ON THE FRONTLINES OF ECOLOGICAL RESISTANCE

FRACKING RESISTANCE HEATS UP

JUNE 6 – RESIDENTS STAND THEIR GROUND AGAINST FORCED EVICTION FOR FRACK INFRASTRUCTURE

The entrance to Riverdale mobile home community in Jersey Shore, PA, became the frontlines of battle against the energy empire’s plan to sustain industrial civilization further along its death march. Community members constructed barricades in refusal of imminent eviction and a solidarity camp was set up to support the residents and families in holding off Aqua America (AA). The community was purchased by AA, who supplies water to gas frack operations in the Marcellus Shale region, in order to construct a water withdrawal site near the Susquehanna River. The blockade lasted 12 days, successfully delaying construction and pressuring AA into engaging with residents on their terms. The company has issued lease termination notices to 32 Riverdale families, but the struggle continues...(see photos, pg. 7)

JULY 8 – EF! BLOCKADE SHUTS DOWN FRACK DRILLING

Nearly 100 Earth First! activists, friends and allies forced a 70-foot-tall EQT hydrofracking drill rig to suspend operations for 12 hours in Pennsylvania’s Moshannon State Forest. This is the first time that protesters have shut down a hydrofrack drilling operation in the US. A sky pod hung above the access road, with their anchor ropes blocking it. A second person was also in a tree to support the pod-sitter while dozens of supporters guarded ten large debris piles that were across the road. Another group of activists blockaded the entrance to the access road. The State Police, with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, dispersed the blockade around 9pm and removed the blockade with a firetruck ladder. Police made three arrests for disorderly conduct, but protesters were cited and released on-site.

DISPATCHES FROM THE ECO-WARS

MARCH 26 – PROTEST AGAINST OIL TANKERS IN VANCOUVER

Hundreds of people marched through downtown Vancouver streets all morning in a display of opposition to oil tanker traffic along British Columbia’s coast. Organized by First Nation and environmentalist groups, the demonstration came just days after the 23rd anniversary of the infamous Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska. A rally at noon drew an estimated 1,000 protesters.

APRIL 9 – TAKE BACK THE LAND ACTION OCCUPIES HOME IN NORTH CAROLINA

About 60 people entered the house in Raleigh, where a family had been illegally foreclosed on, and refused to leave. Seven participants were arrested. The Take Back the Land movement stands for the liberation of the commons and what organizer Max Rameau calls a “three-dimensional struggle” for economic justice, social justice, and environmental justice.

ANTI COPYRIGHT - REPRINT AND DISTRIBUTE FREELY!

EF! gets wild at massive fracking site in Western Pennsylvania
We are fighting for freedom. The world should know this.

At least 29 Tibetans have protested themselves on fire in Tibetan areas of China since March 2011, and many have died.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service announced that Wyoming passed legislation and an amendment to its wolf management plan that will meet federal approval and trigger removal of Endangered Species Act protections for grey wolves in the state. The new law and plan increase the area of Wyoming where wolves would be designated “predators” and could be killed without limits; they also keep in place a “trophy game management area,” where hunting will be allowed to dramatically reduce wolf populations.

about standing up and sending a clear message to the Government that we, our land, what’s under our land and what’s been built on our land, is not for sale,” according to organizers.

The struggle of Tibetans against Chinese industrial expansion certainly has an ecological component, which was exemplified in a story from the EF! News earlier this year about a gold mine on the sacred Mount Kawagebo, where Tibetan villagers rioted and sabotaged heavy machinery to stop the mine. Before Yeshi’s death, a cousin, Sonam Wangyal, visited him and mourned his injuries, but he also said clearly: “We are fighting for freedom. The world should know this.”

At least 29 Tibetans have protested expansion by setting themselves on fire in Tibetan areas of China since March 2011, and many have died.
intensive practice of hydraulic fracturing, and other extractive industries. One protester, who stood up and began to talk over the auctioneer, was taken into custody for disturbing the peace.

