

we are for self-defense and a diversity of tactics.

But looking around the festival at Lake Merritt, one could find about 7 different socialist and communist groups. While all different, they all represented various Marxist perspectives, all purporting to have the correct line of revolutionary ideology. None of these groups are opposed to violence, incidentally. Not only do they foresee a violent revolution that will put a new ruling class in power over the workers (albeit in their words, 'in their interest'), they are not opposed to the violence that is the State itself. Its police, militaries, borders, prisons, and detention facilities would all continue, although under the direction of new ruling elite. But these groups are not seen as threatening as the anarchists are, simply because these groups were only out to recruit new members. Our project is much different. We wish to get organized against the things which emmiserate all our lives. At our workplaces, in our neighborhoods, at our schools, in the streets – and we do not see hierarchal and top-down organizations as the way to do this. We wish to spread ideas, tactics, and perspectives about how people are fighting back around the world, not offer a rigid and official blueprint about how a revolution should, and will take place. This is a dangerous concept. If people can come together and run their own struggles, they can also run and direct their own lives, together, making decisions without bosses and providing for each other without wages and money— *anarchy*.

What would have happened if the hundreds of thousands of people marching in New York and gathered in Oakland would have instead marched on the halls of power and took them over? Burning the city records, releasing everyone at the local jails before putting the empty buildings to the torch, reducing the police stations to rubble before turning their rage to Wall-Street itself? We should recognize all of this as the infrastructure of the enemy, instead of wasting our time wearing blue (as in the 'Flood Wall-Street' actions) in a form of civil-disobedience. What if this revolt spread out into wider society? The occupations of public spaces and battles with the government forces could grow into a general strike, not called for by the unions who are just as terrified of workers taking action on their own as the State is, but created by the working population themselves. Ripping up the streets, we could plant gardens, and as the industrial system is dismantled we would know that with each passing day our earth was healing.

The massive non-profits, unions, and Leftist groups are not going to lead us in this direction. We have to do this ourselves. We can start now, in struggles against environmental racism, such as against a crematorium project in East Oakland, against the Chevron refinery in Richmond which threatens thousands, in fracking projects and the moving of crude oil by rail across the Bay Area, in forest defense campaigns and in land occupations such as the Gill Tract, and in solidarity with indigenous struggles happening locally such as the occupation of Glen Cove. We can build and create networks of resistance in the intern, as we prepare for wider ruptures as civilization continue to head toward collapse.

SOME RECENT EVENTS

9/3: People gather and Copwatch as a Berkeley police officer beats a who rejected the advances of a man on the street and pushed him; he in turn called the police. Police arrived and arrested the woman, pushing her down and punching her in the head. Video on the altercation was recorded on video and posted on fireworksbayarea.com and indybay.org.

9/10: A small demonstration was held outside the Disrupt conference hosted by Tech Crunch, an awards show for tech developers in San Francisco. Despite being on public property, SFPD was quickly called to remove them, and the protest came to an end.

9/12: Ironworkers carried out a wildcat strike in San Francisco in protest of their contract and concessions that have left them behind economically. They make less money than other building trade workers and many cannot afford to live inside the city that they work in. Workers went out on strike across racial and language barriers and encouraged laborers at various job sites to join the strike.

9/14: A Latino man was murdered by Richmond Police outside a liquor store just after midnight. This was the department's first murder in seven years, and came just weeks after a series of articles praising Richmond's "successful" policing strategy.

9/27: San Francisco police cleared an entire squatted complex. 16 residents took over the building which included 6 units. Squatters were very careful and remained undetected by the landlord for up to a month. As rents rocket, there are currently more vacant housing units than homeless people. It is time to take back everything we need from the rich.

9/27: Pro-Palestinian activists once again came together to prevent the unloading of a ZIM cargo ship at the Port of Oakland. The ZIM company is owned in part by the State of Israel, and the action was carried out against the occupation of Palestine with the support of US aid.

10/1: UC Berkeley students, workers, and supporters held a sit-in at a campus building against the continued plan to develop the Gill Track farm in Albany. The farm was occupied several years ago forcing the school to hand over part of the land to those involved in the struggle. Protesters are fighting to gain control over the rest of the land.

10/4: Hundreds marched in San Francisco against a huge condo project that would displace and push out residents that live in the 16th and Mission area.

