 - HYDROELECTRIC live in one of the windiest spots in the world. The country is posting one of the world's highest growth rates in wind energy, and almost all of it is concentrated in the narrow waist of Mexico known as the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. The largely indigenous residents of the Isthmus complain that the wind farms take control of their land, affect fish and livestock with their vibrations, chop up birds and pit residents against each other for the damage or royalty payments. They also claim they see few of the profits from such projects.

# **NOV 4 - GRAPES OF RAGE** TARGETS OF UK ECOTAGE

Some industrial-scale vineyards threatening biodiversity on Sark Island in the Channel Islands were sabotaged, with support wires cut some up to 200 yards long. Repairs are expected to take up to six months and the cost is estimated at tens of thousands of British pounds. In all 40,000 vines have been affected out of the 100,000 planted.

#### **NOV 5 - GAS-FIRED POWER** PLANTS IN ENGLAND OCCUPIED FOR A WEEK

Climate change protesters from No Dash for Gas were perched cal indigenous community, who 300 feet up on two power sta-

# **NOV 11 - CONSTRUCTION** ON DAM HALTS AFTER **BUILDINGS TORCHED!**

Work on Brazil's controversial \$13 billion Belo Monte megadam ground to a halt after protesters torched buildings at three dam construction sites yesterday, the developer said. "A group of 30 people set fire to prefab structures at the Pimental site. They went into the cafeteria, destroyed everything," and they also robbed the cash register before setting it ablaze, said Fernando Santana, spokesman for builders Consorcio Constructor Belo Monte. Twenty people set structures ablaze at Canais and Diques, two other dam construction sites, said Santana.

# **NOV 11 - GROUNDSWELL** SHUTS DOWN TA ANN MILL

Environmental group Groundswell shut down operations at Ta Ann's veneer mill in Smithton, Tasmania, Australia. The group highlighted the ongoing loss of Tasmania's forest by a Malaysian-based timber company that has been accused of human rights violations and continues to destroy pristine rainforest in the Malaysian state of Sarawak. Two protesters locked onto a conveyor belt inside the mill.

#### **NOV 12 - BLOCKADE AT** SHELL STATION IN BC

In East Vancouver, 30 protesters blockaded a Shell station. The rally targeted Shell for participation in the Alberta Tar Sands and other environmental atrocities around the world.

# **NOV 14 - HOPI FILE NEW LAWSUIT AGAINST** SNOWBOWL

The Hopi Tribe filed suit in federal court in the District of Columbia, seeking an injunction

#### **CROATAN EARTH FIRST! LOCKS OCT 23** DOWN AGAINST FRACKING

Seven members of Croatan Earth First! and participants from Piedmont Direct Action Camp locked together, barricading the front of North Carolina's Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) building in downtown Raleigh. Providing physical, active resistance against fracking in North Carolina, CEF! has chosen DENR for an action as they are responsible for helping legalize fracking, and will be responsible for regulating it.

They have also hired a corrupt Mining and Energy Commission board, which includes people with vested interests in hydraulic fracturing.





to block snowmaking with reclaimed waste water at Arizona Snowbowl this Winter because of a threatened plant. The tribe contends the Coconino National Forest didn't adequately consider some of the compounds found in the treated effluent and the possibility that the snow could blow more than 1,000 yards in low winds onto endangered plants.

#### NOV 14 - OJIBWE MEMBERS PROTEST MINNESOTA WOLF HUNT

Ojibwe tribal members protested Minnesota's first managed wolf hunt, which began Nov 10. Tribal members on the White Earth Indian Reservation stood along highways in several tribal communities, carrying signs of protest. Minnesota's Ojibwe reservations in northern Minnesota have put their tribal lands off-limits to wolf hunting. The White Earth band has declared all of its reservation a wolf sanctuary. But much of the land within the reservation is owned by the state or by non-

# **NOV 15 - GAS COMPRESSOR** SITE IN NY REPORTS BEING SABOTAGED AND ROBBED

Equipment at the building site of a \$43 million gas compressor station has been sabotaged and stolen in Minisink, NY. According to the Millennium Pipeline Co. spokesman Steve Sullivan, the damage happened sometime between Oct. 28 and Oct. 31, when construction was halted by Hurrican Sandy. Several machines—including a bulldozer, an excavator and a large vibratory roller—were damaged. High-powered hydraulic hoses were pulled out of the equipment, electronics at the site were stolen and other minor damage was done.

