

Weyerhaeuser A Clearcut Case Study

*Logger speaks out in
RAN documentary*



Photo by Rupert Eastman


Former Weyerhaeuser logger Colin Leason of Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan testifies to illegal logging by Weyerhaeuser.
Watch the grassroots video documentary at RAN.org/Weyerhaeuser

On July 15, the **Wake Up Weyerhaeuser Campaign** released "Saskatchewan: The Province of Weyerhaeuser," a case study and grassroots documentary that confirms Weyerhaeuser is illegally logging the Canadian Boreal to supply plywood and copy paper to US companies like XEROX. The documentary features interviews with Saskatchewan residents and former Weyerhaeuser loggers testifying to the logging giant's disregard of community concerns and destruction of public forests.

"Most people associate illegal logging with endangered forests in South America, Southeast Asia and Central Africa and are shocked to learn that it is going on in their own back yard right here in North America," said Brant Olson, director of RAN's Old Growth Campaign.

Boreal forests form an evergreen halo that rings the regions just below the treeless tundra of the Arctic Circle. Accounting for one third of the Earth's total forest area, the Boreal is the largest land-based ecosystem on Earth and rivals its tropical sisters as the world's greatest forest protection opportunity.

Unlike competitors Tembec and Domtar that have attained Forest Stewardship Council certification, Weyerhaeuser is clearcutting the Canadian Boreal one cut block at a time.

 **Tell XEROX to stop bringing down the Boreal and stop making copy paper from Weyerhaeuser clear-cuts. Write to: Anne Mulcahy, CEO, XEROX, 800 Long Ridge Road, Stamford, CT 06904 or visit action.RAN.org to send an email.**



Join the Energy Revolution!

Oil and gas prices are at an all-time high; ancient glaciers around the world are melting fast; childhood asthma has reached epidemic levels across the country; and both Americans and Iraqis are dying everyday in a war for oil with no end in sight. But we are not powerless. It's time to declare our independence from oil.

This July 4th, the **Jumpstart Ford Campaign** ran controversial ads in USA Today and The New York Times to launch FreedomFromOil.com, a website calling on Americans to join the energy revolution by signing an online Declaration of Independence from Oil that demands zero emissions vehicles from Ford. The ads connect the dots between US vice president and former Halliburton CEO Dick Cheney, Saudi King Abdullah and Ford Motor Company CEO Bill Ford to our national oil addiction by asking, "What do these men have in common?" The answer: "They all love gas-guzzlers." The ad coincided with Ford's announcement that it would begin selling a second token gasoline-powered hybrid.

While it's encouraging that Ford is producing a second hybrid model, touting the Mercury Mariner hybrid SUV as real progress is tokenism at its worst. A closer look reveals that Ford will only be producing 2,000 Mariners for 2006, representing a miniscule three one-hundredths of one percent of the nearly 7 million gas-guzzlers it produces annually. The recently-released 2005 EPA fuel economy report ranks Ford's 2005 fleet, including their hybrids, dead last in overall fuel efficiency among the top automakers...again. At just 19.1 mpg, Ford still can't compete with the 80-year old Model-T's 25 mpg. We are calling on Ford to get serious about breaking America's oil addiction by rapidly phasing out production of gas-guzzling internal combustion engines and replacing them with existing alternatives such as hybrid electric vehicles that can be powered by rooftop solar panels. This would free most drivers from filling up at the pump and put Americans on the road to energy independence.

 **Declare your independence from oil at FreedomFromOil.com where you can watch a new flash animation that will take you on an eye-opening cross-country adventure highlighting the consequences of Ford's poor performance.**

Exclusive Interview

Father José Andrés Tamayo Cortez



Photo courtesy of Christian Lazen-Bernardt

Father José Andrés Tamayo Cortez, 2005 Goldman Environmental Prize Winner, Central & South America (Honduras), with his parishioners in Salama, Olancho, Honduras.

Old growth's guardian angel

Father José Andrés Tamayo Cortez is a priest and forestry reform activist from Honduras. He directs the Environmental Movement of Olancho (MAO), a coalition of subsistence farmers, religious and community leaders dedicated to protecting the endangered forests of Olancho, Honduras' largest and most biologically diverse region. In an area where communities opposed to illegal logging remain under constant threat by corrupt landgrabbers, Tamayo has emerged as a peaceful, resilient leader and inspiration to his community. In 2003, he organized the March for Life, a 120-mile weeklong march to the capital of Honduras that started with 3,000 marchers and ended with 40,000, successfully bringing the issue of illegal logging to the forefront of national debate. Tamayo's efforts received global recognition; he was the recipient of the 2003 Honduras National Human Rights Award as well as the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize in April 2005 for his work to combat illegal logging and protect indigenous communities. RAN has supported Tamayo and MAO through Protect-an-Acre, a program that provides support to traditionally under-funded organizations and communities in rainforest regions. We had a chance to interview Tamayo while he was in San Francisco recently.

What are the struggles currently facing local farmers and communities? Well, it all started because the people desperately knew they were losing water and especially their crops. The deforestation was destroying the infrastructure, upsetting the climate, and starting an economic crisis. So the communities, after arguing on behalf of the outcry of the towns, had to make the effort to start organizing a wider base. I dedicated two years to organizing in the communities, and from there we began advancing. From the point when we first took action, we began creating organizations in the different communities, advancing until we became a national mobilization.

