

2008 Year- End Report on Animal Liberation Activities in North America

The North American Animal Liberation Press Office
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North American Animal Liberation Press Office

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Dedication

These words are written as a reminder of the billions of animal lives lost this year on the altar of human greed. We remind ourselves also of those who have risked their freedom and their lives to rescue as many as possible from their hellish fate.

Introduction

The North American Animal Liberation Press Office (NAALPO) was founded to communicate the actions, strategies, and philosophy of the animal liberation movement to the media and the public. Many of these actions are illegal under a current societal structure that fails to recognize the rights of non-human animals to live free of suffering, but validates and promotes the "right" of industries to do whatever they want to animals for profit or research. Within these conditions, those in the underground working for animal liberation often cannot speak out directly. Nevertheless, their actions and message is urgent and deserve to be heard and understood.

Since animal liberation actions either go unreported in the media or are uncritically vilified as "violent" and "terrorist" with no attention paid to the suffering that industries and individuals gratuitously inflict on animals, NAALPO seeks to clarify the motivation and nature of actions taken in defense of animals.

The Press Office also tries to provide a historical, social, and philosophical context for an objective understanding of the nature and motivation of illegal direct actions taken on behalf of captive animals. While the Animal Liberation Front (A.L.F.), is currently the most active liberation group, the Press Office will report on ANY act of animal liberation, and provide the press and general public with information on the actions and ideology behind them.

The following report summarizes direct action taken on behalf of innocent, oppressed, non-human animals in North America during the 2008 calendar year.



Press Officers



Lin Bingham is a writer, graphic designer, and screen printer living in Albany, NY. His primary goal has been to speak out for animal, human, and earth liberation, but more importantly, to point out that all of these movements are in fact the same struggle against the same enemy. If asked to describe his talents in one phrase he would likely respond "propaganda and agitation."

Lin is available to speak on animal liberation topics at seminars, conferences and anywhere else where one or more people are willing to listen and interact.



Camille Hankins After 20 years of corporate experience, Camille Hankins abandoned a lucrative career in IT Consulting to devote her time and energy to animal liberation. She brings a wealth of marketing, resource development and management experience to the animal rights movement, coupled with over 15 years of grass roots animal rights campaign experience. Camille launched the New York Animal Liberation Front Supporters (NY-ALFS), which promotes a better understanding of the underground animal liberation movement through public speaking and educational outreach.

In 2004, Camille co-founded the group Win Animal Rights (WAR), focused primarily on the campaign to close Huntingdon



Jerry Vlasak, MD is a board-certified surgeon specializing in trauma and critical care. He is a former vivisector who has seen the agony of animals in laboratories. He debates the scientific invalidity of animal experimentation around the world, speaks out about the benefits of a vegan diet and offers lectures on the right of all sentient beings to live free of pain and suffering. His essays and interviews have been published in numerous journals and magazines and he has been interviewed on radio, TV and in print by journalists worldwide regarding animal rights. He resides in Los Angeles.

MONTHLY ACTIONS AND TOTALS

2008 has been quite the busy year here at the Press Office. Over the course of the year, we received anonymous communiqués from activists taking responsibility for nearly 200 illegal actions on behalf of animals. That means that, on average, we received a communiqué every 44 hours.

DECEMBER 2008

- 12/29 John Hopkins- Letter bombs (United States)
- 12/27 Poultry shop windows smashed. Closed for good (Mexico)
- 2/25 Turtle Liberated (Mexico)
- 12/22 2 Slaughterhouse trucks burned (Mexico)
- 12/22 5 Telmex phones sabotaged (Mexico)
- 12/20 20 Telmex phones sabotaged (Mexico)
- 12/17 Bullring burned (Mexico)
- 12/26 25 dogs liberated from pound (Mexico)
- 12/15 Berkeley computers hacked (United States)
- 12/14 Rodeo burned, Stores and restaurants painted and locks glued (Mexico)
- 12/12 25 Telmex phones sabotaged (Mexico)
- 12/12 UCLA van sabotaged (United States)
- 12/8 Georgia butcher shop, meat market and fast food restaurants sabotaged (United States)
- 12/7 2 Bochco trucks sabotaged (Mexico)
- 12/6 12 Telmex phones and 1 truck sabotaged (Mexico)
- 12/4 Leather expo burned to the ground (Mexico)
- 12/4 KFC windows smashed (Mexico)
- 12/3 Mendele Leather and Fur painted (Mexico)

DECEMBER TOTALS

- United States- 4
- Mexico- 13
- Canada- 0
- Liberated animals- 1 turtle, 25 dogs
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 5
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 11

NOVEMBER 2008

- 11/30 UCLA clinic painted (United States)
- 11/30 20 hens liberated from egg farm (Canada)
- 11/27 25 windows broken at pet shop and 14 windows smashed at KFC (Mexico)
- 11/25 UCLA vivisection's vehicle burned (United States)
- 11/25 Vehicles belonging to the owner of circus get painted, windows smashed (Mexico)
- 11/24 Cock breeders' sign vandalized (Mexico)
- 11/21 6 windows smashed and message painted at cock breeders (Mexico)
- 11/19 5 rabbits liberated from pet store (Mexico)
- 11/18 Egg distributor vandalized (Mexico)
- 11/18 Poultry company sign vandalized (Mexico)
- 11/18 Banner dropped in Oklahoma City in support of Rod Coronado (United States)
- 11/17 Refrigerated meat truck sabotaged (Mexico)
- 11/14 Windows smashed at an animal control center and a seafood restaurant (Mexico)
- 11/13 30 Telmex phones sabotaged (Mexico)
- 11/13 McDonalds and Burger King painted and locks glued (No Location Specified)
- 11/13 UCSF vivisector has front doors locks glued (United States)
- 11/10 4 Telmex phones painted (Mexico)
- 11/10 10 Fake bombs and incendiary devices left at multiple fast food restaurants (Mexico)
- 11/9 Burger King burned (Mexico)
- 11/9 Vegan slogans painted on freeway (Mexico)
- 11/9 Bachoco truck sabotaged (Mexico)
- 11/9 UC Berkley vivisector has front of home painted and locks glued (United States)
- 11/8 8 Hens liberated from truck (Mexico)
- 11/4 Cars at UCLA sabotaged (United States)
- 11/2 37 Telmex phones sabotaged (Mexico)

