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Genome sequencing enables scientists to study genes over time and to test the genetic variability of any form of life, from bacteria to mammals. Thanks to

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advances in molecular genetics, scientists can now determine an animal's degree of inbreeding or compare genetic variation of a captive species to wild or natural populations. Mapping an organism's genetic makeup recasts such terms as biodiversity and

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species and enables the conservation of rare or threatened species, populations, and genes. By introducing a new paradigm for studying and preserving life at a variety of levels, genomics offers solutions to previously intractable problems in understanding

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the biology of complex organisms and creates new tools for preserving the patterns and processes of life on this planet. Featuring a number of high-profile researchers, this volume introduces the use of molecular genetics in conservation biology and

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provides a historical perspective on the opportunities and challenges presented by new technologies. It discusses zoo-, museum-, and herbarium-based biological collections, which have expanded over the past decade, and covers the promises and problems of

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genomic and reproductive technology.

The collection concludes with the philosophical and legal issues of conservation genetics and their potential effects on public policy.

From reviews of previous editions:

“This is the standard reference about

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Texas mammals.” —Wildlife Activist
“A must for anyone seriously
interested in the wildlife of Texas.”
—Texas Outdoor Writers Association
News “[This book] easily fills the role
of both a field guide and a desk
reference, and is written in a style that

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appeals to the professional biologist and amateur naturalist alike. . . . [It] should prove useful to anyone with an interest in the mammal fauna of Texas or the southern Great Plains.” —Prairie Naturalist The Mammals of Texas has been the standard reference since the

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first edition was coauthored by William B. Davis and Walter P. Taylor in 1947. Revised several times over the succeeding decades, it remains the most authoritative source of information on the mammalian wildlife of Texas, with physical descriptions

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and life histories for 202 species, abundant photographs and drawings, and distribution maps. In this new edition, David J. Schmidly is joined by one of the most active researchers on Texas mammals, Robert D. Bradley, to provide a thorough update of the

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taxonomy, distribution, and natural history of all species of wild mammals that inhabit Texas today. Using the most recent advances in molecular biology and in wildlife ecology and management, the authors include the most current information about the

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scientific nomenclature, taxonomy, and identification of species, while also covering significant advances in natural history and conservation. This book provides a general introduction to the biology of marine mammals, and an overview of the

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adaptations that have permitted mammals to succeed in the marine environment. Each chapter, written by experts in their field, will provide an up-to-date review and present the major discoveries and innovations in the field. Important technical advances

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such as satellite telemetry and time-depth-recorders will be described in boxes.

****A Library Journal Best Book of 2015 ** **A Christian Science Monitor Top Ten Book of September**** In a world dominated by

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people and rapid climate change, species large and small are increasingly vulnerable to extinction. In Resurrection Science, journalist M. R. O'Connor explores the extreme measures scientists are taking to try and save them, from captive breeding

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and genetic management to de-extinction. Paradoxically, the more we intervene to save species, the less wild they often become. In stories of sixteenth-century galleon excavations, panther-tracking in Florida swamps, ancient African rainforests,

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Neanderthal tool-making, and cryogenic DNA banks, O'Connor investigates the philosophical questions of an age in which we "play god" with earth's biodiversity. Each chapter in this beautifully written book focuses on a unique species--from the charismatic

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northern white rhinoceros to the infamous passenger pigeon--and the people entwined in the animals' fates. Incorporating natural history and evolutionary biology with conversations with eminent ethicists, O'Connor's narrative goes to the heart

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of the human enterprise: What should we preserve of wilderness as we hurtle toward a future in which technology is present in nearly every aspect of our lives? How can we co-exist with species when our existence and their survival appear to be pitted against one

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another?

One of the greatest unmet challenges in conservation biology is the genetic management of fragmented populations of threatened animal and plant species. More than a million small, isolated, population fragments of threatened

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species are likely suffering inbreeding depression and loss of evolutionary potential, resulting in elevated extinction risks. Although these effects can often be reversed by re-establishing gene flow between population fragments, managers very rarely do

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this. On the contrary, genetic methods are used mainly to document genetic differentiation among populations, with most studies concluding that genetically differentiated populations should be managed separately, thereby isolating them yet further and dooming

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many to eventual extinction! Many small population fragments are going extinct principally for genetic reasons. Although the rapidly advancing field of molecular genetics is continually providing new tools to measure the extent of population fragmentation and

