



Sacred Species and Sites: Advances in Biocultural Conservation

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It is being increasingly recognised that cultural and biological diversity are deeply linked and that conservation programmes should take into account the ethical, cultural and spiritual values of nature. With contributions from a range of scholars, practitioners and spiritual leaders from around the world, this book provides new insights into biocultural diversity conservation. It explores sacred landscapes, sites, plants and animals from around the world to demonstrate the links between nature conservation and spiritual beliefs and traditions. Key conceptual topics are connected to case studies, as well as modern and ancient spiritual insights, guiding the reader through the various issues from fundamental theory and beliefs to practical applications. It looks forward to the biocultural agenda, providing guidelines for future research and practice and offering suggestions for improved integration of these values into policy, planning and management.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This well-written, well-organized book explores the intricate connections between humans and their natural surroundings by focusing on the linkages between sacred sites/species and traditional environmental knowledge (TEK)." D. Monthie, Choice

"Collectively, the fascinating cases in this innovative and substantial book demonstrate the importance for biologists, conservationists, and environmentalists to consider culture and religion in their research and its practical applications. This expertly and skillfully crafted publication is most useful as a reference work, a textbook for a wide range of advanced courses, and as an addition to the rapidly growing body of literature on the subject." sites/species and traditional environmental knowledge (TEK)." Leslie E. Sponsel, University of Hawai'i for The Quarterly Review of Biology

About the Author

Gloria Pungetti is Research Director of the Cambridge Centre for Landscape and People (CCLP). Aiming to integrate the spiritual and cultural values of land and communities into landscape planning, nature conservation and sustainable development, she has widely published on these topics and chairs the IUCN-CCLP 3S Initiative on Sacred Species and Sites.

Gonzalo Oviedo is the Senior Adviser for Social Policy at IUCN. In this position he facilitates IUCN's global work on topics such as livelihood security, poverty reduction, indigenous peoples and rural communities, and assists the IUCN programmes worldwide on matters of social equity and human wellbeing in their conservation work.

Della Hooke is an Honorary Fellow in the Institute for Advanced Research in Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Birmingham. She is an historical geographer and has published extensively upon the historical development of the British landscape. Her research interests include the early medieval landscape and combining ecological and cultural evidence from forest, woodland and parks.

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