



RAN report reveals Japanese paper industry's role in destruction of Tasmania's forests

On June 26, RAN released *The Truth Behind Tasmanian Forest Destruction and the Japanese Paper Industry*, a report that details how the purchasing decisions of Japanese paper companies support the egregious logging practices of Australian logging giant Gunns Limited's rapid destruction of Tasmania's forests.

The report outlines the myriad problems with Gunns' logging in Tasmania, which include massive clearing of native forests, logging of old-growth and high conservation value forests (HCVFs), insufficient forestry regulation, and the inadequacy of the Australian Forestry Standard. The report also identifies the Japanese paper companies that purchase Gunns woodchips from Tasmania and ranks them by their efforts to address the aforementioned problems. Finally, *The Truth* contains evidence that Japan's largest paper company, Nippon Paper, continues to purchase wood from old-growth forests in Tasmania despite several public assurances to the contrary.

Forests containing old growth provide 71 percent of the pulpwood produced in Tasmania's state forests. Approximately 80 percent of Gunns' woodchips are exported to Japan and made into paper products. Most of the wood is purchased by just three companies – Nippon, Oji Paper and Chu-etsu Pulp – which combined comprise 70 percent of Gunns' woodchip market in Japan.

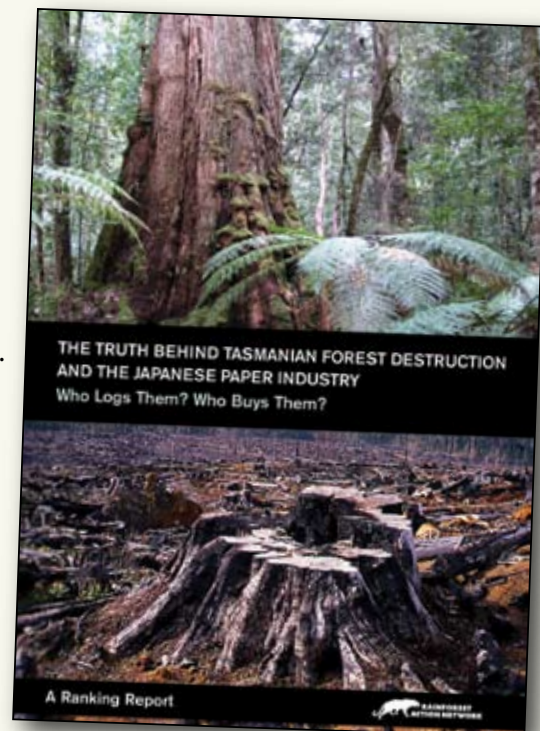
In early June, RAN's Japan office hosted three well attended forums in Tokyo to raise public awareness about the relationship between Tasmanian forest destruction and the Japanese paper industry. A panel of experts – including top ecological scientist Peter

The Triabunna woodchip mill off the east coast of Tasmania is just one of the many suppliers of Gunns fibre used by Japanese paper companies.
Photo by Vica Bayley / Australian Wilderness Society

McQuillan, Australian NGO leaders and Tasmanian Green Party leader Peg Putt – refuted Nippon's claims that all old-growth forests in Tasmania are protected from logging and that Gunns' logging practices meet FSC-controlled wood standards. Nippon's false assurances to customers about the origin of its woodchips are reportedly based on private correspondence from Australian government officials and Gunns Limited.

Since RAN first launched this campaign, Gunns has experienced a major decrease in paper contracts from its main purchasers in Japan. Two of Japan's leading paper companies, Mitsubishi and Daio, have stopped buying wood from Gunns sourced from old-growth forests in Tasmania. Other companies, including Asia Pulp & Paper, have severed all business ties with Gunns due to the global outcry over its logging practices.

Unfortunately, Gunns continues



Toronto Dominion releases landmark environmental policy

On June 4, Canada's second largest bank, Toronto Dominion (TD), became Canada's first bank to publicly adopt a lending policy that accounts for climate change; biodiversity; and free, prior and informed consent for Indigenous peoples. The policy sets a precedent for Canada's other major commercial banks to take stronger action on climate change, boreal forests and Indigenous rights.