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its genetic consequences, adequate guidance on how to use these data for effective conservation is still lacking. This accessible, authoritative text is aimed at senior undergraduate and graduate students interested in conservation biology, conservation

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genetics, and wildlife management. It will also be of particular relevance to conservation practitioners and natural resource managers, as well as a broader academic audience of conservation biologists and evolutionary ecologists. Conservation Biology in Sub-Saharan

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Africa comprehensively explores the challenges and potential solutions to key conservation issues in Sub-Saharan Africa. Easy to read, this lucid and accessible textbook includes fifteen chapters that cover a full range of conservation topics, including threats

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to biodiversity, environmental laws, and protected areas management, as well as related topics such as sustainability, poverty, and human-wildlife conflict. This rich resource also includes a background discussion of what conservation biology is, a wide

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range of theoretical approaches to the subject, and concrete examples of conservation practice in specific African contexts. Strategies are outlined to protect biodiversity whilst promoting economic development in the region. Boxes covering specific

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themes written by scientists who live and work throughout the region are included in each chapter, together with recommended readings and suggested discussion topics. Each chapter also includes an extensive bibliography. Conservation Biology in Sub-Saharan

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Africa provides the most up-to-date study in the field. It is an essential resource, available on-line without charge, for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as a handy guide for professionals working to stop the rapid loss of biodiversity in Sub-Saharan

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Africa and elsewhere.

Fred Van Dyke's new textbook, Conservation Biology: Foundations, Concepts, Applications, 2nd Edition, represents a major new text for anyone interested in conservation. Drawing on his vast experience, Van Dyke's

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organizational clarity and readable style make this book an invaluable resource for students in conservation around the globe. Presenting key information and well-selected examples, this student-friendly volume carefully integrates the science of

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conservation biology with its implications for ethics, law, policy and economics.

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Identity as Related to Management of
Marine Mammals

Although all living beings modify their environment, human beings have acquired the ability to do so on a

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superlative space-time scale. As a result of industrialization and the use of new technologies, the anthropogenic impact has been increasing in the

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last centuries, causing reductions in the sizes or the extinction of numerous wild populations. In this sense, from the field of conservation genetics,

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various efforts have been made in recent decades to provide new knowledge that contributes to the conservation of populations, species,

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and habitats. In this book, we summarize the concrete contributions of researchers to the conservation of the Neotropical mammals using Molecular Ecology

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techniques. The book is divided into three major sections. The first section provides an up-to-date review of the conservation status of Neotropical mammals, the

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applications of the molecular markers in its conservation, and the use of non-invasive and forensic genetic techniques. The second and third sections

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present, respectively, a series of case studies in various species or taxonomic groups of Neotropical mammals. Conservation and the Genetics of Populations

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gives a comprehensive overview of the essential background, concepts, and tools needed to understand how genetic information can be used to develop

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conservation plans for species threatened with extinction. Provides a thorough understanding of the genetic basis of biological problems in conservation. Uses a

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balance of data and theory, and basic and applied research, with examples taken from both the animal and plant kingdoms. An associated website

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contains example data sets and software programs to illustrate population genetic processes and methods of data analysis. Discussion questions and

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problems are included at the end of each chapter to aid understanding. Features Guest Boxes written by leading people in the field including James F.

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Crow, Nancy FitzSimmons,

Robert C. Lacy,

MichaelW. Nachman,

Michael E. Soule, Andrea

Taylor, Loren H.

Rieseberg,R.C.

Vrijenhoek, Lisette

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Waits, Robin S. Waples
and Andrew Young.

Supplementary
information designed to
support Conservation and
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Populations including:

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Developmental Toxicology
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reviews advances made
during the last 10-15
years in fields such as

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developmental biology, molecular biology, and genetics. It describes a novel approach for how these advances might be used in combination with existing methodologies

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to further the understanding of mechanisms of developmental toxicity, to improve the assessment of chemicals for their ability to

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cause developmental toxicity, and to improve risk assessment for developmental defects. For example, based on the recent advances, even the smallest,

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Simplest laboratory animals such as the fruit fly, roundworm, and zebrafish might be able to serve as developmental toxicological models for

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human biological systems. Use of such organisms might allow for rapid and inexpensive testing of large numbers of chemicals for their

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potential to cause
developmental toxicity;
presently, there are
little or no
developmental toxicity
data available for the
majority of natural and

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manufactured chemicals
in use. This new
approach to
developmental toxicology
and risk assessment will
require simultaneous
research on several

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fronts by experts from multiple scientific disciplines, including developmental toxicologists, developmental biologists, geneticists,

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epidemiologists, and
biostatisticians.

