



# Earth First! News

ON THE FRONTLINES OF ECOLOGICAL RESISTANCE



*March 30, 2017: Activists blockade the entrance to a Republic storage facility in protest of toxic landfills. (Page 9)*

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

**NEWS FROM THE ECO-WARS P. 1**

**MISSOURI RESIDENTS FIGHT SMOLDERING LANDFILLS FULL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE P.9**

**FROM THE CAGES P. 10**

**ECO-ACTION GROUP DIRECTORY P. 12**

## NEWS FROM THE ECO-WARS

### **Dec 24—Italy: Two Dogs Liberated by the ALF**

This year for Christmas two dogs in the province of Perugia were liberated from a tiny, foul, and freezing cage where they were held captive by a former police officer.

### **Dec 31—Germany: Arson and Sabotage of Coal Mine**

The new year was celebrated with gusto in the Hambach, with activists setting fire to two signal boxes of the

railroad used to transport coal from the mine; smashing the windows of an office trailer; cutting down a fence; and smashing the windows, cutting the hydraulic lines and tire valves, and pouring dirt and glass into the gas tanks of two diggers and a front-end loader.

### **Jan 5—Germany: Hambach Coal Rail Sabotaged**

A lone saboteur claimed responsibility for damaging the tracks by placing

thermite on them. These efforts may have been hampered by a train running over and spreading the thermite just after it was lit, but damage may have also been done to the train wheels.

### **Jan 7—Activists Lock Down to Halt Pipeline Construction in TX**

Two activists locked their bodies to machines to stop construction of the Trans-Pecos Pipeline. At least twenty indigenous and settler protesters

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



## Jan 1—Standing Rock Banner Dropped at NFL Game in Minnesota

Two trained climbers safely scaled the rafters of Minneapolis' US Bank Stadium during a football game and unfurled a giant banner reading "DIVEST" to urge US Bank to stop funding Energy Transfer Partners, who is responsible for the DAPL project.

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

entered the construction site to block construction and give support.

### Jan 7—Global Protest for Mangrove Forest

Thousands of people took to the streets in cities around the world in opposition to the construction of the Rampil coal-fired power plant being built near the Sundarbans mangrove forest in Bangladesh, the largest of such ecosystems in the world and habitat of the only two remaining freshwater dolphin species in Asia.

### Jan 8—UK: Fox Hunt Stopped

Hunt saboteurs caused the cancellation of the cruel "Atherstone Hunt" by being present in large numbers (20+) at their meet-up site.

### Jan 8—Chile: Incendiary Attack Against Real Estate Company

Weichan Auka Mapu (Mapuche Resistance Group) claimed responsibility for burning a cistern truck, four backhoes, one roller, and one motor grader of the company Del Sur. The group left fliers demanding the freedom of Mapuche spiritual leader Francisca Linconao, one of 11 people accused of a 2013 arson that killed two landlords.

### Jan 9 and Feb 2—UK: Chickens Liberated

Thirteen "broiler chickens" were liberated from crates outside a slaughterhouse in Manchester and given new

homes on January 9. Four more were liberated from the same place on February 2.

### Jan 12—Banner Against Sabal Trail Pipeline Hung at FL Capitol Building

A banner reading "Revoke Sabal Trail Permits" was hung from a tree while another group staged a die-in. They say the pipeline, which crosses numerous rivers and springs and threatens wildlife habitat and human communities, violates several state and federal laws.

### Jan 12—Lockdown Against Comanche Trail Pipeline in TX

A protester locked herself to equipment at a construction site in San Elizario. The pipeline is being built by the same company as DAPL and is intended to deliver natural gas to Mexico. No one was arrested.

### Jan 13—Canada: Land Protectors Shut Down Office

As part of ongoing protests against the Muskrat Falls hydroelectric project, a group of Labrador land protectors in Happy Valley-Goose Bay prevented employees from entering an office of aboriginal affairs, which houses a local constituency of the province's environmental minister.

### Jan 14—UK: Hunt Saboteurs Stop Severn Vale Rabbit Hunt

A group of 20 or so from the hunt sab groups of Bristol, Southampton,

and Bath teamed up to chase down and stop the Severn Vale Beagles from hunting hares.

### Jan 15—Canada: Heavy Machinery Used to Remove Pipeline

Just north of Hythe, Alberta, unknown persons dug up a section of a pipeline being built by Paramount Resources, causing hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages.

### Jan 15—Environmental Activist Murdered in Mexico

Indigenous activist and farmer Isidro Baldenegro López was shot and killed, the second winner of the Goldman environmental award—which he received for a 2005 campaign to stop logging in the Sierra Madre Occidental—to have been killed in under a year. When he was a child, he witnessed his father being killed for fighting against logging.

### Jan 16—Sabal Trail Pipeline Construction Blockaded in FL

Following a weekend of protests in which hundreds participated, Sacred Water Camp activists held an MLK-day rally at a drill site, where several individuals locked down to trucks used to transport drilling equipment. Eight were arrested and two charged with felony trespass.

### Jan 16—Valero Refinery Blockaded in Memphis, TN

In protest of the Diamond Pipeline

being built from Cushing, OK, to Memphis, TN, at least seven people locked themselves to large concrete-filled barrels, blockading the refinery's loading entrance.

#### **Jan 16—Chile: Community Denies Access to Mining Firm**

With insults and stones, members of the group Creando Valle, many from the Huascoaltino community, prevented geologist prospectors with the Japanese firm Pan Pacific Copper Exploration from entering the mountains near Juntas de Valeriano. The geologists' documents were also destroyed.

#### **Jan 16—More Police Brutality Against No DAPL Water Protectors in ND**

Police shot tear gas and rubber bullets at water protectors at a mass prayer march held near a worksite for drilling under the Missouri River. Three people were arrested for cutting through a razor-wire fence surrounding the site.