NOVEMBER TOTALS

- United States- 6
- Mexico- 17
- Canada- 1
- Liberated animals- 28 hens, 5 rabbits
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 3
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 18

OCTOBER 2008

- 10/28 Pet shop painted (Mexico)
- 10/26 Multiple businesses painted and windows smashed (Mexico)
- 10/24 KFC sabotaged (Mexico)
- 10/21 Incendiary device left at Burger King (Mexico)
- 10/20 Chicken company truck burned (Mexico)
- 10/17 1500 mink liberated from Oregon fur farm (United States)
- 10/17 12 UCLA vans sabotaged (United States)
- 10/16 Fake bomb left at Burger King (Mexico)
- 10/15 KFC painted (Mexico)
- 10/14 Locks glued at California Burger King (United States)
- 10/11 30 Shops have their locks glued (Mexico)
- 10/10 3 Bachoco Poultry trucks and a trailer painted (Mexico)
- 10/8 Locks glued at 10 pet shops (Mexico)
- 10/6 2 UCLA vans sabotaged (United States)
- 10/6 UCLA vivisectors car paint stripped (United States)
- 10/6 UC Berkley vivisectors windows smashed (United States)
- 10/4 Cock breeder's windows damaged (Mexico)
- 10/3 McDonalds and Burger King painted, KFC's windows kicked in (Mexico)
- 10/1 FedEx shipment to HLS destroyed (United States)

OCTOBER TOTALS

- United States- 7
- Mexico- 12
- Canada- 0
- Liberated animals- 1,500 mink
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 3
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 15



SEPTEMBER 2008

- 9/28 HLS supplier DHL's windows painted (Mexico)
- 9/27 Burger King painted (Mexico)
- 9/26 KFC painted (Mexico)
- 9/24 McDonalds and Burger King signs defaced (Mexico)
- 9/22 10,000 mink liberated in Utah (United States)
- 9/21 locks to 25 meat shops glued (Mexico)
- 9/19 HLS supplier DHL has the locks of one of their trucks glued (United States)
- 9/17 25 hens and 8 turkeys liberated from factory farms, one of which is now closed (Canada)
- 9/15 Birds liberated from breeder (Mexico)
- 9/14 Meat markets sabotaged (Mexico)
- 9/13 Cages opened at Worldwide Primates in Florida (United States)
- 9/11 Egg distributor and seafood restaurant painted (Mexico)
- 9/10 Meat shops damaged (Mexico)
- 9/9 McDonalds billboard defaced (No Location Specified)
- 9/8 150 mink liberated from Oregon fur farm (United States)
- 9/6 Tavern and meat truck painted (Mexico)
- 9/6 cockfighting breeder gets property painted (Mexico)
- 9/5 HLS customer Novartis gets painted (Mexico)

SEPTEMBER TOTALS

- United States- 4
- Mexico- 12
- Canada- 1
- No Location Specified- 1
- Liberated animals- 10,150 mink, 25 hens, 8 turkeys, unspecified amount of "game birds", as many as 20 primates
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 0
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 13



AUGUST 2008

- 8/29 Rabbit liberated from pet store (Mexico)
- 8/29 McDonalds, Burger King, and KFC bathroom toilets clogged (No Location Specified)
- 8/28 Fur store painted (Mexico)
- 8/28 Meat market painted, equipment stolen (Mexico)
- 8/28 Meat shop and restaurant painted (Mexico)
- 8/28 Pet store and restaurant painted (Mexico)
- 8/27 4,000 mink liberated from fur farm (Canada)
- 8/26 Seafood restaurant in Portland has locks glued (United States)
- 8/24 McDonalds and Burger King painted, 2 crab traps sabotaged (United States)
- 8/20 Faculty of Chemistry at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México painted, windows smashed (Mexico)
- 8/20 10 Meat markets have locks glued (Mexico)
- 8/20 Shops painted (Mexico)
- 8/18 300 Mink released from fur farm in Utah, Breeding cards destroyed (United States)
- 8/18 KFC in Kansas painted (United States)
- 8/18 Incendiary device left at KFC (Mexico)
- 8/11 2 UCLA vans expropriated (United States)
- 8/11 McDonalds in Kansas painted (United States)
- 8/11 Restaurants painted (Mexico)
- 8/10 Pet store defaced (Mexico)
- 8/2 Mcdonalds painted (Mexico)

AUGUST TOTALS

- United States- 6
- Mexico- 12
- Canada- 1
- No Location Specified- 1
- Liberated animals- 1 rabbit, 4,300 mink
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 1
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage 15



JULY 2008

- 7/25 3 mice liberated from pet store (Mexico)
- 7/19 UCLA van expropriated (United States)
- 7/15 Circus trailers painted (Mexico)
- 7/11 KFC sabotaged (Mexico)
- 7/6 11 shops have their locks glued (Mexico)
- 7/3 Meat distributor painted, truck sabotaged (Mexico)
- 7/1 KFC painted (Mexico)

JULY TOTALS

- United States- 1
- Mexico- 6
- Canada- 0
- Liberated animals- 3 mice
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 0
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 6



