Authorities Arrest Frank Ambrose For "Timber Spiking" Marks First Ever Arrest For Action Claimed By The Elusive Underground Earth Liberation Front

URGENT NEWS ADVISORY
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Bloomington Indiana area activist and environmentalist, Frank Ambrose, was arrested early this morning by state conservation officers and charged with "Timber Spiking" for an incident claimed credit by the underground Earth Liberation Front (ELF). The charge is listed as a class d felony which can carry up to a 3 year prison sentence and a fine.

The arrest stems from an act of economic sabotage claimed by the Earth Liberation Front, an underground organization which uses illegal direct action to stop the systematic destruction of the natural environment. On June 26, 2000 the Earth Liberation front entered two timber sales on Crooked Creek Road in Brown County and Monroe County, placing hundreds of spikes in trees set to be cut. They then released a communiqué publicly claiming credit for the action and warning timber companies not to cut.

Since 1997 the Earth Liberation Front has claimed credit for over 30 similar acts of sabotage against those who profit from the destruction of the natural environment, totaling over $37 million in damages. Some of these actions include; the arson of the NW headquarters of Boise Cascade in Oregon on 12/25/99 causing $1 million in damages, the arson of a genetic engineering program at Michigan State University on 12/31/99 causing $900,000 in damages, and the arsons at Vail Resorts Inc. on 10/19/98 soaring to $26 million in damages. Boise Cascade was targeted because of their clearcutting of oldgrowth forests in the American northwest and in Chile. The program at MSU was targeted because of
its efforts to force developing countries to rely on dangerous genetically engineered crops. And Vail Resorts was targeted because of their plans to turn the last remaining wild lynx habitat into a ski resort. Over the past few months the ELF has been taking actions against urban sprawl in the Long Island, NY area gaining national media attention.

Bloomington, IN has had its share of ELF actions as well. The first being an arson of a luxury house which threatened the watershed of the entire Bloomington area on 1/32/00 causing $200,000 in damages. This was followed by another arson and sabotage of equipment being used to pave the way for the controversial Ind. 46. The ELF also claimed credit for the arson at the GOP headquarters in Bloomington on 9/9/00.

Frank Ambrose, who's home was raided by federal agents on July 19, 2000 in relation to the incident of tree spiking, is maintaining his innocence. He has become the unfortunate victim of frustrated authorities (who have been unable to capture the elusive Earth Liberation Front) due to his legal efforts to protect the natural environment. He has released this statement on the matter. His arraignment is set for Feb. 2nd at 1:00 PM.

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