

EARTHWORKS JOURNAL

Spring/Summer 2012

In This Issue

- 2 **Message from the Executive Director**
- 3 **Stop the Frack Attack!**
- 4 **Natural Gas Is Not Clean Energy**
EPA Links Dirty Water with Fracking in Wyoming
- 5 **Why I Left Gasland**
- 6 **Drill Baby Drill**
- 7 **Gasbags "In Their Own Words"**
The FRESH Act Stinks
- 8 **Supermarkets Love Bristol Bay Salmon**
New Report: Troubled Waters
- 9 **Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands**
Grand Canyon Protected from Mining
- 10 **Good News for Oregon's Wild and Scenic Chetco River**
- 11 **Macy's Golden Rule: Dodge Responsibility**
No Dirty Gold Campaign Honored
New Stationery Benefits Earthworks

STOP the
Frack Attack

7.28.12



Earthworks is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting communities and the environment from the impacts of irresponsible mineral and energy development while seeking sustainable solutions.

EIN #52-1557765
Combined Federal Campaign #41290

Main Office
1612 K Street, NW, Suite 808
Washington, D.C., USA 20006
p: 202.887.1872
f: 202.887.1875
e: info@earthworksaction.org

Field Offices
Berkeley, California
David Brower Center
2150 Allston Way, Suite 490
Berkeley CA 94704
Durango, Colorado
P.O. Box 1102
Durango, Colorado 81302
p: 970.259.3353
f: 970.259.7514
Missoula, Montana
140 S. 4th Street West, Unit 1
Missoula, Montana 59801
p: 406.549.7361
f: 406.542.5632

Board
Kerry Anderson, *Co-chair*
Michael E. Conroy, Ph.D.,
Co-chair
Cathy Carlson
Gloria Flora
Jay Halfon, Esq.
Paula Hawthorn, Ph.D.
Anthony Ingraffea, Ph.D., P.E.
Bill McNeill, D.D.S.
Glenn Miller, Ph.D.
Deborah Rogers
Wilma Subra, *Secretary/
Treasurer*

Staff
Jennifer Krill, *Executive Director*
Bruce Baizel, *Staff Attorney*
Ann Corbett, *Development Director*
Bonnie Gestring, *Northwest Circuit Rider*
Gwen Lachelt, *Oil & Gas Accountability Project Director*
Hilary Lewis, *Development and Program Associate*
Nick Magel, *International Program Coordinator*
Aaron Mintzes, *Policy Advocate*
Lorraine Osinski, *Finance and Administrative Manager*
Lauren Pagel, *Policy Director*
Payal Sampat, *International Program Director*
Alan Septoff, *Research and Information Systems Director*
Nadia Steinzor, *Marcellus Shale Organizer*
Lisa Sumi, *Research and Science Adviser*
Sharon Wilson, *Texas and Gulf Region Organizer*

Interns
Molly Dunton
Julia Moeller
Earthworks Journal
Editor: Ann Corbett
Editorial Assistant: Hilary Lewis
Design: Cavich Creative, LLC
Printing: Ecoprint, Inc.
On the cover:
Photo courtesy of R.J. Schmidt
Stop the Frack Attack Logo
designed by Charlene Anderson

Message from the Executive Director



The mega-pipeline known as Keystone XL would deliver dirty Canadian tar sands oil to the Gulf Coast. It went from a sleeper issue to a poster child for opposing visions of our energy future. And then we won. At least temporarily.

Big oil and gas, and those seduced by its billions, lament President Obama's denial of the pipeline's permit. They've tried to resuscitate it by introducing pipeline approval riders to major bills in the hopes that one will pass. The President himself later announced that a section of the pipeline will be

built from Oklahoma to the Gulf Coast.

On our side of the battlefield stands a broad community that realizes there has to be a better way. As our Texas organizer Sharon Wilson said after seeing photos of tar sands mining, "We can be better people than this."

And in Alaska, perhaps the most mining friendly state in the country, the Pebble mine proposal is following a similar trajectory. If London-based Anglo American has its way, the largest open pit mine in North America would be built on top of the headwaters of Bristol Bay, home to the world's largest remaining wild sockeye salmon fishery.

Assumed a done deal at the outset, opposition to Pebble is now widespread. 80% of residents and the local fishing industry are against the mine. In March, the Food Marketing Institute, which represents 3/4 of all U.S. food retailers, joined the call for an EPA study of the suitability of the mine.

