

National Outdoor Book Awards

Honoring the Best in Outdoor Writing & Publishing

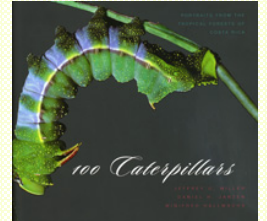
100 Caterpillars www.noba-web.org/books06.htm**DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT**~~Winner 2006

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

Two books won, this is winner 2.

The Belnap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge ISBN 0674021908

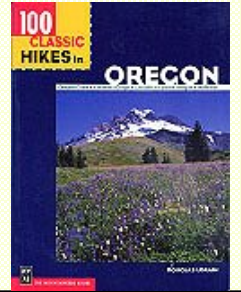
This is an exquisite book portraying the caterpillars of Costa Rica in impressively sharp and brilliant color photographs. The lay-out and design is flawless. The accompanying text is complete and satisfying. The authors clearly want to share their discoveries and wonders of their work with everyone—not 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.

100 Classic Hikes in Oregon www.noba-web.org/books04.htm**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES**~~Winner 2004

By Douglas Lorain.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898869633

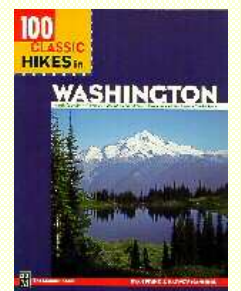
You can always tell when a guidebook author knows his stuff. Douglas Lorain, who literally lives on the trail, was the perfect person to author this book. Combined with a stylish design, full color photographs, and very useable maps, this is the cream of the crop of this year's guide books.

100 Classic Hikes in Washington www.noba-web.org/books05.htm**DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT**~~Honorable Mention 1998

By Ira Spring and Harvey Manning. Jennifer Shontz, Graphic Coordinator. Marge Mueller, Cartography.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle.

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.



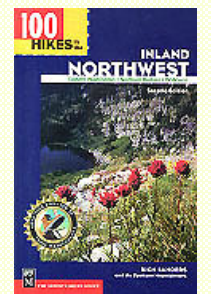
100 Hikes in the Inland Northwest: Eastern Washington, Northern Rockies, Wallows

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2003

By Rich Landers and the Spokane Mountaineers.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898869080

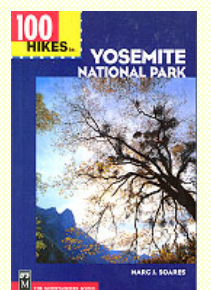
Outdoor columnist, Rich Landers in combination with the Spokane Mountaineers, has penned the perfect companion for hiking in the Northern Rockies. Deeply concerned about the outdoor environment, Landers not only writes about it, but he acts too, donating all proceeds from the sale of the book to trail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

100 Hikes in Yosemite National Park www.noba-web.org/books03.htm**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES**~~Winner 2003

By Marc J. Soares.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 089886867X

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



101 Hikes in Northern California: Exploring Mountains, Valleys, and Seashore

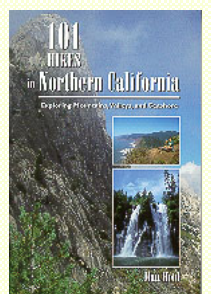
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2001

By Matt Heid.

Honorable Mention #2

Wilderness Press, Berkeley

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



101 Outdoor Adventures to Have Before You Grow Up

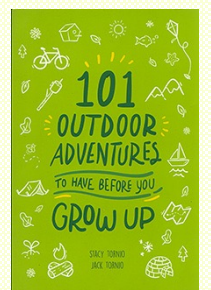
CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2019

By Stacy and Jack Tornio.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner 1.

FalconGuides. Lanham, MD ISBN 9781493041404

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 Tornio offer five easy steps to accomplish each of the activities covered in the book. One fun fact about the authors is that Jack Tornio is Stacy's teenage son. Throughout the book, Jack adds a kid's perspective, offering tips on making each of the activities more enjoyable.



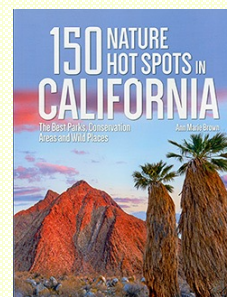
150 Nature Hot Spots in California: The Best Parks, Conservation Areas and Wild Places

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2019

By Ann Marie Brown.

Firefly Books, Richmond Hill, ON ISBN 9780228101680

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.



A Blistered Kind of Love

[ore/books04.htm](#)

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2004

By Angela and Duffy Ballard.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898869021

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 Climber's Guide to the Teton Range

[4.htm](#)

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2024

By Renny Jackson and Leigh N. Ortenburger.

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

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680511970

When it comes to climbing guidebooks, A Climber's Guide to the Teton Range is in a class of its own. This is its fourth edition, covering 900 routes on more than 235 peaks. In addition to route descriptions, the guide includes sections on geology, climatology and an extensive history of Teton climbing. In presenting this award, the judges also wanted to recognize the contributions of the authors. The guide's originator was Leigh Ortenburger who published the first edition in 1956, and which, in succeeding years, became the standard by which other climbing guides were judged. Ortenburger passed away in 1991, but his work was capably carried on by Renny Jackson, a long-time climbing ranger and a helicopter short-haul specialist, a rescue technique which has saved many lives in the Tetons and elsewhere.



A Field Guide to Snakes of Florida

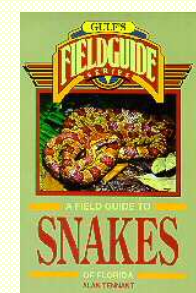
[rc98.htm](#)

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 1998

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 Connecticut River: From New Hampshire to Long Island Sound

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2024

By Patrick J. Lynch.

Yale University Press, New Haven, CT ISBN 9780300264203

Patrick Lynch sure knows his stuff—a lot of stuff! His field guide to New England's 400-mile Connecticut River is impressive in its thoroughness and range of topics covered: geology, ecology, plant and animal identification, and environmental history. Sized perfectly for outdoor use, the 320-page guide will fit in a fanny pack. With clear and understandable text and over 750 maps, photographs and illustrations, you couldn't ask for a better companion to have along on your next trip to the river.



A Field Guide to the Mid-Atlantic Coast

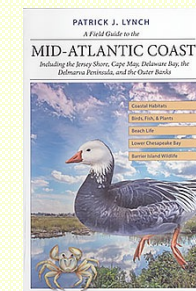
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NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2021

By Patrick J. Lynch.

Yale University Press, New Haven ISBN 9780300246469

In this exceptionally useful guide, Patrick Lynch covers the natural history of the East Coast from Sandy Hook in New Jersey south to Cape Hatteras on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. The guide is arranged by environmental zones including barrier island environments, beaches, dunes, maritime forests, salt marshes and estuaries. Easy enough to use: just look around, decide what environment you're in, and page to that segment of the guide. Sturdily constructed and sized just right, the guide is filled with color photos and Lynch's outstanding illustrations. It's the perfect companion to have along when it comes time to escape the hustle and bustle of city life and enjoy a day in nature.



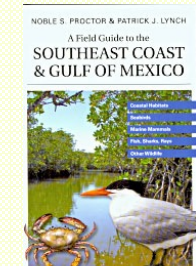
A Field Guide to the Southeast Coast & Gulf of Mexico

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2012

By Noble S. Proctor and Patrick J. Lynch.

Yale University Press ISBN 9780300113280

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 Southeastern coastal regions and Gulf of Mexico. All of this is in one compact and easy-to-navigate guide, perfect for beach goers, hikers, boaters, birders, fishers, snorkelers — and anyone who wants to leave the library at home.



A Fly Rod of Your Own

[ore/books17.htm](#)

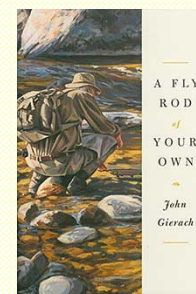
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2017

By John Gierach.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Simon and Schuster, New York ISBN 9781451618341

There's no better way to bring back memories of your own fishing trips than to read of some by John Gierach. He has a 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 Life Lived Wild: Adventures at the Edge of the Map

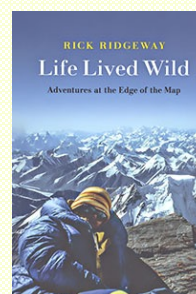
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2022

By Rick Ridgeway.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 9781938340994

Rick Ridgeway is one of the great adventurers of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. He was on the first American ascent of K2 and made the first traverse of Borneo. He was a key figure in the attempt to climb the seven summits, the highest point on each continent, and was the primary author of the book chronicling the climbs. His writings span the globe: North America, South America, Asia, Africa and Antarctica. Joining him are a who's who of outdoor personalities. But it's not solely about adventure. It's also about the special times with family and friends. All in all, Ridgeway's book is a perfect testament to a life lived wild.



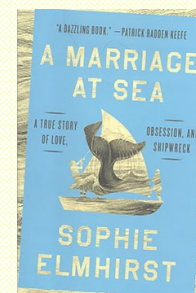
A Marriage at Sea: A True Story of Love, Obsession and Shipwreck

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2025

By Sophie Elmhirst.

Riverhead Books/Penguin Random House, New York

It was 1973 and Maurice and Maralyn Bailey were having the time of their lives. They had sold their house and possessions, fitted out a 31-foot boat, and took off sailing to New Zealand. The couple had just made it to the Pacific Ocean when suddenly their boat shuddered. Books flew off the shelves in the galley. The hull cracked and water started pouring in. They barely had enough time to gather some food and survival gear and throw it in an inflatable raft before the boat sank. Their liferaft was four-and-half feet in diameter, barely enough room for them to sit, much less sleep. They had no radio. Adrift and alone, their hope was to wave down a passing ship. On rare occasions, they sighted one, but they were always too far in the distance to be seen. The days passed into weeks. Weeks passed into months. To survive they needed all of what little resources they had — and they needed one another. Recounted in crystal-clear clarity, *A Marriage at Sea* is storytelling perfection.



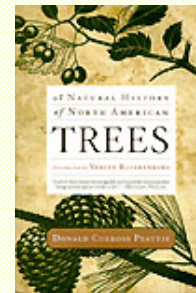
A Natural History of North American Trees

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

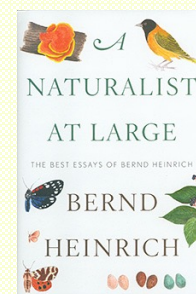
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2018

By Bernd Heinrich.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner 1.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston ISBN 9780544986831

If you haven't read any of Bernd Heinrich's essays, this book is an excellent way to become acquainted. Heinrich is one of the finest nature writers of our time, and he writes in a down-to-earth, easy going style that all can enjoy. He's ever curious, always asking questions, and inviting the reader to join in with that curiosity. In one essay he might be reasoning the purpose of airy, waxy filaments draped over Woolly Aphids. In another, he is discovering that some insects are not as cold blooded as we originally thought, finding, for example, that the temperature of the White Lined Sphinx Moth is a sizzling 111 degrees F. In still another, he deliberates about evolution and whether Olympic strength and endurance athletes have reached the physical limits of the human body. Informative, insightful, always full of surprises, *A Naturalist at Large*, is Heinrich at his inquisitive best.



A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell

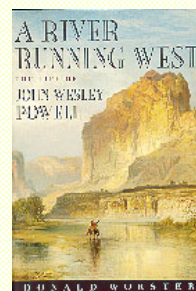
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2001

By Donald Worster.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Oxford University Press, New York

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.



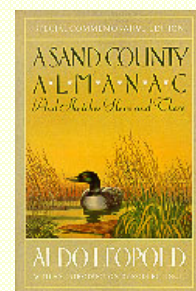
A Sand County Almanac: A Sketches Here and There

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2000

By Aldo Leopold.

Oxford University Press

What can be said of *Sand County Almanac*? It is simply one of the great works of nature literature and from it has sprung the environmental movement. This special edition of *Sand County Almanac*, published by the original publisher, is a tribute to Leopold, commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of his birth. It was over 50 years ago that the book was first published, but his words and insights are as fresh as ever.



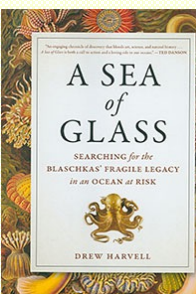
A Sea of Glass: Searching for the Blaschkas' Fragile Legacy in an Ocean at Risk

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2016

By Drew Harvell.

University of California Press, Oakland, CA ISBN 9780520285682

They were very old, created in the mid 1800's, but they were absolutely exquisite. Stored away in a Cornell University warehouse for years, they were glass replicas of marine invertebrates, the spineless creatures of the sea. They had been created by the great glass flower artists Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka of central Europe. The delicate replicas were so life-like that upon first seeing them author Drew Harvell was mesmerized by their beauty. As a professor of evolutionary biology, Harvell was well acquainted with the invertebrates, and she began to wonder if man's activities in connection with the ocean have had any effect on the populations of animals represented by Blaschkas' replicas. That sets Harvell off on a journey of discovery, one in which you become an eyewitness, as she dives into the mysterious depths of the seas.



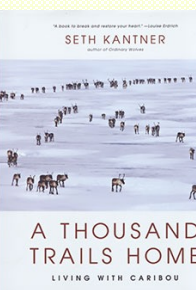
A Thousand Trails Home: Living with Caribou

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2022

By Seth Kantner.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781594859700

If you've been following past winners in this category, you will find this a very different kind of book. It includes some science, of course, but this is natural history from a personal perspective. Through a series of narratives, author Kantner unveils a life that revolves around the wilds of Northwest Arctic and the twice yearly migration of caribou. It's about a life of subsistence — a life that had sustained native Alaskans, the Inupiat, for centuries. The hunting of caribou was central to their existence, and consequently there are frequent depictions of hunting in this book. But it is also about changes over the last decades — social, political, technological — which have altered the lifestyles of those who live there. It's a book filled with wild passion and love of place that will keep you absorbed well into the night.



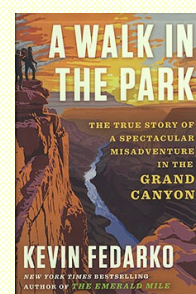
A Walk in the Park: The True Story of a Spectacular Misadventure in the Grand Canyon

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2024

By Kevin Fedarko.

Scribner, New York ISBN 9781501183058

One of the ultimate trekking challenges is to hike the length of the Grand Canyon while staying under the rim the entire distance. Author Kevin Fedarko and photographer Pete McBride thought it might be a lark to give it try. They quickly learn, however, that it's no walk in the park. Less than a week after getting started, they hobble out of the canyon, exhausted and barely surviving the ordeal. Wising up, they recalibrate and seek the help of friends and canyon experts to better prepare for the journey. What a journey it turns out to be! Fedarko is a gifted storyteller, and you'll find yourself quickly taken in by his self-deprecating humor as they undertake the trek again, this time with a new reverence for the canyon. But the hike is only one part of the overall story. The broader theme is the Grand Canyon: the river that carved it, its geology, and the cultural and human history imprinted on it.



A Woman Among Wolves: My Journey Through Forty Years of Wolf Recovery

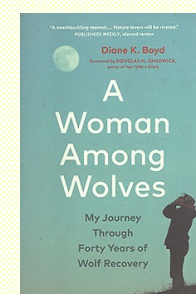
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2025

By Diane K. Boyd.

There were two winners in this category. This is Winner #1.

Greystone Books, Vancouver

A Woman Among Wolves is the captivating story of Diane Boyd's work as a wildlife biologist studying wolves. Often alone in remote northern Montana, she encounters cougars, grizzly bears and, of course, wolves. In one instance, she is in her vehicle and glances in the rearview mirror to see the wild eyes of a wolf staring at her from the back seat. The wolf, recently captured and anesthetized, has come to life far earlier than she expected. Boyd is an engaging writer, splendidly capturing what it is like to be a researcher in remote areas. Through her stories and experiences, we learn much about wolves, their behavior, and the controversies swirling around their reintroduction in the west.



A World in One Cubic Foot: Portraits of Biodiversity

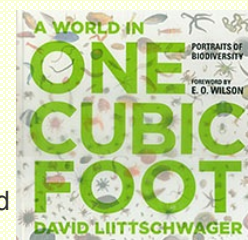
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2013

Text and Photography by David Liittschwager.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

The University of Chicago Press ISBN 9780226481234

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 Liittschwager 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 Liittschwager's artistry, is revealed in a richness of life never before seen.



