



MORTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Kyle L. Kirchmeier, Sheriff



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 16, 2017

Contact: Morton County PIO 701-595-3596 or 701-426-1587

Video of protest activities at Backwater Bridge:

<https://youtu.be/sNZ7d1L5S4g>

<https://youtu.be/ySUnNvS2nT0>

PHOTO ATTACHED: Photo is taken over the Missouri River looking west in the early stages of the protest event today. At the top of the hill is the DAPL horizontal drill pad.

Protesters Try to Reach DAPL Drill Pad—Come Within 700 Feet

Mandan, N.D. – At 3:30 pm today approximately 200 protesters made their way from the main protest camp, along the frozen Cannonball River, and headed north on the Missouri River. They stopped at a fence along the shoreline of the Missouri River, approximately 700 feet from the Dakota Access Pipeline horizontal drill pad.

Law enforcement and National Guard soldiers kept the protesters from entering onto private property after protesters cut out sections of the fence. Three arrests were made near the confluence of the Cannonball River and the Missouri River. The protesters dispersed around 7:00 pm.

Protesters were on the Backwater Bridge starting at 3:30 pm and as of 8:30 pm, approximately 40-50 protesters remained. During this time they cut the security wire, removed fencing material and dismantled the lights illuminating the bridge. No arrests were made at this location.

The three arrests were for criminal trespassing onto private property, inciting a riot and resisting arrest. They were taken to the Morton County Correctional Center in Mandan.

Law enforcement has made a total of 589 arrests during protest activity since August 10.

NOTE: Additional video will be available tomorrow of both protest sites.

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