A group of about 100 protesters picketed outside the state building where the auction was held, many of whom were from Barry County, where a majority of the extraction proposals are located.

**MAY 9 - HUNDREDS SHUT DOWN INTERSECTION IN FRONT OF BANK OF AMERICA**

People converged in Charlotte, NC, to protest Bank of America’s (BoA) annual shareholders’ meeting, shutting down the road in front of BoA headquarters. Five were arrested. Activists from Appalachia fighting mountain top removal coal mining joined forces with housing rights activists, unions, immigrant rights groups, and the Occupy movement to call for an end to BoA’s destructive practices. The bank is still the largest funder of the coal industry and is leader in home foreclosures.

**MAY 10 - FLAGPOLE BANNER DROP IN OREGON’S CAPITAL**

A member of the Cascadia Forest Defenders climbed the flagpole in front of the State Capitol, demanding that Governor Kitzhaber and the State Land Board decouple public school funding from the state forest management. The activist hung a large banner reading, “Schools vs. Trees? We want both!” While Governor Kitzhaber claims that increased clear cutting in the Elliott State Forest is necessary to maintain funding for public schools, less than one percent of Oregon public school funding comes from logging on state lands.

**MAY 11 - HUNDREDS OF ANTI-LOGGERS BLOCKED BY OFFICIALS IN CAMBODIA**

Forestry Administration officials reportedly blocked vehicles in three provinces from traveling to Koh Kong town on their way to the site where prominent environmental activist Chut Wutty was shot last month. Despite the blocks, hundreds of others from six provinces in a convoy of 27 vans made it to the provincial capital to spend the night at Wat Thmei then travel to Mondul Seima district’s Bak Khiang commune for a ceremony for Chut Wutty at Veal Bei Point.

**MAY 12 - BOA'S DRASTIC MEASURES AGAINST OCCUPY**

BoA announced its plans today to go after the Occupy movement and its activists. Other banks have already implemented plans to get the movement off their properties and report the miscreants to the local authorities. Members of the Occupy Wall Street movement are preparing a strategy to protect their rights and resist the new tactic of the corporate and political establishments.

**MAY 14 - CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON SAN FRANCISCO PEAKS IN ARIZONA**

The Snowbowl ski area, near Flagstaff, began construction on the infrastructure to deliver waste water for snow-making on its slopes. Tribal activists seemingly lost their last major stand against the poopy snow earlier this year, when Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a district court decision dismissing a lawsuit filed by the Save the Peaks Coalition against the Forest Service.

Meanwhile, the controversial plan to make snow on the San Francisco Peaks is the subject of new talks between the US Forest Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service, following the discovery that it could threaten a federally endangered plant, the San Francisco Peaks ragwort, also known as a groundsel.

**MAY 16 - POLISH BEEKEEPERS DEFEAT MONSANTO**

Monsanto’s patent Mon810 corn, genetically engineered to produce a mutant version of the insecticide Bt, has been banned in Poland following protests by beekeepers who showed the corn was killing honeybees. Poland is the first country to formally acknowledge the link between Monsanto’s genetically engineered corn and the Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) that has been devastating bees around the world.

**MAY 19 - CHICAGO NATO PROTESTS, MORE FBI ENTRAPMENT**

Three people affiliated with the Occupy movement were arrested after being pressured to make molotovs by an FBI informant, yet again.

The following day, thousands marched in the streets against war and greed, clashing with police. More than three dozen veterans threw their service medals onto the street near the summit site in a symbol of protest. Vietnam War veteran Ron McSheffery, 61, said, “I’m in total support of stopping NATO and stopping the slaughter of innocent civilians. If we took the money we spent on bombs and put it into green energy, we wouldn’t need to keep the sea lanes open” for oil transport.

An affiliate of the computer hacking group, “Anonymous” said it had brought down the website for Chicago’s police department and another city website to protest the summit.