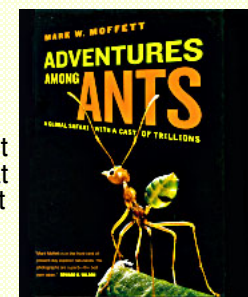
Adventures Among Ants: A Global Safari With a Cast of Trillions

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2010

By Mark W. Moffett.

University of California Press, Berkeley ISBN 9780520261990

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.



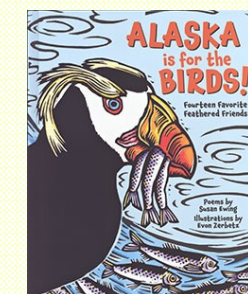
Alaska is for the Birds! Fourteen Favorite Feathered Friends

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2022

Poems by Susan Ewing. Illustrations by Evon Zerbetz.

Alaska Northwest Books, Portland, OR ISBN 9781513128665

This is a wonderful surprise for children in the 5 to 8 year old group. And the best thing? A child doesn't have to live in Alaska to enjoy it! The 14 birds covered within its pages are found nearly everywhere. What makes this book stand out is a combination of poems and colorful illustrations. The poems are pure fun – and they rhyme in a musical way which makes it a joy to read to children. The luminous artwork fits perfectly with the poems. There's a bonus too. The end of the book has complete descriptions of each of the birds, a helpful reference for moms or dads when an inquiring mind wants to know more.



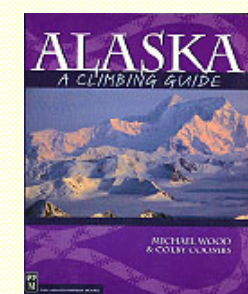
Alaska: A Climbing Guide

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2002

By Michael Wood and Colby Coombs.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 089886724X

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.



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

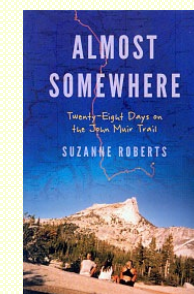
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2012

By Suzanne Roberts.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

University of Nebraska Press ISBN 9780803240124

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 a satisfying and fulfilling literary treat.



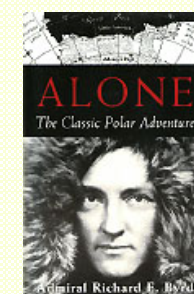
Alone

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2003

By Richard E. Byrd.

Island Press, Washington, DC ISBN 1559634634

Alone is 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 interminable polar winter, exact 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.



Alpine Rising: Sherpas, Baltis, and the Triumph of Local Climbers in the Greater Ranges

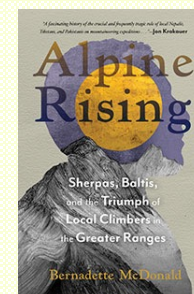
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2024

By Bernadette McDonald.

There were two winners in this category. This is Winner #2.

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680515787

The early climbs of the great mountains of the Himalaya and Karakoram depended on the support of the local people living there such as Sherpas of Nepal or Baltis of northern Pakistan. Adventure literature often focuses on the exploits of western climbers, but Bernadette McDonald rightly turns her attention locally, to the unsung heroes of mountaineering. Based on interviews and solid research, McDonald ably tells their side of the story, covering key personages and notable ascents from the early 1900s to the present.



AMC Guide to Outdoor Digital Photography: Creating Great Nature and Adventure Photos

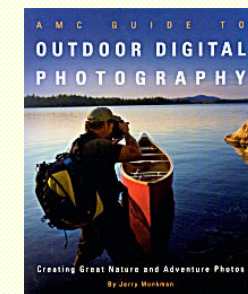
INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2012

By Jerry Monkman.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Appalachian Mountain Club ISBN 9781934028506

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 one 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.



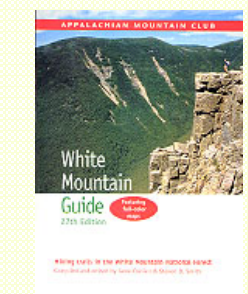
AMC White Mountain Guide: Hiking Trails of the White Mountain National Forest

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE~~Work of Significance 2003

Compiled and Edited by Gene Daniell and Steven D. Smith.

Appalachian Mountain Club Books, Boston, MA ISBN 1929173229

The *White Mountain Guide* is the oldest continuously published hiking guide in the United States. First published in 1907, it has led the way for generations of hikers through the White Mountains of Maine and New Hampshire. If it's not quite gospel, it's darn close. No space is wasted: no graphics, no photos, and no nonsense. Just reliable and accurate information. With six full-color, pull-out maps, it is a ready-to-go package.



America's Great Mountain Trails: 100 Highcountry Hikes of a Lifetime

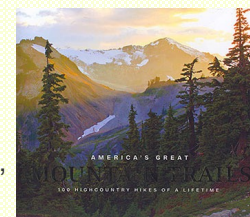
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2020

By Tim Palmer.

Two books won in this category, this is winner 2.

Rizzoli International Publications, Inc., New York ISBN 9780847865420

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

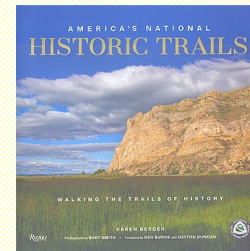
JOURNEYS~~Winner 2021

By Karen Berger.

Silver in this category.

Rizzoli, New York ISBN 9780847868858

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 37,000 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.



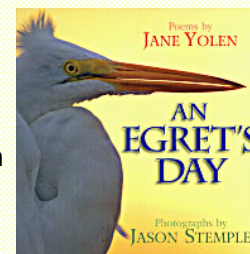
An Egret's Day

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.



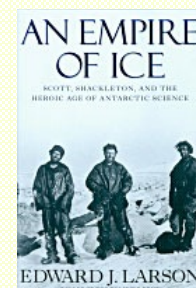
An Empire of Ice: Scott, Shackleton, and the Heroic Age of Antarctic Science

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Honorable Mention 2011

By Edward J. Larson.

Yale University Press. New Haven ISBN 9780300154085

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 handily 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

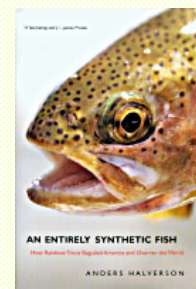
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2010

By Anders Halverson.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Yale University Press, New Haven ISBN 9780300140873

A fascinating story unfolds 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.



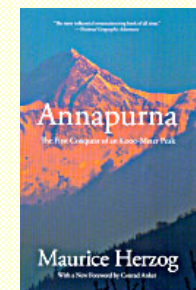
Annapurna: First Conquest of an 8,000-meter Peak

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2010

By Maurice Herzog.

Lyon Press, Guilford, CT ISBN 9781599218939

There is no question that Annapurna is an outdoor classic. National Geographic calls it the "most influential mountaineering book of all time." It appears in Sport's Illustrated top 100 sports books, and likewise on Outside Magazine's list of best outdoor books. Brilliantly told by Maurice Herzog, it is the riveting account of the 1950 ascent the 26,493-foot Himalayan giant. What made the climb even more challenging was that it was unknown territory. No one really knew from what side to climb the mountain. Herzog's team reached the summit, a remarkable achievement in itself, but what happened on the descent is some of the most gripping in all of mountaineering literature.



Anything Worth Doing: A True Story of Adventure, Friendship and Tragedy on the Last of the West's Great Rivers

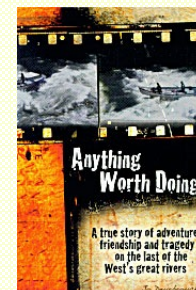
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2012

By Jo Deurbrouck.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Sundog Book Publishing ISBN 9780985257804

Jo Deurbrouck brings to life the story of two men who launch a small wooden dory in the roiling 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.



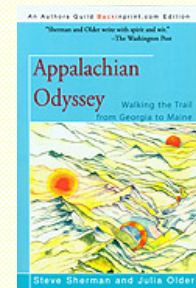
Appalachian Odyssey: Walking the Trail from Georgia to Maine

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."



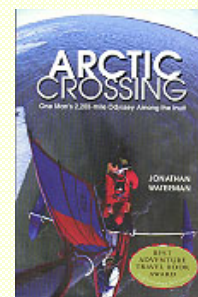
Arctic Crossing: One Man's 2,200 Mile Odyssey Among the Inuit

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

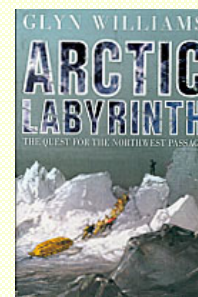
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Honorable Mention 2010

By Glyn Williams.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Viking Canada, Toronto ISBN 9780670068692

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 comes 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 Traverse: A Thousand-Mile Summer of Trekking the Brooks Range

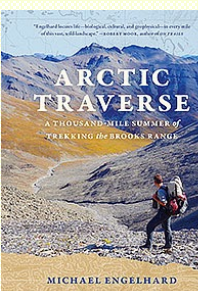
JOURNEYS~~Winner 2024

By Michael Engelhard.

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

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680516784

In Arctic Traverse, Michael Engelhard takes us on two journeys. The first is a solo hiking and paddling journey across the Brooks Range of northern Alaska. Engelhard has a way with words, capturing the beauty of the Arctic and his day-to-day experiences with penetrating and moving prose. The other journey is an inward one. As his journey progresses westward, he draws from cultural historians, conservationists, biologists, and philosophers, pondering the nature of wildness and our complicated relationship with it. This is a marvelous work and is certainly deserving of a place among the best of Alaskan outdoor literature.



Arctic Wings: Birds of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2007

Edited by Stephen Brown.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898869765

Arctic Wings establishes a new benchmark in the art and literature of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. This is not only a book of exceptional photography, but it also includes solid 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.



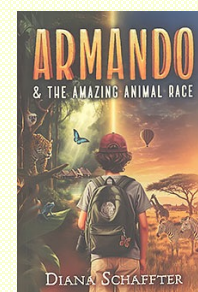
Armando & the Amazing Animal Race

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2025

By Diana Schaffter.

Sea Otter Press, Austin, TX

Get ready for a grand adventure in this fast-paced novel. It's about 12-year-old Armando and his grandmother who take off on the Amazing Animal Race to photograph seven endangered animals in seven different countries. The winner of the race gets a \$200,000 prize. There's plenty of intrigue among the competing teams: There's Max McCoy, a shady character who is not afraid to twist the rules to his benefit. There's Dr. Higginbottom, the haughty professor and his spoiled brat of a nephew who mysteriously always turn up at the same time and place as Armando and his grandmother. And then there's the race's suspicious financial supporter, Purple Flamingo Cosmetics. The story is as authentic as it gets. In fact, to research the book, author Diana Schaffter travelled to all seven countries to search out and photograph each of the same endangered animals covered in her story. For children 8 to 12.



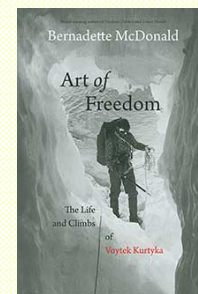
Art of Freedom: The Life and Climbs of Voytek Kurtyka

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2017

By Bernadette McDonald.

Rocky Mountain Books, Vancouver, BC ISBN 9781771602129

In this masterpiece of a 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.



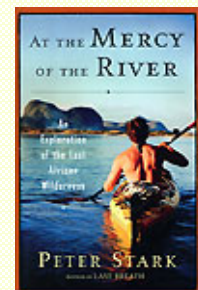
At the Mercy of the River: An Exploration of the Last African Wilderness

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2005

By Peter Stark.

Ballantine Books, New York ISBN 0345441818

At the Mercy of the River easily could have been standard outdoor fare, a simple chronicle of descending an African river. But master story teller Peter Stark serves up something far more satisfying: an inward journey. The outward journey is a trip down Mozambique's Lugenda River, but the river turns out to be more difficult than anyone had imagined, and the party finds themselves pushed to the limits. Using his descriptive prowess, Stark captures the heart-thumping anxiety, the building tension between party members, and his own dark uncertainties.



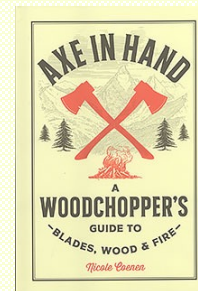
Axe in Hand: A Woodchopper's Guide to Blades, Wood and Fire

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2025

By Nicole Coenen.

Cool Springs Press, Beverly, MA

There's nothing like sitting around with your legs propped up, enjoying the warmth of a fire in a wood stove. But before using the stove, there's always the matter of getting wood for it. That's where Nicole Coenen's *Axe in Hand* comes in handy. She covers everything you could possibly ever need to know about chopping wood: selecting an axe for the job, sharpening it, replacing handles, reading the wood before splitting, dealing with stuck axes, and more. Coenen has got it wired, having done loads of chopping, including belonging to a group that bucked and split wood to help generate funds for needy organizations. Throughout the book, she is pictured in crisp color photos, demonstrating various chopping and splitting techniques. Whether you're an experienced chopper or just getting started, you can't go wrong with this excellent guide.



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

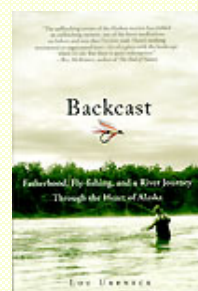
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2007

By Lou Ureneck.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

St. Martin's Press, New York ISBN 9780312371517

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

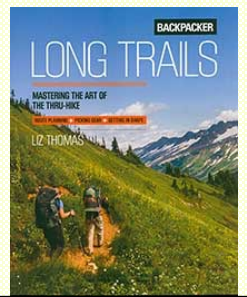
INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2017

By Liz Thomas.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Falcon Guides, Lanham, MD ISBN 9871493028726

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

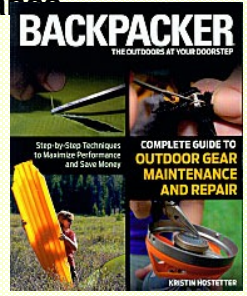
INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2012

By Kristin Hostetter.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

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.



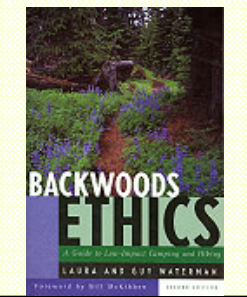
Backwoods Ethics: A Guide to Low-Impact Camping and Hiking

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Honorable Mention 2002

By Laura and Guy Waterman.

The Countryman Press, Woodstock, VT ISBN 088150257X

Laura and Guy Waterman weren'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.



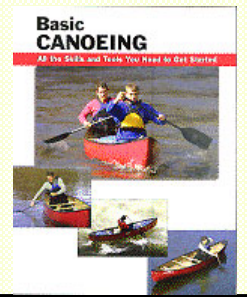
Basic Canoeing: All the Skills and Tools You Need to Get Started

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2003

By Jon Rounds and Wayne Dickert. Photographs by Skip Brown. Illustrations by Taina Litwak.

Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA ISBN 01811726444

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.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA ISBN 978081173209

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.



Battle of Ink and Ice: A Sensational Story of News Barons, North Pole Explorers, and the Making of Modern Media

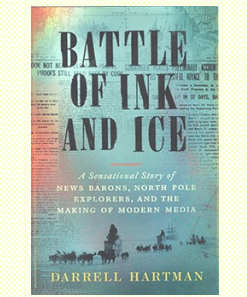
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2023

By Darrell Hartman.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

Viking, New York ISBN 9780593297162

Big early expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic required money—and lots of it. Ships were needed. So was custom made clothing, fuel, food and other supplies to keep the expedition going, sometimes for several years. To make all that happen, explorers needed benefactors—and publicity. During the heroic age of Arctic exploration, it was newspapers that promoted explorers and their exploits, and sometimes even funded their efforts. *Battle of Ink and Ice* is the story of the close relationship between newspapers and expeditions. In particular, it chronicles the rivalry between two dominant New York papers: the New York Herald and the New York Times. Drawn into the fray are two American explorers Robert Peary and Frederick Cook, both of whom claimed to have reached the North Pole . . . or had they? Each paper took the side of one of the explorers, instructing their reporters to make sure their side won. Meticulously researched, and splendidly told, it is a fascinating story of newspaper tycoons, ambitious explorers, and the vast unknown reaches of the frozen north.



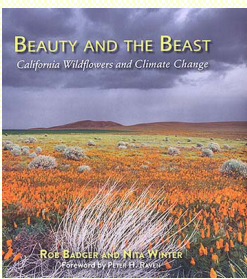
Beauty and the Beast: California Wildflowers and Climate Change

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2020

By Rob Badger and Nita Winter.