EASTWEST

OCTOBER 2014
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an anarchist newspaper

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- COLOSSEUM CITY - THE PILLAGING OF OAKLAND

Just so you don't get it twisted, we want to let you know the facts about the new Colosseum Area Specific Plan. It is being financed with money from HayaH Holdings in Dubai and Colony Capital LLC in Los Angeles. Both of these groups tried unsuccessfully to buy out the Anschutz Entertainment Group, owners of the entertainment complex around the LA Staples Center. Now, these groups are able to bring that same vision to Oakland. With help from Mayor Quan and the other good old boys, this development promises to completely transform East Oakland and start a process of gentrification worse than anything seen in West Oakland. They wish to call their new development Colosseum City.

Rashid al Malik, the CEO of HayaH Holding, summed up the vision of this project very simply for the press. He told them: "*We share the city of Oakland's and Mayor Quan's long-stated vision to transform the Coliseum site and create a larger district surrounding it with a new economic base.*" This is what they mean to do, in their own words. And based on the existing plan diagrams, it appears that this new eco-

nomic base will be created out of tech company offices and their corresponding luxury housing. Just as it has happened in Silicon Valley, Seattle, and San Francisco, this entire area will become the exclusive domain of an imported tech-worker population. A minority of the housing in this new district will be low income, and any improvement of the nearby transit hubs will be for the new residents.

Because most of this land is on the western side of the 880 freeway, it is sealed off from the rest of the Deep East by the Colosseum parking lot and the warehouses surrounding Walmart. The BART station will be the center of activity for most of the new housing, but an exclusive minority of this housing will be built along the Lion Creek estuary. With its grand views of the bay, this luxury housing will cater to millionaires and the super-rich.

Jean Quan is ecstatic about this plan, declaring in late 2013 that, "I'm looking forward to working with our City Council to move this great opportunity forward." In her excitement, she mistakenly told the media in April that a

crown-prince of Dubai was also involved in creating Colosseum City. As to why she did this, we are uncertain, but as with all Oakland politics, no one knows what the fuck is going on until everything is over and done with. After being informed that she was in error, Jean Quan shrugged her shoulders and kept on trucking with her mayoral campaign.

Fearing that she will be ejected from the halls of power this coming election, Quan is doing what every aging tyrant does: build temples that will outlast her. Quan has been instrumental in approving the Brooklyn Basin development near Jack London. Along with the Beijing based Zarison Holdings, Quan recently oversaw the groundbreaking

of the 3,100 unit housing project. 70% of the units will be above market-rate, with the rest below-market rate. In other words, the new project will be unaffordable to the majority of current Oakland residents. The Brooklyn Basin will extend the waterfront gentrification of Emeryville, West Oakland, and Jack London all the way to 9th Avenue in East Oakland. The Brooklyn Basin and Colosseum City are set to be completed around the same time in 2017-2018. It is clear from all

of these master plans that the gentrification will start at the water and spread inland, like most military invasions.

In the middle of all this are the owners of the A's and the Raiders. The City of Oakland has been negotiating with these good old boys in order to secure the commitment of the teams to the city. For example, the owners of the A's strung along the city for many months, always maintaining their threat of privately developing the stadium themselves. In order to prevent this from happening, Jean

Quan is offering to magically come up with tens of millions of dollars to keep the teams here.

A cursory look at who some of these team owners are is quite revealing. The Oakland Athletics are owned by Lew Wolff and John Fisher. Wolff owns the San Jose Earthquakes and is responsible for much of the development in downtown San Jose. John Fisher is heir to The Gap fortune and part of the group that controls the Humboldt Redwood and Mendocino Redwood companies (see *Redwood Summer* article on Page 4). Incidentally, these lumber companies supply construction material for all manner of development in Oakland. These