JUNE 2008

- 6/28 Coca Cola distributor painted (Mexico)
- 6/26 Pet shop painted (Mexico)
- 6/26 HLS supplier Staples has plumbing clogged (United States)
- 6/19 Arson at leather expo (Mexico)
- 6/19 50 birds released from "game farm" (United States)
- 6/14 HLS suppliers Unilever and DHL painted (Mexico)
- 6/13 UCLA van firebombed (United States)
- 6/13 DHL offices attacked, windows smashed, slogans painted (Mexico)
- 6/1 Cock fighter's home painted (Mexico)
- 6/1 Mendele Leather Company painted (Mexico)

JUNE TOTALS

- United States- 3
- Mexico- 7
- Canada-0
- Liberated animals- 50 birds
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 2
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 7



MAY 2008

- 5/29 Meat stores and pet store painted (Mexico)
- 5/22 Fur business painted (Mexico)
- 5/13 2 California Staples stores attacked. Slogans painted, windows etched, and locks glued (United States)
- 5/13 Incendiary devices left in 2 Staples delivery trucks in California (United States)
- 5/11 2 restaurants and 2 meat markets attacked (Mexico)
- 5/10 2 restaurants painted (Mexico)
- 5/9 Restaurant owner's truck painted (Mexico)
- 5/5 KFC Painted (Mexico)
- 5/2 Milk distributor painted (Mexico)
- 5/1 Pet store painted (Mexico)

MAY TOTALS

- United States- 2
- Mexico- 8
- Canada- 0
- Liberated animals- 0
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 1
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 9



APRIL 2008

- 4/29 200 mink liberated from Washington state fur farm (United States)
- 4/24 KFC painted (Mexico)
- 4/24 Incendiary device left under Staples delivery truck in California (United States)
- 4/24 Circus trucks painted (Mexico)
- 4/22 40 mink liberated from Oregon fur farm. Breeding records destroyed (United States)
- 4/22 3 restaurants painted (Mexico)
- 4/21 Restaurant windows smashed, kitchen sabotaged (Mexico)
- 4/21 Hardees in North Carolina has windows and glass door smashed (United States)
- 4/18 Several Bachoco locations painted (Mexico)
- 4/15 KFC has windows etched (Mexico)

APRIL TOTALS

- United States- 4
- Mexico- 6
- Canada- 0
- Liberated animals- 240 mink
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 1
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 7



MARCH 2008

- 3/27 Butcher shop gets painted, lamps and floodlights busted, locked glued (Mexico)
- 3/24 KFC gets bomb threat (Mexico)
- 3/22 Mendele Leather gets painted (Mexico)
- 3/20 3 butcher shops painted (Mexico)
- 3/16 Cosmetics firm and 5 butcher shops painted (Mexico)
- 3/14 Pet store and meat shop painted (Mexico)
- 3/11 KFC gets painted, windows etched (Mexico)
- 3/8 2 restaurants painted, windows etched (Mexico)
- 3/7 KFC painted (Mexico)
- 3/6 7 Restaurants painted (Mexico)
- 3/4 Duck liberated (Mexico)
- 3/1 Bachoco painted (Mexico)

MARCH TOTALS

- United States- 0
- Mexico- 12
- Canada- 0
- Liberated animals- 1 duck
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 1
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 10



FEBRUARY 2008

- 2/25 3 outdoor grills sabotaged (Mexico)
- 2/22 Incendiary device left at the home of vivisector (United States)
- 2/20 9 billboards and a Honey Baked Ham store painted (United States)
- 2/12 3 goats liberated in California (United States)
- 2/10 Arson at Bachoco shop (Mexico)
- 2/9 12 locks glued at stores who sell Novartis products (Mexico)
- 2/6 13 Locks glued at various targets (Mexico)
- 2/5 3 restaurants painted (Mexico)
- 2/5 47 rats liberated in California (United States)
- 2/4 2 restaurants painted (Mexico)

FEBRUARY TOTALS

- United States- 4
- Mexico- 6
- Canada- 0
- Liberated animals- 3 goats, 47 rats
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 2
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 6



JANUARY 2008

- 1/31 Restaurant painted (Mexico)
- 1/30 4 HLS related targets painted, locks glued (United States)
- 1/30 McDonalds pipes clogged in NYC (United States)
- 1/24 Wendy's billboard painted (Canada)
- 1/21 Bachoco market painted (Mexico)
- 1/21 Glass door shattered at restaurant in Baltimore (United States)
- 1/20 KFC firebombed (Mexico)
- 1/17 Chief to the mayor of Los Angeles has 2 cars in his driveway paint stripped (United States)
- 1/16 2 turkeys liberated from farm in South Carolina (United States)
- 1/15 4 puppies liberated (Mexico)
- 1/14 Fast food restaurant in Texas sabotaged (United States)
- 1/11 Circus tent and trucks painted (Mexico)
- 1/8 rabbit liberated in South Carolina (United States)
- 1/4 2 doves and 1 turkey liberated (Mexico)
- 1/4 Fur store painted (Mexico)

