



VICTORY! AbitibiBowater to stop logging in Grassy Narrows! ➡ ➡ ➡ page 4



We have plenty of reasons to smile these days at RAN. Last issue, we were proud to report that we had pushed Boise, Inc. out of Grassy Narrows – a move precipitated by a RAN day of action targeting Boise subsidiaries OfficeMax in the U.S. and Grand and Toy in Canada. On June 3, news hit that AbitibiBowater was officially packing up its logging operations and leaving Grassy Narrows, giving us cause to celebrate anew.

AbitibiBowater's withdrawal means the suspension of all logging on Grassy Narrows territory, including all sourcing by Weyerhaeuser. This represents a huge victory for RAN's Old Growth Campaign and for the people of Grassy Narrows, who have spent more than a decade struggling to end logging on their land.

It is also a testament to the power of grassroots action – and you helped make it happen.

But that's really just the beginning.

On July 14, in response to mounting pressure from RAN, First Nations, and allies across Canada, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced the protection of 55 million acres – an area

half the size of California. It is the farthest-reaching commitment of any jurisdiction in North America to protect forests and recognize the right of First Nations to consent over industrial development. This astounding victory was earned by a unique coalition that realized that environmental and human rights are one and the same.

Premier McGuinty's commitment sets the stage for further opportunities to protect the entire Canadian Boreal, which stores more carbon than any terrestrial ecosystem on Earth and is thus vital to halting the catastrophic effects of global warming. Canada's largest newspaper, *The Globe and Mail*, has called on provinces throughout Canada to follow Ontario's lead, and coalitions with diverse interests are organizing across the Boreal to do the same.

We are witnessing an historic transformation of the values and voices that determine resource extraction in Canada. With your continued support, we intend to see it through.



Continue to support RAN by becoming a Rainmaker!
Find out how at www.ran.org/rainmaker.



Victory for Tasmania's forests ➡ ➡ ➡ page 2

Rainforest destruction in our supermarkets?

By Brihannala Morgan, Rainforest Agribusiness Campaigner

Agribusiness giants ADM, Bunge and Cargill are sneaking rainforest destruction and climate chaos into the most unlikely of places – our supermarkets. Ninety percent of the palm oil that comes into the U.S. is used in either cookies, crackers and other junk foods, or shampoos, soaps, lotions and cosmetics. Most consumers have no idea that they have become complicit in rainforest destruction.

In order to tackle this problem, the Rainforest Agribusiness Campaign is employing a new strategy to pressure ADM, Bunge and Cargill directly in the marketplace. We started by asking RAN supporters like you to become “supermarket sleuths” by going into supermarkets and identifying products that contain palm oil. We then created a web site, TheProblemWithPalmOil.org, where supermarket sleuths can register their products into an online database. To date, RAN activists have identified more than 500 products that contain palm oil!

Based on these findings, RAN sent letters to more than 350 companies whose products contain palm oil, requesting that they stop using palm oil sourced from rainforest destruction. We urged them to join us in pressuring ADM, Bunge and Cargill – the real power players who have the sway to change the palm oil industry.

To ensure these companies take us seriously, we organized an international “Stick It To Palm Oil” day of action on August 13




Photo by Eric Wakker

where more than 2,000 activists across 46 U.S. states and 5 Canadian provinces went to local supermarkets and stuck tens of thousands of “WARNING: Product May Contain Rainforest Destruction” stickers on products that contain palm oil.



Take Action! Go to TheProblemWithPalmOil.org and tell more than 350 companies that it's time to stop destroying rainforests for palm oil.




You can help support this campaign! Make a donation today at RAN.org/give.

ANZ Bank denies funding to Gunn’s Tasmanian pulp mill ➡➡➡ cont'd from cover

On May 23, RAN praised ANZ, Australia’s third largest bank, for its decision to not fund Australian lumber giant Gunns Ltd’s controversial Bell Bay pulp mill project in Tasmania. The proposed \$2 billion pulp mill threatens to accelerate the conversion of Tasmania’s native and old-growth forests to woodchips for export to Japan.