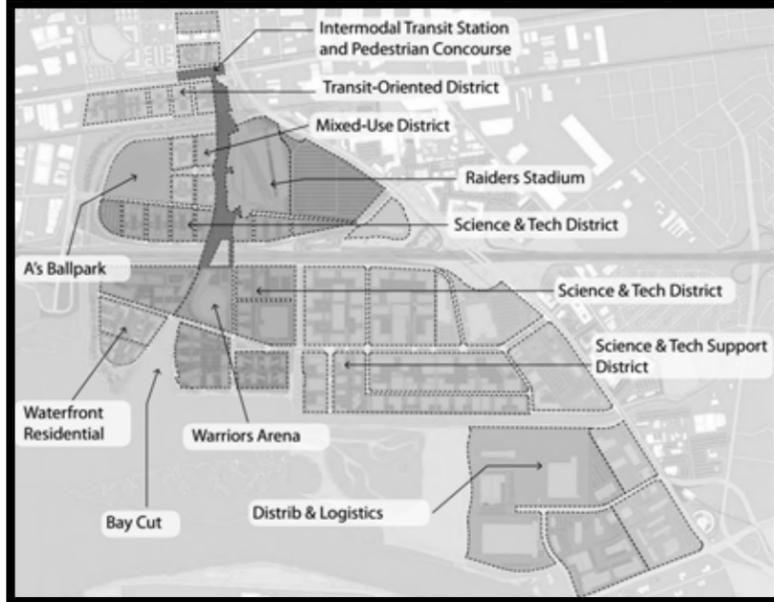
team owners have vast fortunes that are never big enough, it seems. None of them care about Oakland or the poor people living just a few dozen blocks away. All of this development will only make these team owners even more wealthy, sink the City of Oakland further into debt, and perpetuate the spectacular narcosis of stadium sports.

It is only a matter of time before the plans are locked in. Should anyone wish to comment on, inter-

rupt, or generally sabotage the public forums where these developers and politicians will spin their lies, there are only few opportunities left.

On **October 9th, from 6:30 to 8:30**, there will be a public meeting at the 81st Avenue Library. The public comment period for the Colosseum City plans end on October 17th. After that, the plans will only move forward. It is still possible that the entire plan will fall apart, given that this

is Oakland, but if it does not, it will be up to us to stop them.



- A COLD WIND BLOWS - WHEN PUPPETS ARE NOT ENOUGH

Several weeks ago, thousands of people gathered by Lake Merritt to take part in a climate change rally that was held in conjunction with a similar march in New York City. The climate rallies were organized largely by 350.org, a large non-profit which organizes events aimed at pressuring politicians to 'take action' on climate change. The events were billed as family friendly, non-violent, and as Arun Gupta wrote in Counterpunch, "claim[ed] you [could] change world history in an afternoon after walking the dog and eating brunch." In Oakland this was very much the scene, as several thousand people listened to music, dressed in costumes, danced, and listened to speakers.

350.org is a non-profit organization that as Gupta wrote, is "a corporation with a business model to create products (the actions), that help it increase market share (emails), and ultimately revenue. The actions that get the most attention are ones that get the most petition signers, the most media coverage, and which help generate revenue." For people that believe that change works by "speaking truth to power," and getting those in government to respond to their concerns, these actions seems logical. But as we have seen with the

Obama administration, the government is very good at pretending to address the concerns of the population. From Guantanamo Bay to health-care to climate change, despite tough talk from elected leaders, things continue to worsen. The government is designed to protect power and profit, not bend it to the will of the people. From the streets of Ferguson to the Occupy Movement, we also see that when that power is threatened, the government responds with massive amounts of violence.

We aren't against people coming together around a common cause - far from it. However, the recent climate rallies will do nothing to stop the current crisis. In many ways, these events are like voting. People go to register their displeasure at something and then go home to wait for someone with more power than them to change it. The need for drastic and direct change is needed now - *and fast*. Across the globe, we already are seeing massive signs of the ongoing catastrophe. Indigenous people's

lands are being flooded as sea levels rise. Droughts, fires, storms, and famine are killing thousands. As temperatures climb, the threat of disease epidemics becomes much higher. Currently, billions of lives are at risk as food production hangs in the balance due to droughts and escalating climate. Industrial civilization, a way of life based around the amassing of large bodies of people in cities that depends on the importation of resources and powered by the use of non-renewable energy, is fueling the climate crisis. Those in power, both within corporations and within the governments which protect them, understand this reality, but will do nothing to stop the rising tides. Power already knows the truth, it's up to us to stop this machine if we want to halt destruction.

"It's time for powerful, direct, non-violent action, to capture imagination, convey moral urgency, and inspire people to act. Think Occupy," wrote organizers in a fundraising email before the New York protests. Despite this reference to the Occupy Movement, the organizers of the Climate Rallies wanted nothing to do with direct action or self-organization. In New York, people originally planned to hold blockades and shut down the city but these plans

were quickly killed. Non-profits, which depend on grants from wealthy people and large corporations, have their money streams threatened when they engage in disruptive actions. In this way, the organizers of the People's Climate Marches did more to actually stop and hinder resistance to Climate Change than they did to foster it.

