The Florida Manatee: Biology And Conservation

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Synopsis

The most complete single volume on manatee biology and conservation available. In the field of marine biology, there is a uniqueness to manatee research, and in this book, Roger Reep and Robert Bonde make clear both its rewards and challenges. Veteran researchers with 45 years’ experience between them, they have created an instantly engaging, accessible tale of this mysterious creature for professionals and interested lay people alike. Having played integral roles in many of the research efforts discussed in the book, Reep and Bonde humanize the sometimes difficult-to-grasp characteristics of manatee biology, their relation to the environment, and the biopolitics that result from the intersection of science and wildlife management. They weave fact with real-life scenarios to explain what science has learned about this unusual animal—“from microorganisms that cause manatee die-offs during red tide blooms to the complexity of long-distance migrations to the curiosities of manatee physiology. The evolutionary basis of the sirenian language (how manatees communicate with each other) is also revealed. Technological innovations and conservation efforts since the landmark protection legislation of the early 1970s are also central to the manatee story. Captive rehabilitation, radio tracking, and advanced boating regulations are discussed as methods to ensure manatee survival. Reep and Bonde argue that increasing interaction between man and manatee, most notably through the shared use of waterways, makes ongoing scientific research essential if successful coexistence is to be possible.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book for my niece who is a marine biologist. She loves the book. And really likes the personal stories. I read the book as well, and found it to be extremely informative about manatee biology and issues. This book also provides a unique introduction into the world of real working biologists, which I found to make it a lot more fun to read. The pictures were great too! Definitely a must-read for anyone interested in manatees or marine mammals!

I loved this book. It was the first one I read on Manatees and I learned so much. Anyone interested in Manatees needs to read this book. The photos were stunning and showed how gentle these creatures are. The book was written very well and it is obvious that the person writing it knows the ins and outs of Manatees. I have since purchased other books on this subject and still am enthralled.

The Florida Manatee: Biology and Conservation is the best book about manatees. It is written in an easy way to read, even for people that are not so good reading English, cover everything you want to know about manatees, and explain why they are so amazing and unique among marine mammals. A great gift for yourself or for a friend!

The Florida Manatee is possibly the best book on manatee biology, behavior, ecology, and current research available. It provides indepth information about manatees in an easy to read format that can be used by the layperson, scientist, or wildlife manager. I would recommend this book to anyone who has interest in one of the world's most endangered and lovable mammals!

The Florida Manatee, Biology and Conservation book is a very complete and good overview about manatees and a really interesting book. It contains a lot of informations written in an easy and agreeable way to read and to understand for everybody interesting on manatees. I recommend this book to everybody interesting on learning more about manatees. A really great book!

This new book was both easy to read and quite informative, covering the history of Florida's lovable manatees, their lifestyle, biology, and a look at their future. I visit Florida on an annual basis to snorkel with manatees and this book is the best resource I've found for up to date manatee information. It comes highly recommended.
Bob Bonde and Roger Reep have vast experience in the study of these amazing creatures, and they share their expertise in a clear and easily understood way in this excellent book. Manatee protection has been a controversial subject in Florida, and while the authors touch on the issue somewhat, a deeper (and far funnier) exploration of this subject is available in Manatee Insanity: Inside the War over Florida’s Most Famous Endangered Species (Florida History and Culture)

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