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Where the Buffalo Roam: The Storm over the Revolutionary Plan to Restore America's Great Plains

Anne Matthews

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#2791553 in Books 1992-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.50 x 5.80 x .80l, #File Name: 0802114083193 pages | File size: 66.Mb

Anne Matthews : Where the Buffalo Roam: The Storm over the Revolutionary Plan to Restore America's Great Plains before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Where the Buffalo Roam: The Storm over the Revolutionary Plan to Restore America's Great Plains:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The opening of the frontier.....By Michael BrownThis is a very well written and enjoyable account of the Poppers and their quest for greater sustainability on the Plains. In particular, they are addressing the even dryer, more marginal parts of the Great Plains west of the 98th meridian. Once prairie but with little real precipitation or topsoil, its removal for various reasons has essentially led to the de facto creation of the Buffalo Commons that they were encouraging more than 20 years ago. They were met with strong opposition, viewed as environmentalist and social engineers, when actually they were looking for ways to prevent decline of economy, environment and a way of life. The predictions being made then, have come to pass with the depopulation of the most marginal lands. Perhaps a future epilogue will show how the region and country adapted and engaged the change rather than just allowing everything to fall apart, denying it all along. That might be un-American, however.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. fine.By Beryl Faradaythis price is valuable. send to my son, I just love this product I just use it for basic cutting I bought it because I read the reviews and its just what they I just have to go buy a sleeve for it it's no delayed. best service, patient.16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. The Dilemma on

the Great Plains By Dennis Stephens This book held my constant attention from the first time I picked it up. Ms. Matthews gives a very even-handed account of what I call "The Dilemma on the Great Plains." She thoughtfully explains the Buffalo Commons plan for the restoration of the plains. She introduces Frank and Deborah Popper, New Jersey academics from Rutgers University, who came up with the Buffalo Commons plan. I was riveted because I once lived in South Dakota, near the Montana and Wyoming borders and could empathize with the issue. The Poppers came up with the Buffalo Commons idea in the late 1980s as a way to "save" the plains. It has been very controversial, to say the least. The plains way of life and the emotions of the issue are handled brilliantly by Ms. Matthews. I was able to see both sides throughout the book. This issue has an importance to our nation. Read this book to know the issues about the decline in our Great Plains.

Frank and Deborah Popper--he a land-use expert, she a geographer--propose restoring to its natural state and to the buffalo some 149,000 square miles of American prairie currently inhabited by approximately 400,000 people. Matthews gives equal time to the Poppers's vociferous opposition, taking readers on an exhilarating tour through a whopping controversy.

From Library Journal Matthews chronicles a bold plan by Frank and Deborah Popper, professors at Rutgers University and experts in land-use planning and geography, to return millions of acres in the ten Great Plains states to their natural condition. This plan is one way of solving a problem that has existed and worsened over 100 years, pushing the prairies beyond their ecological potential. The question, Could this plan ever really be accepted? seems easy to answer given the political ramifications and the sentiment of local inhabitants. This book helps the reader to think beyond these stumbling blocks. It will be sought by those concerned with environmental issues and readers with an interest in the Great Plains.--Mary J. Nickum, Fish and Wildlife Reference Svce., Bethesda, Md. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus sA colorful and lively look at the controversy surrounding the plan of a New Jersey academic couple to return vast sections of the American Great Plains to their original prairie state. For Frank and Deborah Popper (a land-use planner and a geologist, respectively), the writing is on the wall as far as the semi-arid Plains are concerned. Stretching from Canada through Montana and the Dakotas to Oklahoma and Texas, the area, explains Matthews (Nonfiction Writing/Princeton), was settled by hardy sod-busters late in the last century after the Indians and buffalo had been successfully removed. The newcomers' determined tilling of the prairie soil and heavy grazing by their livestock opened the door to dust-bowl conditions whenever drought occurred, while persistent water demands depleted the aquifer to a fraction of its preagricultural reserve. With the resulting ecological stress readily apparent today, Matthews indicates, radical action seems necessary. The author follows the Poppers on several of their many forays into hostile country, chronicling their rise in notoriety from the inception of their ideas in 1987. In Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Montana, in talks before large audiences and in more casual encounters on the main streets of dying towns, the response is always the same: stiff resistance and shock in the face of apparently undeniable facts. The Poppers' plan for a "Buffalo Commons"--to be created from dozens of distressed counties in ten Plains states--has created a big stir out west, so that so much of Matthews's report turns not on their ideas but on the couple themselves, in public and private, with media attention and personal responses to them figuring prominently. Eminently readable as a study of personalities and regional differences, and as a popular account of a provocative proposal that may herald a sea change in American land-planning. (Four photographs; one map.) -- Copyright 1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. "An admirably crafted book, as poignant and entertaining as it is informative." - Seattle Times "Where the Buffalo Roam is very bright, active, effective journalism....An extremely savvy overlook of the dilemmas of the Great Plains." - Wallace Stegner