# **NOV 16 - SHUTTING DOWN** AN AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE LUNCHEON

Four protesters were arrested after a group of over a dozen shut down an American Petroleum Institute luncheon in the Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans,

LA. Today's action, in solidarity with TSB, was in response to Hurricane Sandy and the newly approved Parkway Oil Pipeline that would endanger the cities below Lake Pontchartrain.

## **NOV 16 - ONE BIG STEP CLOSER TO ENDING** MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL

One of Appalachia's biggest coal companies is getting out of the mountaintop removal business. In a landmark announcement, Patriot Coal, one of Appalachia's three largest mountaintop removal companies, has signed a settlement agreement with the Sierra Club, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, and West Virginia Highlands Conservancy committing to end its practice of large scale surface mining in Appalachia.

# **NOV 19 - OHIO RESIDENTS** BLOCKADE RADIOACTIVE FRACKING WASTE WELL

A group of Athens County residents wearing hazmat style suits, respirators and carrying large placards emblazoned with skulls, blockaded the front gate of the Ginsburg Well, Class II injection well and a fracking waste disposal site, on Ladd Ridge Road in Athens County, Ohio. Protesters blocked the entrance to the well's delivery pad. No trucks arrived to dump frack-waste while the protesters made their stand, successfully interrupting the day's business.

# **NOV 23 - TURKEY SCRAPS** CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR POWER PLANT

A cross-border protest voicing disagreement with Turkey's plan to building a power plant a few miles away from the border with Bulgaria pushed the Turkish government to announce they are no longer going to the power plant in the town of Igneada, near the border with Bulgaria. The site of the projected plant was just across the Bulgarian village of Rezovo, whose residents staged a torchlight protest rally last week, amidst fears the project will destroy the Strandzha mountain forests.

#### NOV 25 - 10,000 PROTEST RARE EARTH ORE PLANT **OVER HEALTH CONCERNS**

Nearly 10,000 people took to the streets in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to protest the opening of Australia-based mining company Lynas' new rare earth plant. The rally is a culmination of a 13-day march against the plant's opening, and was organized by environmental activist group Himpunan Hijau, who have been demonstrating against the plant's opening for two years.

#### NOV 27 - ACTIVISTS INTER-FERE WITH INTERNATIONAL MINING CONFERENCE

In Espoo, Finland, a Conference on Socially and Environmentally Responsible Mining was disrupted by the group Hyökyaalto. The action is a protest against the industry and the state's attempt to legitimize mining by discussing its sustainability. Protesters are reminding people that no such thing as responsible, sustainable or green mining exists.

# **NOV 28 - MAPUCHE INDIANS** FIGHT NEW AIRPORT IN SOUTHERN CHILE

"This is a project that reflects the occupation...of Mapuche territory," said Iván Reves, an indigenous leader staunchly opposed to the construction of an international airport in the southern Chilean region of Araucanía. Reves, an agricultural technician, said the construction project was approved thanks to an environmental impact study "based on lies" that was carried out by Arcadis Geotécnica, the Chilean subsidiary of a Netherlands-based international consulting and engineering company.

# **NOV 30 - DOZENS WOUNDED** IN MAYANMAR COPPER MINE PROTEST

Security forces used water cannons, tear gas and smoke bombs to clear protesters from a copper mine in northwestern Myanmar, wounding villagers and Buddhist monks in the big-

gest use of force against demonstrators since the reformist government of President Thein Sein took office last year. Protesters who oppose the mine's impact on villagers and the environment had occupied the area for 11 days.

#### DEC 4 - GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST GAS PIPE-LINE IN CANADA

Today Unist'ot'en allies rose up in cities around the world to deliver a message to industry and government warning them to cease their trespass against sovereign Wet'suwet'en territory. The Global Day of Action follows the incident where Wet'suwet'en Chief Toghestiv intercepted and issued an eagle feather to surveyors from the Can-Am Geomatics company who were working for Apache's proposed Pacific Trails Pipeline.

#### DEC 5 - HUNGER STRIKE AGAINST TRINIDAD HIGHWAY REACHED CRITICAL STAGE

For 21 days Dr. Wayne Kublalsingh, one of Trinidad & Tobago's most well-known environmental activists, sat in a hunger strike outside the office of Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar. He sat in support of his belief that constructing a highway in southern Trinidad would damage the environment and affect hundreds of lives in the surrounding area. Kubalisingh's weight plunged dramatically while the government continued to insist that the 28-mile highway would be constructed. The 53-year old ended his strike only after being assured that a deal had been brokered to take into account the environmental concerns raised by his Highway Re-route Movement (HRM).