WinterBadger Press and California Native Plant Society, Sausalito and Sacramento, CA ISBN 9781733104401

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—lost in the natural world if global warming continues unchecked.



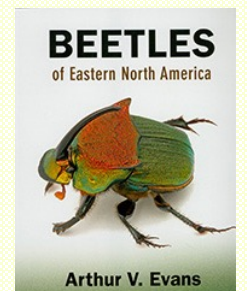
Beetles of Eastern North America [1615.htm](#)

NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2015

By Arthur V. Evans.

Princeton University Press, Princeton 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.



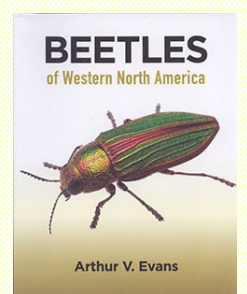
Beetles of Western North America [1622.htm](#)

NATURE GUIDES~~Silver Medalist 2022

By Arthur V. Evans.

Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ ISBN 9780691164281

If any guidebook on insects could be called a scientist's magnum opus, this is it. It is the only comprehensive, fully color guide to the beetles of the western US and Canada. The statistics are almost mind numbing: 640 pages long, filled with more than 1,500 photos and covering 1,428 species. You can't go wrong with this guide. For western beetles, it's the go-to guide.



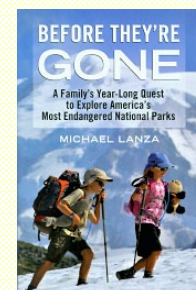
Before They're Gone: A Family's Year-Long Quest to Explore America's Most Endangered National Parks

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2012

By Michael Lanza.

Beacon Press ISBN 9780807001196

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

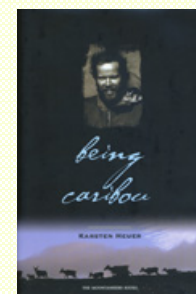
noba-web.org/books06.htm

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2006

By Karsten Heuer.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle 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

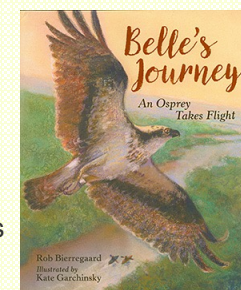
CHILDREN'S~~Honorable Mention 2018

By Rob Bierregaard. Illustrated by Kate Garchinsky

There were two winners in this category. This is winner 1.

Charlesbridge, Watertown, MA ISBN 9781580897921

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 of 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.



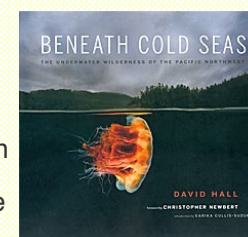
Beneath Cold Seas: The Underwater Wilderness of the Pacific Northwest

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2012

By David Hall.

University of Washington Press and Greystone Books ISBN 978022295991160

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

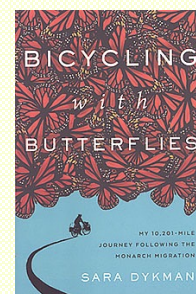
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2021

By Sara Dykman.

There were 3 winners in this category. This is winner 3.

Timber Press, Portland ISBN 9781643260457

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.



Big Walls, Swift Waters: Epic Stories from Yosemite Search and Rescue

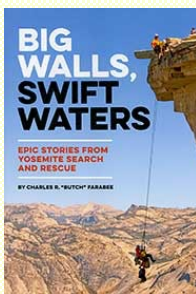
INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2017

By Charles R. "Butch" Farabee.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Yosemite Conservancy, Yosemite National Park, CA ISBN 9781930238749

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 "Butch" 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.



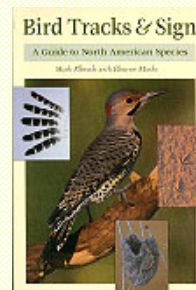
Bird Tracks & Sign: A Guide to North American Species

NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2002

By Mark Elbroch and Eleanor Marks.

Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA ISBN 0811726967

Bird Tracks & Sign is an innovative, major new contribution to the study of North American birds and is destined to become an indispensable reference.



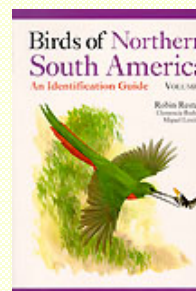
Birds of Northern South America: An Identification Guide

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2007

By Robin Restall, Clemencia Rodner and Miguel Lentino.

Yale University Press, New Haven and A & C Black, London ISBN 9780300108620

This remarkable work consists of two volumes: the first with written descriptions of the birds, and the second with color plates portraying over 2,300 species in almost every distinct plumage. Quite simply, *Birds of Northern South America* is a tour de force.



Birds of Peru

noba-web.org/books08.htm

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2008

By Tomas S. Schulenberg, Douglas F. Stotz, Daniel F. Lane, John P. O'Neill, and Theodore A. Parker III.

Princeton University Press, Princeton ISBN 9780691049151

A famous American field ornithologist once remarked that a bird watching trip to Peru was akin to a child's visit to an enormous toy store -- and with good reason. Peru is home to nearly one-fifth of the world's total number of bird species. There's no better way to explore the wonders of Peru's ornithological toy store than with this colorful, well-organized and comprehensive guidebook. In all, it covers an amazing 1,792 species. It is, quite simply, an impressive work of monumental ornithological significance.



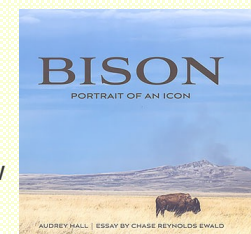
Bison: Portrait of an Icon www.iaab.org/books21.htm

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2021

Essay by Chase Reynolds Ewald. Poetry of Henry Real Bird

Gibbs Smith, Layton, UT ISBN 9781423653752

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.



Blue Horizons: Dispatches from Distant Seas

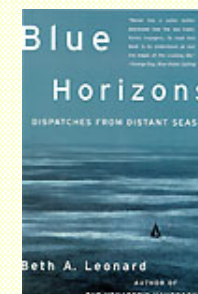
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2007

By Beth A. Leonard.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

International Marine/McGraw-Hill, Camden, ME ISBN 9780071479585

This is a beautifully written series of vignettes about life and the sea. You'll follow along, experiencing the ebb and flow, as Beth Leonard and her partner Evans Starzinger travel from port to port, and through calm and storm, on their six-year, 50,000-mile voyage from one end of the world to the other.



Blueberry Shoe www.iaab.org/books00.htm

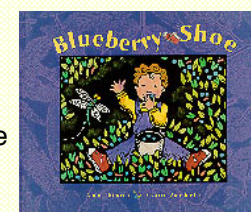
CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2000

By Ann Dixon. Illustrations by Evon Zerbetz.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Alaska Northwest Books

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)



Born of Fire and Rain: Journey into a Pacific Coastal Forest

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2025

By M. L. Herring.

Yale University Press, New Haven, CT

Originally from the East, author M. L. Herring and her husband settled in Oregon's Coast Range. It was the beginning of a 50-year love affair with the Pacific temperate rainforest. She is an ecologist, science writer and artist, and in her forest home, her work and life are one. In Born of Fire and Rain she first accustoms us to the forests of western Oregon and Washington, and then she takes us on a series of field trips. She guides us through the geological cataclysms that have shaped the landscape, leads us through old growth forests, pointing out the age and height of the giants, takes us upward to explore the secret vibrance of the canopy, and brings us back down to the underworld of the forest floor with its insects, fungi, bacteria — recycling old life into new. It's a lovely book, punctuated with illustrations from the Herring's sketchbooks which she carried on her many forest journeys. The book is passionate, at times poetic, in which natural history, art, and care for the natural environment converge elegantly.



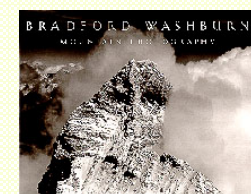
Bradford Washburn: Mountain Photography

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2000

Photography by Bradford Washburn. Edited and Compiled by Antony Decaneas.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

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.



Brave the Wild River: The Untold Story of Two Women Who Mapped the Botany of the Grand Canyon

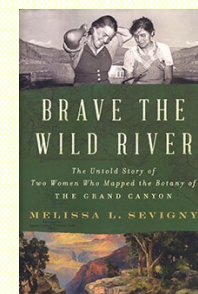
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2023

By Melissa L. Sevigny.

There were two winners in this category. This is Winner #1.

W. W. Norton & Company, New York ISBN ISBN 9780393868234

In 1937, the botanist Elzada Clover was on a two-week desert plant collecting trip in southern Utah, staying at small dirt-roofed lodge in a wide spot in the road called Mexican Hat. While there, the still, little explored Grand Canyon, miles downriver from Mexican Hat, was calling to her. No one had done a serious study of the plants in the canyon—and she started thinking that she could be the one to do it. The Grand Canyon was also calling to twenty-nine-year-old Norm Nevills who ran the lodge. Together, Nevills and Clover hatched a plan. Nevills had not run "the Grand," but he, nevertheless, offered to build boats and guide Clover down the river for her plant study. The male dominated scientific and academic world didn't take the work of women scientists seriously, but Clover managed to finagle some funding and was back the next year with fellow botanist Lois Jotter. In this brilliantly told story you are given a seat in the boat along with Clover and Jotter for a bit of canyon botany - and the ride of your life.



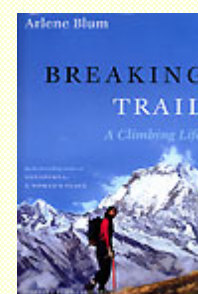
Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life www.iaab.org/books05.htm

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Honorable Mention 2005

By Arlene Blum.

Scribner, New York ISBN 0743258460

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.



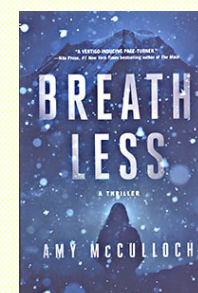
Breathless: A Thriller www.iaab.org/books22.htm

OUTDOOR LITERATURE (FICTION)~~Winner 2022

By Amy McCulloch.

Viking/Penguin Random House, Toronto, Canada ISBN 978035242852

Hold on to your seats. This spine-tingling novel will transport you to the icy slopes of Manaslu, the eighth highest peak in the world. One climber dies from an accident. Then another, but this time, the realization is spreading through the team that it's no accident. There is a murderer present. Who might be next? It is no coincidence that author Amy McCulloch so expertly captures the thrill and dangers of high altitude climbing in this book. She is a Himalayan climber, having summited Manaslu, the youngest Canadian woman to do so. There are very few well written and realistic works of fiction on climbing and this gripping thriller is clearly one.



Bruce Aiken's Grand Canyon: An Intimate Affair

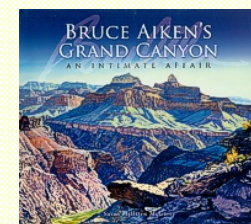
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2008

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 to 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 Hallsten 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

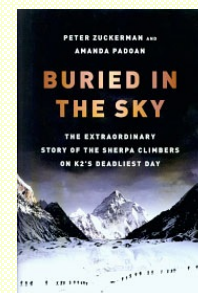
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2012

By Peter Zuckerman and Amanda Padoan.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

W. W. Norton & Company, New York ISBN 9780393079883

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.



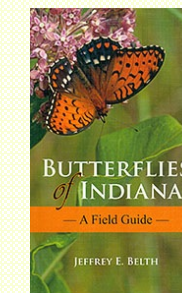
Butterflies of Indiana: A Field Guide

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2013

By Jeffrey E. Belth.

Indiana University Press, Bloomington ISBN 9780253009555

There's 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 Belth 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 Belth'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

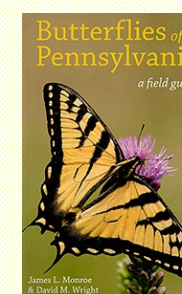
NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2017

By James L. Monroe and David M. Wright.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

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.



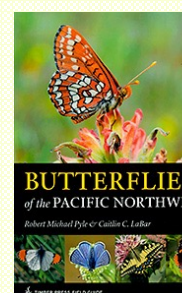
Butterflies of the Pacific Northwest

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2018

By Robert Michael Pyle and Caitlin C. LaBar.

Timber Press, Portland, OR ISBN 9781604696936

In this outstanding guide, over 200 different butterflies found in the Pacific Northwest are pictured and described. All the small details which make a topnotch guide are present: hardy paper cover, 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.



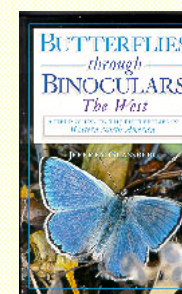
Butterflies Through Binoculars: A Field Guide to the Butterflies of Western North America

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2001

By Jeffrey Glassberg.

Oxford University Press, New York

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--and haunting the fields and forests searching for those delicate insects that add so much color to summer afternoons.



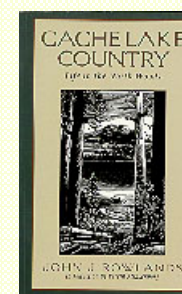
Cache Lake Country: Life in the North Woods

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.



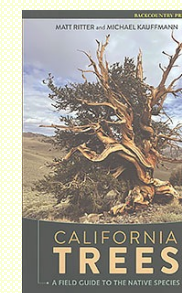
California Trees: A Field Guide to the Native Species

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2025

By Matt Ritter and Michael Kauffmann.

Backcountry Press, Kneeland, CA

California is blessed with a great variety of landforms and scenic vistas, but it would be nothing without its trees. Matt Ritter and Michael Kauffman's new guide is the perfect vehicle to learn about and identify California trees. It covers all of the state's 95 native species and does so in a thoughtful, organized way. Sections in the book are color coded, getting you quickly to the two main groupings: conifer or flowering trees. Each tree includes three to four photos, a location map, and identification details. Great design, good information, and just the right size for a pack, California Trees does the job and does it well.



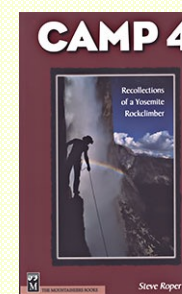
Camp 4: Recollections of a Yosemite Rockclimber

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2022

By Steve Roper.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9780898865875

First published in 1994 and now in its seventh printing, Camp 4 is clearly a classic work on rock climbing. It covers the golden age of Yosemite climbing, that quarter century period from 1947 to 1971. Author Steve Roper was there in the 1960's, a part of a curious mix of personalities and egos who were associated with the ground breaking climbs that marked the period. "I strode among giants," he writes, "though at the time I felt more like a misfit associating with oddballs." Much could have been written about Yosemite's history during this period, yet Roper has wisely compressed it into just the right amount for a fascinating read.



Camping With the President

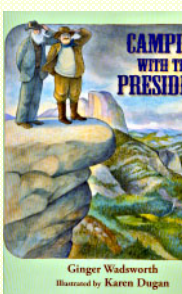
CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2010

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.

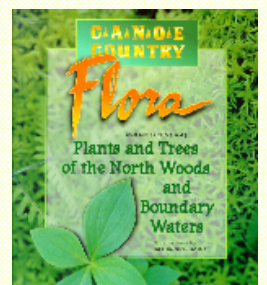


Canoe Country Flora web.org/books97.htm

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 1997

By Mark Stensaas, illustrated by Jeff Sonstegard.
Pfeifer-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.

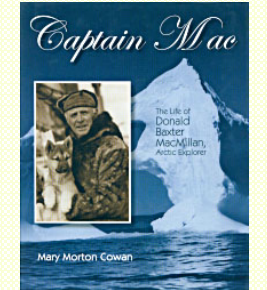


Captain Mac: The Life of Donald Baxter MacMillan, Arctic Explorer

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2010

By Mary Morton Cowan.
Two books won, this is winner 2.
Calkins Creek, Honesdale, PA ISBN 9781590787090

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. Smitten 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.

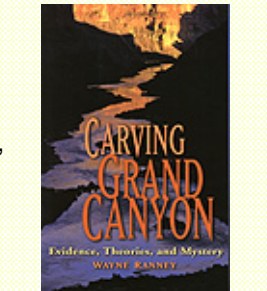


Carving Grand Canyon: Evidence, Theories, and Mystery

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2006

By Wayne Ranney.
Grand Canyon Association, Grand Canyon, AZ ISBN 0938216821

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.

