# Before The Wilderness Environmental Management By

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in this age of heightened sensitivity to environmental problems the popular press inundates us with the issues of the moment we hear of the immediate threats to our groundwater supply to the rain forest to the ozone yet nowhere do we find coverage of the fundamental issues of environmentalism those elements such as philosophy and history that though less dramatic constitute the foundation from which we can reverse ecological breakdown this vital collection of essays by some of the environmental movement s preeminent thinkers addresses these deeper neglected issues written from a broad range of perspectives the authors explore the dynamic tension between wild nature and civilization offering insights into why the relationship has become so conflicted and suggesting creative means for reconciliation introducing the concept of the wilderness condition the essays probe the effects of history psychology culture and philosophy on the environment included is commentary from gary snyder award winning author of turtle island who discusses how our prevailing assumptions about nature and wilderness impede conservation paul shepard author of man in the landscape presents his compelling controversial theory that the seeds of our current ecological crisis were planted in the new stone age and george sessions explains how the two major schools of thought in the environmental movement differ on its most basic issues again thwarting opportunities for change other essays discuss how western philosophy has erroneously divorced humankind from nature why sierra club founder john muir s early writings remain eminently relevant and how elements of eastern philosophy may hold the key to successful change the contributors eloquently demonstrate why we can no longer take nature for granted or assume that its existence is somehow second to humankind s they argue convincingly that no amount of technology will ever displace our primal connection to nature but rather than simply deploring the prevailing attitudes toward our imperiled environment the essayists offer fresh realistic and inspiring ideas for alleviating the crisis three themes unify the

collection the essayists though they represent different traditions share an evolutionary perspective that confirms why humankind and nature are by necessity interdependent sensitive to language the writers reveal how the words we choose when we consider environmental issues reflect our sometimes naive understanding of them and most important the essayists share the conviction that all is not lost and that we can initiate a worldwide trend toward recognizing the environment as a vital entity in its own right thereby preserving its integrity book jacket title summary field provided by blackwell north america inc all rights reserved

american nature writers as literary artists political catalysts

the concept of wilderness as a foundational idea for environmentalist thought has become the subject of vigorous debates myths of wilderness in contemporary narratives offers a taxonomy of the forms that wilderness writing has taken in australian and canadian literature re emphasizing both country's origins as colonies

from denali s majestic slopes to the great swamp of central new jersey protected wilderness areas make up nearly twenty percent of the parks forests wildlife refuges and other public lands that cover a full fourth of the nation's territory but wilderness is not only a place it is also one of the most powerful and troublesome ideas in american environmental thought representing everything from sublime beauty and patriotic inspiration to a countercultural ideal and an overextension of government authority the promise of wilderness examines how the idea of wilderness has shaped the management of public lands since the passage of the wilderness act in 1964 wilderness preservation has engaged diverse groups of citizens from hunters and ranchers to wildlife enthusiasts and hikers as political advocates who have leveraged the resources of local and national groups toward a common goal turner demonstrates how these efforts have contributed to major shifts in modern american environmental politics which have emerged not just in reaction to a new generation of environmental concerns such as environmental justice and climate change but also in response to changed debates over old conservation issues such as public lands management he also

shows how battles over wilderness protection have influenced american politics more broadly fueling disputes over the proper role of government individual rights and the interests of rural communities giving rise to radical environmentalism and playing an important role in the resurgence of the conservative movement especially in the american west watch the book trailer youtube com watch v jsq 6laeykk

february issue includes appendix entitled directory of united states government periodicals and subscription publications september issue includes list of depository libraries june and december issues include semiannual index

to understand the environmental movement is to understand environmental organizations and no one better understands this than bosso his book is both important and timely jeffrey m berry author of the new liberalism the rising power of citizen groups a must read for anyone interested in the future of our environment frank r baumgartner coauthor of basic interests the importance of groups in politics and in political science an important engaging and well written book that s ideal for courses in environmental politics robert j duffy author of the green agenda in american politics new strategies for the twenty first century a masterful study that fills a critical void in the field michael e kraft author of environmental policy and politics publisher

for many it was more than a publication it was a way of life the whole earth catalog billed itself as access to tools and it grew from a bay area blip to a national phenomenon catering to hippies do it yourselfers and anyone interested in self sufficiency independent of mainstream america now known as living off the grid in recovering the history of the catalog s unique brand of environmentalism historian kirk recounts how stewart brand and the point foundation promoted a philosophy of pragmatic environmentalism that celebrated technological achievement human ingenuity and sustainable living kirk shows us that whole earth was more than a mere counterculture fad at a time when many of these ideas were seen as heretical to a predominantly wilderness based movement it became a critical forum for environmental alternatives and a model for how complicated ecological ideas could be

presented in a hopeful and even humorous way from publisher description

finds in the history of denver s conservation library a microcosm of the growth of the environmental movement as a whole

cawley objectively investigates the sagebrush rebellion looking at the driving force behind the movement the strategies used by the rebels and the consequences of the controversy he also offers a provocative interpretation of events in federal land policy from the 1960s to the 1990s and establishes a framework for assessing future developments in federal land policy includes an analysis of james watt s beleaguered tenure as reagan s secretary of the interior

divroderick nash s classic study of changing attitudes toward wilderness during american history as well as the origins of the environmental and conservation movements has received wide acclaim since its initial publication in 1967 the los angeles times listed it among the one hundred most influential books published in the last quarter century outside magazine included it in a survey of books that changed our world and it has been called the book of genesis for environmentalists for the fifth edition nash has written a new preface and epilogue that brings wilderness and the american mind into dialogue with contemporary debates about wilderness char miller s foreword provides a twenty first century perspective on how the environmental movement has changed including the ways in which contemporary scholars are reimagining the dynamic relationship between the natural world and the built environment div

the first comprehensive history of the nature study movement and its significance to american environmental thought and politics argues that nature study advocates through their systematic program or educating children about nature formed a critical foundation for the launching of the conservation movement

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