In Oakland, several people associated with EastWest tabled with copies of this publication and other revolutionary titles, and within about half an hour were approached by an organizer who informed us that people were "mad that the anarchists were here." At the same time, several people demanded to know what group we were with. We got several more hostile reactions, but overall, received generally positive feedback. When pressed as to why they were angry with us, some of these liberals probably would have stated that they were opposed to our presence because they support strictly "non-violent" protest, while





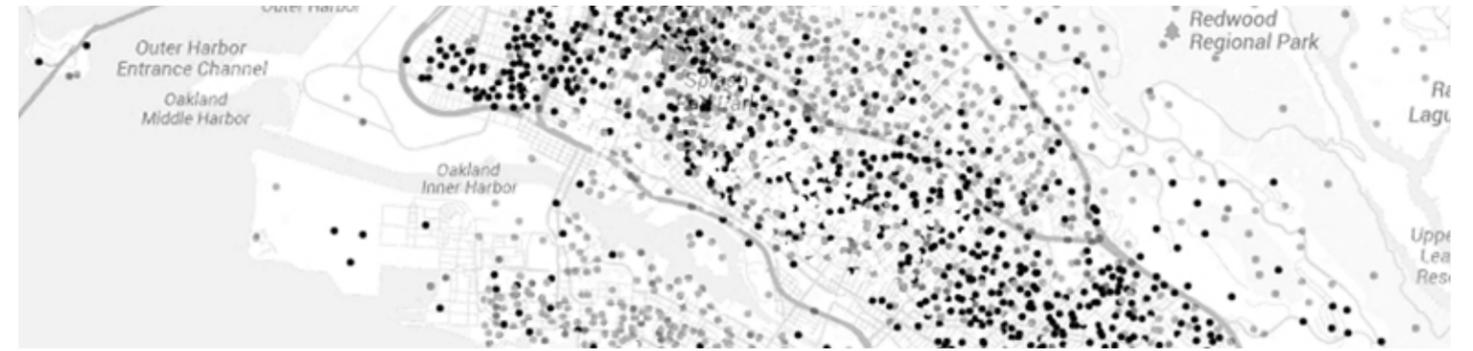
A NEWER AND BRIGHTER SPECTACLE FOR THE AMMUSEMENT OF THE PEOPLE

In what has become an utterly mundane occurrence, a proposed land use sign was posted in front of the old Emery Bay UA Theater, opened in 1989. The sign featured images of tall, architecturally uninspired luxury homes. As with most similar developments, it will generate very little protest if any, especially given the location of the new luxury housing. It is situated in a corner of Emeryville that is well insulated from the poorer Oakland neighborhoods that surround the city.

No, no one will be displaced or inconvenienced in the slightest by the closure of the Emery Bay UA Theater except for the laid-off employees who have already been forgotten. Instead, we eulogize the theater to take note of the shifting eras of capitalism. Known for its bright neon, six dollar Tuesdays, and less-traditional film selection, the Emery Bay theater is no longer of use to capital. For the mostly upper-middle class population of Emeryville, the AMC theater located just a few blocks away is more than enough to satisfy their movie-going needs. Decades after it was opened, Emery Bay was anachronistic, if not outright obsolete.

The AMC, which opened in 2002 in the Bay Street Mall, had nothing to fear competing with the outdated 1989 theater. The mall has several hundred upscale housing units built atop of the boutique shops that were in turn built atop a sacred Ohlone site. In this respect, it fulfills the 21st century model of combining consumer activities and residential properties—a model that developers are looking to reproduce atop the ruins of the Emery Bay UA Theater.

We cannot shed any tears over the passing of this capitalist theater, we can only acknowledge that spectacular culture no longer has a use for outmoded forms of distraction. This is 2014, not 1989. Consumers now need completely immersive and overwhelming displays of wealth in order to forget the alienation and sadness of their everyday lives. A quaint, 50's-esque theater no longer had the capacity to hypnotize Bay Area consumers the way it used to. Now all that is left from the good old days is the Emeryville Public Market across the street. We hope this market can last longer than the theater, because if it goes, we only have a future of chain stores to look forward to.



