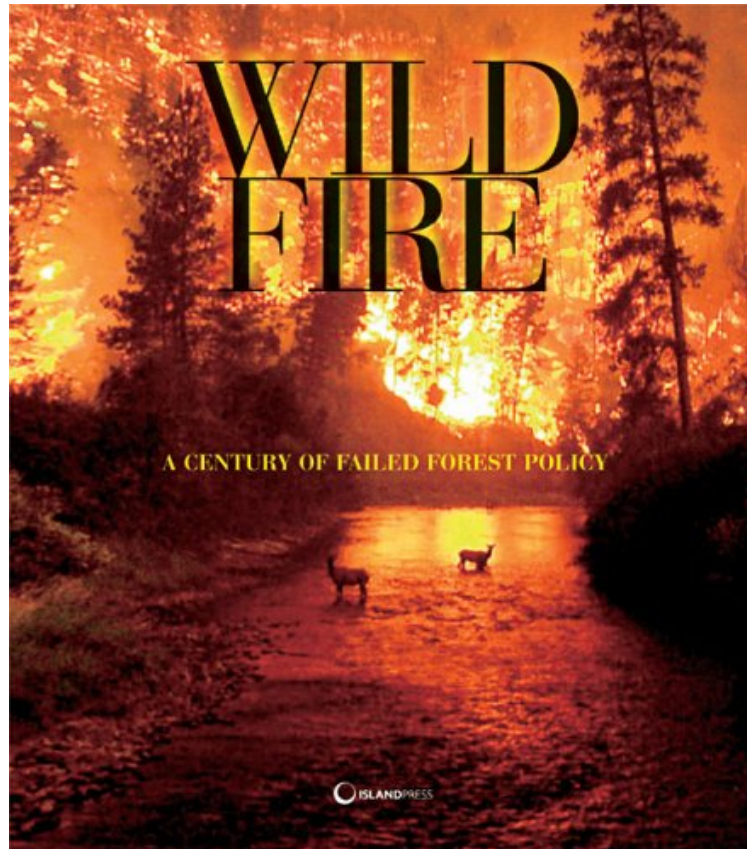


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## Wildfire: A Century of Failed Forest Policy

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#2591149 in Books Foundation for Deep Ecology, by arrangement with Island Press 2006-07-07Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 1.57 x 11.98 x 13.44l, .0 #File Name: 159726069X340 pages | File size: 74.Mb

**From Brand: Foundation for Deep Ecology, by arrangement with Island Press : Wildfire: A Century of Failed Forest Policy** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wildfire: A Century of Failed Forest Policy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Worthwhile read-filled with tons of history great information to learn although not enough IMHO on how ...By Melissa E. RoseWorthwhile read-filled with tons of history great information to learn although not enough IMHO on how it will take 3 generations of real forestry(including something similar to the early CCC to do pre-commercial thinning just to get the dog hair out enough to start to grow marketable timber-good wildlife habitat) just to begin to repair the damage all of our mismanagement has created. The book is still very well done the coffee table edition can keep out of town visitors quiet busy for hours on a rainy day.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Burning FiresBy Jean TirbanMy husband is a fire fighter and has sought forest fires. When he got this book, he read it from cover to cover and it held his interest. Good Reading he said.2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Not what I expectedBy GearGuyDidn't realize when I ordered this for only \$14, including shipping, that it is a huge tabletop hardcover. Lots of great photos. And many of the articles are very informative if you are interested in wildfire prevention and recovery. However, the book is written and edited with a

very clear agenda (hinted at by the subtitle) and it is far from a balanced discussion. Would have liked to see more of both sides of the arguments. For those of us who live in the red zone, this is an interesting read but it could have been better.

Wildfires are an awe-inspiring natural phenomenon that have shaped North America's landscapes since the dawn of time. They are a force that we cannot really control, and thus understanding, appreciating, and learning to live with wildfire is ultimately our wisest public policy. With more than 150 dramatic photographs, *Wildfire: A Century of Failed Forest Policy* covers the topic of wildfire from ecological, economic, and social/political perspectives while also documenting how past forest policies have hindered natural processes, creating a tinderbox of problems that we are faced with today. More than 25 leading thinkers in the field of fire ecology provide in-depth analyses, critiques, and compelling solutions for how we live with fire in our society. Using examples such as the epic Yellowstone fires of 1988, the ever-present southern California fires, and the Northwest's Biscuit Fire of 2002, the book examines the ecology of these landscapes and the policies and practices that affected them and continue to affect them, such as fire suppression, prescribed burns, salvage logging, and land-use planning. Overall, the book aims to promote the restoration of fire to the landscape and to encourage its natural behavior so it can resume its role as a major ecological process.

"Reader advisory: This hefty, beautifully illustrated book about as wide as a 25-year-old Doug fir stump is likely to piss off the following: timber companies, loggers, Forest Service firefighters, the Oregon Board of Forestry, OSU College of Forestry administrators, herbicide companies, Columbia Helicopters and everyone else invested in the Old Forestry view that people should 'manage' nature's wild forces in order to serve humanity's material needs. In that line of thinking, wildfire is bad; it steals valuable timber that could have been logged and converted into useful things like paper and houses. Thus the development of a 'fire-military-industrial' complex linking the Forest Service to industry and siphoning billions of tax dollars to fight fires on public lands. Today, ecologists recognize that fire suppression does incalculable damage to forests that have evolved with wildfire, hijacking their natural processes and helping turn them, slowly but surely, into tree farms. Which, not incidentally, is convenient for timber companies hankering to log in public forests, and for land grant universities such as OSU that get a cut of the timber revenue. In *Wildfire*, a project of the Foundation for Deep Ecology, more than 25 fire ecology experts including Eugene's Timothy Ingalsbee propose that wildfires are good, and that people's attempts to control them ultimately backfire. "While this book is about fire policy and fire ecology, it is also a discussion of a much larger philosophical debate over the ultimate role and influence humans should have on natural landscapes," editor George Wuerthner states in the introduction. EW was privy to an email string between Big Timber allies reacting to this book. 'Makes a feller retch,' former OSU forestry professor Mike Newton wrote. 'These guys have money,' replied Bob Zybach of Oregon Websites and Watersheds, a timber think tank of sorts. 'I plan to finger and smudge a copy in the bookstore, and then not buy it,' added Lebanon tree farmer Mike Dubrasich, who administers the right-wing forestry blog SOSForests.com. Their reactions only confirm the deep schism in forestry circles over how to handle wildfire. Those who subscribe to the old utilitarian view are sure to hate *Wildfire*; those who are deep ecologists, or open to their ideas, are likely to find it a valuable reference. The photos are gorgeous, the writing passionate and the mission clear: Fire Smokey the Bear, and let the forests burn, baby."