

## New Campaign Aims To Remove "Conflict Palm Oil" from America's Snack Foods

Written by Australian Business

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### *20 Snack Food Companies at Center of New Campaign*

*Report and Colorful Protest at Chicago's Board of Trade Exposes Snack Food Companies' Role in Orangutan Extinction, Climate Change and Human Rights Abuses.*

CHICAGO, Sept. 12, 2013 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Today, Rainforest Action Network announced a new campaign to remove "Conflict Palm Oil" from America's snack foods by convincing major food companies to implement responsible palm oil policies. A protest at Chicago's Board of Trade this morning publicly named the 20 snack food companies that RAN's campaign will focus on. The Snack Food 20, as the group has dubbed them, control some of America's most well known brands including Pepsi, Heinz, Hershey's, Kraft and Smuckers.

Palm oil is found in nearly 50 percent of the packaged foods on grocery store shelves, and its use in the U.S. has grown nearly 500 percent in the past decade.

"In the 21st Century customers don't want to buy crackers and cookies that are responsible for pushing the world's last wild orangutans to extinction and for horrifying child labor violations. That's why we're putting these top 20 snack food companies using 'Conflict Palm Oil' on notice that it's time to create products that reflect the values of their customers and the needs of our planet," said Lindsey Allen, Executive Director of Rainforest Action Network.

Today, the group also released a report, [Conflict Palm Oil: How US Snack Food Brands are Contributing to Orangutan Extinction, Climate Change and Human Rights Violations](#), which details the increasingly severe environmental and human rights problems caused by palm oil production. Conflict palm oil is among the biggest threats driving iconic wildlife species like the orangutan to the brink of extinction in Indonesia and Borneo Malaysia. Scientists estimate just 60,600 orangutans remain in the wild.

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The "Snack Food 20" includes: Campbell Soup Company; ConAgra Foods, Inc.; Dunkin' Brands Group, Inc.; General Mills, Inc.; Grupo Bimbo; Hillshire Brands Company; H.J. Heinz Company; Hormel Foods Corporation; Kellogg Company; Kraft Food Group, Inc.; Krispy Kreme Doughnuts Corp.; Mars Inc.; Mondelez International, Inc.; Nestle. S.A.; Nissin Foods Holdings Co., Ltd.; PepsiCo, Inc.; The Hershey Company; The J.M. Smucker Company; Toyo Suisan Kaisha, Ltd.; and Unilever.

The full Conflict Palm Oil report can be downloaded here: <http://ran.org/conflict-palm-oil>

\*\*\*High res photos ( [http://rainforestactionnetwork.smugmug.com/Palm-Oil/The-Last-Stand-of-the/31684439\\_tP8HBW](http://rainforestactionnetwork.smugmug.com/Palm-Oil/The-Last-Stand-of-the/31684439_tP8HBW) ) and interviews available\*\*\*

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