Activists from Greenpeace, RAMPS (Radical Action for Mountain People’s Survival), Katuah Earth First! and Keepers of the Mountains Foundation blocked a coal train en route to the Marshall Steam Station, a Duke Energy coal-fired power plant. Four activists, including leaders from the anti-mountaintop removal movement, locked themselves to the rail tracks preventing the train from passing. Other activists branded the train with Apple’s logo to show that the “iCloud” will be powered by more coal as its Maiden, NC, data center expands.

**MAY 24 - NEW SUSPECT ARRESTED IN SLAYING OF BRAD WILL**

Mexican authorities arrested a man they say shot and killed Brad, an EPI activists and IMC journalist, at a 2006 protest during an uprising in Oaxaca.
Human rights investigators, forensic analysts, and witnesses interviewed point to Lenin Osorio Ortega as the suspected killer.

MAY 24 - MOUNTAIN ACTIVISTS BOARD COAL BARGE AND BLOCK TRUCKS Mountain Justice and RAMPS activists blocked coal transport in two locations, protesting mountain top removal. Five boarded a barge on the Kanawha River near Chelyn, West Virginia, with a large banner that read, “Coal leaves, cancer stays,” and locked themselves to the barge. At the same time, dozens of concerned citizens obstructed access to the haul road on Kayford Mountain, stopping coal trucks from entering or leaving the Republic Energy mine.

MAY 30 - LAWSUIT TO PROTECT CRAYFISH FROM MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL The Center for Biological Diversity filed a lawsuit against the US Fish and Wildlife Service for the agency’s failure to make a listing decision on a petition to protect the Big Sandy crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. The crayfish species has lost around 70 percent of its range because of the water pollution from mountaintop removal coal mining in Kentucky, Virginia, and West Virginia.

MAY 30 - ANTI-MINING PROTESTS IN PERU SURGE, MAYOR ARRESTED Peruvian riot police charged into the municipal building in Espinar, Peru to arrest the mayor, Oscar Mollohuanca, in his office for leading a protest against Swiss-based global mining company Xstrata. This is President Ollanta Humala’s latest attempt to end conflicts over natural resources in favor of mining investments. The recent protests against expanding the mining projects in Peru are part of an ongoing struggle and the climate of unrest.

JUNE 10 - GREEKS PROTEST AGAINST CANADA’S ELDORADO GOLD About 600 people demonstrated against Vancouver-based Eldorado Gold in Thessaloniki. Top officials are pushing open pit mining as a way out of the country’s economic despair. But just as folks in Greece have taken action against an imposed economic paradigm, they are taking a stand to protect their lands from mining.

JUNE 11 - CRITICAL HABITAT FOR MISSISSIPPI GOPHER FROGS In response to a lawsuit and advocacy by the Center for Biological Diversity, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has designated 6,477 acres of protected critical habitat for endangered Mississippi gopher frogs. The critical habitat, which includes areas in both Mississippi and Louisiana, is more than three times the acreage proposed by the Service in 2010.

JUNE 12 - CRITICS OF OIL BOOM WAIVE MOVIE PREMIERE Activists interrupted a Vancouver Branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy, and Petroleum luncheon meeting focusing on Compliance Energy Corp’s proposed Raven Coal Mine. Half a dozen people unleashed decaying herring. A chaotic stench and nauseating shower of fermented fish engulfed the room. Simultaneously, coal tumbled onto the ground. Folks yelled unyielding opposition while pamphlets were strewn in the air to assert the point, “It has Begun! No Compliance! No Compromise! No Coal!” The conference was effectively shut down.

JUNE 17 - THOUSANDS PROTEST AT OHIO STATEHOUSE AGAINST FRACKING People from around the state traveled to downtown Columbus to join members of Don’t Frack Ohio in marching from Arch Park to the Ohio Statehouse steps to send Gov. John Kasich a message about the long term impacts of fracking devastating the environment.

