

CONNECT	
Is It State-Sponsored Ecocide?	

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Are the REAL perpetrators governments and big businesses?

- 1 Talk in parliament about banning wet wipes is yet another sign of the UK government's stance on the environment. That is - wait for a problem to emerge - and then react - to show that the gov't is doing something.

The mound on the banks of London's River Thames, now as big as two tennis courts, is not only the tip of the iceberg of this country's waste and pollution issues. Both its existence and the "do something - it doesn't matter what" non-solution, form the tip of the worldwide iceberg of government-approved Ecocide.

- 2 Why do I say this?

Because, firstly, the heap of wet wipes hasn't been created in the last couple of weeks.

It's obviously been building up for some time. But it's only now, when it is forcing the Thames to divert to go around it - and more importantly, MPs are raising the matter as reported by LBC in [Wet wipe island has 'changed the course of the Thames' as government considers ban](#) - that the government is even going to THINK ABOUT doing something to solve the problem.

Secondly, wet wipes are not the problem. Flushing wet wipes down the loo, especially in quantity, is the problem as reported by the BBC in [Wet wipe pollution: 'Fine to flush' message still not understood](#). Unlike toilet paper, wet wipes - along with beer cans - aren't meant to be flushed, So the "solution" - a ban on wet wipes - is a typical "do something - anything" top-down government solution. What is surely needed is *education* so that people understand that - along with beer cans, nappies and sanitary products, as well as other non-flushable items - wet wipes need to go in the bin, not in the loo!

Thirdly - and people are not talking about this - how does anything that has been put down a loo, end up on the banks of the River Thames? I think people should realise that just because something disappears from their loo - so is *no longer their problem* - it can still be a problem somewhere in the system - even as it seems, shipping navigation on the Thames. *And we're in this together, after all- remember that slogan?!*

However, CONNECT has published previous articles about how sewage is dumped into waterways including [Raw Sewage In Our Rivers](#) and [Did You Think This Was Over?](#)

Could it be that the wet wipe problem - an horrific one that our waste operatives have to deal with daily as the REAL heroes of our times! - is not caused *entirely* by us, the ordinary People?

So wet wipes cause blockages in the sewage system – to be avoided by binning them not flushing them. But - as I said – how the heck do they end up on the banks of the Thames? By being dumped there, along with the rest of the sewage, perhaps?

- 3 Now, that might sound far-fetched. Another horrific story and piece of investigative journalism by Bloomberg, however, suggests that it might not be. The story is called, [A Plastic Bag's 2,000-Mile Journey Shows the Messy Truth About Recycling](#).

The article is about how waste ends up where it shouldn't. It seems that we are not being told the truth, in this case, by the supermarket chain Tesco. Tesco started enabling customers to return snack packets, shopping bags, and vegetable packaging in March 2021. But with only about 6% of the UK's soft plastic being suitable to turn into new products, one might wonder where it all goes – what does Tesco do with it?

Bloomberg found out - by placing tiny digital trackers inside three used plastic items.

Waste is a lucrative business for some people, it turns out.

The first device circled London's road system and sent its final signal from the banks of the River Thames. Yes, the banks of the River Thames!

The two other trackers went to Harwich, from where they went to Rotterdam, through Germany, into Poland, to a "waste broker" about 700 miles away from where they started out. One tracker later ended up in Turkey, about 2,000 miles away.

Some of the plastic has a new life as garbage bags. Some is burned. Some comes back to consumers in the UK as plastic bags.

Tesco has publicly pledged that none of its packaging will be buried - but it appears some is. A common scam across Europe is to "accidentally" burn the lowest-grade plastic, releasing toxic chemicals. In Turkey there are about two suspicious fires a week at recycling centres, usually at night, while some waste operators use Syrian refugee camps as a source of cheap labour.

- 4 The Bloomberg article says that the National Audit Office has criticised the UK government's lack of transparency and oversight in dealing with plastic, saying the system has "evolved into a comfortable way for government to meet targets without facing up to the underlying recycling issues."

We, as a society, should have sorted out by now, the problem of what we do with the stuff we can't use ourselves. But we haven't. From an ecological point of view, this is both unforgivable and stupid. It also shows a clear lack of joined-up, intelligent thinking by the contractors tasked to set up and run

the systems for dealing with the stuff we can't use ourselves. These paid contractors are what people call the government – the purveyor of all expensive, ineffective solutions.