With all the emerging development projects around the Bay Area, many clamor for the creation of more “affordable housing.” Affordable housing on its own is not nearly enough to put a dent in the massive gentrification schemes being implemented, and it can never be a solution because it is still embedded within the capitalist system. There will be no solution to the housing crisis that doesn't involve a total secession from capitalism—the cause of the housing crisis in the first place. Even as fewer and fewer developments offer affordable units or accept vouchers, cities attempt to redefine “affordable” in order to write off the most in need. Affordable housing is still tied to the median income which is always increasing with gentrification, no matter how many affordable units are built. As long as property laws remain intact and access to housing remains dependent on the ability to pay, capitalism will continue to shift populations around

at its will. The false dichotomy of market-rate housing and affordable housing has trapped anti-displacement and anti-gentrification movements in a worthless debate. In Oakland, this trap has been made all the more visible with a new development near Lake Merritt:

Lakeside Senior Housing, designed by David Baker Architects is affordable housing for seniors as the name implies, located on East 15th St and 2nd Ave, and is scheduled to be completed this month. What you might notice immediately upon viewing it, is that it bears a striking resemblance to the Glenn Dyer Detention Facility, a jail located in downtown Oakland. Despite the superfluous elements, the core design seems to be clearly based upon the local city jail and its narrow windows for minimal exposure. Perhaps seclusion from sunlight is the new hip trend in architecture these days- but I don't think we'll see any market-rate developments looking like this any time soon.



- THE REDWOOD SUMMER OF 1990 -

At the turn of the 1990's, the main companies cutting down trees on the North Coast were Louisiana-Pacific, Pacific Lumber, and Georgia Pacific--the Big Three. Capitalism was in a state of psychotic expansion, from Tokyo to Berlin, and the North Coast was no exception. Louisiana-Pacific president Harry Merlo famously described his corporate policy of the 1980's: "It always annoys me to leave anything on the ground when we log our own lands... We log to infinity. It's out there, it's ours, and we want it all. Now."

These practices led to the destruction of primeval old growth forests and the stripping of entire hillsides. The lumber workers began to see their own childhood forests turned into ravaged moonscapes, but few of them seemed to care. These loggers were being manipulated by their employers, on whom their livelihoods depended. Anyone without the yellow ribbon of logger pride was on the side of the tree-hugging hippies.

Despite the fact that Georgia Pacific had recently cut its employees' wages by 25% (an act approved by the International Woodworkers of America, AFL-CIO), many of these working class loggers would wear shirts reading SAVE A LOGGER - EAT AN OWL and routinely attack environmentalists at protests. Fearing for their jobs, many loggers began tying yellow ribbons to their cars and businesses, a symbol of loyalty to the bosses. Nevertheless, there was growing resentment within the ranks of the loggers and mill workers.

Judi Bari was one of the main organizers for the North Coast branch of Earth First!. She was also a member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), a union through which she tried to organize the loggers. A veteran of the late 1960's and 1970's counter-culture, she was also a carpenter and union organizer. Her friend and sometime partner Darryl Cherney was another main organizer for Earth First!. When Louisiana-Pacific closed their Potter Valley sawmill in 1989 and laid off 136 people, Cherney wrote a song encouraging resistance to the company. This song became the most requested track on the local country radio station. Shortly after the mill closed, three men tried to burn down the mill with molotov cocktails, hoping to prevent the company from selling the equipment. Unfortunately they were unsuccessful.

In January of 1990, Earth First! took over the offices of the Mendocino County District Attorney's office and demanded that they prosecute a logger who had broken a comrade's nose.

The DA refused, indicating that the the law was clearly on the side of the timber tycoons. In February, the group blocked a logging truck filled with old growth redwoods, and the next month they stopped the construction of a new logging road. Shortly after this, Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney publicly announced Redwood Summer, a months-long series of actions that would start in June.

Later in March they climbed onto a giant logging machine at a trade expo in Ukiah and hung a banner that read THIS THING KILLS JOBS & FORESTS. A few days later, that same machine was completely destroyed in an arson attack in Willits. In April, Louisiana-Pacific announced it would cut another 195 jobs and shut down the Covelo sawmill. Earth First!, the IWW, and Louisiana-Pacific loggers demanded that Mendocino County seize the company lands and give them to the public. All of this was the final straw for the timber bosses, and soon their friends in the FBI



began a counter-intelligence program against Earth First!

Fake leaflets were distributed through Mendocino, purporting to be written by environmentalists and calling for violence and destruction. The bosses personally handed them to the mill workers and loggers, warning them of the green menace. This tactic worked to create an environment of violence, with Judi Bari receiving multiple anonymous death threats.

