



# Silviculture and Ecology of Western U.S. Forests

*John C. Tappeiner, Douglas A. Maguire, Timothy B. Harrington*

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Once regarded solely as the cultivation of forest trees, silviculture is today shifting to a broader focus, one that reflects societies' changing forest values. In addition to timber management, the practice and science of silviculture are now concerned with tending forests—to reduce fire potential, benefit wildlife, and maintain aesthetics—and with ensuring options for future uses of the forest. In *Silviculture and Ecology of Western U.S. Forests*, John Tappeiner, Douglas Maguire, and Timothy Harrington follow the progression of silviculture as a science and look closely at the value of forests. The only silviculture text to focus on the forests of the western U.S., primarily those in Oregon, Washington, and California, it is based on over 900 references as well as the authors' extensive research and management experience. This timely work includes detailed chapters on fire, shrub ecology, density measurements, thinning, reforestation, and ecosystem variables such as insects, fungi, soils, and water stress. It explores topics such as natural vegetation dynamics that help predict and explain silviculture treatments, and how slight modifications in thinning practices can benefit wildlife and reduce the potential for insect damage. Readers will come to understand the significance of carefully managing forests by conscious design, providing for a range of forest ecosystems and resources. An essential reference for forest managers, policy makers, forest scientists, and students (the book includes a set of study questions), this authoritative volume provides a basis for silviculture practices and contemporary management of western forests.

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