

Robert H. Nelson -- Short Biographical Statement

Robert H. Nelson is professor of environmental policy at the School of Public Affairs of the University of Maryland. He is a nationally recognized authority on land and natural resource management in the United States, with a particular emphasis on management of federally owned lands. His writings have appeared in many professional journals and edited book collections, including the *Journal of Economic Literature*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Natural Resources Journal*, *Environmental Law*, *University of Colorado Law Review*, and *University of Illinois Law Review*.

He is the author of six books: *Zoning and Property Rights* (MIT Press, 1977); *The Making of Federal Coal Policy* (Duke University Press, 1983); *Reaching for Heaven on Earth: The Theological Meaning of Economics* (Rowman & Littlefield, 1991); *Public Lands and Private Rights: The Failure of Scientific Management* (Rowman & Littlefield, 1995); *A Burning Issue: A Case for Abolishing the U.S. Forest Service* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2000); and *Economics as Religion: From Samuelson to Chicago and Beyond* (Penn State University Press, 2001).

Mr. Nelson has written widely for broader audiences in the *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Denver Post*, *The Weekly Standard*, *Reason*, *Technology Review*, *Environment*, *Regulation*, and many other publications. He has been a columnist for *Forbes* magazine since 1993.

He worked in the Office of Policy Analysis of the Interior Department -- the principal policy office serving the Secretary of the Interior -- from 1975 to 1993. Mr. Nelson served as the senior economist of the Commission on Fair Market Value Policy for Federal Coal Leasing (Linowes Commission); senior research manager of the President's Commission on Privatization; and economist for the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs. He has been a visiting scholar at the Brookings Institution; visiting senior fellow at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution; visiting scholar at the Political Economy Research Center; visiting research associate at the Center for Applied Social Science at the University of Zimbabwe; and research fellow at the International Center for Economic Research (in Turin, Italy).

He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Princeton University (1971).