#### **Jan 17—Guatemala: Activist Killed Protesting Hydroelectric Project**

Seventy-two-year-old Sebastian Alonso from Yulchen was shot by police during an indigenous-led protest against the construction of a hydroelectric plant in San Mateo Ixtatan, during which heavy machinery was set on fire.

#### **Jan 19—Canada: Vandals and Protests Shut Down Puppy Mill**

Animal House pet store in Okotoks, Alberta—the target of numerous protests—announced that it would close after having its windows smashed and the words “Puppy Mill” spraypainted on the building.

#### **Jan 21—Eco-Activist Killed by SUV in Florida**

Mark Baumer, 33, was struck by an SUV while walking barefoot across the United States to raise awareness about climate change.

#### **Jan 21-22—Germany: Hunting Towers Destroyed**

Four hunting towers in Horbach/Richterrich were sawed down during the night. According to media reports, as many as 30 hunting towers have been cut down in the area surrounding the city of Aachen in the previous six months.



#### **Jan 9—Chile: Families Occupy Forestry Company Land**

Impoverished and dispossessed by monocrop forestry and in need of shelter, over 40 families from the Curanilahue region occupied land owned by the Arauco Forestal Angelini group. A similar occupation occurred last year.



#### **Jan 15—Sea Shepherd Catches Whale Poachers**

After five weeks of patrolling the Southern Ocean, Sea Shepherd photographed—in the first documentation of the whaling fleet since the International Court of Justice ruled against their operations in 2014—a Japanese whaling vessel with a dead Minke whale on its deck in an Australian whale sanctuary.



#### **Jan 20—Riots Across US as Ecocidal Fascist Inaugurated**

Hundreds of people used black bloc tactics in Washington, DC, and cities throughout the country to disrupt the inauguration of ecocidal fascist Donald Trump and draw attention to the inherent violence of capitalism and property.



### **Jan 22—Colombia: Anti-Bullfighting Activists Tear-Gassed**

Over 1,000 people, including about 50 in black bloc, gathered in the Santamaría Plaza bullfighting ring in Bogotá to shame and harrass spectators, and were met by 1,200 police and tear-gassed.



### **Jan 28—England: Tedworth Hunt Sabbed in Wiltshire**

The hunt sab groups of Bristol, Bath, and Southampton followed the hunters' kennel van and horse trailers to Wilcot Manor, north of Pewsey, and with local assent forced their hunt from its original location and disrupted the rest of it with megaphones and shouts.

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

### **Jan 28—Brazil: Indigenous Occupation of State Agricultural Foundation**

Guarani Mbyá families reclaimed and occupied the State Foundation for Agricultural Research as part of their ancestral territory.

### **Jan 28—Mongolia: Protests Against Air Pollution**

An estimated 7,000 people gathered in the nation's capital to protest the smog that frequently blankets the city. Ulaanbaatar is one of the world's coldest capitals and people

who cannot afford cleaner heating are burning coal, plastic, and tires to stay warm.

### **Jan 29—Lockdown at Trans-Pecos Pipeline in TX**

A group of water protectors gathered in prayer near Marfa while a 16-year-old activist locked herself to a bulldozer to temporarily halt construction of the international pipeline.

### **Jan 29—Greece: Resistance Against Cell Phone Towers**

Activists in Ionnina took action against the installation of new cell

phone towers by flying a banner and distributing fliers in the main plaza.

### **Sometime in Jan—UK: Chickens Liberated**

In solidarity with Debbie Vincent, twenty-five chickens were liberated from a farm in the Southeast UK the night before they were to be transported to slaughter.

### **Jan-Feb—Oil Trains Sabotaged Multiple Times in WA**

On several occasions booster cables were used to connect the rails on the Pacific Northwest Corridor Rail Line, a key transportation route (with over 1,000 oil trains each year) for crude oil from the Bakken region of North Dakota, signaling an obstruction and triggering the system to stop the trains.

### **Jan and Feb—Water Protectors Attend Public Hearings on Bayou Bridge Pipeline in Louisiana**

People spoke at multiple public permit hearings to voice opposition to the proposed pipeline, which would connect to both Dakota Access and oil infrastructure in Texas. On February 7, a natural gas pipeline explosion in Paradis, Louisiana, that killed one worker, injured two others, and forced nearby residents to evacuate, increased concerns over pipelines in the area.

### **Feb 1—Seventy-Six People Arrested at New Standing Rock Camp in ND**

Hundreds of water protectors gathered to establish a new camp near the pipeline's route after hearing that the final phase of Dakota Access construction would be approved. The camp was quickly raided by police.

### **Feb 1—Banner Drop in WA in Solidarity with Standing Rock and Grand Jury Resisters**

They also released a statement that read, in part, "From Olympia to Standing Rock, we have your back. Stay strong!"

### **Feb 2—UK: Chickens Liberated**

Four chickens were rescued from a slaughterhouse in Greater Manchester and given new homes.

### **Feb 2—Philippines: Twenty-One Mining Firms Ordered to Close**

An investigation by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources ended in them ordering the mining

firms to close, citing extreme environmental damage. The Environmental Secretary said, “We have decided to close any kind of mining operation in functional watersheds,” and refuted the companies’ claims that they had reduced poverty in the area.

### **Feb 3—Peru: Hundreds March Against Belgian Mining Company NYSRTAR**

As people protested the company’s pollution of lagoons and land seizure, police fired shots, injuring at least two people.

### **Feb 4—UK: Fox Saved From Curre and Llangibby Hunt**

Bristol, South Wales, and Bath Hunt Saboteurs teamed up to follow the hunt. They helped a fox escape the hunters’ dogs and stuck close all day despite the hunters’ attempts at intimidation, which included a helicopter following the saboteurs.

### **Feb 8—Lockdown Inside Chicago Citibank**

After hearing that the Army Corps was granting the easement allowing DAPL to go under Lake Oahe, activists occupied a Citibank, one of DAPL’s biggest funders. The bank was closed until the lock-downers were arrested.

