How To Rent a Fire Lookout in the Pacific Northwest (Wilder-ness Press, 1995, paper $12.95), by Tom Foley and Tish Steinfeld, is a comprehensive guide to accommodations available in the national forests of Oregon and Washington. The authors provide detailed information about, and precise directions to, forty-three rentals including lookouts, ranger stations, and bunkhouses. A must for Pacific Northwest vacationers looking for a unique outdoor experience.

Ellen Sieber and Cheryl Ann Munson’s Looking At History: Indiana’s Hoosier National Forest Region, 1600 to 1950 (Indiana University Press, 1994, cloth $25.00, paper $12.95), examines the cultural and natural history of a nine-county region in south-central Indiana. The Hoosier National Forest provides the context for this study, and the U.S. Forest Service’s historic preservation programs are especially well-documented through oral histories and numerous photographs.

Peter Alfonso Castro, Facing Kirinyaga: A Social History of Forest Commons in Southern Mount Kenya (Intermediate Technology Publications, 1995, paper $28.50), describes the long-standing relationships—economic, cultural, and spiritual—between Kenyans and their forest resources, and provides an in-depth account of changes in the vast Mount Kenya forest, sacred groves, and small woodlots.

Using personal recollections and official reports from the logging camps of the St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber Company, Roy Stier, in Down The Hill: A True Story of Early Logging in the Pacific Northwest (Book Partners, Inc., 1995, paper $14.95), has reconstructed an intriguing account of the day-to-day life of a logging camp engineer. At the same time nostalgic and authoritative, Down the Hill both entertains and informs.

Beverly A. Brown, In Timber Country: Working People’s Stories of Environmental Conflict and Urban Flight (Temple University Press, 1995, cloth $49.95, paper $18.95), explores working-class opinions about changes in Oregon’s Rogue Valley in the past decade. Using numerous interviews, the author documents how twenty-five individuals responded to the rapid transformation of logging towns into tourist and retirement enclaves.

In Entrepreneurs in the Lumber Industry: Arkansas, 1881-1963 (Garland Publishing, Inc., 1995, $40.00), George W. Balogh offers intriguing glimpses into four Arkansas towns—Crossett, Warren, Fordyce, and Camden—and their forest products industries, showing how business can have positive effects on local environments.

In Eastern Old Growth Forests: Prospects for Rediscovery and Recovery (Island Press, 1996, cloth $50, paper $24.45), various authors—drawn from the ranks of academic, government, business, and non-profit organizations—contribute essays on the identification, preservation, and restoration of “original or primary or
primeval or ancient or virgin" eastern timberlands. Other chapters investigate the biological, cultural, and spiritual values associated with the old-growth forests in the East.

George F. Peterken's *Natural Woodland: Ecology and Conservation in Northern Temperate Regions* (Cambridge University Press, 1996, cloth $125.00, paper $44.95) describes how woods grow, die, and regenerate in the absence of human influence, the structures and range of habitats found in natural woods, and examples of virgin forests in Europe and North America. Also included is an examination of British woodland conservation practices, particularly the maintenance of "untouched" reserves.

Reminiscences of a lifetime in forestry make for fascinating reading in *Excelsior: Memoir of a Forester*, by Laurence C. Walker (Stephen F Austin State University, School of Forestry, 1995, cloth $30.00). The author, an alumnus of the Penn State Forestry School, the Yale School of Forestry, and Syracuse University's College of Forestry, recounts his experiences throughout his early years in these programs and later decades spent teaching in Georgia and Texas. Also included in this lively memoir are episodes of the author's journeys to Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and the South Pacific as a forestry consultant. A well-illustrated volume that chronicles the career of a pioneer in forestry education.

Richard H. Yahner's *Eastern Deciduous Forest: Ecology and Wildlife Conservation* (University of Minnesota Press, 1995, paper $18.95) is a general introduction to the deep woods, small urban parklands, and isolated woodlots of the eastern United States.

Containing chapters dealing with basic topics in ecology, wildlife conservation, and contemporary environmental issues, the book serves its intended audience—students, teachers, and concerned laypersons—most admirably.

*California Forests and Woodlands: A Natural History*, by Verna R. Johnston (University of California Press, 1994, cloth $30.00), is a wonderfully illustrated guide to that state's coniferous forests. The book explores various elements within the woodland ecosystem, and the evolution of plant and animal communities into remarkably diverse interrelationships.

The history of railroads in the logging industry is the focus of John T. Labbe and Vernon Goe's *Railroads in the Woods* (Oso Publishing Company, 1995, cloth $39.95), reprinted from the 1961 edition. This classic reference on steam-powered logging and logging railroads includes over 450 photographs that document the men, the machines, and the methods at work during logging's "glory days." A beautifully designed edition at a very reasonable price.

Two books focus on the Pacific Northwest and recent conflicts over environmental policy. In *The Last Stand: The War Between Wall Street and Main Street over California's Ancient Redwoods* (Random House, 1995, cloth $25.00), author David Harris examines the controversial takeover of the Pacific Lumber Company by Texas-based Maxxam, Inc. Drawing clear distinctions between local, community-minded businesspeople and large, impersonal corporations, Harris perceptively demonstrates how battles over natural resources sometimes create unlikely alliances. Alston Chase also analyzes the Pacific Lumber Company versus Maxxam, Inc. dispute, among other topics, in *In A Dark Wood: The Fight Over Forests and the Rising Tyranny of Ecology* (Houghton Mifflin Company, 1995, cloth $29.95). Chase, whose controversial 1986 book *Playing God in Yellowstone* propelled him to prominence, also investigates subjects such as California redwoods, the Northern Spotted Owl, and environmental organizations; his conclusions are destined to be debated for years to come.

Children can learn how the timber industry has evolved in *Bullwhackers to Whistlepunks: Logging in the Old West* by Sharlene and Ted Nelson. This lively account, abundantly illustrated and accompanied by a glossary and recommendations for further reading, provides young readers a wonderful introduction to forest history.