

Earth First! News

On the Frontlines of Ecological Resistance

Number II

Winter Solstice

December 21, 2010

This season highlights the shortest days and longest nights, symbolizing in many cultures the rebirth of the sun. Survival was uncertain in many regions during these cold months, making the Winter Solstice a time for the last great feast of the year, so get together and gorge yourselves, 2011 is on the horizon.

EF! ORGANIZERS' CONFERENCE, FEBRUARY 9-14 — WELCOME TO THE SWAMP: AN INVITATION WITH CAUTION

Fisheating Creek is wild. Gators, bear, panther, big ass wild hogs, and coyotes roam through the corridor. Dogs really will get eaten if they get too close to reptiles. Mosquitoes, no-see-ums and chiggers might not bother you as much in the winter, but remember that this is a cypress swamp, and you will get a nasty case of *swampititus stankis* (also known as swamp butt) if you don't keep a pair of dry clothes at the ready. In February this riverine cypress swamp just west of Lake Okeechobee gets cold at night, damn near below 50 degrees even, and, if something just ain't right, it'll get down to the 30s on occasion. Its cause enough for a gator to cuddle a coyote or an anarchist to cuddle a redneck. If you're coming to the 2011 Organizer's Conference and Winter Rendezvous, bring more than your flippy floppies and swim trunks. It can also reach over 80 degrees during the day in Winter, so be prepared for cold, warm, moist conditions and don't expect to pick anything up in town once you've reached the conference.

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FRONTLINES



Greenpeace activists board oil rig in the frigid Arctic

Photo courtesy of greenpeace.org



An EF!er halts loggers from a monopod blockade in Jacoby Creek

Photo courtesy of earthbodies.org

8/31: Greenpeace boards a Scottish company's drilling rig in waters off the coast of Greenland and stops work.

9/1: Law enforcement reports growing amount of **vandalism** around natural gas drilling sites in Pennsylvania, New York and other states in the Marcellus Shale region.

9/20: Six activists chain themselves to a crane in western Turkey in protest against a hydroelectric dam that will mean the destruction of the ancient city of Allianoi. The group **Do a Derne i**, is arrested later that morning.

9/21: Activists take action against another massive oil drilling ship, stopping it from leaving to drill a deep water well off the Shetland Islands by **occupying the ship's anchor** chain. Action lasts three days.

8/28: Divers from the European conservation organization **The Black Fish** cut the nets of six holding pens in Taiji, Japan, that were holding dolphins caught during a dolphin drive hunt a few days earlier. No arrests were made.

9/30: Loggers with Green Diamond begin cutting down redwoods in Jacoby Creek, California, sparking a month-long **treesit by EF!ers** ending when the loggers give up for the winter.

10/1: Rolf Andersson's mink farm in Ardara, Ireland, is raided by the **ALF**. Three days later, 20,000 mink released from a farm in Sweden.

10/3: In New Zealand, the office of the mining magnate Clive Palmer is blockaded by more than 25 protesters from **Friends of the Earth** dressed as koalas, galahs and kangaroos on Queen Street, Brisbane, protesting against the threatened bulldozing of a central Queensland nature refuge to make way for his latest coal project.

10/5: Environmental activists lock the doors to the Gerding Theatre (Portland) before "**green business**" conference with a chain and a banner reading "Green is the color of \$\$, No Excuses! No Compromise!" and spread tar across the door handles and locks.

FRONTLINES, CTD...

10/10: In Scotland, **saboteurs cause extensive damage** to a mining machine at the Broken Cross open cast coal mine, and the haulage gate of Mainhill Open Cast Site on the B7078 is locked with a d-lock, preventing coal trucks from entering the site and transporting coal to the Ravenstruther Rail Head.

10/14: In Australia, **protesters dump GM-canola weeds and GM-contaminated soy infant formula S-26** on Monsanto's Melbourne office. Monsanto has a pattern of leaving bags of seeds on the sides of the highway, which are unmarked and always contain some strains of genetically modified seeds.

10/22: Three Costa Rican environmental activists mark two weeks on **hunger strike** against the projected Las Crucitas open-pit gold mine in San Carlos in the north of the country. After four weeks, Congress votes to ban open-pit mining.

