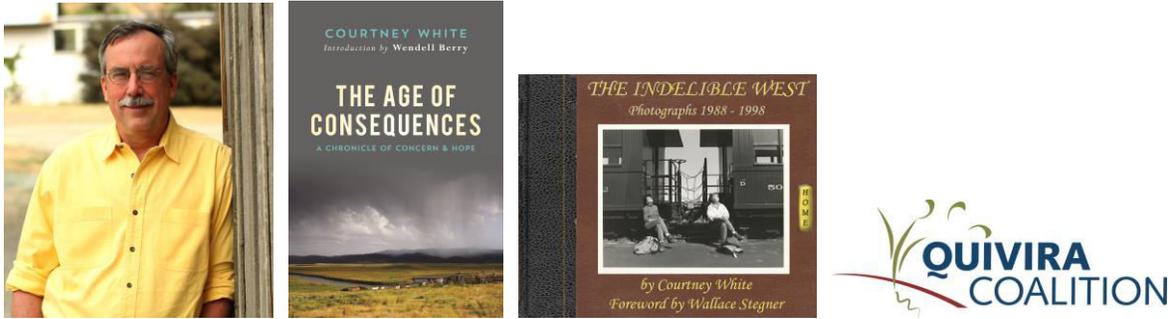


Courtney White



A former archaeologist and Sierra Club activist, Courtney White dropped out of the ‘conflict industry’ in 1997 to cofound the Quivira Coalition, a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to building a radical center among ranchers, conservationists, public land managers, scientists and others around practices that improve economic and ecological resilience in western working landscapes. He served as Executive Director of Quivira for nearly fifteen years before becoming its Creative Director.

His work focused on solutions to food, water, and climate challenges, embracing progressive cattle management, collaborative conservation, riparian restoration, land health, local food, grassfed meat, soil carbon, resilience, and regenerative agriculture. In 2016, he left Quivira in order to concentrate on writing and a new project titled *This Moment In Time*.

Born in Philadelphia, Courtney grew up in Phoenix, earned a B.A. from Reed College and attended UCLA’s graduate school in filmmaking. He worked as an archaeologist for Arizona State University and the National Park Service. He moved to Santa Fe, NM, in 1992.

In 2005, Wendell Berry included Courtney’s essay *The Working Wilderness* in his collection *The Way of Ignorance*, an endorsement that set Courtney on a path of writing that has led to many published articles and books.

He is the author of *Revolution on the Range* (Island Press), *Grass, Soil, Hope* (Chelsea Green), *The Age of Consequences* (Counterpoint Press) and *2% Solutions for the Planet* (Chelsea Green). He is currently working on a new book titled *The Threshold*. He lives in Santa Fe with his family, one dog and two chickens.

My mission: creative responses to scientific questions

I’ve been creating ‘right-brain’ responses to ‘left-brain’ questions since I was thirteen years old, when a long summer road trip through Mexico lit a fire that has never gone out. I express my answers in writing, photography, speaking and activism, endeavoring in each to tell honest and compelling stories.

I have worked on the cutting edge of collaborative conservation, regenerative agriculture, ecological restoration, and climate mitigation for two decades. As Executive Director of the Quivira Coalition, I had the privilege to help implement these practices as well as explain their hopefulness in numerous publications and public speaking events.

I have come to believe that telling important stories in inspiring ways is critical to our collective future. As our challenges grow in size and complexity, we urgently need as many ‘right-brain’ answers to ‘left-brain’ questions as we can muster.

Many of my answers can be found on my web site: www.jcourtneywhite.com

BOOKS

- 2015 *Two Percent Solutions for the Planet: 50 Low-Cost, Low-tech, Nature-based Practices for Combatting Hunger, Drought and Climate Change*; Chelsea Green, VT.
- 2015 *The Age of Consequences: a Chronicle of Concern and Hope*, with a Foreword by **Wendell Berry**; Counterpoint Press, Berkeley, CA.
- 2014 *Grass, Soil, Hope: a Journey Through Carbon Country*, with a Foreword by **Michael Pollan**; Chelsea Green.
- 2012 *The Indelible West: Photographs 1988-1998*, with a Foreword by **Wallace Stegner** (written in 1992); published as an e-book at www.indeliblewest.com
- 2008 *Revolution on the Range: the Rise of a New Ranch in the American West*; Island Press.

