
Environmental Conservation. *Raymond F. Dasmann.* John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1964. x+307 p. \$6.50.

In these days of increasing public awareness of our critical national need for effective conservation, more and more emphasis is being placed on education; the development of adequate conservation measures demands well educated professionals and, even more important, an informed public. This book, designed as a lower division college textbook in this subject, presents the ecological basis of conservation in such a clear and easily understood way that it is not only an effective classroom adjunct, but it can also be a valuable source of information to concerned laymen.

The author, a perceptive and effectively vocal ecologist, has presented, in 12 short chapters, a summary of basic ecologic principles, the major biotic regions, and the effects of man on the landscape in terms of agriculture, water, forests, range livestock, wild animals, and fish, as well as considerations of our increasing population and an evaluation of the possibilities of the future. Additional sources are listed at the end of each chapter.

As a textbook for a lower level course in conservation, this book is excellent. As a source of general information about the critical problem of conservation of our nation's great national natural resources, however, this book is outstanding, and it belongs in the hands of every person who hikes, camps, and enjoys the open spaces of our nation and wants to preserve them.

JANE L. FORSYTH