10/25: 44 volunteer **'reclamation workers'** (activists) illegally march onto a supposedly reclaimed mine in West Virginia site to plant trees. Why? Because the 'reclamation' efforts done by the mining company resulted in a barren hillside with sparse grass and baking sun—a far cry from the lush and diverse forest destroyed in the process.

10/30: About 4,000 indigenous people end a three week long **blockade of the Marañon river** of the Peruvian Amazon after meeting successfully with representatives of the regional government and the company they are protesting against, Argentina's Pluspetrol.

11/6: The small city of **Terzigno, Italy**, erupts in flames and barricades in defense of community and nature against the expansion of a huge dump that is encroaching on Mt. Vesuvius and surrounding areas.

11/7: After peaceful protests involving **tens of thousands of people** against a train carrying nuclear waste in the Northern German city of Dannenberg, activists blockade the train tracks. After this attempt fails, another group of

activists allegedly try to sabotage the train tracks, and police officers use "batons, pepper spray, tear gas and a water cannon to disperse the protesters." Activists respond by throwing fire works and setting a police car on fire.

11/8: Two arrested while activists with **Maine Earth First!** protest alongside Friends of Lincoln Lakes in opposition to the "Rollins Wind Project", an industrial wind project to

clearcut over 1,000 acres of ridge-line above the 13 Lincoln Lakes, erect 40 giant wind turbine generators and construct 20 new miles of power line. The two groups call for an immediate halt to the projects that are already underway in the towns of Lincoln, Lee, Burlington and Winn.

11/12: A gunboat kidnaps several oil service workers. The **Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND)** claims responsibility,

warning of a series of attacks on oil installations across the Niger Delta in the coming days.

11/14: Earth First! Journalistas get pepper sprayed joining social justice movement in the streets of Phoenix to stop a Nazi rally. Blockades delayed the rally for hours as protestors, police and Nazis fought for space in what the press comes to label an anti-Nazi riot.

12/6: About 150 protesters join a **Climate Camp** near Muswellbrook, Australia, blockading Macquarie Generation's huge coal-fired Bayswater power station to protest fossil fuels. The demonstration ends with over 100 arrests.

12/8: Vandals glue all the door locks shut at the Olympic Region Clean Air Agency's building in Olympia, Washington and **throw a brick** through a glass door. The agency is considering a permit for a controversial biomass project, a clear false solution to climate change.

12/7: The Mexican **Earth Liberation Front bombs a BBVA Bank**, issuing a statement proclaiming, "we responded to the planet-destroying institutions and the accomplices of environmental devastation; we responded to the manipulation of the ecosystem shouting once again that 'We Are the Burning Rage of a dying planet and that we continue on at War!'"



IN THE STREETS

THESE ACTIONS INVOLVE ACTIVISTS TAKING TO THE STREETS IN SOLIDARITY TO NONVIOLENTLY PROTEST ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE.

9/27: Thousands march in DC to call on the Obama Administration to end mountaintop removal coal mining at **Appalachia Rising**. Renowned climate scientist James Hansen arrested along with a hundred other activists in front of the White House.

9/28: Belgium No Borders Camp begins. Hundreds arrested preemptively, including an Earth First!er whom police torture and threaten with sexual abuse.

10/1: Around 7,347 events in 188 countries rally to change causes of climate change with **350.org** during a day of work parties. Work parties organized for the sake of clean energy, community and mutual aid took place from Afghanistan to Auckland, New Zealand, to Iceland, Argentina and more. Work parties range from installing solar panels to fixing bikes for free to mobilizing against corporations. In San Francisco, Rainforest Action Network (RAN) takes over Chevron stations, and delivers cleaning supplies to Chevron CEO John Watson's home in Lafayette, CA.

10/3: Bonfires begin at dawn on beaches around New Zealand's East Cape as part of an ongoing campaign against offshore oil drilling. Activists say the bonfires, from Opotiki to Gisborne, are a protest against the environmental damage the drilling could cause to fish stocks.

10/5: Organizers with **Environmental Justice Toronto** unfurl a banner at Enbridge Day—a forum for investors at First Canadian Place—stating “Enbridge Invests in Oil Addiction: Community Resistance is the Cure”

10/8: As the IMF and World Bank meetings begin, an estimated **300 protesters** take to the streets, carrying “chains of debt” to the IMF and World Bank, marching with them to the White House, and finally draping them over the White House Fence.

