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ISLAND BATS

Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation

Edited by Theodore H. Fleming and Paul A. Racey

Island Bats is the first book to focus solely on the evolution, ecology, and conservation of bats living in the world's island ecosystems. Among other topics, the contributors to this volume examine how the earth's history has affected the evolution of island bats, investigate how bat populations are affected by volcanic eruptions and hurricanes, and explore the threat of extinction from human disturbance. Geographically diverse, the volume includes studies of the islands of the Caribbean, the Western Indian Ocean, Micronesia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and New Zealand.

"*Island Bats* will be of great interest to ecologists, biogeographers, conservation biologists, in general, and bat biologists, in particular—especially those interested in the biology of island faunas. The new information presented in this book should stimulate the next generation of bat researchers to increase their efforts to protect and conserve these threatened faunas."—Thomas H. Kunz, editor of *Bat Ecology*

"Wallace and Darwin, MacArthur and Wilson, and now Fleming and Racey provide an intellectual gift on island phenomena. Bats are the taxonomic currency of this volume, however, any biologist interested in island biogeography, evolutionary processes, or ecology on islands will find in *Island Bats* a wealth of new ideas, hypotheses offered, and hypotheses tested. The final cluster of chapters detailing serious threats that are diminishing the survival probabilities for numerous island-dwelling bats is a wake-up call for the greater community of conservation biologists."—Frank Bonaccorso, Wildlife Ecologist, U.S. Geological Survey.

"Bats are fascinating and iconic mammals, and island ecosystems are important natural laboratories for the study of evolutionary processes such as geographic isolation, adaptive radiation, and succession. Bringing bats and islands into one volume makes compelling reading, and highlights some important conservation messages too, given that islands harbor many unique life forms, and because animals that live on islands are especially prone to extinction."—Gareth Jones, University of Bristol

"Bats are the most diverse of all mammalian orders, and islands are one of the central themes of macroecology. Add them together and you have a book that makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the macroecological processes that govern life. The evolution, ecology, and conservation of bats are discussed through studies on islands and archipelagos across the globe, with a strong message about the consequences of human impact not just to bats, but to the rest of our small world."—John Altringham, University of Leeds

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