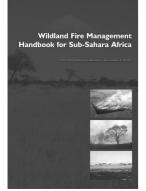
Wildland Fire Management Handbook for Sub-Sahara Africa



Edited by Johann G Goldammer & Cornelis de Ronde

Hardcover, 448 pages, 245 x 168 mm, ISBN 1- 919833-65-X

Price South African edition: R160; African Edition R80; European edition Euros35; International edition US\$40 All prices excluding postage

The policy to offer the book in the above price categories is based on the fact that The Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) has subsidised the preparation and printing of the handbook by using funds of the German Foreign Office that were dedicated to support capacity-building in wildland fire management in Sub-sahara Africa. With a nominal fee plus shipping costs the book shall be made available easily and at low total costs for African users outside of South Africa. A slightly higher price for South Africa considers the low costs involved in shipping the book within the country or purchasing it at net price in bookstores. The book is also offered to the non-African customers at a higher, non-subsidised price

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Fire has been used as a land-use tool for controlling the environment since the early evolution of humanity. Fire continues to be used as such by people living in different ecosystems across sub-Sahara Africa. Consequently, the rich biodiversity of tropical and subtropical savannas, grasslands and fire ecosystems is attributed to the regular occurrence and influence of fire. However, wildfires have been harmful to ecosystems, economies and human security. This is due to increasing population pressure as well as increased vulnerability of agricultural and residential lands.

The Wildland Fire Management Handbook provides scientific guidelines for maintaining and stabilising ecosystems and for state-of-the art fire prevention and control. The handbook features contributors from diverse backgrounds in wildland fire science and fire management. It deals with topics ranging from fire behaviour and controlled burning to fire ecology and the effects of burning on Cape fynbos. In addition the Wildland Fire Management Handbook includes fire regimes and fire history in West Africa. Thus, the handbook is groundbreaking in its furthering of sub-Saharan Africa's capacity for fire management and consequent preservation of the environment.

The Wildland Fire Management Handbook is an important resource for strategic sustainable land-use planning, disaster management and land security. The handbook is well suited to the needs of wildland fire management practitioners, scientists, academics, and students of universities and technical schools. Thus, environmental consultants, conservationists, ecologists and those dealing with wildland fire disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation will be interested in the book.

CONTENTS

Introduction Fire Ecology: Characteristics of Some Important Biomes of Sub-Sahara Africa Fire Behaviour Fire Effects on Flora and Fauna Fire Effects on the Maintenance of Biodiversity, Soil and Nutrients Regional Fire Management: Objectives, Practices and Prescribed Burning Application Fire Management in Rural Areas and Industrial Forestry Plantations Remote Sensing of Vegetation Fires and its Contribution to a Fire Management Information System Fire Protection Planning, Regional Integration and Fire Danger Rating Fire Detection and Control Veld and Forest Fire Equipment Application of Prescribed Burning Wildfire Suppression Wildfire Investigation, Fire Insurance, Economics and Training Fire History, Fire Regimes and Fire Management in West Africa: An Overview

Annexure I: Community Participation in Integrated Forest Fire Management: Some experiences from Africa Annexure II: Biogenic and Pyrogenic Emissions from Africa and their Impact on the Global Atmosphere Glossary **Contributing Authors**

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Environmental policy development and implementation is a 'hot topic' in southern Africa, following global imperatives for countries around the world to articulate their intentions to become more sustainable through public policy. Papers in the journal reflect a broad spectrum of views on policy-in-practice, with contributions from South Africa, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania and Lesotho, as well as the USA, UK, India, Italy and Denmark. With a concern for democratic orientations to policy-in-practice processes, the contributions included go far towards illustrating how environmental and environmental education policy processes are intertwined.

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It is becoming clear that many of the treaties, laws and policies concluded in recent years have failed to slow down, let alone halt or reverse, the destruction of our habitat. Like Fritjof Capra, who argues that our survival requires a radically different social and economic structure, Cormac Cullinan shows that the survival of the community of life on Earth (including humans), requires us to alter fundamentally our understanding of the nature and purpose of law and governance, rather than merely changing laws. In describing what this new "Earth governance" and "Earth jurisprudence" might look like, he also gives practical guidance on how to begin moving towards it. Thomas Berry, the leading environmental philosopher, says 'This book of Cormac Cullinan explains with great clarity how we can change our entire approach to governance so that we can continue life on a liveable planet. In its basic outlines this book is one of the finest contributions to the entire field of jurisprudence in recent times.'

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