Since 2006, RAN, BankTrack, the Australian Wilderness Society and activists around the world have been pressuring ANZ to adopt a comprehensive environmental policy that would specifically prohibit funding for the Gunns pulp mill. ANZ’s announcement is a severe blow to Gunns and sends a clear signal to other banks that Gunns’ highly destructive project is an unsound investment. This victory would not have happened without the support of RAN members like you. Congratulations!



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trees	water	energy	solid waste	greenhouse gases
19 fully grown	6,129 gallons	10 million Btu	885 pounds	1,719 pounds
Calculations based on research by Environmental Defense and other members of the Paper Task Force.				
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From the Canopy

By Michael Brune, RAN Executive Director

Coming Clean Breaking America’s Addiction to Oil and Coal



Dear friends,

If television ads are any indication, this is the year of the Energy Election. Windmills and solar panels are getting more airtime this campaign season than cute babies and American flags. Yet, somehow, Congress can’t muster the political will to pass even a modest solar investment credit, despite eight attempts already this year.

Meanwhile, oil companies swim in record profits while they reap billions of dollars in government subsidies. We’re burning rainforests to make biofuels, blasting mountains for coal, and strip mining the boreal for dirty oil. Sadly, the list goes on.

Climate and energy issues have gained international prominence. Yet, the gap between what is needed and what is being done seems wider than ever.

We are growing accustomed to poor political and corporate leadership regarding our energy future. By last summer, I’d become so alarmed at the lack of urgency and foresight that I decided to offer a new perspective.

Over the past year, I’ve been writing a book about the actions we can take to bring about systemic solutions to our energy crisis. This isn’t another book bemoaning the problems with dirty energy. Nor is it a technical review of different energy alternatives. My intent was to turn the lessons I’ve learned at RAN over the years into a compelling story that shows we can indeed break our addiction to oil and coal. The book, which is called *Coming Clean*, will be published September 17.

Some suggestions include:

Separate Oil and State – To get clean energy, we’ll need a clean government. This chapter describes how voters used new online tools to help defeat four of the top five Congressional recipients of oil industry cash, while convincing other legislators to refuse any contributions from Big Oil and King Coal.

Follow the Money – This chapter exposes in detail how large corporate banks like Citi and Bank of America use consumer dollars to finance new coal plants, large drilling operations, and pipelines through sensitive ecosystems. You’ll read the inside story of how RAN and a growing number of citizens’ groups have successfully challenged Wall St. in the past, and how we’ll do it again.

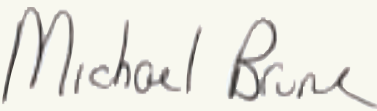
Jump-Start Detroit – In this chapter, we take a ride on both the electric Tesla roadster and a Japanese bullet train, and we meet Andy Frank, the “godfather” of the plug-in hybrid. Learn how automakers and the government are entwined in an “assisted suicide” of the auto industry, and find out what we can do to get automakers in gear and kick our oil habit for good.

Green the Grid – This chapter shares some good news readers probably haven’t heard: three times more new wind energy was deployed in 2007 than new power from coal. More solar panels were installed in California in the first nine months of 2007 than in the previous 26 years combined. Clean power is enjoying its day in the sun. We can begin replacing dirty power plants with massive solar and wind energy farms. Plant by plant, windmill by windmill, this chapter shows how it can be done.

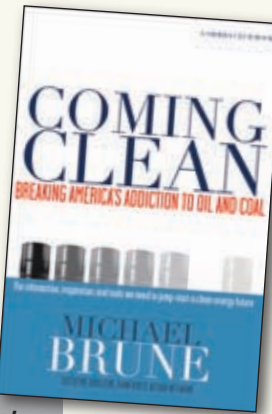
Energy is on the minds of millions of Americans right now. We need to seize this historic opportunity to create a new economy based on clean energy.