Interest in marine
mammals has increased
dramatically in the last
few decades, as
evidenced by the number

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of books, scientific papers, and conferences devoted to these animals. Nowadays, a conference on marine mammals can attract between one and two

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thousand scientists from around the world. This upsurge of interest has resulted in a body of knowledge which, in many cases, has identified major conservation

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problems facing particular species. At the same time, this knowledge and the associated activities of environmental organisations have

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served to introduce marine mammals to a receptive public, to the extent that they are now perceived by many as the living icons of biodiversity

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conservation. Much of the impetus for the current interest in marine mammal conservation comes from "Save the Whale" campaigns started in the

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1960s by environmental groups around the world, in response to declining whale populations after over-exploitation by humans. This public pressure led to an

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international moratorium
on whaling recommended
in 1972 by the United
Nations Conference on
the Human Environment in
Stockholm, Sweden, and
eventually adopted by

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the International
Whaling Commission ten
years later. This
moratorium largely holds
sway to this day, and
further protective
measures have included

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the delimitation of extensive areas of the Indian Ocean (1979) and Southern Ocean (1994) as whale sanctuaries.

Illustrates the power and utility of the

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synergy between
population genetics and
conservation biology in
animal conservation.
Despite the substantial
interest in landscape
genetics from the

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scientific community,
learning about the
concepts and methods
underlying the field
remains very
challenging. The reason
for this is the highly

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interdisciplinary nature of the field, which combines population genetics, landscape ecology, and spatial statistics. These fields have traditionally been

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treated separately in
classes and textbooks,
and very few scientists
have received the
interdisciplinary
training necessary to
efficiently teach or

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apply the diversity of techniques encompassed by landscape genetics. To address the current knowledge gap, this book provides the first in depth treatment of

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landscape genetics in a single volume.

Specifically, this book delivers fundamental concepts and methods underlying the field, covering particularly

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important analytical
methods in detail, and
presenting empirical and
theoretical applications
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environments and

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species. Consistent with the interdisciplinary nature of landscape genetics, the book combines an introductory, textbook like section with

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additional sections on advanced topics and applications that are more typical of edited volumes. The chapter topics and the expertise of the authors and the

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editorial team make the book a standard reference for anyone interested in landscape genetics. The book includes contributions from many of the leading

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researchers in landscape genetics. The group of scientists we have assembled has worked on several collaborative projects over the last years, including a large

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number of peer reviewed
papers, several
landscape genetics
workshops at
international
conferences, and a
distributed graduate

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Seminar on landscape genetics. Based on the experiences gained during these collaborative teaching and research activities, the book includes

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chapters that synthesize
fundamental concepts and
methods underlying
landscape genetics (Part
1), chapters on advanced
topics that deserve a
more in depth treatment

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(Part 2), and chapters illustrating the use of concepts and methods in empirical applications (Part 3). This structure ensures a high usefulness of the book

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for beginning landscape geneticists and experienced researchers alike, so that it has a broad target audience. At least one of the four co editors is involved

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in almost every chapter of the book, thereby ensuring a high consistency and coherency among chapters.

This impressive author

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team brings the wealth of advances in conservation genetics into the new edition of this introductory text, including new chapters on population genomics

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and genetic issues in introduced and invasive species. They continue the strong learning features for students - main points in the margin, chapter

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summaries, vital support with the mathematics, and further reading - and now guide the reader to software and databases. Many new references reflect the

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and the impact of global climate change on marine mammals New color illustrations show every species and document topical articles FROM THE FIRST EDITION "This book is so good...a bargain, full of riches...packed with fascinating up to

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date information. I recommend it unreservedly it to individuals, students, and researchers, as well as libraries."
--Richard M. Laws, MARINE MAMMALS SCIENCE "...establishes a solid and satisfying foundation for current study and future exploration"

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--*Ronald J. Shusterman, SCIENCE*

Carnivores have always fascinated us, even though they make up only 10% of all mammalian genera and only about 2% of all mammalian biomass. In Greek mythology most of the gods adorned their robes and helmets with

