

Workshop



Irregular Ecologies: The Environmental Impact of Unconventional Warfare

Time 19-20 July 2019

Venue Sala de Reuniões - Bloco E - Anexo Centro de Filosofia e Ciências Humanas - CFH, Florianópolis, Brazil

Conveners Javier Puente (Smith College)

Abstract Warfare seldom affects humans alone. While inflicting devastating effects on societies, armed conflicts also shape economic, cultural, sociopolitical, and ecological transformations. As violence territorializes, armed conflicts begin to affect the ecologies and livelihoods that once sustained them. Environmental transformation thus emerges as an inextricable correlate of human conflict. With the dawn of the Cold War, the environmental impacts of human conflict unfolded alongside the same geopolitical trends that engulfed the Global South. Decolonizing movements, guerrilla warfare, rural insurrections, and other forms of intrastate conflict developed from within ecologically fragile areas and eco-sensitive zones, including savannahs, valleys, watersheds, islands, mangroves, forests, plateaus, and jungles.

Rachel
Carson
Center

19 July 2019

9:00 – 09:30 Welcome and Introduction

Javier Puente (Smith College)

**09:30 – 11:30 Session 1: Irregular Warfare and Socio-Environmental Transformation
(Chair Claudia Leal, Universidad de los Andes)**

John Agbonifo (Osun State University)

Making and Unmaking the Niger Delta: Environmental Impacts of Global Capital and Local Resistance

Vimbai Kwashirai (University of Zimbabwe)

Maize is life: Maize Production and Environmental Transformation in Wartime Rhodesia: 1965-1980

Claudio de Majo (Rachel Carson Center, LMU Munich)

Fire and Power on the River Basin: Environmental Transformations in the Region of Araguaia Before and After the Guerrilla Years

David Pretel (El Colegio de México)

Contested Frontiers: Tropical Forests and Maya Resistance during the Caste War (1847-1901)

11:30 – 12:00 Break

**12:00 – 13:00 Session 2: Nature as a Weapon - Nature as a Battleground
(Chair Eunice Nodari, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina)**

Tony Andersson (Yale University)

Green Guerrillas and Counterinsurgent Environmentalists in the Jungles of the Petén, Guatemala

Teo Ballvé (Colgate University)

Enlisting Nature: A Political Ecology of the Drug War

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch Break and Artistic Presentation with Rojda Tugrul

**15:00 – 16:00 Session 3: War in Colonialism's Shadow
(Javier Puente, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile)**

Isa Arriola (University of California)

Securing Nature: Militarism, Indigeneity and the Environment in the Northern Mariana Islands

Uttam Lal (Sikkim University)

Border and Bomb Ecology in the Indo-Myanmar Borderland

18:30 Dinner

20 July 2019

9:00 – 10:00 **Session 4: Guerrilla Governance and Environmental Transformation**
(Chair Richard Tucker, University of Michigan)

Claudia Leal (Universidad de los Andes)
The Environmental Ironies of War and Peace in Colombia

Jennifer Lee Johnson (Purdue University)
Guerrillas and Fish in Uganda

10:00 – 10:30 **Break**

10:30 – 12:30 **Session 5: Legacies of Irregular Warfare**
(Chair Rubens Nodari, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina)

Kristina Lyons (University of Pennsylvania)
Rivers and Reconciliation: The Reconstruction of Environmental Memory in Times of Perpetual Conflict and Transition

Diana Ruiz (Humboldt Institute)
Land-cover Changes and Urban Sprawl in Municipalities Affected by the Armed Conflict in Colombia

Amy Hay (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
The Origins of Ecocide. The Phenoxy Herbicides and the Defoliation of South Vietnam

Javier Puente (Smith College)
The Enduring Climate of Conflict: Drought, Impoverishment, and the Long Aftermath of Civil War in Peru

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch Break**

14:00 – 15:00 **Concluding Discussion**
Javier Puente (Smith College)

15:00 **End of Workshop**

18:30 **Dinner**

Critical Information

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Covered Expenses: Lodging, single occupancy, at Hotel Quinta da Bica D'Água.
July 18-21, 2019 (3 nights), breakfast included.
Prepaid, credit card may be required upon arrival.
Personal expenses not covered.

Transportation to/from airport.
Please keep receipts for reimbursement.

Lunch and dinner for both days of the conference.