



Holistic Management: A New Framework for Decision Making

By Allan Savory, Jody Butterfield

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Extensive fieldwork in Africa, the United States, and elsewhere convinced Allan Savory that neither the forces of nature nor commonly blamed culprits - overpopulation, poor farming practices, lack of financial support - were causing the decline of once-healthy ecosystems. He also noted that, in many parts of the world, once land has become degraded, letting it rest seldom helps revitalize it. Savory came to realize that environmental problems are caused by human management decisions, and only through wholesale changes in the way decisions are made can functioning ecosystems be restored. In response to his discoveries, Savory developed a revolutionary new approach to decision making and management. Known initially as Holistic Resource Management, and now as simply Holistic Management, it considers humans, their economies, and the environment as inseparable. At the heart of the approach lies a simple testing process that enables people to make decisions that simultaneously consider economic, social, and environmental realities, both short-and long-term. Holistic Management is a newly revised and updated edition of Holistic Resource Management (Island Press, 1988), which was the first book-length treatment of Savory's decision-making framework and how it could be applied. This is an essential handbook for anyone involved with land management and stewardship and a valuable guide for all those seeking to make better decisions within their businesses, communities, or in any aspect of their personal lives.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Allan Savory is a former wildlife biologist, farmer, and politician who co-founded the Savory Institute in Boulder, Colorado, in 2009.

Jody Butterfield is a former journalist specializing in agriculture and the environment and co-founder of Holistic Management International.

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