

# Earth Jurisprudence

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*Reconnecting with the laws and lore of the Earth*

## "The Earth laughs in flowers." -Ralph Waldo Emerson

27th July 2017

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome, friends and colleagues, to a new chapter in these small Earth Jurisprudence updates. Alongside the larger newsletters we produce, these smaller updates should arrive every couple of weeks or so. Topics covered include Rights of Nature, Indigenous news, Environmental justice and related issues. Please email any interesting or relevant stories or articles to [earthjurisprudence@gaiainet.org](mailto:earthjurisprudence@gaiainet.org).

This update includes rivers standing for rights, the faith we have in forests, Indigenous activists standing firm against Trump and plenty more besides!

### News

- Environmental activists in California oppose weak and industry-driven 'cap & trade' policy. Another example of green agendas being cynically co-opted by free-market lobbyists. [\[Link\]](#)
- Oregon river files motion to defend itself. The Siletz River Ecosystem is being represented in court by custodian Carol Van Strum against the aerial spraying of pesticides over it. [\[Link\]](#)
- Swinomish Indian Tribal Community are determined to honour the Paris agreement in spite of Trump's withdrawal. Being both traditional defenders of the Earth, and at the front-line of climate change, this movement of Indigenous peoples across North America stands defiantly against Trumpism and regression. [\[Link\]](#)
- Good and bad in Canada: Supreme Court quashes seismic testing in a victory for Inuit peoples but simultaneously rules that a pipeline can continue, despite objections by the Chippewas of the Thames. [\[Link\]](#)
- Those who fight the hardest for the Earth Community are suffering terribly: 2016 was even deadlier for environmental and indigenous activists than 2015. [\[Link\]](#)

### Go Deeper

- Keeping Faith in Forests: the importance of spirituality and interfaith work in defending the Earth's forests. [\[Link\]](#)
- The Trouble With Wilderness (William Cronon): Over 20 years old now, but still an interesting and important piece on how some conceptions of 'wilderness' only preach a dangerous and damaging myth. [\[Link\]](#)
- What is missing from Brexit? How environmental enforcement is being quietly dropped in the UK. [\[Link\]](#)

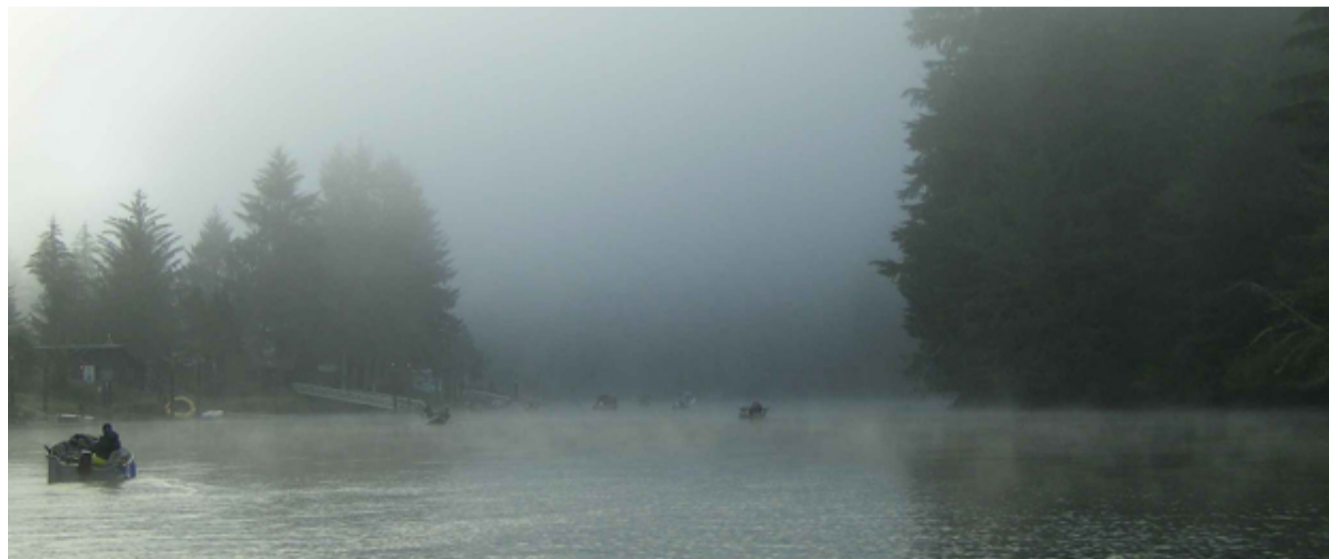
### Watch and Listen

- **Listen:** In honour of the late indigenous singer Dr G Yunupingu, his song *Wiyathul*. [\[Link\]](#)
- **Watch:** The life and death of four environmental defenders in Vergel Community, Brazil. [\[Link\]](#)

### Events and Upcoming

- Based in the UK or Europe? Between 20 & 32? Apply for St Ethelburga's *Spiritual Ecology* course! [\[Link\]](#)
- In or near Vancouver? 'Amazonia: The Rights of Nature' exhibition until Feb 2018. [\[Link\]](#)

Current Events: River Siletz which is fighting pesticide spraying in an Oregon court. (Photo: Amanda Palmer)



*Working together, to strengthen the African Earth Jurisprudence movement.*

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