#### **DEC 11 - GAS LINE EXPLODES** IN WEST VIRGINIA: HOMES BURN, FREEWAY DAMAGED

A gas line explosion rocked a town in WV, setting off an inferno that burned multiple homes, damaged and closed a portion of the freeway, and knocked out power and phone lines to some



#### POLICE FIRE TEAR GAS ON EPIC **NOV 25** ANTI-AIRPORT SOUAT IN FRANCE

Eight people were arrested and three injured after protesters clashed with police in western France, as authorities tried a second time since October to evict protesters living at La ZAD, a future airport site located on protected swampland in Notre-Dame-des-Landes. Officers fired tear gas, and protesters retaliated with molotovs and stones. The activists claim that the airport will destrov farms and woodland in the area, as well as cause pollution and carbon emissions.

residents—but took no lives. The blast in Sissonville, a community of about 4,000 people, shot flames 100 feet in the air and hopped the main northsouth arterial Interstate 77, as emergency responders scrambled to cap the ruptured gas line—a 20-inch transmission line owned by Columbia Gas.

# DEC 14 - ALASKA NATIVES TAKE ON FOSSIL FUEL DISIN-FORMATION IN KIVALINA

In February 2008, a tiny Alaska

Native village named Kivalina filed a lawsuit against twentyfour fossil fuel companies for contributing to the village's erosion through large greenhouse gas emissions, and for creating a false debate around climate change. The lawsuit was filed as one of several steps in a broader push for climate justice, aiming to help Kivalina residents draw attention to their situation and call for action from government and corporate officials that had so far largely ignored them.

# Earth First! Climbers Guild Camp

{ OUT OF YOUR HOUSES AND INTO THE TREES! }

When: March 24th - 30th

Where: Finger Lakes region of New York

Expand your ability to defend your home, your community, and the wild by learning the technical skills involved in creating effective aerial blockades. The EF! Climbers' Guild will offer the North East a variety of trainings for forest defense and urban actions suitable for all skill levels from beginner to advanced.

**Workshops include**: Basic Climbing and Anchoring, Traverses. Tree to Tree Transfers, Basic Structure Rigging and Haul Systems, Tripods, Bipods, and Monopods, Advanced Structure Rigging, Large Scale Banner Hanging, and Basic Rescue and Training Set Ups

To attend the camp contact: EFCLIMBERS@GMAIL.COM

# FROM THE CAGES: ECO PRISONERS, SNARED LIBERATIONISTS AND HOSTAGES OF THE STRUGGLE

This eco-prisoner related content courtesy of Earth First! Prisoner Support Project, a prisoner and post-release support group for earth and animal liberation prisoners. To support their efforts, contact them at EF! PSP c/o Sacramento Prisoner Support, PO Box 163126, Sacramento, CA 95816, or email: EFPRIS@RISEUP.NET For a more complete list of prisoners, international listings, informant tracking, and resources for comrades behind bars, check out: EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/PRISONERS

# GRAND JURY FISHING EXPEDITION WIDENS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Portland anarchist Kerry Cunneen was the latest subpoena, served Dec 14, in a grand jury investigation of the May Day attack on the Nakamura federal courthouse during an anti-capitalist march in Seattle last year. Kerry declined to even enter the court room January 3 and has stated that they will never under any circumstance cooperate with the state.

Another grand jury resister in the case, Maddy Pfeiffer, who is currently incarcerated for refusing to testify, offered the following statement: "[T]he day before my 23rd birthday, two FBI agents wearing ill-fitting khakis and too much gel in their hair served me a subpoena for 9am on November 7th. I knew my fate right away: 18 months in SeaTac Federal Detention Center. Matt, Kteeo and Leah have all been imprisoned for their refusal and I will be the next. Despite the urgings of lawyers, agents and judges, I only have one option: non-cooperation. Any other option is unthinkable... The vultures of the state will try to imprison my comrades and I until we give in. We will never give in."

Priyesh Patel of Portland, Oregon, was also served a subpoena, on January 3, and is scheduled to appear at the San Francisco federal courthouse on January 29. Patel now joins Brittany Kenville as the latest activists subpoenaed to a grand jury which appears to be investigating a 2008 fire at the home of an animal experimenter at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

According to Will Potter, author of *Green is the New Red*, "Patel, Kenville, and other activists subpoenaed are not charged with any crime. Grand jury proceedings are used to determine if there is sufficient evidence to bring a criminal indictment against someone else. Ostensibly, this may act as a safeguard against overzealous prosecutions. However, grand juries have historically been used as a tool to harass, disrupt, and spy upon social movements.