### **Feb 10—Cherokee Nation and Oklahoma Granted Restraining Order Against Sequoyah Fuels Corporation**

The restraining order will stop Sequoyah Fuels from dumping radioactive waste near the Arkansas and Illinois Rivers. The company used to make uranium hexafluoride, which is used to run nuclear reactors, but has been in the process of decommissioning since 1986, after an accident killed one worker and injured others.

### **Around Feb 12—Wells Fargo Doors and Windows Smashed Out in WA**

The communiqué cited Wells Fargo’s funding of Dakota Access and the private prison corporation GEO Group as the reasons for the vandalism of the branch in Lacey. They also said, “Join the movement and smash a Wells Fargo near you; all it takes is a few seconds and a few rocks.”

### **Feb 13—Italy: Pipeline Company Office Attacked in Lecce**

According to the communiqué, molotovs were thrown at the office of the



### **Feb 1—Banners Dropped Over Freeway in Denver, CO**

The banners read “Solidarity With Standing Rock” and “Resist Grand Juries.”



### **Feb 6—Chile: Road Blockaded with Fire in Protest of Dominga Mine**

The group Chao Pescao—loosely translated to “Goodbye Fish”—blocked the road and released a statement saying, in part, “The road into Los Choros is closed. We are bored of the authorities’ corruption...”



## Feb 14—Valentine's Day Lockdown in Front of Bank in CT

A New Haven branch of TD Bank, a major funder of DAPL, was shut down for a few hours by four people. One of the lock-downers said, "We are showing our love for those on the front lines defending clean water, treaty rights and climate justice."

company behind the Trans Adriatic Pipeline. One exploded and caused some damage.

### Feb 14—UK: 100 Hens Saved

The animals were liberated from a farm in southeastern England by the ALF and are in new homes.

### Around Feb 14—Colombia: Communities Demonstrate Against Mining

Indigenous groups and other locals have been marching against and spreading awareness of the Dominical mega-project, which would cover over 100 square miles with mining operations in the ecologically sensitive Colombian Massif (a group of Andean mountains).

### Feb 15—UK: ALF Wrecks Game Bird Breeding Unit

Water pipes were cut and food sacks and feeders were destroyed. The same day, the ALF claimed responsibility for slashing the tires and scratching the paint of a hunter's car.

### Feb 15—Greece: ELF Cell Burns Excavation Machines in Solidarity with South American Activists

The Initiative for the Integration of the Regional Infrastructure of South America, which includes plans for new roads and energy infrastructure, is being opposed by people across South America. The Greek "Cell of Anti-Civilization Agitation" torched the machines in solidarity with those impacted, and released a communiqué calling the project "a massive destruction of the Amazon which includes deforestation, elimination of the fauna and flora and the persecution

of indigenous populations, as well the pollution of the waters."

### Feb 16—UK: Ten Rabbits Liberated by ALF

The communiqué says the rabbits were "rescued from a filthy small breeder in London, all cages were smashed up and no rabbit was left behind."

### Feb 17—Honduras: Environmentalist José Santos Sevilla Murdered

The professor and indigenous leader was shot by five men who broke into his home in the early morning. Over 120 environmentalists have been murdered in Honduras since 2010, many of whom were indigenous people resisting mining projects and dams on their lands.

### Feb 19—Lockdown Delays Trans Pecos Pipeline Construction in TX

Water protectors from the Two Rivers Camp attached themselves to a 55-gallon barrel full of concrete in front of the gates of a Pumpco site, the company constructing the pipeline.

### Feb 19—France: Over 700 People Demonstrate Against Planned Nuclear Waste Disposal Facility

People attacked a research lab of the company behind the facility, CIGEO, in Bure, and the cops who showed up to defend it. The project hasn't been moving forward much in the past year thanks to sustained resistance across France.

### Feb 22—Two Activists Lock Down Inside Sabal Trail Pipeline in FL

They released a statement saying "the world and our future generations are at risk," and demanding that the En-

vironmental Impact Statement be updated to include environmental justice communities and school children. Police banged on the pipe with hammers and threatened them with tear gas and dogs, but the water protectors stayed put for about six hours, until they were dragged out.

### Feb 23—Oceti Sakowin and Rosebud Camps Dismantled in ND

Law enforcement and military units joined forces to destroy the camps and push out the last remaining water protectors nearly a year after the first camp, Sacred Stone, was established. Forty-six people were arrested, including numerous journalists and veterans who had come to assist the pipeline resisters.

### Feb 24—Taiwan: Occupation for Indigenous Rights Begins

Demonstrators from the Indigenous Youth Front and other groups occupied a boulevard in Taipei, demanding justice and a return of traditional lands to Indigenous Peoples in the country. The occupiers cite the failure of government policy to stop environmental damage and demand that Indigenous Peoples be involved in the conservation of their own lands.

### Feb 25—Sweden: Sixty Chickens Liberated

Sixty chickens were liberated from a chicken farm in West Sweden by Djurens Befrielsefront (ALF Sweden). The group says it will update the public soon about the liberated chickens' new lives of freedom.

### Feb 26—Man Shoots Sabal Trail Pipeline in FL, is Killed by Police

After repeatedly shooting and damaging a section of pipe and nearby construction equipment with a high-powered rifle, James Marker was pursued by cops and fatally shot.

### Mar 5—Canada: Mining Conference Disrupted

Indigenous activists unveiled banners and spoke out at the booth of Denison Mines during the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada 2017 Convention, the world's largest mining conference, about environmental damage and a lack of consent for mining on their territories. Denison is the uranium company that polluted the Serpent River watershed in Anishinaabe/Ojib-

way territory. The activists were escorted out of the conference by private security and Toronto police.

### **Mar 9—Mexico: Protesters Shot Blocking Airport Construction**

A group of 30-40 people attacked members of Frente de Pueblos en Defensa de la Tierra (People's Front in Defense of the Earth) and others who were blocking freight trucks transporting material to build a new international airport in Mexico City. Protesters were able to retreat without major injuries. The group denounces the federal government and other groups involved in the airport "megaproject of death."