Many of our policymakers, even those calling themselves "environmentalists," extol the virtues of "clean" natural gas instead of treating it like the dirty fossil fuel that it is. In the State of the Union address, President Obama called for policies that would actually increase our dependence on natural gas.

Yet evidence mounts that "unconventional" gas deposits behind the boom are (a) not as plentiful as industry claims, (b) not as climate-friendly as previously thought, and (c) polluting groundwater and our lakes and rivers. Political pressure is growing against those who once solidly stood in favor of natural gas as a "bridge" to a clean energy economy.

Policymakers take note: ignore the voices of people affected by extractive industries at your peril.

On July 28, we will take the fight to Washington, DC. Earthworks is working with allies all over the country to definitively turn the tide against dirty "natural" gas with a nationwide rally to "Stop the Frack Attack." Won't you join us?

In solidarity,

Jennifer Krill
Executive Director

Become an e-advocate! Join us online and sign up for our action alerts at <http://www.earthworksaction.org>.



EARTHWORKS

> No Dirty Gold > Oil & Gas Accountability Project > Our Bristol Bay > Stop the Frack Attack



WE NEED YOU

to change the oil and gas industry!

National Day of Action on July 28 in DC

Join us at the Capitol to STOP THE FRACK ATTACK—the out-of-control rush to drill that is putting oil and gas industry profits over our health, our families, our property, our communities, and our futures.

Now is the time for us all to unite and demand no more drilling that harms public health, water, and air.

Elected officials and public agencies must insist that the industry stop drilling that is dirty and dangerous instead of pushing for the increased use of oil and gas.

- ✓ **Tell them they need to put communities and the environment first.**
- ✓ **Demand an end to special exemptions and subsidies for the oil and gas industry.**
- ✓ **Stand in solidarity with communities on the front lines of oil and gas development.**

Join community leaders, celebrities, and policymakers rallying for change. Add your voice to the call for a clean, fossil fuel-free energy future. We need your voice here in Washington, DC, this summer.



July 28, 2012 Washington, DC

Sign Up

Get the latest news and learn how you can be part of this historic day of action.

For more information about the day of action and to see a list of all endorsing organizations, go to

<http://stopthefrackattack.org>



Stop the Frack Attack



@stopfrackattack



Stop the Frack Attack

Donate

Stop the Frack Attack needs your support!

Earthworks and our partners need to raise \$200,000 over the next three months to pull this off. We can't do it without you.

A generous donor has offered to match gifts dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. Give now and you can help turn \$50,000 into \$100,000!

It's easy: Just write Stop the Frack Attack on the enclosed envelope or donate online at

<http://donate.stopthefrackattack.org>

Natural Gas Is Not Clean Energy

By Lauren Pagel

“This country needs an all-out, all-of-the-above strategy that develops every available source of American energy.”

—President Barack Obama, 2012 State of the Union Address

President Obama began 2012 with a State of the Union speech that touted natural gas as a clean, abundant energy source and promoted environmentally safe production of this resource as a part of an “all of the above” energy plan.

Friends of the natural gas industry in Congress continue to push for billions in subsidies while justifying the many loopholes the industry enjoys from our nation’s bedrock environmental laws. The industry persists in their rhetoric that drilling is completely safe, and does not harm our drinking water, air or communities.

These approaches put profits over people. They place easy fixes to our energy problem ahead of the communities who face pollution from drilling every day.

Natural gas production has caused serious harm across the country -- from Wyoming to Pennsylvania. People are finding their water supplies polluted, air quality diminished, and their property values declining.

No one should be referring to natural gas as clean energy.

“Drilling for natural gas has gotten ahead of the science needed to prove it safe.” —*Scientific American*, November 2011

A growing body of evidence suggests that drilling has some serious consequences. Many other far-reaching impacts have not yet been studied. In November 2011, the President’s own Shale Gas Advisory Panel advised that “... if action is not taken to reduce the environmental impact accompanying the very considerable expansion of shale gas production expected across the country – perhaps as many as 100,000 wells over the next several decades – there is a real risk of serious environmental consequences...”