"Grand juries are secret, but there is some information about the scope of this one. The 2008 fire was also at issue in the prosecution of the AETA 4 on animal enterprise terrorism charges (which were all dismissed). And the prosecutor in that case, Assistant US Attorney Elise Becker, is also involved in this grand jury."

Updates on some of these cases can be found at: NOPOLITICALREPRESSION.WORDPRESS.COM

Letters of support can be sent to grand jury resistors: (they must be in separate envelopes)

Matthew "Maddy" Pfeiffer #42421-086

Matthew Kyle Duran #42565-086

Katherine Olejnik #42592-086

FDC SeaTac P.O. Box 13900 Seattle, WA 98198



#### UPDATE ON DANIEL MCGOWAN

(message adapted from NYC Anarchist Black Cross)

It's with great joy that we can announce ELF prisoner Daniel McGowan was released from the Communication Management Unit (CMU) in Terre Haute, Indiana on December 11, 2012. Daniel's partner was able to meet up with him at the Indianapolis Airport where they flew back to NYC together. Though the two have been able to visit during Daniel's imprisonment, his release marked the first time in years that they were able to hug, hold hands, or make any physical contact (save for a few month stint when Daniel was in general population in Marion, Illinois, between CMUs).

Daniel was met at the airport in NYC by a small group of friends, and from there had one hour to make it to the halfway house, where is living for as long as the next six months. He will continue to be on supervised release for 3 years. Daniel was able to secure employment before his release and is in the process of settling back into life on the outside.

Please remember that prisoner support doesn't end when a comrade is released. Through halfway houses, supervised release, parole, or probation, there is usually state supervision beyond the initial sentence. Also, prison is traumatic. And of course there is the stigma of being a former prisoner that effects nearly every aspect of one's life. All of this adds up to the less obvious, but equally necessary, support needed when our loved ones come home. You can still help Daniel out by going to the donations page at supportdaniel.org or by hosting an event to raise awareness and funds.

Welcome home Daniel!

#### TIM DECHRISTOPHER RELEASED TO A HALFWAY HOUSE

He has safely arrived at a halfway house in Salt Lake City, UT where he will serve out the remainder of his two year sentence. Contrary to recent media reports, DeChristopher has not been "released" and remains an inmate of the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) until April 21, 2013. As a federal inmate, Tim still cannot speak to media.

But there is a new film out about him, Bidder 70, and its already winning awards and selling out theaters! The Salt Lake City premiere filled a 500 seat theater with an estimated 200 turned away! Find out more about the film at bidder70film.com

Also, he is currently working at Ken Sanders Rare Books in Salt Lake City and would love to have people stop by and say hello! His new address is:

Cornell Corrections c/o **Tim DeChristopher** #16156-081 1585 West 2100 South Salt Lake City, UT 84119

"I am exercising my state and federal constitutional rights, including the 1st, 4th, and 5th amendments."

> - "Maddy" Pfeiffer's response to 25 Grand Jury questions (Dec. 14, 2012)

#### ARMY OF 12 MONKEYS RESIST BEHIND BARS

The Army of the 12 Monkeys is a resistance group at Mansfield Correctional (ManCI) prison which appears to have no centralized leadership, no hierarchy, and members are anonymous. The group has sabotaged the good order of the prison—staples in locks, potatoes in drains, cutting phone and computer cords with toenail clippers, tagging walls, distributing thousands of fliers and all kinds of training manuals.

On September 19, 2012, a riot occurred at Mansfield Correctional Institution. According to the prison, fire hoses were used against those involved in the uprising. This facility is where Sean Swain is being held.

Swain, a political prisoner and subscriber to *Earth First! Journal*, has been accused (along with two other inmates) of participating in the 12 Monkeys resistance, though the Rules Infraction Board's conduct report admits having no evidence of Swain participation. He was found guilty based exclusively on an alleged "ideological affinity," related to his being a neolithic indiginist, a religious belief system that has been approved by the ODRC who granted Swain a religious practice exemption (His belief "we were all created by a benevolent force that does not wish us to live in hierarchical structures.")