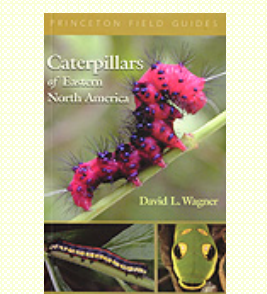


Caterpillars of Eastern North America web.org/books96.htm

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2006

By David L. Wagner.
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.

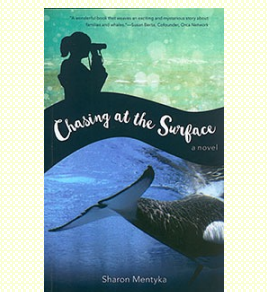


Chasing at the Surface: A Novel web.org/books15.htm

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2016

By Sharon Mentyka.
WestWinds Press/Graphic Arts Books, Portland ISBN 9781943328604

In 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.

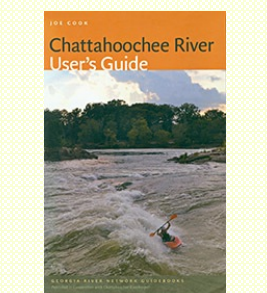


Chattahoochee River User's Guide web.org/books14.htm

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2014

By Joe Cook.
University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA ISBN 9780820346793

This guidebook which covers all 430 miles of the Chattahoochee River, has everything a good guide should have: excellent maps, enticing photographs, and intelligent organization. And the writing? That's where this guide really shines. Researching and writing the Chattahoochee River User's Guide was not just another job for author Joe Cook. Not at all. Rather, he was writing about something near and dear to his heart. His passion for the river is evident on nearly every page. He knows the Chattahoochee, its nooks and crannies, its history and the environmental struggles waged on the river's behalf. The writing is so good that when you're off the river, you may find yourself taking a peek at some portion of the book, and sometime later, lost in the writing, find yourself miles down the river from where you started. If you plan to boat, fish or just want to get to know the Chattahoochee, this is the guide to have.

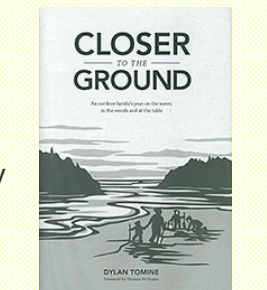


Closer to the Ground: An Outdoor Family's Year on the Water, in the Woods and at the Table

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2013

By Dylan Tomine.
Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 9781938340000

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.

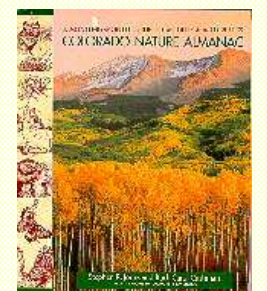


Colorado Nature Almanac web.org/books98.htm

NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 1998

By Stephen R. Jones and Ruth Carol Cushman.
Pruett Publishing Company Company

Wonderfully 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.

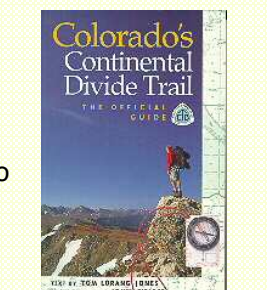


Colorado's Continental Divide Trail web.org/books99.htm

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 1998

By Tom Lorang Jones. Photographs by John Fielder.
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.



Common Bees of Eastern North America [10 min](#)

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2022

By Olivia Messinger Carril and Joseph S. Wilson.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ ISBN 9780691175492

Let's face it. Identifying bees isn't the easiest task in the world, but this new, innovative work is here to help. What sets this guide apart from others is the use of striking, high resolution color photographs which have been overlaid with key identifying marks. It even includes silhouettes which depict the actual size of the bee. Covering 125 of the most commonly seen species in the eastern US and Canada, this fine guide raises the standards of insect identification.



Condor: To the Brink and Back [10 min](#)

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2006

By John Nielsen.

HarperCollins Publishers, New York ISBN 9780060088620

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.



Condors in Canyon Country: The Return of the California Condor to the Grand Canyon Region

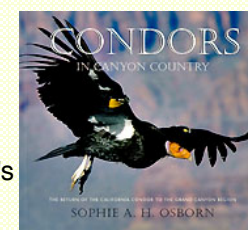
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2007

By Sophie A. H. Osborn.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Grand Canyon Association, Grand Canyon, AZ ISBN 9780938216988

It's impossible to page through this book without catching Sophie Osborn's passion for the condor. It's a passion that runs deep for her, for she was one of the scientists who played a role in the successful effort to return this magnificent bird to the Grand Canyon area. The book's intelligent design backed up by Osborn's superb photographs combine to create the perfect vehicle to celebrate this environmental success story.



Connecticut Walk Book: The Guide to the Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails of Western Connecticut

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE~~Work of Significance 2007

Edited Ann T. Colson.

Connecticut Forest and Park Association, Rockfall, CN ISBN 0961905263

No doubt about it. The Connecticut Walk Book is among the top tier of long-standing, tried-and-true guidebooks. With map accuracy assured by global positioning, and trail descriptions backed-up by the work of an army of volunteers, this is one dependable book. Guidebooks aren't any more comprehensive and useful than this.



Continental Divide: A History of American Mountaineering

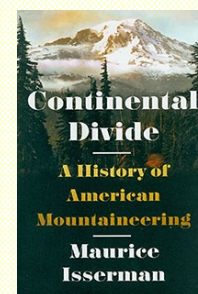
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Honorable Mention 2016

By Maurice Isserman.

Two books won honorable mention, this is winner 1.

W. W. Norton, New York ISBN 9780393068504

There are several comprehensive historic works on American mountaineering and climbing, but Maurice Isserman ups the ante with this book. Part of the book's appeal is the way he approaches the subject, deftly blending notable achievements in the climbing world with social and cultural history. Works such as this can easily drag after the first couple of chapters, but not this one. Isserman has a lively and engaging writing style which holds one's attention and keeps the pages turning.



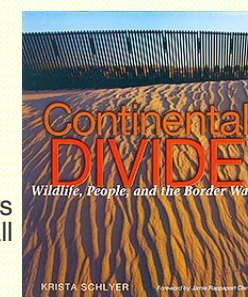
Continental Divide: Wildlife, People and the Border Wall

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2013

By Krista Schlyer.

Texas A&M University Press, College Station ISBN ISBN 9781603447430

This 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.

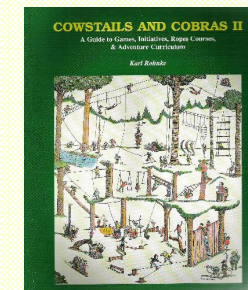


Cowstails and Cobras II: A Guide to Games, Initiatives, Ropes Courses, & Adventure Curriculum

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE~~Work of Significance 1999

By Karl Rohnke.

Penned by one the great innovators of the experiential education field and stuffed to the brim with adventure games and initiatives, this immensely resourceful book is an outdoor education classic.



Coyote and Badger: Desert Hunters of the Southwest

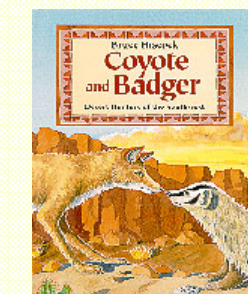
CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2001

Written and illustrated by Bruce Hiscock.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Boyd's Mills Press, Honesdale, Pennsylvania

This book, for children from 7 to 10 years old, is a natural history story about predators and their struggle to survive. The tale unfolds when a coyote and badger meet and a mysterious bond forms between the two as they begin hunting together. Set in New Mexico among Anasazi ruins, the story is perfectly complemented with Bruce Hiscock's warm and luminous watercolors of a spacious desert.



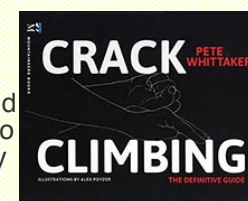
Crack Climbing: The Definitive Guide [10 min](#)

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Honorable Mention 2020

By Pete Whittaker. Illustrations by Alex Poyzer.

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680512151

If there's ever been a definitive guide devoted to one segment of climbing technique, this is exhibit number one. Pete Whittaker is a world class crack climber and he leaves no stone unturned in this excellent instructional book. What is crack climbing? It is that aspect of the sport whereby you jam fingers, hands, or feet into cracks to move upward on a rock face. Whittaker has organized the book by width of crack (finger, hand, offwidth, chimney). Then, with excellent illustrations by Alex Poyzer, he describes a myriad of ways a climber can position fingers, hands, feet and body to tackle any crack that comes your way.



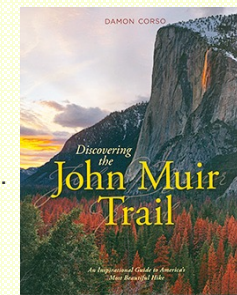
Discovering the John Muir Trail: An Inspirational Guide to America's Most Beautiful Hike

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2018

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, coming across unforgettable campsites, and making friends along the way.



Dot and Jabber and the Big Bug Mystery

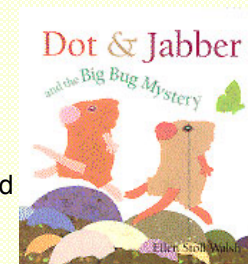
CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2003

By Ellen Stoll Walsh.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Harcourt, Inc., New York ISBN 0152165185

Dot and Jabber are mice—mighty dapper looking mice, we might add—and they have an interesting vocation. They are detectives. Their job in the *Big Bug Mystery* is to find out what happened to all the bugs in the meadow that have suddenly disappeared. There's no mystery, however, about this sweetly written and illustrated book. It's a winner and will excite the imaginations of pre-school and kindergarten aged children.



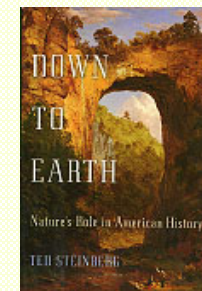
Down to Earth: Nature's Role in American History

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2002

By Ted Steinberg.

Oxford University Press, New York ISBN 0195140095

In this fascinating and ground-breaking 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.



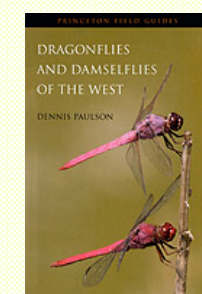
Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West

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, range, flight season, and the all-important structural identifiers.



Dragonflies of the North Woods

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2004

By Kurt Mead.

Kollath-Stensaas Publishing, Duluth, Minnesota ISBN 0967379369

Who doesn't love dragonflies as they flit and flutter about on a warm summer day? Certainly Kurt Mead is smitten. He is the author of this new and exceptionally useful identification guide. Considerable thought has gone into the design of this compact guidebook: sharp and colorful photos, easy-to-use field markings, habitat information, natural history notes, sizing scales, sighting frequencies, and . . . well, you get the picture. It's a darn good little guide.



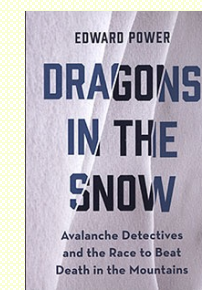
Dragons in the Snow: Avalanche Detectives and the Race to Beat Death in the Mountains

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2020

By Edward Power.

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680512960

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.



Drawn to Birds: A Naturalist's Sketchbook

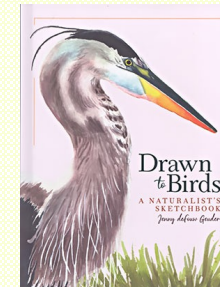
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2022

By Jenny deFouw Geuder.

There were three winners in this category, this is winner #2.

Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN ISBN 9781647552251

This charming book is a splendid melding of art and text. Open it and the book immediately radiates appeal, drawing you in with a profusion of colorful watercolors. The watercolors are supplemented with text etched in delicate calligraphy, easy on the eyes and in perfect harmony with the artwork. After an introduction on how to identify birds, Jenny deFouw Geuder covers more than 60 bird species found in the backyard or in nearby parks. She includes ideas on how to create a better habitat in your yard and ties it up with a segment on common wildflowers and insects.



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

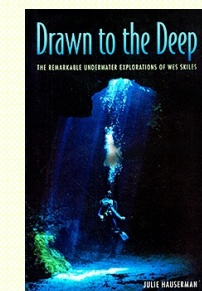
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2019

By Julie Hauserman.

Two books won in this category. This is winner 2.

University Press of Florida, Gainesville ISBN 9780813056982

In this well-told biography, the life of underwater pioneer Wes Skiles comes alive. Wes Skiles was a legendary scuba diver known for his exploratory cave dives and his innovative underwater photography work. Skiles explored where others had never been before, all the while inventing, innovating, and pushing the limits of what was possible. His work appeared in national magazines and in over one hundred documentary films. Readable and engrossing, Julie Hauserman's book is an exploration of the man and the hauntingly beautiful underworld that he inhabited.



Edge of the Earth, Corner of the Sky

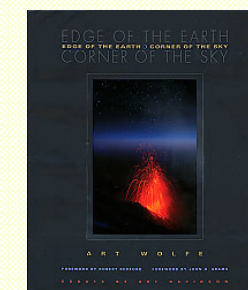
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2004

Photography by Art Wolfe. Essays by Art Davidson.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Wildlands 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.



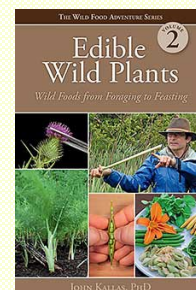
Edible Wild Plants: Wild Foods from Foraging to Feasting (Vol 2)

NATURE GUIDES~~Silver Medalist 2023

By John Kallas.

Gibbs Smith. Layton, UT ISBN 9781423641346

Edible plants made a strong showing in this year's crop of nature guides, and John Kallas's new guidebook was another stand-out. Kallas has the perfect combination of credentials to write this book: a long-time edible plant enthusiast, and a practicing botanist with a Ph.D. in nutrition. What is so appealing about Kallas' guide is that in addition to identifying edible plants, he also includes recipes and cooking instructions. The color photography is, hands down, some of the best found in books about edible plants. And those photos of wild plants, cooked and ready to serve on the dinner table? There's only word to describe them: Yum!



Elevations: A Personal Exploration of the Arkansas River

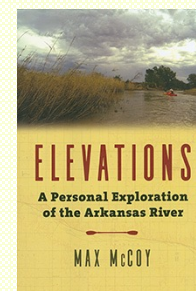
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2018

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 journey takes him through time. From the river's headwaters in Colorado, across Kansas to his ending point near the Oklahoma border, McCoy seeks out the river's cultural history, past and present. He stops to visit the site of a Japanese internment camp. He spends time in a town rocked by labor unrest in 1914, and he climbs to the top of a clock tower to view a massive flood and irrigation dam. Each stop becomes a story, well told and well researched, each blending into an insightful whole.



Empire of Ice and Stone: The Disastrous and Heroic Voyage of the Karluk

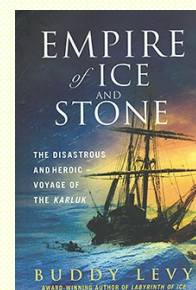
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2023

By Buddy Levy.

There were two winners in this category. This is Winner #2.

St. Martins Press, New York ISBN 9781250274441

In this splendid re-telling of the ill-fated 1913 Canadian Arctic Expedition, author Buddy Levy directs our attention to the two protagonists: Vilhjalmur Stefansson, the expedition's overall leader, and Bob Bartlett, the captain of the expedition's ship named the Karluk. Stefansson, an anthropologist, explorer and self-promoter, is building his Arctic resume. Bartlett is a down-to-earth seaman, and arguably, the world's most experienced ship captain when it comes to navigating ice-choked waters. Just six weeks into the journey, however, the Karluk becomes trapped in ice, north of the Alaskan coast. Stefansson, announcing that he would supplement the ship's food supply, takes off with a small crew to hunt. But while he is gone, the ice-bound ship is propelled eastward by strong Arctic currents, sending it into Russian waters. Stefansson never returns to the ship. Things go from bad to worse. The ship is crushed by ice. Trapped on the ice pack in the darkness of an Arctic winter, his ship in ruins, Bartlett waits for daylight to return. His plan is to make for a large island in the East Siberian Sea. But what then? Help is still miles and miles away. And Stefansson? What has happened to him? Find out in this captivating narrative.



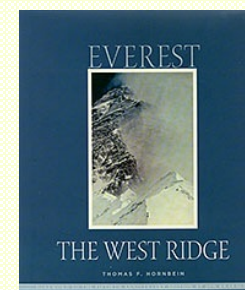
Everest: The West Ridge

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2013

By Thomas F. Hornbein.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781594857072

No doubt about this one. Everest: The West Ridge is a mountaineering classic. It's the story of the 1963 Everest ascent by a bold and entirely unknown route: the West Ridge. After 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 at 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.



