

here. Caldwell modestly omits his own role in that history.

Chapter Three tries to account for the gulf between policy and performance in terms of the institutional structure of American government. The geographical pattern of Federalism, with all of its inequities in the distribution of power and competence comprises the bulk of the argument. Although brief reference is made to the problem of separating policy formulation from execution, and the related problem of the fragmentation of decision-making into ever more specialized segments, I am surprised that no description of the growth of federal executive agencies and their state counterparts is offered. Is my hard-earned intuition that these executive agencies, and their relationship to the Congress, are keys to the crisis, not worth the price paid? Is it a vain hope to suppose that some relatively minor institutional and legislative adjustments would promote a much higher level of institutional adequacy? Is the sudden rush towards regional planning (under Sec. 208 of the 1972 Water Pollution Control Act Amendments), largely precipitated since Caldwell wrote, less a bellwether than a pork-barrel? My status as a politically innocent biologist gives me free license for the use of question marks.

Chapter Four is the best balanced and most concise description and interpretation of the NEPA I have seen. It deserves to be read by all, including judges, legislators, and citizens.

The fifth chapter is an all-too-brief "warts and all" account of administrative machinery at the federal (Environmental Protection Agency) and state levels. A section on land-use and materials recycling exemplifies the machinery at more local levels.

Chapter Six is a brief but inclusive history of global environmental policy and administration from mid-nineteenth-century origins to the administrative machinery yet to be implemented that emerged from the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

The final chapter is an essay well deserving separate publication. It begins with three logical intellectual prerequisites to coping with the environmental predicament, some reasons to believe that we may cope, a prescription for how to begin coping, and a very preliminary sketch of a set of policy-guiding principles of potential global acceptability with reference to population, natural resources, economics, and quality of life. Does the author really have the keys to the kingdom? He at least surely swings the keychain with a very great talent.

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ALASKA AND ITS WILDLIFE.

By Bryan L. Sage. A Studio Book, The Viking Press, New York. \$14.00. 128 p.; ill.; index. 1973.

This book has three themes: it is a descriptive account of the vegetation and animal life of Alaska, it is a personal account of the experiences and observations of the author, and it is a delightful picture book. The author was employed as an ecologist by the British Petroleum Company Limited to assess the ecological consequences of the construction of an oil pipeline across the Alaskan wilderness. The reader will find the sensitive response of a perceptive biologist to the beauty and grandeur of wilderness rather than a quantitative analysis of Alaskan ecosystems. But the book does function as a guide to the major natural areas of Alaska; scientific names and common names are used for each plant and animal mentioned in the text.

The book is divided into six sections. The first section is a brief history emphasizing how the biological resources were central to the exploration, settlement, and cultural development of Alaskan natives and exploiters; it also gives a description of the physical geography of the state. The second section is a brief account of the problems and opportunities of conservation and development in Alaska which concludes with a plea for an imaginative and comprehensive land-use plan as the only way by which Alaska's resources can nourish the economic system and its wilderness values can be preserved. The remaining four sections are concerned with the Arctic slope and the Brooks Range, life in the forest, the Alaska Range and Chugach Mountains, and the coasts and islands. Common wildflowers, birds, and mammals are identified in the major habitats within the broader geographical framework around which the sections are organized. There are no systematic accounts of the biology of the species, but a considerable amount of natural history is woven into the text. In these sections the author's personal experiences form the framework around which the ecological observations and species anecdotes are woven.

There is a useful index and the end papers are a map of Alaska showing the major geographical features discussed in the text. The 61 color and 34 black-and-white photographs make browsing through the volume worthwhile for those too busy to read the text. But anyone planning a trip to Alaska will find much useful information on where to go to see the spectacular scenery and its associated wildlife.

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ALASKA FISHERIES POLICY. *Economics, Resources, and Management.*

Edited by Arlon R. Tussing, Thomas A Morehouse and James D. Babb, Jr. Institute of Social, Economic, and Government Research; University of Alaska, Fairbanks. \$10.00 (paper). x + 470 p.; ill.; no index. 1972.

Despite the implications of its title, this book will