



Paul Vogel's Bookshelf

~ *Tahoma and its People*

Washington State University Press
PO Box 645910, Pullman, WA 99164-5910
www.wsupress.wsu.edu
9780874223736, \$27.95, PB, 265pp, www.amazon.com

Synopsis: In "Tahoma and its People: A Natural History of Mount Rainier National Park", by Professor Jeff Antonelis-Lapp, we have a passionate science educator presenting a natural and environmental history of Mount Rainier National Park and the surrounding region.

"Tahoma and its People" deftly identifies and explains the geologic processes that create and alter landscapes, interrelationships within and between plant and animal communities, as well as weather and climate influences on ecosystems, and what linked the iconic mountain with the people who traveled to it for millennia.

In "Tahoma and its People" Professor Antonelis-Lapp intersperses his own direct observation and study of organisms, as well as personal interactions with rangers, archaeologists, a master Native American weaver, and others. The topics covered include geology, archaeology, indigenous villages and use of resources, climate and glacier studies, alpine and forest ecology, rivers, watershed dynamics, keystone species, threatened wildlife, geological hazards, and current resource management.

Critique: An inherently interesting, impressively informative, exceptionally well written, organized and presented work of seminal scholarship, "Tahoma and its People: A Natural History of Mount Rainier National Park" is an extraordinary and unreservedly recommended addition to personal, community and academic library Natural History collections in general, and Mount Rainier history and ecology reading lists in particular.

Editorial Note: Jeff Antonelis-Lapp holds an M.Ed. in science education from the University of Washington. He has been a classroom teacher and drug prevention presenter, and has held several positions in adult and continuing education for the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. For ten years he taught writing and Native American studies on western Washington Indian reservations for The Evergreen State College, and then worked as an on-campus environmental education, natural history, and expository writing instructor. He retired in 2015, and is now an emeritus faculty member.