10/13: Activists with **Change Chevron** infiltrates and interrupt a speech of Chevron's CEO, turning it into conversation about toxic pollution in Ecuador. After activists confronted the CEO, one audience member shouts, “keep standing up to them!”

10/23: More than 200 people—led by environmental activist Erin Brockovich—march to **Shell's oil refinery in Carson, California**, to protest the company's refusal to take responsibility for the contamination of a tract in the

Carousel neighborhood, where high levels of benzene and methane have been found in the ground.

10/31: A group of protesters dressed up as dead waterfowl gather outside an Exxon station in **Missoula, Montana**, to fight dependence upon fossil fuels and express dissent against the killing of 250 birds in a tailing pond tragedy in northern Alberta.

10/5: Hundreds of people convene in downtown Pittsburgh at the **No Fracking Way** protest against the development of “fracking,” a new and untested method of natural gas extraction that is threatening to take over Pennsylvania and neighboring states. The rally took place during a conference on “Developing Unconventional Gas” which featured Karl Rove. The day of worldwide protest included other cities in Pittsburgh; Dallas, Texas; Little Rock, Arkansas; and Aoteroa, New Zealand—to support western Pennsylvania gas drilling opponents.

10/10: A dozen members of **Genesee Valley Earth First!** gather alongside Cobbs Hill reservoir in southeast Rochester to protest what they see as the environmental risks of the controversial hydrofracking.

11/20: Coinciding with the release of the Sierra Club's report, “Toxic Tar Sands: Profiles from the Front Lines,” hundreds of concerned citizens attend town hall meetings and demonstrations calling on Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to stop the pipeline. **Northern Rockies Rising Tide** helped put the day of resistance together along with the **Indigenous Environmental Network**.



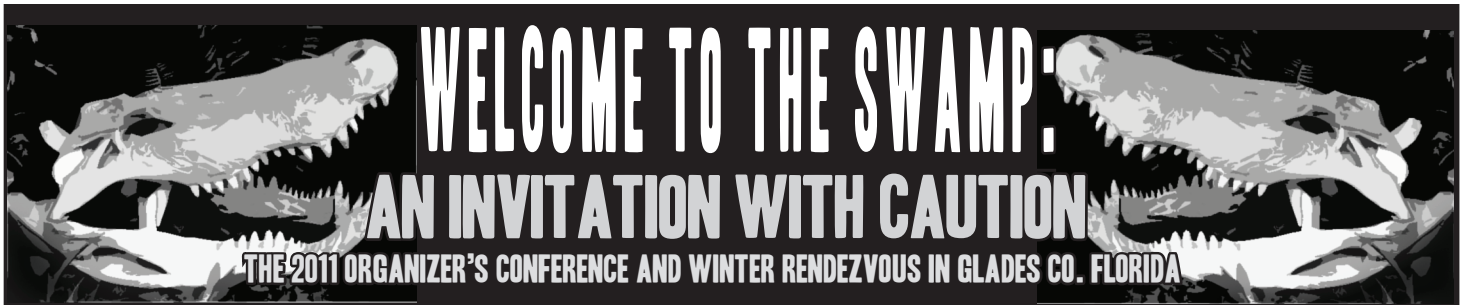
STATE WATCH

THESE NEWS BULLETINS HIGHLIGHT STATE AND CORPORATE REPRESSION AGAINST ACTIVISTS

9/17: News released that Monsanto hired Blackwater entity “Total Intelligence” in 2008 and 2009 for hundreds of thousands of dollars with the intention of investigating activists and infiltrating activist organizations, to “have our person(s) actually join groups legally.”

9/21: Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell apologizes to activists, admitting that the Department of Homeland Security contracted with private security companies to spy on gay/lesbian activists, the peace movement and an anti-BP candlelight vigil, calling DHS's actions “ludicrous” and “stunning.” Opponents to fracking were among those targeted.

9/24: FBI raids the homes of peace and solidarity activists in Chicago and Minneapolis. Leading numerous environmental and activist groups to rise up in solidarity.

