The edge effect is this idea that the more edge you create, the more biodiversity you create, where a meadow meets a forest or a piece of water meets a meadow. Two different ecologies meet. Two different kinds of landscapes meet … that is where you find the most biodiversity at that edge.
- Nils Norman

AN EDGE EFFECT: ART & ECOLOGY IN THE NORDIC LANDSCAPE (Half Letter Press, 2014) is a collection of interviews and two original essays by curators, Sue Spaid (United States) and Anne Sophie Witzke (Denmark). Three case studies of an exhibition – SKOVENE – I DIN LOMME [Forests – in your pocket]; a gathering to address nuclear power from a culture perspective – Case Pyhäsalmi; and an artist gardening project – DEN FÆLLES KØKKENHAVE [The Common Kitchen Garden] are also included, shaping the book’s overall structure as a handbook of contemporary environmental art practices in the Nordic region. The artists and groups here are connected to a multitude of publics beyond the art world—climate scientists, seed-bank engineers, farmers, urban planners, architects, economists, professional foragers—and they approach their subjects with differing perspectives from practical urban planning solutions to poetic field recordings of weather patterns listening to an unpredictable future. This book is a collection of approaches and possibilities for what life in the Anthropocene might be like and what could be done to shift us to other futures.