Friends,

I began my involvement in NWTRCC after being educated in activism through my connections to Quaker communities. Through the Quakers historical dedication to peace, I explored the possibilities and the ways to achieve peace through activism. My first job was as an activist at NWTRCC, where I assisted the coordinator and worked in the office. While working at NWTCC, I watched the environmental crisis arise in the public eye like a sleeping giant. My education in social issues always included climate change, and while the controversial and alarming Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report in October 2018 was not outside of what I assumed as the truth and a call to action to prevent climate disaster, the alarm was rung for the rest of the world. When this happened, Extinction Rebellion emerged out of the UK with huge success, and chapters quickly arose across the US emerged. I joined the New York City team as a coordinator when it began in November 2018 and joined the national team as a member soon after. My decision was easy to make and I knew that I wanted to spend my time doing what I could for our planet.
**All issues are interconnected**: it would be impossible to separate any social issue from another. Climate change is due to the history of colonialism, which was violent, oppressive, racist, and sexist. The ways that this is expressed in modernity is through the wars against those who live in the Middle East, the conflicts that ravage South America, and through many other violent means that have established the United States as the military and economic power of the world. To maintain economic power, the US has fought wars to extract oil, which has been the main power source for modern infrastructure, which fuels our homes and our bombs.

Fighting wars for oil has ultimately created the crisis we are in. Private powers have infiltrated our governments and have had leverage in all political decisions leading to global conflicts. The US government has sent the military to destroy the lives and societies of people across the globe all in the name of capturing oil. As we fight wars that are run on xenophobic and racist propaganda, we destroy the livelihood of people and extract the resource that is ultimately suicidal for human use. We must resist and refuse this reality as people who exist in the United States.

**By donating to NWTRCC, we can continue to fight back against our imperialist government.** NWTRCC’s longstanding history of resistance is a heroic and important piece of our revolution to transform society into one that respects all identities, stewards and protects the environment, and allows people to live by their conscience to have good and moral lives. Through a donation to NWTRCC, we can still fight for ourselves and our lives.

In resistance,

Justin Becker

Justin Becker