### **Mar 10—Thousands Protest DAPL and Trump in DC**

The Native Nations March was organized by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and the Indigenous Environmental Network. Demonstrators, including members of dozens of indigenous tribes, marched through the streets of the nation's capital in the final act of a four-day protest against the Dakota Access pipeline and the President.

### **Mar 11—No DAPL Banner Dropped at Wells Fargo Exec's Virginia Home**

Tidewater Earth First! hung "a huge anarcho-communist flag with the words 'Wells Fargo: Divest DAPL'" in front of the Virginia Beach oceanfront mansion of Elizabeth Duke, Vice Chair of Wells Fargo. Their claim of responsibility said, in part, "In solidarity with indigenous struggles everywhere, and uncompromisingly toward the liberation of all creatures and life forms, our Green Antifa crew will continue to fight and build to defend the magical wild we love."

### **Mar 12—Eco-Activists Redecorate Trump Golf Course in CA**

Anonymous folks sneaked into the \$250 million Trump National Golf Club in Rancho Palos Verdes and carved the message "No more tigers, no more woods" into the fairway in giant letters. A statement sent to the Washington Post said, "In response to the president's recent decision to gut our existing protection policies, direct action was conceived and executed on the green of his California golf course in the form of a simple message," and added, "Repurposing what was once a beautiful stretch of land into a playground for the privi-



### **Mar 2—Citizens Bank World Headquarters Shut Down in Rhode Island**

Three people blocked the main entrance to the headquarters until they were extracted and arrested. The action was in response to Citizens Bank lending \$72.5 million to Sunoco Logistics, a pipeline company pushing toxic fossil fuel projects across the continent.

leged is an environmental crime in its own right."

### **Mar 13—Great Lakes Supporters Demand Shutdown of Line 5 in MI**

Over 250 people convened at a Pipeline Safety Advisory Board meeting in Lansing, including a man and his grandson who covered themselves in oil to demonstrate the impact a spill would have. The public comment period was extended for an extra hour due to the high volume of "public participants," and 260 public comments were submitted in all.

### **Mar 16—Thirteen Arrested at Anti-Fracking Protest in Maryland**

The activists were arrested in front of the Maryland statehouse in Annapolis as they demanded the Senate pass a statewide, permanent ban on gas fracking.

### **Mar 18—UK: Hunt Saboteurs Assaulted by Yorkshire Hunters**

As saboteurs attempted to nonviolently disrupt the illegal Middleton Hunt at its meet in Uncleby, North Yorkshire, hunters stole a video camera and two body cams from saboteurs, hit sabs on the head with whips, attempted to ride them down, and jumped off their horses to continue the attacks. One saboteur suffered cracked ribs after being crushed between two horses, while others suffered serious head injuries and broken fingers. Multiple ambulances had to be called to the scene.

### **Mar 19—UK: Pevensey Marsh Beagles Hunt Sabbed**

Hare hunters abandoned the hunt due to the presence of hunt saboteurs.

### **Mar 20—Arkansas Rising Shuts Down Diamond Pipeline Construction**

A water protector locked down to pipeline equipment at a Diamond Pipeline construction site in Pope County, Arkansas, disrupting construction for several hours. Delta Directional Drilling, the company behind the pipeline—which would carry oil from Oklahoma to a refinery in Arkansas—claimed that the action caused over \$7 million in lost work.

### **Mar 23—New Zealand: Protesters Blockade Oil Conference**

The blockade of the Petroleum Summit in Taranaki was part of The People's Climate Rally, organized by a coalition of groups around New Zealand. Blockaders demanded "a stop to all new oil and gas exploration, drilling and fracking." Since 2012, over 300,000 square miles of land and sea have been proposed for release to fossil fuel industries, threatening the area and encroaching on the Marine Mammal Sanctuary for the critically endangered Maui's dolphin.



**Mar 28—Pipeline  
Protesters Shut Down  
FERC Lecture in North  
Carolina**

Activists with Beyond Extreme Energy and NC Alliance To Protect Our People And The Places We Live voiced their opposition to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline by shutting down a planned lecture by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission chair Cheryl LaFleur. Protesters held a banner reading “Rubber Stamp Rebellion,” referencing the fact that FERC has only rejected one gas industry permit application in the last 30 years. LaFleur fled the building and did not give her scheduled speech.

**Mar 23—Mexico: Chiapas Town Hall Burned After Water Shortage Protests**

After a government-endorsed water shutoff in the town of Coita, residents marched to the offices of SAPAM (Municipal Water and Drinking System) demanding water and security for their municipal water systems. After the office and authorities refused to respond, protesters occupied the town hall and set fire to the entrance, several offices, and a car they found parked outside. Protesters also captured SAPAM bureaucrats and demanded action be taken. Police eventually freed the employees.

**Mar 26—Mexico: Fishermen Burn Boat as Threat to Sea Shepherd**

Sea Shepherd Conservation

Society has been removing illegal and abandoned nets that endanger the vaquita, the world’s smallest porpoise, in Mexico’s Gulf of California. Fishermen in the town of San Felipe painted “Sea Shepherd” on an empty fishing boat and burned it, threatening to remove the conservationists’ ship if the government doesn’t. Sea Shepherd said that they will continue their work in the area despite the threats.

**Mar 28—UK: Social Justice and Eco Groups Block Mass Deportation Flight**

Members of End Deportations, Lesbians and Gays Support the Migrants, and Plane Stupid locked themselves to the wing of a Titan Airways flight at the London Stansted Airport. It is believed to be the first time

that protesters have prevented a Home Office charter flight from departing. Dozens of people due to be deported to Nigeria and Ghana, including people who had claimed asylum and feared for their lives, were returned to immigration removal centers. All flights were stopped until the 17 activists were arrested.