RAN worked to bring about TD's policy shift by pressuring the bank with grassroots demonstrations and sending the clear message that TD needed to shift its lending practices to bring it in line with modern social and environmental values. In March 2006, RAN and ForestEthics released *TD Greenwash: Bankrupting the Future*, a corporate irresponsibility report that exposed TD's lackluster environmental and social performance. The report was hand-delivered to shareholders outside the bank's annual general meeting. Inside, hundreds of letters from RAN supporters urging TD to take responsibility for the destructive impacts of their investments were presented to TD CEO Ed Clark.

The release of TD's new policy is a testament to the power of grassroots organizing and skillful negotiations. It also proves that



financial institutions have more at stake than just their economic bottom line; their decisions must also make environmental and social sense – the triple bottom line.

We look forward to working with TD to turn their commitment into real change on the ground. With your ongoing support, we can continue to pressure the rest of the Canadian banking industry to join TD by adopting comprehensive environmental and social safeguards to guide all their operations and investments.

❖❖❖ Tasmania, continued from cover

to clear-cut nearly 15,000 hectares of Tasmania's unique and ancient temperate rainforests annually. The company firebombs the cleared land with napalm and exterminates hundreds of thousands of native wildlife with 1080 poison. In December 2006, Gunns' logging operations in southeast Tasmania's Wielangta Forest were found to be harming endangered species and were deemed illegal by Australia's Federal Court, a ruling which applies to nearly all of Gunns' logging operations in Tasmania. More recently, the United Nations announced that it is sending a high level delegation to Tasmania to assess logging threats to World Heritage forest areas.

RAN is committed to holding Gunns and its clients accountable for

their reckless behavior. Our Japan office will continue to pressure companies that are complicit in the logging of Tasmania's old-growth forests. With your continued support, we can ensure that Tasmania's rainforests and their inhabitants will survive for future generations.



Take Action! Tell Nippon Paper to stop buying paper made from Tasmania's old-growth forests! Visit TreesNotGunns.com today!



Donate Now! Visit RAN.org/give.

Upper Florentine Valley, Tasmania. Photo by Kip Nunn. Inset photo by Jeremy Williams

The PANTHER

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Editor / Designer: Toben Dilworth

Contributors: Jocelyn Cheechoo, Sarah Connolly, Debra Erenberg, Sam Haswell, Scott Kocino, Annie Sartor, Cameron Scott, David Sone

For inquiries, comments, suggestions, please email panther@ran.org
©2007 Rainforest Action Network | 221 Pine Street, #500
San Francisco, CA 94104, USA | 415-398-4404 | RAN.org

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Calculations based on research by Environmental Defense and other members of the Paper Task Force.

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U.S. Agribusiness, Soy and Palm Oil

A Lethal Combination for Human Rights and the Environment



Large areas of tropical rainforest throughout the Amazon are being cleared to make way for soy plantations like this one near Santarém in the State of Pará, Brazil.
Photo by Leonardo Freitas

RAN gearing up to challenge agribusiness giants

The latest threat to the world's rainforests is the rapid expansion of industrial soy and palm oil plantations. Rising demand for these crops is prompting industrial agribusinesses to clear land at an alarming rate, which is contributing to the global climate crisis and multiplying human rights abuses as workers confront grueling conditions and Indigenous communities are forced off their native lands. Fueled partly by the Western world's demand for agrofuels, soy and palm oil plantations are sprouting up in some of the planet's most biodiverse ecosystems, including the Amazon Rainforest and the wooded savanna that surrounds it, as well as throughout the tropical forests of Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.

To clear the land for their monocultural crops, U.S. agribusiness giants such as ADM, Bunge and Cargill clear-cut forests and burn woodlands and peat bogs. These harmful, climate-changing practices account for 25 percent of all heat-trapping gases emitted into the atmosphere. Indonesia, which is witnessing an explosion of palm oil plantations, is now the world's third largest CO₂ emitter.

