



The Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN International)
Invites you to join a series of online Education and Advocacy Trainings
presented by the WECAN U.S. Women's Climate Justice Initiative
wecaninternational.org/pages/us-climate-initiative

Training #3

Rights of Nature: Protecting & Defending the Places We Live

April 27th, 2016 - 10:00amPST/1:00pm EST for 120 minutes

Presenters will share the paradigm-shifting work of Rights of Nature, and explain how it is already being used around the world to challenge legal systems based on dominion over and exploitation of the Earth, and instead usher in a legal, social, political and economic framework based upon the inherent rights and natural laws of the Earth's living systems. We will explore examples of how U.S. communities are successfully enacting local Rights of Nature legislation as a tool to protect their communities and further just climate solutions.

Presenters:



Shannon Biggs is co-founder and Director of Movement Rights, which was born in 2015 out of her 12 years of work at Global Exchange, where she was Director of Development until 2005, before beginning the Community and Nature's Rights Program, focused on assisting communities confronted by corporate harms to enact binding laws that place the rights of communities and nature above the claimed legal "rights" of corporations. Over 160 communities have passed these new laws across the US, and have used this new understanding to stop working defensively against corporations and take courageous action to assert their rights to make governing decisions where they live. She is the co-author of two books, *Building the Green*

Economy: Success Stories from the Grass Roots and *The Rights of Nature*. She is also a leading international speaker, author and activist on the growing movement for Rights of Nature. Shannon is a lecturer of weekend "Democracy Schools" that explore the rights-based framework for change, and leads rights of nature trainings around the country. Prior to coming to Global Exchange she was a senior staffer at International Forum on Globalization (IFG), where she organized large international teach-ins and wrote and edited for IFG publications. She also was a Lecturer in International Relations at San Francisco State University. Shannon holds a Masters in Economics/Politics of Empire the London School of Economics (LSE), and has a BS in International Relations from San Francisco State University (SFSU).



Osprey Orielle Lake is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN). She works internationally with grassroots and Indigenous leaders, policy-makers and scientists to mobilize women for climate justice, resilient communities, systemic change, and a just transition to a clean energy future. Osprey is Co-chair of International Advocacy for the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature and the visionary behind the International Women's Earth and Climate Summit, which brought together 100 women leaders from around the world to draft and implement a Women's Climate Action Agenda. She teaches international climate trainings and directs WECAN's advocacy work in areas such as Women for Forests, Rights of Nature and UN Forums. She is the author of the award-winning book, *Uprisings for the Earth: Reconnecting Culture with Nature*.