IF A TREE FALLS

...The Story of the Earth Liberation Front- (ELF)

THE STORY OF THE EARTH LIBERATION FRONT” (85 min, Marshall Curry, 2011)

In December 2005, Daniel McGowan was arrested by Federal agents in a nationwide sweep of radical environmentalists involved with the Earth Liberation Front-- a group the FBI has called America's "number one domestic terrorism threat." For years, the ELF—operating in separate anonymous cells without any central leadership—had launched spectacular arsons against dozens of businesses they accused of destroying the environment: timber companies, SUV dealerships, wild horse slaughterhouses, and a $12 million ski lodge at Vail, Colorado. With the arrest of Daniel and thirteen others, the government had cracked what was probably the largest ELF cell in America and brought down the group responsible for the very first ELF arsons in this country. A TREE FALLS tells the remarkable story of the rise and fall of this ELF cell, by focusing on the transformation and radicalization of one of its members.


Join us following the film for a facilitated community discussion.

In collaboration with the award winning series POV (www.pbs.org/pov)