This is an exquisite book portraying the caterpillars of Costa Rica in impressively sharp and brilliant color photographs. The lay-out and design is flawless. The accompanying text is complete and satisfying. The authors clearly want to share their discoveries and wonders of their work with everyone—not just with fellow biologists, but with all who are fascinated with the infinite variety of the natural world—and in that effort, they have succeeded beyond measure.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

By Jeffrey C. Miller, Daniel H. Janzen and Winifred Hallwachs.

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You can always tell when a guidebook author knows his stuff. Douglas Lorain, who literally lives on the trail, was the perfect person to author this book. Combined with a stylish design, full color photographs, and very useable maps, this is the cream of the crop of this year’s guide books.

By Douglas Lorain.
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle | ISBN 0898869633

Conservationists and venerable Pacific Northwest guidebook writers, Ira Spring and Harvey Manning describe 100 of the best hikes in Washington. This is a beautifully arranged book, with exquisite color photography and a new and promising type of map graphic giving readers a visual representation of trail lay-out.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle.

Outdoor columnist, Rich Landers in combination with the Spokane Mountaineers, has penned the perfect companion for hiking in the Northern Rockies. Deeply concerned about the outdoor environment, Landers not only writes about it, but he acts too, donating all proceeds from the sale of the book to trail maintenance.

By Rich Landers and the Spokane Mountaineers.
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle | ISBN 0898869080

Yosemite is a thoughtfully designed, full-color guide to Yosemite National Park and surrounding areas. The book’s colorful, three dimensional maps aid in planning your hikes and give you a birds-eye view of the lay of the land.

By Marc J. Soares.

A wonderful selection of trails, good writing, and helpful graphics make this a choice guidebook for ambles in the special places of Northern California.

By Matt Heid.
Honorable Mention #2 | Wilderness Press, Berkeley

This wonderful book is full of inspiring things for children to do outdoors. See an endangered species. Identify animal tracks. Go stargazing in the middle of nowhere. Go on an amazing day hike. Skip a rock across the water at least 10 times. Oriented to the 8-12 age group, authors Stacy and Jack Tomio offer five easy steps to accomplish each of the activities covered in the book. One fun fact about the authors is that Jack Tomio is Stacy's teenage son. Throughout the book, Jack adds a kid's perspective, offering tips on making each of the activities more enjoyable.

By Stacy and Jack Tomio.
FalconGuides, Lanham, MD | ISBN 9781493041404

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
A Blistered Kind of Love

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 1998

By Angela and Duffy Ballard; The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 978089869021

Angela and Duffy Ballard are early in a relationship when they decide to hike the entire Pacific Crest Trail together. This book, the story of that hike, could have easily slipped into the old and tired formula employed by most long distance hiking books. Except (surprise!) this one doesn’t. What makes this book work is the Yin and Yang of the two. Each has written alternating chapters—and that sets up a wonderful interplay of gender perspective as they deal with the rigors of life and the trail on their long journey northward.

A Field Guide to Snakes of Florida

NATURAL GUIDES—Winner 1958

By Alan Tennant; Gulf Publishing Company

“Longtime herpetologist Alan Tennant skillfully combines scientific data with straightforward comments and observations to make this book an invaluable resource tool for identifying and appreciating Florida’s remarkable snake population. A well crafted and organized guidebook, it has understandable text and crisp, easy-to-use color photographs of every snake described in the book.”

A Field Guide to the Southeast Coast & Gulf of Mexico

NATURAL GUIDES—Winner 2012

By Noble S. Proctor and Patrick J. Lynch; Yale University Press ISBN 9780300246469

“Tired of hauling around a library of guidebooks? Here’s the alternative: A Field Guide to the Southeast Coast. It’s not just a guidebook. It is several guidebooks rolled into one. It is a bird guide. It is a plant guide. It is a fish guide. It is a marine mammal guide. This comprehensive work by Noble Proctor and Patrick Lynch includes over 600 species of flora and fauna of the Southeast coastal regions and Gulf of Mexico. All of this is in one compact and easy-to-navigate guide, perfect for beachgoers, hikers, boaters, birders, fishers, snorkelers — and anyone who wants to leave the library at home.”

A Fly Rod of Your Own

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2017

By John Gierach;

“Two books won, this is winner 1.

“There’s no better way to bring back memories of your own fishing trips than to read of some by John Gierach. He has an warm, inviting quality to his writing that makes him such a pleasure to read. In honoring this book, the judges also wanted to recognize Gierach’s body of work which now totals more than 20 previous books. His themes are simple: a favorite stream near home, a missed cast just when everything is perfect, a culinary misadventure on a trip. With a wave of his writer’s wand, simple stories become utterly absorbing, and you find yourself captured by his magic, reading well into the night.”

A Natural History of North American Trees

OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2007

By Donald Culross Peattie; Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston ISBN 9780618799046

“Donald Culross Peattie died in 1964, but he left us with the classical work on trees. His Natural History is not a field identification guide, but rather it goes far deeper. Through a lovely and poetic series of essays, Peattie describes the very essence of trees and our relationship with them. Each chapter covers a different tree, ranging from the sequoias to the pines to the hard woods—his rich descriptions exciting our imagination and reminding us of their utility and beauty.”

A Naturalist at Large: The Best Essays of Bernd Heinrich

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2018

By Bernd Heinrich; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston ISBN 9780395643771

“Tired of hauling around a library of guidebooks? Here’s the alternative: A Field Guide to the Southeast Coast. It’s not just a guidebook. It is several guidebooks rolled into one. It is a bird guide. It is a plant guide. It is a fish guide. It is a marine mammal guide. This comprehensive work by Noble Proctor and Patrick Lynch includes over 600 species of flora and fauna of the Southeast coastal regions and Gulf of Mexico. All of this is in one compact and easy-to-navigate guide, perfect for beachgoers, hikers, boaters, birders, fishers, snorkelers — and anyone who wants to leave the library at home.”

A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2001

By Donald Worster; Oxford University Press, New York ISBN 9780195086555

“For years, people have been waiting for this book: an authoritative study of Powell—the whitewater world’s first river runner as well as the West’s great voice of reason. Thanks to Donald Worster, we now have one. A superbly written book supported by exhaustive research, this 673-page book is an expansive view of Powell’s life and times—as expansive as the view across the Colorado Plateau. A River Running West is a memorable portrait of one of the greats of river history.”
A Sand County Almanac: A Sketches Here and There

OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2000
By Aldo Leopold.
Oxford University Press.

The story of Richard Byrd's six months of isolation in a remote weather station in Antarctica in 1933. The lack of companionship, coupled with the long, black days of the invariable polar winter, extract a mental and physical toll from Byrd. Yet there is something else, some other sinister element at the root of the explorer's deteriorating condition. Almost before it is too late, Byrd discovers that he has been slowly poisoned by a carbon monoxide leak from a defective stove installation. Reissued by Island Press, this classic story of Arctic adventure is now available to a new generation of readers.

Almost Somewhere: Twenty-Eight Days on the John Muir Trail

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2012
By Suzanne Roberts.
University of California Press.

If you're planning a climb in Alaska, this is the book to consult. Nicely designed and well-written, it covers history and climbing routes throughout the state.

A World in One Cubic Foot: Portraits of Biodiversity

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2013
Text and Photography by David Littschwager.
The University of Chicago Press.

Open this book and you'll suddenly find yourself in an art gallery surrounded by spectacular portraits of nature's denizens. The artist is master nature photographer David Littschwager and his subjects are plants, animals and insects gathered from different ecosystems throughout the world. But there is something special about these photographs. They all come from a limited space, the size of one cubic foot—a space, through Littschwager's artistry, is revealed in a richness of life never before seen.

A Sea of Glass: Searching for the Blaschkas' Fragile Legacy in an Ocean at Risk

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2016
By Drew Harvell.
University of California Press.

Mark Moffett is something of a fanatic when it comes to bugs. He has been variously described as Doctor Bugs, Ant Man, or the Indiana Jones of Entomology. It comes as no surprise then, that in this colorfully illustrated book, he would take us for an unusual and far-ranging ride in search of the hidden world of ants. What we discover in their world are behaviors which are strikingly similar to those of humans: warriors, builders, hunters and farmers. We find ants engaged in market economies and production lines, and dealing with hygiene, recycling and warfare. There's a wonderful energy to Moffett's writing. He's rigidly scientific, that's a given, but he makes science fun. The Ant Man cometh. The Ant Man cometh forth with one fine book.

Adventures Among Ants: A Global Safari With a Cast of Trillions

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Honorable Mention 2002
By Michael Wood and Colby Coombs.
The Mountaineers Books.

If you've been prospecting for just the right book on outdoor digital photography, look no further. You'll strike pay dirt with this new Appalachian Mountain Club guide. Accomplished photographer Jerry Monkman who has worked for a variety of national outdoor and wildlife magazines, nicely elaborates on the subject in an easily readable and visually instructive book. The book covers equipment, lenses, lighting, composition, exposure, and processing software. The text is supplemented with case studies and expert advice. This is outdoor photography after all, and Monkman doesn't leave out suggestions on taking photos in adverse weather. You'll find plenty to be mined from this fine reference, and you won't even need a pick and shovel.

Almost Somewhere: Twenty-Eight Days on the John Muir Trail

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2012
By Suzanne Roberts.
University of California Press.

In the summer of 1993, author Suzanne Roberts and two other women set out on a month-long backpack trip in California's Sierra Mountains. Almost somewhere is Robert's introspective and no-holds-barred account of that journey and the interactions between the three women. What emerges is a revealing and insightful coming-of-age portrait of women of the post baby boom generation. Roberts obsesses with her weight, competes openly with other women for men, and grapples with conflicted views of sex and relationships. One of the other women struggles with bulimia. This is life in an outdoor setting from a feminine perspective: anxiety over strange men met along the way and the challenges of long days on the trail — can Robert's weakening knees and the health of her bulimic friend hold up to the end? The dialog, the imagery, and the story are so well done and so absorbing that men and women of all generations will find it satisfying and fulfilling literary treat.

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America's Great Mountain Trails: 100 Highcountry Hikes of a Lifetime
OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2020
By Tim Palmer.
ISBN 9780847854290

"You can always rely on Tim Palmer for keen observation and accurate descriptive writing. In this new, large format book, he details 100 noteworthy trails in the United States, covering the mountainous areas of the East and West, along with Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. It's two books rolled into one. It's a guidebook, yes, with information and practical hints on hiking the trails, but it's also an art portfolio, exhibiting Palmer's outstanding outdoor photography."

America’s National Historic Trails: Walking the Trails of History
JOURNEYS—Winner 2021
By Karen Berger.
Silver in this category.
Rizzoli, New York
ISBN 9780847854283

"Let this book inspire you to take a journey back in time. Follow the ancient pathways of Native Americans, the river routes of Lewis and Clark, or the winding wagon roads of the early pioneers. That's just a sampling of the journeys you can take. In fact, there are over 27,000 miles of historic trails, and while this book can't guide you on all of those miles, it will help you get started. Author Karen Berger handily describes the trails' history and what to expect when on your own exploring expedition. What adds to this book's appeal is the photographic artistry of Bart Smith and an abundance of his sumptuous images that capture the old byways and the surrounding scenery."

An Egret's Day
CHILDREN'S—Honorable Mention 2010
Poems by Jane Yolen. Photographs by Jason Stemple.
WordSong, Honesdale, PA
ISBN 9781590786505

"Poetry is always a treat for children, and so are beautiful photographs of wildlife—particularly photographs of such a lovely and elegant bird as the egret. An Egret's Day combines the two into a verse-and-visual delight for youngsters (ages 9-11). Each page includes a poem, a photograph and a descriptive paragraph about egrets: what they eat, how they fly, how tall they stand, and other tidbits of egret life."

An Empire of Ice: Scott, Shackleton, and the Heroic Age of Antarctic Science
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Honorable Mention 2011
By Edward J. Larson.
Yale University Press, New Haven
ISBN 9780300140873

"In An Empire of Ice author Edward Larson takes a different tact than most literature of the genre. He chronicles British expeditions to Antarctica—doing it quite well—but he does it from a scientific perspective. Scientific discovery was, after all, a main justification for polar exploration and it helped in raising the funding necessary for efforts of the size and magnitude involved. Consequently, considerable scientific research was undertaken on the expeditions and the body of science benefited. Larson adeptly describes the research, the obstacles faced by scientists, their failures and achievements, and handsomely places early twentieth century exploration in a broader, more far-reaching perspective."

An Entirely Synthetic Fish: How Rainbow Trout Beguiled America and Overran the World
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2010
By Anders Halverson.
Yale University Press, New Haven
ISBN 9780300140873

"A fascinating story unrolls in the pages of An Entirely Synthetic Fish. Aquatic ecologist, Anders Halverson adeptly chronicles the rise and fall of rainbow trout. Once this highly adaptable species was the fish of choice among wildlife managers, stocked in rivers, streams, and lakes worldwide; and, in fact, it is still the most commonly stocked fish in the US. But more recently, biologists have realized that it competes with native fish, and in some locations it is being eradicated. Nicely blending a balance of natural history, historical information, and personal accounts, Halverson has created a thoroughly engaging and thought-provoking work."

Anything Worth Doing: A True Story of Adventure, Friendship and Tragedy on the Last of the West’s Great Rivers
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2012
By Jo Deurbrouck.
Sundog Book Publishing
ISBN 9780985257804

"Jo Deurbrouck brings to life the story of two men who launch a small wooden dory in the rolling waters of Idaho’s Salmon River. Their plan was to float all night and all the next day in an attempt to set a 24-hour speed record. In this highly creative and exceptionally well written account, Deurbrouck traces the lives of these two men: one an aging, bear of a man, a Vietnam era veteran and sometimes recluse river guide whose past includes boxing and ballet dancing; and the other a fit, young man, a rising star among river runners, full of ideas and ambitions. They put on the river in peak flood and are flung downstream, maneuvering their small boat through churning rapids, dodging boiling holes, and fending off massive logs caught in the current with them. You’ll find yourself glued to the pages as Deurbrouck deftly steers the narrative to a building climax. This is an impressive piece of work and a welcomed addition to river literature and lore."

Appalachian Odyssey: Walking the Trail from Georgia to Maine
OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Honorable Mention 2009
By Steve Sherman and Julia Older.
Author's Guild, New York
ISBN 9781440115301

"We'll let the words of the late Edward Abbey speak on behalf of Appalachian Odyssey, first published in the 1970’s: "It’s a good book” he wrote in the preface. "In it you’ll find everything you ever wanted to know about hiking the Great Hike. Everything and then some—none of the misery has been left out, none of the tedium, none of the chiggers, snakes, mosquitoes or odd-ball hikers, and none of the glory, exaltation and satisfaction either."
Arctic Crossing: One Man’s 2,200 Mile Odyssey Among the Inuit

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Honorable Mention 2002
By Jonathan Waterman.
Lyons Press/Globe Pequot, Guilford, CT ISBN 1585747300

This is the story of Jonathan Waterman’s attempt to cross the Northwest Passage by kayak, ski, dogsled and sailboat. More than an expedition narrative, Waterman also writes about the history and his encounters with the native people of the north country, the Inuit. Backed by solid research and written in an introspective style, it’s an illuminating portrait of one man and Arctic culture.

Arctic Labyrinth: The Quest for the Northwest Passage

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Honorable Mention 2010
By Glyn Williams.
Two books won; this is winner 1.
Viking Canada, Toronto ISBN 9780670068662

This is a remarkably well told story, written by a remarkably well versed author. Glyn Williams has been studying and writing about Arctic exploration his entire life, and his vast experience and scholarship shines together splendidly in this book about the Northwest Passage. Employing fresh and interesting approaches, he keeps the story moving along, nudging it in a slightly different direction than past works by examining the influences exerted on expeditions by supporters and financiers on the home front. If you read one book on the Northwest Passage, this is the one.

Arctic Wings: Birds of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2007
By Bernadette McDonald.
Rocky Mountain Books, Vancouver, BC ISBN 0345441818

Art Wings establishes a new benchmark in the art and literature of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. This is not only a book of exceptional photographs, but it also includes detailed and factual information, along with a series of essays by noted biologists and conservationists. Topping off this stylish, impressively designed book is an included CD of the birdsongs of the refuge.

Art of Freedom: The Life and Climb of Voytek Kurtyka

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2017
By Bernadette McDonald.
The Mountaineers, Seattle ISBN 9781771602129

In this masterpiece of biography, Bernadette McDonald chronicles the life of Voytek Kurtyka who pushed the boundaries of mountaineering to its very limits. He grew up in Poland and lived during a time of upheaval: of communist domination and its eventual downfall. Kurtyka is a reflection of those turbulent times, buying and selling on the black market to make a living, and scheming ways to outwit party bureaucrats to undertake climbing expeditions. Known for his bold and lightning-fast ascents of big, unclimbed walls in the Himalaya, Kurtyka is a thoughtful and private individual and has largely shunned the limelight. Fortunately, McDonald was able to conduct interviews with Kurtyka as well as undertake exhaustive research. The result of her efforts is a work of outstanding artistry and a powerful and moving portrait of Kurtyka’s life.

At the Mercy of the River: An Exploration of the Last African Wilderness

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Honorable Mention 2005
By Peter Stark.

The result is a realistic and heartwarming story of a father and his son—and a work of outdoor literature of the highest order.

Backcast: Fatherhood, Fly-fishing, and a River Journey Through the Heart of Alaska

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2007
By Lou Ureneck.

Backcast plays out like the long and splendid arc of a fly line, unfurling on an Alaskan river trip that Lou Ureneck has arranged to re-connect with his son. As the trip progresses, Ureneck reflects back on his own life while adroitly capturing the sometimes hilarious and sometimes serious interactions between himself and his son. The result is a realistic and heartwarming story of a father and his son—and a work of outdoor literature of the highest order.

Backpacker Long Trails: Mastering the Art of the Thru-hike

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2017
By Liz Thomas.
Falcon Guides, Lenox, MA ISBN 9781493028725

Every so often a book comes along, finds broad acceptance, and becomes the bible of a sport. This book is destined to rise to that position among long-trail hiking guides. Authored by Liz Thomas who has hiked the big three—Appalachian, Continental Divide and Pacific Crest—this comprehensive work is literally brimming full of practical advice for backpackers planning to spend weeks on the trail. In addition to Thomas’s fine writing, sidebars written by other experienced hikers offer alternative ideas and strategies. If you have a hankering to go on a long hike, there’s no question about it. This is the one book that you’ll want to read before you go.

Backpacker Magazine’s Complete Guide to Outdoor Gear Maintenance & Repair: Step by Step Techniques to Maximize Performance

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2012
By Kristin Hostetter.
Falcon Guides ISBN 9780762778317

If you were to search the outdoor world for someone to write about repairing gear, you wouldn’t find anyone better suited for the job than Kristin Hostetter. Hostetter has been Backpacker Magazine’s gear editor since 1994, and she knows a thing or two about the subject. In the Complete Guide, Hostetter has consolidated her wide ranging knowledge into one comprehensive volume covering the repair of all sorts of equipment: boots, packs, sleeping bags, clothing, stoves — and oh, how could we forget? — she also includes a special chapter on what can be done with a roll of duct tape. The information from her book is particularly useful when you’re out in the field. Stuff happens out there, and with Hostetter’s clear and helpful instructions you’ll be back on the trail in no time. Add it all up, throw in the book’s classy and intelligent design, and this guide scores right at the top of its class.

Backwoods Ethics: A Guide to Low-Impact Camping and Hiking

OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Honorable Mention 2002
By Laura and Guy Waterman.

Laura and Guy Waterman aren’t the first to write about the impacts of recreation on wild lands, but their book Backwoods Ethics, originally published in 1979, is still with us today, and still remains a thoughtful and sensible call to action. The book has a significant following, particularly in the east, where many of their original suggestions continue to guide trail building and land management programs.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Basic Canoeing: All the Skills and Tools You Need to Get Started

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2005
Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA  ISBN 0181726444

ISBN 9780181726444

This intelligently conceived book starts from the beginning and takes you step-by-step through the techniques of canoeing. Basic Canoeing stands out with its clear writing, effective design, and the liberal use of photographs and illustrations.

Basic Kayaking: All the Skills and Gear You Need to Get Started

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2005
By Wayne Dickert and Jon Rounds. Photographs by Skip Brown. Illustrations by Roberto Sabas.
Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA  ISBN 9780181723209

ISBN 9780181723209

Once again Stackpole Books scores a winner with their series on basic outdoor skills. The photographs, creative design, and clear and understandable text combine to make this book a marvelous introduction to the exciting sport of whitewater kayaking.

Beauty and the Beast: California Wildflowers and Climate Change

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2020
By Rob Badger and Nita Winter.
WinterBadger Press and California Native Plant Society, Sausalito and Sacramento, CA  ISBN 9781733104510

ISBN 9781733104510

The first part of this large format book is entitled “The gift of Beauty.” It’s referring to wildflowers, of course, but it is also an apt characterization of the book itself. It is truly a gift, a gift of artistic beauty that would grace anyone’s home. From wide view photographs of vast fields of color to intricate close-ups of individual flower species, it is a book of wonder and a celebratory feast for the eyes. Complementing the photographic artistry are 18 essays which help deliver a message of what has been—and will be—in the natural world if global warming continues unchecked.

Beetles of Eastern North America

NATURE GUIDES—Honorable Mention 2015
By Karsten Heuer. Illustrated by Kate Garchinsky
Charlesbridge, Watertown, MA  ISBN 9780691133041

ISBN 9780691133041

This is a beetle lovers’ delight: the most comprehensive, full-color guide to the beetles east of the Mississippi River. It covers a whopping 1,406 species in 115 families, illustrated by over 1,500 color photographs. Organized by family, the book includes an illustrated key which aids in identifying the most common beetle families. Arthur Evans’ text is scientifically precise, but clear and understandable, making it useful for amateurs and professionals alike.

Before They’re Gone: A Family’s Year-Long Quest to Explore America’s Most Endangered National Parks

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Honorable Mention 2012
By Michael Lanza.
Beacon Press  ISBN 9780807070110

ISBN 9780807070110

Michael Lanza is a skilled wordsmith and his finely fashioned handiwork is on full display in Before They’re Gone. Lanza takes his wife and two young children to some of the country’s most famous National Parks. They hike, sea kayak, climb, canoe and cross-country ski. It’s a heartwarming narrative of a family and their explorations of wild places. It’s also a cautionary story of what might happen, and is happening, to those spectacular places that they visit as the earth continues to warm.

Being Caribou

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2006
By Karsten Heuer.
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle  ISBN 1594850100

ISBN 1594850100

Karsten Heuer has just married and he has an idea for the perfect honeymoon: a five-month, thousand mile journey following the caribou migration from their winter range to their calving grounds in the Arctic and back again. No stranger to wilderness adventure herself, his wife and film maker, Leanne Allison readily agrees. Being Caribou is Karsten’s sensitively done book of the couple’s adventurous and inspiring journey. This a book full of heart and soul, capturing, like no other, the exquisite beauty and stark realities of that timeless and most celebrated of all mammal migrations.

Belle’s Journey: An Osprey Takes Flight

CHILDREN’S—Honorable Mention 2018
By Rob Bierregaard. Illustrated by Kate Garchinsky
There were two winners in this category. This is winner 1.
Charlesbridge, Watertown, MA  ISBN 9780898107921

ISBN 9780898107921

In this book, for the 7 to 10 year age group, children follow the work of a Dr. B., a scientist who studies osprey. What makes this book so appealing is that it is based on a true story. One day while chasing an osprey named Belle – and it was written by the real Dr. B. The story is about Belle’s early life on Martha’s Vineyard in Massachusetts where she learns to fly and catch fish on her own. With the coming of fall, she sets off on an amazing 4,000 mile journey to South America. Along the way she is chased by a falcon and is even caught in a hurricane. Delightfully illustrated, entertaining and educational, this book is sure to be a childhood favorite.