His anarchism is rooted in this belief, and the warden at ManCI has granted him an exception to practice this religion. Swain is preparing to sue ManCI and the ODRC for religious discrimination and persecution. Descriptions of this experience in Swain's own words can be found online at SEANSWAIN.ORG.

Sean Swain #243-205 MANCI PO Box 788 Mansfield, Ohio 44901

# REBECCA RUBIN + UPDATES ON OPERATION BACKFIRE

Rebecca Rubin, the 39-year-old Canadian citizen indicted during the green scare's Operation Backfire, handed herself over to the FBI in Washington State on the Canadian border on Dec 1, 2012. Rebecca is charged with participating in the '97 arson at the US BLM Wild Horse and Burro Facility and an attempted arson at the offices of US Forest Industries Inc. in '98, both in Oregon. In addition to this she is also accused of eight counts in relation to the '98 Vail Ski Resort arson in Colorado, which cost \$12 million in damages. In California she has also been indicted on charges of conspiracy, arson, and using a destructive device in the 2001 fire at the BLM Litchfield Wild Horse and Burro Corrals near Susanville.

Operation Backfire was initiated by the FBI in 2004 when they merged seven independent investigations from their Portland, Oregon office targeting members of the ELF and ALF in relation to sabotage actions. By 2006 a total 13 people were indicted on charges. Four of those plead guilty in non-cooperating circumstances—Joyanna Zacher, Nathan Block, Daniel McGowan and Jonathan Paul—all of whom have now been released from prison. More recently Justin Solondz was deported from China and sentenced to 7 years in March 2012. There are still two other indictees who have not been arrested. All other individuals indicted chose to cooperate with the FBI's investigations, landing them a spot on the *Earth First! Newswire's Informant Tracking* webpage.

Rebecca Rubin is currently being transferred between prisons, with a tentative trial date on March 19 in Eugene, Oregon. It is understood that the deal made between her lawyer and the FBI is of a non-cooperating nature. Please keep connected with Rebecca's case as more news will be forthcoming over the next few months. She is likely to be detained in Oregon until trial. At the moment, letters can be sent to Rebecca at:

**Rebecca Rubin** #770288 Multnomah County Detention Center (MCDC) 1120 SW Third Ave Portland, OR 97204



#### POLITICAL PRISONER BIRTHDAYS

**JAN 26TH: Marie Mason** #04672-061

FMC Carswell Federal Medical Center P.O. Box 27137 Fort Worth, TX 76127

Long term EF! Organizer sentenced to 22 years over 13 counts of arson and property damage amounting to \$4 million in damages. Targets related to genetic engineering, logging, development, water privatization and mink farming.

FEB 26TH: Byron Shane Chubbuck #07909051

USP Lewisburg U.S. Penitentiary P.O. Box 1000 Lewisburg, PA 17837

Chubbuck (Oso Blanco) is serving 80 years for bank robberies that funneled money to the Zapatista rebellion in Chiapas, Mexico throughout 1998-99.

MAR 3RD: Dylan Sutherlin #2012-0521144

Cook County Department of Corrections Post Office Box 089002

Chicago, Illinois 60608

One of the Tinley Park 5, accused of assaulting fascists during the 5th annual White Nationalist Economic Summit in May 2012. Cases in pre-trial—be aware of what you write.

MAR 17TH: Jason Sutherlin #2012-0521141

Also one of the Tinley Park 5 (same address).

MAR 23RD: John Tucker #2012-0521143

One of the Tinley Park 5 (same address).

APR 7TH: Chuck Sims Africa #AM4975

SCI Retreat

660 State Route 11

Hunlock Creek, PA 18621

Member of black liberation/eco-revolutionary group MOVE, convicted for the 1978 murder of a Philadelphia police officer, shot by friendly fire, during a raid on their home.

APR 13TH: Janet Holloway Africa #OO-6308

451 Fullerton Ave Cambridge Springs, PA

16403-1238 Janet Holloway Africa

Also a member of black liberation/eco-revolutionary group MOVE, convicted for the 1978 murder of a Philadelphia police officer, shot by friendly fire, during a raid on their home.

**APR 16TH: Walter Bond** #37096-013

USP Marion CMU PO Box 1000

Marion IL 62959

Sentenced to 12 years in 2011 for the AL.F Lone Wolf arsons in Colorado and Utah. Currently being held in a CMU. Bond also previously used the name Abdul Haqq, but no longer does.



#### ) continued from page 1...

court action. Construction crews advance 300 yards away from the northern boundary of the village.

