

only maps of the region are not listed in the table of contents or index but can be found buried in the second chapter. Clearly, this guide could be made much more useful if the maps had been put in a more accessible location such as the inside cover. Overall,

the guide is highly readable and a good companion text to the standard bird guides.

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## Global Warming and Biological Diversity

Edited by Robert L. Peters and Thomas E. Lovejoy. 1992. Yale University Press, New Haven. xxi + 386 pp., illus. U.S. \$17.

This collection of 26 chapters contains an astonishing amount of information, clearly and interestingly presented. Each chapter is a review paper on a different topic by an authority (or small group of authorities) in the field concerned. The book forms part of the scientific literature, being written in typical journal style by active participants in the work described, with full documentation. At the same time, it is written for, and intelligible to, any naturalist concerned about the deteriorating global environment; this means, surely, all naturalists. The book has a full index, which is good to see in a multi-authored work.

Many factors besides global warming are harming the world's biodiversity: deforestation, habitat fragmentation and destruction, increasing UV radiation, river diversions, oil spills at sea, pollution of all kinds, and many others. At the same time, global warming is affecting many characteristics of the natural world that deserve investigation in their own

right, not merely for their impact on biodiversity: biotic productivity, the physical and biotic properties of soils, sea level, phenology, and the like. Causative factors and biological responses could have been paired off in many ways. To choose the link between global warming as cause and biodiversity changes as effect is somewhat arbitrary but it does provide a good jumping off point for some very wide-ranging discussions on the biosphere's state of health in the early 1990s.

The predictions about the future offered by some contributors should be taken with a grain of salt. No doubt they will be. Such predictions always start, or should start, with the phrase "other things being equal...", a proviso that destroys their credibility before another word is written. The reason that I recommend the book is that it will broaden the interests, raise the awareness, and increase the store of information of any reader.

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## Ecopolulism: Toxic Waste and the Movement for Environmental Justice

By Andrew Szaz. 1994. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis. 232 pp. Cloth U.S. \$39.95; paper U.S. \$16.95.

Increasingly the world is becoming aware of toxic waste problems. Most recently the former Soviet Block governments' lack of "safe guards" for disposal of waste and safety of the general public has drawn world attention. "*Ecopolulism*" is the sociological study of the environmental justice movement's growth, in the United States, as a response to waste disposal issues.

Andrew Szaz's intent is to address the following questions: "How did the awareness come about?"; "How did a nonissue so quickly become a passionate issue?"; "The nation's most important environmental problem?"; "How, why, under what conditions did perceptions so easily become radical action?"; "How did action informed by rather narrow and even apolitical self-interest (NIMBYism) generate one of the most radical environmental ideologies we have today?"; "What impacts has the new environmental-

ism had on policy and, more broadly, progressive politics?"; "What can we learn from the history of hazardous waste as we search for a way out of this crisis and toward the necessary reconciliation of nature and human activity?"

The book addresses all the above questions in an easy to read manner. The author provides detailed notes and reference lists. The information does not provide a growing trust of government or industry, in fact one wonders how different would we be from the former Soviet Block countries if the environmental justice movement had not started.

Andrew Szaz has provided us a detailed insight of a movement which may very well continue to have greater impact on politics of the world. Although American in content the book is relevant to our Canadian situation. The book should of interest to individuals within the environmental movement and the political world.

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