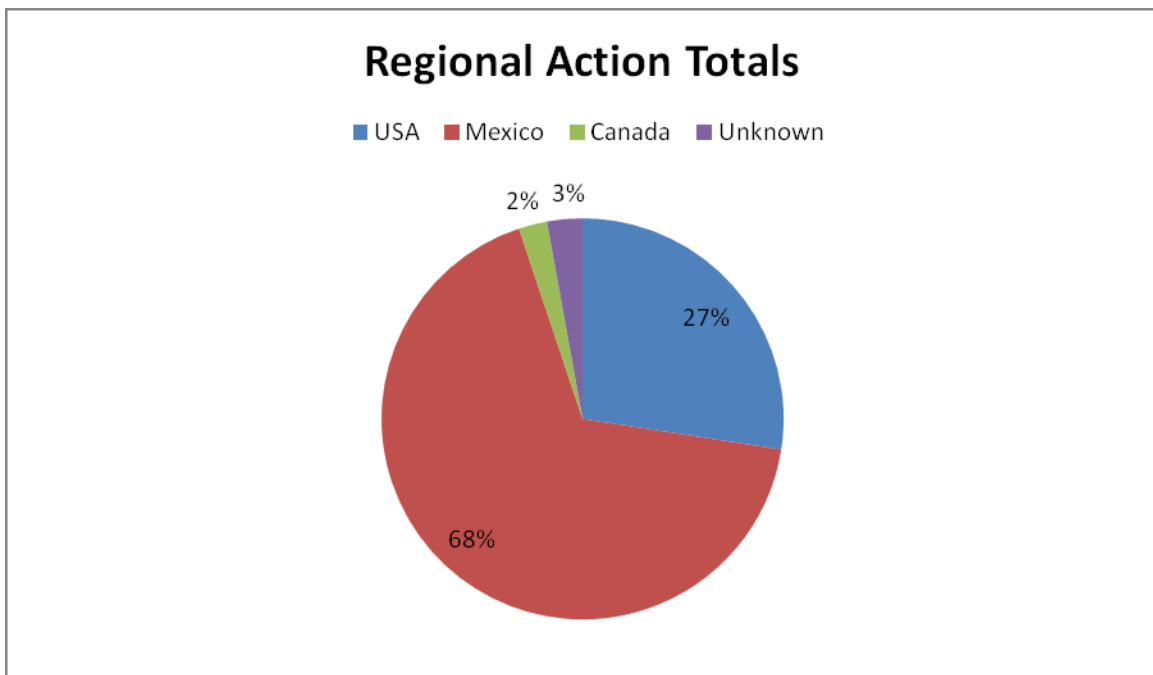
JANUARY TOTALS

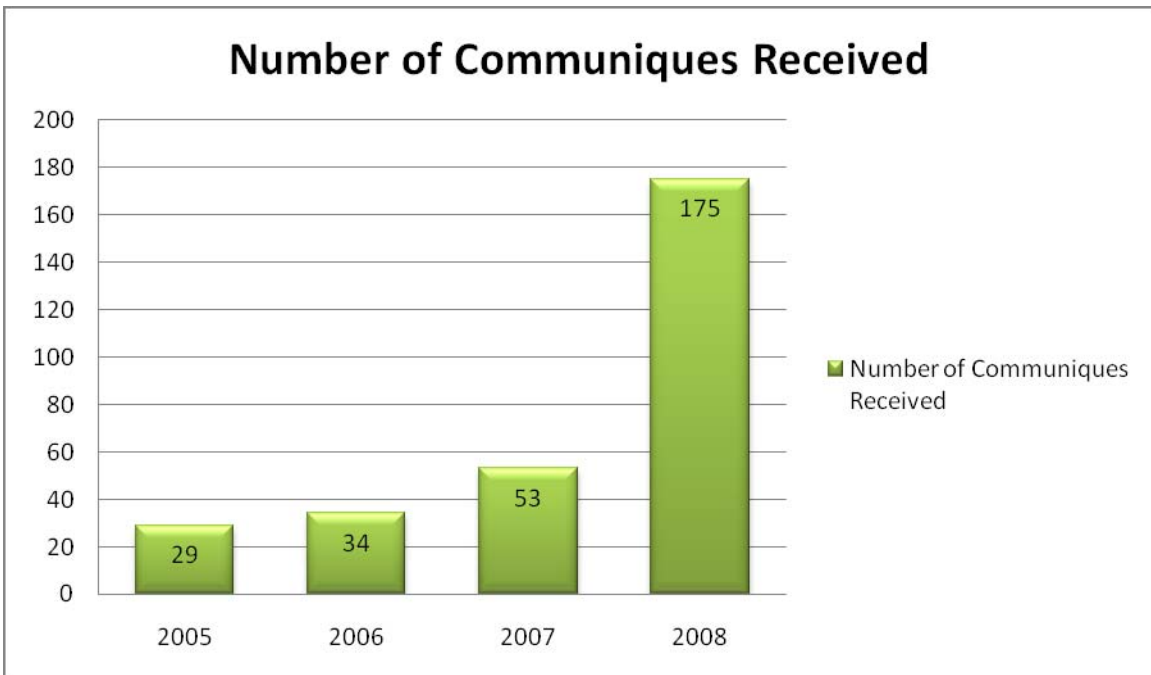
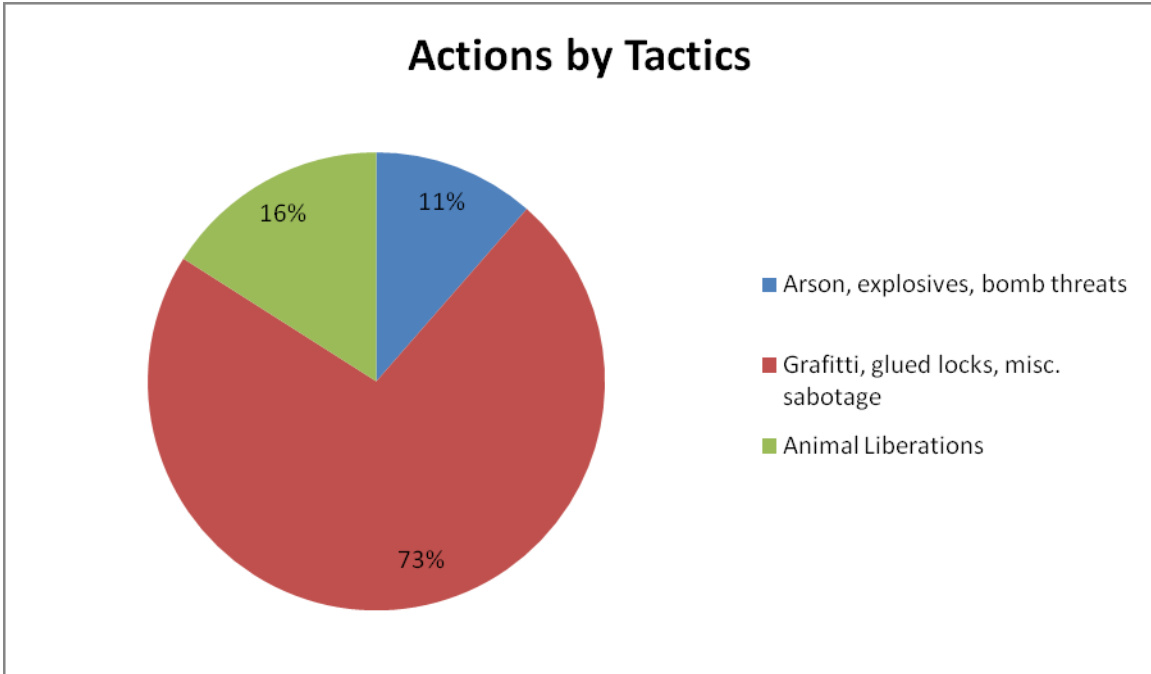
- United States- 7
- Mexico- 7
- Canada- 1
- No Location Specified- 3
- Liberated animals- 3 turkeys, 1 rabbit, 2 doves, 4 puppies
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 1
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 10