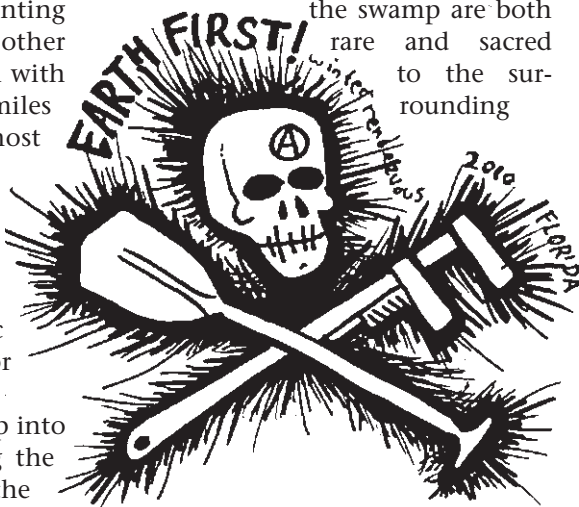


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Fisheating Creek is also something akin to “in the middle of nowhere” (especially in East coast terms). The entirety of Glades county boasts a human population somewhere around 6,000, far outnumbered by cows, wading birds, and snakes. Though its not hunting season during camp, the land is used for such (hog and deer hunting especially) and is open to visitors other than ourselves. The closest town with any real infrastructure is 15 miles away, and the home base of most organizers is nearly 100 miles away. We have great friends that live on the creek and very nearby but it must be said that it is rural, wild and dangerous country. We will have a medic team and an automobile ready for emergency transportation.

We hope to integrate our camp into the oak hammocks surrounding the swamp with a deep respect for the land. Seriously, we are very protective of this place and are inviting such a large number of folks to this spot with some hesitation. (One collective member held a block on the spot for months but has stepped aside). Fisheating Creek is a magical and sensitive place tucked far away from the urban coasts of South Florida. We request that you come with the intention of getting to know the swamp a little better. This means learning to be careful with the land. Please, take time to listen to the wild out here. Get to know the plants and the smells of these primordial wetlands. Save drunken howling around an over-fueled fire for some other time. We are much more concerned with keeping the local bird populations free from stress and dispersal than we are with any one’s need to consume alcohol and hear their own voice echo through the trees, (but if you must, we’ll point the way to the nearest bar and call you a cab.)

Fisheating Creek is the nesting ground of half the hemisphere’s swallow-tailed kites. Studies have found a thousand nesting pairs in a one square mile area. While we won’t be camping during their nesting season there are also wood stork rookeries, bald eagle nests, and elusive and highly endangered panthers. Many of the plants in the swamp are both rare and sacred to the surrounding



communities, and some of the animals that make their home here can be aggressive (especially since they ain’t got much land left). Many are stronger and faster than you. Did we mention you could be eaten? Seriously, it could happen. It don’t matter how many primitivist workshops you’ve led.

The Fisheating Creek watershed is under constant threat from developers, rock mining by Cemex, a new ethanol plant, and a corporate cattle baron, Lykes Brothers, which uses public land along Fisheating Creek to graze its cows (and fought public access to the creek for decades). Just down the road a spell we’ve been fighting the two largest fossil fuel power plants in the country, one currently under construction by FPL. There is also our little ‘ole megalithic Biotech company, Scripps, that is pushing to deforest 683 acres of pine forest and endangered species habitat to build

vivisection labs and an international biotech hub with over \$500 million in corporate welfare.

Oppressive behavior will not be tolerated at the 2011 Winter Conference. We have a zero tolerance policy for harassment, abusive language, and verbal, emotional, sexual and physical assault. There will be an accountability process that, per the survivor’s wishes, will result in the assaulter being kicked out. We are an anti-oppression space committed to confronting racism, classism, homophobia, sexism, heterosexism, misogyny, ableism or ageism and all other forms of oppression. This is an ongoing process which requires all attendees to be open to give and receive dialogue about behaviors that perpetuate oppression.

Like many radical communities, we have encountered assault and harassment in our spaces and gatherings, including the 2008 OC. We have worked hard to address this, and have at times failed to do so adequately. We recognize our past mistakes and are working hard to create safer spaces. We take our communities’ safety seriously and are learning to respond in better ways for the 2011 OC. A safe space at the 2011 OC will depend on the work of all attending to be consensual, non-oppressive and accountable in all their actions.

