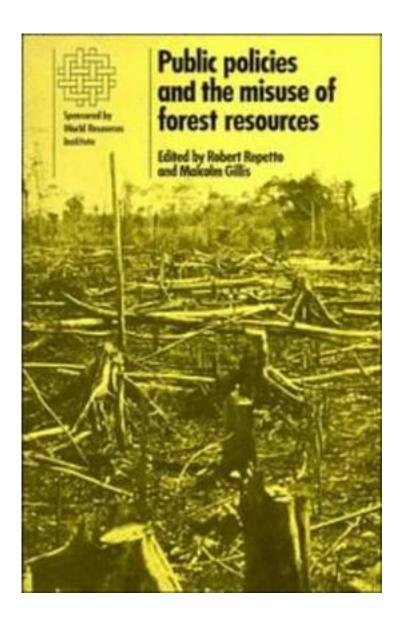
Public Policies and the Misuse of Forest Resources



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Six contributors explore the role of governments in accelerating the rate of forest destruction by providing direct and indirect subsidies to support what would otherwise be non-commercial logging operations. Without these financial incentives, most timber operations in the tropics would cease. In a series of country-by-country investigations, including examples from the developed and developing worlds, this book documents the government policies that are leading to the misuse of forest resources. Each is written by an authority on the county, and each contains descriptive, analytical and empirical material on key policies and their effects. The final country analysis focuses on the United States, where the consequences of the subsidized timber sales by the US Forest Service from most of the national forests are discussed. The book concludes with an overview of the impact of forest policies and the role of bilateral and multilateral agencies in their formulation. By directing attention toward the political dimension involved in forest clearance, this book will provide a clearer insight into the basic reasons why forests continue to be destroyed despite the outcry raised by conservationists.

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