YEAR END TOTALS 2008

- United States- 48
- Mexico- 118
- Canada- 4
- Liberated animals-
 - ✓ 16,190 mink
 - ✓ 23 hens
 - ✓ 50 rats/mice
 - ✓ 50 unspecified birds
 - ✓ 29 dogs
 - ✓ 20 primates
 - ✓ 11 turkeys
 - ✓ 7 rabbits
 - ✓ 3 goats
 - ✓ 2 doves
 - ✓ 1 duck
 - ✓ 1 turtle
- Arson/explosives/incendiary devices/bomb threats- 20
- Graffiti/ property destruction/ glued locks/ misc. sabotage- 127





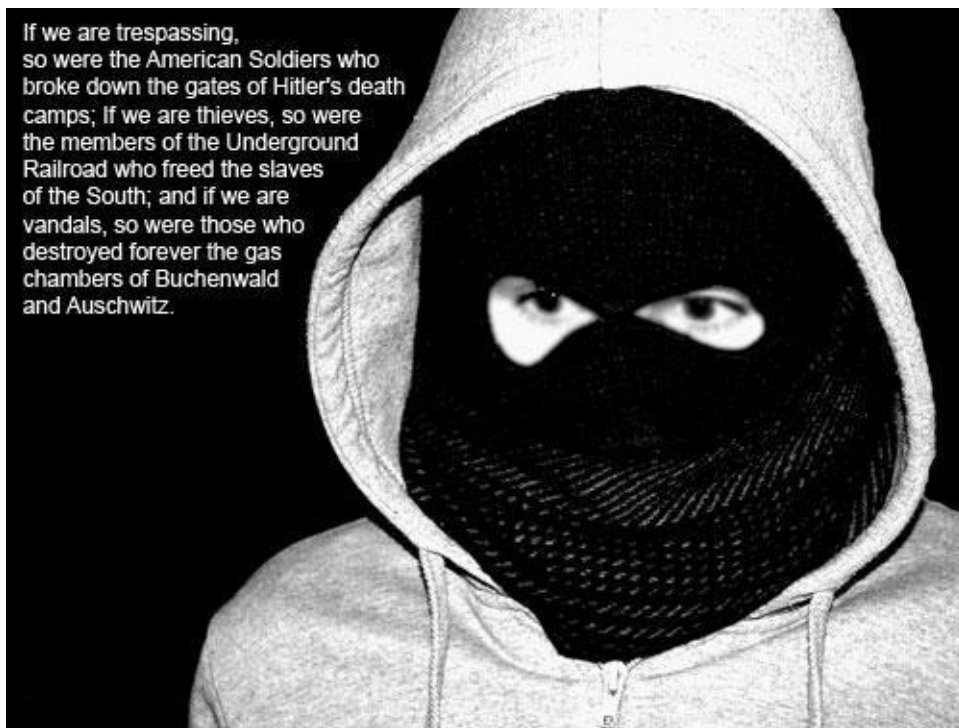
Targets and Tactics

The majority of fast-food related actions involved the spray painting of slogans, smashing of windows, and gluing of locks. Other related targets included meat, dairy, and egg distributors.

The fur and leather industries took major hits this year, as North America saw at least 9 fur farm raids, for a combined total of 16,190 liberated mink. Also, Mexican activists burnt a local fur and leather market to the ground.

HLS continued to be the focal point of the aggression of activists all over the continent. Hundreds of protests and 15 illegal actions have put HLS on the top of everyone's "Companies needing to be shut down this year" lists.

Also in the crosshairs of anti-vivisection activists was the University of California. The schools continue to be targeted on multiple campuses and with a wide array of tactics. The activists involved saw their First Amendment rights thrown out the window, as protests and home demos became illegal and restraining orders were filed against almost everyone on the "above ground" end of this battle. Luckily for the animals though, there are people in California who concern themselves less with what is legal and more with what is right. The university has seen its' passenger vans sabotaged on a regular basis and several researchers have had incendiary devices left under their cars or on their doorsteps.



