
Noteworthy Books

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Crayfishes of Alabama. Guenter A. Schuster, Christopher A. Taylor, and Stuart W. McGregor. 2022. The University of Alabama Press. Tuscaloosa, Al. 520 pp. \$54.95, Hardcover. ISBN 9780817321062. Crayfishes are usually the largest invertebrates and often represent the greatest amount of invertebrate biomass in their environments. Identified as a keystone species in many ecological communities, aquatic biologists are fond of saying “they eat everything, and everything eats them.” Sometimes called crawfishes, crawdads, mudbugs, ditchbugs, yabbies, and flusskrebs—Crayfishes are taxonomically and ecologically a diverse group of aquatic crustaceans with more than 600 known species worldwide. North America alone is home to more than 400. Alabama is a global hotspot for crayfish diversity with 99 documented species. *Crayfishes of Alabama* represents the most in-depth treatment of crayfishes found in the southeastern United States and offers detailed species accounts with color photographs, photographic morphological plates, and dot maps showing state and national distributions.

An Abundance of Curiosities: The Natural History of North Carolina’s Coastal Plain. Eric G. Bolen and James f. Parnell. 2022. University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA. 352 pp. \$34.95, Hardcover. ISBN 9780820361765. Composed of 28 of the eastern-most counties of North Carolina, the coastal plain of North Carolina is the largest and most diverse of the state's 3 biogeographical regions. This richly illustrated volume presents a journey that begins with the Outer Banks and their beaches, dunes, wild horses, and maritime forests, then moves on to the region's extensive salt marshes. The text continues with visits to the mysterious Carolina bays, Lake Waccamaw, dark cypress swamps, the Great Dismal Swamp, and blackwater streams. Along the way, readers will encounter the habitat and concerns for the last remaining wild population of Red Wolves and the recently established nesting colonies of Wood Storks. Rivers and sounds, highlighted by seagrasses, bottomland forests, and eel migrations, come next, followed by a tour of uplands, where bogs garnished with carnivorous plants dot wet savannahs; also presented are the Carolina Sandhills with their stately forests of Longleaf Pine, colorful tree frogs, burrowing snakes, and unique fishes. To conclude, an afterword discusses the motivations for saving endangered species.

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.