Beneath Cold Seas: The Underwater Wilderness of the Pacific Northwest

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2012
By David Hall.
University of Washington Press and Greystone Books  ISBN 97802229599116

ISBN 97802229599116

This book is a work of art from every possible angle — from the exquisite photographs, to the book’s design, to its flawless printing and production process. There’s no other way to describe it. David Hall has created a masterpiece. It’s not something that came easy. His underwater photographic technique had been painstakingly developed and refined over years of work. And what a difficult environment in which to work: diving in bitter cold waters, working in a neutrally buoyant state without a tripod, not having the ability to use telephoto lenses (because of the turbidity of the water), and dealing with a limited amount of time (due to air and nitrogen concerns). Hall has everything right in this book. There is nothing extraneous, and nothing missing. This is a complete and moving immersion in the breathtaking underwater world of the Pacific Northwest.

Bicycling with Butterflies: My 10,201 Mile Journey Following the Monarch Migration

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2021
By Sara Dykman.
There were 3 winners in this category. This is winner 3.
Timber Press, Portland  ISBN 9781643260457

ISBN 9781643260457

Two remarkable journeys are covered by this book. One is the annual migration of monarch butterflies each year. And the other is Sara Dykman’s quest to follow the monarchs on that migration. She does it solo on a bicycle that she has cobbled together from spare parts. Beginning in central Mexico, we follow her as she rides with the butterflies flying north to the US border, then from Texas all the way to Michigan, until she finally reaches Canada. But it isn’t over yet. She swings her bike southeast, reaching the East Coast, and then races to catch the fall monarch migration, eventually coming full circle to her starting point in Mexico. It’s a marvelous, well told story; a pilgrimage in which she pedals 10,200 miles over a period of 250 days. You can’t come away from this book without being inspired by this magnificent butterfly and by Dykman’s tireless devotion to their survival.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Winner/Award</th>
<th>Author/Editors</th>
<th>Publisher/Loc.</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Walls, Swift Waters:  Epic Stories from Yosemite Search and Rescue</td>
<td>INSTRUCTIONAL</td>
<td>Winner 2017</td>
<td>Charles R. “Butch” Farabee</td>
<td>The Mountaineers Books, Seattle</td>
<td>978-1-930238719</td>
<td>“Big Walls, Swift Waters is a little bit of everything. It's a history, a compilation of case studies, and an instructional guide about rescue equipment and techniques. Well illustrated with photographs from past rescues, author Charles &quot;Butch&quot; Farabee documents many of the classic search and rescues that have occurred in Yosemite National Park. It's a fascinating, insider's view of rescue, and you'll find yourself rappelling out of helicopters, hanging on granite walls, and plunging into icy waters.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds of Peru</td>
<td>NATURE GUIDES</td>
<td>Winner 2008</td>
<td>Tomas S. Schulenberg, Douglas F. Stotz, Daniel F. Lane, John P. O'Neill, and Theodore A. Parker III</td>
<td>Princeton University Press, Princeton</td>
<td>978-0691049151</td>
<td>“For the bison, the living symbol of the American landscape, comes a book worth its stature. Photographer Audrey Hall has done something extraordinary in this book, capturing the bison in all of its manifestations and in all of its seasons. As her photographs roll across the page, you can almost hear the thundering of hooves. Adding to Hall’s visual creativity is an extended essay by Chase Reynolds Ewald. Included also is the poetry of Henry Real Bird, a member of the Crow Nation and former Montana poet laureate. Absolutely no doubt about it. This is an outstanding tribute to these irrepressible creatures.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blueberry Shoe</td>
<td>CHILDREN’S</td>
<td>Winner 2000</td>
<td>Ann Dixon; Illustrations by Evon Zerbetz</td>
<td>Alaska Northwest Books</td>
<td>978-1-930238740</td>
<td>“This sweet and tender tale is about a baby’s shoe which is lost while a family is picking blueberries. A wondrous scene unfolds as a sequence of creatures come along and sleep and play with the shoe. One, a bear, even thinks he might eat the shoe. Filled with colorful and enchanting illustrations and marvelously written, it's a book that will delight children and reassure their sense of belonging to the natural world. (For ages 4-10)”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford Washburn: Mountain Photography</td>
<td>DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT</td>
<td>Winner 2000</td>
<td>Bradford Washburn; Edited and Compiled by Antony Decaneas</td>
<td>The Mountaineers Books, Seattle</td>
<td>978-1-930238757</td>
<td>“Traveling the world for eight decades, mountaineer, explorer, scientist and cartographer Bradford Washburn has documented the world’s landscapes like no other. This is his life’s work as seen through his own camera: one hundred large format mountain photographs, all exquisitely reproduced. The book includes a short interview with Washburn, but it is the photos which speak volumes about him and his artistic genius.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life</td>
<td>HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY</td>
<td>Honorable Mention 2005</td>
<td>Arlene Blum; mornings by Elizabeth D. Brown</td>
<td>Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA</td>
<td>978-1-930238764</td>
<td>“Arlene Blum is truly one of the pioneers of climbing, leading the way and clearing a path for women in expeditionary mountaineering. This is her story, told in her own words: her drive and determination in overcoming barriers; her dreams, achievements and disappointments in life; and the triumphs and tragedies amongst the high peaks of the world.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Bruce Aiken's Grand Canyon: An Intimate Affair

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2008
Text by Susan Hallsten McGarry. Paintings by Bruce Aiken.

Two books won; this is winner 2.
Grand Canyon Association, Grand Canyon, AZ
ISBN 9780938216933

For thirty years Bruce Aiken lived in a remote side canyon of the Grand Canyon. There he tended the National Park's water supply. And there he perfected his art. This long awaited book showcases some of Aiken's most stunning pieces portraying the canyon in his own unique style of vivid colors and intimate details. The accompanying text written by Susan Halsten McGarry very nicely complements Aiken's work by providing perspective on his art and biographical information on his life.

Buried in the Sky: The Extraordinary Story of the Sherpa Climbers on K2's Deadliest Day

HISTORY BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2012
By Peter Zuckerman and Amanda Padoan.

Two books won; this is winner 1.
W. W. Norton & Company, New York
ISBN 9780393097883

'Buried in the Sky is a significant departure for mountaineer literature. In a reversal of perspective, the book chronicles the story of climbing K2 from the Sherpas' point of view. What happened on K2 in 2008 shocked the mountaineering world. Eleven climbers died and three others were seriously injured. It's through the eyes of Sherpas that Peter Zuckerman and Amanda Padoan tell the story of those fateful hours on the mountain. Impeccably researched, the two authors travelled to Nepal and Pakistan where they conducted interviews with Sherpa climbers, their families, relatives and friends. They deal with the worries of Sherpa wives and the yearly tragedies weathered by their close-knit families. It's a book that finally humanizes the unsung heroes of the mountaineering world and their hopes and dreams for a better life.'

Butterflies of Indiana: A Field Guide

NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2013
By Jeffrey E. Beith; Indiana University Press, Bloomington
ISBN 9780253009550

'With nothing more pleasurable in the summer than to be surprised by the sudden splash of color of a butterfly. But what is the name of that butterfly? Jeffrey Beith can help with his new guide to butterflies of Indiana. (The guide is also useful in most eastern and central states). Colored tabs on the book's edge will take you quickly to like-colored butterflies where Beith's crisp photographs and field mark indicators help you make a final identification. Perfectly sized for use in the outdoors, you won't be at a loss for a name next time that flash of color flutters by.'

Butterflies of Pennsylvania: A Field Guide

NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2017
By James L. Monroe and David M. Wright;
University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh
ISBN 9780822964551

'Butterflies of Pennsylvania is one of those guidebooks that sets out with a purpose and ends up doing it well. What appealed to the judges is that all of the information on a butterfly species is covered on a single page or a two-page spread. There's no need to look elsewhere for maps and other information. The photos are crisp. The text is clear, and the maps and charts easy to use. If you live in Pennsylvania or in surrounding states, this fine guidebook is a must-have.'

Butterflies of the Pacific Northwest

NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2018
By Robert Michael Pyle and Caitlin C. LaBar;
Timber Press, Portland, OR
ISBN 9781616892936

In this outstanding guide, over 200 different butterflies found in the Pacific Northwest are pictured and described. All the small details which make a top-notch guide are present: hardcover, color-coded layout, range maps, comparison plates, crisp color photography and clear and understandable text. It's the perfect guide for Northwest butterfly enthusiasts young and old.

Butterflies Through Binoculars: A Field Guide to the Butterflies of Western North America

NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2001
By Jeffrey Glassberg;
Oxford University Press, New York
ISBN 9780195126749

This magnificently crafted guidebook is illustrated with vivid color photographs that set a new standard in butterfly identification. It's a guide that can quickly grow on you. In no time, you may find yourself hopelessly hooked—cursing and haunting the fields and forests searching for those delicate insects that add so much color to summer afternoons.

Cache Lake Country: Life in the North Woods

OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 1999
By John J. Rowlands with illustrations by Henry B. Kane.
The Countryman Press

This book, first published in 1947, carries the reader back to an earlier, simpler time in the twentieth century. It's about John Rowland's life on Cache Lake, a lake located in forests of northern Ontario reached only by canoe. Rowlands writes of the seasons, the wildlife, and his explorations with nearby northwoods neighbors including a Cree Indian chief and an artist. The book is interspersed with descriptions and drawings of Rowland's hand-made backwoods inventions and woodcraft projects of all manner and shape. Full of a down-to-earth eloquence and commonsensical backcountry wisdom, it's a cozy and heartwarming book to curl up with.

Camping With the President

CHILDREN'S—Winner 2010
By Ginger Wadsworth. Illustrated by Karen Dugan.
Two books won; this is winner 1.
Calkins Creek, Honesdale, PA
ISBN 9781590784976

'Camping with the President is a delightful and historically accurate book for children (ages 8-11). It's about two icons of the outdoor world: Theodore Roosevelt, our most outdoorsy president, and John Muir, the world famous naturalist. In May of 1903, President Roosevelt, while on a western excursion made a planned stop at Yosemite National Park. Dismissing his Secret Service men and sending reporters away, he and John Muir went off on a camping trip. They spent four days together, chatting about the wonders of the outdoors and discussing the need to protect wild areas. Author Ginger Wadsworth captures those exciting days together, creating a marvelous portrait of the two men. That's complimented perfectly with Karen Dugan's colorful and lively illustrations of the two men.'

Canoe Country Flora

NATURE GUIDES—Winner 1997
By Mark Stachura, illustrated by Jeff Sonnegaard;
Pfeiffer-Hamilton

'Canoe Country Flora covers a choice selection of trees, shrubs and wildflowers in the broad swath of territory extending from Northern Minnesota to Maine. The author has fun with the book, taking a different tact than most identification guides. He describes how to identify plants, of course, but he does so in a light, pleasant style and supplements the text with a fascinating study of plants' natural and cultural histories.'

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Captain Mac: The Life of Donald Baxter MacMillan, Arctic Explorer

**CHILDREN’S—Winner 2010**

By Mary Morton Cowan.

ISBN 9781590787090

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Second to last chapter: "Promising explorers (ages 9-12) will be captivated by this 208-page biography. Moving along briskly, at a pace perfect for young readers, the book is about Donald MacMillan who explored the Arctic for nearly fifty years. MacMillan, a geologist, got his start in Arctic exploration when he accompanied Robert Peary’s famous attempt to reach the North Pole in 1908-09. Suffering with the icy northern reaches, he continued going on various scientific and exploratory journeys until the 1950’s. Author Mary Morton has done a first-class job with this book, combining solid research and exciting writing and creating a memorable likeness of this pioneering explorer."

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Carving Grand Canyon: Evidence, Theories, and Mystery

**NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Honorable Mention 2006**

By Wayne Ranney.

ISBN 038216821

How and when was the Grand Canyon formed? For nearly a century and a half, scientists have debated that question, but the answer remains elusive. They do, however, agree on one thing: the canyon was carved by the Colorado River. In this stylish, full-color book by the Grand Canyon Association, Wayne Ranney describes and summarizes the various geological theories of the canyon’s origins.

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Caterpillars of Eastern North America

**NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2006**

By David L. Wagner.

ISBN 0938216821

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Princeton: University Press, Princeton

It's a caterpillar lover's delight: a copiously illustrated guide to the caterpillars of nearly 700 butterflies and moths found east of the Mississippi. Many of the caterpillars included in the volume have never been photographed. The guide is nicely designed and easy to use with clear and crisp photographs of both the larva and adult stages.

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Chasing at the Surface: A Novel

**CHILDREN’S—Winner 2016**

By Sharon Mentyka.

ISBN 9780820346793

WestWinds Press/Graphic Arts Books, Portland

This 220-page novel for young adults, 12-year old Marisa’s world is thrown into confusion when her mom leaves on a mysterious trip. A school science project monitoring a pod of whales helps take her mind off her worries. As Marisa learns more about whales, she begins to understand the delicate life-and-death balance facing these creatures of the deep. Her interest and passion for the whales grows, but events take a turn for the worse when the whales become trapped because of human activity. The story comes to a climax as Marisa plays a role in helping the whales escape back into the wild, and her mother returns and reveals a long held secret.

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Chattahoochee River User’s Guide

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2014**

By Joe Cook.

ISBN 9780820346793

University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA

This guidebook covers the 759-mile stretch of the Continental Divide Trail through the state of Colorado and includes trail descriptions, history, conservation information, and route finding hints. It’s an outstanding resource for hikers and mountain bikers. From brilliant color photography to colorful maps and graphics to insightful writing, this is a model guidebook.

---

Closer to the Ground: An Outdoor Family’s Year on the Water, in the Woods and at the Table

**OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Honorable Mention 2013**

By Dylan Tomine.

ISBN 9780382146671

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA

When Dylan Tomine was young, he and his friends would scamper throughout the neighborhood picking blackberries. “If you pick ‘em, I’ll bake it,” his mom would tell him. It was the remembrance of his mom’s steaming, fragrant pies, fresh out of the oven that years later would, in part, make wild food gathering a way in which his family could spend time together in the outdoors. In this beautifully written and heartfelt account, Tomine describes his family’s forays into nature. They grow vegetables, fish for salmon, dig for oysters, forage for mushrooms, and hunt for deer. The book is not about survival. Tomine fully admits that they still get much more of their food from the grocery store, but, rather it’s a way to raise a family in modern times while remaining grounded with the natural environment.

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Colorado Nature Almanac

**NATURE GUIDES—Honorable Mention 1998**

By Stephen R. Jones and Ruth Carol Cushman.

ISBN 9780820346793

Princeton University Press, Princeton

Wonderful readable and well-researched, this is a month-to-month guide to the rhythms of nature in Colorado. It includes wildflower blooming charts, bird arrival times, a naturalist’s where-to-go directory, and entertaining facts about the state’s flora and fauna.

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Colorado’s Continental Divide Trail

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 1998**

By Tom Lorang Jones. Photographs by John Fielder.

ISBN 9780820346793

Westcliffe Publishers

This guidebook covers the 759-mile stretch of the Continental Divide Trail through the state of Colorado and includes trail descriptions, history, conservation information, and route finding hints. It’s an outstanding resource for hikers and mountain bikers. From brilliant color photography to colorful maps and graphics to insightful writing, this is a model guidebook.

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Condor: To the Brink and Back

**NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2006**

By John Nielsen.

ISBN 9780060088620

John Nielsen

This book is a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at the efforts to save the condor, North America’s largest flying land bird. Condor is a story waiting to be told, and there could have been no better person for the job than John Nielsen. Nielsen has penned a natural history book that is fun to read, mixing humor, science and human interest in just the right portions. In short, it’s a brilliant telling of a compelling environmental saga.

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Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Discovering the John Muir Trail: An Inspirational Guide to America's Most Beautiful Hike

By Damon Corso.

Falcon Press, Guilford, CT | ISBN 9781493031245

You get a little something more than a guidebook with this fine and colorful work on the John Muir Trail. Yes, it is a guidebook. It includes mileage charts, elevation profiles, sidebars, and maps, but it is also a photographic essay. From front to back, the book is filled with Damon Corso's tantalizing color photographs. The narration accompanying the photography is nicely done and adds a personal touch. From Yosemite Valley through Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks to the summit of Mt. Whitney, Corso keeps your interest by describing his experiences on the trail: waiting out rainstorms, crossing swollen streams, turning. The book is one of the most important works on nature to be published this year. But, first, a clarification: the title "Continental Divide" is not about the separation of the Atlantic and Pacific watersheds. Rather it's about the man-made separation between the US and Mexico: the border wall. The wall, of course, is controversial, but left out of the public debate has been the wall's effect on the natural environment. In this ground breaking work, Author Krista Schlyer reports on what's been forgotten — and what she has to say is not good. Congress has allowed environmental laws near the border to be waived, and as a result the wall has devastated wildlife migration paths while at the same time rerouting human traffic through the most pristine and sensitive of wild lands. The public needs to be fully informed of the true costs of the wall, and Schlyer's book is an important step in that direction.
Down to Earth: Nature's Role in American History

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2002
By Ted Steinberg.

In this fascinating and groundbreaking book, Steinberg investigates American history from a new and unique perspective: from that of the natural environment. He argues convincingly that events as diverse as colonization, the industrial revolution, the civil war, the western gold rush and many others were shaped and influenced by nature. It's an important seminal work and one that leads toward a better understanding of the interrelationship of man and the environment.

Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West

NATURE GUIDES—Honorable Mention 2009
By Dennis Paulson.
Princeton University Press ISBN 9780691122816

This is the first guidebook to all 348 species of dragonflies and damselflies found in western North America. Nicely sized and fully illustrated, the guide is perfect for use in the field. Almost every species is illustrated with photographs of both male and female members. Accompanying text includes natural history tidbits, habitat information, natural history notes, sizing scales, sighting frequencies, and... well, you get the picture. It's a darn good little guide.

Drawn to the Deep: The Remarkable Underwater Explorations of Wes Skiles

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2020
By Edward Power.
Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9780881305082

Imagine that you're on a backcountry snowboard outing. The snow is epic: deep, powdery and, oh, so luring. Suddenly, there is an avalanche and you are caught in a moving mass of snow hurtling down a mountainside. Told in a captivating, novelistic style, Edward Power's lead story in Dragons in the Snow places you at the scene of an accident. An accurate re-telling of the event, he effectively uses it to introduce a selection of backcountry guides and avalanche professionals who must deal with the vagaries of snow. It's an exceptionally well done book, one that holds your interest while at the same time, offering important, and possibly life saving, lessons on avalanche safety.

Edge of the Earth, Corner of the Sky

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2004
Photography by Art Wolfe. Essays by Art Davidson.
Two books won in this category. This is winner 2.
Wildlives Press, Seattle ISBN 0967591821

Nine years in the making and photographed on seven continents, Edge of the Earth showcases an artist at the peak of his powers. While largely known for his striking wildlife photography, Art Wolfe proves in this volume that he is equally adept at capturing natural landscapes. Wolfe hopes that his work will motivate others to protect wild lands whose destruction he has witnessed first hand. Perhaps, that's why the book's images are so haunting: places of temporal beauty, living on borrowed time in a world ever hungry for land and resources.

Elevations: A Personal Exploration of the Arkansas River

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2018
By Max McCoy.
Two books won in this category. This is winner 2.
University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, KS ISBN 9780700626021

When author Max McCoy slips into a kayak and begins to paddle the Arkansas River in Colorado, it is the start of two journeys. One journey takes him down the river. The other, an exhausting final push, author Thomas Hornbein and his climbing companion Willie Unsoeld, reach the summit, but it is so late in the day that they find themselves caught out on 28,000 feet. They have no shelter, food, or oxygen, and are well within what is known as the death zone. No one knew whether it was even possible to survive a night at that elevation. Thanks to the Mountaineering Books, The West Ridge has been re-issued in an impressive special 50th anniversary edition. It's all there: the original text, the photographs, and a special addendum which follows-up on the lives of each of the members of the expedition now fifty years later.

Every Living Thing: Man's Obsessive Quest to Catalog Life, from Nanobacteria to New Monkeys

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2009
By Rob Dunn.

Fashioning a series of vivid portraits or driven, single-minded scientists, Dun traces the history of human discovery. Vignettes range from the establishment of a classification system, to a scientist's attempt to discover a rare ant, to another's quest to find every living thing in a jungle in Costa Rica. It's poetic, often humorous and filled with insight on the breakthroughs of the study of life.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Expedition Kayaking
WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE—Work of Significance 1999
By Derek Hutchinson.
Thirty-year sea kayaking veteran and inveterate expeditor, Derek Hutchinson, tells how it's done in this, the fourth edition of his colorful and eminently instructive book.

Exploring Havasupai: A Guide to the Heart of the Grand Canyon
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2010
By Greg Witt;
Menasha Ridge Press, Birmingham, AL ISBN 9780897326544
There are any number of tucked away oases in the Grand Canyon, but if there is a Shangri-la, it's Havasupai. The remote and isolated village, also known as Supai, has been home to the Havasupai Indians for centuries. To get to Supai, you have to hike in 8 miles. Two miles beyond Supai is a campground, and explorations of Havasu Canyon and its famous turquoise waters begin from there. This full-color guidebook includes information on flora, geology, cultural history, and backcountry trails, but is it the preparatory material which is some of the most useful: obtaining reservations, getting there, where to stay, choice of equipment, and other helpful hints to make your journey to Shangri-la a memorable one.

Extreme Alpinism: Climbing Light, Fast and High
INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 1999
By Mark F. Wright and James Martin;
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898863607
In both temperament and content, this book is a clear departure from past instructional texts in mountaineering—and outdoor texts in general. Directed to accomplished climbers, this master class for those who risk it all by venturing into some of the most dangerous places in the world. Content of the class: character, attitude, training, fitness, nutrition, clothing, equipment and technique. Class instructional aids: well designed book with graphic and dramatic color photographs throughout.

Extreme Kids: How to connect with your children through today's extreme (and not so extreme) outdoor sports
INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2006
By Scott Graham;
Wilderness Press, Berkeley ISBN 0899973736
Healthy, adventurous outdoor activities are a great way to connect with your children. And here's a book to help you make that happen. Extreme Kids has the low-down on how parents and children can safely participate together in sports like rock climbing, surfing, canoeing, mountain biking, hiking, kayaking and many others.

Fallen Giants: A History of Himalayan Mountaineering from the Age of Empire to the Age of Extremes
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2008
By Maurice Isserman and Stewart Weaver;
Yale University Press ISBN 9780300168000
A History of Himalayan Mountaineering from the Age of Empire to the Age of Extremes documents the years of human exploitation and the resulting decimation of coastal sea life. At the end of the book, Mowat offers one glimmer of hope. He sees small signs that we are making progress towards protecting sea life. "We may succeed," he writes "in making man humane . . . at last. And then the Sea of Slaughter may again become a Sea of Life." Let us hope that Mowat's wish may some day come to pass.

Farley Mowat for Sea of Slaughter, Never Cry Wolf and other works—Sea of Slaughter
OUTDOOR CLASSIC: Life-time Achievement Recognition—Winner 2005
By Farley Mowat. Note: Never Cry Wolf and other Mowat books are available from a variety of publishers.
Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA ISBN 0811731693
This year, with the submission of Sea of Slaughter by Stackpole Books, the judges decided to take the opportunity to honor Farley Mowat for a lifetime of work writing about the outdoors. Mowat's most well known, and perhaps most far reaching, book is Never Cry Wolf. First written in 1964, Never Cry Wolf is often credited with helping change the public's image of wolves as wanton killers. Now several decades later, the wolf is seen correctly as an integral part of the wild environment, contributing to the balance between prey and predator.