The Obama administration has tried to make natural gas drilling less dirty. But they have not yet leveled the playing field by closing loopholes and putting laws in place to regulate the industry. These loopholes hamstring the Administration’s enforcement efforts. Congress refuses to address the damaging effects that drilling is having across the country. Instead, they



Still from TCEQ official video shows fugitive emissions in Texas.

criticize and attempt to stymie even the most modest efforts to clean up the industry’s act.

This country’s number one priority should be moving towards real clean, renewable energy. Period.

We need to realize that natural gas will always be a dirty fossil fuel. Gas production and burning that gas for electricity are not clean by any stretch of the imagination.

This November when we head to the polls, it’s time to vote for candidates who don’t propagate the myth that any fossil fuel is clean.

EPA Links Dirty Water with Fracking in Wyoming

After conducting a groundwater investigation in Pavillion, Wyoming in December, the EPA released a draft of their analysis, which exposed contamination of both public and private well water. The chemicals found in the wells and their aquifers resembled those typically found in water surrounding regions affected by hydraulic fracturing. If the results hold up after peer review, this study will mark the first time the federal government has authoritatively connected fracking with groundwater pollution.

Why I Left Gasland

By Tim Ruggiero

Our ordeal living in Gasland has ended. All I can say about it, and all I care to say about it, is that “The matter has been resolved.”

Read into that how you will, I’ll say no more about it.

As my family and our animals begin our new life in Pilot Point, TX, where the air is clean, and the water supply free of drilling chemicals, I have been fielding a number of calls and emails about our new life.

“So, you’re moving?”

Yes.

“You sell your house?”

Yes.

“Who did you sell your house to?”

The matter has been resolved.

“Oh.”

Someone asked if I felt we had “won or lost,” obviously looking for details. That got me to thinking.

Regardless of where you live in Gasland, whether it is the urban setting or rural, I’m hard pressed to say that there is no such a thing as “winning,” only degrees of losing...

When the drillers first show up, you lose any sense or belief you have about personal property rights.

You learn the hard way the definition of “split estate,” and that somewhere along the line, someone decided that mineral rights trump all other rights, including any you thought you had according to the U.S. Constitution.

When the constant noise comes, with the 24/7 screech of the rig brakes on pipe, stadium lighting blinding, huge plumes of diesel exhaust, non-stop semi truck traffic at all hours of the day and strange workmen tramping around just a few feet from your home, you tend to lose faith. Not in God, but in the State.

The very same agencies—the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Texas Railroad Commission (TRRC), and even the EPA to a large extent—are either unwilling or unable to help anyone.

When the drilling is complete, production begins.

You lose any sense of well-being and suffer from ill health effects.

The gas emissions are constant, and the equipment is often faulty.

If you complain enough, the driller will install a flare and then burn those gases instead of just releasing them into the air. The drillers will credit themselves for “improving” the air quality, although it’s simply trading one emission for another. There’s nothing “safer” or “better” about these emissions.

When you complain to the TCEQ, they will conduct an air sample. If the sampling proves to be above limits, the TCEQ will say their equipment is faulty. When the sampling is below limits, then they say it’s “acceptable” and “within EPA guidelines.” It makes little difference that your exposure to benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes were ZERO prior to the drilling. And diesel exhaust? TCEQ does not measure that.

When the production falls, and it falls fast, losing as much as 50% or more within the first year, the drillers bring in a compressor station or two. (Or FIFTEEN, like Chesapeake is attempting in the middle of a residential neighborhood in Fort Worth.)

You lose any sense of tranquility and peace and sleep, as the noise is loud and constant.

The compressors emit not only a loud noise, but also low frequency vibration. Is the cause of acoustic vibrostatic disease truly unknown in people who do not work in an industry where this occurs, but only because they live next to compressor stations?

When you have thoroughly exhausted all potential remedies—the TCEQ, TRRC, County Commissioners and Judges, County Sheriff, EPA, U.S. Senators and Congressmen, Texas State Senators and Congressmen – you realize there are only two choices about the future:

- **Stay and risk your health and that of your children, put a strain on your marriage and relationship with your children, or**
- **Leave and risk your credit.**

The decision is not easy, but there really is only one choice. You have to leave, as credit can always be repaired, but health cannot.

When your children have sudden unexplained nosebleeds, that’s the huge flag waving that says it’s time to go. Get out now.

So we have left Gasland, and life begins anew.