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depictions of carnivores, and the great hero Hercules' most famous feat was killing the "invulnerable" lion with his bare hands. Part of our fascination with carnivores stems from fright and intrigue, and sometimes even hatred because of our

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direct competition with them. Cases of "man-eating" lions, bears, and wolves, as well as carnivores' reputation as killers of livestock and game, provoke communities and governments to adopt sweeping policies to exterminate them. Even President Theodore Roosevelt,

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*proclaimer of a new wildlife
protectionism, described the wolf as
"the beast of waste and desolation. "
The sheer presence and power of
carnivores is daunting: they can move
quickly yet silently through forests,
attaining rapid bursts of speed when*

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necessary; their massive muscles are aligned to deliver powerful attacks, their large canines and strong jaws rip open carcasses, and their scissor-like carnassials slice meat. Partly because of our fear of these attributes, trophy hunting of carnivores has been, and to

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*a certain extent still is, a sign of
bravery and skill. Among some
Alaskan Inuit, for example, a man is
not eligible for marriage until he has
killed a succession of animals of
increasing size and dangerousness,
culminating with the most menacing,*

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the polar bear.

*Scientific yet accessible review of
mammalian conservation as a model
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*Marsupials belong to the Class
Mammalia, sharing some features*

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with other mammals, yet they also possess many unique features. It is their differences from the more traditionally studied mammals, such as mice and humans, that is of greatest value to comparative studies. Sequencing of genomes from two

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distantly related marsupials, the short grey-tailed opossum from South America and the Australian tammar wallaby, has launched marsupials into the genomics era and accelerated the rate of progress in marsupial research. With the current worldwide concern

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*for the plight of the endangered
Tasmanian devil, marsupial genetics
and genomics research is even more
important than ever if this species is to
be saved from extinction. This volume
recounts some of the history of
research in this field and highlights*

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the most recent advances in the many different areas of marsupial genetics and genomics research.

Cheetahs: Biology and Conservation reports on the science and conservation of the cheetah. This volume demonstrates the interdisciplinary

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nature of research and conservation efforts to study and protect the cheetah. The book begins with chapters on the evolution, genetics, physiology, ecology and behavior of the species, as well as distribution reports from range countries. These introductory chapters

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lead into discussions of the challenges facing cheetah survival, including habitat loss, declining prey base, human-wildlife conflict, illegal trade, and newly-emerging threats, notably climate change. This book also focuses on conservation strategies and

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solutions, including environmental education and alternative livelihoods. Chapters on the role of captive cheetahs to conservation and the long-term research of the species are included, as are a brief discussion of the methods and analyses used to study

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the cheetah. The book concludes with the conservation status and future outlook of the species. Cheetahs: Biology and Conservation is a valuable resource for the regional and global communities of cheetah conservationists, researchers, and

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academics. Although cheetah focussed the book provides information relevant to the study of broader topics such as wildlife conservation, captive breeding, habitat management, conservation biology and animal behaviour. Cover photograph by

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Angela Scott Includes chapters by the world's leading cheetah researchers and practitioners, who have focused their efforts on this high-profile species of conservation concern Provides findings as a combination of scientific detail and basic explanations

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so that they can be available not only to cheetah researchers and conservationists, but also to policy makers, business leaders, zoo managers, academics, students, and people interested in the cheetah and its future Presents the current knowledge

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of the species, helping lay the foundations and best practices for cheetah conservation and research worldwide Additional protocols and forms (which were provided by authors) can be found at the Cheetahs: Biology and Conservation companion

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site: <https://www.elsevier.com/books-and-journals/book-companion/9780128040881>

Mammals are the so-called "pinnacle" group of vertebrates, successfully colonising virtually all terrestrial environments as well as the air (bats)

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and sea (especially pinnipeds and cetaceans). How mammals function and survive in these diverse environments has long fascinated mammalogists, comparative physiologists and ecologists. Ecological and Environmental Physiology of

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Mammals explores the physiological mechanisms and evolutionary necessities that have made the spectacular adaptation of mammals possible. It summarises our current knowledge of the complex and sophisticated physiological approaches

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that mammals have for survival in a wide variety of ecological and environmental contexts: terrestrial, aerial, and aquatic. The authors have a strong comparative and quantitative focus in their broad approach to exploring mammal ecophysiology. As

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with other books in the Ecological and Environmental Physiology Series, the emphasis is on the unique physiological characteristics of mammals, their adaptations to extreme environments, and current experimental techniques and future

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research directions are also considered. This accessible text is suitable for graduate level students and researchers in the fields of mammalian comparative physiology and physiological ecology, including specialist courses in mammal ecology.