Please bring bulk food donations and anything else that might aid in the making of a communal kitchen. The path ways in and out of camp are sandy and without any infrastructure but the hike is less than a quarter of a mile. A team will be in place to help those struggling to navigate to camp, but no plan is yet in place to make the campsite fully accessible to people of all abilities.

Lastly, we are looking for extra medics, mediators, and folks to volunteer on various projects at camp, please contact us and let us know the skills you’d like

to provide during camp.

So, come on out. Help with cooking, cleaning, childcare, music and merry-making round the fire. Create and engage in workshops, and help make camp a safer place than the violent and boring world created by industrial society. Bring your own food, water, and plenty of warm and cool clothes and a handful of cash to bail yourself out of jail, just kidding, but seriously, like be-

ing eaten by a gator, it could happen. Please be prepared when you come on down for an awesome action.

What else to bring: sleeping bag, flashlight, sunscreen if you burn easy, tents equipped to handle rain, rain gear (though winter is the drier season), 25-50 bucks sliding scale for the camp and for the organization of the week's activities.

What not to bring: drugs, weapons, exotic snakes you

are hoping to let loose in the swamp (seriously, there are like 40,000 pythons out in the Everglades and some get so big they eat the damned gators), domesticated animals that will impact the local wildlife (meaning don't bring your dog unless they've fought gators), oppressive behavior, cheese in a can, beer housed in industrially-mined aluminum cans and alcohol in general. We won't be hauling your trash out

for you. Whatever you bring in is going out with you so please plan and pack well.

Ok, we love you and can't wait to see you this winter out in the swamps!

Sincerely,

The 2011 Winter Rondo Organizing Crew

For updates, check out WWW.EVERGLADESEARTHFIRST.ORG. For directions call 561-249-2071 or email evergladesearthfirst@gmail.com.

Conflict and Compromise at COP16

By SASHA

Delegates from every country in the world failed to agree on ways of stemming climate change last year at the 15th annual UN Conference of Parties (COP15) amidst a flurry of backroom dealings and police repression on the snow covered streets of Copenhagen. This year, they showed up in Cancun, Mexico, for COP16 with their tails between their legs. In spite of the proud gestures of public celebration, pomp and circumstance, many delegates and activists alike anticipated COP16 with a mixture of guilty embarrassment and grotesquely low expectations.

While the delegates held meetings that matched the lack of urgency permeating the demoralized conference, the protesters outside celebrated their diversity with grand marches, a Klimaforum filled with intellectual debates, and direct actions. The only presence of integrity existed outside of the meetings with the growing movement for climate justice that will one day overcome these farcical proceedings.

Festivities begin!

If, as they claimed, the organizers of COP16 began planning the event as soon as COP15 ended, the activists who marched against the conference got the party started early. From October 12—16th, activists across the world participated in the *Minga Global* "mobilization in defense of mother earth" and the Week of Action for Climate Justice. From Havana to Helsinki, Essex to El Alto, Montreal to Mendoza, people blockaded oil refineries, marched for

indigenous rights, hung banners above motorways, held public meetings, and shut down corporate headquarters. Attention was drawn to the ongoing struggles in all parts of the world, with calls for climate justice, indigenous sovereignty, public transport, and an end to fossil fuel extraction resounding through the streets.

In the United Kingdom, 500 climate activists, lead by an all female lockdown, blockaded the country's most polluting refinery while Rising Tide activists dropped a banner in another city protesting coal. Other direct actions took place in Scotland, France, Germany, Finland and Spain. Organizations banded together to flood the streets in grand marches in Peru, Bolivia, Guatemala and Ecuador, while actions celebrating arts and medicine occurred in Uruguay and Cuba. Action stretched from Canada and the US to the Philippines, as the world united in a great movement to save the Earth.

"As we prepare for the next round of UN Climate Negotiations in Mexico, we are voicing our clear opposition to false market-based climate policies," said Jihan Gearon, Energy Organizer for the US-based Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN). "Our actions and those of our allies this October 12 are part of the growing momentum in favor of real system change."

Who Came Late?

