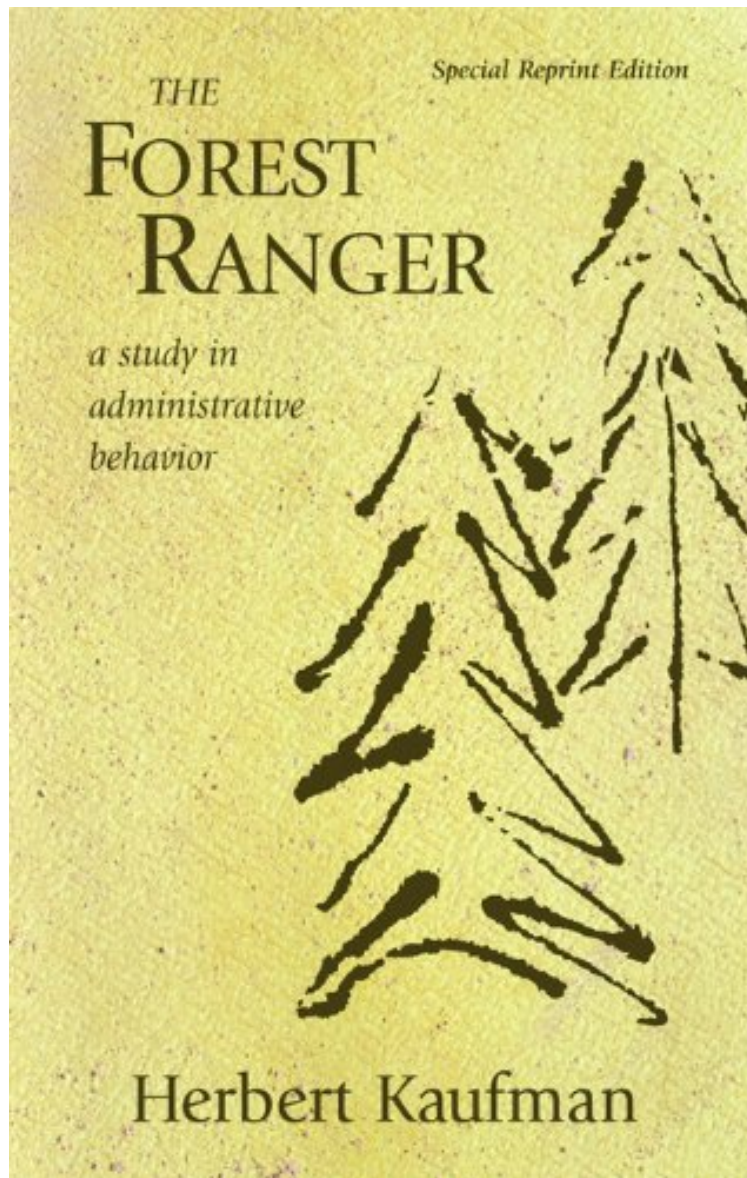


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## The Forest Ranger: A Study in Administrative Behavior (Rff Press)

*Herbert Kaufman*

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**Herbert Kaufman : The Forest Ranger: A Study in Administrative Behavior (Rff Press)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Forest Ranger: A Study in Administrative Behavior (Rff Press):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Social Science at its Best.By Stuart ShapiroOK, this book is not a page turner. What it is, is a careful examination of how a federal agency with a challenging mission does its job. Kaufman doesn't theorize (though he was clearly comfortable with management theory of the time). He spent time

with forest rangers, observing their behavior, talking to them understanding the world in which they operate. From this qualitative research of the highest order, Kaufman gives us an understanding of how an agency with key personnel scattered across the country achieves a singular mission and fights off the incentives individual rangers have to do things their own way. Lessons about for public administration scholars and the book is rightly thought of as a classic in the field. Despite being written more than 50 years ago, it does not feel dated. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. came in great shape. By Melynnne Came quickly and without issue. came in great shape. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Guide for setting up forestry school in Mexico By Sergio Ferragut The book will be used to help set up a forestry school in the State of Mexico, Mexico. The people involved are very excited by the books approach.

It is the rare book that remains in print for nearly fifty years, earning wide acclaim as a classic. The Forest Ranger has been essential reading for generations of professionals and scholars in forestry, public administration, and organizational behavior who are interested in the administration of public lands and how the top managers of a large, dispersed organization with multiple objectives like the Forest Service shape the behavior of its field officers into a coherent, unified program. Published as a special reprint in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Forest Service, The Forest Ranger is as relevant and timely today as when it was first issued in 1960. In addition to the original text, this special reprint of The Forest Ranger includes two new forewords and an afterword that highlight how much we have learned from Herbert Kaufman. The first foreword, by Harold K. (Pete) Steen, former president of the Forest History Society, considers the book's impact on the forestry community and explains its continued relevance in light of changes in the culture and mission of today's Forest Service. The second, by Richard P. Nathan, co-director of the Rockefeller Institute of Government, considers the book's contribution to our understanding of administrative and organizational behavior. A new afterword by author Herbert Kaufman describes how his landmark study came into being and offers a candid assessment of how his theories about the agency's operations and its future have held up over time. In 1960, the Forest Service had a well-deserved reputation for excellence, and The Forest Ranger was a seminal analysis of the how's and why's of its success. Kaufman also warned, however, that an organization so unified and well adapted to its environment would have difficulties navigating social change. He was right in his concerns: The environmental, civil rights, and women's movements have all presented challenges to the character and purpose of the Forest Service, ultimately changing the organization in subtle and not-so-subtle ways. Now, as then, The Forest Ranger is a striking and prescient case study of how a complex organization operates and evolves over time.

'The best single account of forestry management remains Herbert Kaufman's The Forest Ranger: A Study in Administrative Behavior.' John J. DiIulio, Jr., University of Pennsylvania "The best single account of forestry management remains Herbert Kaufman's The Forest Ranger." -- John J. DiIulio, Jr., University of Pennsylvania About the Author Herbert Kaufman, now retired, was a professor of political science at Yale University and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. His other books include The Administrative Behavior of Federal Bureau Chiefs; Red Tape: Its Origins, Uses, and Abuses; Are Government Organizations Immortal?; and The Limits of Organizational Change.