Activists in the News

3/27 Rod Coronado was sentenced to a year in prison.

(AP) A radical environmentalist was sentenced Thursday to one year and one day in federal prison for speaking publicly about how to make a homemade Molotov cocktail.

Rodney Coronado apologized for his past use of violent tactics in the name of animal rights and the environment, and said he had cut his ties to groups, including the Earth Liberation Front.

"I have done things in my past that I now regret," Coronado told U.S. District Court Judge Jeffrey Miller. He said he wanted to serve his sentence and then get on with his life in Tucson, Ariz.

The 41-year-old activist pleaded guilty in December to distributing information on destructive devices during an August 2003 speech about militant environmental activism at a community center in San Diego.

According to an account and photos of the speech posted on the Internet, Coronado demonstrated how to build a crude ignition device using a plastic jug filled with gasoline and oil.

The speech was given just hours after an arson fire destroyed a San Diego condominium project that was under construction a few miles away. A banner at the site indicated that the ELF claimed responsibility for the \$50 million blaze, which at the time was the costliest act of eco-terrorism in U.S. history.

Coronado, who once acted as a spokesman for the group, arrived in San Diego after the fire broke out and has never been linked to the blaze.

Prosecutors accused Coronado, a longtime environmental activist renowned for helping sink whaling ships and destroying mink farms and animal research labs, of wanting people to follow in his footsteps.

He told The Associated Press after being charged in February 2006 that he had renounced violence and favored educating people about environmentally sustainable living rather than engaging in the sabotage efforts favored by environmentalists in the 1980s and 1990s.

Coronado's lawyers argued his innocence under the First Amendment. A trial in September ended with a hung jury.

His plea deal in December came after prosecutors agreed to drop efforts to prosecute Coronado for other speeches.

Coronado, who faced up to 20 years in prison under post-Sept. 11 terrorism legislation, was ordered to surrender by May 9.

Coronado previously served nearly five years in federal prison for his involvement in a 1992 arson at a Michigan State University mink research facility. He also

served eight months in prison for trying to disrupt a 2004 mountain lion hunt in Arizona by pulling up sensors and disabling snare traps."



5/28 Tre Arrow accepts plea deal.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — An environmental activist and former fugitive who once won thousands of votes in a congressional election pleaded guilty Tuesday to federal charges under a deal that would send him to prison for two years.

Tre Arrow, 34, pleaded guilty to the destruction of concrete-mixing trucks in Portland in April 2001 and to firebombing logging trucks at a contested logging sale near Mount Hood in June 2001. He had faced up to 40 years in prison if convicted of two counts of arson.

In a separate case, a radical environmentalist who helped federal officials round up a militant cell of arsonists was sentenced Tuesday in Eugene to five years of probation.

Jacob Ferguson pleaded guilty in October to arson and attempted arson for his role in a series of 20 fires set across the West from 1996 to 2001 to protest logging and environmental damage. Officials said the fires caused more than \$40 million in damage.

Ferguson built many of the incendiary devices used by the small militant cell of the Earth Liberation Front that was nicknamed "the Family," according to

court records. He became an informant in 2004 as investigators were closing in on the group.

Ten other radicals were sentenced to federal prison last year after pleading guilty to arson and other crimes claimed by the Earth Liberation Front and a sister group, the Animal Liberation Front, from 1996 to 2001. The FBI claims Arrow is also associated with ELF. He insisted he gave no information to implicate others as a part of his plea deal. Nothing said in court Tuesday countered that.

The plea bargain calls for a 78-month sentence with credit for the time Arrow served in a Canadian prison since his March 2004 arrest in British Columbia on shoplifting charges. He was returned to the United States in February.

Arrow is to serve his time at a medium-security federal prison at Sheridan, southwest of Portland. U.S. District Judge James A. Redden said he is not allowed to have contact with either ELF or ALF after his release. Formal sentencing was scheduled for August.

Arrow legally changed his name from Michael Scarpitti because he said the trees told him to do so. In 1998, he was arrested in Cincinnati wearing a pink bunny suit outside a Procter & Gamble Co. executive's home. He was charged with leafleting without a permit and fined \$130.

He moved to Oregon and joined protests organized by the Cascadia Forest Alliance. He scaled the offices of the U.S. Forest Service in Portland in the summer of 2000, perching on a narrow ledge for 11 days.

Arrow suffered a broken pelvis in October 2001 when he fell 65 feet from a tree after a two-day standoff with police and loggers in the Tillamook State Forest. He ran for Congress in 2000 as a Pacific Green Party candidate, winning nearly 16,000 votes.

Arrow pleaded guilty Tuesday to aiding in the destruction of a truck used in interstate commerce at Ross Island Sand and Gravel and of burning three logging trucks used in interstate commerce owned by Schoppert Logging Inc., which was to have started cutting trees at the timber sale site. Three other gasoline bombs found in other trucks failed to explode.

6/11 Roger Troen dies

(The Oregonian) Even among fervent animal-rights activists, Roger Troen stood out. He'd be the one costumed as a demented butcher with fake blood and cleaver performing guerrilla theater during an anti-fur protest, or as Colonel Sanders outside KFC protesting factory farming, or chalking the ground outside OHSU's primate center.

About 30 years ago, Roger got the call to his life's purpose - animal rights - and his righteous battle became a nearly full-time focus. At any given time, Roger had either just come from a march or meeting, or from gathering signatures for a shelter reform initiative, or had just written a letter to the editor, or photocopied news releases or his newsletter. But if he got a call to rescue an animal from death row at the Multnomah County animal shelter in Troutdale, he dropped everything.