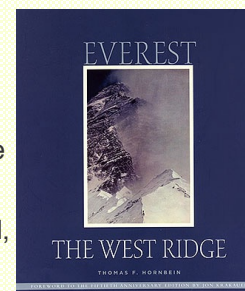
Everest: The West Ridge

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2023

By Thomas F. Hornbein.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle. ISBN 9781594857072

There was absolutely no doubt about it when this book arrived in the judges' hands. Everest: The West Ridge is a classic in outdoor literature. The ascent of the West Ridge was the crowning achievement of the 1963 American expedition to the mountain. The main purpose of the expedition, of course, was to get the first Americans on top of Everest via the standard South Col Route. Once that had been accomplished, however, the climbing team was free to try something else—and that something was Everest's imposing West Ridge. No one knew whether it was possible to climb it, but two climbers, Thomas Hornbein and Willy Unsoeld, set out to try. This is that story, told in unflinching candor by Hornbein, of one of the most remarkable ascents—and descents—in all of Himalayan climbing history. Re-issued by the Mountaineers Books on the fiftieth anniversary of the original publication, this is a collector's item: all original text, all original photographs, all beautifully presented and packaged with a hardbound cover.



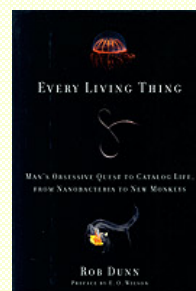
Every Living Thing: Man's Obsessive Quest to Catalog Life, from Nanobacteria to New Monkeys

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2009

By Rob Dunn.

Smithsonian Books. New York ISBN 9780061430305

Fashioning a series of vivid portraits of driven, single-minded scientists, Dunn 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.

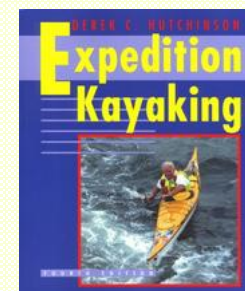


Expedition Kayaking

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE~~Work of Significance 1999

By Derek Hutchinson.

Thirty-year sea kayaking veteran and inveterate expeditioner, Derek Hutchinson, tells how it's done in this, the fourth edition of his colorful and eminently instructive book.



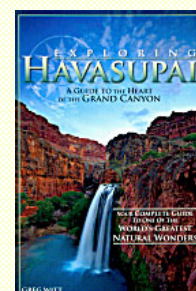
Exploring Havasupai: A Guide to the Heart of the Grand Canyon

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 it is 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. Twight and James Martin.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

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 a 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

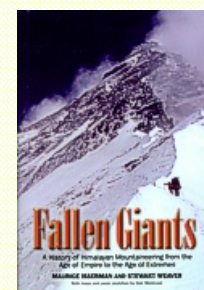
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2008

By Maurice Isserman and Stewart Weaver.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Yale University Press ISBN 9780520247307

A history tome isn't the type of book that you'd think of reading from cover to cover, but *A History of Himalayan Mountaineering* is the exception. Building upon an impressive body of research (notes and biographical entries alone occupy over 100 pages), authors Maurice Isserman and Stewart Weaver effortlessly move the reader from one era to another -- as easily as an accomplished climber might move from one rock pitch to another. This is an outstanding reference work, and if you enjoy mountaineering literature, it's clearly one for your book shelves.



Farley Mowat for Sea of Slaughter, Never Cry Wolf and other works--Sea of Slaughter

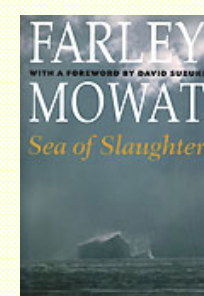
OUTDOOR CLASSIC: Life-time Achievement Recognition~~Winner 2005

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 of 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.



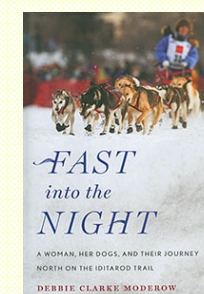
Fast Into the Night: A Woman, Her Dogs, and Their Journey North on the Iditarod Trail

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2016

By Debbie Clarke Moderow.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston ISBN 978054448412

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.

Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN ISBN 9781591934936

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 230 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.



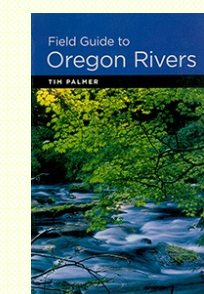
Field Guide to Oregon Rivers [books15.htm](#)

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2015

By Tim Palmer.

Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, OR ISBN 9780870716270

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 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.



Field Guide to the Flower Flies of Northeastern North America

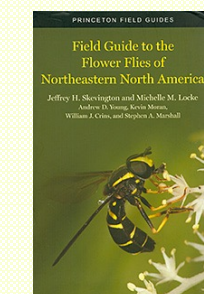
NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2019

By Jeffrey H. Skevington and Michelle M. Locke.

There were 2 winners in this category. This is winner 1.

Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ ISBN 9780691189406

First things first: flower flies or hover flies are not bees or wasps. Yes, they are pollinators, and yes, they have similar markings to bees — which serves them well as a form of protection from potential predators — but that's where the similarity ends. They have two wings. Bees and wasps have four. Moreover, flower flies haven't had the sort of guidebook attention that bees have had. Until, that is, the arrival of this book, the first comprehensive guide to flower flies. With plenty of photographs, a smart layout, and clear textual material, it does the job and does it well.



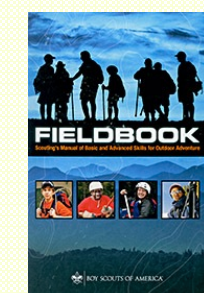
Fieldbook: Scouting's Manual of Basic and Advanced Skills for Outdoor Adventure

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE~~Work of Significance 2014

By Robert Birkby.

Boy Scouts of America, Irving, TX ISBN 9780839531043

The Fieldbook was first published by the Boy Scout organization in 1944 and since has gone through several revisions. With the release of its fifth edition in 2014, the judges felt it was the perfect time to recognize its influence and importance in the outdoor world. What is the Fieldbook? In short, it's a compendium of outdoor knowledge oriented to young people. A short list of topics include planning trips, preparing menus, outdoor cooking, backcountry hygiene, navigation, leave no trace camping, first aid, survival, and observing and caring for the natural world. It also covers techniques of specific sports including backpacking, mountain travel, ski touring, snowshoeing, canoeing, kayaking, rafting and caving. It's all contained in a perfectly sized paperback full of color photography and clear and understandable illustrations.



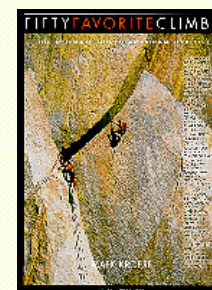
Fifty Favorite Climbs: The Ultimate North American Tick List

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2001

By Mark Kroese.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

This splendidly done, full-color treat-for-the-eyes blends personality and place, showcasing fifty accomplished climbers and their favorite climbs. Each section includes a biographic sketch of the climber, a story about his or her chosen climb, and a route description clearly illustrated by a photograph and accompanying schematics.



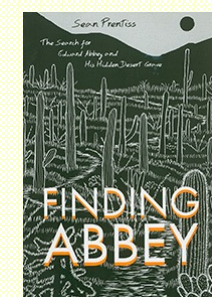
Finding Abbey: The Search for Edward Abbey and His Hidden Desert Grave

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2015

By Sean Prentiss.

University of New Mexico Press ISBN 9870826355911

Edward Abbey is one of the great environmental writers of the Twentieth Century. Upon his death in 1989, and according to his wishes, he was buried by friends somewhere in the desert. The location was and remains a closely guarded secret. Fast forward twenty years, and Sean Prentiss, an admirer of Abbey's work, wonders whether it might be possible to find the grave by retracing Abbey's life from his birthplace in Pennsylvania to the empty spaces of the American southwest. That notion sends him off on a two-year search, the result of which is a brilliant creative treat for us: a seeker's quest in which we learn about Abbey (the sought after) and Prentiss (the seeker). It's a warm-hearted and elegantly written work and simply a joy to read. And the grave? Does he find it? That's the best surprise of all.



Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest

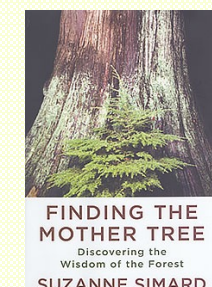
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2021

By Suzanne Simard.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Allen Lane/Penguin Canada, Toronto ISBN 9780735237759

It is because of author Suzanne Simard's groundbreaking scientific work that we now know that the trees in a forest are connected by underground networks. A key part of that network is the "mother tree," a tree of advanced age which provides carbon and nitrogen to younger trees, helping in their survival. This is the story of Simard's research and the struggles she faces both in her life and in her scientific work. It is, in essence, the story of how science works, the search for truth through experimental design, the long hours, the disappointments and successes, and the balancing act of work and relationships.



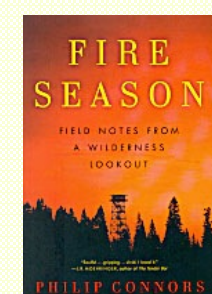
Fire Season: Field Notes from a Wilderness Lookout

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2011

By Philip Connors.

HarperCollins, New York ISBN 9780061856366

In this sensitive and elegant work, Philip Connors mans a fire lookout overlooking the Gila Wilderness, the first established wilderness area in the US. It's a perfect place, in more than one respect, to write and reflect on wild places and why such places are important in civilized life—and he does so with an honesty and understanding which is remarkable for its depth of thought and insight. Connors finds himself among some pretty heavy company: Edward Abbey, Jack Kerouac, Norman Maclean, and Gary Snyder all wrote about their experiences on fire lookouts. This is Connors first work, but if these literary forbearers could somehow manage to unite for a little backcountry revelry, it's not hard to imagine them inviting him over and raising a toast to Fire Season.



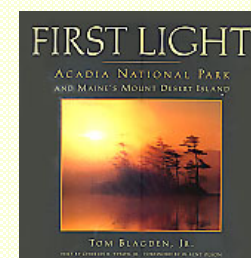
First Light: Acadia National Park and Maine's Mount Desert Island

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2003

Photography by Tom Blagden, Jr. Text by Charles R. Tyson, Jr.

Friends of Acadia in combination with Westcliffe Publishers ISBN 1565794729

First Light is one of those rare books that excels in all measures of an artistic achievement. It's an impressive and fitting tribute to Acadia, the Northeast's only national park. From Tom Blagden's inspiring and impassioned photography to the book's careful and sensitive design, and to the printer's nearly perfect reproduction, this work sparkles and dazzles. Quite simply, *First Light* is a *tour de force*.



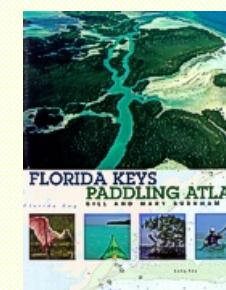
Florida Keys Paddling Atlas

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2008

By Bill and Mary Burnham.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT ISBN 9780762738571

This is an exceptionally well-done sea kayaking guide to the tropical water paradise of the Florida Keys. Graphically appealing and functional, it includes fully annotated navigational charts and information on key launch sites, helpful route-finding hints, paddle-friendly marinas and hidden-away waterways.



Fly Fishing Austin and Central Texas

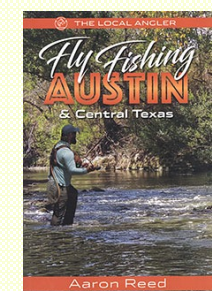
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2020

By Aaron Reed.

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

Imbrifex Books, Las Vegas ISBN 9781945501241

All you have to do is read the introductory chapters to realize that Aaron Reed is the sort of guy who you wouldn't mind having as a fishing pal. Fortunately, for most of us, his fly fishing guide allows you to do just that. You can fish the same waters, grab a bite at a favorite eatery, and enjoy the same music. Music? Yessiree. At the end of each chapter, Reed includes suggested music that you might enjoy on your fishing excursion. This is Austin, Texas after all. He covers more than 100 legal fishing accesses, most within 50 miles of Austin and others within a 90 mile radius. Besides being a first rate writer, he's a darn good photographer, and his color photographs are the perfect supplement to this well designed and thoroughly useful guide.



Fly Fishing Houston & Southeastern Texas

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Silver Medalist 2023

By Robert H. McConnell.

Imbrifex Books, Las Vegas ISBN 0781045501600

Robert McConnell warns readers in his colorful fly fishing guide that many of the streams he has covered won't end up appearing on postcards. A good portion are in Houston and nearby urbanized areas: forgotten, slow moving tannin-stained waters. Some are even cement lined ditches. But despite that, there are fish! Plenty of fish. And they are a delight to catch. This fine guide includes everything you need to find these forgotten streams: maps and descriptions, helpful information on fly patterns, behavior characteristics of the fish, QR codes showing the best place to park, and GPS coordinates for legal access points. Everything you'll need for an hour, an afternoon—or a full day of fly fishing fun.



For Love of Wildness: The Journal of a U.S. Game Management Agent

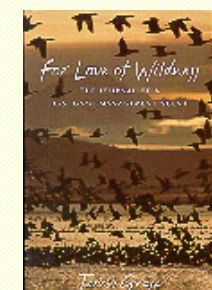
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2001

By Terry Grosz.

Honorable Mention #1

Johnson Books, Boulder

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.



For the Birds: The Life of Roger Tory Peterson

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2012

By Peggy Thomas. Illustrated by Jacques.

Calkins Creek ISBN 9781590787649

For the Birds is a delightful biography for children from 7 to 11 years of age. Who is it about?

Why . . . none other than "Professor Nuts Peterson." 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 handily 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.



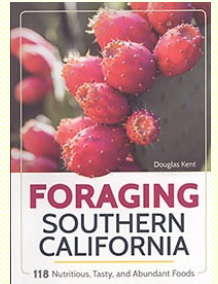
Foraging Southern California: 118 Nutritious, Tasty and Abundant Foods

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2020

By Douglas Kent.

Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN ISBN 9781591939153

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.



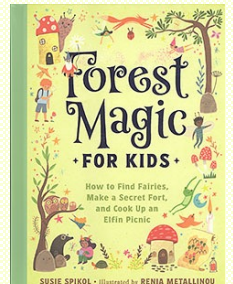
Forest Magic for Kids: How to Find Fairies, Make a Secret Fort, and Cook Up an Elfin Picnic

CHILDREN'S~~Silver Medalist 2025

By Susie Spikol.

Gibbs Smith, Kaysville, UT

Science has taught us so much about the natural world, but nature is also a world of mystery and wonder. In this bewitching book of discovery, Susie Spikol combines science with fantasy and imagination. She leads children in the 5-9 age group on a series of adventures. She takes them to find their own "world tree," or explains how to create pixie dust, or leads them through the steps to make spore prints from a mushroom. On all adventures, children are reminded to bring along a "secret notebook" to record in words and drawings what they see. Along with Renia Metallinou's colorful and fanciful illustrations, it's a lovely book which will excite young minds and help them discover magic in the outdoor world.



Forever on the Mountain: The Truth Behind One of Mountaineering's Most Controversial and Mysterious Disaster

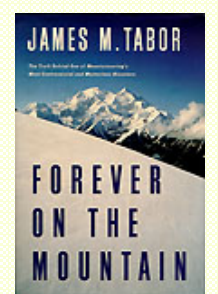
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2007

By James M. Tabor.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

W. W. Norton & Company, New York ISBN 9780393061741

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 oaring 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.



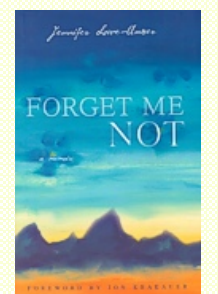
Forget Me Not: A Memoir

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2008

By Jennifer Lowe-Anker.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 1594850828

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.



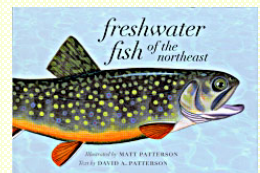
Freshwater Fish of the Northeast

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2010

Text by David A. Patterson. Illustrated by Matt Patterson.

University Press of New England, Hanover, NH ISBN 9781584658191

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.