In Indonesia and Brazil, Indigenous land rights are violated to make way for palm oil and soy plantations. Agricultural workers face abuse, harsh conditions, and exposure to toxic pesticides. In Brazil, some soy farms rely on debt peonage workers, who are essentially

modern-day slaves. Soy and palm oil plantations also displace small family farmers, who are forced to give up their land and food self-sufficiency in order to grow food and fuel for export.

Rainforest Action Network's newest campaign will demand that U.S. agribusiness companies change their environmentally and socially devastating practices. We will insist that rainforests not be cleared to meet the world's increasing appetite for agrofuels, and we will support and amplify the voices of Indigenous peoples, small farmers and other affected communities.

You can play a part in our campaign to hold U.S. agribusiness accountable for its destructive ways. Join us in protecting the world's remaining wildlands and defending the rights of their inhabitants. Help build a movement for decentralized, non-corporate agricultural systems that respect human rights and biodiversity.



To find out how you can get involved, contact Kasha Ho at kasha@ran.org or visit www.ran.org.



Contribute to this new campaign! Visit RAN.org/give.

RAN joins First Nations in call for Native rights

By Annie Sartor and Jocelyn Cheechoo, Old Growth Campaign Organizers



RAN supporters greet potential homebuyers outside a new Pardee Homes development near Sacramento, Calif. Photo by Annie Sartor

On June 9, RAN volunteers protested the grand opening of a housing development owned by Weyerhaeuser Corp. near Sacramento, Calif. Weyerhaeuser built the houses under its “Pardee Homes” brand, which claims to be eco-friendly. In reality, Pardee homes are built from wood obtained by clear-cutting forests in the traditional territory of Ontario’s Grassy Narrows First Nation without the community’s consent.

RAN visited the Pardee development bringing a banner that read, “Pardee Homes: Human Rights Abuses and Environmental Destruction – Is this the way you want to live?” More than 100 visitors stopped to talk to us about our concerns, and potential buyers were shocked to learn that a company marketing itself as “environmentally sensitive” was building new homes using wood clear-cut from Indigenous land.

On June 25, RAN joined representatives of the Grassy Narrows and Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) First Nations to erect a giant 30-foot tepee adorned with a “Native Rights Now” banner on the front lawn of the Ontario Legislature in Toronto. The two communities and their allies called on Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty to honor moratoria declared by Grassy Narrows and KI prohibiting industrial activity without community consent on their traditional territories.

The protest built momentum for the Canadian National Day of Action for Indigenous Rights that followed on June 29. That day, Native communities across Canada

staged a series of powerful marches, rallies and road blockades. The combination of events has pushed the issue of Native land rights into the mainstream, shaking Canada’s conscience and taking the fight for Indigenous self-determination to new heights.

On both sides of the border, RAN’s work to protect the boreal forest continues to highlight the close ties between human rights and the environment. All of us are hurt when governments give corporations free reign to plunder natural resources. With your help, we have forged meaningful alliances with those most affected by the Canadian government’s refusal to restrict logging by Weyerhaeuser and others. Together, we can continue to push industry and government to stop passing the buck and start protecting forests and respecting Indigenous rights.



Take a Stand! Sign the petition demanding the Province of Ontario stop providing leases for resource extraction on First Nations land. Visit Ran.org today!



You can support the efforts of RAN’s Old Growth Campaign! Visit RAN.org/give.

Opposite Page (clockwise from top): First Nations activists, with help from Rainforest Action Network and Christian Peacemaker Teams, erect a 30-foot painted teepee in Queen’s Park outside the Ontario Legislature in Toronto. A boreal lake inside Grassy Narrows territory. Activists deliver a message to Premier Dalton McGuinty in front of the Ontario Legislature. CSA-certified logging inside Grassy Narrows Traditional Territory to feed Weyerhaeuser’s iLevel mill in Kenora, Ontario. All photos by David Sone / RAN



Freedom from Oil Campaign

Challenging automakers to help break America's addiction to oil.