When Roger got on his soapbox his was a loud, blunt voice, and often a

lonely one. Behind the scenes, he did many of the most menial tasks and he got almost no positive strokes. He was sometimes kicked out of gatherings. Talk shows stopped accepting his calls.

Not everybody knew that the silver-haired man with the steel-blue eyes and the missionary zeal had been convicted for his role in a 1986 Animal Liberation Front raid on an animal lab at the University of Oregon.‡ Although frustrated that people didn't see things his way, he was in no way discouraged. He unapologetically and cheerfully came back to repeat his message: He was there for the animals, not the humans.

Roger was the middle of five children; his mother died when he was a toddler, and in 1936, he moved to a house on North Montana Street in Portland. Practically all the years of his life were spent in that house.

He was raised by his stepmother. His first animal was a cat, Juliet, when he was about 13. He went to Beach Elementary, Benson High School (class of 1949); then Vanport College. He enlisted in the Air Force, and served in Waco, Texas. While in Texas, he converted to the Mormon faith. He graduated from Brigham Young University and taught at Buckman and Astor elementary schools from 1959 to 1969. In about 1970 he came out of the closet and became active in gay rights. By 1979, though, his focus had shifted, and he was rescuing animals.

He ran unsuccessfully for 18th District state representative in 1982, then two years later as one of 19 candidates for Portland City Council.

It was in 1986 that he was the getaway driver for an Animal Liberation Front raid on the UO lab.‡ He escaped driving his aunt's Ford LTD crammed with rabbits and other furry critters at daybreak, with Beethoven blaring on the stereo. Roger took the stolen rabbits to a friend's place on the coast, where a veterinarian discovered their UO‡ tattoos and called police. Roger was arrested and convicted - the only one - of theft, conspiracy and burglary.

When judgment was pronounced - probation, \$35,000 fine, house arrest, community service - Roger was wearing a button reading "Can't Kill the Spirit."

Although excluded as a gay man from the Mormon fold, Roger still felt strong ties to the faith. He lobbied for his new church, Metropolitan Community, to honor animal rights, even protesting in church. Here too, he was often frustrated. But he kept on.

A critic of traditional animal shelters, he nevertheless went to the Troutdale animal shelter once or twice a week to get cats or dogs and take them to foster homes.

Every day, he took his list of goals and checked them off, often at Overlook Restaurant, the "battle pavilion" where he planned strategy. He sipped tea and wrote in his journal. His three dogs (Tanner, Lady and Hildigard), four cats (Bigger Boy, Muddy Cat, Creamsickle and Patience) and two unnamed rats, were his children.

Money was a problem. He spent what he had on stamps and photocopies - he never entered the Internet age - and gasoline for his 1986 Toyota pickup to rescue animals. Property taxes for his dilapidated house, where he lived with his partner of 13 years, Steve Nettles, were not as big a priority as paying \$1,000 for surgery on a kitten that had swallowed a penny.

He would go into debt for a critter, but suffering from congestive heart failure, would not get himself to the hospital. Two weeks before his death at 77, on April 23, 2008, he went to a shelter reform group meeting with plans for action. But it was a cause with little support.

In 2003, Roger, who also rescued rats - he called himself founder and international coordinator of Rat Allies - wrote an essay for Willamette Week in defense of the rodent. When someone wrote him a short note of appreciation, he was astonished, gratified and humbled. Somebody finally understood what he was trying to communicate.

Roger, who sometimes felt like a martyr, sometimes like a voice crying in the wilderness, said, "Somebody changed their mind today because of something I wrote."



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The animal liberation movement stands at the edge of a line drawn in the sand. Opposing us is an enemy with virtually unlimited resources, driven by greed, and a willingness to use any tactics necessary to line their pockets. This year, more than any other in recent memory, the line in the sand has been made clear between the animal abuse industries and those who oppose them. Our foes are united behind a single-minded goal: to break our will and silence our voices. If they manage to accomplish this, we will be powerless to do much more than watch from the sidelines as they ruthlessly exploit and destroy all life. To win against such overwhelming opposition, we need something more than the same "one-track-mind" mentality. This doesn't mean that we all need to agree with everything that every other animal rights group is doing or saying. We merely need to accept that, despite our differences on tactical issues, we have more in common with each other than we have in common with those oppressing us and exploiting, hurting and killing other animals.

During the past few years, we have seen mainstream "animal welfare groups" turn their backs on the animal liberation movement, such as during the SHAC 7 trial and with the passing of the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act. The obvious reasoning behind this has been to distance themselves from illegal actions that they feel "dirty" their public image. This is the exact opposite of what we need to be doing if we are going to win. The impression given is that governmental pressure causes those of us not directly in the crosshairs to run and hide. It gives a clear roadmap to destroying us as an effective movement.

If we are serious about animal liberation as our long-term goal, we need to immediately end our destructive infighting. We need to get over the idea that not "rocking the boat" will keep us safe. The animals need us fighting for them, and we cannot do that effectively if half of our energy continues to be spent bickering among ourselves. The sooner the above-ground and underground factions of our movement, of all persuasions, learn to work beside each other as a united front, the sooner we will live in a world free of animal abuse, torture, and slaughter.

PRISONERS

ECO-DEFENCE PRISONERS

Tre Arrow, #70936065, FCI Herlong, Federal Correctional Institution, PO Box 800, Herlong, CA 96113, USA. Awaiting sentencing having reached a non-cooperation plea-bargain with the authorities who accuse him of involvement in two arsons. 1) an arson on logging trucks 2) an arson on vehicles owned by a sand & gravel company. (Tre is a raw energy vegan - He has asked that his letters of support are written on scrap paper or tree-free paper).