Coming Clean provides the roadmap America needs to break its addiction to dirty energy, and I invite you all to come along for the ride! Visit ComingCleanBook.org for more information.

For a better world,



Michael Brune
Executive Director





In coordination with the *Coming Clean* book release, RAN will be organizing a book tour with Mike from late September through next Spring. Check ComingCleanBook.org for more information.


Since 2004, RAN has worked closely with northern Ontario’s Grassy Narrows First Nation to pressure U.S. companies Weyerhaeuser and Boise Inc. to drop their logging contracts with AbitibiBowater for wood obtained from Grassy Narrows land. In February, following a RAN day of action, Boise agreed to suspend its contract unless community consent could be established. Then, on June 3, Montreal-based AbitibiBowater—the largest paper company in the world—said it would cease all operations in the million-acre Whiskey Jack Forest that comprises Grassy Narrows traditional territory, a move that effectively chokes off Weyerhaeuser’s wood supply from the region.

This historic decision comes in the wake of decades of lawsuits and peaceful protests by the Grassy Narrows community, including the longest standing Indigenous logging blockade in Canadian history. Abitibi’s withdrawal is a huge victory for Grassy Narrows, RAN’s Old Growth Campaign, and for activists around the world who helped sustain this cause. And it would not have been possible without your support!

Throughout its decade-long history, RAN’s Old Growth Campaign has helped save millions of acres of forests by transforming the practices of the world’s largest lumber retailers, loggers and paper companies. We achieved this by building strong coalitions of dedicated activists, allies and supporters, and by blending cutting-edge campaign tactics with grassroots organizing.

By taking our cues from those on the front line of resistance and by working in the spirit of true collaboration, we were able to defeat the largest paper company in the world and deter one of the world’s biggest logging companies.

RAN is honored to have contributed to this victory for Grassy Narrows, and we will continue to fight for Indigenous rights in Canada and throughout the world in the years ahead.



Support RAN's ongoing work to protect forests and Indigenous rights. Make a donation today at RAN.org/give.



Photo Courtesy of Christian Peacemaker Teams.



Photo by Jon Schledewitz / RedLine Photo Agency.