We cannot get back what we have lost over the last two years, but we are, by the grace of God, able to start over away from Gasland.



Tim Ruggiero got involved with natural gas well development in September 2009 when Aruba Petroleum, without notice, cut down his family’s fence and bulldozed three acres of his property. He later cofounded Shaletest, an affiliate of Earthworks, which conducts air, water and soil testing for affected people who cannot afford the high costs of testing. This article is adapted from his Earthblog post dated January 4, 2012.

Drill Baby Drill

Pennsylvania Gives Oil and Gas Companies More Rights over Drilling than its Citizens

By Nadia Steinzor

The End of Local Zoning

This February Pennsylvania's legislature passed Governor Tom Corbett's bill giving the oil and gas industry—alone among ALL businesses—the right to drill and build facilities (like compressor stations and waste pits) in any zoning districts—even in residential areas.



Pennsylvanians rally to "kill the bill" in the State Capitol, February 2012.

This bill adds to the many special breaks the oil and gas industry already has to help their business:

- the right to drill on public lands,
- special exemptions in federal environmental laws,
- outdated and weak state regulations,
- indebted politicians eager to do their bidding,
- massive investment from across the globe.

Watch Out!

This new Pennsylvania law is part of a new trend started in Ohio, where a 2004 law gave the state the right to issue drilling permits on land anywhere. And now in Colorado a legislative battle is brewing over the right of counties to control gas development.

But it's not all bad news. The New York State Supreme Court affirmed the right of towns to use zoning and land use regulations to prohibit gas development in two recent cases.

Why do industry and its supporters in state legislatures want to do away with zoning restrictions?

As gas development spreads to new regions, the tension between local control and state preemption is growing stronger.

Gas companies pushed for the law so they would have an easier time developing gas anywhere, anytime, and in any manner they want. And they don't want groups of citizens getting in their way.

Fortunately, local residents and citizens concerned about the impacts of industrial gas development are taking action to protect their quality of life, adopting local zoning changes and enacting drilling moratoria and even outright bans on gas development in their communities.

One Set of Rules for All?

The lack of federal and state action to adequately regulate the oil and gas industry has shifted the debate over where and whether gas development should occur to the local level.

Unified, singular standards that ignore specific local factors or the wishes of communities would certainly be a welcome to gas operators. Corporations would not have to contend with varied environmental or social circumstances or abide by the particular wishes of diverse communities.

Marcellus Shale Coalition President Kathryn Klaber has said that local zoning creates a patchwork of regulations that is "the equivalent of needing to get a new driver's license for every state."

Earthworks' Oil & Gas Accountability Project and our allies around the country see zoning as more akin to having different speed limits in place near schools, in cities, on country roads, and on highways. Ensuring public safety and the public good should guide rules, not the wishes of a few people speeding to get to where only they want to go.

Pennsylvanians Challenge Law's Constitutionality

The new Pennsylvania law threatens municipalities' historic right to protect health, property, and quality of life.

Gas companies will now be able to challenge measures related to the location of wells and facilities; limits on hours of operation, light, or noise; and procedures to give local officials time to review development plans before they're approved. And state utility officials will get the final say on what is allowed, no matter what local residents want.

In response, environmental and citizens' rights organizations have launched a statewide campaign. They are calling out the

continued on page 7

Gasbags “In Their Own Words”

By Hilary Lewis

Last fall, Earthworks sent Texas Sharon Wilson to the Media & Stakeholder Relations Hydraulic Fracturing 2011 Initiative, a fracking industry conference in Houston.

Sharon found out that the oil and gas industry sees her and everyone else fighting to protect communities from the impacts of fracking as “insurgents.”

Industry spokespeople discussed using ex-military personnel to conduct psychological operations (PSYOPS) in neighborhoods. They recommended using the US Army/Marine Insurgency Manual against the “insurgents,” who are actually the American public.

And it didn’t end there.

Anadarko Petroleum’s Brad Miller claimed that fracking chemicals are the same as those used in Chapstick.

“—polyacrylamides—Ah, people get really worried when you talk about putting polyacrylamide in frack water that they’re gonna pump down a well. What is that? It’s Chapstick - so have your stick of Chapstick when somebody talks about polyacrylamides.”



That is simply not true.

Polyacrylamide is not an ingredient in Chapstick.