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It will also be of value and use to the many professional mammalogists requiring a concise overview of the topic.

The purpose of this book is to assess the potential effects of biotechnological approaches

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particularly genetic modification on biodiversity and the environment. All aspects of biodiversity such as ecological diversity, species diversity and genetic diversity are considered. Higher organisms contain a specific set of linear DNA molecules called

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chromosomes and a complete set of chromosomes in an organism comprises its genome. The collection of traits displayed by any organism (phenotype) depends on the genes present in its genome (genotype). The appearance of any specific trait also

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will depend on many other factors, including whether the gene(s) responsible for the trait is/are turned on (expressed) or off, the specific cells within which the genes are expressed and how the genes, their expression and the gene products interact with

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environmental factors. The primary biotechnology which concerns us is that of genetic manipulation, which has a direct impact on biodiversity at the genetic level. By these manipulations, novel genes or gene fragments can be introduced into

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organisms (creating transgenics) or existing genes within an organism can be altered. Transgenics are a major area of concern, combining genes from different species to effectively create novel organisms. Current rates of disappearance of biological and

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cultural diversity in the world are unprecedented. Intensive resource exploitation due to social and economic factors has led to the destruction, conversion or degradation of ecosystems. Reversing these trends requires time to time assessment to

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*integrate conservation and
development.*

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Landscape Genetics

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Marsupial Genetics and Genomics

Foundations, Concepts, Applications

This book focuses on the use of molecular tools to study small populations of rare and endangered mammals, and presents case studies that apply

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an evolutionary framework to address innovative questions in the emerging field of mammalian conservation genomics using a highly diverse set of novel molecular tools. Novel and more precise molecular technologies

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now allow experts in the field of mammology to interpret data in a more contextual and empirical fashion and to better describe the evolutionary and ecological processes that are responsible for the patterns they observe. The

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book also demonstrates how recent advances in genetic/genomic technologies have been applied to assess the impact of environmental/anthropogenic changes on the health of small

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populations of mammals. It examines a range of issues in the field of mammalian conservation genomics, such as the role that the genetic diversity of the immune system plays in disease protection and local adaptation;

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the use of noninvasive techniques and genomic banks as a resource for monitoring and restoring populations; the structuring of population by physical barriers; and genetic diversity. Further, by integrating

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research from a variety of areas – including population genetics, molecular ecology, systematics, and evolutionary and conservation biology – it enables readers to gain a deeper understanding of the

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conservation biology of mammals that are at increasing risk of extinction at local, regional and global scales. As such, it offers a unique resource for a broad readership interested in the conservation biology of mammals

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and conservation management strategies to better preserve biodiversity.

More than 99 percent of all life that has ever existed on this planet is extinct. Moreover, human acceleration of the

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extinction of species has created a crisis in biodiversity. How can the history of past life be retrieved? How does this history bear on our understanding of the organization and evolution of present-day species? These

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*questions are addressed in
Extinction and Phylogeny. This
book offers new and original
research by leading authorities
on evolutionary and systematic
biology, who rank among the
best of the dynamic investigators*

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of botany, zoology, and paleontology. This exciting book includes chapters about the recovery of information from living biota, taking into account the limitations of sampling and the steady rate of contemporary

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extinction of taxa.

*Complementary discussions
elucidate problems involving the
analysis of data sets of variable
completeness--for example,
partially preserved fossils or
patchy samples of extant taxa.*

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*Extinction and Phylogeny
balances empirical issues with
the theoretical and applies
cladistic methodology. This
detailed text will prove to be a
leading-edge book for
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biologists alike and for those in related disciplines. The relationship between extinction and phylogenetic theory must be understood if we are to explain existing biological diversity and effectively assess the declining

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biodiversity of our planet in the decades to come.

Loss of biodiversity is among the greatest problems facing the world today. Conservation and the Genetics of Populations gives a comprehensive overview of the

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essential background, concepts, and tools needed to understand how genetic information can be used to conserve species threatened with extinction, and to manage species of ecological or commercial importance.