Timeline

- December 2002** - Youth leaders of Grassy Narrows commenced what would become the longest running Indigenous logging blockade in Canadian history.
- April 2006** - RAN issues “American Dream, Native Nightmare,” a report that documents the movement of wood from massive clear-cut operations on Grassy Narrows traditional territory into new American homes marketed as “Built Green” by Quadrant Homes, a subsidiary of Weyerhaeuser.
- May 2006** - RAN begins distributing “As Long as the Rivers Flow: The Grassy Narrows Blockade Story,” a documentary about the plight of Grassy Narrows, to activists who organize hundreds of educational movie nights throughout the U.S. and Canada to raise awareness for Grassy Narrows.
- July 2006** - RAN activists and supporters of Grassy Narrows blockade the Trans-Canada highway in Kenora, Ontario. The action garnered major news coverage and was a bold statement of support for Indigenous rights throughout Canada.
- September 2006** - RAN activists begin to target Weyerhaeuser homebuilding subsidiaries Quadrant Homes, Pardee and Winchester. Wood used to build these homes is clear-cut without consent from Grassy Narrows.
- January 2007** - Grassy Narrows declares a moratorium on all industrial activity on its territory. Grassy Narrows warns Weyerhaeuser: “Withdraw or Face Fierce Campaign.”
- RAN sponsors a “Road to Seattle” speaking tour across Canada with three community members from Grassy Narrows. The 1,000-mile journey from their traditional territory in northwest Ontario concludes at Weyerhaeuser’s Federal Way, Wash., headquarters, where they demand a meeting with CEO Steve Rogel.
- February 2007** - RAN activists occupy the roof of a Quadrant Homes model home near Seattle, Wash., and refuse to leave until Weyerhaeuser pulls out of Grassy Narrows. The event gets broadcast on TV stations throughout Washington.
- March 2007** - RAN sends letters to responsible investors detailing the extent of Weyerhaeuser’s environmental and human rights violations in advance of the company’s annual general shareholder meeting.
- April 2007** - Amnesty International Canada conducts a four-day fact-finding mission in the traditional territory of the Grassy Narrows First Nation in order to document the impact of logging and other industrial development on the community’s rights and culture.
- On the eve of Weyerhaeuser’s annual general shareholder meeting, RAN activists scale Quadrant Homes’ headquarters in Bellevue, Wash., and unfurl a gigantic banner reading: “Weyerhaeuser: Human Rights Abuser.”
- June 2007** - RAN joins members of Grassy Narrows and Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) First Nations and Christian Peacemaker Teams to erect a 30-foot painted teepee reading “Native Rights Now” outside the Ontario Legislature. The action calls on Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty to honor the moratorium declared by Grassy Narrows and KI prohibiting industrial activity without consent in their traditional territories.
- September 2007** - RAN, Christian Peacemaker Teams, and leaders representing 49 First Nations in northern Ontario organize a second public demonstration in front of the Ontario Legislature in which a 75-meter, arrow-shaped banner reading “Native Land Rights Now” points directly at the legislature.
- Amnesty International Canada issues a report calling on the Ontario government to respect the moratorium declared by the people of Grassy Narrows and to halt all clear-cut logging and other industrial development in their traditional territory until free, prior and informed consent is given.
- January 2008** - RAN targets Boise subsidiaries OfficeMax and Grand and Toy in an international day of action to demand that Boise honor its commitment to help resolve the ongoing conflict in Grassy Narrows. The day of action was a huge success, with hundreds of activists participating in 34 actions throughout North America.
- February 2008** - Students at Ohio State University stage an 8-hour sit-in at OSU President McGee’s office demanding that the school stop purchasing OfficeMax copy paper sourced from Grassy Narrows. The action spurs dialogue between OSU’s administration and Boise.
- Boise publicly announces that it will no longer purchase pulp sourced from Grassy Narrows through logging company AbitibiBowater.
- April 2008** - RAN activists crash Weyerhaeuser’s annual general shareholder meeting and unfurl a 20-foot banner reading “American Dream, Native Nightmare,” while three activists lock themselves to the building’s entrance and demand that Weyerhaeuser leave Grassy Narrows.
- May 2008** - Grassy Narrows activists embark on a 2,000-kilometer walk to Toronto to participate in a four-day “Gathering of Mother Earth Protectors” on the front lawn of the Ontario Legislature. The gathering concludes with a massive National Aboriginal Day of Action throughout Canada.
- June 2008** - AbitibiBowater announces its withdrawal from the million-acre Whiskey Jack Forest that comprises Grassy Narrows traditional territory.



2008 Save the Rainforest Poster Contest

The next step in RAN's campaign to stop agribusiness companies from destroying rainforests is to show them why rainforests are so important. In order to do that, we launched our Save the Rainforest Poster Contest earlier this year, and now we're ready to share the results. In the process of selecting the winning entries, RAN staff found inspiration in the number of kids that showed their support for the rainforests and their inhabitants. I hope you are as inspired as we were by their efforts.

We tallied the votes and determined two winners from each category: grades K-1, 2-3, 4-5 and 6-8. That means we were only able to choose eight winners from the nearly 400 participants. We wish we could have chosen more!

The winners were awarded hand-sewn, organic cotton, fair-trade toy monkeys from Global Exchange, as well as RAN t-shirts for each of their classmates.

Thanks so much to all the students, teachers and parents who participated in and helped with this poster contest. It was a huge success, and we are so glad we did it! Keep up your great work educating the world about rainforests. We couldn't do it without you!

Have a great summer!

