Sales and donations totaled $1600.00, with a total of 28 trees sold. Many of these were our live-potted collection, and a number of these were returned to cycle through another season of sales and fundraising. Our hearts have been warmed by all the families and individuals who came down to the farm to connect with the land and local community. In particular, the children’s love of the harvest and celebration of surrounding nature and farm life was one of the most beautiful aspects to encounter.

In combination with proceeds from the FUS Silent Bike Auction (where refurbished bikes were actioned off to students and faculty), we presented a cheque of $1132.00 to Forests without Borders at the Vancouver Section’s January dinner. We are excited to offer future updates from projects that have received funding from our initiative, allowing us to create a direct link between our patrons and beneficiaries. Please check out our Web site in the fall for these potential updates and next season’s sale dates.


Angelika Kaufman
UBC Forestry Undergraduate Society

Forests and Globalization – Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development


Over the past few decades, globalization has been one of the dominant trends that characterize our world. The impact of globalization has been felt in all sectors of the economy and society. Forests in every geographic region and ecological zone, the way forest operations are governed, and forest products trade in the international marketplace have all experienced fundamental changes. In an effort to capture the principal effects of globalization on the world’s forests, some thirty authors were involved in this edited volume, which arose from a research project commissioned by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations.

The editors use the introductory chapter to outline what globalization means for the world’s forests, highlighting five broad themes of the book, namely: global change, governance, wood supply, trends in non-conventional forest products, and ecosystem services. In chapter 2, which serves as the substantive introduction to the whole volume, David Cohen presents an overview of the high-level impacts of globalization on the world’s forest sector. He identifies demographic change and growing resource demand as the primary forces shaping forests and their use. Professor Cohen provides a compelling argument that population growth and ongoing shift in global economic power have their separate and combined effects on forests and the forest sector worldwide. Similarly, growing resource demand and prices have affected the world’s forests in a way that results in environmental degradation. The chapter ends with a pointer to the future for our forests, namely, a global shift towards a bio-economy. It is around this shift that the ensuing chapters unfold.

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Specifically, in chapter 3 Don Roberts and William Nikolakis provide a fascinating account of the drivers behind current investment in bioenergy. Their industry-level overview and firm-level analysis reveal the strategies and raison d'être of major pulp and paper companies in diversifying into new product lines and benefit streams. Globalization and its multi-faceted implications are covered in the next three chapters, with topical discussions on forest health, illegal logging and international trade in illegally harvested timber. Chapter 7 offers a detailed account of what IKEA has achieved in building a green credential as the core of the global furniture giant's production and marketing strategies. The next four chapters cover topics such as governance in community forest tenure, forest plantations, and forest genetic research. The relationship between wood supply and bio-economy is discussed in Chapter 12, whereas non-wood forest products such as bamboo and rattan are dealt with in Chapter 13. The last two chapters of the book focus on how globalization precipitates the need for paying greater attention to forest ecosystem services and payment for environmental services.

This volume contributes, in a timely fashion, to enhancing our understanding of how globalization has impacted the world's forests. The authors have done a commendable job in three major ways. First, the chapters are structured in a manner that helps the reader to grasp what has happened in the forest world and what will likely occur in the near future. Second, a large quantity of forest sector-specific materials and analyses are presented at a level that permits non-foresters to fully comprehend. Third, the chapters cross-reference one another to foster coherence and build interconnectedness.

It is worth noting that, unlike most edited books, this volume ends without a concluding chapter. This may present a challenge for those readers who are keen on acquiring a synthesis of the key findings of the individual chapters. Nevertheless, the take-home messages are clear, i.e., globalization has affected the world's forests in an unequivocal way. The global forest sector is going through an unprecedented wave of transformation in the midst of tremendous challenges and opportunities associated with an emerging bio-economy. It is up to woodland managers, resource professionals, business leaders and environmental stewards to take collective actions in working towards sustainable forest management goals.

Reviewed by Dr. Sen Wang
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Fire on Earth – An Introduction


The announcement for this book appeared in the May/June 2014 issue of The Forestry Chronicle (p. 400). I was pleased to have the opportunity to review Fire on Earth: An Introduction. The following is based upon my experience as a fire manager in North America and Australia over a forty-year career and as a relentless advocate for applied science for informing wildland and bushfire risk management.

I have long lamented the need for a comprehensive reference source from which a fire manager, undergraduate or graduate student can obtain the base level of knowledge and understanding of the wildland/bushfire phenomena across temporal and spatial scales. This book has satisfied this lament, for now. It has a strong reference with North American and Australian research, which I feel could be transferable, with appropriate cautions, to other continents where fire has had, and continues to have a presence.

To the credit of the authors they have met their goal as described in the book’s Preface “to explore our understanding of fire and our relationship to it”. They have been able to produce a publication that combines a logical progression through four parts, each one further stratified by chapters and units in a writing style that bridges researcher and operations technical proficiencies. Should the reader wish greater detail, there are further reading recommendations and comprehensive lists of references. Furthermore, the book itself is of high quality. Many coloured photographs, illustrations and charts printed on quality paper provide the reader with good visual reinforcement.

As with many long-in-the-tooth fire managers I have varying degrees of agreement with what has been presented but not in adamant opposition to any of it. At the same time I appreciate that it has stimulated me to re-think my own operational biases. On this basis I would promote this book as recommended reading for undergraduate and graduate students plus fire managers or those entering the career path to wildland/bushfire risk management.

If a fire manager does not truly understand the problem, they cannot possibly develop efficient and effective risk management strategies.

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