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New molecular techniques, statistical methods, and computer programs, genetic principles, and methods are becoming increasingly useful in the conservation of biological diversity. Using a balance of

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data and theory, coupled with basic and applied research examples, this book examines genetic and phenotypic variation in natural populations, the principles and mechanisms of evolutionary change, the

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interpretation of genetic data from natural populations, and how these can be applied to conservation. The book includes examples from plants, animals, and microbes in wild and captive populations. This

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second edition contains new chapters on Climate Change and Exploited Populations as well as new sections on genomics, genetic monitoring, emerging diseases, metagenomics, and more. One-third of the references

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in this edition were published after the first edition. Each of the 22 chapters and the statistical appendix have a Guest Box written by an expert in that particular topic (including James Crow, Louis Bernatchez, Loren

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*Rieseberg, Rick Shine,
and Lisette Waits). This book is
essential for advanced
undergraduate and
graduate students of conservation
genetics, natural resource
management, and conservation*

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biology, as well as professional conservation biologists working for wildlife and habitat management agencies. Additional resources for this book can be found at: <http://www.wiley.com/go/allendorf/populations>

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Zoos, aquaria, and wildlife parks are vital centers of animal conservation and management. For nearly fifteen years, these institutions have relied on Wild

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Mammals in Captivity as the essential reference for their work. Now the book reemerges in a completely updated second edition. Wild Mammals in Captivity presents the most current thinking and practice in

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the care and management of wild mammals in zoos and other institutions. In one comprehensive volume, the editors have gathered the most current information from studies of animal behavior; advances in

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captive breeding; research in physiology, genetics, and nutrition; and new thinking in animal management and welfare. In this edition, more than three-quarters of the text is new, and information from more than

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seventy-five contributors is thoroughly updated. The standard text for all courses in zoo biology, Wild Mammals in Captivity will, in its new incarnation, continue to be used by zoo managers, animal

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caretakers, researchers, and anyone with an interest in how to manage animals in captive conditions.

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published in 2008. It covers all scales of biological organization, from organisms, to populations, to communities and ecosystems. Laboratory, field, simulation modelling, and theoretical approaches are presented to

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show how living systems sustain structure and function in space and time. New areas of focus include micro- and macro scales, molecular and genetic ecology, and global ecology (e.g., climate change, earth transformations,

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ecosystem services, and the food-water-energy nexus) are included. In addition, new, international experts in ecology contribute on a variety of topics. Offers the most broad-ranging and comprehensive resource

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Past progress and future

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*challenges R.J. Wheater Royal
Zoological Society of Scotland,
Edinburgh, UK. In the past two
decades much has been
achieved in the sphere of
breeding endangered species,
and we should be pleased that*

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our co operative efforts have already borne so much fruit. However, on balance and despite the best efforts of conservationists, the position of wildlife in the wild places where they are best conserved has

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become worse, often dramatically worse. Before returning to the United Kingdom in 1972, I was in Uganda for 16 years, most of which time was spent as Chief Warden of Murchison Falls National Park. Our main problem

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was that an over-population of large mammals was having a devastating impact on the habitat. Devastation was being wrought on woodland areas by the arrival of large numbers of elephants into the sanctuary of

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the Park, following changes in land use in the areas outside the Park. These changes were in response to the requirements of an ever-expanding human population.

[Marine Mammal Ecotoxicology](#)

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*Population Genetics for Animal
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*The 7-volume Encyclopedia
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presenting the most current information available in this globally crucial area of research and study. It brings together the dimensions of biodiversity and examines

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both the services it provides and the measures to protect it. Major themes of the work include the evolution of biodiversity, systems for classifying and defining

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biodiversity, ecological patterns and theories of biodiversity, and an assessment of contemporary patterns and trends in biodiversity. The science of biodiversity has become

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the science of our future. It is an interdisciplinary field spanning areas of both physical and life sciences. Our awareness of the loss of biodiversity has brought a long overdue

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of existing threats to marine mammals. By presenting a conservation-biology approach and new and emerging technologies, this work helps provide crucial knowledge on the

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status of marine mammal populations that not only helps readers understand the ecosystem's health, but also instigate mitigation measures. This volume provides

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information that helps investigators unravel the relationships between exposure to environmental stressors (e.g., climate change, pollutants, marine litter, pathogens and

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biotoxins) and a range of endpoints in marine mammal species. The application of robust examination procedures and biochemical, immunological, and