Grant Barnes #137563, San Carlos Correctional Facility, PO Box 3, Pueblo, CO 81002, USA. Serving 12 years for setting fire to a number of SUV vehicles. The letters ELF were spray painted onto all of the vehicles. (Grant is a vegan).

Nathan Block #36359-086, FCI Lompoc, Federal Correctional Institution, 3600 Guard Road, Lompoc, CA 93436, USA. Serving 7 years & 8 months for an ELF arson against a Poplar Tree Farm and an ELF arson against an SUV dealership. Also admitted his role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy. (Diet unknown).

Jeffrey Luers #13797671, CRCI, 9111 NE Sunderland Ave, Portland, OR 97211-1708, USA. Serving 10 years for arson on a SUV dealership & the attempted arson of an oil truck. The original sentence was 22 years & 8 months, but was reduced on appeal. (Diet unknown).

Marie Jeanette Mason, Clinton County Jail, 1347 E Townsend Rd., Saint Johns, MI 48879, USA. Awaiting sentencing having pleaded guilty to involvement in ELF arson against a University building carrying out Genetically Modified crop tests. Marie also pleaded guilty to conspiring to carry out ELF actions and also admitted involvement in 12 other ELF actions. Marie is expected to receive a sentence of between 15-20 years. (Marie is a vegan).

Eric McDavid 16209-097, FCI Victorville, Medium II, Federal Correctional Institution, PO Box 5300, Adelanto, CA 92301, USA. Serving 19 years & 7 months for planning to destroy the property of the U.S. Forestry Service, mobile phone masts and power plants. At the point of his arrest no criminal damage has actually occurred. (Eric is a vegan).

Daniel McGowan, Columbia County Jail, 403 Jackson Street, Portage, WI 53901, USA. Serving 7 years for an ELF arson against a Poplar Tree Farm and an ELF arson against an old growth logging corporation. Admitted his role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy. Also recently found in civil contempt for his refusal to answer questions before a grand jury. (Daniel is a vegetarian).

Briana Waters, 36432-086, FCI Danbury, Federal Correctional Institution, Route 37, Danbury, CT 06811, USA. Awaiting sentencing having been found guilty of involvement in an ELF arson on a University. (Diet unknown).

Joyanna Zacher #36360-086, FCI Dublin, Federal Correctional Institution, 5701 8th St - Camp Parks - Unit F, Dublin, CA 94568 USA. Serving 7 years & 8 months for an ELF arson against a Poplar Tree Farm and an ELF arson against an SUV dealership. Also admitted her role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy. (Diet unknown).

ANIMAL LIBERATION PRISONERS

Jacob Conroy #93501-011, FCI Victorville Medium I Federal Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 5300, Adelanto, CA 92301, USA. Serving 48 months imprisonment for helping organise the SHAC-USA campaign. (Jake is a vegan).

Lauren Gazzola #93497-011, FCI Danbury Route #37, 33 1/2 Pembroke Road, Danbury, CT 06811 USA. Serving 54 months imprisonment for helping organise the SHAC-USA campaign. (Lauren is a vegan).

Joshua Harper 29429-086, FCI Sheridan, Federal Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 5000, Sheridan OR 97378, USA. Serving 36 months imprisonment for helping organise the SHAC-USA campaign. (Josh is a vegan).

Kevin Kjonaas #93502-011, FCI Sandstone, PO Box 1000, Sandstone, MN 55072 USA. Serving 72 months imprisonment for helping organise the SHAC-USA campaign. (Kevin is a vegan).

Jonathan Paul, #07167-085, FCI Phoenix, Federal Correctional Institution, 37910 N 45th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85086 Sentenced to 51 months for an ALF arson on a horse meat plant. Also admitted his role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy. (Jonathan is a vegan).

SNITCHES

"For the sake of clarity, let us be uncomfortably honest: to snitch is to take a life. By words and by weapons, each day lives are taken in the most egregious of crimes. When this happens in the courtroom, we call it "cooperation". I call it violence, and I call anything done to keep an informant out of the courtroom "self defense". -- Peter Young, former animal liberation prisoner

Jennifer Kolar

Agreed to give testimony resulting in the convictions of Jonathan Paul and Briana Waters. First Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Bartlett was quoted as saying "It is fair to say that it is highly unlikely the U.S. would ever have solved the mystery of ... the arson at the urban horticulture center without Ms. Kolar's assistance. She was really the lynchpin in breaking that case open."



Frank Ambrose

In April of 1997, Frank began cooperating with the FBI's investigation of the Earth Liberation Front. This cooperation included the wearing of a wire to capture "countless tapes of audio recordings". Frank's cooperation plays a key role in at least 12 ELF related cases, and has led to the arrest of three other individuals in connection with the 1999 ELF arson at Michigan State University.

Justin Samuels

Justin Samuels is the renowned snitch who offered testimony to imprison animal liberator Peter Young.

“Anna”

Undoubtedly, the most famous snitch in recent memory, Anna gained quite a bit of notoriety in May when the fashion magazine Elle published a multi-page profile on her life as a paid informant for the FBI. “Anna”, through her FBI handlers, provided Eric McDavid, Zachary Jenson, and Lauren Weiner with transportation, money, and a cabin, as well as a plan to blow up the Nimbus Dam. The FBI also provided her with the recipe for the explosives involved and the materials to construct them. Eric was sentenced to nearly 20 years in prison. His 2 codefendants, when faced with similar sentences, offered to cooperate with the investigation. Mark Reichel, McDavid’s attorney, said: “There has never been a case in America that has involved this much entrapment, this much pushing by an informant, by the U.S. government and by the FBI behind it.”

