

# Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

JANUARY 2022



## Calling out mining damage in Nopiming Park

Our ability to be out on the ground to monitor protected areas and industrial devastation is critical work your support allows us to do. An expedition to Nopiming Provincial Park in Manitoba led to the discovery of devastating mineral exploration this past November.

**What's worse, drilling activity in moose habitat within the park which is supposed to be set aside for protection happened in warm weather months.** This has never been authorized before in Nopiming. Damage caused by road building when the ground is soft from warm weather is far greater than in the frozen winter when the ground is harder. Giant machines used for drilling churn up the soft ground to devastating effect.

**Your support meant we discovered and documented this egregious mining activity, and brought these nefarious developments to the public** through a press release, new video and an action tool that generated a flurry of letters to the government calling for an end to mining activity in provincial parks. Together, we will stop industrial activity in Manitoba parks — for good.

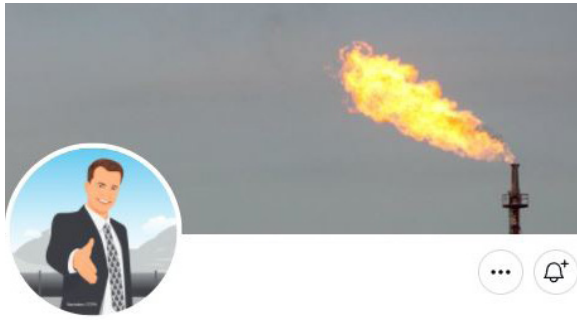


## Caribou home saved from chainsaws

Two and a half years ago, your support meant we were on the ground in old-growth caribou habitat in Argonaut Creek. At that time, **logging equipment lined the road, and we knew it would be a long shot to stop the blocks.** But we also knew the forest and the North Columbia caribou herd living in it needed us to try. So you did. After two years of consistent pressure on government officials, we fought hard to protect this area and won!

**Together we've stopped all 14 cutblocks owned by BC Timber Sales** — the government's own logging company. Your hard work paused the logging on an area the size of over 634 NFL fields of caribou habitat.

From the moment we told you about the cutblocks to the day we got the confirmation they're off the chopping block, you've been there taking action for caribou. Give yourself a high five, a pat on the back and a shout for joy. **These are the wins that matter, and we must celebrate them!**



🔥 **BC Gas Lobbying Bot** 🔥  
@BCGasLobbyBot

## Twitter bot tracks fossil fuel lobbying

In the final months of 2021, fracking companies had reason to be worried. BC was finally reviewing the royalties these companies pay and preparing an update to its CleanBC climate plan. Negotiations with Treaty 8 nations on gas development were coming down to the wire and Indigenous land defenders were blocking the path of the Coastal GasLink pipeline.

**You and I knew that with the pressure on, these companies would be beating down the doors of government decision-makers and bureaucrats to keep their profits in their pockets.** Thankfully, BC has a website requiring lobbyists to report their activities. There's only one problem — nobody has time to read it. So we took some inspiration from allies in Europe and decided to **show folks just how often fossil fuel companies had their dirty hands on public policy.**

Your support and a programmer friend created a Twitter bot that **tweets every time a fracking company, LNG proponent or gas industry association lobbies the provincial government.** Within 24 hours, it had over 1,000 followers! You can follow @BCGasLobbyBot and every day at lunchtime, you'll see exactly how fossil fuel companies undermine BC's climate policies and Indigenous rights.



## On the ground in Algonquin

Thanks to you, last fall, expeditions to Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario allowed us to document destructive logging development. **We obtained hard-to-get footage and photos of the haul-roads, gravel mining, clearcuts and active logging sites** — the ugly side of industrial activity banned in all other parks. These images show logging threatens the nature most people think of when they think of Algonquin. While chasing down giant extraction machines isn't our favourite part of the job, **thanks to you we're able to increase awareness and drive people to demand full protection for the park.**

A trip this past December to one of the sites on the chopping block meant we fell in love with the giant ancient hemlocks there — check them out by visiting [WildernessCommittee.org/videos](https://wildernesscommittee.org/videos).

Your support means we will partner with an old-growth ecologist to survey unprotected old-growth trees and ecosystems that provide unique habitat and store more carbon than newly planted trees. An estimated 24,000 hectares of which is still open to logging. **Your gifts make it possible for the public to know the full extent of what's at risk from logging in Algonquin.**



**Michelle Johnson,**  
Donor Relations Manager

Your commitment to protect nature and ensure a wild Canada drives each of our campaigns. Since the Wilderness Committee is funded almost entirely by individual donors like you, your gifts have a huge impact.

 **Thank you** 

**P.S. Talk to me! Would you share the gift of your story with me?**

Share your passion for wilderness and wildlife. Why do you choose the Wilderness Committee? Call or write me:

Phone: 1-800-661-9453

Email: [michelle@wildernesscommittee.org](mailto:michelle@wildernesscommittee.org)

*Wild Impact* is a quarterly update about the Wilderness Committee and our work you make possible. For more information on any of our campaigns please visit [WildernessCommittee.org](https://WildernessCommittee.org)