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*Earth First! Journal* 20, no. 4



Earth First! Fist, Volume 20

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In this issue of *Earth First! Journal* Patrick Reinsborough tells the story of the U'wa (“the thinking people”) and their long fight against Los Angeles-based Occidental Petroleum’s (Oxy) effort to drill on their land in Colombia. In addition, Mariposa discusses civil disobedience and how being arrested can lead to empowerment, and Howie Wolke calls for attention to saving the Sapphire roadless area in Western Montana.

The U'wa grabbed international headlines in 1996 when they vowed to commit collective suicide rather than allow their homeland to be desecrated by oil drilling. Since then a growing international movement has emerged to support their uncompromising resistance.

— Patrick Reinsborough

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#### Further readings:

- Bari, Judi. *Revolutionary Ecology: Biocentrism & Deep Ecology*. Melville: Trees Foundation, 1998.
- Foreman, Dave. *Ecodefence: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching*. Tucson: A Ned Ludd Book, 1987.
- Lee, Martha. *Earth First!: Environmental Apocalypse*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1995.
- Mies, Maria, and Vandana Shiva. *Ecofeminism*. London: Zed Books, 1993.
- Taylor, Bron "Diggers, Wolves, Ents, Elves and Expanding Universes: Global Bricolage and the Question of Violence within the Subcultures of Radical Environmentalism." In *The Cultic Milieu: Oppositional Subcultures in an Age of Globalization*, edited by Jeffrey Kaplan, and Heléne Lööw, 26-74. Walnut Creek: AltaMira Press, 2002.
- Taylor, Bron. "Earth First!'s Religious Radicalism." In *Ecological Prospects: Scientific, Religious, and Aesthetic Perspectives*, edited by Christopher Key Chapple, 185-209. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1994.
- Taylor, Bron. "Religion, Violence and Radical Environmentalism: From Earth First! to the Unabomber to the Earth Liberation Front." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 10, no. 4 (1998): 1-42.

#### Related links:

- "Radical Environmentalism's Print History: From Earth First! to Wild Earth" by Bron Taylor  
<https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/radical-environmentalisms-print-history-earth-first-wild-earth>
- More about grassroots environmental movements on Bron Taylor's blog  
<http://www.brontaylor.com/>
- More about environmental movements on the Wilderness Society's blog  
<http://wilderness.org/blog>
- Earth First! and the Earth Liberation Front by Bron Taylor (PDF)  
<http://www.religionandnature.com/ern/sample/Taylor,Bron--EF+ELF.pdf>
- The Feminization of Earth First! by Judi Bari  
<http://historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/barifemef.html>

#### Websites linked in this text:

- <http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/index.html>