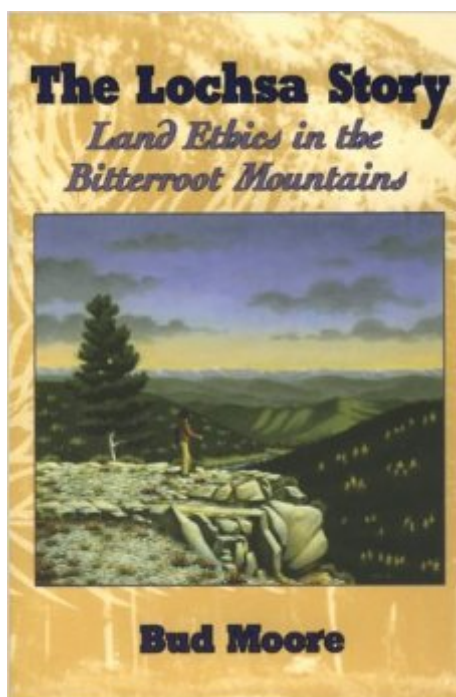


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The Lochsa Story: Land Ethics In The Bitterroot Mountains



Synopsis

The Lochsa Story explores the lessons drawn from two centuries of human interaction with northern Idaho's Lochsa country and how those lessons can affect management philosophies of similar regions across the continent and beyond. This personal narrative is thoroughly documented and includes maps and scores of rare, old photographs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a must for anyone wishing to know the story of land management in our national forests. Moore begins his story with land management as practiced by the native americans, and early settlers, then goes on to discuss the development of the Forest Services current methods of land management and the problems with it. The entire narrative is a kind of autobiography, as Moore grew up in the the region of the Bitterroot Mountains, and became an important steward of the land with the Forest Service. Moore relates his story in a highly enjoyable, and understandable format. Don't let the title mislead you into believing that its' topic is boring, and littered with scientific mumbo jumbo. For anyone concerned with the direction the national forests are taking, be you hunter, logger, or just enjoy the splendor of the outdoors this book is a must!

In 1930, thirteen-year-old Bud Moore climbed over the high ridge above his parent's western Montana homestead, carrying "a battered .30-.30 Winchester, light tarp, one blanket, fish line and hooks, and salt, bacon flour and oatmeal to supplement berries and game." He wanted to explore the wilderness of Idaho's Lochsa River country -- then one of the largest wild regions left in the

country. As it turned out, his journey lasted a lifetime, returning as a young man to trap furs in winter, and later as a U.S. Forest Service ranger. His book recounts the history of this region, beginning with the Nez Perce Indians and early Anglo explorers, through his own days as the man responsible for overseeing the first logging and roadbuilding on the forest. As a witness to man's sometimes destructive effects on the forest and its wildlife, Moore has spent a lifetime trying to understand how we can cultivate a better relationship to the land. He shares his wise reflections with us in a deeply personal narrative. Anyone who is concerned with the future of this beautiful region will learn much from "walking the trail" with Bud Moore. The Lochsa Story is an eloquent plea for understanding the land and treating it with respect.

This is a unique book written by a remarkable man, Bud Moore. He was a forester, raised in the Lochsa, Bitterroot country of western Idaho and Montana; a man of the land. He became a great advocate for saving the land. He worked for the Forest Service in that part of the country. He turned out to be a superb writer as well. He tells the fascinating story and history of this part of our country. Also, many great old black and white photos of a long ago time. This is also part of the Lewis and Clark Trail, so there is that part of the history as well. This has become one of my most favorite books in my home. It's a great story, a great read.

They say you are getting old when you can remember things that happened fifty years ago but you can't remember where you put your glasses. By that measure I'm old now (Oh, there they are! On my head!). The Lochsa Story was ancient when Bud told it to my oldest friend, his son Bill, and me. But I remember it perfectly-yes, fifty years later. It fairly leaps out of the recesses of my memory as I read this well researched book. First hand, I know Bud lived it even better than he told it. Too young and soft at first to join Bud and Bill on their pack trips into the Lochsa, I hardened myself up enough to be included in many of their hunts and camps. Bud could kindle a campfire in a hailstorm (I've watched him do it). Just as surely he set Bill and me afire with tales and adventures he himself experienced on his first hike up over that divide. By the time Bill and I became teenagers our snowshoes traced our own traplines on the very rim of the Lochsa not far from where Bud first laid eyes on it. The fires he set in our hearts burn to this day. The Lochsa Story is a precious gift that I will cherish until my spirit joins those of all those who ever walked the Lochsa and loved it. I'm privileged to have known all along that Bud would become a legend in his own right, and to have watched him do it. There is no other person on earth more suited to tell The Lochsa Story. My only regret: with this book Bud may have set too many adventurers afire, and the eternal Lochsa will

have no peace.

I found this book to be full of good information about the Lochsa Wilderness area. I think the stories could have been written in a more entertaining fashion. After reading the book I felt like I knew the area better than some of the forests I have visited many times. I hope to see the Lochsa in person some day.

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