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*The Biology
And Macdonald
Conservation
Of Wild Felids
By David
Macdonald*

This volume is a
collection of
papers
concerning the

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biology of large
branchiopod
crustaceans:
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Anostraca,
Conchostraca,
and Notostraca.

Many of the
individual
papers were
first presented
at the Third
International
Large
Branchiopod

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The Biology And
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Symposium
(ILBS-3) held at
the University
of San Diego,
CA, USA, July
15-18, 1996.

Contributions on
additional
topics from
participants at
the symposium,
and from
colleagues not
able to join us

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in San Diego,
Wild Felids By
are also
Donald
included. In
addition, there
is a supplement
to the 1995
'Checklist of
the Anostraca'.
The theme of the
ILBS-3 was
'understanding
and conserving
large
branchiopod

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diversity'.

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Daniel M. Donnell

Researchers from
around the world
presented papers
on a variety of
topics related
to conservation
of large
branchiopods,
with
contributions
ranging from
alpha-taxonomy
and zoogeography

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to community
structure and
studies of
ecology and
evolution. One
important issue
developed in
many of the
papers in this
volume is the
need to advance
our
understanding of
basic aspects of

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branchiopod
biology
throughout the
world in order
to enhance our
efforts to
conserve them.
Although we have
made important
strides in
understanding
the biology of
large
branchiopods, we

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have, with few notable exceptions, made little progress in assuring the conservation of their diversity. We hope this volume will supply the reader with new ideas, and generate enthusiasm for

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research and
public education
efforts on
behalf of
branchiopod
conservation.

"This is the
first detailed
monograph for
decades about
this enigmatic
reptile, and the
first to be
illustrated in

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colour

throughout. The

evolution,

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of tutara are

covered in

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environments
cover the most

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part of still
preserved
natural areas of
the Earth. The
greatest
biodiversity, as
in terms of
animals and
plants, as
microorganisms,
is placed in
these hot and
rainy ecosystems
spread up and

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below the
Equator line.
Additionally,
the most part of
food products,
with vegetal or
animal origin,
that sustain
nowadays human
beings is direct
or undirected
dependent of
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productivity.

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is a promise of
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and animals,
could be the
cure to infinite
number of
diseases, new
food sources,

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and who knows
what more.

Despite these
facts tropical
areas have been
exploited in an
irresponsible
way for more
than 500 years
due the lack of
an ecological
conscience of
men. Exactly in
the same way we

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did with
temperate areas
and also
tropical areas
in the north of
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estimated that
due human
exploitation,
nation conflicts
and social
problems, less
than 8% of

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tropical nature
inside
continental
areas is still
now untouchable.
The extension of
damage in the
tropical areas
of oceans is
unknown. Thus
so, all
knowledge we
could accumulate
about tropical

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systems will help us, as in the preservations of these important and threatened ecosystems as in a future recuperation, when it was possible. Only knowing the past and developing culture, mainly

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that directed to
peace, to a
better
relationship
among nations
and responsible
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resources, human
beings will have
a long future on
Earth. These
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biological diversity
strengthens, there is
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recognition of the
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priorities and
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that will reverse the
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*conservation
efforts.*

*The late Navjot
Sodhi conceived
this book as a way
of bringing to the
forefront of our
conservation
planning for the
tropics the views of
people who were
actually working*

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and living there. In its 31 chapters, 55 authors present their views on the conservation problems they face and how they deal with them. Effective long term conservation in the tropics requires the full participation of

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*local people,
organizations and
governments.*

*The human
population of
tropical countries
is expected to
grow by more than
2.5 billion people
over the next
several decades,
with expectations of*

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*increased
consumption levels
growing even
more rapidly than
population levels;
clearly there will be
a need for more
trained
conservationists
and biologists.*

*Significant levels of
local involvement*

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*are essential to
conservation
success, with the
rights of local
people fully
recognized,
protected
and fostered by
governmental and
international
assistance.*

Overarching

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*conservation plans
are necessary, but
cannot
in themselves lead
to success. The
individual
experiences
presented in the
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will provide useful
models that may
serve to build*

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*better and
more sustainable
lives for the people
who live in the
tropics and lead to
the continued
survival of as many
species and function-
ing ecosystems as
possible.*

*Interest in marine
mammals has*

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increased
dramatically in the
last few decades,
as evidenced by
the number of
books, scientific
papers, and
conferences
devoted to these
animals.