JUNE 17 - BRAZILIAN FARMERS WIN BIG AGAINST MONSANTO Five million Brazilian farmers have taken on US-based biotech company Monsanto through a lawsuit demanding return of about $7.6 billion taken as royalties from poor farmers because they were using seeds produced from crops grown from Monsanto’s genetically engineered seeds.

In April this year, a judge in the southern Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, ruled in favor of the farmers and ordered Monsanto to return royalties paid since 2004, or a minimum of $2 billion. The ruling said that the business practices of seed multinational Monsanto violate the rules of the Brazilian Cultivars Act.

JUNE 18 - THOUSANDS BLOCKADE SKI RESORT DEVELOPMENT IN BULGARIA Over 1,500 people blocked a major Sofia intersection for a second day in a row in a protest against controversial changes in forest law. The amendments to the forest law will allow developers to build ski runs and lifts in the state-owned forests and protected areas more easily. Police detained nine activists.

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JUNE 24 - ANARCHIST PRISONERS PROTEST FOR ECO-DEMOCRACY Anarchist prisoners in the Eikenburg prison, The Netherlands, were arrested while marching through downtown. Couches were pulled into the street, caution tape was strung across all lanes of traffic and barbeque grills were lit. A water balloon fight ensued, and a cop-car-shaped piñata hosted. Over 40 other cities around the world celebrated the June 11 call for prisoner solidarity with potlocks, protests, sabotage and even a bomb scare at the US Embassy in Chile. For exciting details, check out: june11.org

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JUNE 20 - HOUSE BILL PASSES: BORDER PATROL TRUMPS ENVIRONMENT
The Republican-controlled US House approved a bill to allow the Border Patrol to circumvent more than a dozen environmental laws on all federally managed lands within 100 miles of the borders with Mexico and Canada.

JUNE 20 - LEAKED CABLES REVEAL WESTERN COMPLICITY IN NIGERIA
Based on over 4,000 leaked US embassy cables from 2001 to 2010, oil watchdog Platform suggests that the role of British and US governments in the Niger Delta conflict links them to Nigerian military groups through oil giants like Shell and Chevron. The secret documents strongly suggest that the US, UK, and Dutch governments were a part of the situation for over a decade.

JUNE 25 - CASCADIA EF! TAKES STATE CAPITOL
“We are occupying the Oregon State Capitol in Salem to end widespread clear cutting in state forests! We are currently locked down in the offices of Secretary of State Kate Brown and Treasurer Ted Wheeler, climbers are back on the flag poles and the establishment is generally shaking in its boots.” Fifty protesters and couple affinity groups shut down the building for the day.

JUNE 25 - GRAND CANYON URANIUM MINE APPROVED
The US Forest Service announced that it will allow Denison Mines Corporation to begin excavating the “Canyon Mine” this fall, without even updating the 26-year-old Environmental Impact Statement. The mine site is located due south of Grand Canyon National Park on the Kaibab National Forest.

JUNE 25 - KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PLAN IS BACK ON THE TABLE
Not long after denying approval for Keystone XL, President Obama announced support to expedite permits for the pipeline’s southern portion. The US Army Corps of Engineers has told TransCanada, which wants to build the 1,700-mile pipeline to carry heavy crude from Alberta to the Gulf Coast, that it could begin construction on the portion of the proposed pipeline that would end at the gulf port of Nederland, Texas.

JUNE 26 - THE EAST COAST IS SO FUCKED
Sea levels on the East Coast are rising three to four times faster than the global average, putting several major US cities at increased risk of flooding and storm surges, according to a new study released by the US Geological Survey.

The dramatic acceleration in sea-level rise, driven by climate change, also poses threat to coastal wetlands, beaches, and other vulnerable ecosystems.

JUNE 26 - FRACKING WASTE INJECTION BLOCKADE IN OHIO
An Athens County woman was arrested after she chained herself to two barrels of concrete and blocked the entrance of a fracking fluid injection well.

