suburban backyards. Life history sketches are presented for a wide variety of urban wildlife (including 34 taxa of birds and 21 taxa of mammals, reptiles and amphibians), with additional brief descriptions of insects, fish and vegetation types that might be encountered in a Canadian urban setting. I found the content of these sections to be somewhat unbalanced, in that some topics (e.g. orphaned and injured birds) have only a tenuous connection with urban settings. The criteria for recognition as urban wildlife wasn't very objective since the average city-dweller's chance of encountering either a Peregrine Falcon (p. 58) or an Oppossum (p. 84) is still fairly remote. Animal lovers in urban areas will no doubt find the descriptions of the numerous diseases and illnesses that may result from human-wildlife interactions unpleasant. City-dwellers should, and probably will, be particularly distressed by the plethora of deadly pollutants that they produce and encounter more often than their rural counterparts. After this sobering account, the reader is left to ponder, in the author's words, "why humans put up with crowded, sterile, noisy, poisoned environments when our native animals refuse to, leaving the city cores to the pigeons, house sparrows, starlings, rats and mice, all imported species."

As the title suggests, this book is primarily an overview of urban ecology. It effectively avoids choking on technical jargon. Consequently, it does not provide much scientific data, except in anecdotal form, and offers only a very limited list of other urban ecology references and a brief glossary. Nevertheless, it is reasonably priced by today's standards and I conclude that it can serve to introduce users of Canada's urban areas to the variety of ecological pleasures and pitfalls that await them.

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A Handbook of Fish Habitat Protection on Forest Lands in British Colubmia

By D. A. A. Toews and M. J. Brownlee. 1981. Land Use Unit, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Vancouver. 165 pp., illus.

The forest industry has tremendous impact on fish habitat. Forests regulate snow melt, runoff, reduce soil erosion and siltation, and moderate stream temperatures. Leaf fall provides an important energy resource to stream bacteria, periphyton, invertebrates and fishes.

Harvesting timber and pulpwood may involve removal of soil cover and construction of roads. These in turn increase erosion, block streams with logging wastes, and destroy benthic habitats with bark shed during log drives. Forest operations often require culvert and dam construction which may block fish migrations. Spraying to control the forest insect pests may kill fishes. It is clear that harvesting our forests can damage our fish resources and other wildlife.

Yet there are many modification of traditional logging techniques that will protect the streams, lakes and estuaries. Some cost no more and, in addition, protect the soil needed for regeneration of future forests. Others may increase lumbering costs but be a wise investment in terms of an overall management of natural resources.

To implement forestry management techniques that protect aquatic fauna, better communication is needed between fishery and forest biologists, forest engineers, loggers, construction crews, and others. This handbook was written to discuss the relationship between timber and fish resources and to offer guidelines to the Fisheries and Oceans staff who interface between the two resources. It is so well written and illustrated it should be required reading for anyone in the two industries, in pertinent government departments, and for the concerned naturalist. The principles and practices are applicable outside of British Columbia.

The handbook describes the basic theory and principles of good management. It outlines and illustrates correct and incorrect forestry practices. Photos illustrate for example landslides associated with road construction, effects of badly designed culverts, loss of streamside cover, and bank stability. Humorous cartoons depict environmental problems and human interactions with tongue in cheek. These make the messages clear and positive rather than preachy.

The authors, artists, designers and co-operating individuals in the forestry and fisheries fields are to be congratulated. This is a very readable and informative book, one that should go far towards linking the two solitudes.

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