In Sea of Slaughter, Mowat centers on the marine environment of the North Atlantic coast from Labrador to Cape Cod. Backed up by extensive research, he documents the years of human exploitation and the resulting decimation of coastal sea life. At the end of the book, Mowat offers one glimmer of hope. He sees small signs that we are making progress towards protecting sea life. "We may succeed," he writes "in making man humane . . . at last. And then the Sea of Slaughter may again become a Sea of Life." Let us hope that Mowat's wish may some day come to pass.

Fast Into the Night: A Woman, Her Dogs, and Their Journey North on the Iditarod Trail
OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2016
By Debbie Clifford Moderow;
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston ISBN 97805448412
In this beautifully written and moving account, Debbie Moderow whisks you away on a dogsled across Alaska. Her interest in dogs began quite innocently when a friend gave their family a "retired" sled dog by the name of Salt. Salt came just at a perfect time, helping Moderow recover from the depression following a second miscarriage. The family took in more dogs, and in a roundabout way, Moderow ended up entering Alaska's famous Iditarod race. There's adventure, of course, and plenty of it on the thousand-mile Iditarod trail, but what makes this book so appealing is the connection between Moderow and her dogs. We come to learn their names, their personality quirks, and the warmth and love that she shares with each of them.

Feathers: A Beautiful Look at a Bird's Most Unique Feature
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Honorable Mention 2014
By Stan Tekiela;
Feathers are quite possibly the most captivating of body coverings found in the animal kingdom, and Stan Tekiela in this stylishly designed book has captured them in all their colorful glory. Within the book are 236 images representing a medley of bird species. The photographs are accompanied with explanatory text, but it is the birds' and Tekiela's artistry that are on display here. Page through this book and you'll never look at birds the same way.

Field Guide to Oregon Rivers
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2015
By Tim Palmer;
Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, OR ISBN 97807893716270
If there is anyone who knows rivers, really knows rivers, it's Tim Palmer. A practiced naturalist, consummate river explorer and conservationist, Palmer has been writing and photographing for rivers for forty years. His expansive knowledge shows in this, his latest work which profiles 120 Oregon rivers. This is more than a paddling guide—it does cover information on river difficulty, put-ins and take-outs—but rivers can also be enjoyed from land, and Palmer includes backroad approaches and hikes along the shoreline. Fishing enthusiasts aren't left out, and the types of fish found in each of the rivers are listed along with season dates and fishing access points. Throughout the book he reminds us of the importance of rivers, what conservation efforts have protected, and what needs to be protected in the future to maintain a healthy and vibrant outdoor environment.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
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<tr>
<td>For Love of Wildness is the eagerly awaited sequel to Terry Grosz's first book on his life as a wildlife officer--and he certainly doesn't disappoint. An absorbing book, written in an honest and down-home style, Terry Grosz takes the reader along on a wild ride of chases, stakeouts, and shoot-outs in his efforts to protect America's wildlife.</td>
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<tr>
<td>For the Birds: The Life of Roger Tory Peterson</td>
<td>CHILDREN'S—Winner 2012</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>W. W. Norton &amp; Company, New York</td>
<td>9780393061741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For the Birds is a delightful biography for children from 7 to 11 years of age. Who is it about? Why . . . none other than &quot;Professor Nuts Peterson.&quot; Professor Nuts, who might carry a snake in his pocket or a bird's egg in his hat, is the American artist and passionate bird lover who created the Peterson Field Guides. His guides weren't designed for scientists and specialists. Rather, they were for everyone, making it easier for adults -- and kids of all stripes and ages -- to identifying birds, animals and plants. Author Peggy Thomas quite handedly describes Peterson's life from his childhood, to his success as an illustrator, and to his work as a conservationist. Fitting winningly with the text are bright and cheery illustrations by Laura Jacques.</td>
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<td>Foraging Southern California: 118 Nutritious, Tasty and Abundant Foods</td>
<td>NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2020</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>University Press of New England, Hanover, NH</td>
<td>9781591939153</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foraging Southern California is a terrific little guidebook on nature's edible goodies which easily slips into a pocket of your pack. Foraging expert, Douglas Kent takes care of the important stuff first. In the opening chapter, he pictures and describes the plants you want to stay away from: those that are toxic or poisonous. From there it is smooth sailing, setting the stage for a great day of foraging. Each of the edibles include a large color photograph and descriptive information on habitat, leaves, flowers, harvest season and comparable species.</td>
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<td>Forever on the Mountain: The Truth Behind One of Mountaineering's Most Controversial and Mysterious Disaster is the eagerly awaited sequel to Terry Grosz's first book on his life as a wildlife officer--and he certainly doesn't disappoint. An absorbing book, written in an honest and down-home style, Terry Grosz takes the reader along on a wild ride of chases, stakeouts, and shoot-outs in his efforts to protect America's wildlife.</td>
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<td>Forget Me Not: A Memoir tells the life of Alex Lowe, one of America's finest mountaineers. When Alex dies suddenly on an expedition in the Himalayas, she is left to care for herself and three young sons. With time, she finds solace, companionship, and eventually love with Alex's good friend and fellow mountaineer Conrad Anker. Candid and remarkably well told, it's a story of adventure, passion, struggle, and hope.</td>
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<td>Freshwater Fish of the Northeast</td>
<td>DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2010</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>University Press of New England, Hanover, NH</td>
<td>9781584658191</td>
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<td>This lovely identification guide to 60 freshwater fish in New England is the result of collaborative work between a father (the author) and his son (the illustrator). What a job Matt Patterson did with the illustrations. He knows his fish and he knows his art. The illustrations are absolutely splendid: accurately rendered and artistically striking. Moreover, the book's designer created a handsome blend of art and text, and in places, even creates the appearance of fish migrating through the book. If you're a serious fisher in the Northeast, or if serious anglers come to visit, this is a book you'll want lying on the coffee table.</td>
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<td>In this warm and touching memoir, Jennifer Lowe-Anker tells of her life with Alex Lowe, one of America's finest mountaineers. When Alex dies suddenly on an expedition in the Himalayas, she is left to care for herself and three young sons. With time, she finds solace, companionship, and eventually love with Alex's good friend and fellow mountaineer Conrad Anker. Candid and remarkably well told, it's a story of adventure, passion, struggle, and hope.</td>
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<td>Gifford Pinchot was the first chief of the Forest Service. To this day, his influence is still being felt on the policies which guide the management of lands used by hundreds of thousands of Americans for hiking, climbing, biking, fishing and other forms of outdoor adventure. Yet Pinchot is a controversial figure, the bad guy in a bitter battle with the great conservationist, John Muir. This eminently readable and erudite biography of Pinchot, the first in over forty years, reveals a much more complicated man, and sheds new light on Pinchot's contributions and place in conservation history.</td>
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<td>Girl on the Rocks is one of the foremost female climbers in the world and couldn't be better suited to write this book. It's a very well done &quot;how-to&quot; guide, embellished with a classy, contemporary design and crisp I-wanna-do-that photographs. What's so appealing about this book is that it speaks to women with a woman's voice. Climbing, as Brown says is empowering, and through her words and example, she inspires women to try new things, live a full life and climb away.</td>
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Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Guide to Marine Mammals & Turtles of the U.S. Pacific

Sugar-reactive paper, it covers whales, dolphins, porpoises, seals, manatee and turtles. It’s truly a model guidebook. Each and every detail has been designed with user convenience in mind, from its organization and lay-out, to its photographs and map graphics, to its carefully researched and understandable writing.

Guide to Marine Mammals & Turtles of the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico

This is an extraordinarily well done and easy-to-use guidebook that will help you identify marine mammals while traveling the coastal waters of the east. Printed on water-resistant paper, it covers whales, dolphins, porpoises, seals, manatee and turtles. It’s truly a model guidebook. Each and every detail has been designed with user convenience in mind, from its organization and lay-out, to its photographs and map graphics, to its carefully researched and understandable writing.

Outstanding Adventure Guides

Two books won this category. This is winner 2.

Triumphed over adversity and found deliverance in the simple act of walking. While slowly revealing her life outside of her Appalachian Trail accomplishments. In the end, we really come to know and understand this amazing woman who walks. Each species is represented by color photographs and a scientifically accurate color illustration. Range maps show where each species occurs and

Good Morning Loon

What could be better! An early morning canoe trip for mom and son. Their paddle across the lake, which is told through the eyes of the boy, turns into a trip of discovery as they spot fascinating creatures: a wood frog, mergansers, beaver, osprey, great blue heron, and a twelve spotted skimmer. And finally, just before they are ready to turn back, they see a loon. “Good morning loon!” the boy cries. With each new discovery, he learns a little more about the natural world.

Grand Obsession: Harvey Butchart and the Exploration of the Grand Canyon

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Harvey Butchart was the legendary hiker and canyoneer who explored more of the Grand Canyon than any other person. He was largely known through his sparse and somewhat cryptic hiking guidebooks. But even more cryptic was Butchart himself. Who was this man, and why did his interest in the canyon become an obsession that consumed his life? You’ll find out in this uncommonly well researched, well-structured and well-written biography.

Grand Obsession:  Harvey Butchart and the Exploration of the Grand Canyon

By Ben Montgomery.

Puma Press, Flagstaff, AZ ISBN 0970097344

Grinnell: America’s Environmental Pioneer and his Restless Drive to Save the West

Two books won in this category. This is winner 1.

John Taliaferro is the author of several other highly acclaimed biographies, and his skill as a writer is on full display in this consummate work on George Bird Grinnell. Of all of the giants of the conservation movement, Grinnell is probably the least recognized. In the late 1800s Grinnell, a zoologist and anthropologist by training, came to realize that the United States was undergoing an alarming decline of birds and other wildlife. As a consequence, he began writing and editing countless articles arguing for sane conservation policies. Putting his words into action, he spearheaded the formation of the first Audubon Society, and along with Theodore Roosevelt, was a founding member of the Boone and Crockett Club, organized for the protection of wildlife habitat. Based on exhaustive research, Taliaferro synthesizes a vivid portrait of Grinnell, clearly establishing his place in the pantheon of American conservationists.

Guide to Marine Mammals & Turtles of the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico

NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2000

By Kate Wynne and Mala Schwartz. Illustrated by Garth Mix.

Rhode Island Sea Grant, University of Rhode Island

This is an extraordinarily well done and easy-to-use guidebook that will help you identify marine mammals while traveling the coastal waters of the east. Printed on water-resistant paper, it covers whales, dolphins, porpoises, seals, manatee and turtles. It’s truly a model guidebook. Each and every detail has been designed with user convenience in mind, from its organization and lay-out, to its photographs and map graphics, to its carefully researched and understandable writing.

Guide to Marine Mammals & Turtles of the U.S. Pacific

NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2015

By Kate Wynne. Illustrated by Garth Mix.

Alaska Sea Grant – University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK ISBN 9785661217577

Marine biologist Kate Wynne and illustrator Garth Mix have teamed up for another winner. Their guide to sea mammals of the Atlantic Ocean won a National Outdoor Book Award several years ago, and they have done it again with this new guide to the Pacific Ocean. It has all the elements that make a good guidebook. Among those are durable coated pages with a wire binding at the top which makes it easy to flip open—and stay open—for use on boats and beach walks. Each species is represented by color photographs and a scientifically accurate color illustration. Range maps show where each species occurs and surface profile silhouettes aid in making a positive identification. Textual materials include the behavior of each species, dive patterns, habitat, life history, and interactions with humans. Compact, easy-to-use (and, yes, waterproof!), sea life guidebooks don’t get any better than this.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Winner 2000</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Publisher/Imprint</th>
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<tr>
<td>Guide to the Green and Yampa Rivers in Dinosaur National Monument</td>
<td>OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES</td>
<td>Winner 2009</td>
<td>By Duwain Whites and Barbara Vinson.</td>
<td>RiverMaps, Buda, TX</td>
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<td>H is for Hawk</td>
<td>NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE</td>
<td>Honorable Mention 2015</td>
<td>By Helen Macdonald</td>
<td>Grove Press, New York</td>
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<td>Hiking Acadia National Park: A Guide to the Park’s Greatest Hiking Adventures</td>
<td>OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES</td>
<td>Winner 2016</td>
<td>By Dolores Kong and Dan Ring.</td>
<td>Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiking Lassen Volcanic National Park: A Guide to the Park’s Greatest Hiking Adventures</td>
<td>OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES</td>
<td>Winner 2020</td>
<td>By Tracy Salcedo</td>
<td>Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT</td>
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Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
How to Rock Climb
WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE—Work of Significance 1999
By John Long:


I Promise Not to Suffer: A Fool for Love Hikes the Pacific Crest Trail
OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2013
By Gail D. Storey:
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781594857454

At the age of fifty-six, Gail Storey wasn’t all that keen on putting her life on hold, selling her possessions, including a dream house, to hike the Pacific Crest Trail. But she longed to be there with her husband and immerse herself in nature. But wait. Nature? Is she crazy? She hates bugs! I Promise Not to Suffer is a highly creative and brilliantly witty account that describes the Pacific Crest experience like none other. Using her husband’s inventive lightweight equipment—some of which they find is a work-in-progress—they start at the Mexico border and begin the epic trek north. With wonderful turns of phrase, a keen observant eye, and self-deprecating style, Storey is a consummate story teller. In the end, we come to know her as someone with a ticklish sense of humor and a willing sufferer with a heart of gold.

Ice Island: Expedition to Antarctica’s Largest Iceberg
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2003
By Gregory S. Stone:
New England Aquarium, Boston MA ISBN 1593730179

In the Year 2000, a mammoth iceberg calved off Antarctica’s Ross Ice Shelf. The iceberg, known as B-15 was the world’s largest, 4,500 square miles in size and holding enough fresh water to supply the United States for five years. This is the story of the team of scientists and divers who set off in a small research ship named Braveheart to study a portion of the iceberg. Richly illustrated and beautifully designed, it’s a marvelous story about adventure, science and the future of humankind.

Idaho’s Salmon River: A River Runner’s Guide to the River of No Return
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Honorable Mention 2005
By Eric J. Newell and Allison J. Newell:
Black Canyon Guides, Logan, UT ISBN 0976671700

This is a marvelously unpretentious compact guide to running the rapids of the famous River of No Return. Included are maps, GPS coordinates, camp locations, schematics of major rapids and plenty of helpful hints. Plus, it’s waterproof and just the right size to slip under a life jacket.

Illustrated Atlas of the Himalaya
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2006
By David Zurick and Juliean Pacheco:
University of Kentucky Press, Lexington ISBN 9780813123882

Beautifully illustrated, this book takes the reader on a tour of the cloak-and-dagger underworld of creatures without backbones, the invertebrates. The tour guide is naturalist David Attenborough, prolific author and producer of popular nature documentaries for television. In Life in the Underground, Attenborough guides us past scampering scorpions, albino termites, sex-starved slugs, blood sucking ticks, and ravenous, lizard-eating spiders. Well, you get the picture. It’s a scary world down there at our feet. But it’s also a wondrous world, and the ever-curious Attenborough is clearly in his element telling us about it.

Inner Ranges: An Anthology of Mountain Thoughts
OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2019
By Geoff Powter:

There were 2 winners in this category. This is winner 2.
Rocky Mountain Books, Victoria, BC ISBN 9781771602877

Inner Ranges is a collection of writings, the culmination of a lifetime of puzzling over what it is that motivates climbers and mountain explorers. Geoff Powter comes at it from a unique perspective, that of a practicing clinical psychologist. Included are his own personal stories, opinion pieces, and insightful profiles of notable climbers. What adds greatly to the book’s appeal is that Powter has added commentary, evaluating his past writings in a new light and adding clarity in the passing of the years.

Islands of Hope: Lessons from North America’s Great Wildlife Sanctuaries
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 1999
By Phillip Manning:

Two books won, this is winner 2.
John F. Blair

Naturalist Phillip Manning visits ten wildlife preserves in four North American countries, investigating the animals and ecosystems that the sanctuaries protect. In a simple and understanding style, Manning helps readers learn how refuges work, their history and the challenges facing them. There is caution, of course, in the book’s message, but mostly the message is of abiding hope for the future.

Jam & Jelly by Holly & Nellie
CHILDREN’S—Winner 2003
By Gloria Whelan. Illustrated by Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen:
Sleeping Bear Press, Chelsea, MI ISBN 1585361097

Two books won, this is winner 2.

This story is about a young girl, Holly, whose family lives in the country in the upper Midwest. It’s a particularly difficult time for the family and there’s little money available to purchase Holly a coat for the winter. Then Nellie, Holly’s mother comes up with an idea: they’ll pick berries and sell jam and jelly. What makes this book work so well is the harmony between Gloria Whelan’s realistic and nuanced prose and Frankenhuyzen’s bright and animated character studies. For ages 4-10.

Jellies: The Life of Jellyfish
CHILDREN’S—Winner 2000
By Twig C. George:
Two books won, this is winner 2.
Millbrook Press

Beautifully photographed, Jellies is an extraordinary book which manages to make science appeal to the minds and hearts of children. It’s rich in facts about this fascinating creature of the sea, but even richer in imagination and the joy of discovery. (For ages 8-10)

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Jimmy Bluefeather: A Novel
OUTDOOR LITERATURE — FICTION — Winner 2015
By Peter Heller.
Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.

Journey of a Hope Merchant: From Apartheid to the Elite World of Solo Yacht Racing
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY — Winner 2005
By Neal Petersen with William P. Baldwin and Patty Fulcher.

Just Passin’ Thru
OUTDOOR LITERATURE — Honorable Mention 2010
By Winton Porter.

Kayak: An Animated Manual of Intermediate and Advanced Whitewater Technique
WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE — Work of Significance 1999
By William Nealy.

Kelly of Hazel Ridge
CHILDREN’S — Winner 2006
Text by Robbyn Smith van Frankenhuysen. Illustrations by Gijsbert van Frankenhuysen.

Kingbird Highway: The Biggest Year in the Life of an Extreme Birder
OUTDOOR CLASSIC — Winner 2017
By Kenn Kaufman.

Knots and Ropes for Climbers
INSTRUCTIONAL — Winner 1998
By Duane Raleigh. Illustrated by Mike Clelland.

Kook: What Surfing Taught Me About Love, Life and Catching the Perfect Wave
OUTDOOR LITERATURE — Winner 2010
By Peter Heller.

A masterful portrait of the real Alaska, Kim Heacox’s novel centers around a 95-year-old Tlingit native named Old Keb, the last living canoe carver in a small village in Southeast Alaska. His grandson, a promising athlete, sinks into a depression after a disabling accident ends his sports career. In response, Old Keb begins work on what will become his last great canoe and entices the grandson to help. When the canoe is finished, they embark on a voyage to the Tlingit ancestral homeland. It’s a voyage fraught with the hazards of sea as well as an eager government bent on saving them. What makes this story so appealing is the character Old Keb. He is as finely wrought and memorable as any character in contemporary literature and energizes the tale with a humor and warmth that will keep you reading well into the night.

This is the story of Neal Petersen, a black South African who overcomes physical disability and the humiliation of apartheid to compete in one of the most dangerous of all sports: solo sailing around the globe. While many of his well-heeled fellow competitors sail in the latest technological marvels, Petersen builds his own yacht and makes his own rigging and sails. Without enough money to install electronic navigation equipment, he sails off on his first race with a sextant that he hasn’t yet learned how to use. From then on it’s all adventure. His account of approaching Cape Horn and surviving a vicious night of 150-foot waves and multiple knockdowns is as thrilling as it gets. Quite simply, this is a wonderful story of the sea, and one man’s hope, determination, and joy for life.

It is unfortunate that William Nealy left us so early. When he died in 2001, he was still young, at the height of his creative genius, and well established as the outdoor world’s most famous cartoonist. His work was as zany and outrageous as it was smart and insightful. His best known book is Kayak which sold over 300,000 copies and was translated into five languages. And now Kayak is back. Thanks to Menasha Ridge Press, Kayak lives on with the release of a newly updated edition, just in time to entertain a new generation of paddlers.

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Two books won, this is winner 1.

Kingbird Highway: The Biggest Year in the Life of an Extreme Birder
OUTDOOR CLASSIC — Winner 2017
By Kenn Kaufman.

In January of 1972, a month shy of his 18th birthday, Kenn Kaufman left his home in Kansas and hitched a ride to Texas. He was a high school dropout with little money and few prospects for the future. Nevertheless, driven and single-minded, Kaufman was embarking on a quest, a quest far removed from that of a typical 18-year-old. He was out to establish the record for the most birds identified in the US in one year. This is the story of that year-long quest: of living on pennies a day, of hitch hiking from one end of the country to the other, and of sleeping under bridges—and yet slowly, he filled his lists with birds. And what of his uncertain future? He didn’t do too badly. Have you heard of the Kaufman guides, that popular series of bird, mammal and insect guides which have sold in the thousands?

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Winner
ISBN 9780618709403

Kingbird Highway: The Biggest Year in the Life of an Extreme Birder
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Oh yes, that’s the same Kaufman.

Knots and Ropes for Climbers
INSTRUCTIONAL — Winner 1998
By Duane Raleigh. Illustrated by Mike Clelland.

Knots and Ropes is not a fancy book. It’s less than 100 pages in length and there’s no color photography. But it is the book’s plain and simple approach which makes it so appealing and useful. Duane Raleigh’s text along with Mike Clelland’s clever, but clear and understandable illustrations, remove the mystery surrounding climbing knots and makes tying them a snap.

Kook: What Surfing Taught Me About Love, Life and Catching the Perfect Wave
OUTDOOR LITERATURE — Winner 2010
By Peter Heller.

*Peter Heller is a kook. His quest is to learn in one year how to surf well, to master one big, beautiful hollow wave that only a very experienced surfer can ride. But there’s a problem. He is a beginner. In fact, he is a kook, a derisive term in surfing lingo for a bumbling, rank beginner. There’s another problem: his love life. In that endeavor, he is also a kook. Middle-aged, with a string of disappointing love affairs, Heller is hopeful that things might change with the new love of his life—Kim, a beautiful woman of Chinese descent. In this rich and gracefully written book, Heller’s creative and artistic abilities are on full display. We follow along with him on an insightful, year-long quest as he grapples with the duel, ever capricious, challenges of love and the sea.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Sleeping Bear Press, Chelsea, MI
ISBN 1565362689

*Kinky is in trouble. Her fourth-grade teacher has asked her to write about something that’s been important in her life. But she can’t think of a thing until her father tells her to take a walk around their small farm. As she walks, she sees all the wild animals that share the farm, and she remembers helping her parents dig ponds, create wetland areas, and, oh yeah, plant a gazillion little trees! This book is a pure delight with a suffused gentle innocence, heartfelt text, and warm, luminous illustrations, all of which will surely excite young minds and imaginations. Ages 4-10.