#### OCT 6 - MAKING A SPLASH AT THE BLOCKADE

Actress and activist Daryl Hannah was arrested alongside East Texas farmer, Eleanor Fairchild while defending her farm from the tar sands pipeline.

#### OCT 15 - TSB SWARMS KXL SITE, MORE LOCKDOWNS

Following a TSB action camp in North Texas, dozens rallied at the site of the largest and longest treesit in Texas history, "diggerdiving" until all machines fled the area. In all, 10 individuals were arrested for attempting to re-supply treesits, locking down to machinery and jumping on top of a company semi-truck. Solidarity actions are also took place in Washington DC, Boston, Austin and New York City.

#### OCT 25 - MOTHER CHAINS SELF TO PIPEYARD GATE

Cherri Foytlin, a Gulf Coast mother of six, was originally threatened with a felony for "use of a criminal instrument", referring to chains and locks anyone could purchase from a hardware store.

#### OCT 31 - PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE GETS POPPED AT BLOCKADE

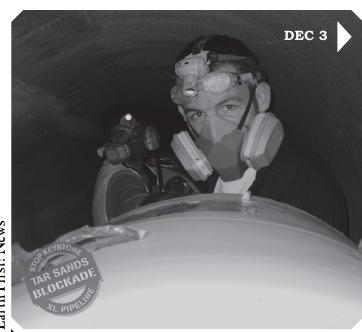
Days before the election, Green Party candidate Dr. Jill Stein was arrested, along with two other women, attempting a re-supply to tree-sitters. Stein said, "I'm here to connect the dots between superstorm Sandy and the record heat, drought and fire we've seen this year — and this Tar Sands pipeline, which will make all of these problems much worse."

#### NOV 5 - TSB SOLIDARITY ACTION AT DC LOBBYIST OFFICE

50 protesters from Chesapeake Earth First! occupied TransCanada lobby firm in DC. The crowd blockaded the door chanting: "No pipeline, No tar sands, No destruction of indigenous lands!" Four were arrested when they refused to leave.

# NOV 14 - TRANSCANADA BULLDOZES TEXAS FARMER'S LAND

TransCanada bulldozed Nacogdoches landowner Michael Bishop's property for its pipeline. Bishop has been a vocal opponent of the





tar sands pipeline for years, filing several lawsuits against the corporation to prevent them from destroying his home and small business. Mr. Bishop is a pioneer of growing renewable biofuels on his property.

#### **NOV 19 - NEW TREESIT ARISES IN NACODOGCHES**

Four people locked themselves to heavy machinery used along the pipeline route. They were joined by several others forming a human chain to block the movement of equipment on-site.

Cherokee County Sheriffs brought in a cherry picker to try and extract three treesitters. In response, ground supporters stood in front of the truck with the cherry picker in an attempt to stop it. The truck driver refused to stop until they hit one of the supporters and almost dragged him underneath the vehicle.

Solidarity actions included: financier for the project Deutsche Bank targeted in Palm Beach, FL, resulting in four arrests; a banner drop in Minneapolis; and a demonstration at Canadian consulate San Francisco, among others.

#### **NOV 29 - 45 DAY HUNGER STRIKE BEGINS AFTER** BLOCKADE OF REFINERY

Two arrested in protest of Valero's involvement with the KXL pipeline after lockdown outside refinery. Both immediately began a hunger strike lasting 45 days in solidarity with the struggling people impacted by oil refinery pollution in the Manchester neighborhood. Houston's toxic East End is home to the largest petro-chemical complexes in North America where marginalized people are forced to breathe poisoned air. The Latino community of Manchester is the most polluted neighborhood in Texas and Valero is responsible for most of the pollution.

#### DEC 3 - BARRICADE INSIDE KXL PIPE

Protesters with TSB sealed themselves inside a section of pipe to stop construction. Using a blockading technique never implemented before, two activists locked themselves between two barrels of concrete weighing over six hundred pounds each, located twenty-five feet into a pipe segment waiting to be laid in the ground with the outer barrel barricading the pipe's opening.

#### DEC 11- TX JUDGE HALTS TRANSCANADA OIL PIPELINE WORK

A Texas judge has ordered TransCanada to temporarily halt work on a private property where it is building part of the oil pipeline. Texas landowner Michael Bishop, who is defending himself in his legal battle against the oil giant, filed his lawsuit in the Nacogdoches County courthouse, arguing that TransCanada lied to Texans about the contents of the pipeline. A report from the Canadian Association of Oil Producers shows that Tar Sands oil emits 9% more carbon than standard crude oil.