Nowadays, a
conference on

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*marine mammals
can attract
between one and
two thousand
scientists from
around the world.
This upsurge of
interest has
resulted in a body
of knowledge
which, in many
cases, has*

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*identified major
conservation
problems facing
particular species.*

*At the same time,
this knowledge and
the associated
activities of
environmental
organisations have
served to introduce
marine mammals*

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to a receptive public, to the extent that they are now perceived by many as the living icons of biodiversity conservation.

Much of the impetus for the current interest in marine mammal

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conservation
comes from "Save
the Whale"

*campaigns started
in the 1960s by
environmental
groups around the
world, in response
to declining whale
populations after
over-exploitation
by humans. This*

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*public pressure led
to an international
moratorium on
whaling
recommended in
1972 by the United
Nations
Conference on the
Human
Environment in
Stockholm,
Sweden, and*

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*eventually adopted
by the International
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*Commission ten
years later. This
moratorium largely
holds sway to this
day, and further
protective
measures have
included the
delimitation of*

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*extensive areas of
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universally captures the emotions of people world-wide than do wild canids. That emotion can be enchantment and fascination, but it can also be loathing, because the opportunism

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that is the
hallmark of the
dog family also
leads them into
conflict with
humans. In the
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fascination with
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doubtless stems
from people's

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captivation with
domestic dogs -
everybody feels
they are an
expert on
canids! While
most people may
be familiar with
only the better
known members
of the dog
family, such as

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the grey wolf
and the red fox,
there are in fact
36 species of
wolves, dogs,
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portray the
unique attributes
of wild canids,
their fascinating
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relationship with
man, and
suggestions for
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and conservation
measures for the
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most canid
species are
widespread and
thrive in human
dominated
landscapes,
several are in
severe jeopardy;
habitat loss,
illegal hunting,
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Horseshoe crabs,
those mysterious
ancient mariners, lured
me into the sea as a
child along the
beaches of New
Jersey. Drawn to their
shiny domed shells
and spiked tails, I
could not resist picking
them up, turning them
over and watching the
wondrous mechanical
movement of their

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glistening legs,
articulating with one
another as smoothly
as the inner working of
a clock. What was it
like to be a horseshoe
crab, I wondered?
What did they eat? Did
they always move
around together? Why
were some so large
and others much
smaller? How old were
they, anyway? What

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must it feel like to live underwater? What else was out there, down there, in the cool, green depths that gave rise to such intriguing creatures? The only way to find out, I reasoned, would be to go into the ocean and see for myself, and so I did, and more than 60 years later, I still do.

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and developed world.
Habitat loss is
particularly acute in
developing countries,
which is of special
concern because it
tends to be these
locations where the
greatest species
diversity and richest
centres of endemism
are to be found. Sadly,
developing world
conservation scientists

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have found it difficult to access an authoritative textbook, which is particularly ironic since it is these countries where the potential benefits of knowledge application are greatest. There is now an urgent need to educate the next generation of scientists in developing countries,

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so that they are in a
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and is colored
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questions, "What is a red panda?"

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develops
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writes John
Terborgh, "even
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the parts of it that
are nominally
protected. If we
wait until all the
answers are in, we
may find ourselves
in a much worse
predicament than if
we had taken notice
of the problem

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earlier. By waiting, one risks being too late; on the other hand, there can be no such thing as being too early." Terborgh's warnings are essential reading for all who care about migratory birds and our

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warblers, vireos,
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adaptive
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changing
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that apparently
lost most of
their structure
and

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consists of
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knowledge of the
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