Winner
ISBN 1570035644

Winner
ISBN 9780618665093

Winner
ISBN 9780897328494

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<td>Life on the Rocks: The Triumphant and Tragic Greely Polar Expedition</td>
<td>HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY</td>
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<td>By Buddy Levy</td>
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<td>Two books won in this category: This is winner 2.</td>
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<td>The Greely Expedition is perhaps one of the most narrowing expeditions in polar history. A. W. Greely, an American army lieutenant, set out to reach the farthest north yet achieved by any human. He was successful in that effort, but it is the return journey for which the expedition is known. A resupply ship is blocked by ice from reaching the party, and what follows is Greely and his men's desperate attempt to escape from the frozen north. Based on exhaustive research, this is an epic tale told with finesse and intelligence.</td>
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<td>Ladybugs: Red, Fiery and Bright</td>
<td>CHILDREN'S</td>
<td>Honorable Mention 2002</td>
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<td>By Mia Posada</td>
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<td>Carolrhoda Books, Minneapolis</td>
<td>ISBN: 0876143346</td>
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<td>Through verse and bright, colorful illustrations, children will delight in the tiny world of ladybugs. They'll learn something too as they watch them grow from small larvae with long, skinny legs into a bright and beautiful red beetles with shiny black spots. For ages: 3-8.</td>
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<td>Landscapes of the Interior</td>
<td>OUTDOOR LITERATURE</td>
<td>Winner 1997</td>
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<td>New Society Publishers</td>
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<td>Don Gayton does with the concept of landscape what writers like Edward Abbey have done with the desert. It is a pioneering, personal journey across a succession of landscapes from the Kokanee Range to the Columbia Plateau to the tall grass prairie of Manitoba. Gayton is sometimes scientific and other times lyrical and deeply philosophical. Through it all, he is always original and fresh</td>
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<td>Lars Jonsson's Birds</td>
<td>DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT</td>
<td>Winner 2009</td>
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<td>By Michael Punke</td>
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<td>Avian lovers have always known that paintings bring out the true beauty of birds. One of the masters of this specialized art form is Lars Jonsson who lives on the island of Gotland in the Baltic Sea and is well known for his illustrated field guides to European birds. In this book Jonsson's prowess as a wildlife artist is in full display in the form of sketches, watercolors, oil paintings and lithographs. Explanatory text and commentary by Johnston accompanies his captivating art.</td>
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<td>Last Stand: George Bird Grinnell, the Battle to Save the Buffalo, and the Birth of the New West</td>
<td>NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE</td>
<td>Honorable Mention 2007</td>
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<td>Last Stand is an engrossing story about the destruction of the great buffalo herds. It's an all too familiar story of greed and arrogance, but Michael Punke explores a little known part of that history—that of the contributions of conservationist George Grinnell. Colorful and imminently readable, the book helps establish Grinnell's place among the leaders of America's conservation movement.</td>
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<td>Lichens of North America</td>
<td>NATURE GUIDES</td>
<td>Winner 2002</td>
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<td>By Irwin M. Brodo, Sylvia Duran Shamoff and Stephen Shamoff</td>
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<td>When you spend time in the outdoors you’ll see them: rocks with crusty patterned growths of orange and yellow, trees with dangling, wispy dark green beards, and forest floors laid with a soft, creamy, moss-like carpet. They’re lichens and this is the book to use to identify them: the first definitive guide to lichens in North America. It’s a masterpiece of imagery, text and science. Be prepared: it's comprehensive, nearly 800 pages long, but the authors and publisher have carefully designed it to be useful to all, specialists and novices, alike.</td>
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<td>Life in the Underground</td>
<td>NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT</td>
<td>Winner 2006</td>
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<td>By David Attenborough</td>
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<td>Beautifully illustrated, this book takes the reader on a tour of the cloak-and-dagger underworld of creatures without backbones, the invertebrates. The tour guide is naturalist David Attenborough, prolific author and producer of popular nature documentaries for television. In Life in the Underground, Attenborough guides us past scurrying scorpions, alpine termites, sex-starved slugs, blood sucking ticks, and ravenous, lizard-eating spiders. Well, you get the picture. It's a scary world down there at our feet. But it's also a wondrous world, and the ever-curious Attenborough is clearly in his element telling us about it.</td>
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<td>Written and photographed by Bruce L. Smith</td>
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<td>Life on the Rocks is not only the winner of the Nature &amp; Environment Category, but it also tied for first place in the Design &amp; Artistic Merit Category. This double win represents the first time in the history of the National Outdoor Books that a title entered in two categories has won both. One peek inside this large format book, and you’ll see why. You’re immediately drawn to dramatic photographs of mountain goats perched on lofty cliffsides, photographs which hint at the enormous patience that author and photographer Bruce Smith had in trying to get close to these elusive subjects. From the very first page, Smith draws us into a unique world, one that few have ever seen, the high mountains and the resplendent white goats that have adapted to life there. Smith, a wildlife biologist, writes that his desire is to help bring greater appreciation and attention to the conservation needs for this &quot;American athlete of the Alpine.&quot; To that end, his book has accomplished those goals brilliantly.</td>
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*Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.*
Life on the Rocks: A Portrait of the American Mountain Goat

"WINNER 2014"

Written and photographed by Bruce L. Smith;
Co-winner w/Salt: Coastal & Flats Fishing & Winner in Nature & The Environment Cat.


"Life on the Rocks is not only the winner of the Nature & Environment Category, but it also tied for first place in the Design & Artistic Merit Category. This double win represents the first time in the history of the National Outdoor Books that a title entered in two categories has won both. One peek inside this large format book, and you'll see why. You're immediately drawn to dramatic photographs of mountain goats perched on lofty cliffsides, photographs which hint at the enormous patience that author and photographer Bruce Smith had in trying to get close to these elusive subjects. From the very first page, Smith draws us into a unique world, one that few have ever seen, the high mountains and the resplendent white goats that have adapted to life there. Smith, a wildlife biologist, writes that his desire is to help bring greater appreciation and attention to the conservation needs for this "American athlete of the Alpine." To that end, his book has accomplished those goals brilliantly."

Listening to Whales: What the Orcas Have Taught Us

"HONORABLE MENTION 2002"

By Alexandra Morton;

"This, quite simply, is a wonderful book. Alexandra Morton makes a strong case for the orca's continued life on earth. She does this so remarkably well and in such an engaging style that you'll find yourself quickly drawn into the story of her life and research work with whales."

Lookout: Love, Solitude and Searching for Wildfire in the Boreal Forest

"WINNER 2021"

OUTDOOR LITERATURE

By Trina Moyles;
Random House Canada, Toronto ISBN 9780735279919

"In this elegant and captivating memoir, Trina Moyles describes a four-year experience at a fire lookout tower in Canada. If she had just written about her life at the lookout, it would have been a standout among this year’s books, for she is a gifted writer, able to place us in the scene as if we are living it ourselves. But the book is much more. Moyles is largely isolated for four to five months at a time, and we become party to her struggles with being alone. There then are matters of the heart. From her remote location, she is questioning whether she should break it off with her fiancé who has brought her much happiness but comes from a country a world away and an entirely different culture. There are no easy answers, nor is the job an easy one as she surveys the vast, tinder-dry, boreal forest below her lookout and a flash of lightning streaks down from the sky."

Mammal Tracks and Sign: A Guide to North American Species

"WINNER 2019"

OUTDOOR CLASSIC

By Mark Elbroch and Casey McFarland;
Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA ISBN 9780117377476

"In its relatively short life, Mark Elbroch's guidebook about mammal tracks has become a classic. It is, after all, the most comprehensive guide available on the topic, eminently useable and filled with hundreds of photos and illustrations. In addition to visual and textual material on how to recognize tracks, Elbroch includes other clues helpful in making an accurate identification including scat, urine, ground and plant signs."

"WINNER 2003"

NATURE GUIDES

By Mark Elbroch;
Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA ISBN 0811726266

"Mammal Tracks and Sign is one of the most thorough and complete guides to animal tracking ever published. Going beyond where other books leave off, it combines text, drawings, maps and more than 1,000 color photos to unravel the mysteries of North American mammal tracks and signs. Mark Elbroch has poured himself into this book, writing the text, taking the photos and preparing the drawings. It's a monumental effort and an invaluable reference for anyone who enjoys tracking and viewing wildlife."

Molt in North American Birds

"HONORABLE MENTION 2010"

NATURE GUIDES

By Steven N. G. Howell;
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston ISBN 9780547152356

"New and groundbreaking, Molt in North American Birds is a significant addition to our understanding of birds. What is molt? Simply stated, it is the process in which birds shed old, worn feathers and replace them with new, healthy ones. Recognizing the signs of molt adds one more piece to the identification puzzle and more fully helps explain the life of birds. Admittedly, this book is not for the casual avian observer, but professionals and experienced bird watchers will clearly want to add it to their reference library."

Monarchs and Milkweed

"WINNER 2017"

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

By Anurag Agrawal.

"Who can admit being captivated by the monarch? We are attracted by its beauty, of course, and by its amazing migration that can exceed 3,000 miles. But there is something else that makes the monarch fascinating, and that is its perilous relationship with its main food source, the milkweed. As it turns out, milkweed is toxic, and while monarchs have adapted to its toxicity, the plant is still able to marshall its defenses, killing off monarch larvae by various means. In this colorfully illustrated work, Agrawal covers the scientific work behind this combative relationship, among which includes some of his own pioneering studies. Monarchs and Milkweed is not only about a butterfly, but it also gives us a peek into the mind of an inventive scientist, one who clearly admires his subject and who guides us to a better understanding of this most remarkable creature."

Montana and Idaho's Continental Divide Trail

"HONORABLE MENTION 2000"

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES

By Lynna Howard. Photography By Leland Howard.
Westcliffe Publishers

"In the design department, this book tops the chart: artistic, full-color photos, eminently usable maps, elevation charts, trail access symbols, and user friendly layout throughout. If you're planning on doing some hiking on the Continental trail, this is the book to get."
Mountain Ranges of Colorado

Winner 2005

Photographed and Written by John Fielder.
Designed by Mark Mulvany.
Westcliff Publishers, Englewood, CO
ISBN 1565794666

This is a magnificent book! Mountain Range of Colorado is a milestone in the art of mountain photography. It’s also a labor of love, the culmination of fifteen years of dedicated photography throughout the mountains of Colorado. Everything about this book is impressive from the solid cover which resembles a smooth piece of Rocky Mountain granite, to its cohesive and intelligent design, to John Fielder’s masterful photography.

Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills

Winner 1998

Edited by Don Graydon and Kurt Hanson.
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

Freedom of the Hills is the classic English-language text on mountaineering and the best selling climbing instruction book of all time. First published in 1960 and now in its sixth edition, this authoritative and expansive book has evolved with the times, while maintaining its high and exacting standards. It is an essential part of any outdoor library.

Muir Valley Pocket Guide

Honorable Mention 2015

By Rick Weber.
Friends of Muir Valley, Inc., Rogers, KT
ISBN 9780990987918

Muir Valley located in the Red River Gorge of Kentucky is a climbing area, a rather popular climbing area at that. In fact, according to Outside Magazine, it is the most popular climbing area in the east. The Muir Valley Pocket Guide (it truly does fit in a pocket) describes each of the area’s 400 climbing routes. For such a small package, it’s exceptionally comprehensive and easy to use. With intelligent graphics and maps, everything you need is at your fingertips. There’s something else that makes this guide special, and it concerns the generosity of two individuals. Muir Valley would not be the climbing mecca that it is had it not been for the author, Rick Weber and his wife Liz. In 2004, they purchased the land, and at their own expense managed it as a preserve, freely opening it to climbers. In March of 2015, they gifted the land to Friends of Muir Valley which now manages the area. Proceeds from the guide? You guessed it. It’s that same theme of generosity. It all goes to maintain the area.

Mushrooms of the Northeast: A Simple Guide to Common Mushrooms

Winner 2016

By Teresa Marrone and Walt Sturgeon.
Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN
ISBN 9781591395919

There’s a lot to like about this small guide, starting with its size — it will fit easily in the pocket of a pack for use in the field. The book is nicely organized into sections by the mushroom’s shape for ease of identification. Safety is front and center throughout, and that’s underscored with the two most important categories leading off the co-authors: edible and toxic mushrooms. Moreover, from start to finish the authors are careful to point out when an edible mushroom might be confused with a toxic one. Written in a straightforward, no-nonsense style, this is the right book for aspiring mushroomers.

Naturally Curious: A Photographic Field Guide through the Fields, Woods and Marshes of New England

Winner 2011

Photographed and Written by Mary Holland.
Trafalger Square Books, North Pomfret, VT
ISBN 9781570764257

Naturally Curious is a marvelous new nature guide. And quite naturally, it’s by Mary Holland, one of the East’s most seasoned naturalists. She’s also something of a Renaissance woman: educator, advocate, columnist, and photographer. In fact, all 900 color photographs in Naturally Curious are Holland’s. What makes this guide stand out is the way it’s organized. Starting in March, with the first signs of spring, it covers the changes in the natural world, in a month to month basis. You can’t go wrong with this guidebook. It’s one that you’ll use over and over—naturally.

Nature Play Workshop for Families: A Guide to 40+ Outdoor Learning Experiences in All Seasons

Winner 2020

By Monica Wiedel-Lubinski and Karen Madigan.
Quarry Books, Beverly, MA
ISBN 9781631598685

With years of experience in teaching children, Monica Wiedel-Lubinski and Karen Madigan couldn’t have formed a better partnership for this book. While children will enjoy the bright, colorful photos and graphics, it's primarily oriented to adults: parents, youth leaders and teachers. Using an extraordinary practical approach, the co-authors provide innovative ways to entice children away from the indoors and into the outdoors. Their secret? Play. Children love to play, and if you get them playing outdoors, they naturally enjoy being there. Intended for children in the 8 to 12 year range, it’s a joy to use and is packed full of ideas to combine play and learning in the outdoors.

Nature’s Strongholds: The World’s Great Wildlife Reserves

Honorable Mention 2005

By Laura and William Riley.
Princeton University Press, Princeton
ISBN 0691122199

This 672-page tome is a guide to some of the wildest, most wildlife-filled places on earth. It was a massive undertaking, but writers and conservationists, Laura and William Riley were up to the task and brought it off with aplomb.

Night Sky: A Field Guide to the Constellations

Honorable Mention 2010

By Jonathan Popple.
ISBN 9781591393229

This is a fine guide, a perfectly portable companion for a night under the stars. Simple and easy to use, Night Sky is intelligently laid out, focusing on one constellation at time instead of charts with a mass of stars. The top edge of the book is tabbed with colors representing the four seasons. Each season begins with the most easily identified constellations progressing to more difficult. You can use one of two different methods to locate the constellation: an overhead map or horizon chart. All these features are finished off nicely with just the right amount of complementary text to enhance your star gazing experience.

No Barriers: A Blind Man’s Journey to Kayak the Grand Canyon

Honorable Mention 2017

By Erik Weihenmayer and Buddy Levy.
Thomas Dunne Books/St. Martin’s Press, New York
ISBN 9781250088789

Imagine paddling a kayak into the biggest rapid in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. The sound is deafening. Mammoth waves toss your kayak about like it’s a toy. Then imagine paddling into those waves completely blind, not knowing when the next wave is coming or from where. Born with a rare eye disease which left him blind at the age of 13, Erik Weihenmayer takes on the rapids of the Colorado—and other adventures—in this stirring and inspiring book. It may be a cliche, but not for Weihenmayer. He turns the notion of impossible upside down and reveals that all is possible.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
NOLS Cookery  
OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2018  
Edited by Claudia Pearson. Illustrated by Mike Clelland  
Stackpole Books, Lanham, MD | ISBN 9780817798108  
The “NOLS” in NOLS Cookery stands for National Outdoor Leadership School, a non-profit organization that has been sending groups into wilderness areas for 50 years. During that time, they’ve learned a thing or two about outdoor recipes. Now, in its seventh edition, this is the classic guide to backcountry cooking. Introductory chapters cover planning, nutrition, packaging, equipment, and environmental considerations. Included also, are helpful hints on the use of lightweight backpacking stoves and techniques of cooking over fires. The bulk of the book, of course, is filled with nutritious and tasty recipes, guaranteed to have been well tested over the years.

NOLS River Rescue Guide  
INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2015  
By Nate O’stis.  
Stackpole Books | ISBN 9780817793723  
The acronym “NOLS” in the title NOLS River Rescue Guide refers to the National Outdoor Leadership School which has been running river trips for much of the last half century. Colorfully illustrated throughout, the Guide is a compendium of well-tested procedures and techniques that have been found to be practical and useful in their river program. Written by long time river runner and NOLS senior instructor Nate Ostis, it is a welcome addition to river safety literature.

Not Without Peril: 150 Years of Misadventure on the Presidential Range of New Hampshire  
OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2014  
By Nicholas Howe.  
Appalachian Mountain Club Books, Boston | ISBN 9781476739236  
First published 14 years ago, Not Without Peril has quickly risen amongst the ranks of outdoor books and is clearly deserving the title of an outdoor classic. Combining painstaking historical research with his own intimate knowledge of New Hampshire’s White Mountains, Nicholas Howe recounts the struggles, deaths, and near escapes of hikers on Mount Washington. Howe gives us more than just facts of each accident, but goes deeper, placing the accidents in the historical context of the times, including the period’s clothing and equipment, and providing a more complete understanding of the background and personalities of the people involved.

On Trails: An Exploration  
OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2000  
By Robert Moor.  
Simon and Schuster, New York | ISBN 9780743502832  
Author Robert Moor has a thing with trails. It’s a fascination of sorts that began on a five-month, 2,200-mile hike of the Appalachian Trail. Those miles and miles of trail passing beneath his feet gave him plenty of time to think, and upon finishing the hike Moor set off on another journey, this one of the intellectual kind, researching the concept of trails. His investigations quickly move him beyond the realm of hiking to the use of trails by insects, mammals and ancient humans. Through it all, Moor’s observations on trails are fresh, thought provoking, erudite, and full of delightful surprises.

One Man’s Wilderness: An Alaskan Odyssey  
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 1999  
By Sam Keith from the journals of Richard Proenneke.  
Alaska Northwest Books | ISBN 9781680513264  
Lots of books have been published about intrepid souls who head off into the wilderness, build their own cabin, and live a life removed from civilization. But if you were to pick one which comes closest to truly describing that experience, this is the book. Richard Proenneke is a refreshingly simple and wonderful outlook on life, and like the warmth from a potbelly wood stove, you can’t help but be drawn to him and his engaging story. You’ll be there right alongside him on the shore of Twin Lakes, helping him carve out a masterpiece of a cabin, and then settling in with him for a full and introspective life in the Alaskan bush.

Operation Redwood  
CHILDREN’S—Honorable Mention 2009  
By B. Terrell Freeman.  
Boys and girls of the pre-teen years will love this fast-paced novel. Quiet and studious Julian Carter-Li suddenly finds himself caught up in a fight to save some of the oldest trees on earth—and guess who he’s up against: his powerful and greedy uncle Sibley and his wicked Aunt Daphne. Julian comes to the aid of Robin, a girl about his age who lives near the redwoods. As the story races along, the two discover important values of trust, honesty and commitment to a cause.

Orca: Shared Waters, Shared Home  
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2021  
By Lynda V. Mapes.  
Braided River/Mountaineers Books, Seattle | ISBN 9781680532864  
Lynda Mapes is a journalist who reports on environmental and natural history topics for the Seattle Times. In an on-line profile, she says that her work comes from all five senses, and especially, a sixth, a sense of wonder. We see all of those senses, including that important sixth sense, coming into play in this splendid book about the orca whale. She brings us up-to-date with the latest on orca life: where orcas are found, how orca family groups stay together, how their way of communicating is one of the animal world’s most advanced, and what’s being done to save the remaining populations. Beautifully designed, with a profusion of color photography and historic black and white, this is a book that informs – and leave us with a sense of wonder.

Oregon & Washington 50 Hikes With Kids  
CHILDREN’S—Winner 2018  
By Wendy Gorton.  
Timber Press, Portland, OR | ISBN 9781604698808  
This lovely and engaging edition is designed to be taken along on hikes with children. Each of the hikes has been carefully evaluated by author Wendy Gorton for their appropriateness for book, primarily in the 3-8 year range. The hikes by themselves will be exciting for children, but the book is also a learning tool to help stimulate young minds. There is plenty to see and treasures to be found. In fact, Gorton has created treasure hunts for each of the hikes in which children try to find the flora and fauna pictured in the book. Included also are the trail essentials: how to get there, difficulty, hiking time, and... oh yes, perhaps most important: restroom availability.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Our Living Earth

*NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2009*

By Yann Arthus-Bertrand.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Abrams/Books for Young Readers, New York | ISBN 9780810971325

“Our Living Earth is a striking, large format book for readers of the teenage years. The book thoughtfully answers two questions: what does it mean to go green? And what can young people do to help protect life on earth? It’s a world-wide look at environmental problems and potential solutions. Filled with Yann Arthus-Bertrand’s vivid photographs and supplemented with concise and instructive text, the book is sure to capture the attention of budding environmentalists and inspire them to do what they can to help the planet.”

Out of Eden: An Odyssey of Ecological Invasion

*NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2005*

By Alan Burdick.


“Combining exhaustive research and an engaging and lyrical writing style, author Alan Burdick explores the ecological minefield of exotic, non-native species. We zig and zag through that minefield from Hawaii to Guam to San Francisco to Alaska, following the work of scientists in the new field of invasion biology. What we learn in the end is unsettling: nature herself may pose the greatest threat to the future of our planet.”

Out There: In the Wild in a Wired Age

*OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2004*

By Ted Kerasote.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Voyageur Press, Stillwater, Minnesota | ISBN 0896585565

Ted Kerasote has a friendly style of writing, and in *Out There* you feel like you’ve settled in a chat with an old friend. The chat, in this case, centers on a trip that Kerasote has taken down the Horton River of Canada’s Northwest Territories. This not a trip where death is lurking around every corner; rather it’s a fine and thoughtful journey in which Kerasote grapples with the use of GPS, satellite phones, and other technology in the wilderness. Honestly written and well-crafted, it says much about what has become of the outdoor experience.

Outdoor Adventures, Acadia National Park: Your Guide to the Best Hiking, Biking and Paddling

*OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2017*

By Jerry and Marcy Monkman.

Appalachian Mountain Club, Boston | ISBN 1594858756

Situated along the rugged coastline of Maine, Acadia National Park is truly a Northeast treasure. It’s the oldest designated national park area east of the Mississippi River and has a little of everything: 125 miles of hiking trails, 45 miles of historic carriage roads, rocky mountains, ponds, islands and dense evergreen forests. One of the best ways to enjoy it is with this guidebook by Jerry and Marcy Monkman. The Monkman’s are accomplished Eastern writers and photographers, and in this guide, they have detailed 50 choice hiking, biking and paddling trips. There’s even a two-sided 20” x 25” full color map which can be removed from the back cover and which shows all of the routes covered in the book.

Over the Edge: Death in Grand Canyon

*OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2016*

By Michael P. Ghiglieri and Thomas M. Myers.

Puma Press, Flagstaff, AZ | ISBN 9780984785803

Originally published in 2001, *Over the Edge* has since sold well over a quarter million copies. Methodically researched, it categorizes fatalities and near misses into several groupings including falls, flash floods, river running accidents, and freak mishaps such as lightning and rock falls. Yes, it is fascinating reading — if somewhat chilling, especially if you happen to be hiking or boating in the Grand Canyon area while reading it. But its true value lies in the authors’ thoughtful analysis of accidents and their causes — most of which, we learn, are preventable and occur again and again. There’s no such thing as perfect safety in the desert and canyon environment, but by learning from exceptional works as this one, we can certainly tip the odds in our favor.

Pacific Light: Images of the Monterey Peninsula

*NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Honorable Mention 2001*

By Douglas Steakley.

Harbour Publishing, Madeira Park, BC

“This is a book of geography and of passion, communicating its story through the interplay of images and poetry. From Douglas Steakley’s breathtaking photography emerges the face of the Monterey landscape while Ric Masten’s words provide its voice.”

Pacific Seaweeds: A Guide to the Common Seaweeds of the West Coast

*NATURE GUIDES—Honorable Mention 2016*

By Louis D. Druhle and Bridgette E. Clarkson.

