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Marine Community Ecology And Conservation



Synopsis

Marine Community Ecology and Conservation was written to give advanced undergraduate and graduate students a current overview of what is known about the structure, organization, and conservation of organism assemblages that live on the sea floor. It largely focuses on advancements over the past decade since the publication of Marine Community Ecology (2001). Each chapter is written by leading researchers to give students an up-to-date look at these communities, and what remains to be learned about them. The book is organized into three parts. The first part explores general processes that generate pattern in benthic communities. These introductory chapters examine how physical and biological forces interacting with historical and genetic constraints operate to structure marine communities. The second part examines the ecology of specific marine benthic community types, ranging from rocky shores and soft substrate habitats to kelp forests to coral reefs. These chapters are intended to be the most current summaries available of our understanding of these communities. The final part examines conservation and management issues of marine communities. The closing chapters emphasize how pervasively and profoundly marine communities are impacted by humans and outlines how we can use our understanding of these systems to manage and preserve the valuable services and resources they provide. Marine Community Ecology and Conservation is extensively referenced and includes a bibliography of over 5,000 citations. It is suitable as a text for advanced marine ecology courses and seminars, as well as a general reference for students and researchers. Instructor's Resource Library This resource includes all figures (line-art illustrations and photographs) and tables from the textbook, provided as both high- and low-resolution JPEGs. All have been formatted and optimized for excellent projection quality. Also included are ready-to-use PowerPoint presentations of all figures and tables.

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Customer Reviews

"In the second edition of *Marine Community Ecology and Conservation*, Bertness and co-editors provide an update of the dominant elements of marine community ecology as well as the now maturing science of our generation: conservation. The editors state that the book is intended to fill intellectual gaps and update readers on new developments in applied ecology in the oceans. The book targets upper-level undergraduate to graduate level users. We feel that the book achieves this goal and is a very useful resource for graduate-level readers."--Anna Shaffer, *Marine Ecology*

"Overall, I recommend this thoughtfully conceived compendium of essays on marine community ecology for its intended audiences. It achieves broad coverage, comprehensive insights, and novel visions."--Charles H. Peterson, *The Quarterly Review of Biology*

"*Marine Community Ecology and Conservation* is a rich source of information suitable for advanced undergraduates to advanced professionals in marine ecology and conservation. Having taught marine biology, ecology, and conservation courses for more than 30 years, I recommend this book without reservation."--Jeanine L. Olsen, *Restoration Ecology*

Mark Bertness is Robert Brown Professor of Biology at Brown University. He was born in Tacoma, Washington and grew up exploring the shores of Puget Sound. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Puget Sound in 1971. He has been at Brown University since 1980. Dr. Bertness is the author of *Atlantic Shoreline Ecology: A Natural History*, published by Princeton University Press in 2006. His research focuses on the structure, dynamics and conservation of shoreline communities--particularly salt marsh plant communities--and the sessile invertebrate and seaweed communities of rocky shores.

John Bruno is a marine ecologist and Professor at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research is focused on marine biodiversity, coral reef ecology and conservation, and the impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems. He earned his Ph.D. from Brown University in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, and was a postdoctoral fellow at Cornell University in disease ecology. Dr. Bruno is currently working primarily in Belize, the Bahamas, Cuba, and the Galapagos Islands. He is an avid blogger and co-developer of the oceans website *SeaMonster*.

Brian Silliman is the Rachel Carson Associate Professor of Marine Conservation Biology in the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University. He holds both

B.A. and M.S. degrees from the University of Virginia, and completed his Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Brown University. Dr. Silliman was named a David H. Smith Conservation Fellow with The Nature Conservancy in 2004 and a Visiting Professor with the Royal Netherlands Society of Arts and Sciences in 2011. He has also received several awards, including the Young Investigator Award from the American Society of Naturalists (2006), a Young Investigator Grant Award from the Andrew Mellon Foundation (2007), and a NSF Career Grant Award (2011). Dr. Silliman has published thirteen book chapters and over ninety peer reviewed journal articles, and co-edited the book *Human Impacts on Salt Marshes: A Global Perspective* (with T. Grosholtz and M. D. Bertness, 2009). His teaching and research are focused on community ecology of coastal ecosystems, conservation and restoration, physical-forcing and disease-mediated control of food web dynamics, plant-animal interactions, and evolution and ecological consequences of cooperative behavior. Jay Stachowicz is Professor of Ecology and Evolution at The University of California Davis. He was born in Springfield, Massachusetts and grew up exploring the shores of Cape Cod Bay. He received his undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College in 1993, and did his doctoral work with Mark Hay at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, studying the ecology and evolution of mutualistic interactions between crabs and their coral or seaweed host-plants. He has been at UC Davis since 2000. Dr. Stachowicz co-edited the book *Species Invasions: Insights into Ecology, Evolution, and Biogeography*, published by Sinauer Associates in 2005. He was awarded the George Mercer Prize from the Ecological Society of America in 2004 and the UC Davis Academic Senate Teaching Award in 2012. He is also an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow. His major research interests include both the causes and consequences of patterns of biodiversity in coastal marine communities--including rocky shores, kelp forests, mudflats, and seagrass beds. He has taught marine ecology in various forms at the undergraduate and graduate levels since 1997.

Wonderful textbook on the subject. Was advised as an undergraduate by one of the authors, and I can reputedly say this is the authoritative up-to-date textbook on the principles of marine community ecology.

I've been teaching marine biology for over 20 years. During that time I relied on *Marine Biology: An Ecological Approach* by Nybakken, and then by Nybakken and Bertness as the textbook for my upper division course. A careful review of currently available marine biology textbooks revealed that the vast majority of them are written for either non-major general ed classes or for lower division classes for majors. They do a good job for what they are designed to do, but I need a different kind

of textbook for the class I teach - it's an upper division course in marine biology, focusing primarily on community ecology. The latest edition of Nybakken's book was published in 2004, and is now out of print. In addition to that book being a decade old, there have been huge advances in our understanding of the roles the ocean plays in our global climate. I planned to include some of that information in my course. I had just about reached the conclusion that I needed to start generating my own sets of readings for my students when I came across *Marine Community Ecology and Conservation*, by Bertness, et al.. This book has what I think I need. It is divided into three sections. The first section introduces students to basic principles of marine science, including physical processes, species dispersal, infectious diseases, marine ecosystem functioning, marine biogeography, and a quick overview of a history of marine ecology. The second section provides introductions to the ecology of 9 marine communities. The third section focuses on the challenges and problems of conserving the marine environment, including marine ecosystem services, climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing, habitat degradation, principles of conservation and management, marine restoration ecology, and related topics. I have already adopted this book for my spring course in marine biology. I look forward to using it in my course and seeing how it works out.

UPDATE 6-9-2014 I've been using this as the textbook for my Junior-level course in marine biology - we are now midway through the course. The book is excellent in many ways, but I think that it's probably a bit too advanced for my crew. My students are gamely working through the course, but I can see some of them struggling to get through the readings. Though I still very much like the book I may need to switch to a different one the next time around. This would be a good text for an advanced undergraduate course in marine ecology, assuming that students had already had an introduction to marine biology course. 5 stars for the right course.

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