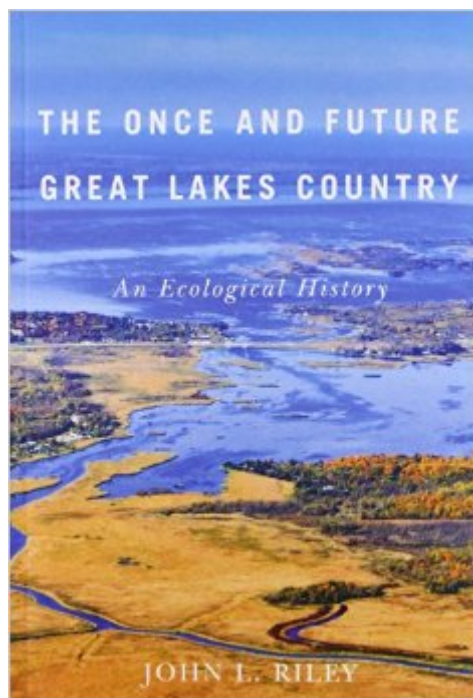


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# The Once And Future Great Lakes Country: An Ecological History (McGill-Queen's Rural, Wildland, And Resource Studies Series)



## Synopsis

North America's Great Lakes country has experienced centuries of upheaval. Its landscapes are utterly changed from what they were five hundred years ago. The region's superabundant fish and wildlife and its magnificent forests and prairies astonished European newcomers who called it an earthly paradise but then ushered in an era of disease, warfare, resource depletion, and land development that transformed it forever. *The Once and Future Great Lakes Country* is a history of environmental change in the Great Lakes region, looking as far back as the last ice age, and also reflecting on modern trajectories of change, many of them positive. John Riley chronicles how the region serves as a continental crossroads, one that experienced massive declines in its wildlife and native plants in the centuries after European contact, and has begun to see increased nature protection and re-wilding in recent decades. Yet climate change, globalization, invasive species, and urban sprawl are today exerting new pressures on the region's ecology. Covering a vast geography encompassing two Canadian provinces and nine American states, *The Once and Future Great Lakes Country* provides both a detailed ecological history and a broad panorama of this vast region. It blends the voices of early visitors with the hopes of citizens now.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

An excellent, well written and thoroughly researched book which should be read by all environmental professionals in great lakes country (i.e. southern Ontario, northern New York, Ohio, and Michigan). The discussion of how this area was shaped by different cultures throughout the

millennia is fascinating and sheds a new light on the commonly held idea of the "primeval wilderness" that European settlers faced when they first colonized this part of North America.

This is a unique book covering a wide range of subjects regarding the valuable environmental treasure that is the north. Slow reading but well worth it

Neat history of humans in the Great Lakes area. Well researched, with lots of discussion of pre-European human/environment interactions.

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