**Late March—Chickens Liberated from East Coast US Farm**

Fifteen chickens were liberated by anonymous individuals, who said, “Instead of having their reproductive property (eggs) stolen from them daily and where they would eventually be murdered by humans, they are now ‘living large’ on a farmed animal sanctuary. No Arrests.” ✂

This issue of *Earth First! News* was compiled by Onion, Rabbit, Rat, Rock Dove, and the *Earth First! Newswire* crew.  
Available for free at: [EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/STORE](http://EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/STORE)

For daily updates from the eco-wars, check out the *Earth First! Newswire*:  
[EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/NEWSWIRE](http://EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/NEWSWIRE)

To subscribe to the *Earth First! Journal* print magazine, go to: [EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/SUBSCRIPTIONS](http://EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/SUBSCRIPTIONS)  
or send \$25 check or money order to:  
Earth First! Journal, PO Box 964, Lake Worth, FL 33460, USA  
[\$40 Mexico and Canada, \$60 outside North America]  
To donate, go to: [EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/DONATE](http://EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/DONATE)  
Contact us at [COLLECTIVE@EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG](mailto:COLLECTIVE@EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG) / [561] 320-3840

**EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG**

# MISSOURI RESIDENTS FIGHT SMOLDERING LANDFILLS FULL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE

by Onion

**The West Lake Superfund Site consists of a few landfills** in Bridgeton, Missouri, less than a half hour from St. Louis. This site, which includes the West Lake and Bridgeton landfills, is less than two miles from the Missouri River, and contains an unconfirmed amount of radioactive waste, most of which was left over from the Manhattan Project in the 1940s.

The site was created as a limestone quarry in 1939 and changed hands numerous times between then and 1973, when it was bought by the Cotter Corporation. The first thing the corporation did? Dump thousands of tons of barium sulfate, a radioactive material, into the West Lake Landfill, which they then covered with a thin layer of soil. After a long investigation, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission found out about the illegal dumping. This led to an almost two-decade fight, which eventually resulted in West Lake being listed as a Superfund cleanup site—an area severely contaminated by hazardous waste that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says it will prioritize cleaning up. For the 15 years following this designation, more studies were done, eventually determining—gasp!—that everything was fine and there was no real danger to the public. Despite these assurances from the EPA and “independent” organizations, a “subsurface smoldering event” sprung up in 2010 in the Bridgeton Landfill—a form of chemical combustion that occurs deep within a landfill, lasts for several years, and produces no visible flame or quantity of smoke unless it reaches the surface. Eventually this underground fire will reach the West Lake Landfill and the nuclear waste buried there. After discussing this problem for a couple years, and then calling for more tests, the EPA decided that more safety measures were needed, including cooling loops and a physical barrier separating the fire and the nuclear waste. But Republic Services—the new owners of the landfill—haven’t done anything. Many experts predict a catastrophic event if and when the fire reaches the radioactive waste, but the EPA and Republic say to relax, because they have it under control and everything will be fine.

Despite these assurances, everything has been far from fine for the surrounding inhabitants. In 2012, neighbors of the landfill began noticing a smell. When they decided to investigate, they discovered that St. Louis County, even while claiming that residents weren’t in any danger, had prepared a West Lake Landfill Shelter/Evacuation Plan. After their quest for answers resulted in too many dead-ends, neighbors formed a group called Just Moms STL. While Just Moms STL has been fighting the battle on the lawsuit and public speaking fronts, a collection of individuals and groups have begun using direct action to get the results they’re looking for.

The Earth Defense Coalition and SoulFire Caravan got involved in the last days of March. In the early hours of March 30, ten activists chained themselves to multiple 500-pound cement barrels in front of the storage yard and transfer station of Republic. Similar to those of Just Moms STL, their demands were simple: a voluntary buyout of anyone who lives within a mile of the landfill, property assurances for anyone within five miles, a transfer of the landfill to the Army Corps of Engineers, and Republic’s payment of the \$55 million in



*Twice a month, residents hold a vigil near an abandoned gas station to call attention to the possible dangers posed by the West Lake Landfill.*

finances it owes the state for mismanagement. They are also asking people to divest from Republic and anyone who does business with them. After refusing the cops’ pleas to unlock themselves and leave, the lock-downers were eventually arrested.

Just four days later, after being alerted that another person living near the landfill had died prematurely, the groups once again took action. This time, they invaded the offices of Democratic Senator Claire McCaskill with red paint on their hands to represent the blood of those who have died from exposure to the landfill. They demanded that McCaskill introduce legislation to transfer responsibility for the site to the Army Corps of Engineers.

Although things have seemed quiet in the weeks since these actions, progress has been made. On April 12, the Missouri State Senate approved a plan to buy out the residents most affected by the landfill. Although the measure must still pass the House, if approved, residents who are located within three miles of sites with high levels of dissolved radium in their groundwater will be able to apply for a buyout. The next day, when congressman Lacy Clay held a public forum, the Earth Defense Coalition was there to force him to talk about the landfill. Eventually, Clay agreed to introduce legislation to transfer responsibility to the Army Corps. Meanwhile, Republic is reeling from the publicity hits it has taken from the actions. In response, they created a propaganda group called the Coalition to Keep Us Safe, a typical response from corporations watching their profits slip away due to poor decisions. Let’s hope the stink of Republic’s dirty tricks reaches as many people as the poison they are allowing to escape the landfill. ✕

*Check out these groups fighting the West Lake Landfill for more information:*

Earth Defense Coalition: [EARTHDEFENSECOALITION.COM](http://EARTHDEFENSECOALITION.COM)  
Soulfire Caravan: [FACEBOOK.COM/SOULFIRECARAVAN](https://FACEBOOK.COM/SOULFIRECARAVAN)  
Just Moms STL: [STLRADWASTELEGACY.COM](http://STLRADWASTELEGACY.COM)