On Earth Day, 1990, Earth First! activists climbed the Golden Gate bridge and unfurled a banner, denouncing the Earth Day as a sham. The night prior, a group calling itself the Earth Night Action Group took down power lines in the Santa Cruz mountains. When the police came to arrest the activists on the Golden Gate bridge, the Oakland Police Department and the FBI both sent agents to the scene for reasons that would not become clear until later.

Just before the Redwood Summer of 1990 began, Judi Bari drove to Oakland with Darryl Cherney and stayed at a comrade's house near Highland Hospital. The next morning, on their way to meet with student activists in Santa Cruz, a bomb exploded

under the car in front of Oakland High School. It temporarily paralyzed Judi Bari and almost took her life. While she and Cherney were being treated in Highland Hospital, the FBI and OPD arrived to inform them they were under arrest for transporting an explosive device.

In the following days, the FBI turned their own attempted assassination of Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney into a tool of repression. By blaming them for the bombing, they could instill distrust in the public consciousness. Over the next few weeks, a picture appeared in the newspaper of Judi Bari holding an Uzi and wearing an Earth First! shirt. This picture had been set up and staged by an FBI informant who had been infiltrating Earth First! for the past two years. The picture itself was over a year old. Along with the false leaflets, it was now clear that the FBI had been running a standard COINTELPRO operation on Judi Bari, Darryl Cherney, and the whole of Earth First!.

The director of the San Francisco FBI office at the time was Richard Held, a committed fascist whose father had also been in the FBI. Held was responsible for sending false letters that led to the feud between the LA Black Panther's and the US Organization, a feud that led to the death of Black Panther Party members Bunchy Carter and John Huggins in 1969. Beyond this, Held had also been sent to Puerto Rico to help quell the independence movement.

With Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney under suspicion of their own assassination attempt, it was doubtful that Redwood Summer would still happen. But a large group of women in Earth First! banded together and made it happen. In June the first action of Redwood Summer took place and over 40 people were arrested for blocking the loading dock at the Samoa wood pulp mill across the bay from Eureka. In July, an ancient forest in Osprey Grove was saved when 60 protestors blocked a logging road and fought off hostile loggers. A few days later, over 2,000 protestors descended onto Fort Bragg, the center of Mendocino logging, in the biggest displays of rebellion against the timber companies.

In 1988, there were 22,000 jobs in the California timber industry. By 2001 there were only 13,000. In 2002, Georgia Pacific closed their largest and most famous mill in Fort Bragg. It is now a vacant field. The 1990's saw the depletion of the forests that had grown back after the first wave of logging in the 1800's. Today we are in a new cycle of regrowth, but the logging still continues. Although it may have slowed down in the region, it is still very much active. In order to protect the earth and allow the North

Coast to heal, we must stop every logging company in Northern California. In honor of Judi Bari, who died in 1997 from breast cancer, we encourage you to resist the destruction of the earth with your bodies. Put your life on the line for the planet, because it is your home.

TO LEARN MORE READ

TIMBER WARS by JUDI BARI



Since the 1990's, the Mattole Forest south of Eureka has been subject to attack by the logging industry. A forest defender named David 'Gypsy' Chain was killed here when loggers felled a tree on his head back in 1998. In November, 2000, a group of forest defenders created the 'Mattole Free State' and completely shut down logging in the area, ultimately leading to Pacific Lumber going out of business in 2007. Humboldt Redwood Company (HRC), which took over the lands once owned by Pacific Lumber in 2008, is now pushing to destroy what is left of the old growth in the Mattole. HRC is partially controlled by Oakland A's team owner John Fisher.

In July, 2014, with HRC threatening to come in and cut what had once been protected, a new group of forest defenders built a barricade on the logging road and stopped the company from entering. For the past three months, HRC has been unable to log the old growth Douglas Firs and Madrones of the Mattole. But the campaign to stop this logging needs help, so if you are able, please plug into this struggle.

Three hours to the south in Willits, there is another struggle to protect the earth. In this case, a coalition of environmentalists, indigenous, and radicals have been fighting to stop CalTrans from building a freeway bypass through the Little Lake ecosystem. The bypass will not only destroy the environment, it will desecrate sacred Pomo village and burial sites. This battle has been going on for years, and only a large and relentless force will be able to stop CalTrans and their expansion plans.

To find out more about these struggles, see:

SAVEANCIENTFOREST.ORG
SAVELITTLELAKEVALLEY.ORG