

**Ecosystem Management for Parks and Wilderness.** Edited by James K. Agee and Darryll R. Johnson. University of Washington Press #96817-6, \$20 + 8.1% tax if WA resident and \$2 handling charge.

The need for cooperation among government agencies as well as an interdisciplinary approach to the increasingly challenging and complicated problem of managing park and wilderness areas prompted the University of Washington College of Forest Resources, the NPS, and the USFS to sponsor an ecosystem management workshop for scientists, planners, and managers in April of 1987. This workshop was attended by 33 nationally prominent scientists and managers of Park and Wilderness areas.

To develop an improved conceptual approach to managing change in ecosystems crossing natural and political boundaries, the workshop focused on defining terms, uncovering areas of misunderstanding and barriers to cooperations, and developing methods to determine the most important problems and issues.

The results of these efforts represent the substance of this timely book. The book includes an introductory chapter by the editors and a summary in which they outline a direction for ecosystem management in the next critical decades. The other chapters, by individual contributors, include studies on laws governing park and wilderness lands, paleoecological records that reveal the historic effects of climatic variations on vegetation change, succession and natural disturbances in relation to the problems of what can and should be preserved, managing ecosystems for large populations of vertebrates, the management of large carnivores, effects of air pollution, lake acidification, human ecology and environmental management, the role of economics, cooperation in ecosystem management, and management challenges in Yellowstone NP.