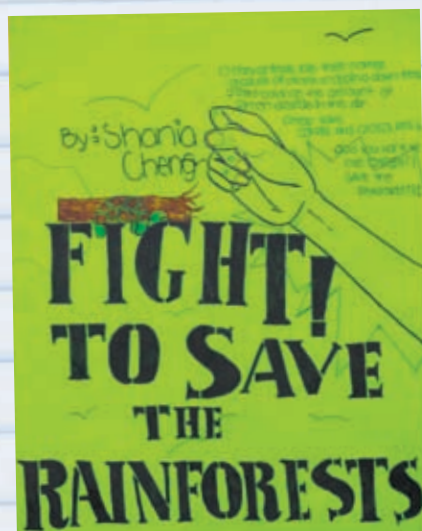
Levana

Levana Saxon

RAN Education Coordinator



Best Message



TOP RIGHT: (GR 2-3): "Beauty should never be endangered" Drakan Blackstock, Ripley Elementary School, Ripley, TN

ABOVE: (left to right): (GR K-1) "If you cut down more and more trees then you won't have any oxygen and animals will be extinct so stop!" Emily Smith, Floresville Primary School, Floresville, TX; (GR 4-5): "Let the monkeys keep on swingin!" Emily Tepará, Wilson Elementary School, Coppell, TX; (GR 6-8): "Fight! to save the rainforests" Shania Cheng, Sierramont Middle School, San Jose, CA.

Best Artwork



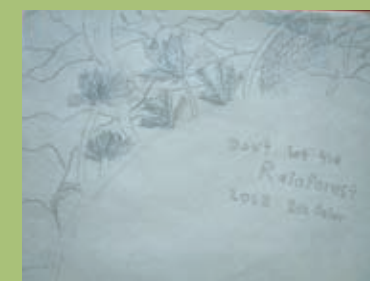
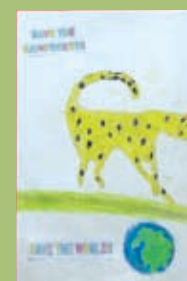
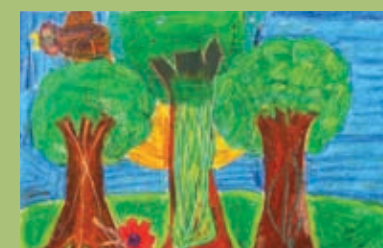
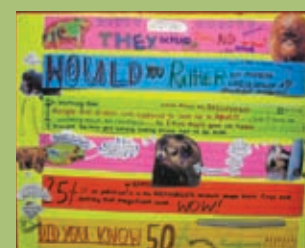
CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT:

(GR K-1) Jenna Grabowski, Portage, MI; (GR 2-3) Susan Lindley's Class, Port Angeles, WA; (GR 6-8) Christine O'Connell, St. Paul Catholic School, Spartanburg, SC (GR 4-5) Deyse, Norcrest Elementary, Deerfield Beach, FL.



View the contest winners online at RainforestHeroes.com

Honorable Mentions



ABOVE: (left to right): BEST EFFORT OVERALL: Emma Smith, WT Jackson Elementary, Atlanta, GA;

HONORABLE MENTIONS: Paula Mendez, Paraguay; Linda Castranova, 4th Grade, Wilson Elementary School, Coppell, TX; Victoria K Rose, Age 7, Pan American School, Porto Alegre, Brasil. **BELOW:** Kathryn Dyches, 2nd Grade, Floresville Primary School, Floresville, TX; Trent Kissell, 3rd Grade, Ripley Elementary School, Ripley, TN; unidentified; Mathew Husfield, 6th Grade.