The opening days of COP16 revealed the volatile differences between those inside the conference, and those barred from entry. As the opening ceremonies began in Cancun, the Earth

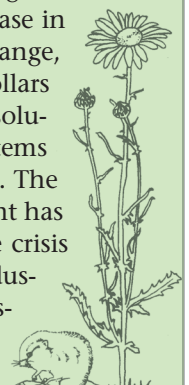
Liberation Front of Mexico detonated an explosive devise in a car dealership window, sending a signal that another kind of celebration had commenced.

Rather than engage in bickering and condemnation, activists outside of COP16 set up a Klimaforum where engaging debates about real solutions to climate change could take place in a healthy, open space. Meanwhile marches organized by groups like La Via Campesina coursed through the streets of Cancun, demanding sustainable ecological practices built on local organizing, direct representation, biodiversity, bioregional integrity and climate justice.

Basta Ya

No one was surprised when the press reported that COP16 was falling apart. As the factional separation between the poorer nations and the richer nations opened into an insurmountable chasm (again), the chair of the meeting, Patricia Espinosa, pathetically begged the delegates for cooperation and compromise.

In the end, COP16 enfranchised a regulatory body to curb deforestation, a set of emissions standards guided towards a 2 degree decrease in the effects of climate change, as well as \$100 billion dollars in climate aid. Statist solutions still rely on old systems of land grabs and capital. The Climate Justice movement has spread its wings, but the crisis will only end when industrialism halts the dispossession and debt that are its underpinnings.



ECO-PRISONER BIRTHDATES AND UPDATES IN WINTER

Send a birthday card to these prisoners. It's an easy way to help remind these eco-warriors and freedom fighters that they aren't forgotten. If you make one, remember—don't use anything like white-out, stickers, tape or glitter on it. We also recommend that you put your name and address and their name and prisoner number on the card, lest the authorities "lose" the envelope and forget where it is going.

While the list focuses primarily on people in prison for ecological resistance and land struggles, we include prisoners of other liberation movements and politicized prisoners to nurture solidarity. For those with internet access, a more complete list can be found under "prisoner support" at EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG

Much thanks to the Chapel Hill Prison Books Collective. For more info, check out WWW.PRISONBOOKS.INFO

Marie Jeanette Mason #04672-061

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

Birthday: January 25

Mason is serving 21 years and 10 months for an ELF arson against a University building carrying out GM crop tests, conspiracy and involvement in 12 other ELF actions. SUPPORTMARIEMASON.ORG

Joyanna Zacher (Sadie) #36360-086

FCI Dublin
5701 8th St – Camp Parks- Unit E,
Dublin, CA 94568

Birthday: January 25

Zacher pled guilty and was sentenced to seven years and eight months for involvement in two incidents of eco-sabotage. DENVERABC.WORDPRESS.COM

Jonathan Paul #07167-085

FCI Phoenix
37910 N 45th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85086

Birthday: January 31

Paul plead guilty and was sentenced to 51 months for involvement in a direct action that occurred in Oregon in 1997. SUPPORTJONATHAN.ORG

Byron Shane "Oso Blanco" Chubbuck #07909-051

USP Lewisburg
PO Box 1000
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Birthday: February 26

Oso Blanco is an Indigenous rights activist serving 80 years for bank robbery in support of the Zapatistas, aggravated assault on the FBI, escape and firearms charges. WWW.OSOBLANCO.ORG

William Phillips Africa #AM4984

SCI Dallas
Follies Road, Drawer K
Dallas, PA 18612

Birthday: January 1

William is one of the people who make up the MOVE 9. There are currently eight MOVE activists in prison each serving 100 years after being framed for the murder of a cop in 1979. MOVE is an eco-revolutionary group dedicated to liberation struggles. ONAMOVE.COM

Matthew DePalma #14126-041

FCI Elkton
P.O. Box 10
Lisbon, OH 44432

Birthday: January 15

DePalma is an anarchist convicted of possessing Molotov cocktails allegedly intended to be used at the 2008 Republican National Convention protests. Encouragement to commit the crimes and evidence against DePalma came from a paid informant. DENVERABC.WORDPRESS.COM

Veronza Bowers Jr. #35316-136

Box 150160
Atlanta, GA 30315

Birthday: February 4

Bowers Jr. is a former Black Panther framed for the murder of a US Park Ranger. He is being illegally held past his 30 year sentences, making him one of the longest-held political prisoners in US history. VERONZA.ORG