#### JAN 22 - NEBRASKA GOVERNOR APPROVES KEYSTONE XL ROUTE

Gov. Dave Heineman has approved TransCanada's revised route for the Keystone XL pipeline, clearing the way for a final decision from US regulators on the project that would bring Canadian oil to the Texas coast.

# EARTH FIRST! TOOLBOX

HOW TO BREECH SECURITY AND INFILTRATE DIPLOMATIC EVENTS



I met a woman well experienced in getting past security, including Secret Service. She said, "First thing you do is get a manicure... When I snuck into the RNC I had red white and blue nails with sparkles. It was terrible! Also, your hair definitely cannot be pink."

You can still compile your outfit at a thrift store, just keep an eye out for designer digs. Your shirt, skirt, pants, or suit should be clean, pressed, decent, like new. Jewelry should be modest. And the shoes: they always look at the shoes! In the hustle and bustle of passing hundreds of people through security, one glance at a nice pair of clean crisp designer shoes is a go-ahead. Make friendly with important-looking randos before you enter. If you're a lady, be fleeting and flighty, security doesn't have time to deal with diplomat's wives. Don't forget to line your raincoat or umbrella with that silk banner. If need be, do some research on the latest style-trends of famous political figures.

You can't always look anarcho-chic when passing through security.

-SabiTaj Mahal



# Still wondering what to do with that fiery heart of yours in mid-February?

Come join us in the hills and hollers of the unglaciated Allegheny Plateau February 14-18, for the 2013 Earth First! Organizers Conference and Winter Rendezvous. The Organizers Conference, Thursday thru Saturday afternoon, will be focused movement strategy. After three days of meetings, Saturday night the Winter Rendezvous will kick off with a fiesta, followed by two days full of workshops, maple sugaring (if weather permits), and action planning.

Fracking and the chemically laced, radioactive frack waste being injected into the earth are an eminent threat to Central Appalachia. Appalachia Resist! is a group of landowners, business owners, and homesteaders committed to fighting the energy industrial complex using direct action.

The site, located about 25 minutes outside of Athens, Ohio, is a longstanding intentional community located at 13177 Concord Church Road Glouster, Ohio 45732. There is plenty of camping space and some indoor space as well. February in this area can bring temperatures anywhere from 55F during the day to 0F at night.

Getting there: The closest airport is in Columbus, OH. The GO Bus runs between Columbus/Athens and Cincinnati/Athens. Amtrak services Cincinnai, OH and Charleston, WV.

Get in touch by **email**: appalachia.resist@gmail.com, **phone**: 740-591-2693, or **letter**: 30 First St, Athens, Ohio 45761 For updates, check www.appalachiaresist.wordpress.com 







# TRANS AND WOMYNS ACTION CAMP

TWAC is an action camp for folks who identify as female, trans-gender, transsexual, gender queer and gender variant. This is an intentional space to share campaign information and direct action skills in a conscientious, supportive, empowering and encouraging environment for voices often marginalized, and then to take collective action together at the end of the camp!

From the Dine' women defending their native lands against destructive mining, to the eco-feminists defending forests from logging and developing; from the immigrant and trans women defending their lives from the prison industrial complex, to the parents and midwifes defending their bodies and babies from the patriarchal medical establishment, women and trans folks have always been powerhouses of political action, and TWAC aims to support this in a safe(r) environment.

We are reaching out for more hands, hearts and minds to unite with us for this weeklong event helping us organize an amazing, powerful and inclusive gathering! If you or anyone you know has interest in helping with the organizing for TWAC 2013 or would like to propose/host a workshop, presentation, discussion or skills-sharing please contact IIS at: TWAC2013@GMAIL COM

TWAC.WORDPRESS.COM

#### **UNITED STATES**

EF! Speakers Bureau >> SPEAKERS.EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG

Beehive Design Collective >> BEEHIVECOLLECTIVE.ORG

Civil Liberties Defense Center >> CLDC.ORG

Deep Green Resistance >> DEEPGREENRESISTANCE.ORG

FIERCE (Feminists Inciting Eco Resistance and Community Action) >> FIERCECASCADIA@RISEUP.NET

