

MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL

topic

pages

How

02-04.

Where

05-06.

Causes

07-08.



STATES

OF
MOUNTAINS

KENTUCKY

293

TENNESSEE

6

VIRGINIA

67

W. VIRGINIA

137


TOTAL

501

"In the Sierras,
they climb them.
In the Rockies,
they ski them.
In Appalachia,
they level them."

— The NRDC


FLOODING.



There are more
instances of
flooding after
mountaintop removal
because of the lack
of trees.

No. 01 CLEARING.

The main hot spots for biodiversity is in the same area that mountain top removal occurs.



All topsoil and vegetation has to be cleared and often coal companies just burn the trees.



No. 02



DIGGING.

Huge machines called draglines scoop up to 100 tons in a single load, scooping off the tops of mountains just to reach thin coal seams buried deep below.

No. 03 BLASTING.

For the coal seams that lie deep beneath the surface of the mountain, explosives are used to blast 600 ft or more. Blasting can destroy the foundations of homes in the communities nearby.

