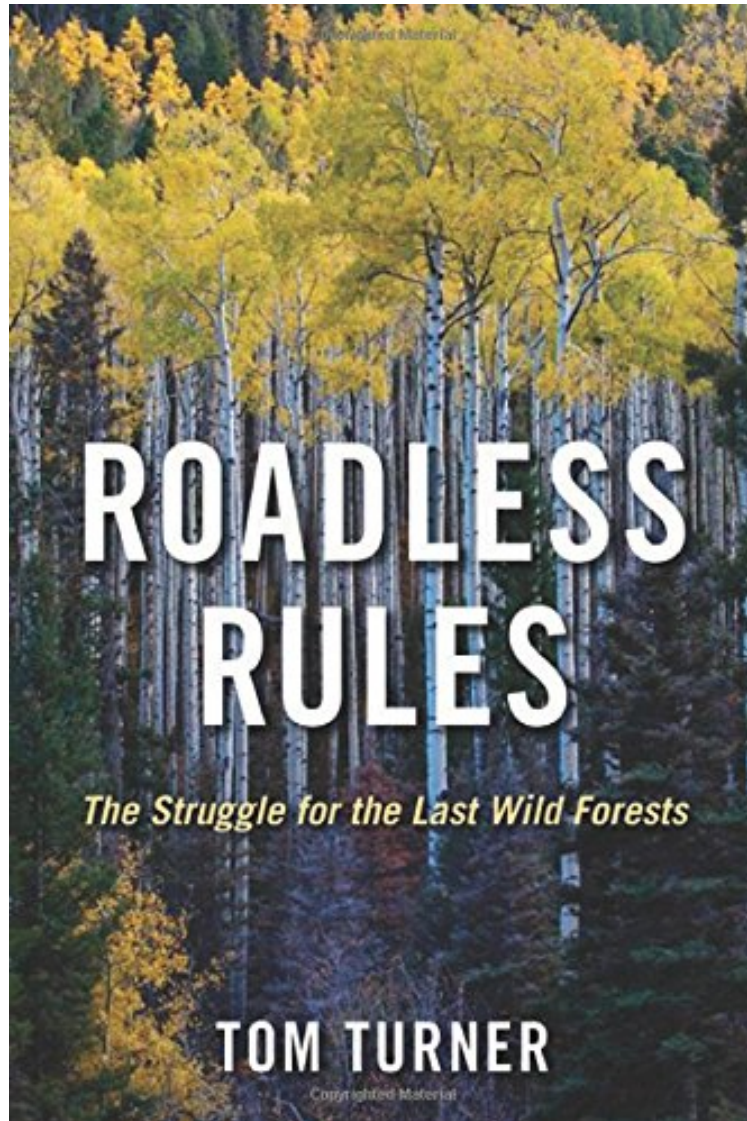


[Download] Roadless Rules: The Struggle for the Last Wild Forests

Roadless Rules: The Struggle for the Last Wild Forests

Tom Turner

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#4376491 in Books Island Press 2009-02-23 2009-03-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .50 x 6.00l, .58 #File Name: 1597264407192 pages | File size: 16.Mb

Tom Turner : Roadless Rules: The Struggle for the Last Wild Forests before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Roadless Rules: The Struggle for the Last Wild Forests:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Half a loafBy william supulskiI bought this expecting a passionate environmentalist polemic for the cause of roadless area protection, and so I was not disappointed. However, it is focused mainly on the environmental community's struggles, goals, and the roadless lawsuits. It offers many insights on how the environmental "industry" works, and Turner identifies many heroes in the movement. He talks about this being the most respondents ever to a federal rulemaking effort. Turner talks about the Congress having some support

for a roadless law, but does not mention House and Senate efforts in 2001, 2003, 2005, and 2007 all died in committee. It was the omissions that were my greatest disappointment with the book. The Forest Service is portrayed as a homogeneous timber extraction agency. There is no discussion on the struggles within the agency to produce the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule (RACR). How the agency dealt with 1.7 million comments in a timely manner. There is no mention of the career bureaucrats' sacrifice, the passion of hundreds of agency employees asking for and taking details to work on the project, a few spending over a year away from their families and homes. The ones Chief Dombeck introduced to President Clinton as the people "who actually did the work." Work the 9th and 10th Circuit Courts upheld. No group of lawyers could win a rulemaking case without a well done record prepared by bureaucrats. Some of Turner's factual errors include: * Claims the RACR has a road exception for "pest control" (p. 8) - it doesn't. * Says the 58.5 million acres were "official unprotected roadless areas" (p. 19) without clarifying half these acres were already protected by the agency from road construction by their land management plans. His source for this information is the supporting final environmental impact statement prepared for the rule, he just skipped the columns to the right of the one he references. * Claims Colorado submitted a petition under the State-petition rule - it didn't, it was submitted under Administrative Procedure Act after the State-petition rule was struck down by court order (p. 127, 139). * Alleges the 9th Circuit "quite clearly ... thought the rule [RACR] was pretty solid" - this is over stated, the court only ruled on the preliminary injunction, and not the merits of the case (p. 130). * Claims five states filed under the State-petition rule - actually it was six, he forgot Idaho (p. 137). * Claims a State-petition was "a new rule-making process that could only water down the protection their forests had just regained" - this fails to consider any State-petition rule or another national rule could be more protective than the RACR (p. 137). For me, the book was half a loaf. Half a story of a larger struggle starting in the early 1920's with Forest Service employee Aldo Leopold's concern over the rampant building of roads to accommodate automobiles and the related increasingly heavy recreational demands placed on public lands.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. roadless rules: the struggle for the last wild forests
By pishah001
Anybody who has ever gone hiking in a roadless area will appreciate this book. Tom starts from the start of the battle and takes you through the progress that people have made to bring us to today.
3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Turner makes the subject exciting visceral
By A. Kozak
Turner, in his years as the bard of the environmental movement, has perfected the technique of taking potentially dry, wonky, policy legal information weaving it into a larger environmental tale in a way that makes it jump off the page. Some stories just need to have the "behind the scenes" info included, and he's the man to do it. The tale of the Roadless Rule is one of those. The concept is simple - keep public wild lands free of roads that lead to exploitation degradation. The public gets it - and is overwhelmingly in favor of it. But the extraction industries and the GWB administration weren't keen on letting all the resources in roadless areas "go to waste." With that you enter a decade-long maze of political legal shenanigans that would make your head spin, if you didn't have Turner for a guide. His explanation of the struggle to keep roadless areas wild reads like a thriller, with twists turns amazing "truth is stranger than fiction" moments. An entertaining read, important for understanding how most environmental struggles are fought - and won - these days.

Roadless Rules is a fast-paced and insightful look at one of the most important, wide-ranging, and controversial efforts to protect public forests ever undertaken in the United States.

"Roadless Rules is an informed and informative read."