Harbour Publishing, Madeira Park, BC

“If you’ve ever wondered about the names of seaweeds that have washed up on shore, this is the guide to reach for. Of the several methods employed by the authors to aid your identification efforts, one of the most clever is the way seaweeds are photographed. The book often portrays a seaweed held in a hand or draped over a finger. That not only helps provide size perspective but it also personalizes the process of identifying it. It’s what you would see when holding a seaweed in your own hand. What plainly comes through in this book is that the authors are enthusiastic and passionate about these plants of the sea. They’ve even included an extra treat for your culinary pleasure: a series of sea vegetable recipes. Bon appétit!”

Paddlenorth: Adventure, Resilience and Renewal in the Arctic Wild

*OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2015*

By Jennifer Kingsley.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Greystone Books, Vancouver | ISBN 9781771640350

“In this absorbing story by Jennifer Kingsley, six friends are on a 54-day canoe journey on the Back River of northern Canada. Kingsley captures the interactions between group members as they move northward through the stark beauty of the tundra landscape. There are challenges, of course: difficult whitewater, long portages, days of violent winds, and mosquitoes – swarms and swarms of mosquitoes. But the human challenges are nearly as daunting: how do six people, dependent upon one another and placed in close quarters day after day, get along on such a long journey? That’s where Kingsley’s work really shines, capturing the human dynamics, the give and take, and the concessions each person needs to make to reach the journey’s end.”

Peak

*CHILDREN’S—Winner 2007*

By Roland Smith.

Harcourt, Orlando, FL | ISBN 9780152024178

“This novel for teens is about a boy who joins his father to climb the highest mountain in the world, Mt. Everest. If he makes it, he’ll be the youngest person to reach the summit. It’s a fast-paced story that ranges from the hustle and bustle of New York to the great, high plateau of Tibet. Does he make it? There’s only way to find out.”

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Peak Nutrition: Smart Fuel for Outdoor Adventure

By Maria Hines and Mercedes Pollmeier.
Mountaineers Books, Seattle

ISBN 9781680512052

“Wow” is the best way to summarize the judges’ reaction to this exquisitely designed and illustrated book on outdoor nutrition. What really-notch ups the wow factor is the great writing team of Mercedes Pollmeier and Maria Hines. Pollmeier is a nutrition expert and a certified strength and conditioning coach. She trains athletes from around the world. Hines is a climber and a chef. Food & Wine magazine included her in their list of “Best New Chefs” and the New York Times has featured her organic restaurant. Combining their diverse talents, they add a little pizzazz to trail cooking, helping you create meals that are both delicious and nutritious. Try one of the recipes in this book and you, too, will be saying wow. The best thing? You’ll never have to resort to a tasteless freeze dried dinner again.

Penguin Planet: Their World, Our World

By Kevin Schaefer.
NorthWord Press

ISBN 9780674952871

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Some of the most endearing creatures of all of nature are penguins. They’ve often been photographed, but never have they been captured in such vivid detail and in all their intimate and strutting glory as in Penguin Planet. But Kevin Schaefer not only takes sumptuous pictures, he writes well in an engaging style, generously complementing an affectionate portrait of the world’s most popular bird.

Postcards from the Ledge: Collected Mountaineering Writings of Greg Child

By Greg Child.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

ISBN 9780898865287

This delightful book, the work of a father and son team, is about a ball of fur called Pup. Jonathan London tells the story of a newly born sea otter, while his son, a gifted illustrator, provides color and form to the story with his tender and eye-catching paintings. Pup grows and learns how to forage for food, all under the watchful eye of his mom. Children will love the dialog: slurp, slurp, slurp; munch, crunch, munch. There’s even some danger and excitement when a shark appears, but it all turns out fine when—you guessed it—mom comes to the rescue. For ages 4-8.

Polar Bears: A Complete Guide to Their Biology and Behavior

By Andrew E. Derocher. Photographs by Wayne Lynch.

The John Hopkins University Press

ISBN 9781421403052

This is one of those rare books that treats climbing history as a subject of serious study, rather than a narrative or biography. While clearly academic in nature with 73 pages of endnotes, it is, nevertheless, a fascinating and illuminating read for climbers and non-climbers alike. Author Joseph Taylor views the history of rock climbing through a social and cultural lens. In one chapter “The Moralists,” Taylor describes the process by which Yosemite climbers—quite surprisingly for a motley and wildly independent lot—create a moral code, a set of environmental ethics by which to climb. Later in the book we find that key members of the climbing counterculture undergo a metamorphism, and end up embracing mainstream American ideals, going on to successful business and professional careers, and even starting multi-million dollar companies. There’s plenty of fat to chew upon here, plenty of ways of examining the world of climbing in a refreshingly new light.

Pilgrims of the Vertical: Yosemite Rock Climbers & Nature at Risk

By Joseph E. Taylor III.

Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA

ISBN 9780674052871

Two books won, this is winner 2.

There’s a certain attraction to polar bears, and Andrew Derocher’s book adds to that attraction by deepening our understanding of these animals and the human activity that is having upon them. Derocher lays out for us a comprehensive review of work done on these great mammals including their biology, ecology and behavior. The text is supplemented by stunning photographs by Wayne Lynch who has spent decades following the bears. It all works excellently together — photos and text — and the reader comes away with a renewed appreciation for one of nature’s most charismatic carnivores.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Ragged Mountain Press Guide to Outdoor Sports

INSTRUCTIONAL---Winner 1997
By Jonathan and Roseann Hanson;
Ragged Mountain Press

This 340-page book covers hiking, backpacking, sea kayaking, rafting, climbing, cross-country skiing and mountain biking. While no one book can cover all of these activities comprehensively, it does an excellent job of getting the beginner started in the right direction. Its tips and sidebars on equipment are instructive and well done—and it has one of the best chapters on outdoor clothing found.

Raptors of the West Captured in Photographs

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT---Winner 2011
Photographed & Written By Kate Davis, Rob Palmer and Nick Dunlop;
Mountaineers Books, Seattle

This is a book of action photography and it will rock your socks: This cover draws you in immediately: two bald eagles, talons spread and about to lock, one above and one below upside down, yellow eyes glaring: the tumbling, breathtaking violence of a fight over food captured in a timeless manner. Raptors is a type of book that you can read in parts when time permits. By design, there's no overarching text, rather each of the photos have instructive captions which explain the behavior pictured. Quite simply, it's among some of the best action bird photography ever published.

Red Rock Canyon: A Climbing Guide

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES---Honor Mention 2005
By Roxanna Broek and Jared McMillen;
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

ISBN 0898864680

There is none more complete. This guidebook to the famous Red Rocks climbing area, 30 minutes from Las Vegas, is fittingly produced and remarkably comprehensive with over 1,500 routes described.

Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE---Winner 2018
By Elizabeth Rush;
Texas A&M University Press. College Station, TX
ISBN 9781623496920

In her debut book, The Southbound River, Elizabeth Rush writes about the US-Mexico border. Rising, her second book, covered the coastlines of the US and addresses the rise of sea level along America's coastlines. Traveling to Maine, Rhode Island, Louisiana, Florida, Oregon and California, she interviews those on the front lines of climate change. She writes as a journalist but makes no pretense that her reporting is dispassionate. Rather, she feels deeply for the people whose homes and livelihoods are at risk or have already been washed away and is deeply skeptical of the idea that we can contain the problem or adapt to it. Her book is both a description of the present environmental crisis and an examination of her own life and the connections between it and her subject: family, relationships, and the dangers of a young woman on journalistic assignments. With sophisticated analyses of her own observations, Rising is a powerful work about one of the most pressing issues of our time.

River of Redemption: Almanac of Life on the Anacostia

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT---Winner 2019
By Krista Schlyer;
Milkweed Editions, Minneapolis
ISBN 9781571313676

This is a book to read in parts when time permits. It is a true story about living on the Anacostia river, told by the author who lived there. It’s a story about the river, but it's also a story about the author. Schlyer grew up in a family of outdoors people who spent time on the river. As a young woman, she moved to Washington, DC, and became a reporter for the Washington Post. She found herself writing about the river, and eventually moved to the riverfront to live there full time. Over the course of ten years, she learned to love and respect the river. Schlyer’s writing is lyrical and evocative, and she is a masterful storyteller. She weaves together personal experiences with scientific research and historical accounts to create a rich and engaging narrative that explores the river’s ecological, cultural, and social significance. The book is beautifully written and well-researched. It’s a celebration of the river and its resilience, and a call to action for protecting our natural resources. It’s a book that will inspire readers to take action to protect our environment and support our community. We highly recommend it.

Road Bike Maintenance

INSTRUCTIONAL---Winner 2008
By Guy Andrews;
Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT
ISBN 9780762747467

Looking for an up-to-date and reliable instructional book on climbing? Look no further. Long time guide and instructor, Craig Luebben takes you through the pages, covering top roping, sport climbing, traditional climbing and bouldering. A lucid text is amply supplemented with instructive photographs, understandable illustrations and a clean and crisp design.

Rowboat in a Hurricane: My Amazing Journey Across a Changing Ocean

OUTDOOR LITERATURE---Honor Mention 2009
By Julie Angus;
Greystone Books, Vancouver
ISBN 9781553653370

In this riveting, true story, author Julie Angus, and her fiancé set out from Portugal in a 23-foot boat made from quarter inch plywood. Their goal: to row across the dangerous and capricious Atlantic ocean from Europe to Central America, a mere 6,000 miles. They row 16 hours a day, each rowing for 2-hour shifts. For 145 days they keep up this grueling routine. But there's more than interminable rowing. It's the same year as Hurricane Katrina and the Atlantic is seething with tropical storms. Their path takes them directly into the storms' midst. This is a book of action photography and it will rock your socks: The cover draws you in immediately: two bald eagles, talons spread and about to lock, one above and one below upside down, yellow eyes glaring: the tumbling, breathtaking violence of a fight over food captured in a timeless manner. Raptors is a type of book that you can read in parts when time permits. By design, there's no overarching text, rather each of the photos have instructive captions which explain the behavior pictured. Quite simply, it's among some of the best action bird photography ever published.

Rowing to Latitude

OUTDOOR LITERATURE---Winner 2002
By Jill Fredston;
North Point Press, New York
ISBN 0374281807

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
**Sage Grouse: Icon of the West**

*DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2018*


Laguna Wilderness Press, Laguna Beach, CA

ISBN 9780984000739

Nothing beats being in the field watching the sensational mating dance of the sage-grouse. There is, however, a close second, and that is paging through Noppadol Paothong’s stunning photography of the bird. Paothong’s artistry as a photographer and his passion as a naturalist is clearly evident in this large format book. In nearly every photo he has managed to obtain the perfect marriage of subject, angle, light and background. Moreover, the accompanying written material, with finely tuned captions and insightful text written by Kathy Love, raises the high bar established by Paothong’s splendid photography. This is truly a superb work of art and prose, and a testament to this enduring icon of the west.

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**Salt: Coastal and Flats Fishing**

*DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2014*

Photographs by Andy Anderson. Essays by Tom Rosenbauer.

Co-author with Life on the Rocks: A Portrait of the American Mountain Goat.

Rizzoli International Publications, New York

ISBN 9780847827062

"How best to describe this book? Dazzling. Simply dazzling. Andy Anderson, the photographer of Salt, is a consummate artist. His dramatic photography combined with an equally dazzling design has created a book that is utterly exhilarating in its depiction of the sport of coastal fishing. Anderson comes at the subject from all angles, from close-up to afar, from eye-level to point-of-view, and from under water to its misty surface. His palettes range from brilliant color to sepia tones to stark black and white. It is a masterful merging of design and photography, a true work of art. The final touch to this outstanding volume are a series of engaging essays by noted fishing author Tom Rosenbauer."

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**Salvaging the Real Florida: Lost and Found in the State of Dreams**

*NATURE HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2011*

By Bill Belleville.

University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL

ISBN 9780813035772

Bill Belleville is the sort of guy that you’d want as a companion on an outdoor trip. He has a child-like curiosity and wonder that is catchy—and he can tell a pretty good story to boot. He is also very much a mature and accomplished author, and his writing is an absolute pleasure to read. This collection of essays, full of hidden gems and wonderful insights, never disappoints. We saunter along with him throughout Florida on hikes, paddles and dives—and through lagoons, forests, swamps, and under coastal waters. Pick up a copy, settle back with a glass of backwoods sweet tea, and enjoy a spirited ride through Florida’s natural world.

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**Sand: The Never Ending Story**

*NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Honorable Mention 2009*

By Michael Welland.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

University of California Press, Berkeley

ISBN 9780520205437

"Sand? Is it really possible to write a book about sand? Indeed it is, and geologist Michael Welland is the perfect one to do it. Welland combines his natural story telling talents with a scientific background to weave together a fascinating account of nature's most ubiquitous substance."

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**Savage Summit: The True Stories of the First Five Women who climbed K2, the World's Most Feared Mountain**

*OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2005*

By Jennifer Jordan.

William Morrow, New York

ISBN 0060587156

"Savage Summit is a brilliantly written account which follows the lives of five women who climbed K2. Shifting through hours of interviews and written materials, Jennifer Jordan weaves together a riveting tale of adventure, ambition, love and tragedy. This book is so well written that it reads like a novel. Mark these words: Savage Summit is destined to assume an honored place among some of the best climbing books ever written."

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**Scats and Tracks of the Rocky Mountains: A Field Guide to the Signs of 70 Wildlife Species**

*NATURE GUIDES—Winner 1999*

By James Halfpenny, Ph.D. Illustrated by Todd Telander & Designed by Dana Kim-Wincapaw.

Falcon Publishing

In this book, conveniently sized to fit in the back pocket, nationally renowned tracker, Dr. James Halfpenny helps decipher the signs left behind by mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. The 145-page guide is a real bargain and includes clear and understandable drawings and concise descriptions of the scats, tracks and gait patterns of 70 Rocky Mountain species.

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**Sea Turtles: A Complete Guide to their Biology, Behavior and Conservation**

*NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2005*

By James R. Spotila.

The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore

ISBN 0801880076

"It won't take long: open this new, beautifully produced book; you'll find yourself hopelessly caught up in the life of sea turtles. Why is this book so captivating? The photography for one. It's simply divine. And so is the accompanying text. Author James Spotila is a marine biologist who has spent his career studying these magnificent creatures of the sea, and he writes with authority, spirit and passion."

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**Secrets of Snakes: The Science Beyond the Myths**

*NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2020*

By David A. Steen.

Two books won in this category, this is winner 1.

Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX

ISBN 9781623497972

"What is impressive about this excellent primer on snakes is its clever organization. It is divided up into a series of statements and/or questions, each lending themselves to short chapters: Does the head of a snake reveal danger? Are baby snakes more dangerous than adults? Can you tell the age of a rattlesnake by its tail? With the reader's interest thus engaged, author David Steen uses the opportunity to correct falsehoods and misconceptions about snakes, and then very effectively follows up by imparting information about snake ecology and biology. It is enlightening without being overly academic, perfect for anyone who wants to learn about the fascinating world of snakes."

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**Seeing Trees: Discover the Extraordinary Secrets of Everyday Trees**

*NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2011*

By Nancy Ross Hugo. Photographs by Llewellyn.

Timber Press, Portland

ISBN 9780801880076

"Author Nancy Ross Hugo is smitten with trees. In fact she'll unabashedly tell you that tree viewing is as exciting as bird-watching. And you'll see why. Just spend a little time paging through this book—sample a bit of Hugo's personable and insightful writing, absorb Robert Llewellyn's splendid photography—and it becomes clear. What this book does differently than many is to examine trees in a close up and personal manner: the resplendent emerging leaves of a white oak, the secreted and graceful immature seed pods of the redbud, the thrilling appearance of a red cedar flower. This striking and delightful book will draw your eyes upward toward the world of leaves and entwining branches, and like Hugo, you may find yourself smitten and thrilled by what you see."

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Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Sharing the Wonder of Birds with Kids  
**NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 1997**
By Laura Erickson, illustrated by Kathryn Marsaa.

Pfeffer-Manning

This is a marvelous text on how to interest children in birding. It's also an equally marvelous text for teaching adults the basics of bird watching. The book is full of helpful hints and the writing is lively and entertaining. It even has jokes.

Question: Why do birds fly south?
Answer: Because it's too far to walk.

Shook: An Earthquake, a Legendary Mountain Guide, and Everest's Deadliest Day  
**HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2021**
By Jennifer Hull.
University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque

ISBN 978-0899788414

In this master work of Everest history, Jennifer Hull reconstructs the events leading up to and following the earthquake which rocked Nepal and the Himalayas in 2015. Using scores of interviews, expedition dispatches, documents, photos and other source material, she pieces together an engrossing story that reads like a novel. This is one is put on your list. It's an impressive work which will hold your interest from start to finish.

Sierra South / Sierra North  
**OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2021**
By Elizabeth Wenk and Mike White.
Wilderness Press/AdventureKEEN, Birmingham, AL

ISBN 978-0899788407

Sierra South and Sierra North have been honored in the past, but by selecting them for this year’s classic award, the judges wanted to highlight the contributions of Thomas Winnett and Karl Schwenke. Winnett and Schwenke were the original authors of these and other Sierra guidebooks and co-founders of Wilderness Press. Sierra North which covers hiking trails between Tahoe and Yosemite was the first, originally published in 1967. It had an orange cover with drawings of big horn sheep and mountains. It wasn’t particularly fancy but it sold like hotcakes. Sierra South followed in 1968. Over the years, the guides have gone through a number of editions and have sold over 100,000 copies. The latest editions have been meticulously updated by Elizabeth Wenk and Mike White and include a feature that Winnett and Schwenke could never have imagined back in 1967: GPS trail coordinates. These fine books are certain to continue to guide hikers for generations to come, all thanks to the foresight and pioneering work of Winnett and Schwenke.

Sierra Summits: A Guide to Fifty Peak Experiences in California's Range of Light  
**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2019**
By Matt Johanson.
Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT

ISBN 978-1493036448

Sierra Summits takes a different approach than many climbing guidebooks. In fact, it's not really for climbers. It's for non-climbers. No ropes or climbing equipment needed. No overnight bivouacs on icy ledges required. All of the fifty summits described in the book can be reached by hiking, and they can be done in a single day. Areas covered by the book include Tahoe, Central Sierra, Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Eastern Sierra.

Simple Fly Fishing: Techniques for Tenkara and Rod & Reel  
**INSTRUCTIONAL—Honorable Mention 2014**
By P.G. Downes.
Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA

ISBN 978-1938340277

This book is about simplicity. Simplicity in fishing. It describes a form of fly fishing in which no reel is used: fishing is done only with a rod, line and fly. It's called tenkara, a traditional form of fly fishing practiced in Japan. All the basics of an instructional book are there: tenkara equipment, casting techniques, knots and flies, but the real appeal of the work are the alternating comments and ruminations of the authors—short anecdotes of fishing experiences, philosophical musings, hints and suggestions for different types of fishing.

Sky Time in Gray's River: Living for Keeps in a Forgotten Place  
**NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2007**
By Robert Michael Pyle.
Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston

ISBN 978-0395828121

In this beautifully designed, hand-sized volume, Robert Michael Pyle describes his life in the little, out-of-the-way village of Gray's River in southwest Washington. He follows the lives of his neighbors—birds, butterflies, cats and people—season by season, over a thirty year period. His keen curious eye and generous whimsical spirit combine with his gifts as a writer to make a lovely meditation on one's own backyard.

Sleeping Island: A Journey to the Edge of the Barrens  
**OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Honorable Mention 2006**
By P.G. Downes.
Heron Dance Press, New Fessburg, VT

ISBN 1933937033

Sleeping Island is the story of P.G. ‘Downes’ 1939 canoe expedition through unmapped country in the remote northern corner of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. His journey takes him to the edge of the Canadian Barrens, a desolate arctic wasteland known to the Indians as the “Land of Little Sticks.” What helps elevate this book over many of the chronicles of early twentieth century canoe excursions is Downes’ intimate knowledge of the trappers, traders, and especially the Indians who live off the land. This is what it was like on the cusp of change, just before the advance of civilization and titanic forces that would forever transform the face of Canada’s north country.

Small Feet, Big Land: Adventure, Home and Family on the Edge of Alaska  
**OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2014**
By Erin McKitchick.
Mountaineers Books, Seattle

ISBN 978-1939937632

Small Feet, Big Land is a beautifully rendered meditation of family, friendship, and the Alaskan outdoors. Erin McKitchick, her husband Hig, and their two children live in a 450-square foot yurt nestled in Southeast Central Alaska. No strangers to the rigors of wild country, McKitchick and Hig had previously set out on a remarkable journey on foot along the rugged Pacific Northwest coast, starting in Seattle and ending at the Aleutian Islands; the later stages of which she was pregnant with her first child. It was a journey with an uncertain outcome, but they made it, all 4,000 miles. In Small Feet, Big Land the couple is still undertaking adventures but this time with a toddler and a newborn baby in tow. They explore wilderness terrain, visit remote Arctic villages, and live for two months atop one of the world’s largest glaciers. It is quite simply what exceptional outdoor literature is all about: an honest, perceptive, and graceful account of life close to nature.

Snakes of the Southeast  
**NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2005**
By Whil Gibbons and Mike Dorcas.
The University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA

ISBN 0820326526

Snakes of the Southeast is an eye-catching new nature guidebook filled with good descriptive writing, a dapper design and strikingly crisp photographs. The 52 species of snakes found in the southeast are fully covered: size charts, distribution maps, key identifiers, habitat descriptions. It's all there in one very nicely wrapped package.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Snow Travel: Skills for Climbing, Hiking, and Moving Across Snow

By Mike Zawaski. The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

ISBN 9781594857201

Whether you are a hiker or climber, sooner or later, you’re bound to find yourself on snow slopes. Steep snow, of course, can be hazardous unless you are prepared. This fully illustrated, comprehensive guide, by a long time outdoor instructor and trainer Mike Zawaski, is designed to help keep you safe. It covers pre-trip planning, self arrest, use of crampons, and advice on how to recognize and evaluate potential hazards.

Super Fly: The Unexpected Lives of the World’s Most Successful Insects


ISBN 9780143134275

“A book about flies? Oh yes. Flies. Those annoying little creatures like mosquitoes, black flies, biting gnats, and house flies. But give yourself a chance with this book. This is not a dry, ponderous academic text. Author Jonathan Balcombe approaches the book in a lively, conversational way. You will be amazed at questions asked and answered. Do flies have a mind? Can they be trained? Can they smell or hear? Do they sleep? Drawing from personal experience, extensive research and interviews with scientists, Balcombe has fashioned a fascinating narrative: a biography, if you will, about the life, loves, and times of super fly.”

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
**Surfboards**

**DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT**—Winner 2008

By Guy Mott.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

This consummately designed and photographed book is about those sleek and simple contrivances that allow surfers to harness the natural power of an ocean wave. Much of Guy Mott’s life has been entwined with the sport, and the text clearly bears out his intimate understanding of boards and their myriad permutations. Whether you’re a surfing dabbler or a serious devotee, it won’t disappoint. One look at this sumptuous book and you’ll agree. It’s a must-have.

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**Take a Seat: One Man, One Tandem and Twenty Thousand Miles of Possibilities**

**HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY**—Winner 2011

By Dominic Gill.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT ISBN 9780762770694

Dominic Gill planned to bicycle from Alaska to the southern tip of South America. Before leaving on the journey, a film producer suggested that he use a tandem bike as a way of spicing things up, making the trip more interesting. Gill thought the idea ridiculous. But when Gill wobbled off at the beginning of his journey on a grey, cold day in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, the shiny new bike he was riding was a tandem. As the trip progressed, at points here and there, he would invite strangers that he met to join him. Sure enough, many took him up on it, adding their energy to his. Some rode with him a few miles, some rode for many days. In the process strangers became friends. Take a Seat is Gill’s engaging story of his two-year-long journey and the friends that helped him along the way.