# FROM THE CAGES:

# ECO-PRISONERS, SNARED LIBERATIONISTS, AND HOSTAGES OF THE STRUGGLE

## US PRISONERS

### WALTER BOND

#37096-013, FCI Greenville, PO Box 5000, Greenville, IL 62246, USA

Walter is serving 12 years and 4 months (until 3-21-2021) for the “ALF Lonewolf” arsons of the sheepskin factory in Denver, Colorado, the Tandy Leather Factory in Salt Lake City, Utah, and the Tiburon restaurant (which sold foie gras) in Sandy, Utah. Walter was also charged and convicted under the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act. Walter remains a militant voice for the vegan straight edge way of life and is the author of the book *Always Looking Forward*. SUPPORTWALTER.ORG. *Birthday*: April 16

### JOSEPH BUDDENBERG

#12746-111, FCI Victorville Medium I, PO BOX 3725, Adelanto, CA 92301, USA

Joseph was arrested along with Nicole Kissane (see entry below) on July 24, 2015, and federally indicted for Conspiracy to Violate the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act for conspiring to release thousands of animals from fur farms and to destroy breeding records in Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania in the summer of 2013. The indictment also alleges that he caused economic damage to various retail and distribution businesses and individuals associated with the fur industry. On May 2, 2016, Joseph was sentenced to 2 years in prison (until 01-25-2018), 2 years supervised release, and \$400,000 in restitution. SUPPORTNICOLEANDJOSEPH.COM. *Birthday*: April 6

### NICOLE KISSANE

#20651-111, FCI Dublin, 5701 8th Street – Camp Parks, Dublin, CA 94568, USA

Nicole was arrested along with Joseph Buddenberg (see entry above) on July 24, 2015, and federally indicted for Conspiracy to Violate the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act for conspiring to release thousands of animals from fur farms and to destroy breeding records in Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania. The indictment also alleges that she caused economic damage to various retail and distribution businesses and individuals associated with the fur industry. Nicole was sentenced on January 17, 2017 to 21 months in prison. SUPPORTNICOLEANDJOSEPH.COM *Birthday*: August 18

### MARIUS MASON

(address envelope to “Marie (Marius) Mason”)  
#04672-061, FMC Carswell, Federal Medical Center, PO Box 27137, Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA

Marius is currently serving 21 years and 10 months (until 9-18-2027) for his involvement in an Earth Liberation Front arson at a university carrying out genetically modified crop tests. Marius also pleaded guilty to conspiring to carry out ELF actions and admitted involvement in 12 other related actions. This sentence is the longest of anyone convicted of environmental activism in the US. He is in a high security Administration Unit that houses prisoners with “special management concerns” (likely due to his beliefs). SUPPORTMARIUSMASON.ORG. *Birthday*: January 26

### KEVIN OLLIFF

(address envelope to “Kevin Johnson”)  
c/o Beit T’Shuvah, 8831 Venice Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90034, USA (Halfway House)

Kevin, arrested with Tyler Lang, is an animal liberation

activist who was imprisoned in Illinois from August 2013 to May 2016 for “possession of burglary tools,” an Illinois state charge, in addition to conspiracy to violate the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act, a federal felony charge. The charges were related to the release of thousands of mink from an Illinois fur farm, which permanently closed down as a result of the action. He was transferred to a halfway house on May 25, 2016. SUPPORTKEVINANDTYLER.COM. *Birthday*: March 27

### JUSTIN SOLONDZ

*In a Halfway House*

Justin is serving 7 years (until 08-31-2017) for a 2001 fire-bombing of the University of Washington’s Center for Urban Horticulture, which cost the university \$6 million. Prior to his Earth Liberation Front activities, Justin was engaged in above-ground forest defense in Washington while a student in Olympia. *Birthday*: October 3

### FRAN THOMPSON

#1090915, CCC, 3151 Litton Drive, Chillicothe, MO 64601, USA

Fran is serving life plus 10 years for killing a man in self-defense after he violently entered her home. Before her imprisonment, Fran was an eco, animal, and anti-nuke campaigner, and it is believed this biased the court against her. *Birthday*: January 4

### BRIAN VAILLANCOURT

#M42889, Robinson Correctional, 13423 East 1150th Ave, Robinson, IL 62454, USA

Brian was arrested in Chicago on February 9, 2013, for an alleged attempted arson at a McDonald’s. He initially faced a possible 30-year sentence for “Aggravated Arson,” but in 2014 he accepted a non-cooperating plea agreement and is currently serving 9 years (until 9-2020). *Birthday*: September 5, 1964

## INTERNATIONAL PRISONERS

### LUCIO ALBERTI, FRANCESCO SALA, AND GRAZIANO MAZZARELLI

Graziano and Francesco can be reached at *Casa Circondariale Ferrara, Via Arginone, 327, IT-44100 Ferrara, Italia*. Lucio Alberti can be reached at, *c/o CC Via Cassano Magnago 102, IT-21052 Busto Arsizio (Varese), Italia*.

The No TAV campaign against the building of the Turin-Lyon high speed rail link has been going strong for over 20 years and regularly leads to new arrests as the Italian state tries to suppress resistance. These three anarchists were arrested on July 11, 2014, in connection with the action at the Chiomonte TAV site between May 13 and 14 of 2013. On February 9, 2016, Lucio and Francesco were sentenced to 2 years and 2 months, and Graziano was sentenced to 2 years and 10 months.

### ALFREDO COSPITO AND NICOLA GAI

*Both at: Casa Circondariale Ferrara, Via Arginone 327, IT-44122 Ferrara, Italia*

Nicola and Alfredo were arrested on September 14, 2012, for shooting Ansaldo Nucleare manager and Finmeccanica affiliate Roberto Adinolfi in the knees—an action carried out by the Olga nucleus of the FAI/FRI (Informal Anarchist Federation) earlier that year. In May of 2015 their sentences were reduced: Alfredo’s to 9 years and 5 months (until February 2022), Nicola’s to 8 years and 8 months (until May of 2020).

