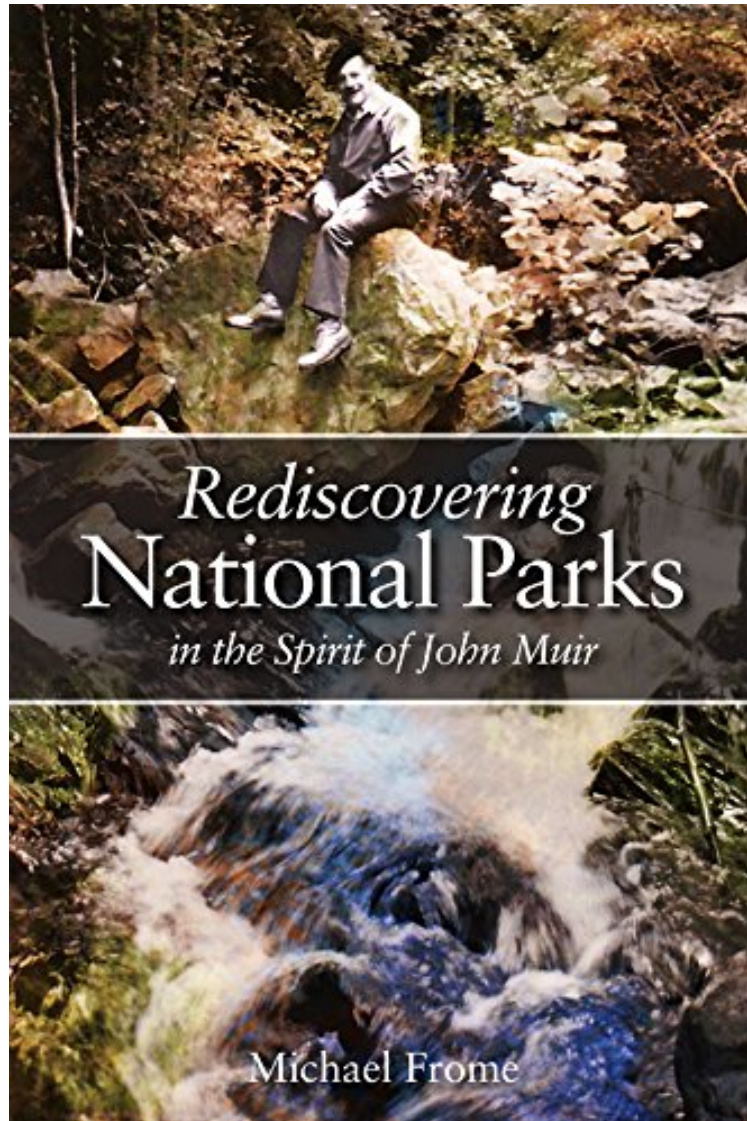


[Read now] Rediscovering National Parks in the Spirit of John Muir

Rediscovering National Parks in the Spirit of John Muir

Michael Frome

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Michael Frome : Rediscovering National Parks in the Spirit of John Muir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rediscovering National Parks in the Spirit of John Muir:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An Important book for all readers who have visited or wish to visit national parksBy Richard F. FleckThis is a forcefully written memoir by the writer and journalist Michael Frome who has well over a half century of experience with our national parks that have somehow survived a century of an increasingly politicized National Park Service, particularly during the Reagan and Bush (senior and junior) years. Michael Frome has been and still is a very strong advocate of preserving these natural and spiritual reserves for many

generations to come. As he writes, "Crowds, congestion, noise, intrusions of human-made structures, and pollution of air and water all interfere with the appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of the natural scene. To be fully enjoyed, the parks must first be fully preserved" (268).

As a journalist, advocate, and professor, Michael Frome has spent decades engaged with conservation topics and has taken particular interest in America's national parks. He draws on this experience and knowledge to address what remains to be done in order to truly value and preserve these special places. Part memoir, part history, and part broadside against those who would diminish this heritage, *Rediscovering National Parks in the Spirit of John Muir*, through thoughtful reflections and ruminations, bears witness to the grandeur of our parks and to the need for a renewed sense of appreciation and individual responsibility for their care. In recollections of his encounters and conversations with key people in national park history, Frome discusses park politics, conflicts between use and preservation, and impacts of commercialization. He proposes a dedicated return to the true spirit in which the parks were established, in the manner of John Muir. He advocates maintaining these lands as wild sanctuaries, places where we can find inspiration, solitude, silence, balance, and simplicity, reminding us why we must preserve our national treasures and why we need to connect with the deeper values they hold.

"Very engaging. Frome is a significant figure in modern park and environmental history, having been preeminent as a journalist in the field for many, many years. What he thinks on these matters is worth pondering. Joseph L. Sax, author of *Mountains without Handrails: Reflections on the National Parks*