How has the environment been impacted? In the last 35 years, Honduras has lost almost 5 million hectares of its forests. There's been an upset in the ecology, it is no longer harmonious, and it has been complicated by many unforeseen changes such as long droughts. Then a rainstorm will come that's very strong and everything is cleared away. Another is the loss of the harvests, which causes a big migration of the populations that can no longer live in their communities.

When did MAO start? We, as a movement, started in 2000. We learned that one can't be heard in the current system without receiving a lot of repression, so we first worked to gain the acceptance of our towns. We are continuing to advance with growing intensity and growing valor, by developing better strategies.

How can people in the U.S. help? There are a lot of ways to help. Maybe to start we should say we need your help to support our efforts. The country people live for each day. If they don't work, they don't eat that day. So to have them resist for one week, one month, creates more poverty. Our organization needs at least 10 organizers to build a movement that can take action. That's one way. The second way is to help us continue to take care of the woods. How can the people recuperate, reforest, continue to cultivate and maintain the basin, the micro basin, and create a means of living? We need to create thriving, sustainable communities following the Inca model, in which small plots of farmland will provide for the basic needs of the people while building and improving their economic opportunities.

Interview conducted and translated by Grace Stering

To read the interview in its entirety, visit RAN's Protect-An-Acre webpage at RAN.org/Give/PAA/



Everyday activist Wendell Covalt

"I get a great deal of personal satisfaction as a market activist working directly with local companies such as In-N-Out Burger to help support RAN's mission to campaign for the world's endangered forests."

A RAN supporter for many years, Wendell spent most of his career as a sales executive in the computer software industry. After retirement, he began helping the Old Growth Campaign educate Los Angeles-area retailers about good wood alternatives to endangered forest products. In a major milestone in the campaign to "Wake Up Weyerhaeuser," Wendell recently helped convince fast-food chain In-N-Out Burger to cancel its contract with Weyerhaeuser until the logging giant publicly adopts a global policy to protect endangered forests and respect communities.

If you're inspired by Wendell's work to protect endangered forests and would like to get involved in RAN campaigns, contact Jessica Bell at (415) 398-4404 or email grassroots@RAN.org.



Global Finance activists protest at Credit Suisse headquarters in New York City.

High-risk Shell game

On July 15th, Royal Dutch/Shell announced that its Sakhalin-II oil project, the largest integrated oil and gas project in history, would double in cost to a staggering \$20 billion and that delivery of the energy to market will be delayed at least 8 months. The announcement follows grassroots market pressure calling on Credit Suisse First Boston to sever its relationship as financial advisor to Sakhalin II. RAN and a global coalition have staged demonstrations at CSFB headquarters around the world in support of indigenous blockades on Sakhalin Island, where Shell's project threatens their cultural heritage and local economy. In addition to violating the Equator Principles, the mega-project will also cause irreversible damage to the only known feeding ground of critically endangered gray whales.

On June 30, RAN and a global coalition of citizen groups took out a full page ad in The Financial Times telling Sakhalin-II financial advisor Credit Suisse First Boston that "Oil is Over," and that it should "Fund the Future," not the dirty energy of the past. The ad coincided with renewed demonstrations including indigenous community blockades on Sakhalin Island as well as a week of solidarity events and protests in New York, London and Moscow. RAN activists also staged a day-long kids' art exhibit in New York City at CSFB's headquarters, delivering over 3000 letters to CEO Brady Dougan from children around the world.

Huaorani defend rainforest homelands

Brazilian oil company Petrobras is moving forward with its plan to drill for oil in Yasuni National Park and the overlapping Huaorani peoples' territory in the Ecuadorian Amazon. The Huaorani are demanding a 10-year moratorium on oil related activities in their territory and the Yasuni National Park. They are calling on Petrobras to immediately withdraw from an area the oil company calls "Block 31" where road construction already underway is carving up their pristine ancestral homelands. They have requested a meeting with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, as well as an audit of oil impacts to Huaorani territory.

Photo courtesy CPC Ecuador



Visit action.ran.org and tell Ecuador's President Alfredo Palacio to respect the ancestral rights of the Huaorani and protect the critical rainforest ecosystem of Yasuni National Park.

also on the web at 
RAN.org



A benefit so fun it should be illegal!

Please join us on October 7, 2005 at the San Francisco Design Center Galleria to celebrate RAN's 20th anniversary and two decades of tough love for corporate America.

The festivities include cocktails & hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auctions, an organic, seasonal three course feast paired with local, organic wines, World Rainforest Awards ceremony and live music by Tea Leaf Green!

For advance table reservations, please call Katie Steele at (415) 398-4404 x337 or rush her an e-mail at ksteele@ran.org. You can also visit REVEL online at RAN.org/give/revel

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Visit the Working Assets 2005 Donations Ballot today at www.workingassets.com/voting/ and cast your vote for RAN!

20 years of tough love for Corporate America

Rainforest Action Network is in the business of market transformation. For 20 years we have worked to nurture a grassroots movement into a market force capable of convincing once intransigent corporations that environmentally and socially destructive practices are not welcome in the global marketplace. From individuals to institutions, we have helped birth a new breed of market activism unleashing the purchasing power of consumer democracy and holding corporations accountable in the courts of public opinion. As a result, Citigroup, Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase, Boise Cascade, Home Depot, Burger King and others have all adopted environmental policies that set new best practices in their industries.



Make a 20th anniversary contribution at RAN.org/give