**LADISLAV KUC**

*Florianska 18, PS-C12, Kosice, Slovakia 04142*

Ladislav is an animal rights activist originally sentenced to 25 years on charges of illegal possession of arms, manufacturing of explosives, and terrorism for a bombing in front of a McDonald's in 2011 in which there were no injuries. He was traced after almost a year via mail communications between Ladislav and the manufacturer of a timer found at the crime scene. During a house search police found materials related to the Animal Liberation Front and components for another bomb. In May of 2016, the terrorism charge was overturned and he is now in a halfway house awaiting resentencing. *Birthday*: December 3, 1979

**TUR\*TLE**

Letters to Tur\*tle can be sent through the Anarchist Black Cross Rhineland, WAA/ABC, *Kallsgasse 20, 52355, Düren-Gürzenich, Germany*

Tur\*tle is an activist from the occupations of the Hambach Forest and LAUtonomia. He is serving a two year sentence (since May 15, 2016) for vandalism, insulting a cop, and disobeying his bail conditions. He is held in a "youth prison" in Bavaria which is not providing vegan food. Since the beginning of October, he has been able to leave the "open prison" two times a month for a few hours. He is able to read English and German, and is interested in letters and information about ecological struggles, though printed materials are not all passing the censorship of the prison. His letters and poems are published on the blog of ABC Rhineland: [ABCRHINELAND.BLACKLOGS.ORG](http://ABCRHINELAND.BLACKLOGS.ORG). *Birthday*: May 25

**DEBBIE VINCENT**

*Transferred to a halfway house*

On May 17, 2014, Debbie was sentenced to 6 years in prison for campaigning against Huntingdon Life Sciences, Europe's largest animal testing laboratory. Her case is part of the Blackmail 3 case, along with Sven and Natasha (see entry below). *Birthday*: January 12, 1962

**ARRESTEES FACING CHARGES****BRAVO1**

*Out on bail*

Bravo1 (Brennon Nastacio) has been peacefully protecting water and people on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation from DAPL since August 2016. He is a 36-year-old Pueblo Native American with two children who depend on him. On January 5, Brennan decided to turn himself over to authorities after learning he has a warrant for a Class C Felony for "Terrorizing," stemming from an incident where he nonviolently disarmed a man carrying a loaded weapon.

**VANESSA CASTLE AND CHASE IRON EYES**

*Out on bail*

Vanessa and Chase were arrested on February 1, 2017, along with over 70 other people when the Last Child Camp, in opposition to the Dakota Access pipeline, was forcibly removed. Both are charged with felony inciting a riot and facing up to 5 years in prison. Chase has pleaded not guilty and Vanessa has yet to enter a plea.

**RED FAWN FALLIS**

*HACTC, 110 Industrial Rd., Rugby, ND 58368, USA*

An indictment filed January 5 charges Red Fawn with felony counts of civil disorder and discharging a firearm in relation to a felony crime of violence—which, in this case, is civil disorder. These charges are in addition to an earlier charge of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Fallis has pleaded not guilty to federal charges in connection to an incident at a Dakota Access pipeline protest. Fallis remains in federal

custody and her trial date is scheduled for March 7. If convicted of discharging the firearm, Fallis faces a minimum of 10 years in prison. [GENEROSITY.COM/FUNdraising/FREE-RED-FAWN](http://GENEROSITY.COM/FUNdraising/FREE-RED-FAWN)

**KARRIE FORD AND NIKO SEGAL-WRIGHT**

*Out on bail*

Karrie and Niko are facing 5 years each for a lockdown 250 feet inside a section of the Sabal Trail pipeline in Florida. They refused to come out until the inadequate Environmental Impact Statement for Sabal Trail was revisited. After six hours of being threatened by police dogs and tear gas, they were dragged out of the pipeline. Their felony criminal mischief and grand theft charges were recently dropped, but they are still facing felony criminal trespass charges and Karrie is facing a misdemeanor resisting arrest charge. To stay updated on their case, visit [SABALTRAILRESISTANCE.ORG](http://SABALTRAILRESISTANCE.ORG)

**KROW**

*Recently extradited to Wisconsin*

Krow (Katie Kloth) was assaulted and arrested on February 4, 2017, by a Bureau of Indian Affairs officer while supporting the struggle against the Dakota Access pipeline in North Dakota. She is charged with a felony in North Dakota and violation of felony probation due to previous charges stemming from a protest against mining in the Penokee Hills in 2013, for which she served nine months in jail.

**GIANLUCA GAUDENZI**

Gianluca is currently facing charges in Sweden for damaging at least 121 hunting towers and spraypainting slogans, causing roughly 670,000 SKE (approx. \$78,000) in damages. He reportedly stated, "For me it is not a crime... It is a crime to destroy nature and other species [translation]." The trial was supposed to begin in November of 2015 but seems to have been delayed indefinitely.

**NATASHA AND SVEN**

Sven and Natasha are currently awaiting extradition from the Netherlands to the UK for charges that could carry 14 years in prison for their work with Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty, an anti-vivisection movement aimed at shutting down animal testing company Huntingdon Life Sciences. Their case is part of the Blackmail 3 case with Debbie Vincent (see entry above). [FREESVENANDNATASHA.ORG](http://FREESVENANDNATASHA.ORG)

**RATTLER**

*Released on supervised probation while awaiting charges*

Rattler is a NoDAPL Water Protector facing federal felony charges, carrying a sentence of up to 15 years in prison, produced through a grand jury indictment. Rattler's home is Pine Ridge and he comes from a long legacy of struggle that he continued at Standing Rock against the Dakota Access Pipeline and it's world. The charges stem from the October 27, 2016 eviction of "Frontline/Sacred Grounds Camp."

**SET FREE**

ALF prisoner **TYLER LANG** was released from a halfway house on March 22; ELF prisoner **REBECCA RUBIN** was released from a halfway house on April 7; and life-long eco-saboteur **MARCO CAMENISCH** was released from prison on March 10!