As just ONE example, let's take human waste. Not wet wipes - but the other stuff we put down loos. As individual humans we are programmed from an early age to be disgusted by our own waste matter. Children are often a bit fascinated by it - but only until that fascination is programmed out of them. What we can't use, the earth will - happily. Instead of spending on fertilisers, which reduce the ability of the soil to nurture and grow plants – and cause huge damage to wildlife – why are we not using our own, free, natural, organic fertiliser? And why is nobody talking about this?

I will return to the subject of fertilisers – man-made fertilisers, that is – in a future article. Fertilisers are just ONE piece of the huge machine – the tip of the iceberg - that is the government-biotech complex. This is a subject I have begun to research - and which is truly horrifying.

- 5 The *real* perpetrators of Ecocide are - governments, businesses and so-called *planet-friendly* organisations.

Often, they are the same ones that are pushing a “green agenda” on the rest of us. Yet they do not abide by their professed “green” principles – the opposite is the case – they carry out, support or enable actions that are destructive to our environment. State-sponsored violence against people who try to protect the natural environment, including indigenous people, is widespread. Governments and the agents of the state, including the police, are *actively helping* businesses to destroy the natural environment and wildlife. The results include loss of wildlife and trees, loss of habitats for wildlife and humans, the irreversible destruction of the earth's ability to grow food in those areas, increased poverty and food shortages.

These allegations, however, are not made by me. They are the informed observations of many people with expertise in these matters, including environmental experts, activists and journalists.
But what is Ecocide?

According to Wikipedia, [Ecocide](#) is destruction caused by human impact on the environment. Activities that might be forms of Ecocide include:
Substantially damaging or destroying ecosystems;
Harming the health and well-being of a species, including humans.
This includes negligence by governments.

Only ten nations, so far, recognise Ecocide as a crime and it has not yet been accepted as a crime by the United Nations, although a criminal trial did take place several years ago. [The Ecocide Trial](#) carried out by the Hamilton Group was a fictional exercise - but better than nothing, especially as fictional scenarios are well-known to later take place in reality as has happened with numerous pandemic fictional scenarios.

The widespread lack of recognition of Ecocide as a crime is astonishing,

especially given governments' insistence on "zero carbon."

- 6 So, while it's important that we all do what we can to re-use, re-purpose, re-cycle and avoid unnecessary waste, it appears that some of the activities we ordinary Joes are encouraged to carry out may simply be to keep us busy – to distract us from the truth.

The truth being, that the *real perpetrators* of environmental crimes are governments, big businesses and global organisations that are constantly positioning for greater power and control. Many of these governments, businesses and organisations are the same ones that tell us mere mortals to fly less, drive less, eat less meat and – if at all possible – breathe less to avoid producing carbon dioxide.

Despite 141 countries that are home to over 90% of the world's forests committing to "halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030," states are sponsoring Ecocide in many places and in many forms.

Many horrific instances have been reported by The Ecologist's environmentally active journalists, including [Fight to safeguard nature in rural Turkey](#) and [Fear over India's dangerous dams](#).

Another horrifying story is the Canadian Police – the "Mounties" as they are sometimes known - a friendly, reassuring title indeed – attacking indigenous people on their own land as reported in [Humanity in the patchwork of life](#). Why did the police attack?

Because the indigenous people, the Wet'suwet'en, were attempting to prevent a fossil fuel pipeline being built through THEIR territory. They were doing their best to defend their land and waters against state-sponsored Ecocide.

The Wet'suwet'en spokesperson was arrested, as shown at the end of the video, for trying to preserve and protect the natural environment and the pure water supply it provided to them, to wildlife and to many other people in Canada. A heinous crime?

State-sponsored Ecocide goes on across the world. In the UK, the government is going against its own stated "green" policies in different ways - one of which is by building the Silvertown tunnel under the Thames, as explained in [Silvertown tunnel will harm health](#).

Also, it was only last November that the UK government made it a legal requirement that companies ensure they do not have illegal deforestation in their supply chains. This is explained in The Ecologist's article [Corporates sustain deforestation crisis](#), which also reports that influential companies and financial institutions are responsible for deforestation.

Why is it, I wonder, that the people who talk the loudest about the climate emergency are the ones causing the problems?