Gaia Girls Enter the Earth

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2006

By Lee Welles.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Daisyworld Press, Corning, NY ISBN 1933609001

In this 320-page novel, a young girl takes on a corporation that threatens to pollute the air and water of her upstate New York home. She is helped by a fantasy creature by the name of Gaia who she learns is the embodiment of the earth and of all living things. But can she, only a fourth grader (but soon to be a fifth grader!), stop a big corporation? Find out in Lee Welles' page-turner for young girls. Ages 9 to 14.



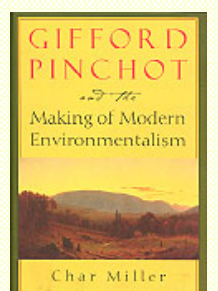
Gifford Pinchot and the Making of Modern Environmentalism

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2002

By Char Miller.

Island Press/Shearwater Books, Washington ISBN 1559638222

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.



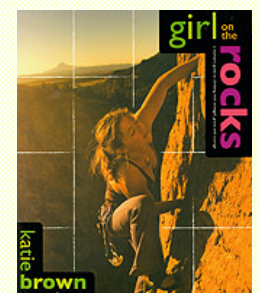
Girl on the Rocks: A Woman's Guide to Climbing with Strength, Grace and Courage

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2009

By Katie Brown. Photographs by Ben Moon.

Globe Pequot Press/Falcon Guides, Guilford, CN ISBN 9780762745180

Katie Brown 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 "how-to" 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.



Glacier Mountaineering: An Illustrated Guide to Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue

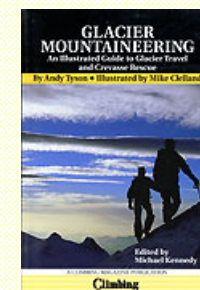
INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2005

By Andy Tyson. Illustrated by Mike Clelland. Edited by Michael Kennedy.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Climbing Magazine, Carbondale, CO ISBN 1893682129

Without a doubt, this is a reliable and straightforward instructional text covering the knowledge and skills necessary for safe glacial travel. Its real strong point is the accompanying illustrations by Mike Clelland: delightfully whimsical but remarkably clear and understandable.



Good Morning Loon web.org/books14.htm

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2014

By Elizabeth S. Varnai. Illustrated by Kate Hartley.

Vista Court Books, New Hope PA. ISBN 9780962842238

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. Elizabeth Varnai's enchanting story along with Kate Hartley's luminous watercolors makes this a perfect bedtime read for children between the ages of 4 and 8.



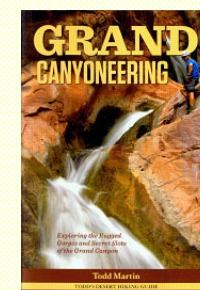
Grand Canyoning: Exploring the Rugged Gorges and Secret Slots of the Grand Canyon

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2012

By Todd Martin.

Todd's Hiking Guide, LLC ISBN 9780978961435

If you're into canyoning, Grand Canyoning is a must-have. Handsomely illustrated with color photographs throughout, this outstanding guide includes thorough explanations of over 100 different trips into the tributary drainages and ravines of the Grand Canyon. Trip descriptions are supplemented with topographic maps, key GPS coordinates, and information on water sources, specialized equipment and natural history. Todd Martin writes in a comfortable, conversational style which makes the guide a pleasure to read; yet, at the same time, he is exacting when it comes to describing canyon routes. The sheer volume of material alone is impressive, and combined with the photos, maps, and text, it's decidedly a tour de force of outdoor guidebooks.



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

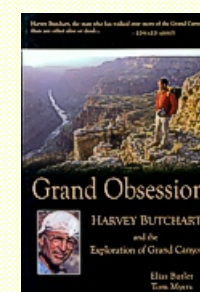
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2008

By Elias Butler and Tom Myers.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Puma Press, Flagstaff, AZ ISBN 0970097344

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.



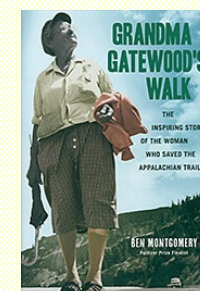
Grandma Gatewood's Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2014

By Ben Montgomery.

Chicago Review Press, Chicago ISBN 9781613747186

What's this? A book about the Appalachian Trail? But who is this grandmotherly looking woman pictured on the cover, holding an umbrella and dressed in a checked skirt, print blouse and baggy hose? Surely, this is not the picture of someone backpacking the Appalachian Trail? Indeed, it is! Meet Emma Gatewood. She's the first woman to hike the entire Appalachian Trail, and the first person—man or woman—to hike it twice. Then, for good measure, she hiked it a third time! The photo on the cover? That's Emma in her hiking outfit. Through the masterful pen of Ben Montgomery, Grandma Emma Gatewood comes alive on the pages of this wonderful biography of her life. Montgomery, a first rate story teller, weaves the facts of her life in a way in which keeps the narrative moving, all the 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 triumphed over adversity and found deliverance in the simple act of walking.



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

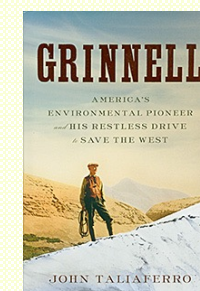
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2019

By John Taliaferro.

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

Liveright Publishing, ISBN 9781631490132

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 Malia 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



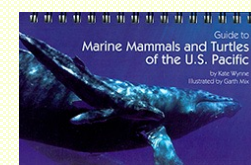
Guide to Marine Mammals & Turtles of the U.S. Pacific

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2015

By Kate Wynne. Illustrated by Garth Mix.

Alaska Sea Grant – University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK ISBN 9785661217677

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.



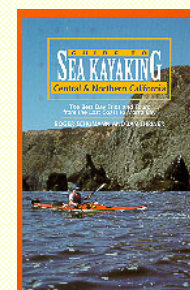
Guide to Sea Kayaking Central and Northern California

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2000

By Roger Schumann and Jan Shriner.

The Globe Pequot Press

Well designed and written, this is a splendid sea kayaking guide. The authors do what should be done in all guidebooks: show they're having fun! Even if you've never dipped a paddle, you'll be drawn in by the book's cheery personality. And then there's the maps. Created with the reader in mind, they are gems--pleasing to look at, easy to grasp, and accurate.



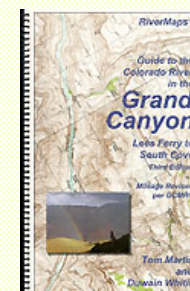
Guide to the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2007

By Tom Martin and Duwain Whitis.

Vishnu Temple Press, Flagstaff, AZ ISBN 9780977674985

For whitewater river runners, the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon is the pinnacle experience. Now there's a river map and guide to match that reputation. It's built upon a series of 7.5 minute topographic maps, correctly oriented and large enough to read easily from the seat of your boat. Outstanding cartographical work combined with accurate descriptions of rapids, camps and landmarks make this the state-of-the-art of river guides.



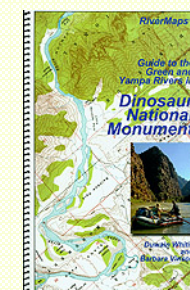
Guide to the Green and Yampa Rivers in Dinosaur National Monument

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2009

By Duwain Whitis and Barbara Vinson.

RiverMaps, Buda, TX ISBN 9870981935913

The Guide to the Green and Yampa Rivers is the newest member of an exceptional series of guidebooks published under the RiverMaps imprint. Everything about this guidebook is useful and practical from its tough, waterproof paper to its clear and thoughtful lay-out. Open it to any page, and on one side are concise and accurate descriptions of rapids, campsites and features of interest. On the facing page, positioned to match the text, are full-sized 7.5 minute topographic maps that you can read from the seat of your boat.



H is for Hawk

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2015

By Helen Macdonald.

Grove Press, New York ISBN 9780802123411

Not long after she learned of the death of her father, Helen Macdonald, a falconer, undertakes the training of a goshawk, a famously difficult task. The hawk, as her memoir unfolds, becomes a way for her to cope with the grief that she has carried ever since his death. This is nature writing but with the slant that explores the wildness within as well as without. Giving her work overall structure, Macdonald draws from a book by the British novelist T. H. White who wrote about his own harrowing and largely unsuccessful experiences with training a goshawk. It's an effective literary technique, bringing Macdonald and White together across the space of time, and producing a compelling meditative work of the connection between animals and humans.



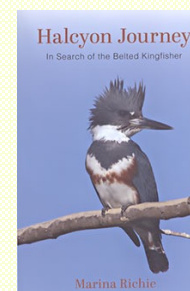
Halcyon Journey: In Search of the Belted Kingfisher

JOURNEYS~~Winner 2022

By Marina Richie.

Oregon State University Press, Corvallis ISBN 9780870712036

The kingfisher is the halcyon of Greek mythology, a bird with magical powers who could calm the waters of the sea when it nested. In this beautifully rendered book, Marina Richie sets out on a halcyon quest, an obsession actually, to find and observe a nesting pair of kingfishers. But first she must find the nest. We hike along with her, morning after chilly morning, as she searches the banks of a creek near her home in Montana. As we follow along, she adroitly weaves into her narrative scientific studies, family stories, and the influence of her naturalist father. All those chilly mornings are finally rewarded when she finds the birds' nesting hole in the side of a cutbank. The obsession broadens in scope and sends her on far-flung adventures to other continents to learn more about these mythic birds. This is superb nature writing: engrossing, enlightening and illuminating – and heralds the introduction of a new, powerful voice of the genre.



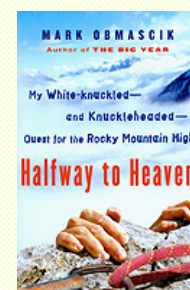
Halfway to Heaven

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2009

By Mark Obmascik.

Free Press/Simon & Schuster, New York. ISBN 9781416566991

In this fun, humorous, and warm-hearted story, Mark Obmascik sets out to climb all of Colorado's 14,000-foot mountains. But Obmascik, the father of three sons, has a problem. He is overweight and utterly out of shape. To get ready, he joins a spin class of mostly perimenopausal women. When he begins to slack off, the women prod him into keeping at it. He reciprocates by adjusting the wall fans for them when hot flashes hit. Then summer comes, and off he goes, chasing his dream to climb all 54 summits. It's a rollicking, non-stop adventure with an all-star cast of eccentrics and fanatics. But...does he make it? You'll find out in this delightfully and devilishly clever book.



Headwaters: The Adventures, Obsession, and Evolution of a Fly Fisherman

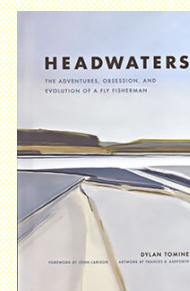
OUTDOOR LITERATURE (NON-FICTION)~~Winner 2022

By Dylan Tomine.

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

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 9781952338076

Dylan Tomine is no slouch as a writer. He has a light hearted approach and this book is certain to entertain whether you fish or not. As you progress through the book, you'll find Tomine going through a transformation. His writing is as good as ever, but after travelling the world and returning home to the rivers of the Pacific Northwest, he comes to the realization that his life's pursuit is in danger. Fish that were once in abundance are dwindling. This is one for your list. Read it for its excellent writing and Tomine's eloquent plea to strive toward a better future.



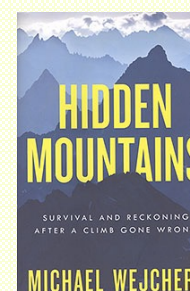
Hidden Mountains: Survival and Reckoning After a Climb Gone Wrong

JOURNEYS~~Winner 2023

By Michael Wejchert.

Harper Collins, New York ISBN 9780063085527

Four experienced climbers, two men and two women, are on an expedition to the Hidden Mountains, a little visited range in Alaska. Early in the expedition, while ascending an unclimbed peak, one of the men is badly injured by rock fall. He is isolated from the others, but eventually, one member of the party reaches the injured climber, and what he finds is not reassuring. Although a distress text had been sent earlier, it becomes crystal clear that they need outside help—and they need it quickly. Much of the account centers on a nail-biting rescue undertaken by Alaska Air National Guard. Oftentimes in narratives like this, the rescuers are secondary to the main story, but in this work, they are very much the story. We learn who they are, how they train, and how they deal with the everyday dangers of their work. Author Wejchert goes a step further, following the story beyond the rescue to its aftermath and the lives that have been changed.



Hike America Virginia: An Atlas of Virginia's Greatest Hiking Adventures

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2001

By Bill & Mary Burnham.

Honorable Mention #1

The Globe Pequot Press, Guilford, Connecticut

Strike out and explore the trails and history of Virginia's backcountry in this handsomely designed and well-written guide.



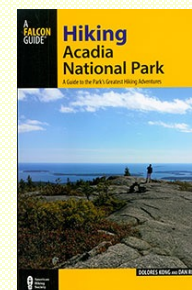
Hiking Acadia National Park: A Guide to the Park's Greatest Hiking Adventures

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2016

By Dolores Kong and Dan Ring.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT ISBN 9781493016617

There's nothing like Maine's Acadia National Park. From its shoreside walks to the commanding view from the highest mountain on the Atlantic seaboard, it's a place that inspires and regenerates the soul. One nice feature to Dolores Kong and Dan Ring's guidebook is the way they have organized hikes according to interest: best hikes for great views, or hikes for children, or dogs, history buffs, peak baggers, or ocean lovers. It's all there in one compact package with thoughtful design, clear maps, and straightforward trail descriptions.



Hiking Lassen Volcanic National Park: A Guide to the Park's Greatest Hiking Adventures

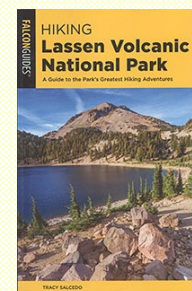
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2020

By Tracy Salcedo.

Two books won in this category. This is winner 2.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT ISBN 9781493044047

It's always a pleasure to come across a guidebook writer who really knows her stuff—and Tracy Salcedo is certainly that and more. She has been hiking the trails of Lassen for over 20 years, and her many days on those trails plainly show as she accurately guides you on the 50 trails highlighted in the book. Everything you need is there: nicely rendered maps, color photos, difficulty ratings, mileage charts, and helpful advice from one who knows.



Hiking the Sierra Nevada www.outdooradventureguides.org/books02.htm

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2002

By John Mock and Kimberley O'Neil.

Lonely Planet Publications, Footscray, Australia ISBN 1740592727

Hiking the Sierra Nevada is a user friendly, rock-solid guidebook with clear writing, useful topographic maps, inviting photos, and it's conveniently sized to fit in the side pocket of your pack.



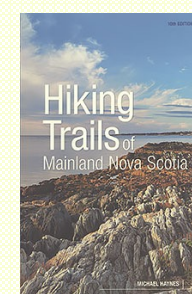
Hiking Trails of Mainland Nova Scotia www.outdooradventureguides.org/books05.htm

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Silver Medalist 2025

By Michael Haynes.

Goose Lane Editions, Fredericton, New Brunswick

Michael Haynes is tenacious. When new trails are developed, old trails change or become unusable, he'll keep you updated. In fact, this is the 10th edition of his popular guide to trails of Nova Scotia — and it's a beaut. Full color throughout with excellent maps and equally excellent trail descriptions, you won't find a better hiking guide to this lovely province with its rocky coastlands, lush forests, and rolling hills.

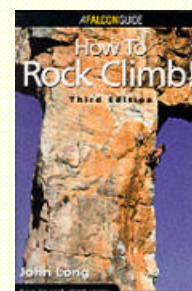


How to Rock Climb www.outdooradventureguides.org/books99.htm

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE~~Work of Significance 1999

By John Long.

Now in its third edition, John Long's plain-speaking book remains the standard text of rock climbing technique.



How to Suffer Outside: A Beginner's Guide to Hiking and Backpacking

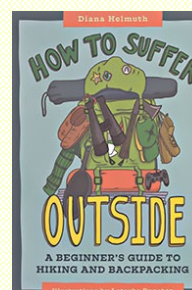
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2022

By Diana Helmuth. Illustrations by Latasha Dunston.

Winner of the Outdoor Adventure Guides --Instructional

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680513110

The writing style in this how-to book forges a different path from other works on backpacking. You might say it is cheeky – witty, smart, and often opinionated. If you've been dreaming about giving backpacking a try and need a little nudge, author Diana Helmuth is there to give that nudge. "Yeah," she writes, "We're going to get you out there." (One note: some of the language may be objectionable to some readers.)



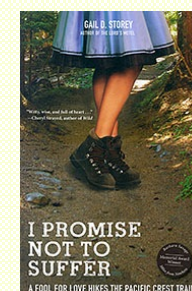
I Promise Not to Suffer: A Fool for Love Hikes the Pacific Crest Trail

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.