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**Telling Our Way to the Sea: A Voyage of Discovery in the Sea of Cortez**

**NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE**—Winner 2013

By Aaron Hirsh.


Aaron Hirsh pulls off a small miracle in *Telling Our Way to the Sea*. He takes a book on natural history and fashions it into something akin to a novel. Each year for a decade Hirsh has been taking a small group of students to the Sea of Cortez for a course in ecology and evolutionary biology. In the book, he focuses on one special class, and you’ll quickly find yourself as one of the members of the class snorkeling, wading, and exploring—and listening to Hirsh as he tells our way to the sea. Using dialog, interactions between himself and his students, he merges marine biology, conservation, research, and cultural and natural history into a compassionate and insightful narrative.

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**The American Chestnut: The Life, Death, and Rebirth of a Perfect Tree**

**NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE**—Winner 2008

By Susan Freinkel.

University of California Press, Berkeley ISBN 9780520247307

At one time, the American chestnut tree stretched in great numbers from Georgia to Maine. In the Appalachian Mountains, it was so prolific that it made up fully 25 percent of all tree species. Then in the early 1900s, the chestnut blight fungus, accidentally introduced to North America on imported Asiatic chestnuts, quickly spread. In forty years time, an estimated four billion chestnut trees were dead. Only a handful of isolated trees remained in California and the Pacific Northwest. This is Susan Freinkel’s absorbing story of a cultural American icon and the century-long struggle by those who refused to let the tree slip into oblivion.

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**The Appalachian Trail: Celebrating America’s Hiking Trail**

**DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT**—Winner 2013

By Brian B. King.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Rizzoli Intl Pub. in combination W/Appalachian Trail Conservancy, NY ISBN 9780847839032

The Appalachian Trail is one of the finest achievements in our nation’s outdoor history—and this new lavish book is the perfect testament to that achievement. It also celebrates an important milestone: a birthday! The trail is now a healthy 75 years old. Done in large format, coffee table style, it consists of a series of essays and is packed full of inspiring photography—contemporary and historical. The finishing touch to this already outstanding volume is tucked inside the back cover: a fold-out map of the entire Appalachian Trail.

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**The Arctic Wolf: Ten Years with the Pack**

**NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**—Honorable Mention 1998

By David Mech.

Voyageur Press

Written by one of the world’s foremost authorities on wolves, this book is about Mech’s work with a pack of Arctic wolves which he first began to study in 1986. It is as much a fascinating personal account as it is a classic field study. Moreover, it’s a stylish and elegant book, lavishly illustrated with color photography.

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**The Beckoning Silence**

**OUTDOOR LITERATURE**—Winner 2003

By Joe Simpson.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 089869412

This is the story of a mountaineer in the autumn of his career coming to grips with his own mortality and dwindling physical resources. An extraordinary storyteller, Joe Simpson takes us on a series of adventures which span the globe, culminating in one final, career-ending climb of the North Face of the Eiger. Simpson is at his best when the chips are down and the line between life and disaster is stretched paper thin. Hold onto your seat. In *The Beckoning Silence*, Simpson is at his best.

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**The Bee: A Natural History**

**NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**—Honorable Mention 2015

By Noah Wilson-Rich.

Princeton University Press, Princeton

Two books won Honorable Mention, this is winner 1.

Bees have been in the news a lot these days—and for good reason. Populations are plummeting and there’s real concern on how our food supply will be impacted, much of it dependent on bee pollination. Author Noah Wilson-Rich lays out the irrefutable fact: bees and humans are inseparably interconnected. The bee world is a vast one. Over 20,000 species have been identified, and while no one volume can adequately cover all species, The Bee nimbly summarizes representative members of the nine bee families. There is little something about all aspects of bees from their biology to their behavior to the profession of bee keeping. It’s all beautifully arranged with a winsome design, instructive illustrations and outstanding photographs.

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**The Book of Eels: Our Enduring Fascination with the Most Mysterious Creature in the Natural World**

**NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE**—Winner 2020

By Patrik Svensson.


Patrik Svensson’s Book of Eels is natural history writing at its finest. It only takes a few pages, and Svensson draws you in, delivering a graceful and moving account of these elusive and mysterious creatures. Ever so gradually, he pieces together humankind’s quest for knowledge about eels, a quest that, interestingly enough, starts with Aristotle. Parts are also played by Sigmund Freud and Rachel Carson, but the star of the show is Johannes Schmidt who spends much of his life searching the world’s oceans to find where European eels are birthed. Part marine biology, part historical drama, and part personal narrative, *The Book of Eels* is an extraordinary achievement.
The California Wildlife Habitat Garden: How to Attract Bees, Butterflies, Birds and Other Animals

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Honorabile Mention 2013

By Nancy Bauer.

University of California Press, Berkeley

ISBN 9780520267817

Can a backyard, even a small one, be a sanctuary for wildlife? The answer is a resounding yes, and Nancy Bauer in this colorful book guides you, step-by-step, how to do exactly that. While the book is oriented to California gardens, the practices that she describes apply everywhere. Moreover, they are sorely needed. Bee populations are rapidly declining. Some songbird species are disappearing, and even numbers of the majestic Monarch have dwindled. A major cause of those declines is the loss of habitat, and by creating wildlife gardens we can give nature a hand, helping to restore some of what’s been lost.

The Columbia: Sustaining a Modern Resource

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 1998

By Tim Palmer.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

ISBN 9780071493901

Tim Palmer, in one of his finest works on rivers, celebrates the beauty and natural resources of the Columbia. Taking readers from one tributary to another across the vast and varied Pacific Northwest landscape, he describes the river’s watershed, the intricate pattern of development, and its dwindling forests and salmon runs. He details what is wrong but also offers hope that responsible politics can redirect society toward a sustainable future.

The Complete Mountain Biking Manual

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2007

By Tim Brink.

Ragged Mountain Press, Camden, ME

ISBN 9781362101X

One look at this book and you’ll want to grab your bike and head for the trail. Colorful, comprehensive and competently written, the Complete Mountain Biking Manual lives up to its title.

The Complete Sea Kayaker’s Handbook

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2002

By Shelley Johnson.

Ragged Mountain Press, Camden, NH

ISBN 978007136210X

It’s all here in one well-organized, well-illustrated and well-written book: equipment, clothing, technique, navigation, safety, camping and trip planning. The title says it all. It truly is the complete sea kayaker’s handbook.

The Crossley ID Guide: Raptors

NATURE GUIDES—Honorabile Mention 2013

By Richard Crossley, Jerry Liguori and Brian Sullivan.

Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ

ISBN 9780691157405

If you haven’t seen a Crossley bird guide, you’re in for a visual treat. Birder and photographer Richard Crossley creates a sort of bird montage which he manipulates into an exceptionally effective identification tool. In this guide, he starts with a dozen or more images of a raptor, showing it in a wide variety of perspectives: near and far, gliding and soaring, landing and perching. He, then, superimposes them on a background image representing a habitat in which the raptor might be commonly found. The result, particularly when spread across two pages, is as stunning as it is highly instructive. Topping it off are Crossley’s two co-authors, both noted raptor authorities, who have prepared much of the text which supplements the illustrative material.

The Cycling Bible: The Complete Guide for all Cyclists from Novice to Expert

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2011

By Robin Barton.

Faretwater Press, Guilford, CN

ISBN 9780762769995

The title of Robin Barton’s 350-page work couldn’t be more apt: it is, indeed, a bible, covering all aspects of cycling from recreational riding to road racing to mountain biking. Nicely designed and filled with crisp, instructive color photographs, the Bible includes up-to-date information on equipment, step-by-step tutorials on cycling technique, sage advice on safety and fitness, helpful hints on maintenance and repairs, and great rides throughout the world.

The Doing of the Thing: The Brief, Brilliant Whitewater Career of Buzz Holmstrom

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 1998

By Vince Welch, Cort Conley, and Brad Dimock.

Faretwater Press

ISBN 9781362101X

In this well-researched and well-written biography, western whitewater pioneer Buzz Holmstrom, famous for his 1937 thousand-mile solo run down the Colorado River, comes to life. Near its conclusion, the book answers one of the great mysteries of the whitewater world: how and why did Holmstrom die on the Grand Ronde river in Oregon? This is a wonderful story about rivers and wooden boats, humility, solitude, and one man’s lone struggle in a difficult and changing world.

The Emerald Mile: The Epic Story of the Fastest Ride in History Through the Heart of the Grand Canyon

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2013

By Kevin Fedarko.

Scribner, New York

ISBN 9781439159859

In late 1983, under the cover of darkness, three river guides slipped a wooden dory into the swollen waters of the Colorado. The river was in flood, a torrent not seen since the gates had been closed on the Glen Canyon Dam years earlier and located just upstream from their launching point. What they were doing was illegal. Yet the risk of arrest was a small matter compared to their goal to run the river faster than any other. Run-off from an unusual heavy snow year was pouring into the reservoir behind the Glen Canyon dam. So much water was coming so fast that it threatened the integrity of the dam, and the dam’s operators were releasing unheard of amounts of water. Author Kevin Fedarko focuses on the three guides, but at the same time, he adly weaves into his narrative the broader story of the river itself, and the clash of two opposites: those who love the wild untouched river – and those who desire to use the river for economic benefit. Like the small wooden boat flung down the river, Emerald Mile is a riveting ride through history, politics and big dreams.

The Field Guide to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks

NATURE GUIDES—Honorabile Mention 2013

By Kurt F. Johnson.

Farcountry Press, Helena, MT

ISBN 9780691157405

“Heading to Yellowstone or the Teton?” Planning to take along a few field guides but realize there’s only room for one? Here’s the one to take. Kurt Johnson’s Field Guide to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks is compact and full of clear and colorful illustrations. You’ll be amazed at the scope of this 244-page guide. It literally covers it all: plants, wildlife, insects, reptiles, birds, tracks – and, yep, even the starry skies at night.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
The Forest Unseen: A Year's Watch in Nature
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2012
By David George Haskell
Viking | ISBN 9780670023370.

“Unfortunately, most of us are like the raccoon: we simply don’t notice what is going on around us. We’ve lost our capacity to observe, to notice, to be astonished at what we see.”  

One square meter: That’s what Forest Unseen is about: one square meter of a Tennessee forest. But in George Haskell’s able hands, that’s all that is needed to reveal a world of wonder and magic. An engaging and poetic writer, Haskell takes us on a journey through the seasons, documenting the changes in an old growth forest and describing the many ecological processes occurring there. Through Haskell’s words, the forest comes alive and seeps gently and unobtrusively into our conscience. Haskell has done it masterfully — writing with a quiet humility and a deceptive simplicity that mirrors the life in his small patch of the natural world.

The Ghosts of K2: The Epic Saga of the First Ascent
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2016
By Mick Conefrey

Of all the highest mountains in the world, K2 ranks among the most difficult and dangerous. It’s not only the peak’s rarified air and exposed flanks that are responsible for its reputation, but violent storms can suddenly materialize, trapping climbers for days on end. Using newly available source materials and interviews with surviving team members of past expeditions, author Mick Conefrey skillfully re-constructs a vivid and gripping history of the mountain.

The Grand Canyon: Between River and Rim
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2019
Photographs and Text by Pete McBride, Design by Susi Oberhelman

Ah Baja! The sea kayaker’s paradise. When the day comes and when you’re ready to head out to paradise, this is the guidebook to take. It covers a total of 1,500 miles of Baja shoreline and describes the circumnavigation of 30 islands. All of the trips are neatly overlaid on crisp Landsat satellite photos. It’s a lovely book, one that would make for a much-appreciated gift, and certainly deserving a prominent position on every owl fancier's bookshelf.

The Great Lakes: The Natural History of a Changing Region
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2008
By Wayne Grady
Greystone Books, Vancouver | ISBN 9781553651970

This is a compelling and timely exploration of a vitally important ecosystem in the heart of the North American continent. The five lakes (Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie and Superior) constitute the largest readily available freshwater in the world, about 20 percent of the planet’s total. Nicely designed with color photographs, diagrams and maps, and written by one of Canada's best-known science writers, The Great Lakes is the perfect vehicle to understand this remarkable area.

The Incidental Steward: Reflections on Citizen Science
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2012
By Akiko Busch

“...citizen science” to better describe the expansive scope and lasting benefits which come from their work. In The Incidental Steward Busch escorts us throughout the Hudson Valley area where we visit several citizen science projects as they assist in biological research, make and record observations, organize other volunteers, and work to improve the natural environment. It’s an enriching process for those who participate and for science in general. Busch has done something special here, creating a song about place, a call to engagement, and a thoughtful commentary on our rapidly changing world.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
The Kid's Guide to Birds of Minnesota
CHILDREN'S—Honorable Mention 2018
By Stan Tekiela. Illustrations by Elleyna Ruud. Design by Jonathan Norberg.
There were two winners in this category. This is winner 1.
Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN | ISBN 9781591937859

This pocket-sized book is the perfect guide for budding bird watchers. Bird expert Stan Tekiela has done a dandy job of boiling down bird identification to short and simple sentences that kids from 8 to 12 years old will easily understand. Each bird is illustrated with a full-page photo. On the opposite page from the photo, Tekiela provides one-sentence identification clues: what to look for, where to find them, what they eat, etc. His final flourish is to end each bird segment with a fun factoid called “Stan’s really cool fact!”

The Kid's Outdoor Adventure Book: 448 Great Things to Do in Nature Before You Grow Up
CHILDREN'S—Honorable Mention 2013
By Stacy Torino and Ken Keller. Illustrations by Rachel Riordan.
Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT | ISBN 9781597283526

This is the perfect book to draw children (3-13 years of age) away from computers, electronic games and television. What is its secret? Colorful illustrations for one. A whole book full of fun ideas for another. And then there are those checkboxes. Checkboxes? Indeed! Kids love them. They’ll be keen to check off the boxes and to run outdoors for the next adventure. Whether you live in the city or in the country, The Outdoor Adventure Book is chock full of things to try — and children won’t even need a computer to try them.

The Last Great Wild Places: Forty Years of Wildlife Photography
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2015
Photography by Thomas D. Mangelsen. Text by Todd Wilkinson
Rizzoli, New York | ISBN 9780847837240

This magnificent book will catch your breath. And once your breath returns to normal, and you turn the page, well, your heart will stop. Within the covers of The Last Great Wild Places is the life work of accomplished photographer Thomas D. Mangelsen. It is a work spanning forty years during which he has captured the beauty of the natural world on seven continents. Photography this good deserves special treatment, and the publisher has left no stone unturned in creating a book of the highest quality. The reproductions are exquisite—and the photographs, had they been printed on separate sheets, could have been mounted and hung on a wall. This is as close as it gets to a gallery visit and what better exhibit to take in than the enthralling work of Thomas D. Mangelsen.

The Last Man on the Mountain: The Death of an American Adventurer on K2
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Honorable Mention 2010
By Jennifer Jordan.
Two books won, this is winner 1.

In 2002, while exploring the glacier at the base of K2, the world's second highest summit, author Jennifer Jordan and climber Jeff Rhoads came upon a grisly sight: the remains of Dudley Wolfe, an American who disappeared on the mountain in 1939. Saddened by the sight, but yet curious about Wolfe and his fate, Jordan, a journalist, spends the next several years investigating the story. For Jordan, it becomes an all-consuming endeavor reconstructing the personalities and events which led to Wolfe's disappearance. What she uncovers is a story of wealth, ambition, and betrayal.

The Last Polar Bear: Facing the Truth of a Warming World
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2008
Photographs by Steven Kazlowski.
Two books won, this is winner 1.

There is no better indicator of the consequences of global warming than the plight of the polar bear -- and there's no one better to capture the great white bear of the Arctic than photographer Steven Kazlowski. Kazlowski's stunning photographs, obtained in the most difficult of conditions, place the bear in context with a rapidly changing environment. But it's not just illustrative material that make this a winning book, Kazlowski's photographs are given meaning and understanding through series of insightful essays by noted authors, conservationists and native Alaskans.

The Last Season
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2006
By Eric Blehm.

Randi Morgenson is an experienced backcountry ranger in Kings Canyon National Park of the California Sierras. He leaves on a routine patrol to an area, which after 28 seasons, he knows as well as anyone alive, but Morgenson never returns. An extensive air and ground search ensues. No sign of the ranger is found. Was it an accident? Was it foul play? Or was it all just a ruse? Could Morgenson still be alive? In this outstanding work of investigative journalism, author Eric Blehm spent eight years researching this book and it clearly shows. He sets the stage, draws you in, and slowly unravels the truth of this absorbing mystery of the Sierra mountains.

The Leaf Man
CHILDREN'S—Honorable Mention 2005
By Lois Ehlert.
Harcourt, New York | ISBN 01520505042

In this warm and radiant book full of fall colors, we follow the travels of Leaf Man -- who, incidentally, just happens to reside in a nearby pile of leaves. He goes tumbling away, past pumpkins and winter squash and lakes and rivers. Children will love to follow along on the journey and point out all the colorful leaves they see on the way. For ages 4 to 8.

The Ledge: An Adventure Story of Friendship and Survival on Mount Rainier
OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2012
By Jim Davidson and Kevin Vaughan.
Two books won, this is winner 1.

The Ledge is story telling at its finest. Jim Davidson is descending from a climb of Mount Rainier when he plunges into a crevasse, pulling his partner in with him. Davidson survives the fall, but unknown to him at the time, his pack has stopped him, wedging between two walls of ice. Below him is an abyss. Shortly after he stops, a massive avalanche stops dead on top. Then his partner hurtles down and lands on top. Somehow Davidson must dig himself out of the snow, provide aid to his critically injured partner, and plan a way to climb out — all while, delicately balanced on his pack. He is a struggle that involves all of his faculties and which alternates between hope, despair, and terror. From start to finish, this is a story that will hold you spellbound.

The Little Green Island With a Little Red House: A Book of Colors and Critters
CHILDREN'S—Winner 2005
By Sharon Lovejoy.
Down East Books, Rockport, ME | ISBN 0892726733

“On a little green island, stands a little red house, with a little orange cat, a little gray mouse . . . .” So begins, Sharon Lovejoy’s gem of a children’s book about colors and critters. Written for young children, ages three and older, Lovejoy uses tender rhyme, playful fonts, and wondrous illustrations to introduce a bestiary of creatures inhabiting homes, yards, fields and woods. It’s certain to excite and delight all young budding naturalists.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
The Living Bird: 100 Years of Listening to Nature

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2016
Photography-Gerrit VynDesign-Jane Jeszeck;Essays-Scott Weidensaul, Lyanda Haupt, John Fitzpatrick, & Jared Diamond

Two books won; this is winner 1.


*From one of the leading ornithology labs comes a book with extraordinary design and breathtaking imagery. Within the pages of this elegant book, master photographer Gerrit Vyn and leading naturalists, explore the fascinating world of birds. It’s not just Vyn’s accomplished photography — though the book could stand alone on Vyn’s art alone — it is also filled with up-to-date facts, and insightful and satisfying writing. This is a superior production in every respect. If you have just one book on birds in your library, you can’t make a better choice than this one.

The Living Wild

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2001
Photography by Art Wolfe.

Wildlands Press, Seattle

This is a book that will take your breath away. The Living Wild is a technical and intellectual marvel, providing a photographic celebration of the diversity of life inhabiting our planet. Celebrated nature photographer Art Wolfe took three years to produce the color photographs of 140 different species from 40 different countries that grace the pages of this large format book. Wolfe is clearly at the top of his game in The Living Wild, and this book should reinforce his position among the best nature photographers in the field. Using a highly effective combination of lens size and perspective, he almost brings the viewer into the photograph, blurring the boundaries of real and artificial. It’s a sight to behold.

The Lost Forest

CHILDREN'S—Honororable Mention 2019
By Julie Bertagna. Illustrated by William Goldsmith.
University of Minnesota Press. Minneapolis | ISBN 9780816697960

Many years ago, surveyors in Minnesota made a mistake in their map making and placed a lake in the middle of what was really an old growth forest. For more than seventy-five years, the mistake stayed on maps, and the ancient timber on the site remained safe from logging. Along with Betsy Bowen's sumptuous illustrations, author Phyllis Root tells the story of the lost forest and its eventual preservation as one of the last and largest stands of virgin timber in Minnesota.

Age group: 4-9 years old.

The Lost River: A Memoir of Life, Death, and Transformation on Wild Water

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 1999
By Richard Bangs.

Arizona Highways, Phoenix

Sierra Club Books in conjunction with Random House

*Since the early 1970s, Richard Bangs has been in the vanguard of river exploration. He is particularly known for his bold ventures deep into the recesses of Africa. In nearly a dozen books, Bangs has written of his experiences, but in this book we see and learn more of him than ever before. Primarily this book is about his 1996 pioneering run of Ethiopia's Tekeze River, but the most interesting and telling part of the story is the long, and sometimes tragic, path which led him there.

The Melting Edge: Alaska at the Frontier of Climate Change

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2012
By Michael Collier.

Alaska Geographic Association | ISBN 978098576519

There is no better place in the United States to observe the effects of climate change than Alaska: Glaciers are retreating, permafrost is thawing, and coastal areas are eroding. While much has been written about the subject, author Michael Collier takes things a step further and shows us the consequences of global warming by the use of colorful and instructive photographs. It's a complex subject, but Collier provides concrete examples and boils it down to the essentials. In the process, he takes us to the far corners of Alaska to learn from the scientists studying the effects of a changing climate and from the people living it day to day.

The Middle Fork of the Salmon River: A Comprehensive Guide

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2006
By Matt Leidecker.

Idaho River Publications, Hailey, ID | ISBN 1424302668

*More than any, river guidebooks get used—and abused. All day, they are in and out of ammo cans, passed around, and used to keep track of mileage, to re-check routes through rapids, and to find the night's camp. They have to be tough, conveniently sized, able to withstand a soaking or two, have easy-to-read maps, and clear and concise descriptions. Matt Leidecker's Middle Fork guidebook fits the bill perfectly. If you have a trip planned on Idaho's Middle Fork of the Salmon, this is the guide written and built for the job.

The Mountain Traveller's Handbook

INSTRUCTIONAL—Honorable Mention 2002
By Paul Deegan.

British Mountaineering Council, Manchester, UK | ISBN 0903308476

*Packed with solid and useful advice, use this creatively designed and colorfully illustrated book to plan treks and explore the mountains of distant lands.

The Mountains Know Arizona

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2004

Arizona Highways, Phoenix | ISBN 1893860876

*This book started with a wish that would have been difficult to achieve under any circumstances: tell the story of Arizona through the perspective of its mountain ranges. Arizona, after all, is a desert state. But photographer Michael Collier and writer Rose Houk did just that. From seven of Arizona's mountain ranges, we learn something of the state's first inhabitants, its settlers and fortune seekers, its diversity of landforms and ecosystems, and even something of contemporary life. This is a stylish and satisfying book and a testament to a wish come true.

The National Outdoor Leadership School's Wilderness Guide

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2000
By Mark Harvey.