Polyacrylamides are **synthetic chemicals made by creating polymers of acrylamide, which is a known peripheral nerve toxin.**

It’s on California’s list of chemicals known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity.

The point is, you shouldn’t be moisturizing with frack water, or drinking it, for that matter.

The fracking industry is purposely misleading the public.

To hear more shockingly inaccurate statements from the conference, check out our series “In their own words” on EARTH-[blog](#).

The FRESH Act Stinks

New Industry-Supported Bill Would Stop Federal Government from Regulating Hydraulic Fracturing

Are states better at regulating fracking than the federal government?

That’s the assumption behind the new FRESH Act.

Long-time friend of the oil and gas industry Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) introduced S.2268 the Fracturing Regulations are Effective in State Hands Act (FRESH Act) in late March.

The bill would remove all authority from the federal government to regulate hydraulic fracturing. Even on federal lands.

Why is this a bad idea?

State regulation is not enough. Many states have weak regulations and even weaker regulatory agencies.

Earthworks recently finished a multi-state investigation, which reveals that states are doing a poor job of enforcing the rules on their books. In Colorado we found that regulatory violations are inconsistently reported and tracked due in inadequate agency capacity. Violators are rarely fined and, when they are, the fines are too small to deter them from future irresponsible behavior. Reports on additional states, including New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas, are in the works. See the report on our website: www.earthworksaction.org.

What’s the solution?

Instead of making states the sole regulator, Congress should close the loopholes in federal law – loopholes that exist only for the oil and gas industry.

Only when strong regulations in place at all levels—local, state and federal—and are properly enforced will we be able to protect our land, water, air and public health from the negative impacts of energy development.

Drill Baby Drill, continued from page 6

legislators who voted for the bill (especially those who are up for re-election in November).

Many local officials who worked long and hard on zoning ordinances to prevent damage from drilling are not only angry, but are preparing legal challenges to overturn the law. On April 11, Pennsylvania’s highest court issued an injunction delaying the law’s implementation while its constitutionality is reviewed.

Stay Tuned

How this fight plays out in Pennsylvania will have national significance in putting the wishes of communities for protections before the desires of industry to drill ever-faster.

Supermarkets Love Bristol Bay Salmon

By Bonnie Gestring

It's a good day for wild salmon!

We are excited to announce that many of the nation's biggest supermarket chains are lending their considerable voice on behalf of protecting Alaska's Bristol Bay – the world's largest wild sockeye salmon fishery.

Photo by Nick Hall



A male spawning salmon in Hanson Creek struggles to make his way upstream to the nesting females.

MINING

The Food Marketing Institute, which represents 26,000 retail food companies and \$680 billion in annual revenue, sent a letter of support to the EPA for its scientific review of the risks to the salmon fishery from large-scale development, including the Pebble Mine.



"Since Bristol Bay is one of the world's largest sustainable salmon fisheries, it plays an important role in the supply chains of a number of our wholesale and retail members..."

"We look forward to reading the preliminary report expected to be released in the next few months and hope it will reflect our own belief in the importance of continuing to preserve and responsibly manage this extraordinary natural resource."

This is great news. These big supermarkets have a real stake in the long-term sustainability of the Bristol Bay salmon fishery because it is a vital part of our nation's food supply.

Thanks to FMI and its 1,500 members for supporting sustainable fisheries.

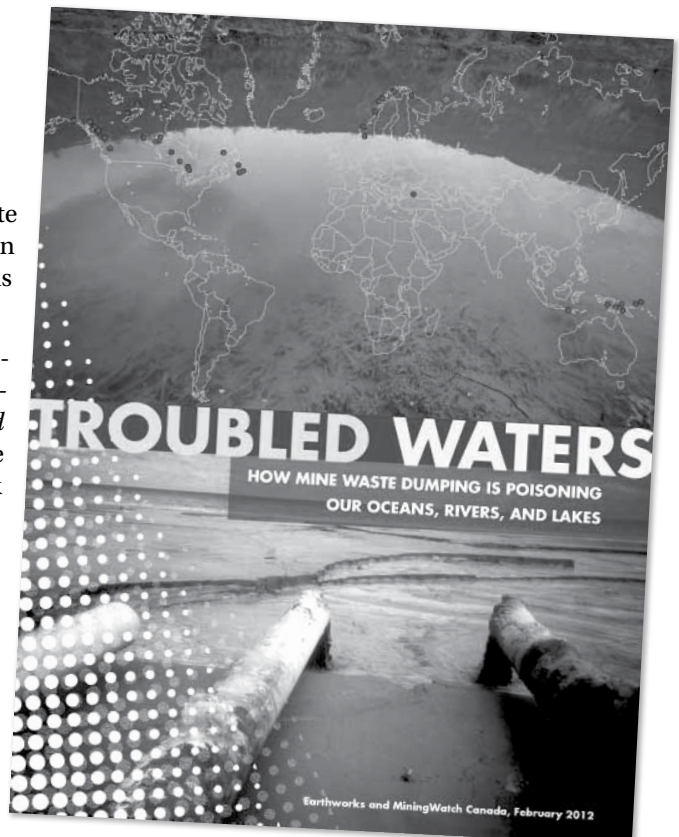
You can see our press release, articles, or read the letter on our website.