“I did this because I’m tired of out-of-state fracking waste being dumped in Ohio and I want state regulating agencies to protect Ohio citizens instead of taking money from the oil and gas industry,” said Madeline Fitch.

On July 7, 1,000 gallons of fracking wastewater spilled in the Fowler Township, prompting another well site blockade on July 16, which disrupted operations and resulted in another arrest.

JUNE 18 - PEOPLE FREE THE XINGU RIVER FROM BELO HORIZONTE PROJECT
Amazon region indigenous peoples, farmers, fisherfolk, activists and local residents affected by the construction of the massive Belo Monte Dam project began an occupation of the dam site to free the Xingu River. In the early morning hours, three hundred women and children arrived in the hamlet of Belo Monte on the Transamazon Highway, and marched onto a temporary earthen dam recently built to impede the flow of the Xingu River. Using pick axes and shovels, local people who are being displaced by the project removed a strip of earthen dam to restore the Xingu’s natural flow.

JUNE 19 - MCKAY TRACT TREESITTERS DECLARE VICTORY
After four years of continuous tree-sitting in the McKay Tract, Earth First! Humboldt declared success! Green Diamond Resource Co. (GDRC) sent paperwork to the Calfire’s forestry department, ending the clear-cut logging plan where the tree-sits are located. The logging company recently stated that it is close to signing a deal to sell roughly 2,000 acres of the western McKay Tract to the Trust for Public Land. The Trust plans to manage the area as a community forest.

JUNE 19 - SEA SHEPHERD CAPTAIN ESCAPES EXTRADITION
Captain Paul Watson was arrested in Germany and faced extradition to Costa Rica on an outstanding arrest warrant from an incident that occurred in 2002. Sea Shepherd said the arrest was related to a “violation of ships traffic” incident and involved a Costa Rican vessel called the Varadero in Guatemalan waters illegally hunting for shark fins. The group says Watson and his ship had intercepted the Varadero on the orders of the Guatemalan Government, but later encountered a Costa Rican gun boat. Reports claim the Captain faced an outstanding warrant for attempted murder in relation to the incident. Japan has also expressed an intention to pursue extradition if Watson turns up.

JULY 9 - CHINESE ACTIVISTS RIOT, DEFEAT COPPER PLANT
Following three days of mass protest, overturned police cars, tear gas, and violent clashes between protesters and riot police, the city government of Shifang in the province of Sichuan, southwest China, announced that it is scrapping plans for a copper alloy plant. This is but one of dozens of industrial projects that have been successfully defeated by large scale protests and riots in recent years.

As in the protests elsewhere in China, enraged activists have stormed the city’s government headquarters and staged a successful occupation.

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On April 18th, Eight indigenous rangers were shot dead by illegal loggers near the town of Cherán, in the state of Michoacan, an area known for its sanctuaries of migrating Monarch butterflies. The following day, the community detained 14 police officers and a local official. “They took our colleagues to punish us because supposedly we were not patrolling the area well,” said a state police officer, declining to give his name.

A year earlier, in the morning on April 15, 2011, Cherán made the news when a group of about 20 women blockaded trucks from carrying illegally cut timber out of the forests around the community after two of their neighbors were shot dead by loggers.

Support of the 17,000-strong Purépecha community continued to block access to the area where illegal loggers have deforested about 80 percent of the region’s communal forests. These loggers are part of organized crime groups in the area, and despite widespread awareness of the situation by local, state and federal authorities, their activities have led to the destruction of nearly 30,000 acres in recent years.

Michoacan is among the regions worst hit by violence blamed on drug gangs that has left more than 50,000 dead, according to media reports, since the start of a government offensive on organized crime in December 2006. The Cherán K’eri process of self-governance now underway has become a source of inspiration in Mexico.

