## Recent Ecology and Environmental Studies - November 2018

Southeast Asia Head Office Blk 231, Bain Street

#03-05, Bras Basah Complex

Singapore 180231

Tel: +65-6883-2284/6883-2204

Fax: +65-6883-2144 info@marymartin.com www.marymartin.com South Asia Head Office 8/123, Third Street,

Tatabad, Coimbatore â€" 641012

India

Tel: +91-422-2499030/2495780

Fax: +91-422-2495781 info@marymartin.com www.marymartin.com

Green Entanglements: Nature Conservation and Indigenous Peoples' Rights in Indonesia and the Philippines / Padmapani L. Perez

The University of the Philippines Press, Quezon City 2018

xxii, 314p. Includes Index 9789715428330 \$ 30.00 / null 650 gm.

1.Nature conservation – Philippines. 2.Nature conservation – Indonesia.

3.Indigenous peoples – Indonesia – Legal status, law, etc. 4.Indigenous peoples – Philippines – Legal status, law, etc.

5.Human rights – Indonesia. 6.Human rights – Philippines.

Green Entanglements' is a comparative, ethnographic account of nature-conservation projects that seek to involve indigenous peoples. The book manuscript attends to the tricky entanglements of environments, agents of conservation, and indigenous peoples. It makes evident that an imbalance of power is embedded in the implementation of nature-conservation, especially when it comes to shaping the future and controlling the present upon which it is contingent. Agents of conservation draw a division between indigenous peoples required to maintain sustainable life ways, and the rest of the globalizing, modernizing world. This split is deeply embedded in the way agents of conservation think about nature and culture, and is evident in the implementation dynamics of the Mt. Pulag National Park in the Philippines, and the Taman Nasional Sebangau in Indonesia. Both of these protected areas share boundaries, or overlap with, the territories of the Kalanguya of Benguet Province, and the Ngaju Dayak of Central Kalimantan, respectively. The Kalanguya and the Ngaju Dayak describe nature-conservation as a threat to their livelihood and their development aspirations. 'Green Entanglements' unpacks the resulting stalemate between nature-conservations' goals and indigenous peoples' struggles for the recognition of their rights.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=456694

Mountains to Sea: Solving New Zealand's Freshwater Crisis / Mike Joy, Caren Wilton (Ed)

Bridget Williams Books, New Zealand 2018

200p.

9781988545431

\$ 20.00 / null

200 gm.

It strikes me with great clarity that if you look at the problems in isolation they each seem intractable; but when you grasp that there could be one single solution, then suddenly there is a glimpse of light at the end of the tunnel. The state of New Zealand's freshwater has become a pressing public issue in recent years. From across the political spectrum, concern is growing about the pollution of New Zealand's rivers and streams. We all know they need fixing. But how do we do it?

In Mountains to Sea, leading ecologist Mike Joy teams up with thinkers from all walks of life to consider how we can solve New Zealand's freshwater crisis. The book covers a wide range of topics, including food production, public health, economics and Māori narratives of water. Mountains to Sea offers new perspectives on this urgent problem.

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The Invading Sea : Coastal hazards and climate change in Aotearoa New Zealand / Neville Peat (Eds) Mary McCallum & Paul Stewart

Environmental Defence Society Incorporated 2018

192p. Includes Index 9780995110717 \$ 45.00 / null 400 gm.

`Low-lying coast is a chronically grim frontline of climate change, socially and economically, and the frontline with the most to lose.' New Zealand's coastline is under attack. When cyclones and king tides coincide, there is double trouble at the sea's edge with erosion and flooding. Award-winning author Neville Peat investigates the multiple faces of the greatest environmental issue to face New Zealand and other Pacific nations this century: the science of a warming, rising, stormier sea; the risky reality for many low-lying communities; the sluggish response of central and local government; the engineered solutions and the curly question of insurance. He also addresses the vital question: what should be done and who should pay? The Invading Sea is the first book for a general audience about adapting to the impact of climate change on New Zealand's coastline.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=455566

Birds of the Forests of Peninsular Malaysia: A Photographic Guide / Rosli Omar Strategic Information and Research Development Centre, Malaysia 2018 354p.

9789672165200 \$ 50.00 / HB 950 gm. This book showcases birds of the forests — lowland, montane, mangrove — of Peninsula Malaysia. Their choice as the subject matter is tied to their propensity to be "most endangered" due to their habitat's rapid destruction. Also included are forest edge birds, birds that birders encounter at the edge of forests or along forest tracks. Through photographs which capture their beauty, this book hopes to spark appreciation for these feathered friends and the desire to safeguard them from depletion or extinction through forest conservation. This, in turn, will also help preserve other flora and fauna.