TWAC (Trans and Womyn's Action Camp) >> TWAC.WORDPRESS.COM

#### **ARIZONA**

Taala Hooghan Infoshop >> TAALAHOOGHAN.ORG

Black Mesa Indigenous Support >> BLACKMESAIS.ORG

No Mas Muertes/ No More Deaths >> www.nomoredeaths.org

#### **CALIFORNIA**

Humboldt EF! >> EFHUMBOLDT.ORG

Santa Barbara EF! >> EFINSB@GMAIL.COM

Sierra Nevada EF! >> MIKEBE64@GMAIL.COM

#### **COLORADO**

Durango EF! >> SOUTHWEST EARTHFIRST.WORDPRESS.COM

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chesapeake EF! >> CHESAPEAKEEARTHFIRST@RISEUP.NET

#### **FLORIDA**

Everglades EF! >> www.scrapscripps.info

#### **ILLINOIS**

Chicago EF! >> ARCANE@RIPCO.COM

#### **INDIANA**

Glacier's Edge EF! >> GLACIERSEDGE@RISEUP.NET

#### MAINE

Maine Earth First! >> MAINE.EARTH-FIRST.NET

#### MONTANA/IDAHO

Northern Rockies EF! >> NREF.WORDPRESS.COM

Buffalo Field Campaign >> BUFFALOFIELDCAMPAIGN.ORG

Wild Idaho Rising Tide >> WILDIDAHORISINGTIDE.ORG

Seeds of Peace >> SEEDSOFPEACECOLLECTIVE.ORG

#### **NEW YORK/PENNSYLVANIA**

Marcellus EF! network >> MARCELLUSEARTHFIRST.ORG

Wetlands Activism Collective >> WETLANDS-PRESERVE.ORG

#### NORTH CAROLINA

Croatan EF! >> CROATANEARTHFIRST.COM

Katuah EF! >> KATUAHEARTHFIRST.ORG

#### оню

Appalachia Resist!>>
Appalachiaresist.wordpress.com

#### **OREGON**

Cascadia Forest Defenders >> FORESTDEFENSENOW.COM

Cascadia EF! >> Portland >> CASCADIAEARTHFIRST.WORDPRESS.COM

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project >> 27803 Williams Lane, Fossil, OR 97830 >> BLUEMTNSBIODIVERSITYPROJECT.ORG

#### **TEXAS**

Tar Sands Blockade>>
TARSANDSBLOCKADE.ORG

#### VERMONT

Green Mountain EF! >> GREENMT.EF@HOTMAIL.COM

#### WISCONSIN

Madison EF!/Infoshop >> MADISONINFOSHOP@GMAIL.COM

#### WEST VIRGINIA

RAMPS (Radical Action for Mountain Peoples' Survival) >> RAMPSCAMPAIGN.ORG

#### INTERNATIONAL

#### **AUSTRALIA**

Rising Tide Australia >> RISINGTIDE.ORG.AU

EF! Australia >> EARTHFIRST.ORG.AU

#### **BELGIUM**

EF! Belgium >> GROENFRONT.NL/ENGLISH

#### CANADA

Camas Collective >> INFO@CAMAS.CA

WildCoast >> WILDCOAST.CA

#### **ECUADOR**

Rising Tide Ecuador >> MAREACRECIENTECUADOR. WORDPRESS.COM

#### **ENGLAND**

EF! United Kingdom >> EARTHFIRST.ORG.UK

Rising Tide UK >> RISINGTIDE.ORG.UK

#### FINLAND

Finland Rising Tide >> HYOKYAALTO.ORG

#### **GERMANY**

EF! Germany >> EFGERMANY CONTACT@GOOGLEMAIL.COM

#### **ICELAND**

Saving Iceland >> SAVINGICELAND.ORG

#### **IRELAND**

Rossport Solidarity Camp
>> ROSSPORTSOLIDARITYCAMP.ORG

#### ITALY

EF! Italia >> EARTHFIRSTITALIA.BLOGSPOT.COM

#### MEXICO

Mexico Rising Tide >> MAREA-CRECIENTE.ORG

Green Revolt Collective >> REVUELTAVERDE.ORG

#### SCOTLAND

Coal Action Scotland >> COALACTIONSCOTLAND.ORG.UK

Would you like to see your Earth First! or eco-action group represented in this newsletter and online?



Send contact information to: COLLECTIVE@EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG



# Earth First! News

Yule 2013

Earth First! News (EF!N) is a project of the Earth First! Journal, with the intent of making EF! movement media more decentralized and easily accessible by encouraging people to copy and distribute this publication.

EF!N is released online and as a part of the printed quarterly Journal schedule.

It is available to download freely: Newswire.Earthfirstjournal.org.

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