Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Film Profiles (videos)

Standing on Sacred Ground: Fire and Ice

McLeod, Christopher (Toby). *Standing on Sacred Ground: Fire and Ice.* San Francisco: Sacred Land Media Collaborative, 2013. HD, 57 min. https://youtu.be/BKdn9gjruyg.

> Standing on Sacred Ground focuses on indigenous communities around the world as they resist threats to their sacred places—the original protected lands—in a growing movement to defend human rights and restore the environment. In this four-part documentary series, native people share ecological wisdom and spiritual reverence while battling a utilitarian view of land in the form of government megaprojects, consumer culture, and resource extraction as well as competing religions and climate change. The series exposes threats to native peoples' health, livelihood, and cultural survival in eight communities around the world. Rare verité scenes of tribal life allow indigenous people to tell their own stories—and confront us with the ethical consequences of our culture of consumption. This episode travels from Ethiopia to Peru, where indigenous customs protect biodiversity on sacred lands under pressure from religious conflicts and climate change. In the Gamo Highlands of Ethiopia, scientists confirm the benefits of traditional stewardship even as elders witness the decline of spiritual practices that have long protected trees, meadows and mountains. Tensions with evangelical Christians over a sacred meadow erupt into a riot. In the Peruvian Andes, the Q'eros, on a pilgrimage to a revered glacier, are driven from their ritual site by intolerant Catholics. Q'eros potato farmers face a more ominous foe: global warming is melting glaciers, their water source. Andes farmers, scientists and visiting Ethiopians struggle to adapt indigenous agriculture to the changing climate. (Source: Official Film Series Website)

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This film is available at the Rachel Carson Center Library (RCC, 4th floor, Leopoldstrasse 11a, 80802 Munich) for on-site viewing only. For more information, please contact library@rcc.lmu.de.

About the Environmental Film Profiles collection

Further readings:

- Carmody, John. *Ecology and Religion: Toward a New Christian Theology of Nature*. New York: Paulist Press, 1983.

- Cuvi, Nicolás. "The Tropical Andes: Where Multiple Visions of Nature Co-exist." In: "New Environmental Histories of Latin America and the Caribbean," edited by Claudia Leal, José Augusto Pádua, and John Soluri, *RCC Perspectives* 2013, no. 7, 25–31.
- Gadgil, Madhav, Fikret Berkes, and Carl Folke. "Indigenous Knowledge for Biodiversity Conservation." *Ambio* 22, no. 2/3 (1993): 151–6.
- Krech, Shepard, III. *The Ecological Indian: Myth and History.* New York: Norton, 1999.
- Moyo, Sam, and Paris Yeros. *Reclaiming the Land: The Resurgence of Rural Movements in Africa, Asia, and Latin America*. London: Zed Books, 2005.
- Zoomers, Annelies."Migration as a Failure to Adapt? How Andean People Cope with Environmental Restrictions and Climate Variability." *Global Environment* 9 (2012): 104–29.

Related links:

- Earth Island Institute
  http://www.earthisland.org/
- Standing on Sacred Ground: Pilgrims and Tourists (Film Profile)
  https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/standing-sacred-ground-pilgrims-and-tourists
- Standing on Sacred Ground: Profit and Loss (Film Profile)
  https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/standing-sacred-ground-profit-and-loss
- Standing on Sacred Ground: Islands of Sanctuary (Film Profile)
  https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/standing-sacred-ground-islands-sanctuary

Websites linked in this text:

- http://standingonsacredground.org/learn-more/synopses
- http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/index.html
- https://www.environmentandsociety.org/multimedia/collection/environmental-films-project