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## Noteworthy Books

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### **Mammals of the Southeastern United States.**

Troy L. Best and John L. Hunt. 2020. University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa, AL. 496 pp. \$64.95, hardcover. ISBN. 9780817320522. The southeastern United States is home to a remarkable and diverse mammalian fauna that is a significant part of the region's rich natural heritage. *Mammals of the Southeastern United States* presents accounts of 137 species that currently or previously occurred in the Southeast. Although accessible and useful for the generalist, this book provides an up-to-date compilation of basic knowledge about native and nonnative mammals of the region that is suitable for students, professional mammalogists, and biologists alike. The volume profiles common species like the Eastern Gray Squirrel, the White-tailed Deer, and the Virginia Opossum, but also includes among its accounts many extant species, such as the Jaguar and Porcupine, that once occurred in the region; native species, like the Caribbean Monk Seal, that are now extinct; native species that have been extirpated from all or part of the region, such as the Red Wolf, Cougar, American Bison, and Elk; and many introduced species, including the Mexican Mouse Opossum, Common Squirrel Monkey, and Capybara. Each species account includes full-color images of the animal, color distribution maps of its approximate geographic range in the Southeast and in North America, and an up-to-date synthesis of several aspects of its biology, including habitat, diet, predators, parasites, diseases, and behaviors. An introductory chapter on conservation summarizes the current status of mammalian populations in the region and provides insight into some of the threats mammals now encounter in the Southeast.

### **Wild Turkeys in Texas: Ecology and Management.**

Willim P. Kuvlesky Jr., Leonard A. Brennan, José Alfonso Ortega-Santos, Damon L. Williford, Jason B. Hardin, Humberto L. Perotto-Baldivieso, Landon Fritz, Clayton D. Hilton, Fred C. Bryant, Stephan A. Nelle, Brandon M. Mitchell and Nova Silvy. 2020. Texas A & M University Press, College Station, TX. 232 pp. \$40.00, hardcover. ISBN 9781623498559. The Wild Turkey is an iconic game bird with a

long history of association with humans. Texas boasts the largest Wild Turkey population in the country. It is the only state where one can find native populations of 3 of the 5 subspecies of Wild Turkeys—the Eastern Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*), the Rio Grande Wild Turkey (*M. g. intermedia*), and the Merriam's Wild Turkey (*M. g. merriami*). Bringing together experts on game birds and land management in the state, this is the first book in Texas to synthesize the most current information about ecology and management focused exclusively on these 3 subspecies. *Wild Turkeys in Texas* addresses important aspects of Wild Turkey ecology and management in Texas, but its principles are applicable anywhere Eastern, Rio Grande, or Merriam's Turkeys exist. This book marks the continuation of one of the biggest success stories in the research, restoration, and management of the Wild Turkey in North America.

### **Book of Birds: Introduction to Ornithology.**

John Faaborg. 2020. Texas A & M Press, College Station, TX. 472 pp. \$65.00, hardcover. ISBN 9781623497767. John Faaborg, renowned expert on avian ecology and conservation, brings a fresh and accessible sensibility to the study of ornithology. In this beautifully illustrated volume, Faaborg's approachable writing style will engage students and birders alike while introducing them to the study of the evolution, taxonomy, anatomy, physiology, diversity, and behavior of birds. With its unique focus on ecology, the text emphasizes birds' relationships with the environment and other species while showing the amazing diversity of avian life. Faaborg pays special attention to the roles that competition, community structure, and reproductive behavior play in the astonishingly varied and interesting lives of birds seen around the world. Combining vibrant visuals and knowledgeable insights, *Book of Birds* offers readers a firm foundation in the field of ornithology and an invaluable resource for understanding birds from an ecological and evolutionary perspective.

The *Southeastern Naturalist* welcomes submissions of review copies of books that publishers or authors would like to recommend to the journal's readership and are relevant to the journal's mission of publishing information about the natural history of the southeastern US. Accompanying short, descriptive summaries of the text are also welcome.