Following the events in April, around 500 people from 15 cities in Mexico and 11 other countries converged outside this indigenous Purépecha town as part of the National Encounter of Autonomous Anti-Capitalist Resistance.
For updates on events, visit the EF! Newswire
>> EARTHFIRSTNEWS.WORDPRESS.COM

AUGUST 9-12
Climate Justice Direct Action Camp
Northeast Kingdom, Vermont

AUGUST 11-12
Everything for Everyone Festival,
Seattle, Washington

AUGUST 13-20
Anti-Coal Export Mass Actions,
Helena, Montana

AUGUST 23-30
Crash the RNC
{ Republican National Convention }
Tampa Bay, Florida

AUGUST 25-26
Seattle Anarchist Book Fair
Seattle, Washington

AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 3
Trans & Womyn’s Action Camp
{ “TWAC” = the lovely sound
of smashing patriarchy }
somewhere in Cascadia, TBA

AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 2
European Reclaim the Fields Gathering
France at “la Pointe” on the ZAD

SEPTEMBER 3-6
Protest the DNC
{ Democratic National Convention }
Charlotte, North Carolina

SEPTEMBER 9-15
Rabbitstick Primitive Skills Gathering,
Rexburg, Idaho

SEPTEMBER 17
International Convergence of the 99%
{ one year later }
Wall Street, NYC

SEPTEMBER 25-30
EF! Climbing Camp
Southern Ohio

SEPTEMBER 25-30
Falling Leaves Rendezvous
{ Earth Skills }
Near Lafayette, Georgia

OCTOBER 8-9
Reclaim Hinkley
{ Anti-Nuke Mass Civil Disobedience }
Somerset, England.

SUMMER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Ned Ludd,
These little puppies are very simple to make, look like a
jax you played with as a kid, and will make no less than two
gashes in a tire. They can be thrown out stationary or while
being pursued. They embed in the steel belts of the tire
causing so much vibration their quarry is outta the game!
The hollow tube makes a nice puncture and the hollow
core insures air escapes. Plus, any salvage yard will have
parts in unlimited supply (in worn out motors). I’ve used
them before and they work very well!

>> submitted by anonymous contributor behind bars

STEP 1:  
Acquire metal pipes. Example: Chevy pushrod (1955-present)
Approximately 3 to 6 inches in length is ideal.

STEP 2:  
Cut with a hacksaw, approximately 45° angle.

STEP 3:  
Weld two tubes. In a pinch, they
can be wired together and epoxied.

STEP 4:  
Weld a third tube between the
joint of the first two, as shown.

STEP 5:  
Take your new toys out to play!

EARTH FIRST! TOOLBOX

Riverdale Mobile Home Park (see story, page 1)

Rossport Solidarity Camp (see listing, page 8)
### ECO ACTION GROUPS DIRECTORY

### UNITED STATES

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<td><a href="mailto:greenmountain@earthfirst.net">greenmountain@earthfirst.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WISCONSIN</td>
<td>Madison EF!/Infoshop</td>
<td><a href="mailto:madison@riseup.net">madison@riseup.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WEST VIRGINIA</td>
<td>RAMPS (Radical Action for Mountain People's Survival)</td>
<td>rampscampaign.org</td>
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<td>EF! Australia</td>
<td>earthfirst.org.au</td>
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<td>EF! Belgium</td>
<td>groenfront.nl/english</td>
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<td>marea-creciente.org</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Coal Action Scotland</td>
<td><a href="mailto:coalaction@riseup.net">coalaction@riseup.net</a></td>
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<td>Beehive Design Collective</td>
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### INTERNATIONAL

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<td>mareacrecentecuador.wordpress.com</td>
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<td>hyokiaalto.org</td>
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<td>rossportsolidaritycamp.org</td>
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<td>ITALY</td>
<td>EF! Italia</td>
<td>earthfirstitalia.blogspot.com</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:info@camas.ca">info@camas.ca</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vancouver Island Community Forest Action Network</td>
<td>forestaction.wikidot.com</td>
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### Earth First! News

Litha 2012 No. VII

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