*This information is compiled by the joint effort of the EF! Prisoner Support Project and the EF! Journal Collective. A broader list of prisoners from allied struggles and our updated Informant Tracker service can be found at [EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/PRISONERS](http://EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/PRISONERS) and [EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/INFORMANTTRACKER](http://EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG/INFORMANTTRACKER). To get in touch, email [COLLECTIVE@EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG](mailto:COLLECTIVE@EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG) or write to EF!PSP, PO Box 163126, Sacramento, CA 95818, USA*

# Eco-ACTION GROUP DIRECTORY

## UNITED STATES

Rising Tide North America  
RISINGTIDENORTHAMERICA.ORG

TWAC (Trans and/or Women's Action Camp)  
TWAC.WORDPRESS.COM

## ARIZONA

Black Mesa Indigenous Support  
SUPPORTBLACKMESA.ORG

No Más Muertes/No More Deaths  
NOMOREDEATHS.ORG

## ARKANSAS

Arkansas Rising  
ARKANSASRISING.NET

## CALIFORNIA

Diablo Rising Tide  
DIABLORISINGTIDE@RISEUP.NET

Earth First! Humboldt & Mattole Blockade  
CONTACTEFHUM@GMAIL.COM

Rising Tide Sacramento  
FACEBOOK.COM/  
RTSACRAMENTO

Santa Barbara Earth First!  
FREEAWARENESS@GMAIL.COM  
(805) 708-7817

Save Our Little Lake Valley  
SAVELITTLELAKEVALLEY.ORG

## COLORADO

Southwest Earth First!  
SOUTHWESTEARTHFIRST.  
WORDPRESS.COM

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chesapeake Earth First!  
CHESAPEAKEEARTHFIRST@  
RISEUP.NET

## FLORIDA

Eternal Springs Earth First!  
SABALTRAILRESISTANCE.  
WORDPRESS.COM

Everglades Earth First!  
EVERGLADESEARTHFIRST.NET

## GEORGIA

Chattahoochee Earth First!  
DIRTYSOUTH\_EF@RISEUP.NET

## IDAHO

Wild Idaho Rising Tide  
WILDIDAHORISINGTIDE.ORG

## ILLINOIS

Rising Tide Chicago  
CHICAGORISINGTIDE.ORG

## IOWA

Mississippi Stand  
MISSISSIPPISTAND.COM

## MAINE

Stop the East-West Corridor  
STOPTHECORRIDOR.ORG

## MARYLAND

Savage Mountain Earth First!  
SAVAGEMOUNTAINEF@RISEUP.  
NET

## MICHIGAN

Fen Valley Earth First!  
FENVALLEYEARTHFIRST.  
WORDPRESS.COM

Michigan Coalition Against Tar Sands  
MICHIGANCATS.ORG

## MONTANA

Buffalo Field Campaign  
BUFFALOFIELDCAMPAIGN.ORG

Seeds of Peace  
SEEDSOFPEACECOLLECTIVE.ORG

## NEBRASKA

Earth First! Nebraska  
BUFFALOBRUCE1@GMAIL.COM

## NEW YORK

Hudson Valley Earth First!  
HUDSONVALLEYEARTHFIRST.  
WORDPRESS.COM

Rising Tide NYC  
RISINGTIDENYC@RISEUP.NET

Wetlands Activism Collective  
WETLANDS-PRESERVE.ORG

## NEW YORK/PENNSYLVANIA

Marcellus Shale Earth First!  
MARCELLUSSHALEEARTHFIRST.ORG

## NORTHEAST

FANG (Fighting Against Natural Gas)  
FANGTOGETHER.ORG

## NORTH CAROLINA

High Country Earth First!  
HIGHCOUNTRYEF.WORDPRESS.  
COM

Piedmont Earth First!  
PIEDMONTEF@RISEUP.NET

## OHIO

Appalachia Resist!  
APPALACHIARESIST.WORDPRESS.  
COM

## OKLAHOMA

Great Plains Tar Sands Resistance  
GPTARSANDSRESISTANCE.ORG

## OKLAHOMA/TEXAS

Cross Timbers Earth First!  
CROSSTIMBERSEF.COM

## OREGON

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project  
BLUEMOUNTAINSBIODIVERSITY  
PROJECT.ORG  
(541) 385-9167

Cascadia Forest Defenders  
FORESTDEFENSENOW.COM

Coast Range Forest Watch  
COASTRANGEFORSTWATCH.ORG

Northwest Ecosystem Survey Team  
NESTCASCADIA.WORDPRESS.  
COM

Portland Rising Tide  
PORTLANDRISINGTIDE.ORG

Southern Oregon Rising Tide  
SORISINGTIDE.ORG

## PENNSYLVANIA

Camp White Pine  
FACEBOOK.COM/  
CAMPWHITEPINEPA

Three Rivers Rising Tide  
THREERIVERSRISINGTIDE.ORG

## TEXAS

Tar Sands Blockade  
TARSANDBLOCKADE.ORG

Two Rivers Camp  
SOCIETYOFNATIONATIONS.ORG/  
TWRIVERSCAMP.HTML

## UTAH

Canyon Country Rising Tide  
CANYONCOUNTRYRISINGTIDE.  
ORG

Utah Tar Sands Resistance  
TARSANDSRESIST.ORG

Wasatch Rising Tide  
WASATCHRISINGTIDE@GMAIL.  
COM

## VERMONT

Green Mountain Earth First!  
GMEF@RISEUP.NET

Rising Tide Vermont  
RISINGTIDEVERMONT.ORG

## VIRGINIA

Tidewater Earth First!  
TIDEWATEREARTHFIRST@  
RISEUP.NET

## WASHINGTON

Rising Tide Seattle  
RISINGTIDESEATTLE@RISEUP.NET

## WISCONSIN

Madison Infoshop  
MADISONINFOSHOP@GMAIL.COM

## WEST VIRGINIA

Radical Action for Mountains' and People's Survival  
RAMPCAMPAIGN.ORG



Contact us at [COLLECTIVE@EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG](mailto:COLLECTIVE@EARTHFIRSTJOURNAL.ORG) for help finding activist groups in your area, and please let us know of any groups you feel should be added to this directory. A longer Eco-Action Group Directory, with international environmental groups listed, is available at the back of each issue of the Earth First! Journal.