A Fireside Book Published by Simon & Schuster

*The National Outdoor Leadership School is one of the outdoor world's most respected wilderness education programs. They were one of the first schools to extensively promote and instruct wilderness users in the techniques of treading lightly and minimizing impact on the outdoors. This is their manual: a compilation of many years of experience, a backpacker's handbook filled with practical and well-tempered advice about equipment, planning, clothing, traveling, navigation, and safety.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
The Only Kayak: A Journey Into the Heart of Alaska

OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2020
By Kim Heacox.
Lyons Press, Guilford, CT ISBN 978143026814

In this elegant and moving memoir, Kim Heacox writes of his years living and working in Glacier Bay. It is about paddling trips with friends, intimate encounters with wildlife, his work as a ranger, and excursions with an engaging young woman who, as it happens, becomes his life partner. Through it all, he wrestles with the questions that plague all conscientious outdoor users: the never ceasing encroachment of untrammeled spaces, our relationship with the wild, and our relationship with one another. He often draws from thinkers, explorers, philosophers, and environmental writers of the past. This is a thoughtful and penetrating work of outdoor literature that clearly ranks among Alaska’s finest.

The Orvis Fly-Tying Guide

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2001
By Tom Rosenbauer. Illustrations by Rod Wallinches. Fly Pattern Photographs by Henry Ambrose.
The Lyons Press, New York

“Never tied a fly before? This is the book to get. With its clear, step-by-step instructions, great color photographs, and uncluttered and thoughtful design, you’ll find yourself tying up streamers, nymphs, as well as dry and saltwater flies in no time.”

The Orvis Fly-Rod Guide

INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2000
By Dr. John E. St. John.
The Lyons Press, New York

“Every fisherman, from novice to master, has a need to know how to choose the right rod and line for fly fishing. Until now, there has been no work on the market that exposes the mysteries of fly rod and line selection. This book is the first detailed and comprehensive guide to fly rod and line choice.”

The Pacific Alone: The Untold Story of Kayaking’s Boldest Voyage

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2019
By Dave Shively.

There were 2 winners in this category. This is winner 2.

Falcon, Guilford, CT ISBN 9781493026814

“The 2,880 mile Pacific Crest Trail is one of the great hiking trails of the world, passing along the spine of the Sierras of California and the snow-capped Cascades of Oregon and Washington. A great trail deserves a great guidebook, and the three volumes making up the Pacific Crest Trail series rise to the challenge. Written by accomplished hikers and regularly updated, accompanied with useable maps, and filled with helpful information on the trails, the Pacific Crest Trail guides have been and remain the best of the best.”

The Packraft Handbook: An Instructional Guide for the Curious

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2021
By Luc Mehl.

This is it: the bible of packrafting! It has it all: comprehensive coverage, intelligent layout, eye-catching photography, first rate illustrations and color throughout. Author Luc Mehl’s breadth of experience clearly shows with coherent, step-by-step instructions and plenty of helpful tips. One of the book’s strong points is Mehl’s emphasis on safety. He returns to the safety angle again and again with the hope that his readers will keep it foremost in their minds. The package is complete with an abundance of Sarah Glaser’s clear and instructive illustrations which perfectly complement the text.

The Passenger Pigeon

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Honorable Mention 2015
By Errol Fuller.

Princeton University Press, Princeton

ISBN 9780691162959

If you have an affinity for birds, you are probably familiar with the story of the Passenger Pigeon and how it had at one time numbered in the billions—and how by the end of the 1800’s had been hunted to extinction. There have been a number of fine works which have covered the Passenger Pigeon in great detail. This book serves a different purpose. Using a combination of text and plentiful illustrative material, it serves as a compressed, yet thoughtful overview of the bird: what it looked like, its habits, the causes of its demise, and its cultural history. Author Errol Fuller calls the book a “celebration” of the once great presence of the bird, and with historical photographs and paintings found throughout, that’s an apt characterization.

The Pipestone Wolves: The Rise and Fall of a Wolf Family

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Honorable Mention 2017
By Günther Bloch.

Rocky Mountain Books, Vancouver, BC ISBN 9781493026814

Some 20 years ago, a new wolf family moved into the Bow Valley of Banff National Park and ended up dominating the area for the next five years. This book is about the investigations of two dedicated field researchers into that wolf family, and thanks to their efforts we know a great deal more about the dynamics of wolf packs and wolf behavior. Luc Mehl’s emphasis on safety. He returns to the safety angle again and again with the hope that his readers will keep it foremost in their minds. The package is complete with an abundance of Sarah Glaser’s clear and instructive illustrations which perfectly complement the text.

The Pole

CHILDREN’S—Winner 2008
By Eric Walters.
Puffin Canada/Penguin Group, Toronto ISBN 9780143167914

“The Pole is a splendid work of historical fiction oriented to pre- and early teens. It is built around the epic adventure of Robert Peary’s 1909 attempt to reach the North Pole. Canadian children’s author Eric Walters tells the story of a fourteen-year-old boy, Danny, who has obtained a job on Peary’s ship as a cook’s helper. Because of his age, Danny expects to remain on the ship while the expedition to the North Pole is underway, but once they reach Greenland, he quickly establishes his worth as a dog musher. Peary decides to take him along on the journey north, and Danny suddenly finds himself on an adventure of a lifetime.”

The Raptor Almanac: A Comprehensive Guide to Eagles, Hawks, Falcons and Vultures

NATURE GUIDES—Honorable Mention 2001
By Scott Weidensaul.
The Lyons Press, New York

“An all-inclusive reference guide to raptors, this book is for those bird-watching enthusiasts who want to go beyond the fundamentals. Its contents include raptor evolution, behavior, courtship, nesting, migration, and more.”

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
The Rio Grande: A River Guide to the Geology and Landscapes of Northern New Mexico
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2011
By Paul W. Bauer;
New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, Socorro, NM ISBN 9781883905286

This colorful and remarkably well done guide, covering 153 miles of the Rio Grande, is packed full of information for flatwater and whitewater paddlers. But it's not just for river runners. Hikers, anglers and cyclists will also find it invaluable in their trips to Rio Grande country. The maps are first rate. They were developed from an aerial photo base and use a blend of colors and shaded relief to make the river topography stand out. The geological information, both textual and illustrative, is some of the best the judges have seen in a river guide.

The Rockfishes of the Northeast Pacific
NATURE GUIDES—Honorable Mention 2003
By Milton S. Love, Mary Yoklavich, and Lyman Thorsteinson;
University of California Press, Berkeley, CA ISBN 0520224383

Who says scientists can't have a little fun? This 400-page, well-illustrated and scrupulously scientific book is a significant contribution to our understanding of the rockfishes. It's also a delight to read.

The Rocky Mountain Foods Cookbook
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Honorable Mention 1997
Written and illustrated by Darcy Williamson, cover art by Larry Milligan, design by Teresa Sales;
Caxton Press ISBN 9780433414

Right off the bat, this is an eye catching book with a beautifully done painting of a mountain scene on the cover. The inside is equally attractive with a tastefully sparse layout, plenty of white space to rest the eye and a full color midsection. But it isn't only the design that earned this book an honorable mention. The judges were surprised and delighted with the content: an astonishing selection of delectable dishes, all done with common wild foods.

The Salt Path
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Honorable Mention 2019
By Raynor Winn;

Inner Ranges is a collection of writings; the culmination of a lifetime of puzzling over what it is that motivates climbers and mountain explorers. Geoff Powter comes at it from a unique perspective, that of a practicing clinical psychologist. Included are his own personal stories, opinion pieces, and insightful profiles of notable climbers. What adds greatly to the book's appeal is that Powter has added commentary, evaluating his past writings in a new light and adding clarity in the passing of the years.

The Scout’s Guide to Wild Edibles
NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2017
By Mike Krebill;
St. Lynn’s Press, Pittsburgh ISBN 978143366064

Sometimes good guidebooks come in small packages. The Scout’s Guide to Wild Edibles almost fits in a back pocket, and yet, for its relatively small size, it packs in a lot of information. Author Mike Krebill knows his wild edibles, and he knows how to make a guidebook fun for young people. A wild food expert and a Scout leader, he divides the book into two parts: the first is the identification guide profiling 40 widely found edible wild plants and mushrooms. The second consists of recipes and ways of cooking wild foods. In this last half boys and girls are pictured preparing and cooking plants that they have gathered on their outdoor forays. It’s oriented to the younger set, of course, but adults just might want to sneak one along on the next outing. They’ll find it pretty handy too.

The Sacred Place: Witnessing the Holy in the Physical World
OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Honorable Mention 1997
Edited by Scott Olsen and Scott Cairns;
University of Utah Press ISBN 9780143143878

This anthology includes the poetry and prose of 53 writers including such heavies as Annie Dillard, William Kittredge, Barry Lopez, John McPhee and Terry Tempest Williams. While it wanders a little from outdoor and nature writing, it does provide an inviting glimpse of a turn in American literature toward the natural world as a place of revelation and where the sacred and the physical world take on new and provocative possibilities.

The Secret Lives of Backyard Bugs
CHILDREN’S—Winner 2011
By Judy Burris and Wayne Richards;

Judy Burris and photographer Wayne Richards are into bugs. What sort of bugs? Let’s see. There are grasshoppers, beetles, butterflies, dragonflies, spiders, crickets and more. All of these creatures are shown in close-up photographs, each showing different stages of the bug’s life cycle. Clear and understandable explanations accompany each new section. This is the perfect nature guidebook for children, and it will help lead and instruct them through the fascinating world just outside their doors. Age group: 8 to 13 years.

The Secret Wisdom of Nature: Trees, Animals, and the Extraordinary Balance of All Living Things
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Honorable Mention 2019
By Peter Wohlleben

There were two winners in this category. This is winner 1.
Greystone Books, Vancouver ISBN 9781771643887

Reading The Secret Wisdom of Nature is like having an informal chat with Peter Wohlleben, ambling along, on a stroll through the woods near his home. There is an intimacy about this book, a relaxed personal touch about his deliberations on the subject of ecology. Using examples and the results of research from North America, Europe and other locales, he poses a series of questions. Using simple and understandable language, he answers them, painting the study of ecology with an entirely new pallette of colors.

The Small Heart of Things: Being at Home in a Beckoning World
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2014
By Julian Hoffman;
The University of Georgia Press, Athens ISBN 9780820347758

In this elegant celebration of nature and place, Julian Hoffman focuses on his home country: the Prespa Lake area that straddles the borders of Greece, Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. It’s an area little known to most readers, but Hoffman very quickly pulls us at ease, describing the natural surroundings in a way which is compelling and familiar. He also celebrates the human element of his surroundings—the warmth and generosity of the local people—who in combination with the natural environment make the Prespa Lake countryside special to him. It is the small things that capture Hoffman’s attention, and through the simple power of his writing, they attract us as well. It may be a caterpillar carrying its house of leaves, shepherds ranging high mountain pastures, or a quail taking cover in an empty steppe. He very capably knits together these and other reflections into a coherent and captivating treatment, an ode, in essence, to the small things which bind us to the places that mean the most in our lives.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
The Snake and the Salamander: Reptiles and Amphibians from Maine to Virginia

By Alvin R. Breisch. Illustrated by Matt Patterson.


Alvin Breisch’s long time work with reptiles and amphibians is clearly evident in this elegant and resourceful book. A total of 83 different species are showcased and described in a refreshingly conversational style. Scattered through the text are delightful nuggets of information. The Smooth Greensnake, for instance, “is a bit of a picky eater.” What gives this book the “wow” factor are the 94 paintings by master illustrator Matt Patterson. Patterson’s painstaking work is near perfection with each subject rendered anatomically correct and beautifully arranged in its natural habitat.

The Snowflake: Winter’s Secret Beauty

By Kenneth Libbrecht. Photography by Patricia Rasmussen.

Voyageur Press, Stillwater, Minnesota. ISBN 0896586308

“John Muir called them snow flowers. There are described them as sweepings from the floor of heaven. In more recent times, scientists have learned much about these seemingly simple but incredibly complex minute wonders. Yet little of that scientific work has been available to the layman. Until now—and it’s all packaged in an elegant and splendidly designed book.” Author and researcher Kenneth Libbrecht clearly explains the processes by which crystals are formed and how to identify major crystal types. The highlight of the book is the exquisite and mesmerizing photography of Patricia Rasmussen—which remind us why these sweepings of heaven continue to astonish and amaze.

The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating

By Elisabeth Tova Bailey.

Fretwater Press, Flagstaff, AZ. ISBN 1635573077

This richly illustrated and designed book describes the earthly processes and events that shape the land and wildlife of the Southwest. The writing and research are excellent and there’s something new to be learned on every page.

The Southwest Inside Out: An Illustrated Guide to the Land and Its History

By Thomas Wiewandt and Maureen Wilks.


This nicely packaged in an attractive, full color guide.

The Southwest’s Contrary Land: Forever Changing Between Four Corners and the Sea of Cortez

By Craig Childs. Designed by Mary Winkelman Velgos. Photography Editor Peter Ensenberger.

Arizona Highways Books, Phoenix, AZ. ISBN 1893860911

For many years, Arizona Highways has been publishing coloral, high quality books of the Southwest—and this is one that excels both pictorially and textually.

The Tower: A Chronicle of Climbing and Controversy on Cerro Torre

By Kelly Cordes.


Located in the curving tail of South America in Patagonia, Cerro Torre is the iconic mountain of the climbing world. It is a dagger of granite thrusting a mile upward into the sky, pummeled by unimaginable winds: “a shrike turned to stone,” as the great mountaineer Reinhold Messner described it. Author Kelly Cordes has tackled the shrike in two ways: by creating this excellent work of mountaineering history—and by climbing and standing on Cerro Torre’s summit. Cordes parleys his intimate understanding of the mountain into a coherent and fascinating narrative. More than just history, The Tower is also fine mountain literature, written with uncommon finesse: a story about a mountain, about those who have endeavored to climb it, and about the secrets hidden in its mists.

The Ultimate Guide to Whitewater Rafting and River Camping

By Molly Absolon.

Falcon Press, Guilford, CT. ISBN 78109302334

Author Molly Absolon’s intent for this book was to provide a helpful instructional guide for folks just getting into whitewater rafting. With a solid overview of the sport, and accurate, up-to-date information, she accomplished that goal quite handily. All the essential elements of multi-day whitewater trips are covered, all nicely packaged in an attractive, full color guide.

The Unreasonable Virtue of Fly Fishing

By Brad Dimock.

Bloomsbury, New York. ISBN 9781472957397

“Some books are pure pleasure to read and this is one. Sit back in a comfortable chair and let Mark Kurlansky take you on a wide ranging, kaleidoscopic tour of fly fishing. It doesn’t matter whether you’re a fishing enthusiast or you have no interest in the sport, other than perhaps what appetizing dish of fish appears on a restaurant’s menu. Give him a chance and Kurlansky’s story telling skills will have you absorbed. Suddenly, you’ll find yourself standing with him, steam rising from a river on a winter’s morning—or eyeing a feather which just might make the perfect fly. Part history, part personal experience, with lots of fun thrown in, this is one fine book on fly fishing.

The Very Hard Way: Bert Loper and the Colorado River

By Brad Dimock.

Fretwater Press, Flagstaff, AZ. ISBN 9781892327697

“Brad Dimock tackled this book like a tough rapid where success is uncertain. Not only did he come through intact as an author, but he produced a marvelous work, certainly registering among the most creative of outdoor biographies. The subject of the book is Bert Loper, a legendary Colorado River boatman who died on the river at 80 years old while caring his own boat. Loper, however, wasn’t the easiest subject to write about. He was an ordinary person, not particularly educated, never quite successful at anything, even at building a proper river boat. Yet Dimock artfully combines his own exhaustive research with interviews, first-person stories, letters, and Loper’s own writing to fashion an absorbing portrait of his life.
The Warbler Guide

OUTDOOR CLASSIC: Life-time Achievement Recognition

By Tom Stephenson and Scott Whittle.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston

ISBN 9780393074873

This visually striking guide is a birders’ bonanza. It is encyclopedic in coverage and incorporates an array of tools to help identify North America’s 56 warbler species. Open the book, straight away you’ll find several handy ‘quick finders’ which picture each bird in one of several observational aspects: face profile, side view, 45-degree perspective and underside views. That’s just a start. The bulk of the guide describes each bird in elaborate detail, including habitat keys, feeding styles, extensive sonograms, migration patterns, and photos, lots of photos, of each species seen from every possible viewing angle. Pore over this book in the winter and you’ll be armed and ready for springtime’s annual flood of warblers.

The Wildest Dream: The Biography of George Mallory

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY

By Peter and Lerti Gillman.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

ISBN 9780231198997

Biographies don’t get any better than this. Supremely well researched and documented, erudite, and masterfully written, this book isn’t so much about what happened to Mallory in 1924 when he and his climbing partner Irvine disappeared in the mists of Mt. Everest, but rather it seeks the answer to another, almost more fascinating question: who was this man Mallory? This is the book to read to find the answer.

The Works of John Muir (Including titles such as My First Summer in the Sierra, Stikine, Steep Trails and others)

OUTDOOR CLASSIC: Life-time Achievement Recognition

By John Muir. Photographs by Scot Miller.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston

ISBN 9780393074873

This year, with the submission of My First Summer in the Sierra by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, the judges decided to take the opportunity to honor the writings of John Muir who died in 1914 published six books during his lifetime. Additional books and collections of his writings have been published since then. Muir’s prolific pen and his activism helped save such American treasures as Yosemite National Park, and he is truly one of the great wilderness figures of all time.

This new edition of My Summer in the Sierra celebrates the 100th anniversary of the book’s first publication. Beautifully illustrated with photographs by Scot Miller, this is perhaps the best loved of all of Muir’s books. Written in journal style and covering his travels in the high Sierra of 1869, it is a work of personal discovery: discovery of the natural world, of flora and fauna, and of the geological processes which shaped the soaring heights of Yosemite Valley. But it goes deeper than simple observation. This is Muir, after all. His thoughts lead him toward the concept of the interconnectivity among all living things. In time, this idea would become the central tenet of the conservation movement.

The World Beneath Their Feet: Mountaineering Madness and the Deadly Race to Summit the Himalayas

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY

By John Muir. Photographs by Scot Miller.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston

ISBN 9780393074873

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This Land: How Cowboys, Capitalism, and Corruption are Ruining the American West

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE

By Christopher Ketcham.

University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln

ISBN 9780803248847

Two books won in this category. This is winner 1.

Little, Brown and Company, New York

ISBN 9780316434867

“Scott Ellsworth combines solid research, and a touch of panache, in this work on mountaineering history from 1930 to 1953. What separates this book from many other climbing histories is that Ellsworth approaches mountaineering from a cultural and political perspective. The British, aware that the days of their great empire were numbered, sought to bolster national pride by attempting to climb the world’s highest peaks. So, too, are the newly empowered Nazis, but they also look to the Himalayas as a proving ground for the superiority of the Aryan master race. And the Americans? They were a motley lot of Ivy League college buddies, tishing to be a player in this high stakes game. There’s plenty to sink your teeth into, and plenty of new insights, in this absorbing and eminently readable book.

This Land: How Cowboys, Capitalism, and Corruption are Ruining the American West

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE

By Christopher Ketcham.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner 2.

Viking, New York

ISBN 9780735224486

The 450 million acres of public land in the western United States are under assault like no other time in history. Christopher Ketcham who has been reporting on public land issues for over a decade, pulls no punches as he documents how influence peddlers, government policy and mismanagement are causing irreparable damage to the lands. Despite these losses, he found solace in the art of painting. Complimenting Ketcham’s reimagining story are paintings by the master himself. Full color reproductions of Audubon’s famous art work are found on almost every other page. From start to finish, this is a fascinating glimpse of a great American naturalist.

This Land of Snow: A Journey Across the North in Winter

JOURNEYS

By Anders Morley.

Little, Brown and Company, New York

ISBN 9780803248847

This is the first year of a new ‘Journeys’ category for the National Outdoor Book Awards, and the judges couldn’t think of a better representative to be its inaugural winner. To put it simply, This Land of Snow is a tour-de-force of adventure writing. Author Anders Morley chronicles an extraordinary journey in which he mostly skis across Northwest Canada, from the Pacific Ocean, all the way across three provinces, finally ending in Manitoba. What makes this book rise above others is that the narrative is a multifaceted adventure, bringing in elements of culture, character, humor, all of which overlay Morley’s dogged perseverance. Morley is thoughtful, perceptive, and keenly observant. As he meets people along the way, he listens to their way of speech and captures it in his writing. It is just one more way Morley brings life to this book. This is what great journey writing is all about: an inward and outward adventure that entertains and enlightens. An outstanding work!

This Strange Wilderness: The Life & Art of John James Audubon

CHILDREN'S

By Nancy Plain.

University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln

ISBN 9780803248847

In this marvelous biography for teens, Nancy Plain brings John James Audubon to life. Audubon was a pioneering naturalist, an adventurer in a country with vast regions still unmapped. Life was not easy in the early 1800’s, and he endured business failures and the death of two of his children shortly after their births. Despite these losses, he found solace in the art of painting. Complimenting Plain’s reimagining story are paintings by the master himself. Full color reproductions of Audubon’s famous art work are found on almost every other page. From start to finish, this is a fascinating glimpse of a great American naturalist.

Through the Grand Canyon from Wyoming to Mexico

OUTDOOR CLASSIC

By Ellsworth L. Kob.

Grand Canyon Assoc, Grand Canyon, AZ (Original publ by MacMillan1914)

ISBN 0938216961

During the fall and winter of 1911-12, Ellsworth and Emery Kolb rowed two wooden, flat-bottomed boats on a 1,600 mile journey down the Green and Colorado Rivers. They re-traced John Wesley Powell’s famous journey from Green River, Utah through the Grand Canyon, but they went even farther, eventually arriving at the Gulf of California. Long out of print, this vivid, historical account is one of the great adventure tales of the American West. Thanks to the Grand Canyon Association, Through the Grand Canyon is now back in print and available to a new generation of readers.
Tides: The Science and Spirit of the Ocean
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2017
By Jonathan White.
Trinity University Press, San Antonio ISBN 9781595348050
The regular ebb and flow of the ocean's tide is not easily explained—unless it is Jonathan White who's doing the explaining. In fact, White makes the science of tides an adventure. He takes you along as he travels the globe, seeking out the unusual and dangerous. In Alaska's Kalsin Bay, he struggles to save his 65-foot wooden schooner which the tides have left lying on its side in the mud. With an Inuit hunter in northern Canada, he squeezes through a small hole into a cavity under the sea ice to gather mussels, nervously counting the minutes as the cavity begins filling with the incoming tide. And in China, he sprints to high ground to avoid a 25-foot tidal bore barreling up a river. White does what an excellent writer can do, lure you into an unfamiliar world, take you on adventures, change you with intriguing images and ideas.

To Market, To Market
CHILDREN'S—Winner 2011
By Nikki McClure.
Two books won, this is winner 2.
Abrams Books for Young Readers, New York ISBN 9780810997387
Nikki McClure is a master of the cut-paper technique and she uses it with unblemished effect in her new book To Market, To Market. The story that unfolds in the book is about a bustling farmers market. A young boy and his mother shop for apples and cheese, and salmon and greens. As they go about the market, the farmers explain how they grow the items they sell—and the skill and work that goes into it. Finally with their basket full, the boy and his mother return home, and all of the members of the family join in a feast celebrating good, healthy food and the farmers that make it possible. Age group: 4 to 8 years.

To the Edges of the Earth: 1909, the Race for the Three Poles
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2018
By Edward J. Larson.
Two books won in this category. This is winner 1.
In this absorbing book, historian Edward Larson trains his sights on one year: 1909. It is a momentous year when explorers are on the cusp of attaining some of the great prizes of exploration. During the year, http://www.noba-web.org/Images/EdgesOfEarth.jpg expeditions are underway to the North and South Poles, as well as to the Himalaya and Karakoram, seeking the so-called third pole, the "altitude pole." It is the year in which some of the great figures in exploration make their marks: US Naval Officer, Robert Peary; African American adventurer, Matthew Henson; Italy's Duke of the Abruzzi; and Britain's Ernest Shackleton. Based on exhaustive research—including a journey taken by Larson to the South Pole—this book is an accomplished and exceptional historical work.