Jerome White-Bey #37479

Center (SECC), 2B-211
300 East Pedro Simmons Drive
Charleston, MO. 63834

Birthday: December 28

Jerome is an anarchist prison activist who set up the Missouri Prison Labour Union to fight slave labour in prisons. At the time of publication, he's reported to

be in solitary and being denied medical attention. WWW.DENVERABC.WORDPRESS.COM

Oscar Lopez Rivera #87651-024

U.S.P. Terre Haute
P.O. Box 33
Terre Haute, IN 47801

Birthday: January 6

Oscar is a Puerto Rican Independista and political prisoner serving 70 years for seditious conspiracy. He is the only remaining Independista remaining behind bars, the other eleven were granted clemency by President Clinton. BORICUAHUMANRIGHTS.ORG

Herman Bell #79-C-0262

Sullivan Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 116
Fallsburg, New York 14871

Birthday: January 14

Bell is a former Black Panther framed for the murder of a police officer in New York. He co-founded the Victory Gardens Project from prison. FREETHESF8.ORG

Sundiata Acoli (C. Squire) #39794-066

USP Otisville
P.O. Box 1000
Otisville, NY 10963

Birthday: January 14

Sundiata is a New Afrikan prisoner of war. As a prominent member of the Black Panther Party, he was targeted by the FBI's COINTELPRO operation and continued underground with the Black Liberation Army. WWW.SUNDIATAACOLI.ORG

Joseph "Joe-Joe" Bowen #AM-4272

1 Kelley Drive
Coal Township, PA 17866-1021

Birthday: January 15

Bowen is a Black Liberation Army Prisoner of War, serving two life sentences for the assassination of a prison warden and deputy warden, as well as an attempted prison break. THEJERICHO MOVEMENT.COM

Albert Woodfox #72148

Louisiana State Prison
CCR Lower A5
Angola, LA 70712

Birthday: February 19

Woodfox is part of the three Black Panthers put in solitary confinement for decades in Angola Prison, Louisiana, after being framed for the death of a prison guard.

BAREBONES

THESE NEWS BULLETINS COVER IMPORTANT CURRENT EVENTS EFFECTING
THE DIRECT ACTION ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT

10/2: Fish and Wildlife Service threatens to remove the desert nesting **bald eagle** of Arizona from the endangered species list. New federal legislation is introduced that would strip Endangered Species Act protections from **wolves** around the country.

10/3: The Bureau of Land Management decides to clear out half of the 115 **wild horses** left in the Outer Banks of North Carolina to make room for development. The herd already shows signs of inbreeding, but unlike other wild horses, this herd has no federal protection.

10/5: A chemical residue reservoir breaks in **Hungary**, killing four people, including two children under the age of 5. Dozens are hospitalized for chemical burns. The sludge reaches the River Danube within four days, seriously imperiling life in much of Eastern Europe.

10/12: The **Grassy Narrows First Nation** calls for renewed boycotts against Weyerhaeuser Corporation, one of North America's largest lumber producers to protect the Boreal Forest after one of the biggest environmental compromises in history.

10/12: Nestle is currently in the application stages with the **Suwannee River Water Management District** (SRWMD) to pump water from the springs that feed Florida's Wacissa River for bottling and selling.

10/14: A Detroit incinerator, made famous by a mass mobilization after this year's US Social Forum, shut down thanks to efforts of the **Global Justice Ecology Project**, the **Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA)** and local community groups.

10/21: **India** denies Vedanta Resources permission for a six-fold expansion of its aluminium refinery in Orissa state over environmental concerns, dealing a fresh blow to the British company. Just two months ago, Vedanta was rejected in trying to mine bauxite on sacred indigenous lands thanks to prolonged campaigns by environmental groups, indigenous rights organizations, and an inchoate guerilla uprising in the area.

10/22: Pete Grannis, the New York commissioner of the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) since 2007, is fired by Gov. David Paterson for raising questions surrounding the purging of 200 other employees of the DEC seen as an opposition to natural gas drilling in the **Marcellus Shale**.

11/22: The inaugural **International Tar Sands Resistance Summit** wraps up near Missoula with a packed house at the Missoula City Council meeting. As the first true

snowstorm of the season coats the streets outside, inside the council votes unanimously to double the cost of hauling oversized loads through the city in reaction to community backlash against plans by oil sands companies to route equipment through Missoula.