New Report: Troubled Waters

Mining corporations dump more than 180 million tonnes of mine waste into oceans, rivers, and lakes around the world each year. These wastes can contain arsenic, lead, mercury, cyanide and over thirty other dangerous chemicals. That's more waste than US cities send to landfills each year!

The staff at Earthworks and MiningWatch Canada spent over a year investigating this egregious practice. We report our findings in a new study, *Troubled Waters: How Mine Waste Dumping is Poisoning Our Ocean, Rivers and Lakes*, which you can read at www.nodirtygold.org. In it, we identify the world's waters that are suffering the greatest harm or are at greatest risk from dumping of mine waste. These include rivers in Papua New Guinea on which fishing communities depend, Norwegian fjords where tourists once flocked, once-pristine lakes in Alaska and British Columbia, and coastal waters off islands in the Indonesian archipelago.

The United States, Canada, Australia, and other countries have had restrictions on dumping mine waste into natural bodies of water. But even these regulations are being eroded by amendments and exemptions. In order to protect community and ecosystem health, mining companies must end the practice of dumping into natural water bodies. We simply cannot afford to lay waste to the planet's most precious resource: water.



Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands

By Aaron Mintzes

Earthworks has been fighting since 1998 to keep public lands in public hands and protect cultural and ecological resources. With an outpouring of support from Native peoples and other affected communities, Earthworks has helped fight off several attempts to mine our cherished National Parks.

Privatizing Apache Leap

Located east of Superior, Arizona, Apache Leap is prized by birders, campers, climbers and hikers.

Apache Leap got its name from an 1870 battle. US cavalry troops hunted down Native Americans, cornering seventy-five members of the San Carlos Apache tribe on a large rock ledge. Rather than surrender, the Apache warriors chose to leap to their deaths. Today, the San Carlos Apache Tribe considers Apache Leap sacred ground.

Resolution Copper, a subsidiary of Rio Tinto and BHP - Billiton (two of the world's largest mining companies), wants to mine a rich copper vein located on public and private lands in the area. The San Carlos Apache Tribe opposes the mine because it would adversely impact the surrounding ecosystem and disrupt traditional land use.

Because the copper lies partially under a public campground that has been withdrawn from mining, the company hopes to pass a land exchange bill in Congress to obtain title to the campground. The Southeastern Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act (HR 1904) would privatize portions of Apache Leap, the Oak Flat Campground, and surrounding public lands in the Tonto National Forest. The bill passed the US House of Representatives in October 2011. We are trying to make sure it doesn't come up for a vote this year in the Senate.

Getting to the Root of the Problem: 1872 Mining Law

While we can fight bad mining proposals one by one, the only way to truly protect our lands is through reforming the antiquated 1872 Mining Law that governs federal policy. This law gives precedence to mining over all other uses of public land.

Earthworks is pushing for meaningful mining reform every way we can.

Cleaning up Abandoned Mines

Right now, the government recovers some funds through the coal industry for cleaning up abandoned hardrock mines. This is not enough.

A bill before the House of Representatives, HR 785, would help restore some western waters and remediate some abandoned hardrock mines.



Photo by Kathleen Murrah

Apache Leap, courtesy of Arizona Mining Reform Coalition

Earthworks' Policy Director Lauren Pagel testified in favor of HR 785 in the House of Representatives earlier this year. However, a steady stream of long-term funding is the only real solution to this serious problem.