Todd and Brad Reed's Michigan: Wednesdays in the Mitten
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Honorable Mention 2016
Design by Todd & Brad Reed, Sarah Genson and Rachel Gaudette. Cover by Misty Reed.
Todd & Brad Reed Photography, LCC., Ludington, MI ISBN 9781495152139
Page through this book and you'll be immediately impressed: both with its beauty and its size. It is large, larger than typical large format books. That's because the father and son team of Todd and Brad Reed deserve an expansive canvas on which to display their art. Within the book's covers are a series of stunning photographs that were taken on every Wednesday throughout a one year period. This is photographic virtuosity of the highest order and a compelling tribute to the state of Michigan.

Top Trails Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 2005
By Andrew Dean Nystrom.
If this year's winner of the Guidebook Category is any indication, Top Trails are top notch guidebooks. Top Trails Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks is a guidebook with a lot of moxie. It's exceedingly well organized. The maps are uncluttered and easy to use. And introductory charts help you identify suitable trails. In addition to the book's smart design, Andrew Dean Nystrom has done a splendid job of researching and writing about the trails.

Track of the Tiger
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 1998
Edited by Maurice Hornocker. Andy Lewis, Art Director. Tim Lewis, Design Director.
Produced by Tehabi Books and published by Sierra Club Books.
Track of the Tiger is a compelling and masterfully designed book with rich, stunning photography by some of the world's best nature photographers. Nine essays, edited by eminent biologist, Maurice Hornocker, bring alive this magnificent and legendary animal, the largest of the world's cats.

Tracks and Sign of Insects and Other Invertebrates: A Guide to North American Species
NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2010
By Charley Eiseman and Noah Charney.
Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA ISBN 9780811736244
Tracks and Sign is an outstanding work and a first-of-its-kind. The purpose of this 592-page guide is to aid in identifying beetles, spiders, flies, ants, slugs and many other invertebrates from the sign they leave behind. Signs include egg and egg cases, droppings, secretions, webs, cocoons, coverings, galls, burrows, mounds, tracks and trails. Included are 1,000 color photos and some 2,000 species. It's clearly a must-have for anyone who enjoys learning more about the invertebrates.

Training for the New Alpinism: A Manual for the Climber as Athlete
INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2014
By Steve House and Scott Johnston.
Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 978109340239
In this expanded and handsomely illustrated book, accomplished climbers Steve House and Scott Johnston unveil a comprehensive training program for mountaineers. Basing their work on the latest fitness research and incorporating state-of-the-art training practices, they cover such topics as endurance and strength theory, nutrition, acclimation, work-out schedules, mental attitude and fitness assessment. Adding to the book's readability and relevance are short vignettes written by noted mountaineers describing climbs and experiences in which training and preparation were key.

Training for the Uphill Athlete: A Manual for Mountain Runners and Ski Mountaineers
INSTRUCTIONAL—Winner 2011
By Steve House, Scott Johnston and Killian Jornet.
Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 978109340289
If you are a trail runner or competitive ski mountaineer, you can't go wrong with this highly graphic and beautifully designed training manual. Based on the latest scientific work, the book helps you create your own training plans and work-outs. Full of helpful suggestions, and authored by noted endurance experts and athletes, this is one of the finest training manuals available, bar none.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Travels with Gannon and Wyatt: Botswana

 CHILDREN'S—Winner 2013
By Patti Wheeler and Keith Hemstreet
Greenleaf Book Group Press, Austin, TX ISBN 9781608325856

This exciting 140-page novel is the first in a series of adventure books for the 9-12 age group. It is about twin brothers whose parents have jobs which take them to different places in the world. In this book, the brothers travel to Botswana. Their story is told, quite cleverly, in journal form: first one brother writing in his diary and then the other brother—a technique that might inspire young readers to keep their own diaries. While in Botswana, the boys go on a safari. They see and learn much about African wildlife, and at one point, they come upon a lioness that has been shot by poachers. The brothers help nurse it back to health and take care of her cub. Then the boys’ adventure really picks up when they run into the poachers. Parents will find it just the right combination for growing children with lessons about nature and life in general.

Treeecology: 30 Activities and Observations for Exploring the World of Trees and Forests

 CHILDREN'S—Honororable Mention 2017
By Jonathan London. Illustrated by Sean London
W. W. Norton, New York ISBN 9780393242140

This wonderful learning book about trees is for budding naturalists age seven and older. Chapters typically start with a discussion of some aspect of tree biology which, in turn, is followed by one or more hands-on activities related to the discussion. The activities are fun and designed to help children develop their own writing, drawing and literacy skills. It is colorful, nicely designed, and perfect for a learning adventure in a nearby woods.

Trekking Washington

 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Honororable Mention 2003
By Mike Woodmansee
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898869048

This attractive guide, illustrated with color photos and a new type of shaded-relief map, is designed for long distance hikers. Treks start at 30 miles in length and run to 240 miles.

Trout Unlimited’s Guide to America's 100 Best Trout Streams

 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Winner 1999
By John Ross, Jeff Wincapaw, Art Director
Falcon Publishing and Trout Unlimited

Two in the Far North

 OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 1998
By Margaret Murie
Alaska Northwest Books

This book, first written in the 1960s and still in print, is authored by the grand dame of the wilderness movement, Margaret Murie. Margaret has helped generations of men and women understand the need to preserve wild landscapes. In Two in the Far North, she describes her life in Alaska: her growing up in Anchorage and her adventurous trips into the Alaska wilderness with her husband and biologist, Olaus. It is a wonderful read and a true American wilderness classic.

Underland: A Deep Time Journey

 NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2019
By Robert Macfarlane

In this extraordinary book, Robert Macfarlane guides us on a journey downward through layers of soil where roots anchor trees and plants, and down further through bedrock and into caves where thousands of years ago the ancients left their art. Macfarlane relates one amazing story after another in vivid, soulful language, describing hidden worlds beneath our feet. Compelling and thought provoking, this is natural history writing at its best.

Valley Walls: A Memoir of Climbing & Living in Yosemite

 HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Honororable Mention 2016
By Glen Denny
Yosemite Conservancy. Yosemite National Park ISBN 9781930238633

In this extraordinary book, Glen Denny leads the reader on a journey down the walls of Yosemite Valley. This is both a memoir of the author’s life as a big wall climber and a history of the development of modern day big wall climbing. The book tells the story of the development of modern day big wall climbing from its earliest days to the present. The writing is clear and accessible and the book is an excellent introduction to the world of big wall climbing.

Vermont and New Hampshire Winter Trails

 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES—Honororable Mention 1999
By Marty Basch
The Globe Pequot Press

This guide is designed for winter sports enthusiasts, from cross-country skiers to snowshoers to snowmobilers. The guide covers the best places to participate in winter sports in Vermont and New Hampshire.

Vesper Flights

 NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Winner 2021
By Helen Macdonald
Hamish Hamilton/Penguin Canada, Toronto ISBN 9780735235502

In this collection of eloquent and thought-provoking writings, Helen Macdonald explores a diverse range of natural history topics. One essay is about her explorations as a little girl in nearby marshes, another is about wild boars whose populations have increased in the English countryside. Still another is about the soaring and swooping of swifts which she describes as being “magical in the manner of all things that exist.” The evening flights of swifts are known as vesper flights, a lovely phrase that Macdonald has always found enchanting and from which comes the book’s title. Vespers are evening devotional prayers, and in a certain sense, her book is a devotional to the natural world in all its strangeness and wonder.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Victory Gardens for Bees: A DIY Guide to Saving the Bees

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2016
By Lori Weidenhammer.
Douglas & McIntyre, Madeira Park, BC ISBN 9781771626036

During World War I and II, many people planted “victory gardens.” It was in way in which individuals could help the war effort by supplementing their country’s food supply. In this splendidly designed and photographed book, Lori Weidenhammer suggests that victory gardens are again necessary, but for a different reason: to help resolve the shortage of forage and shelter faced by bees. The book serves as an instructional guide — text, graphics and photographs perfectly meshing together — describing how anyone, even with limited space, can create their own sanctuary for bees.

Wahb: The Biography of a Grizzly

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2015
University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK ISBN 9780806120826

First published in 1900, this is Ernest Thompson Seton’s much loved novella about a silver tipped grizzly named Wahb. The story chronicles Wahb’s life, beginning with the one-year-old’s loss of his mother and siblings, growing into a powerful bear, and finally ending with his death in Yellowstone National Park.

Seton was a multifaceted man with diverse interests in the outdoor field. He helped establish the Boy Scouts, and in 1910 authored the first official Scout handbook. He also was a wildlife artist and a serious naturalist, his scientific contributions recognized by the National Academy of Sciences. Although Wahb is a fictional account, Seton took pains to portray the bear’s behavior as accurately as it was known in his day. What makes this edition of Seton’s book stand out are over 100 pages of supplementary material by editors Jeremy Johnston and Charles Preston. The story of Wahb is fully annotated with impeccably researched notes describing what is accurate and what is not, based on what we now know of bear behavior. The annotations, alone, are useful and instructive in understanding our changing attitudes toward this remarkable mammal.

Wake Up, Island

CHILDREN’S—Honorable Mention 2016
By Mary Casanova. Woodcuts by Nick Wroblewski.
University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis ISBN 9780816689354

If you’re looking for the perfect book to read aloud to young children, look no further. The story is about the natural world coming awake in the early morning: the sun peeking above the horizon, pine trees stretching, and deer rising from their grassy beds. Wake Up, Island is a joy to read with its fun word play and animal sounds — like: squirrels chattering chitter-chatter and chickadees calling dee dee dee. Nick Wroblewski’s gorgeous woodcuts are the icing on the cake and will have children wide-eyed and eager to point out their favorite creatures.

Walden

OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2004
By Henry David Thoreau. Edited by Jeffrey S. Cramer.
Yale University Press, New Haven ISBN 0300104689

There is no question about Henry David Thoreau’s Walden. Walden is a literary and outdoor classic. "Simplicity, simplicity, simplicity," wrote Thoreau. Indeed, in part, we enjoy outdoor activities because they allow us to get away from the rush of modern society and simplify our lives—even if just for a few days. For all its impact on the literary and outdoor worlds, however, Walden is not an easy book to read. That’s why this new annotated version, edited by Thoreau scholar Jeffrey S. Cramer, is so invaluable. Cramer’s explanatory notes accompanying Thoreau’s text help readers understand the richness of his writing—and why Walden is truly a great work of art.

Walking Softly in the Wilderness: The Sierra Club Guide to Backpacking

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE—Work of Significance 1999
By John Hart.

Literate, environmentally sensitive, and chocked full of valuable advice, John Hart’s book is one of the finest texts ever published on backpacking.

Washington’s Mount Rainier National Park: A Centennial Celebration

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 1999
By Tim McNulty. Photographs by Pat O'Hara.
Two books won, this is winner 1.
The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

Mount Rainier, published on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the park, is an absolutely stunning book filled with breathtaking photography. Large format books are often accompanied by dull, inane text, but not this one. The mountain and its surrounding environment are described in beautiful, heart-felt prose. A sensitive and synchronous collaboration between writer, photographer and publisher, this book succeeds wonderfully. Every sacred mountain should have its story so handsomely told.

Ways to the Sky: A Historical Guide to North American Mountaineering

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2004
By Andy Selters.

Tackling a subject as broad and diverse as the history of North American mountaineering is no easy task, easily ranking up there with making a winter attempt on Denali. But Selters was up to the task and carried it off with aplomb. Backing up Selters’ painstakingly researched—and very readable text—are a wonderful selection of historic photos. Rounding off an already first-rate effort, Ways to the Sky, is also part guide book, including several mini-chapters which picture and describe climbing routes dating from the era under discussion.

What Does the Sky Say?

CHILDREN’S—Winner 2001
By Nancy White Carlstrom. Illustrated by Tim Ladwig.
Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, Grand Rapids, Michigan ISBN 0312290659

In What Does the Sky Say?, a child watches the sky through the changing of the seasons and in all kinds of weather, all the while learning to listen to the voice of the sky. The message of Nancy White Carlstrom’s imaginative and poetic text is calming and inspiring, and Tim Ladwig’s colorful illustrations capture the magic of childhood and our deep connection to all creation. For all ages.

Where The Mountain Casts Its Shadow: The Dark Side of Extreme Adventure

OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2004
By Maria Coffey.
Two books won, this is winner 2.

This is a moving and gracefully written story describing what it’s like for the families and friends of mountaineers who die or who are injured on expeditions. Maria Coffey, who intimately knows the pain of losing a loved one to the mountains, could have easily turned the book into a tirade against climbing. Instead she embraces adventure, emphasizing that risk serves an important role in contemporary society. Nonetheless, she cautions that, when we venture into the unknown, we should never forget the terrible costs of adventure gone awry. Coffey is to be commended for the sensitive and rational way in which she has brought it to the forefront.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
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<th>ISBN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Where the Pavement Ends: One Woman's Bicycle Trip Through Mongolia, China and Vietnam</td>
<td>OUTDOOR LITERATURE—Winner 2001</td>
<td>Erika Warmbrunn</td>
<td>The Mountaineers Books, Seattle</td>
<td>9780810930340</td>
<td>Vivid, often light-hearted, and honestly written, Where the Pavement Ends is the story of Erika Warmbrunn's incredible 8-month, 5,000-mile mountain bike ride across Asia. Skillfully crafted with a sense of excitement and momentum that resembles coasting downhill on a bicycle, Where the Pavement Ends provides fascinating glimpses of East Asian life and landscapes along Warmbrunn's journey. You'll be drawn in by her openness and curiosity about life and rejoice in her hard-earned accomplishments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Wings: Poems for Young People</td>
<td>CHILDREN'S—Winner 2009</td>
<td>Laura Goering</td>
<td>Wordsong and Boyds Mills Press, Honesdale, PA</td>
<td>1563979047</td>
<td>Whistling Wings is an eye-catching book for the 5-9 age group. Laura Goering's warm and inviting story combined with Laura Jacques luminous illustrations make this a winner for parents and children alike. It's about Marcel, a tundra swan. Marcel is flying south and stops at an inviting lake for food and rest. Still tired, he hides in the rushes as his parents and the other swans take off, leaving him behind. At first he's fine, but soon the lake begins to freeze and he finds himself in trouble. Hungry and scared, he falls asleep only to be awakened by a big surprise.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild Solutions: How Biodiversity is Money in the Bank</td>
<td>NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2001</td>
<td>Andrew Beattie and Paul Ehrlich</td>
<td>Yale University Press, New Haven</td>
<td>0961935359</td>
<td>Eminent ecologists Beattie and Ehrlich team up in this text for a careful examination of the earth's biological diversity. Wild Solutions shows how the natural systems that surround us play an important role in protecting our basic life-support systems. Based on a solid and well-developed premise, it's a convincing book conveying a powerful and urgent message.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Encounters: Iconic Photographs of the World's Vanishing Animals and Cultures</td>
<td>DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2017</td>
<td>David Yarrow</td>
<td>Rizzoli, New York</td>
<td>978847858323</td>
<td>David Yarrow is one of the finest bird and wildlife photographers. His art has graced galleries from Europe to North America. In this large format, portfolio-sized book, you'll be treated to some of his finest work. Arranged by the latitude of locale, his dramatic monochromatic photographs of wild and endangered animals appear to leap from the page. Some of the most powerful images are tightly framed close-ups in which almost every hair of the animal can be seen. The emphasis of the book is on wildlife, but he also features people who live in close proximity with the creatures he photographs, and included among those are stunning portrayals of the Inuit in northern Canada and the stately Dinka people of the South Sudan. You won't be disappointed. This is truly the work of an artist at the height of his powers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilder Mississippi</td>
<td>DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2002</td>
<td>Stephen Kirkpatrick</td>
<td>The Mountaineers Books, Seattle</td>
<td>0961935359</td>
<td>No matter where you are—in the city, in an office; or in a bookstore in a busy shopping center—open this book to the first page, you're suddenly someplace else: to a place of quiet sounds, the flutter of wings, the rustle of a white tail, the drip of morning dew. This is a book of subtleties, of elegance and of mesmerizing images of Mississippi's natural world. Stephen Kirkpatrick's brilliant and captivating photography is complemented with an equally captivating design. So carefully executed are the design elements that even the text of the book's subtleties resembles reeds protruding from the surface of a pond. It all comes together beautifully and harmoniously, a joyful pictorial hymn, celebrating the wilderness of Mississippi.</td>
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Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.
Wilderness and the American Mind
OUTDOOR CLASSIC—Winner 2001
By Roderick Nash.
Yale University Press, New Haven

This groundbreaking book, first published in 1967, is Roderick Nash's classic study of American attitudes toward wilderness. Beginning with the Old World's roots of opinion and reaching through the early twenty-first century, it ties together disparate elements of philosophy, history, politics, and popular attitudes into a concurrent and understandable whole. Scholarly and perceptive, Wilderness and the American Mind numbers among the great works on the outdoors.

Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY—Winner 2009
By Douglas Brinkley.
Harper, New York
ISBN 9780606562829

Wilderness Warrior is an impeccably researched and thoroughly engrossing work on the one figure in history who set aside more of America's outdoor heritage than any other. Much has been written about Theodore Roosevelt, but in this ground-breaking, 940-page biography, Douglas Brinkley concentrates on Roosevelt the outdoorsman and conservationist, and in doing so, paints a vibrant portrait, as vibrant as the man himself. One word describes it all: bully!

Wildflowers of the Appalachian Trail
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 1999
By Leonard Adkins. Photographs by Joe and Monica Cook. Grant M. Tatum, Creative Director.
Menasha Ridge Press

From a practical standpoint, this book is a field identification guide of the flora of the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail—and an excellent one at that. But it is much more than a guidebook. It is a work of art and a feast for the eyes. Wildflowers of the Appalachian Trail is designed with grace and elegance and filled with exquisite, full-page color photographs. It is rare to find a guidebook where every photograph is perfect, but this is one. If you're hiking or traveling in the Appalachian country, this is one book that you don't want to be without.

Wildflowers of the Atlantic Southeast
NATURE GUIDES—Winner 2019
By Laura Cotterman, Damon Waitt and Alan Weakley.
There were 2 winners in this category. This is winner 2.
Timber Press, Portland, OR
ISBN 9781604697605

If you live in the Southeast, you can't go wrong with this new and exceptionally well-done guide to the region's wildflowers. You barely have to open the book and you know where to start looking to identify a flower that you've found. The entire right hand margin of each page is colored. Match the flower's color to page color and you're in the ballpark. Additionally, the authors have devised a simple key which consists of six steps, each step leading you closer to the flower at hand. It's all there: intelligent design, well-honed descriptions, and crisp color photographs of the 1200 species covered by the book.

Wildheart: The Daring Adventures of John Muir
CHILDREN'S—Winner 2019
By Julie Bartagna. Illustrated by William Goldsmith.
There were 2 winners in this category. This is winner 2.
Yosemite Conservancy, Elk Portal, CA
ISBN 9781930238947

Wildheart is a biography for children about the great outdoorsman and conservationist, John Muir. The story is told through John's eyes beginning with his boyhood in Scotland and then moving to the wild lands of America. In 1868, he makes it to California by ship, and then moves on the lands of California and the Central Valley which he finds filled with a carpet of flowers, the colors of a rainbow. Later, he travels to Alaska to study glaciers, and it is there that he and his dog Stieken have an unforgettable adventure. The book is done using a series of pictures and scenes on each page, in comic book style, perfect for keeping a child's interest and moving the story along. Age group: 9-12 years old.

Wildlife Wars: The Life and Times of a Fish and Game Warden
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—Winner 2000
By Terry Grosz.
Johnson Books
ISBN 97808811701419

Wildlife Wars is the absorbing story of one man's 30-year struggle to protect wildlife in America. This is what it's like on the front lines. Terry Grosz, a natural and gifted storyteller, brings us face to face with a captivating cast of characters—on both sides of the law—as he matches wits with poachers, commercial hunters, and others who are bent on destroying America's natural heritage. If you start this book, you won't want to put it down. It's that good.

Wings of Spring: Courtship, Nesting and Fledging
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT—Winner 2006
Photographs by Tom Vezo an text by Chuck Hagner.
Two books won, this is winner 1.
Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA
ISBN 97808811701419

Wings of Spring represents some of the finest photography of birds ever published: a Great Egret tossing a stream of brightly lit water droplets, a Wilson's Snipe standing on an egg shell, a Western Scrub-Owl dangling a lizard from its beak, one is amazed at the days and countless hours photographer Tom Vezo spent patiently waiting for these moments that he has so elegantly captured. Complementing Vezo's photography is a comfortable and inviting design, and just the right amount of text to make the book useful as a bird guide as well as work of artistry.

Winter in the Wilderness: A Field Guide to Primitive Survival Skills
INSTRUCTIONAL—Honorable Mention 2016
By Dave Hall with Jon Uhrich.
Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY
ISBN 9780814799538

There's nothing fancy here. No frills. No colorful graphics. How best to describe it? It's like having a conversation with Northeastern survival expert Dave Hall. You ask a question and Hall responds with his thoughts. He might explain the finer points of building a fire (which he demonstrates using what he calls a "fire burrito"). Or he might offer his opinion on the pros and cons of different snow shelters. It's informal, unaffectioned, and plain good advice.

Wolves in the Land of Salmon
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE—Honorable Mention 2013
By David Moskowitz.
Two books won, this is winner 2.
Timber Press, Inc., Portland
ISBN 97808811701419

Photographer and expert tracker, David Moskowitz is on a mission to see wolves. He crisscrosses the Pacific Northwest looking for their signs, following tracks, and with a bit of luck, manages to observe them close at hand. From each journey, he comes away with some new understanding. His treks help carry the book forward, but he also uses them to build a more complete picture of the reintroduction of wolves, adding a wealth of information on their behavior, biology, and the controversy swirling about them. Colorfully illustrated with Moskowitz's splendid photographs, this is a fine new work on this elusive predator.
This is a wonderful new addition to our understanding of the history of women mountaineers. In *Women on High*, Rebecca Brown chronicles the mountaineering exploits of a dozen or more women, nearly all of whom climbed in the 1800’s. While some of the women are known figures in the mountaineering world, Brown’s research has also turned up some new interesting personalities and their stories.

This is a state-of-the-art, technologically savvy guidebook for visitors of Yellowstone National Park. It’s packed full of beta, including information on the area’s geology, its hydrothermal features, plants, animals, and hiking trails. Topping it off are two included CD’s: one is an audio tour which can be played as you visit different parts of the park, and the other contains movies and panoramic photo tours which can be viewed on your computer.

Two words come to mind in describing this handsomely done, large format book: visual celebration. What it celebrates are the highly inventive years of the 1950’s when climbers in Yosemite pushed the boundaries of what was possible, all the while experimenting and creating new tools of the trade. The photos are drawn from a wide variety of original sources and fit comfortably into the book’s crisp graphic design. Enhancing the overall appeal of the book is the inclusion of classic writings authored by climbers of the time period. All in all, it’s a striking work which captivates from the first page all the way to the last thought-provoking photograph on the back cover.

Slip this 695-page book into your glove compartment, and you’ll have the perfect travelling companion when visiting the national parks. It covers all 58 parks with a bounty of information on each. There are kid-friendly activities, lots of ideas for hikes, and an exhaustive list of hotels, restaurants and attractions beyond the parks’ boundaries. With more than 500 color images, 140 easy-to-read maps, and 55 hiking tables, you’ll be armed and ready for your next trip to the outdoor gems of the nation.

Our many thanks to Georgi Baird for compiling this information.