Why is it that the heads of businesses – like the heads of governments – fly to

climate agenda conferences such as COP26 but tell ordinary People to stop flying?

[Dying for environmental democracy](#) describes how, in Latin America, governments ignore death threats against environmentalists. The government labels environmentalists as criminals and terrorists, while their murderers have impunity - killings carried out in Peru by illegal loggers in 2014 have yet to be resolved.

We have covered the issue of the destruction of the Amazon rainforest before on CONNECT. One of those articles, entitled [Protection Takes Two More Lives](#) [2245D], on Back Page News is about two people who lost their lives trying to protect the forest and the people living there.

Another Ecologist article, [Treespiracy](#), describes crime, corruption and wrongdoing being committed by businesses that are destroying our planet's forests, while governments appear to be unable to prevent it. Fortunately the forests of Papua, at least, have had a reprieve. The Indonesian government cancelled 192 deforestation permits – as the article's author says - for the sake of people, wildlife and the climate, they need to stay cancelled.

- 7 My Modern Met, among other positive news stories, published [Turkish Man Plants 30 Million Saplings and Creates Forest on Once-Barren Land](#). This article is about a Turkish forest management chief who, with his team and local villagers, planted 30,000,000 trees over 19 years. 41 years after the reforestation began, he has returned to the once-barren environment, which is now a lush forest.

The article shows a photograph of him holding a photograph of how the land looked before he began planting trees. The landscape as it is now, behind him and its contrast with the photo he holds shows - once again - that it is ordinary People who take care of our environment.

We have published other stories about – for all the *posturing* by governments – it is ordinary People who preserve and protect the natural environment.

One such article, in our Way Better World section, is [People Can End This Madness](#) [2226A]. It is about how corporations and governments have not solved the problem of seas full of plastic waste - and people scratching an existence by sorting it all.

- 8 Back on the banks of the River Thames in London, where one of the three tracked pieces of plastic that Tesco *recycled* ended up.

From above the Earth, the *wet wipes mound* no doubt will look far more like a molehill than a mountain.

Despite that perspective, it IS the tip of the iceberg.

With that in mind, I have some questions:

Why are governments helping big businesses create greater wealth - at the expense of the environment?

Why are governments pushing a "green" agenda - but not protecting the environment?

Why have almost no governments in the world ruled that Ecocide is a crime?

Only those governments - the *perpetrators* of Ecocide - can answer these questions.

CONNECT'S Maxim and Oath

Connect is only interested in finding and sharing the TRUTH.
In search of that TRUTH, we only pose questions – we have no answers.

By: Helen King

Source: CONNECT: [Magazine](#)

- 2 [LINK](#) BBC: 'Fine to flush' message still not understood
- 2 [LINK](#) LBC: Wet wipe island has 'changed the course of the Thames' as government considers ban
- 2 [LINK](#) CONNECT: Raw Sewage In Our Rivers
- 2 [LINK](#) CONNECT: Back Page News [2181A]: Did You Think This Was Over?
- 3 [LINK](#) Bloomberg: A Plastic Bag's 2,000-Mile Journey Shows the Messy Truth About Recycling
- 5 [LINK](#) Wikipedia: Ecocide
- 5 [LINK](#) The Hamilton Group: The Ecocide Trial
- 6 [LINK](#) The Ecologist: Fight to safeguard nature in rural Turkey
- 6 [LINK](#) The Ecologist: Fear over India's dangerous dams
- 6 [LINK](#) The Ecologist: Humanity in the patchwork of life
- 6 [LINK](#) The Ecologist: Silvertown tunnel will harm health
- 6 [LINK](#) The Ecologist: Corporates sustain deforestation crisis
- 6 [LINK](#) The Ecologist: Dying for environmental democracy
- 6 [LINK](#) CONNECT: Protection Takes Two More Lives [2245D]
- 6 [LINK](#) The Ecologist: Treespionage
- 7 [LINK](#) My Modern Met: Turkish Man Plants 30 Million Saplings and Creates Forest on Once-Barren Land
- 7 [LINK](#) CONNECT: People Can End This Madness [2226A]

FURTHER READING

- [LINK](#) Stop Ecocide: What Is Ecocide?
- [LINK](#) Stop Ecocide: Making Ecocide A Crime

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