

# First Nations' Environmental Protests

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## Reconsidering the Archives

resource planning. The Study process has been a valuable experience in which the study group has learned much from you and through which we trust you have gone a little further down the difficult path of reasserting your importance as a people and your determination to preserve your heritage.

Who is preserved?

At issue here is not just the continued non-Indian exploitation of traditional Indian lands, but whether an increasingly questionable life-style can be permitted to destroy a culture and a land that offer it a significant opportunity to improve.

Who is benefiting?

9. We find evidence in the experiences of others that high-quality development in the Blackwater River watershed with low impact on people and their environment requires thoughtful planning with effective involvement of the people who live here as well as of specialists from many different fields.

Who asserts knowledge?

I should like to repeat in writing our request that the Forest Service apply its research skills to the task of designing a method of constructive logging in the Blackwater River watershed that would require no roads and would permit teams of Indian people who already live here to do the logging. This could save enormous costs in road construction, maintenance, ploughing, trucks, some other heavy equipment and maintenance. It could avoid the social and economic costs of setting up non-Indian work camps or instant artificial communities which prove so troublesome. It could be an experiment in logging where other interests must be treated with particular care not only for ecological reasons but also for social, cultural, legal or wilderness preservation reasons. It might even lead to superior methods of forest husbandry so that problems such as nutrient cycling and nutrient loading might be reduced and benefits gained even from a hard-nosed but long-range forestry point of view.

Who possesses control?

## A Microhistory of Infringement

First Nations express position and hold roadblock in May, 1974

Three month moratorium granted late May, 1974 after years of inaction

Committee hired in June, 1974 to conduct environmental impact study

Funds granted to Study on July 11th, 1974 and plan of action drafted

Report finished August 17th, 1974 and moratorium ends August 31st

Development conflicts, blockades, and new committees persist

Now, we move toward awareness of incomplete and biased histories



Discussing and criticizing historical presentation



Timeline



Articles



Organizing and structuring archival history

### References

1. Alan Chambers Fonds "Nazko Kluskus FN Study series," from the Nazko-Kluskus Study Team's "Report to Nazko and Kluskus Bands of Carrier Indians from the Nazko-Kluskus Study Team" dated August 17th, 1974
2. Alan Chambers Fonds "Nazko Kluskus FN Study series," from a letter from Walt Taylor to Jim Bullen dated August 9th, 1974

### Acknowledgements

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