As the 4th of July came and went this year, the hubbub about our addiction to foreign oil reached a deafening roar. With California enacting groundbreaking global warming legislation and Congress debating the first increases in fuel efficiency standards in 30 years, we're finally engaging in a national debate about what the auto industry should be doing to end our oil addiction and curb global warming.

Debate is an important first step, but we're not letting up on the automakers yet. RAN's strategies are more necessary than ever in order to keep the pressure on this intransigent industry and highlight realistic solutions. A fuel efficiency standard of 35 mpg by 2020—as approved by the Senate this month—isn't nearly enough to end our oil dependence or halt climate change. Even so, the automakers are fighting tooth and nail to block the standard.

Although the federal government has resisted taking major steps to halt climate change, states like California are taking matters into their own hands, protecting their citizens and the planet by enacting legislation to curb tailpipe carbon emissions. The lone voice of opposition to these efforts has been the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers (AAM), the primary lobby group for the auto industry.

By suing states that try to curb global warming and launching a massive ad campaign to convince the public that fuel economy is a bad thing, the AAM is threatening to derail the most significant cuts in greenhouse gas emissions enacted in the United States. So, in May, RAN and friends rallied outside AAM's Sacramento offices, blasting the auto industry lobby for its opposition to commonsense greenhouse gas regulations.

Meanwhile, in Washington, the automakers have testified before Congress that they won't be able to meet the increased fuel

Google Plugs In

In June, we had an unlikely ally join the movement to demonstrate that plug-ins are a viable, marketable alternative to the gas-guzzlers now clogging our roads. Google's philanthropic arm, Google.org, announced the launch of a \$10-million plug-in hybrid vehicle initiative. RAN seized that opportunity to challenge Toyota to meet Google in the 21st century by adding a plug to the Prius.

Ford to produce PHEV prototypes

In July, Ford became the first major automaker to commit to a production timeline for plug-in hybrids when it announced a partnership with Southern California Edison to build as many as 20 plug-in prototypes. Thanks to more than three years of pressure from activists like you, Ford has jumpstarted its electric vehicle program. But 20 prototypes are just the beginning.

efficiency standards lawmakers have proposed. GM Vice-Chairman Bob Lutz has said that requiring automakers to boost fuel economy four percent a year is tantamount to demanding cars that "float four inches off the ground." But RAN's groundbreaking advocacy for plug-in hybrids takes the wind out of the automakers' excuses. Plug-ins get upwards of 100 mpg, making the federal goal of 35 miles per gallon by 2020 seem absurdly unambitious.

The auto industry has routinely resisted major change on everything from seat belts to catalytic converters, and it will fight to the end to block greenhouse gas regulations and increases in fuel economy standards. It's our job to make sure they stop telling us what they can't do, and start producing the cars that will get us on the road to a sustainable future.



Take Action! Tell the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers to stop sinking money into fighting regulation and start investing in real solutions to global warming! Visit FreedomFromOil.org.



Donate Now! You can help us challenge the automakers to build the cars of the future today. Visit RAN.org/give.

Another world is possible

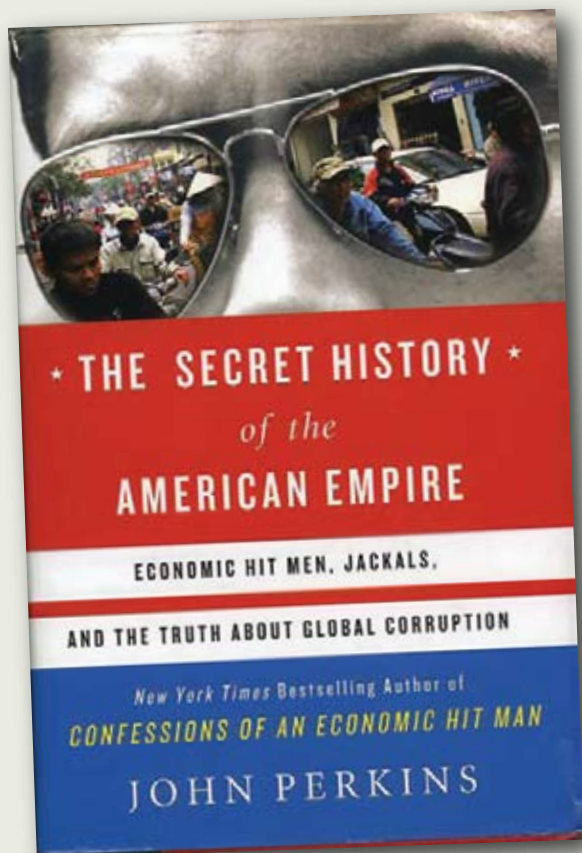
RAN attends first ever U. S. Social Forum

