

ly boosts the economic benefits to the individual alongside the environmental benefits.

The last section is perhaps the most useful and unique of *The Carbon Code*. It first outlines how to “win the conversation” for climate change action against various types of skeptics and deniers, and then provides an explanation of nine pro-climate policies that coincidentally are also good for the economy, our health and our communities. Throughout this section (and the book), Favaro purposefully empowers the reader to advocate for these sustainable initiatives, even if they are not an ‘expert’ on climate science or economics. As the author stresses, a great majority of credible scientists agree that climate change is occurring at an unprecedented rate, so to argue in favour of lowering greenhouse gas emissions is to be on the right side of history.

Overall, *The Carbon Code* makes a strong case that climate change is an urgent problem that must be tackled immediately by every individual on a daily basis. Some sections are a little weighed down by detailed explanations that sometimes become pedantic, and a few figures or references to useful websites and other resources would have made it more accessible. Fortunately, Favaro’s strident positivity and hope shine through and carry the reader along to the important final chapters, where realistic policy changes are discussed. This would be an ideal book for anyone who would like to learn about climate change and what they can do as an individual to lower their carbon footprint.

EMMA BOCKING

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Ice Blink: Navigating Northern Environmental History

Edited by Stephen Bocking and Brad Martin. 2017. University of Calgary Press. 526 pages, 41.95 CAD, Paper or E-book.

This book is about the effect of southerners on the “north” (mostly, Nunavut, Nunavik, Northwest Territories, and Yukon) and, to a lesser extent, the impact of the north on southerners. Chapters cover Reindeer management, bush planes, mineral exploration, northern nutrition, the DEW line, ghost towns, environmental contamination, and the politics of climate change. Most of the chapters have interest for those concerned about the north and all are well-written and (for social sciences, especially) refreshingly free of jargon. A short final chapter summarises and attempts to synthesize the diverse threads of the book, but it is not entirely convincing: the book remains a collection of one-offs. Do not be daunted by the more than 500-page length: about

100 consist of footnotes. Readers of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* should note there is little natural history. The index names only three animals: Polar Bear (of course!), Reindeer/Caribou, and Walrus. There is mention of generic ‘geese’ and ‘whales’. A whole chapter on northern contaminants – a very welcome surprise – for which much research has been conducted on birds and marine mammals, fails to mention any actual species sampled. It is almost as though the authors of this collection are scared of biology. A good read for northern enthusiasts, but not recommended for naturalists.

TONY GASTON

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Protecting the Planet: Environmental Champions from Conservation to Climate Change

By Budd Titlow and Mariah Tinger. 2016. Prometheus Books. 587 pages, 26.00 USD, Cloth, 11.99 USD, E-book.

A few years ago, “My Big, Fat Greek Wedding” burst onto the screen. It proved to be a very popular film. Perhaps you remember it? I’m reminded of it because *Protecting the Planet* is a big, fat American book on climate change. It deserves to be even more popular than the movie, and, hopefully, will be remembered much longer. The authors are a father-in-law/daughter-in-law team: Budd Titlow draws on an extensive background in biology as well as years of experience as a field-naturalist, writer, blogger, and teacher of related topics at Florida State University; Mariah Tinger is an educator in environmental stewardship and management and a teaching fellow in related topics at Harvard University. Their message and purpose, of course, are much more important than those of the movie – which is not to demean the movie in any way – and we will forget them at our collective peril.

The subtitle, *Environmental Champions from Conservation to Climate Change*, provides a mini-review of the contents of the book. While climate change is

the main theme and concern, the authors have chosen to provide a chronological overview of changes to the climate and biogeography of America. The book has 31 chapters organized into five parts, the first being an introduction to climate change, each of its six chapters titled in the form of a question, beginning with the definition of climate change, then its history, the how of it, proof of it, and its present-day impacts. The final chapter of Part One is a brief reply to the question, what can we do about it? This question forms a guiding theme throughout the book and receives fuller treatment in its conclusion.

Parts Two and Three cover 200 years of the US environmental movement from 1800 to today. Their potted history of America provides the substrate for the authors’ “story for the ages”, which involves numerous “heroes”, the environmentalists whose efforts are traced through the ebb and flow of environmental movements, all linked to major social, economic, and political factors. Many topics are noted in over a dozen chapters



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