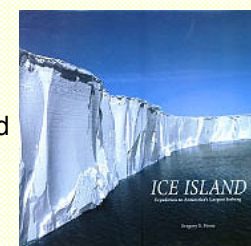
Ice Island: Expedition to Antarctica's Largest Iceberg

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

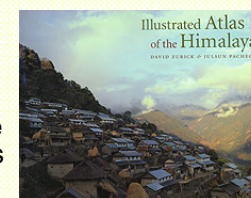
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT ~ Winner 2006

By David Zurick and Julsun Pacheco.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

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

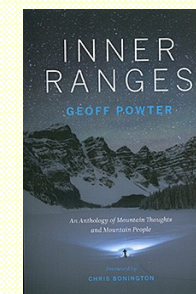
OUTDOOR LITERATURE ~ Winner 2019

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.



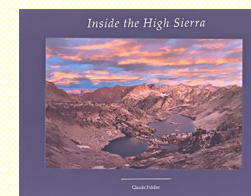
Inside the High Sierra

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT ~ Silver Medalist 2022

By Claude Fiddler.

Claude Fiddler, Crowley Lake, CA ISBN 9781938393396

It was the great conservationist, John Muir who gave the Sierra Mountains the name "The Range of Light." He was enraptured by the range, by its "glorious floods of light" and "the white beams of the morning streaming through the passes." If there is any photographer who has captured Muir's floods of light in his images, it is Claude Fiddler. In fact, Fiddler was the photographer of an earlier work, the much lauded *The High Sierra: Wilderness of Light*. This new collection of photographs doesn't disappoint. It's full of feeling, demonstrating his keen eye for bringing out the emotional impact of the landscape. It is, in essence, a visual expression of his long and devoted love affair with the Range of Light.



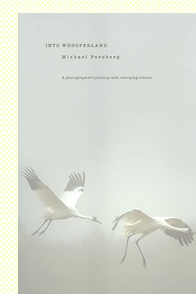
Into Whooperland: A Photographer's Journey with Whooping Cranes

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT ~ Silver Medalist 2025

By Michael Forsberg.

Michael Forsberg Photography, Lincoln, NE

This is a work of wonder. It's about a bird that has come back from the brink of extinction. In 1941, the whooping crane, North America's tallest bird, and among the most elegant, only numbered 22 individuals. With new laws and the help of government agencies and private organizations, it now numbers 700. Over a four-year period, photographer Michael Forsberg followed the birds, spending countless hours in blinds, including one stay in a blind that lasted eight days. During that long stay, he was rewarded with the sight of one of nature's miracles: the emergence of cranes from eggs. In addition to hundreds of hours in the field, he enlisted a pilot friend to fly a small plane on a three-week journey, tracing the whooping cranes spring migration path. The aerial photographs taken during that flight whisk you along the path of the bird's remarkable journey, allowing you to look down from the crane's perspective at the patterns of the earth below. Altogether, *Into Whooperland* is an inspiring and breathtaking work of art.



Islands of Hope: Lessons from North America's Great Wildlife Sanctuaries

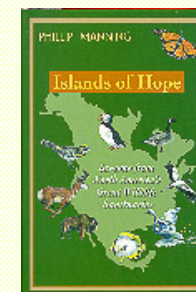
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT ~ Winner 1999

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

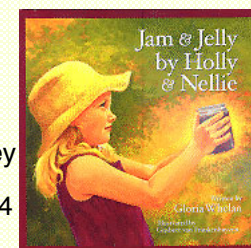
CHILDREN'S ~ Winner 2003

By Gloria Whelan. Illustrated by Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Sleeping Bear Press, Chelsea, MI ISBN 1585361097

This story is about a young girl, Holly, whose family lives in the country in the upper Midwest. It is 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)



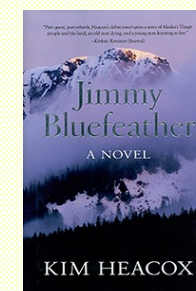
Jimmy Bluefeather: A Novel

OUTDOOR LITERATURE (FICTION) ~ Winner 2015

By Kim Heacox.

Alaska Northwest Books. Portland, OR ISBN 9781941821688

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.



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.

South Carolina Press, Columbia, SC ISBN 1570035644

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, scrounging supplies and materials. 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.



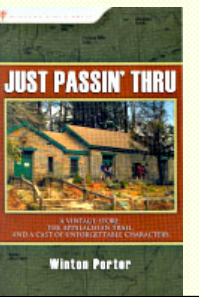
www.web.org/books10.htm

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2010

By Winton Porter.

Menasha Ridge Press, Birmingham, AL ISBN 9780897328494

Winton Porter quits a secure corporate job, empties his saving account, and buys a store and hostel in Georgia beside the Appalachian Trail. Along with his wife, two young daughters and their dog Sky, he settles into a life dictated by the comings and goings of hikers on the Appalachian Trail. What he finds tramping by his new home is such an odd cast of characters that at times he appears to be living in some sort of a parallel universe to Alice's Wonderland. There's Billy Bumblefoot, Preacher Man, Earthworm, Critter, Pirate, Lego, Groovy, and the list goes on. A warmth imbues Winton Porter's writing—warmth of family and friends and kindness to hikers just passin' thru. He is a splendid story teller, nicely capturing dialogue, and all the while, doing a pretty good job of tickling your funny bone too.

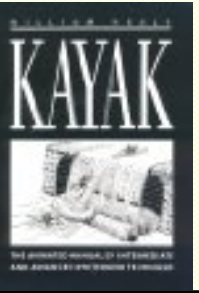


Kayak: An Animated Manual of Intermediate and Advanced Whitewater Technique

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE~~Work of Significance 1999

By William Nealy.

Quirky, creative, humorous, and uncommonly useful, this is a classic in the whitewater kayaking world.



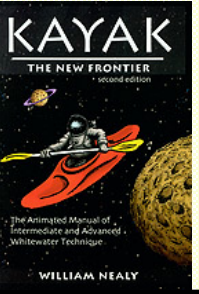
Kayak: The New Frontier

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2009

By William Nealy.

Menasha Ridge Press, Birmingham ISBN 9780897325899

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.



Kelly of Hazel Ridge

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2006

Text by Robbyn Smith van Frankenhuisen. Illustrations by Gijsbert van Frankenhuisen.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Sleeping Bear Press, Chelsea, MI ISBN 1585362689

Kelly 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.



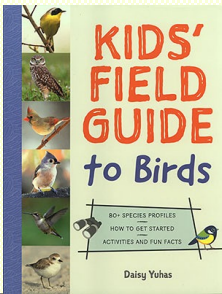
Kids Field Guide to Birds

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2024

By Daisy Yuhas.

Cool Springs Press, Beverly, MA ISBN 9780760385616

Do you have a young naturalist who wants to learn about birds? Daisy Yuhas has the perfect answer with this new identification guide for children. From the outside, it doesn't look like an adult's identification guide—which is a good thing. Children need something a little different. The book is a bit larger than a typical adult guide, providing ample room on the pages for identification hints, illustrations, and fun facts. Moreover, it doesn't overwhelm by taking on too many birds. Rather, Yuhas covers an easy-to-handle 80 species, most of which can be found throughout the US and Canada. For children 8 to 12 years old.



Killing the Buddha on the Appalachian Trail: Walking On Through Self-doubt and Aging

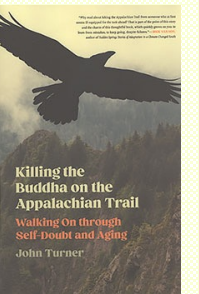
JOURNEYS~~Winner 2025

By John Turner.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

The University of Georgia Press, Athens

There have been a good many books written about the Appalachian Trail. On occasion, one comes along that stands out from the crowd. Killing the Buddha on the Appalachian Trail is one. You don't have to read very far to learn something about John Turner's writing. It's good. Darn good. His descriptions of the trail, the good and bad days, and the kindness and camaraderie of fellow hikers are so well done that you immediately find yourself in the story. His approach is a thoughtful one, drawing wisdom from other writers and thinkers and even a bit from Buddhism. It's not all about the trail. We get glimpses of his life off the trail, and he shares his regret over past failures. Maybe those failures are real and maybe they are just imagined. But this book is no failure. It is a marvelous success.



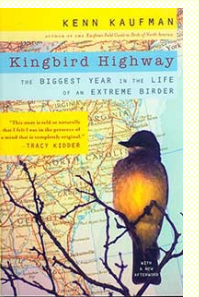
Kingbird Highway: The Biggest Year in the Life of an Extreme Birder

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2017

By Kenn Kaufman.

Houghton Mifflin, Boston ISBN 9780618709403

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? Oh yes, that's the same Kaufman.



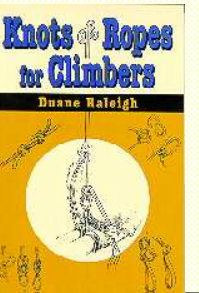
Knots and Ropes for Climbers

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 1998

By Duane Raleigh. Illustrated by Mike Clelland.

Stackpole Books

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.



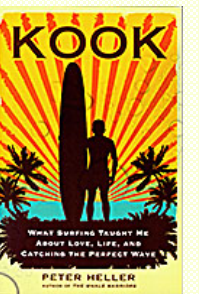
Kook: What Surfing Taught Me About Love, Life and Catching the Perfect Wave

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2010

By Peter Heller.

Free Press, New York ISBN 9780743294201

Peter Heller is on a quest. 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 dual, ever capricious, challenges of love and the sea.



Labyrinth of Ice: The Triumphant and Tragic Greely Polar Expedition

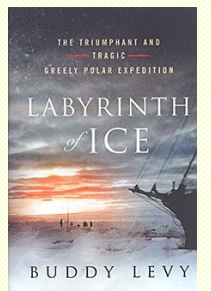
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2020

By Buddy Levy.

Two books won in this category. This is winner 2.

St. Martin's Press, New York ISBN 9781250182197

The Greely Expedition is perhaps one of the most harrowing 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.



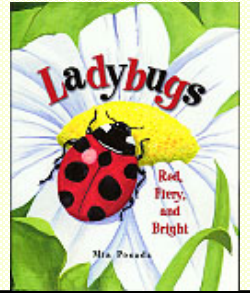
Ladybugs: Red, Fiery and Bright

CHILDREN'S~~Honorable Mention 2002

By Mia Posada.

Carolrhoda Books, Minneapolis ISBN 0876143346

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.



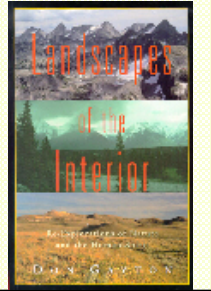
Landscapes of the Interior

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 1997

By Don Gayton.

New Society Publishers

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



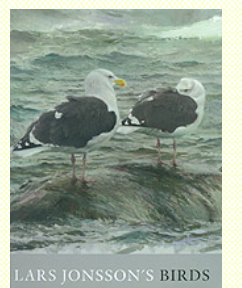
Lars Jonsson's Birds

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2009

Illustrations, explanatory text and commentary by Jonsson.

Princeton University Press, Princeton ISBN 9780691141510

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 Jonsson accompanies his captivating art.



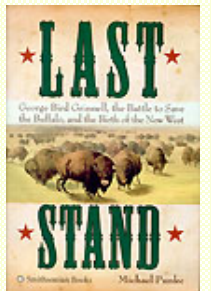
Last Stand: George Bird Grinnell, the Battle to Save the Buffalo, and the Birth of the New West

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2007

By Michael Punke.

Smithsonian Books, New York ISBN 9780060897826

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.



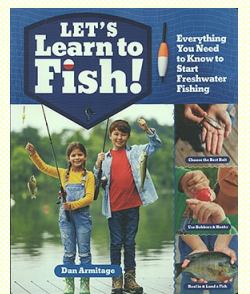
Let's Learn to Fish, Everything You Need to Know to Start Freshwater Fishing

CHILDREN'S~~Silver Medalist 2024

By Dan Armitage.

Storey Publishing, North Adams, MA ISBN 9781635865820

No one knows better how to teach kids to fish than the author Dan Armitage. He runs the popular "Kids Fishing Fun" programs at outdoor equipment shows and stores across the United States. Most importantly, Armitage is a dad, and he knows what works with kids. He has put much of that knowledge and experience in this book. Chock-full of illustrations, it covers all aspects of fishing, perfect for eager youngsters who can't wait to get started. For children 6 and older.



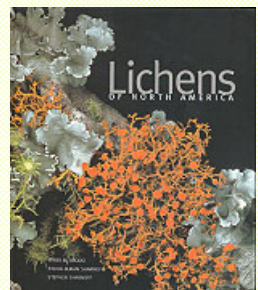
Lichens of North America

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2002

By Irwin M. Brodo, Sylvia Duran Sharnoff and Stephen Sharnoff.

Yale University Press, New Haven ISBN 0811726967

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.



Life in the Underground

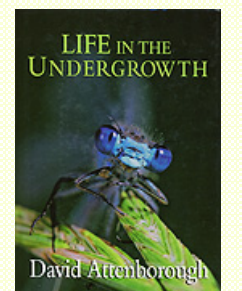
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2006

By David Attenborough.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Princeton University Press, Princeton ISBN 0691127034

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.



Life on the Rocks: A Portrait of the American Mountain Goat

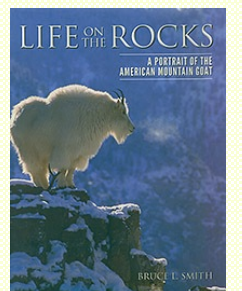
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2014

Written and photographed by Bruce L. Smith.

Also tied for first place in Design & Artistic Merit Category.

University Press of Colorado, Boulder, CO ISBN 9781607322917

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.



Life on the Rocks: A Portrait of the American Mountain Goat

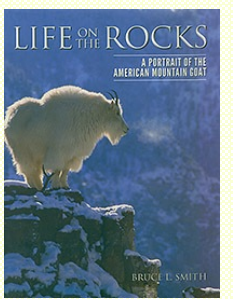
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2014

Written and photographed by Bruce L. Smith.

Co-winner w/Salt: Coastal & Flats Fishing & Winner in Nature & The Environment Cat.

University Press of Colorado, Boulder, CO ISBN 9781607322917

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.



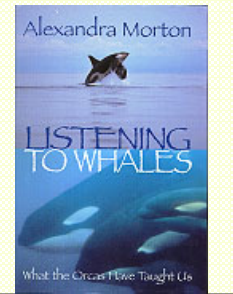
Listening to Whales: What the Orcas Have Taught Us

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2002

By Alexandra Morton.

Ballantine Books, New York ISBN 034543794

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.



Living River: The Promise of the Mighty Colorado

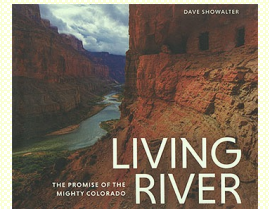
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2023

By Dave Showalter.

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

Braided River/The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680516326

The numbers are astounding. Forty million people depend on the waters of the Colorado River, and yet water stored in the river's reservoirs is dwindling. With states and the federal government currently deciding how best to allocate the river's limited water, the book's publication could not have been more timely. Yet, this is not a doom and gloom book. It is a celebration of the river and the dedicated individuals working toward solutions. Combining superb photography, essays and interviews, the author takes us to different parts of the river's watershed and provides us with an informed and enlightened view of the Colorado and its promise.



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

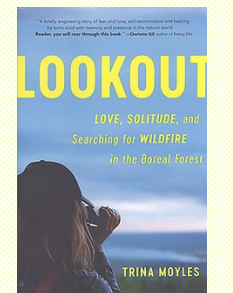
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2021

By Trina Moyles.

There were 3 winners in this category. This is winner 1.

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. Then there are matters of the heart. From her remote location, she is questioning whether she should break it off with her fiancée 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.



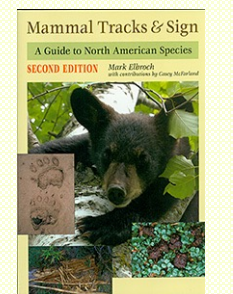
Mammal Tracks and Sign: A Guide to North American Species

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2019

By Mark Elbroch and Casey McFarland.

Stackpole Books, Guilford, CT ISBN 9780811737746

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.