Recently, we helped Congressman Ed Markey (D-MA) introduce HR 3446, a bill that modernizes the 1872 Mining Law. The bill would remove the old patent system that allows mining companies to earn title to public lands with no royalty to the taxpayer. In addition to moving hardrock mining to a leasing system similar to coal and other minerals, Rep. Markey's bill will also establish a fund specifically for the cleanup of abandoned mines.

Grand Canyon Protected from New Uranium Mining!

On January 9, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar banned new mining projects for 20 years on more than one million acres of public land around the Grand Canyon. Thanks to all of you for submitting nearly 300,000 public comments. This administrative withdrawal means that ecosystems in and around the Grand Canyon will now be protected from radioactive wastes that are deposited into the ground due to uranium mining.

Good News for Oregon's Wild and Scenic Chetco River

By Bonnie Gestring

Wild salmon stocks are in decline throughout the Pacific Northwest. But in the far southwest corner of Oregon, fishermen are still catching whopping 60 pound Chinook salmon in the wild and scenic Chetco River.

Renowned for its world-class salmon, steelhead trout runs, and its startlingly emerald-clear waters, the Chetco flows 55 miles from the Kalmiopsis Wilderness out to the Pacific Ocean. Congress designated the Chetco River a national wild and scenic river in 1988 "to be protected for the benefit of present and future generations."



Protecting the Chetco River from instream minings will maintain its wild and scenic qualities.

Now a Seattle developer wants to mine gold there. Miners would vacuum up the river bottom looking for gold - muddying the waters and disrupting the clean and stable gravels that provide habitat critical to the survival of spawning salmon and steelhead trout.

Fortunately, members of Oregon's Congressional delegation stepped in to request interim protection for the river while they try to pass legislation for more lasting protection. In October 2011, the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) initiated a 2-year temporary mineral withdrawal for the Chetco while they study the potential for a 5-year withdrawal.

You helped make this happen! Earthworks members and local groups in Oregon sent in more than 7,000 letters of support. We coordinated with top fisheries scientists to submit an opinion piece in the *New York Times*.

The respite will give Congress time to consider legislation for permanent protection (the Chetco River Protection Act) introduced in the Senate by Sen. Wyden (D-Ore.) and Sen. Merkley (D-Ore.), and in the House of Representatives by Rep. DeFazio (D-Ore.) and Rep. Blumanauer (D-Ore.).

There's more good news for the Chetco.

In December 2011, the BLM decided that the Seattle developer had abandoned its mining claims. This means that the entire river is now protected from suction dredge operations as long as the mineral withdrawals are in place.

We now have a one-of-a-kind opportunity to permanently retire those 15 miles of mining claims if the Chetco River Protection Act is passed before the withdrawals expire.

Earthworks will be working with its local Oregon partners in support of the 5-year mineral withdrawal, and the Chetco River Protection Act. Stay tuned to see how you can help preserve this beautiful landmark.

MINING

VOTE 2012



We're on the CREDO donation ballot. And we need your help - the more votes we get, the more money we'll receive from CREDO.

Voting is easy, free, and an effective way to support us. Go to credomobile.com/ballot and vote for us in the roster of environmental groups they support.

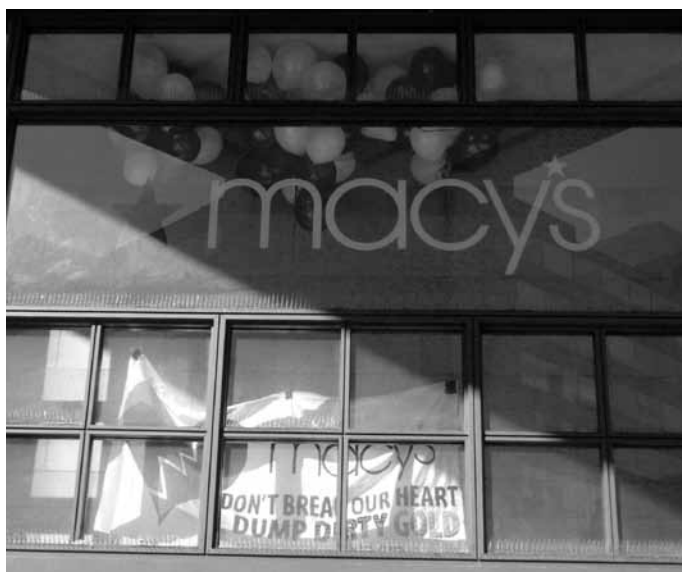
It's not a problem if you're not a CREDO member or Working Assets customer. Just follow the instructions on the page to sign a petition for CREDO Action, their activist network.