RAN confronts Citi and Bank of America at annual general meetings

CEOs feel heat from shareholders about investments in coal

On April 22, Appalachian residents joined RAN activists at Citi's annual general shareholder meeting in New York to protest the bank's role as a leading financier of the coal industry. While activists demonstrated at the building's entrance, more than 500 Citi shareholders made their way inside to a packed meeting, where tensions were already running high due to the bank's financial woes tied to the credit crisis. For the first time ever, a landmark shareholder resolution addressing the climate change implications of a bank's external financing—specifically requesting that Citi cease all financial support for mountaintop removal coal mining and the construction of new coal-fired power plants—came to a vote. Though the measure failed, Citi's CEO Vikram Pandit and Chairman Sir Win Bischoff were caught off guard by a request from Rebecca Tarbotton, director of RAN's Global Finance Campaign, inviting them to accompany her on a flight over Appalachia to witness the effects of Citi-financed mountaintop removal. To our surprise and delight, they accepted.

Days later in Charlotte, N.C., RAN activists confronted Bank of America CEO Ken Lewis at his bank's annual general shareholder meeting. While Bank of America's involvement in the sub-prime mortgage crisis was paramount leading up to the meeting, it was the bank's destructive investments in coal that took center stage at the podium. Coalfield residents berated Lewis over the impacts of mountaintop removal coal mining – from the flattening of mountain ranges and transformation of healthy mountain woodlands into toxic sludge and rubble to the clogging of more than 700 miles of rivers and streams. Others voiced concerns over the health impacts and destruction of their communities from coal contamination.

Citi and Bank of America have financial relationships with each of the top five producers of mountaintop removal mining, and coal-fired power plants are responsible for nearly a third of the nation's carbon dioxide emissions. Citi and Bank of America are at a crossroads: they can either respond to the climate crisis with vision and leadership, or they can continue to lock in an outdated energy infrastructure for decades to come.



Take Action! Tell Citi and Bank of America to stop funding the coal industry.

Write to:

- Mr. Vikram Pandit, CEO, Citi
399 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022
- Mr. Kenneth Lewis, CEO, Bank of America
100 North Tryon Street Charlotte, NC 28202

Or visit DirtyMoney.org today to send an email!



**You can help support this campaign!
Make a donation today at RAN.org/give.**



Climate expert calls for action to halt coal-fired power plants



In 1988, NASA's chief climate scientist, James Hansen, became the first expert to warn Congress about the potential threat of global warming. On May 22, the 20-year anniversary of his historic testimony, Hansen delivered a similar, if more urgent, message to the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. Afterward, he was called a hero by former Sen. Tim Wirth, D-Colo., who headed the 1988 hearing.

In his remarks, Hansen suggested that the world has long passed the "dangerous level" of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere and that the world's only hope is immediate, drastic action. Hansen has been a long-time critic of coal-fired power plants – calling them the chief contributor of greenhouse gases

"It seems to me that young people, especially, should be doing whatever is necessary to block construction of dirty coal-fired power plants."

- James Hansen, NASA

– and has repeatedly called for a moratorium on the construction of new coal plants, as well as a complete phase-out of coal power in the U.S. by the year 2025.

Protect-an-Acre Program

Empowering Forest Communities

RAN's Protect-an-Acre program (PAA) is a small grants program that contributes directly to forest communities struggling to protect their homelands and the natural resource base on which they rely. Groups supported by PAA are working to protect endangered ecosystems and preserve their cultural heritage through various means, such as land title initiatives, community education, development of sustainable economic alternatives, and grassroots resistance to destructive industrial activities.

Following are a few of our recent grants and the projects they supported:

Racimos de Ungurahui – \$3,000 (Peru)

PAA funds helped support representatives from Racimos de Ungurahui and the Indigenous Achuar federations FECONACO, AIM and ATI travel from the Peruvian Amazon to Calgary and Los Angeles to engage directly with corporate officials of Talisman Energy and Occidental Petroleum (OXY) at their annual shareholder meetings. Talisman is planning to explore for oil on two enormous tracts of rainforest in Peru, while OXY continues to defy a court order to clean up billions of barrels of toxic waste it left behind in Peru.