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*molecular techniques,
combined with pathological
examination and feeding
ecology, has led to the
development of health
assessment methods at the
individual and population*

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levels in wild marine mammals. Provides a comprehensive, worldwide update and state of knowledge on current research and topics on marine mammal

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*ecotoxicology Includes
coverage of both new and
emerging technologies
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multidisciplinary approach
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the threats facing marine mammals and related conservation measures
Scientists strive to develop clear rules for naming and grouping living organisms. But taxonomy,

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the scientific study of biological classification and evolution, is often highly debated. Members of a species, the fundamental unit of taxonomy and evolution, share a common

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evolutionary history and a common evolutionary path to the future. Yet, it can be difficult to determine whether the evolutionary history or future of a population is sufficiently

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distinct to designate it as a unique species. A species is not a fixed entity " the relationship among the members of the same species is only a snapshot

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*of a moment in time.
Different populations of
the same species can be in
different stages in the
process of species
formation or dissolution.
In some cases*

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hybridization and introgression can create enormous challenges in interpreting data on genetic distinctions between groups. Hybridization is far more

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common in the evolutionary history of many species than previously recognized. As a result, the precise taxonomic status of an organism may be highly debated. This is

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*the current case with the Mexican gray wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*) and the red wolf (*Canis rufus*), and this report assesses the taxonomic status for each. A decline in populations*

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of Allegheny woodrats (Neotoma magister) was first noticed in the 1980s. Since that time, woodrats have become extirpated from at least two states and have

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declined dramatically in several others. Recent evidence suggests that the decline of this species may be proceeding further south to include states where woodrat populations

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were previously considered to be stable. The Allegheny Woodrat: Ecology, Conservation, and Management of a Declining Species provides a comprehensive summary of

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research conducted over the past twenty-five years. The book integrates the results of this research into a comprehensive picture of the ecological

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requirements, conservation principles, and management strategies for this declining species. In addition, general principles learned from the study of woodrats are

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applied to the conservation and management of other declining species, including other species of Neotoma. The editors and chapter authors are

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*researchers from both
academic settings and
state management agencies,
individuals who have
contributed significantly
to the study of Allegheny
woodrats during the past*

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two decades. The book will be of interest to ecologists, conservation biologists, wildlife professionals, and students.

Recent advances in

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molecular genetics and genomics have been embraced by many in natural resource conservation. Today, several major conservation and management journals

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are now using 'genetics' editors to deal solely with the influx of manuscripts that employ molecular data. The editors have attempted to synthesize some of the

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major uses of molecular markers in natural resource management in a book targeted not only at scientists but also at individuals actively making conservation and

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management decisions. To that end, the text features contributors who are major figures in molecular ecology and evolution - many having published books of their

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own. The aim is to direct and distil the thoughts of these outstanding scientists by compiling compelling case histories in molecular ecology as they apply to natural

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*resource management.
Mammalian Dispersal
Patterns examines the ways
that social structure
affects population
genetics and, in turn,
rates of evolution, in*

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mammalian groups. It brings together fieldwork in animal behavior and wildlife biology with theoretical work in demography and population genetics. The focus here

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is dispersal—whether, how, and when individuals leave the areas where they are born. Theoretical work in population genetics indicates that such social factors as skewed sex

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ratios, restrictive mating patterns, and delayed age of first reproduction will lower the reproductive variability of a population by reducing the number of genotypes passed

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from one generation to the next. Field studies have shown that many mammalian species do exhibit many such social characteristics. Among horses, elephant seals,

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and a number of primates, the majority of females are inseminated by only a fraction of the males. In packs of wolves and mongooses, usually only the highest-ranking male

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and female breed in a given season. Although socially restricted mating tends to lower genetic variability in isolated populations, it actually tends to increase genetic

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variability in subdivided populations with low rates of migration between subunits. Among some species there is little dispersal and thus little gene flow between

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subpopulations; other species travel far afield before mating. The contributors to this volume examine actual data from populations of mammals, the way patterns

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of dispersal correlate with the genetic structure of individuals and populations, and mathematical models of population structure. This interdisciplinary approach

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has an important bearing on work in conservation of both wildlife and zoo populations, for it shows that the home range and the population size needed to maintain genetic

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variability can differ greatly from one species to the next. The volume also offers a fruitful model for future research.

[Conservation Biology in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

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