It'll only take you a minute, but you'll make a big difference.

Macy's Golden Rule: Dodge Responsibility

By Nick Magel

With help from members and activists like you, Macy's is feeling pressure to sign on to the Golden Rules for more responsible metals sourcing. You posted hundreds of messages on Macy's Facebook page asking them to sign on to the Golden Rules. We've partnered with Change.org to send more than 15,000 petitions to Macy's. We delivered a balloon banner to Macy's on Valentine's Day that sent the message that Macy's is "full of hot air."



Our Valentine to Macy's, "Don't Break Our Heart, Dump Dirty Gold."

Macy's has been a major laggard in helping rid the jewelry industry's gold of child labor, labor violations, human rights abuses, and environmental destruction. Last year, Macy's made over \$1.5 billion in jewelry and watch sales. Unfortunately, there is no telling how much of that \$1.5 billion comes from dirty gold. Perhaps all of it does; but Macy's can't tell you otherwise. That's just not acceptable.

As the 5th largest retailer of jewelry in the United States, Macy's has a unique and powerful role to play in getting dirty gold out of jewelry store display cases. That is why we need Macy's to step it up. \$1.5 billion is a lot of purchasing power, and it's time for Macy's to put that power towards cleaning up the gold jewelry supply chain.

Your actions in 2011 and 2012 forced the company to publicly respond to us, but they still haven't taken action! With your help, we will keep the spotlight on Macy's until they step up to support the communities and environments threatened by dirty gold by signing the Golden Rules.

No Dirty Gold Campaign Honored



Earthworks Executive Director Jennifer Krill with the BENVY award.

Earthworks' No Dirty Gold campaign won 1st Prize and the popular vote at the 2011 BENVY Awards for outstanding achievement in advancing corporate ethics. The BENVY awards recognized the campaign for signing on Target, the third-largest retail chain in the US and one of the top 10 jewelry retailers, to the Golden Rules. The awards are presented by the Business Ethics Network.

The Denver Justice and Peace Committee also Honored No Dirty Gold with its 2011 Global Justice and Peace Award in November. Since 2004, the Earthworks'

No Dirty Gold campaign has signed more than 80 jewelers worldwide to the Golden Rules, a set of guidelines that help protect communities and the environment from irresponsible mining practices.

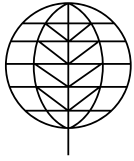
MINING

New Stationery Benefits Earthworks



Our friends at Smock Paper made us a beautiful new Change the World greeting card. 100% of the profits from your purchase go towards our campaign against fracking.

Plus, when you purchase this set of six hand-pressed cards you will also receive a "Gas and Water Don't Mix" temporary tattoo! Visit <http://smockpaper.com/everyday/change-the-world/>



EARTHWORKS

1612 K Street, NW, Ste 808
Washington, D.C. 20006

tel 202.887.1872

fax 202.887.1875

email info@earthworksaction.org

website www.earthworksaction.org

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 3541
Washington, D.C.

Address Service Requested



Printed digitally on processed chlorine free paper produced using 100% wind power in a carbon neutral process.



FROM _____

EARTHWORKS

Recycle My Cell Phone
c/o Earthworks
1612 K St., NW
Suite 808
Washington, DC 20006

U.S. Postage Required



Recycle your old cell phone with us! You'll get the dual satisfaction of keeping toxics out of the landfill, and supporting Earthworks.

Recycling your old cell phone is easy. Simply collect your unwanted cell phones, regardless of condition, and send them our way! Please keep in mind that we do not accept chargers or accessories. Cut out the mailing label at left and affix it to your package.

Why not ask your friends, family and colleagues to donate their old phones, too?

GET FREE SHIPPING: If you collect 20 or more phones, we'll pay for shipping! Contact Hilary Lewis at hlewis@earthworksaction.org or (202) 887-1872 x 101 to get your pre-paid mailing label. All cell phone donations are 100% tax-deductible. Please include a valid e-mail address in your package to receive a receipt.