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** Media Packet / Photos Available **



Climate convergence promises low-impact living and civil disobedience

What: The 2nd Annual West Coast Convergence for Climate Action. The event is part skills training and part sustainability demonstration. The event brings together rural and urban communities impacted by the fossil fuel and timber industry from across the west coast to strengthen ties and take non-violent direct action against the root causes of climate change.

When: July 28th – August 4th, 2008. Scheduled tours of the event site for reporters will occur daily at 1:30pm the 29th – 3rd. August 4th is reserved for civil disobedience actions and other protests.

Where: Coburg, OR at River's Turn Farm. Directions and map at www.climateconvergence.org/west/directions-to-convergence/

Why: The Convergence aims to 1) promote a just, rapid transition away from fossil fuels, 2) support the efforts of communities fighting dirty energy developments in their backyards, 3) encourage the use of non-violent direct action for political leverage on energy and climate issues, and 4) increase networking and strategizing amongst the diverse social justice and environmental movements fighting climate change and dirty energy industries.

Who: Participants include sustainability activists, organic farmers, opponents of both liquefied natural gas (LNG) development and the Columbia River Crossing and a wide variety of other groups working for climate and energy sustainability. The Convergence is supported by national organizations Rising Tide, Global Exchange, and the Rainforest Action Network.

Background: The West Coast Convergence for Climate Action is part of an international network of climate "camps" which began in the summer of 2005. This year's west coast convergence takes place alongside gatherings in Virginia, New York, the UK, Germany, Australia, Denmark, Russia, and New Zealand. Last year's west coast convergence ended with an eighty-person occupation of a proposed LNG terminal site in Bradwood, OR and a blockade of Pacific Power's headquarters in Portland, OR.

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