Praise from:

Michael Pollan:

“Hope in a book about the environmental challenges we face in the 21st century is an audacious thing to promise, so I’m pleased to report that Courtney White delivers on it.”

Wendell Berry:

“Courtney White’s experience with the Quivira Coalition has made him master of two indispensable truths: People of different and apparently opposing interests can work together in good will for their mutual good; and, granted their good will and good work, a similar reciprocity can be made, in use, between humans and their land.”

Wallace Stegner:

“What we have in Courtney White’s book is a recording of one passing phase of that frontier. And what a pleasure it is to see the real Wests captured in their flow! What a reassurance it is to see the Wests recorded in their living reality, instead of getting another view of someone being cut off at the pass in the Alabama Hills of the Kanab Desert, shooting wildly with both hands from guns that never need re-loading.”

Other praise:

“In a time when environmental reporting has become justifiably gloomy, this book is a refreshing breath of pragmatic optimism. White’s vision of stewardship, openness to new ideas, giving as well as taking, and flexibility will inspire anyone who loves humanity or the great outdoors.” – *Publishers Weekly*

“White strikes a refreshing tone that will resonate with readers turned off by the superior or condescending attitudes of some environmentalist writers... Throughout, he balances abstract questions and ideas with tangible life experiences... [R]eaders will be engaged by his frank and thoughtful discussion of our modern environment.” – *Kirkus*

“...[A] series of deeply personal essays that cogently examine pertinent issues from both grassroots and global perspectives. With a tone that is predominantly upbeat yet tempered by the intensely personal concerns of a parent, White offers specific examples of beneficial strategies that can mitigate present conditions and secure future successes.” – **Booklist**

“I couldn’t put *Revolution on the Range* down – so many good ideas from people who have discovered workable means to effect positive change in our local environments and ways of thinking about our place in the world. This is one of the most encouraging and inspirational books I’ve read in ages.” – **Deborah Madison**, author of *Local Flavors*.

“Courtney White has lived and worked at the radical center of collaborative conservation in the West for more than two decades, literally reshaping dialogue and land stewardship in the region through his innovations. But with this book Courtney demonstrates that his own essays on these concerns can rightfully take its place alongside Scott Russell Sanders and Wendell Berry for its eloquence, depth and lasting impact on the conservation movement.”
– **Gary Nabhan**, author of *Food, Genes and Culture: Eating Right for Your Origins*

“Courtney White employs a masterful blend of storytelling and science to communicate a most hopeful message: that building healthy soils – in some surprising and creative ways – can help solve our food, water, and climate challenges all at the same time. The carbon-capturing farmers, ranchers, and conservationists whose work White so elegantly describes form the vanguard of a new movement of regenerative production that deserves society’s attention and support. Inspiring, thought-provoking, energizing, and – at bottom – full of hope.”
– **Sandra Postel**, Freshwater Fellow, National Geographic Society

Praise for *Two Percent Solutions for the Planet*:

“This book is Courtney White’s most important work. It is the best practical guide to how we can begin to address the significant, unavoidable challenges awaiting us in our not-too-distant future. *Two Percent Solutions for the Planet* inspires us to address these challenges creatively, especially with respect to our food and agriculture future, and to do it in cooperation with nature in ways that also heal the planet. The solutions Courtney describes are not just ideas but are demonstrated strategies already being implemented by creative farmers, ranchers, ecologists, and designers. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in practical ways to restore the planet’s health while experiencing a flourishing life.”
– **Frederick Kirschenmann**, author of *Cultivating an Ecological Conscience*

“Courtney White has written one of the most important books for our time about how to reverse climate change and nourish the world with abundant, healthy food. Most importantly, he describes proven, ‘shovel-ready’ solutions that progressive ranchers and farmers are doing every day. There is no need to spend billions of dollars on new, unproven technologies such as carbon capture and geoengineering. For a fraction of the cost, the world easily could scale up the regenerative practices profiled in *Two Percent Solutions for the Planet*. Too good to be true? Read this book and make up your own mind.”
– **André Leu**, president, IFOAM-Organics International