Aimed as a field guide (or for the simple pleasure of enjoying photos of the birds), this book presents 301 species — 189 lowland, 72 montane, 40 mangrove — with their distribution, status (conservation — local, global, and local legal status), range, habitat, habits, food, gender difference, subspecies, and breeding information. Data from the now closed website, Bird-i-Witness, has also been included (number of a species observations, places it was observed, etc).

Like the Malaysian Nature Society's A Checklist of the Birds of Malaysia (2016), this book follows the eBird website of Cornell University's names (English and scientific). Names that are different from those used by other bird organisations and books are also given, along with Malay name(s), size, resident and/or migrant status. Each species has a dedicated page (occasionally, two) with two photographs (sometimes one, or three) allowing for large photographs of male, female and juvenile birds if available.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=408370

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King Cobra: Natural History and Captive Management / Tom Charlton Natural History Publications (Borneo) Sdn. Bhd, Malaysia 2018 xii, 152p Includes Index 9789838121835 \$ 60.00 / HB 550 gm.

The king cobra, the longest venomous snake in the world, is widely distributed across much of tropical and subtropical Asia. Its generic name Ophiophagus ('snake-eater') is indicative of its cannibalistic tendencies; its diet is comprised almost exclusively of snakes, including its own kind. The enormous lengths that the king cobra can reach, combined with an intimidating threat display and possession of highly neurotoxic venom, have led to it being greatly feared by many. It is widely considered as one of the most formidable snakes in the world. However, whilst undoubtedly dangerous when provoked, the king cobra is undeserving of its fearsome reputation. Research has shown it to be an extremely shy and elusive reptile exhibiting fascinating behavioural traits, some of which are totally unique within the world of snakes. Even after more than 180 years since the king cobra was first described in 1836, many of its secrets are yet to be revealed. Importantly, monitoring of wild populations has shown signs of rapid decline in numbers in many areas, and so continued conservation efforts are required to secure the reign of the king cobra across its distribution.

This book, profusely illustrated with excellent photographs from a number of very talented photographers, details the natural history of the king cobra, looking closely at all aspects of its life including distribution, diet, reproduction and venom, as well as its relationship with humans and conservation. The author also provides notes on the captive management of the king cobra, drawing on his experience of maintaining and breeding this species for a number of years.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=421945

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A Taxonomic Guide to the Stick Insects of Sumatra, Volume 1 / Francis Seow-Choen

Natural History Publications (Borneo) Sdn. Bhd, Malaysia 2018 xvi, 704p. Includes Index 9789838121903 \$ 150.00 / HB 3400 gm.

This volume is the fourth in a series of Taxonomic Guides to the Stick Insects of South East Asia. It follows the concept of the first three volumes by the author in this series; which are: A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Borneo (2016), A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Borneo Volume II (2017), and A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Singapore (2017). This fourth volume is again lavishly illustrated with beautiful colour photographs of all species of stick insects found in Sumatra.

In this book, Dr Seow-Choen lists 170 species, from 64 genera or subgenera, with 60 new species or subspecies and 4 new genera from Sumatra. He also lists 1 replacement name, 25 new synonyms, 19 new name combinations, 8 revised statuses, and 22 lectotype designations. This is the first book to list all the species of stick insects known from Sumatra.

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The Genus Schefflera in Sabah, Malaysian Borneo / Aida Shafreena Ahmad Puad, David G. Frodin & Todd J. Barkman

Natural History Publications (Borneo) Sdn. Bhd, Malaysia 2018 viii, 232p.

Includes Index 9789838121842 \$ 110.00 / HB

1000 gm.

This beautiful book describes 32 Schefflera taxa, including 29 species, from the Malaysian state of Sabah on the island of Bomeo. Prior to this work, only seven species of Schefflera in Sabah had published names and none had been described from the state in the last 100 years. Thus this treatment provides a long overdue contribution to our understanding of the genus, in particular, and the Sabah flora, in general. Beyond including an enumeration of the species of Schefflera in Sabah, introductory material on both the history and systematics of the genus and natural history of Sabah is provided. Numerous photographic images and line drawings are provided to illustrate the taxa and their distinguishing characteristics. In addition, distribution maps document the occurrence of each species and variety. This account will be an invaluable addition to botanical libraries and aid to herbarium curators worldwide with an interest in Schefflera from Borneo.

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