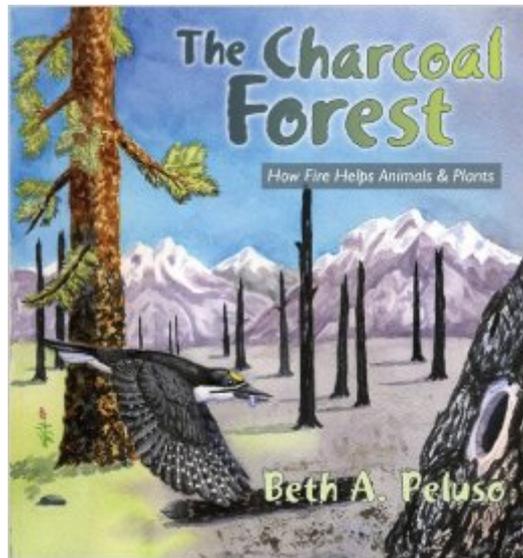


The book was found

# The Charcoal Forest: How Fire Helps Animals & Plants



## Synopsis

After a fire, you might think a burned area is as barren and lifeless as the moon. But take a closer look and you'll find that even before the last wisps of smoke have cleared, the newly burned forest is already teeming with life. Many plants and animals find fertile ground here to grow, eat, and have offspring; some species are dependent on fire and cannot thrive or reproduce without it. Unlike most books, which concentrate on the fire itself, *The Charcoal Forest* explores the new habitat created by the fire. Focusing on the Northern Rocky Mountains of the United States and Canada, the book describes twenty species of animals and plants that contribute to the reclamation and renewal of the charcoal forest. Why do some beetles fly toward a fire? Why will you almost never see a black-backed woodpecker outside of burned areas? How do fires help grow yummy treats like huckleberries and morel mushrooms? Kids and adults will delight in discovering the answers to these and other burning questions-and don't forget to find the black-backed woodpecker in the picture!

## Book Information

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: Mountain Press Publishing Company; 1st edition (May 15, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0878425322

ISBN-13: 978-0878425327

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #655,353 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #176 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Forests & Trees](#) #357 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Earth Sciences](#) #416 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Biology](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Written by avid birder, day camp counselor, and substitute teacher Beth A. Peluso, *The Charcoal Forest: How Fire Helps Animals and Plants* is an educational softcover picturebook about the ecology of fire in the Rocky Mountains, and plants and animals that actually depend upon fire to

survive. From the black-backed woodpecker that depends on the beetle larvae in burned tree trunks (there's a woodpecker in every beautiful color picture!) to the deer mouse that feasts on seeds exposed by fire, to plants like the huckleberry bush that need space cleared so they can receive more light, and many more, The Charcoal Forest offers an amazing glimpse into species that thrive in the wake of regular or sporadic forest fires. A final section offers more fun facts about the forest species featured, a glossary, an index, and a list of resources that young readers can look up to learn more. Highly recommended, especially for elementary school and public library children's collections.

Beth Peluso has written an informative and engaging book for children about how forests recover from fires. It is amazing how many plants and animals actually need fire. Additionally, her illustrations are superb, depicting wildlife from fascinating angles and perspectives. I highly recommend "The Charcoal Forest."

Really liked the drawings and content. A great book to teach children about nature, I even learned a bit too. The author presented it in a fun way, especially putting the woodpecker in every illustration for the kids to find.

What a GREAT book! The nature of this book has been needed for a long time. The Charcoal Forest addresses the need for an understanding of the benefits of fires in our landscape in a wonderfully drawn, interactive way for all ages including adults. Our current mentality of stopping fires lessens the benefits the birds, bugs, and other plants obtains from the ashes of a forest fire. A book which encourages thoughtful ideas about how nature recovers from devastating events.

Suggested at workshop I attended at U of A for fire ecology i will use it with my 6th graders this year!

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