11/28: Nigeria arrests at least 23 officials from companies including Halliburton, Saipem, Technip and a former subsidiary of Panalpina Welttransport Holding AG in connection with alleged **illegal payments to Nigerian officials**.

11/29: After a year of deliberation, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals rules to block the National Marine Fisheries Service's killing of federally protected sea lions on the Columbia River between Oregon and Washington thanks to the hard work of **In Defense of Animals, the Sea Lion Defense Brigade, the Humane Society**, and others.

12/7: Indigenous plaintiffs from the Peruvian Amazon **win their appeal** in the landmark human rights and environmental contamination lawsuit against US oil giant Occidental Petroleum (Oxy), as the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled that the case should be heard in Los Angeles, Oxy's hometown.

UPDATES

BELOW ARE FOLLOW-UPS TO STORIES THAT THE EF! JOURNAL, NEWSWIRE AND NEWSLETTER ARE CURRENTLY FOLLOWING.

10/19: RNC8 get a plea deal. Max Spektor and Rob Czernik pled guilty to gross misdemeanor Conspiracy to Riot, and Garrett Fitzgerald and Nathanael Secor pled guilty to gross misdemeanor Conspiracy to Damage Property. These are all non-cooperating plea agreements; they will not be called upon to testify against anyone else. Thus ends this nightmare of repression for our RNC8 friends.

10/27 After a lengthy police investigation involving the equivalent of about \$8 million dollars, **SHActivists** Sarah Whitehead, Nicole Vosper, Thomas Harris, Jason Mullan and Nicola Tapping were given prison sentences of between 15 months and six years. Mullan, Tapping and Fitzpatrick all admitted conspiracy to harm HLS from 2005 to 2008 under the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 by interfering with companies supplying Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS). Ten weeks later, **Fortress Investment Group divests** from HLS.

10/30: Indiana Department of Transportation (inDOT) plans even further environmental damage in their proposed new route for the **NAFTA Super Highway (AKA I-69)** by running a causeway through the floodplain of the East Fork of the White River. This would dam the wide floodplain and increase flooding upstream, ruining the cornfields that grow alongside the river.

12/6: After six years, the FBI officially closes the investigation into the 2004 Animal Liberation Front raid of the **University of Iowa** without a conviction.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EF! Moot gathering to be held February 5-6 in Nottingham, UK, for people involved in all kinds of ecological direct action to get together and chat about where things are at in the UK.

During the last weekend of March, people from across North Carolina and beyond will converge in Chapel Hill for **North Carolina Rising!**, a conference exploring organizing and resistance. Join us for a weekend of workshops, networking, fine dining, entertainment, as we learn, debate, celebrate, and strategize together.

The **Bay Area Anarchist Book Fair** will take place April 9 and 10, 2011. This is a free event presented by Bound Together Anarchist Collective Bookstore. The book fair will be at the San Francisco County Fair Building (Hall of Flowers) in Golden Gate Park.

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Periodical

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF EARTH FIRST!
LOOK FOR THE SECOND VOLUME OF THE ANNIVERSARY ISSUE IN MARCH

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For Updates on Direct Action News from Around the World, check
WWW.NEWSWIRE.EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG

EARTH FIRST! TOOLBOX

There is an odd trend among the small number of fur farms left in the US: several of them are also cut-your-own Christmas tree farms.

These tree farms invite members of the public onto their property to find the perfect Christmas tree. This invitation could offer the prospective Christmas tree buyer a glimpse of a fur farm rarely experienced outside of Animal Liberation Front (ALF) raids.

One such fur farm is the Gengel Mink Farm. A recent article on Christmas tree farms in the Chicago area stated: "A mink farm year-round, the 60-acre Gengel site was first planted with evergreen trees in 1964 and has been known to sell up to 500 trees annually."

By their nature, Christmas tree farms encourage exploration of the property to find the perfect tree, offering an otherwise impossible opportunity to see a mink farm up close.

Christmas tree shoppers are invited to send their reports to: VOICEOFTHEVOICELESS.ORG.

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*For the full listing check the back of the *EF! Journal* or online

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