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BOOKS RECEIVED


Plan C: Community Survival Strategies for Peak Oil and Climate Change. By Pat Murphy. Gabriola Island, British Columbia: New Society Publishers, 2008. Pp. 304. $19.95, paperback. Explores the risks inherent in trying to continue our energy-intensive lifestyle. Using dirtier fossil fuels (Plan A) or switching to renewable energy sources (Plan B) allows people to remain complacent in the face of potential global catastrophe. Plan C shows how each person’s individual choices can dramatically reduce CO2 emissions and offers specific strategies in the areas of food, transportation, and housing.

Freshwater Mussel Ecology: A Multifactor Approach to Distribution and Abundance. By David L. Strayer. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2008. Pp. 216. $45.00, hardcover. A critical synthesis of the factors that control the distribution and abundance of pearly mussels. Once both culturally and economically valuable as sources of food, pearls, and mother-of-pearl, hundreds of species of these bivalves are now extinct or endangered. Using empirical analyses and models, Strayer assesses the effects of dispersal, habitat quality, availability of fish hosts, adequate food, predators, and parasites. He also addresses conservation issues that apply to other inhabitants of fresh waters around the globe.

Living with Fire: Fire Ecology and Policy for the Twenty-First Century. By Sara E. Jensen and Guy R. McPherson. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2008. Pp. 192. $29.95, hardcover. Offers a dynamic new paradigm for coping with fire that recognizes its critical environmental role and explores the rich yet largely uncharted terrain at the intersection of fire policy, fire science, and fire management. This book will help scientists, policymakers, and the general public, especially residents of fire-prone areas, better understand where we are today in regard to coping with wildfires, how we got here, and where we need to go.
Water Resources and Inter-Riparian Relationships in the Nile Basin: The Search for an Integrative Discourse. By Okbazghi Yohannes. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2008. Pp. 256. $75.00, hardcover. Examines the 10 Nile River Basin countries as they compete to harness the river's resources for purposes of irrigation-based agriculture and hydropower-based industrialization. Yohannes proposes the formation of a radically different water regime to address the looming demographic crisis, the stark regional food insecurity, and the region's collapsing hydro-ecology. This book shows how the effort to construct a regional water regime cannot be separated from the necessity to construct an ecologically sustainable internal water regime in each co-basin state.


Environmental Sovereignty and the WTO: Trade Sanctions and International Law. By Bradley J. Condon. Leiden, The Netherlands: Hotei Publishing, 2006. Pp. 400. $138.00, hardcover. Examines how WTO law can contribute to achieving coherence between general international law, international environmental law, and international trade law, and avoid conflicts between trade liberalization and global environmental protection. Will appeal most to a scholarly and professional audience seeking new approaches to addressing the problems raised by the globalization of law.

broadleaf and coniferous forests, wetlands, natural lakes, and rivers. But for decades, industry and environment have attempted to coexist here. Though they focus on just one state, the authors—scientists, naturalists, and policy experts—draw conclusions about changes in temperate habitats that can be applied elsewhere, and offer useful insights into the future of the ecology, conservation, and sustainability of Wisconsin and beyond.

*Water: The Looming Crisis in India.* By Binayak Ray. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, 2008. Pp. 276. $80.00, hardcover. Analyzes the key issues in developing national freshwater policies for the mainland countries of the South Asian sub-continent. By pointing out the need for full participation of all stakeholders in developing a baseline policy including people displaced by the construction of large dams, Ray suggests a new system in which riparian countries are guaranteed that no water-related project proceeds without a transparently developed environmental impact assessment and evaluation of alternative options.

*Natural Experiments: Ecosystem-Based Management and the Environment.* By Judith A. Layzer. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2008. Pp. 416. $28.00, paperback. The first systematic empirical study of ecosystem-based management (EBM) provides a detailed assessment of whether EBM delivers in practice the environmental benefits it promises in theory. Four nationally-known EBM initiatives, and three comparison cases that used more conventional regulatory approaches, are examined as a means to identifying strategies that hold genuine promise for restoring the ecological resilience of our landscapes.