During a closed-door meeting between the Achuar delegation and Talisman CEO and President John Manzoni, the company committed in writing to "not work in Peru in areas in which it does not have an agreement with the community."

At the OXY meeting, CEO Ray Irani received an invitation from actress Daryl Hannah to come to the Peruvian Amazon and witness firsthand the 30-year human and environmental toll its operations have taken on a vast swath of pristine tropical rainforest inhabited by thousands of Achuar.

Students raise money to support Protect-an-Acre

It's easy to raise money to help protect the world's rainforests and support Indigenous people. Just ask Karen May's fifth grade class at Virginia Park Elementary School in Modesto, Calif. Inspired by the story of Swedish students fighting to stop the destruction of the world's rainforests, the students opened a mini-store for three days before and after school where they sold hot chocolate, school supplies and other goods. The students raised \$311.40 for Protect-an-Acre!

To learn how your school can help support Protect-an-Acre, contact Tracy Solum at (415) 659-0513 or email tsolum@ran.org.

Associação Floresta Protegida – \$3,000 (Brazil)

The Kayapó are one of the most respected communities of the Xingu river basin. In 1989, they organized the largest ever regional Indigenous gathering in the Brazilian Amazon, which ultimately led to the termination of a major dam project. On May 19, the Kayapó hosted "Encontro Xingu: Vivo Para Sempre" (Xingu Encounter: Alive Forever), an Indigenous gathering featuring representatives from across the Amazon voicing their opposition to the Belo Monte Dam on the Xingu River and more than 60 large dams slated for construction in the Amazon over the next two decades. The entire Xingu river basin and the lives of its inhabitants are under threat by dams and industrial agriculture. PAA funds helped provide transportation for Kayapó community members to the Xingu gathering.

Grassy narrows First Nation – (Ontario, Canada)

RAN is proud to announce the creation of a special Protect-an-Acre fund devoted to projects developed and implemented by and for the people of Grassy Narrows for the purpose of continuing to defend their traditional lands.

To contribute directly to Grassy Narrows' Protect-an-Acre fund, contact Tracy Solum at (415) 659-0513 or email tsolum@ran.org.



Indigenous leaders board a bus en route to a gathering to protest plans for the Belo Monte dam on the Xingu River in Brazil. Photo by Andre Penner / AP.

Rain forests safer thanks to students

Schoolchildren in Ceres surpass their goal of \$500

By SUE NOWICKI
sue@modestocal.com

Karen May, a fifth-grade teacher at Virginia Park Elementary School in Modesto, Calif., said she has been "inspired by the dedication and commitment of my class."

The class recently heard students in Sweden who try to help fight the destruction of the world's rain forests. Later, students found an organization that put rain forest trusts for the indigenous people who have lived there for hundreds of years. The student said she was donated some of her money and other students wanted to





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Read about the major victories inside!



Don't miss it for the world!

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008 6 P.M. - LATE
FORT MASON CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO**

Treat yourself and your friends to a fabulous night of artful cocktails and scrumptious hors d'oeuvres; a seasonal, local, organic dinner with fine wines; a silent auction stocked with incredible eco-goods; live entertainment and dancing; and an awards ceremony honoring **Bill McKibben** and **Doug and Kris Tompkins**—all to raise critical funds for RAN's work.

To purchase tables and tickets, please visit www.ran.org/give/revel or contact Katie Steele at (415) 659-0537 or ksteele@ran.org.



RAN.org in 1994 and 2008

RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK Environmentalism with Teeth

In 1994, RAN became one of the first environmental groups to embrace the internet by going live with RAN.org. We've come a long way since then, but the site has always served as a powerful and essential tool for disseminating information about our campaigns, connecting with activists and supporters, and educating the public.

This spring, RAN.org got a major facelift. Though it may look different, RAN.org remains the best source of breaking news on our campaigns and ways to get involved or donate to RAN.

Anything you'd like to see on RAN.org? Email us at webmaster@ran.org.