

BOOKS IN BRIEF

As an occasional addition to our Book Review section, Books in Brief will offer quick descriptions of books received and available (†) for regular, full reviews.

- †**International Wildlife Management: Conservation Challenges in a Changing World.** Edited by John L. Koprowski and Paul R. Krausman. 2019. Johns Hopkins University Press. 248 pages, 74.95 USD, Cloth or E-book.
- †**The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.** Edited by Shane P. Mahoney and Valerius Geist. 2019. Johns Hopkins University Press. 184 pages, 74.95 USD, Cloth or E-Book.
- †**Quantitative Analyses in Wildlife Science.** Edited by Leonard A. Brennan, Andrew N. Tri, and Bruce G. Marcot. 2019. Johns Hopkins University Press. 344 pages, 74.95 USD, Cloth or E-book.
- †**Renewable Energy and Wildlife Conservation.** Edited by Christopher E. Moorman, Steven M. Grodsky, and Susan P. Rupp. 2019. Johns Hopkins University Press. 280 pages, 74.95 USD, Cloth or E-book.

Each of these volumes was published late in 2019 by Johns Hopkins University Press (JHUP) in partnership with The Wildlife Society (TWS), a relationship that dates back to at least 2013. JHUP's origins date back to 1878 while TWS, now an international non-profit, was formed in 1937. A major partner of the TWS is the United States (US) Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management, founded in 1946, with a Wildlife Division opening in 1965 after almost a decade of hiring wildlife biologists (<https://wildlife.org/blm/>). Thus, the roots of these partnering organizations are very deep, a fact reflected in the extensive publication and other programs of TWS. *The Journal of Wildlife Management* (since 1937), *Wildlife Monographs* (since 1958), and the online-only *Wildlife Society Bulletin* are peer-reviewed, while *The Wildlife Professional* is a members' magazine. In addition, TWS launched the Conservation Affairs Network—with its own newsletter—in 2014 and has membership in 11 major coalitions comprised of many organizations engaged in wildlife issues. If all this is not enough, 27 Working Groups are available to TWS members involved in many aspects of wildlife conservation and management in the US and elsewhere.

Essentially, the history of the TWS mirrors the history of the development of wildlife conservation and management as both intellectual disciplines and policy practices. The contributors to these volumes reflect this background and, while many live and work in the US, people in other countries have provided chapters, especially in the volume on international wildlife management. Two Canadians are co-editors of *The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation*: Valerius Geist, a Professor, now emeritus, of Environmental Sciences at the University of Calgary since 1977, and Shane Mahoney, president and CEO of Conservation Visions Inc., based in Newfoundland, and director of the High Lonesome Institute in Colorado. In 2001, at a session of the 66th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, they (along with John F. Organ, then of the US Fish and Wildlife Service) presented a paper

in which they “define[d] the key components of the model and discuss the role hunters and hunting had in constructing these components” (Geist *et al.* 2001: 176). Not surprisingly, hunting remains a subject for analysis and these three authors are involved in seven of the 13 articles in this volume.

The four volumes are all in the Wildlife Management and Conservation series, with Paul R. Krausman as senior editor, although no further information on the series is offered. Formats are similar and briskly efficient, with front matter kept to a minimum; all have Contents and Contributors, several add Acknowledgements, a Foreword and/or a Preface. The books then launch immediately into their 11–17 articles. Two of the volumes, *The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation* and *International Wildlife Management*, present their articles one after the other; in *Renewable Energy and Wildlife Conservation* and *Quantitative Analyses in Wildlife Science* they are organized in themed sections. Article presentation styles vary, but generally have internal divisions, sometimes a short abstract (*The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation*), usually an introduction, conclusion—or summary or discussion—followed by Literature Cited sections or Notes, in the case of *The North American Model*. Either way, these extensive citations could almost be called select bibliographies. Volumes are indexed and prices listed above are for non-members; TWS members receive price discounts of about 30%.

Too many topics are covered to mention here, but they reflect the concerns, thinking, and experience, of their authors, all of whom are experts in their topics, a generalization based on the wide range of universities, various levels of government, and conservation and other organizations to which contributors belong. The stated purposes and goals of each volume provide indications of their contents:

We wanted to compile a volume that addressed the major challenges that we share in wildlife conservation around the world, written by a diverse group of international scien-

tists with similar aspirations. Furthermore, we wanted to provide advice on how to get involved in international wildlife management early in a career. (*International Wildlife Management*, Preface)

Its purpose is to present readers with the widest and most detailed coverage to date of the North American Model. The book's broader purpose, however, is to elicit thoughtful debate, not only about the Model ... but also about wildlife's future in Canada and the United States. (*The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation*, Introduction, p. 7)

Our goal was to produce a volume that can give graduate students and other wildlife researchers an entree into some of the more widely used approaches to data analysis today ... At the outset, we encouraged chapter authors to inject philosophical perspectives along with their technical expertise and guidance. (*Quantitative Analyses in Wildlife Science*, Preface)

Our goal ... was to synthesize the extensive and rapidly growing base of scientific literature

on renewable energy and wildlife into a single, comprehensive resource for wildlife ecologists, university students, policy makers, industry representatives, and environmental nongovernmental organizations. (*Renewable Energy and Wildlife Conservation*, Introduction, p. 8)

My brief overview of these books suggests that they present the science in balanced ways: raising questions, discussing issues without polemics, and attempting to reconcile, or at least address, the myriad complexities inherent in these fields. Although these books are aimed at professionals, interested laypersons would find much to digest in many of the articles.

Literature Cited

- V. Geist, S.P. Mahoney, and J.F. Organ. 2001. Why hunting has defined the North American model of wildlife conservation. Transactions of the 66th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. Accessed 26 May 2020. https://www.conservationvisions.com/sites/default/files/why_hunting_has_defined_the_north_american_model_of_wildlife_conservation.pdf.

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