Roger Kaye has been a wilderness specialist and airplane pilot with the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for over twenty years. He is an affiliate professor of Northern Studies at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where he teaches courses on environmental psychology and wilderness management.

"Last Great Wilderness is at once a great story and an authoritative history, documenting the power of wilderness values and the determination of those who fought to preserve a remarkable place."
—Bill Meadows, President, The Wilderness Society

"Never again in American history will an area as vast and wild as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge be protected in a single political action. With extraordinary research skills and the passion of a lifetime spent exploring the Alaskan backcountry, Roger Kaye tells the story of the most aggressive act of wilderness preservation in America."
—Roderick Nash, author of Wilderness and the American Mind

"Last Great Wilderness is much more than a valuable history of the establishment of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. It is also a thoughtful exploration of the values and meanings of wilderness."
—Dave Foreman, author of Rewilding North America

"In his absorbing and timely conservation history of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Roger Kaye describes the wildlife, scientific, recreational, and symbolic values that motivated those of us who worked for its establishment in the 1950s. It reveals why this great and magical wilderness must remain protected and treasured."
—George Schaller, Vice President, Wildlife Conservation Society

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is at the center of the conflict between America’s demand for oil and nature at its most pristine. Three decades before the battle over oil development began, a group of visionary conservationists launched a controversial campaign to preserve a remote corner of Alaska. Their goal was unprecedented—to protect an entire ecosystem for future generations. Among those conservationists were Olaus and Margaret Murie, who became icons of the wilderness movement.

Last Great Wilderness chronicles their fight and that of their companions, tracing the transformation of this little-known expanse of mountains, forest, and tundra into a symbolic landscape embodying the ideals and aspirations that led to passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964.