The U.S. Social Forum took place in Atlanta from June 27-July 1, with more than 800 workshops and events focusing on social and environmental justice. The forum presented an opportunity for grassroots movements across the U.S. to unite, strategize, share skills and build alliances. RAN staff participated in numerous meetings and facilitated workshops on youth organizing, biofuels, redefining environmentalism, corporate campaigning, arts activism, defunding new coal power plants and more.

Before the Social Forum began, RAN's grassroots organizing team held a 4-day action camp for 26 talented and dedicated activists between the ages of 16 and 26. In addition to offering valuable workshops on strategy, anti-oppression and RAN campaigns, the camp created a sense of community among participants. The young activists described the experience as "life changing" and committed to supporting each other in their work on RAN's campaigns and beyond.



RAN is building a grassroots challenge to global corporate power from the ground up. To get involved, visit www.ran.org/grassroots or email jwolk@ran.org.



RAN's work featured in new book

John Perkins is an author and activist, though he describes himself as a former economic hit man. His 2004 book, *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*, provides a whistle-blower's account of how powerful economic institutions exploit the natural resources of developing countries around the globe by funneling trillions of dollars into the pockets of powerful corporations and corrupt individuals. His compelling exposé spent more than a year on *The New York Times* Best Sellers list.

His latest book, *The Secret History of the American Empire*, takes another bold look inside the tyranny of the corporatocracy; the widespread collusion of corporate interests at the highest levels of government. It is another thrilling tale inspired by the numerous men and women from similar ranks who have stepped forward to share their stories.

In addition to revealing more insight into the dark world of his past, Perkins offers a vision for repairing some of the damage and creating a pathway toward a stable, sustainable, and peaceful world. Throughout many of the book's encompassing chapters, he draws upon RAN's successes as shining examples of what he calls "changing the myth"; challenging the assumption that powerful corporations cannot be held accountable for their actions. An ensuing chapter profiles key RAN staff while examining how RAN's campaign strategies are shifting the paradigm by making big business behave more responsibly. Be sure and check it out at your local independent bookstore!



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Dialing for dollars: Vote for RAN!



Are you a member of Working Assets? Then take a moment to VOTE for RAN! By filling out the Working Assets 2007 Donations Ballot, you can vote to allocate a portion of this year's funding to RAN. The more votes we get, the more funding we receive. Working Assets has been a longtime supporter of RAN campaigns and has raised more than \$50 million for worthy groups since 1985.

Voting is easy. Just visit www.workingassets.com/voting and cast your vote for RAN!

If you're not a Working Assets member, you can join today by visiting www.WorkingAssets.com.

Your contributions make our work and our victories possible!

REVEL: THE ART OF ACTIVISM

A benefit so fun it should be illegal!

On October 18, 2007, RAN invites you to join us for *REVEL: The Art of Activism* at the San Francisco Design Center Galleria. Come celebrate with us as we eat, drink and dance the night away – while honoring some of the planet's most inspiring visionaries and activists.

Join us for an inspiring evening of video, performance, action, discovery, and change - all to raise critical funds for RAN's groundbreaking work!

Don't miss it for the world!

For advance tickets and table reservations, please call Katie Steele at (415) 659-0537 or e-mail her at ksteele@ran.org.