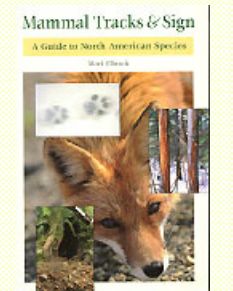
Mammal Tracks and Sign: A Guide to North American Species

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2003

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.



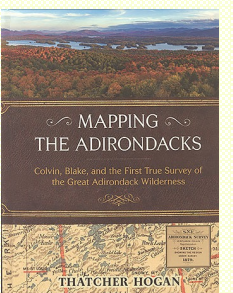
Mapping the Adirondacks: Colvin, Blake and the First True Survey of the Great Adirondack Wilderness

WORKS OF SIGNIFICANCE~~Winner 2025

By Thatcher Hogan.

North Country/Globe Pequot, Essex, CT

Every so often a book is entered in the National Outdoor Book Awards that doesn't quite fit in one of the award categories. Yet, it so impresses the judges that they vote to give it a special award: "A Work of Significance." Mapping the Adirondacks is clearly deserving of this honor. It follows the endeavors of two intrepid surveyors Verplanck Colvin and Mills Blake who from the mid to late 1800s undertook the audacious task of making an accurate map of the Adirondacks. Author Thatcher Hogan cleverly combines a slice of history with elements of a guidebook. We are invited to hike to mountain summits which Colvin used as mapping reference points. From those high points you can identify surrounding distant summits using one of Hogan's graphical "peak finders." It's a colorful, handsomely designed book, brimming full of maps, illustrations and historical photos. If you love maps — or ambling in the Adirondacks — this is the book for you.



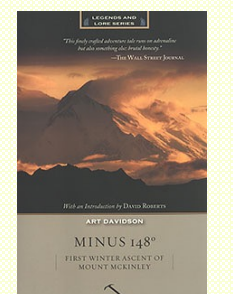
Minus 148: First Winter Ascent of Mount McKinley

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2024

By Art Davidson.

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781594857553

No doubt about this one. Minus 148 is a classic of outdoor adventure. First published in 1969, it tells the story of eight men attempting the first winter ascent of Mount McKinley (now renamed Denali). Three members of the team managed to reach the summit but were engulfed in a ferocious storm at 18,000 feet. The winds exceeded 150 miles per hour and the temperature dropped to minus 50. Faced with an unimaginable wind chill of 148 degrees below zero, they found themselves trapped. This is a story of grit, determination, and the will to live—and it's a story that will keep you reading well into the night.



Molt in North American Birds [books10.htm](#)

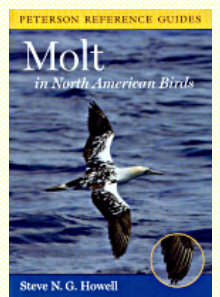
NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2010

By Steven N. G. Howell.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

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.



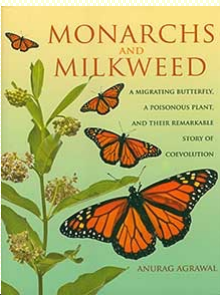
Monarchs and Milkweed [books17.htm](#)

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2017

By Anurag Agrawal.

Princeton University Press, Princeton ISBN 9780691166353

Who can't 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 marshal 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.



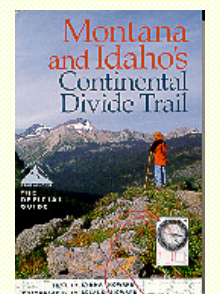
Montana and Idaho's Continental Divide Trail

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2000

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.



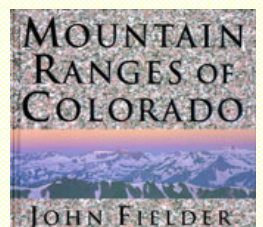
Mountain Ranges of Colorado [books05.htm](#)

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2005

Photographed and Written by John Fielder. Designed by Mark Mulvany.

Westcliffe Publishers, Englewood, CO ISBN 1565794966

This is a magnificent book! *Mountain Ranges 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 photographic exploration 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.



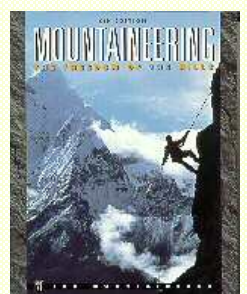
Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills [books01.htm](#)

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~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 on 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 [books15.htm](#)

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~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 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.



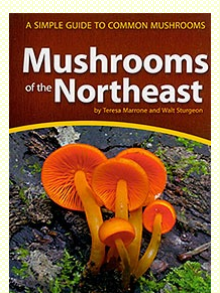
Mushrooms of the Northeast: A Simple Guide to Common Mushrooms

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2016

By Teresa Marrone and Walt Sturgeon.

Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN ISBN 9781591935919

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 identification chapters: 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.



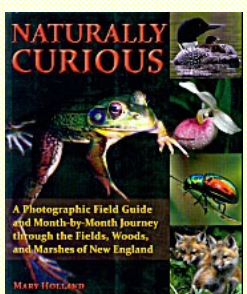
Naturally Curious: A Photographic Field Guide through the Fields, Woods and Marshes of New England

NATURE GUIDES~~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, on a month to month basis. You can't go wrong with this guidebook. It's one that you'll use over and over—naturally.



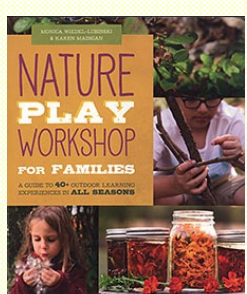
Nature Play Workshop for Families: A Guide to 40+ Outdoor Learning Experiences in All Seasons

CHILDREN'S~~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.



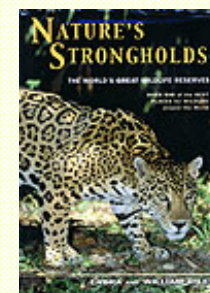
Nature's Strongholds: The World's Great Wildlife Reserves

NATURE GUIDES~~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

NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2010

By Jonathan Poppele.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN ISBN 9781591932291

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 a 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.



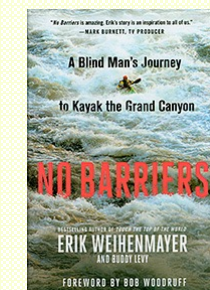
No Barriers: A Blind Man's Journey to Kayak the Grand Canyon

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~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 cliché, but not for Weihenmayer. He turns the notion of impossible upside down and reveals that all is possible.



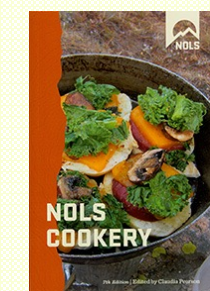
NOLS Cookery <http://nls-web.org/books18.htm>

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2018

Edited by Claudia Pearson. Illustrated by Mike Clelland

Stackpole Books, Lanham, MD ISBN 9780811719810

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.



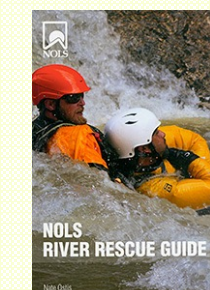
NOLS River Rescue Guide <http://nls-web.org/books15.htm>

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2015

By Nate Ostis.

Stackpole Books ISBN 9780811713733

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.



North to the Future: An Offline Adventure Through the Changing Wilds of Alaska

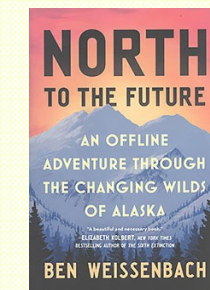
JOURNEYS~~Winner 2025

By Ben Weissenbach.

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

Grand Central Publishing, New York

Ben Weissenbach is a neophyte when it comes to wilderness travel in the Alaskan bush. Klondike miners of the late 1800s would call him a "cheechako." Yet, with a little luck, he manages to land a spot on a small biological research team for a 42-day, 360-mile journey by foot and packraft across the eastern Brooks Range. As the Arctic warms faster than the rest of the globe, the team is trying to understand the changes occurring there, but it is an unforgiving place for research. Right off the bat, a grizzly stalks the group. All their research gear is carried on their backs, and the pace never lets up. Weissenbach makes rooky mistakes, but he sticks with it, and the book that results from this journey and several other Alaskan experiences is outstanding. When it comes to writing, Weissenbach is no cheechako. He captures it all masterfully: the larger-than-life personalities that he comes across, the interactions, the starkness and beauty of the Alaskan wilderness, and the complexities of understanding a warming climate.



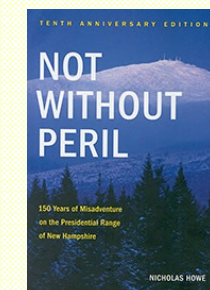
Not Without Peril: 150 Years of Misadventure on the Presidential Range of New Hampshire

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2014

By Nicholas Howe.

Appalachian Mountain Club Books, Boston ISBN 9781934028322

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 he 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.



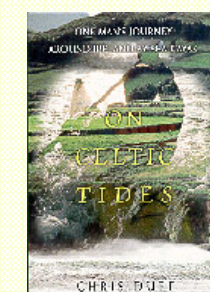
On Celtic Tides: One Man's Journey Around Ireland by Sea Kayak

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2000

By Chris Duff.

St. Martin's Press

A transfixing memoir, *Celtic Tides* is the vivid account of the first ever circumnavigation of Ireland by kayak. Told with sensitivity and care, Duff's odyssey is about a lone man and a capricious sea and its moods of tranquillity and contrasting terror. But the book is more than an adventure story. It's also about haunting beauty, ancient history, and spiritual renewal found along the storm-lashed coasts of an enchanting land.



On Trails: An Exploration [web.org/books17.htm](#)

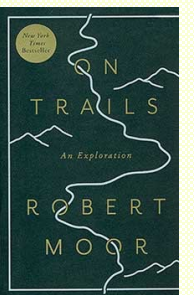
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2017

By Robert Moor.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Simon and Schuster, New York ISBN 9781476739236

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.



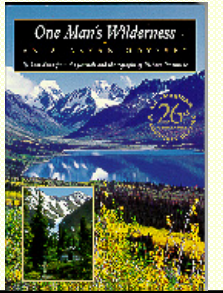
One Man's Wilderness: An Alaskan Odyssey

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 1999

By Sam Keith from the journals of Richard Proenneke.

Alaska Northwest Books

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 has 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.



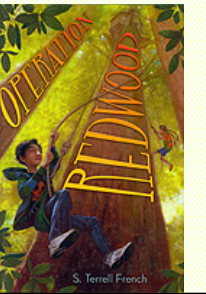
Operation Redwood [web.org/books09.htm](#)

CHILDREN'S~~Honorable Mention 2009

By S. Terrell French.

Abrams/Amulet Books, New York ISBN 9780810983540

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.



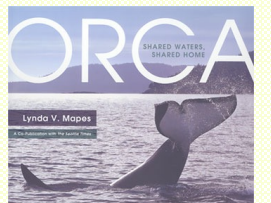
Orca: Shared Waters, Shared Home [web.org/books21.htm](#)

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2021

By Lynda V. Mapes.

Braided River/Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680513264

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 whites, this is a book that informs – and leave us with a sense of wonder.



Oregon & Washington 50 Hikes With Kids [web.org/books18.htm](#)

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2018

By Wendy Gorton.

Timber Press, Portland, OR ISBN 9781604698008

This lovely and engaging book 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 children, 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 Living Earth [web.org/books09.htm](#)

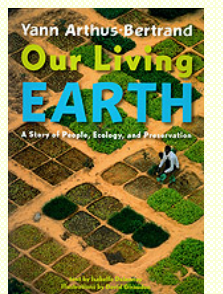
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2009

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.



Our National Monuments: America's Hidden Gems

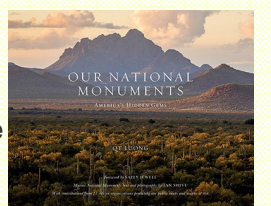
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2022

By QT Luong.

There were three winners in this category, this is winner #1.

Terra Galleria Press, San Jose, CA ISBN 9781733576079

The artistry of renowned photographer QT Luong is on full display in this stunning large format work. Luong navigates us to 27 national monuments. Twenty-one are in found in the western states, but there are also marine national monuments in the Pacific, a glimpse of which is provided by photographer Ian Shive. What a sumptuous treat this book is – but it is also a reminder that these areas need protectors. To emphasize its conservation message, Luong provides a voice for 27 conservation organizations each associated with one of the monuments covered in the book.



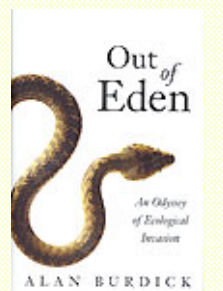
Out of Eden: An Odyssey of Ecological Invasion

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2005

By Alan Burdick.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York ISBN 0374219737

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 [web.org/books04.htm](#)

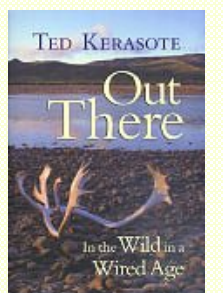
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2004

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.



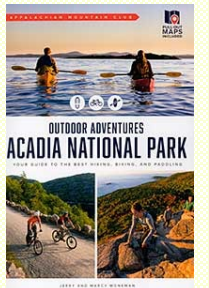
Outdoor Adventures, Acadia National Park: Your Guide to the Best Hiking, Biking and Paddling

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2017

By Jerry and Marcy Monkman.

Appalachian Mountain Club, Boston ISBN 9781628420579

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.



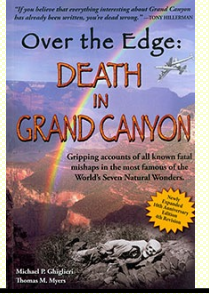
Over the Edge: Death in Grand Canyon

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. Meticulously 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

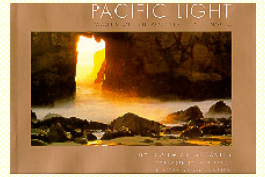
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2001

By Douglas Steakley. Poetry by Ric Masten.

Honorable Mention #2

Carmel Publishing Company, Carmel, California

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.



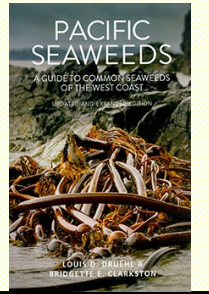
Pacific Seaweeds: A Guide to the Common Seaweeds of the West Coast

NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2016

By Louis D. Druehl and Bridgette E. Clarkston.

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 specimen 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

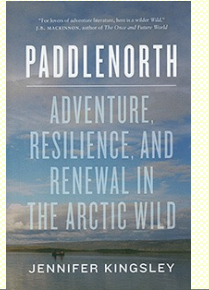
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2015

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.



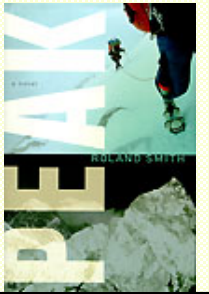
Peak www.noba-web.org/books07.htm

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.



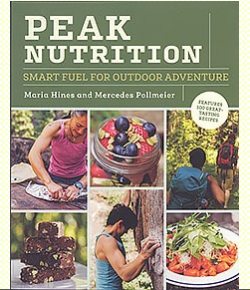
Peak Nutrition: Smart Fuel for Outdoor Adventure

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2020

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 notches up 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 pazazz 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 ever have to resort to a tasteless freeze dried dinner again.



Penguin Planet: Their World, Our World

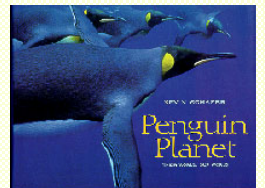
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2000

By Kevin Schafer.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

NorthWord Press

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 Schafer not only takes sumptuous pictures, he writes well in an engaging style, generously complementing an affectionate portrait of the world's most popular bird.



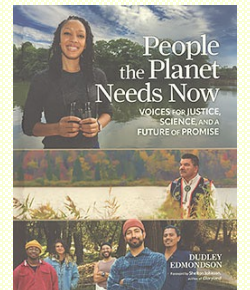
People the Planet Needs Now: Voices for Justice, Science, and a Future of Promise

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Silver Medalist 2025

By Dudley Edmondson.

Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN

Page through this book, and you'll see nothing but black and brown faces. These are indigenous individuals and people of color who are working towards solving environmental problems. Some of the 25 individuals profiled in the book work on issues involving clean air, safe drinking water, and open spaces. Others strive to provide opportunities for outdoor experiences. Still others are research biologists, science and environmental educators. Dudley Edmondson allows each to tell their own story. We learn about the challenges they and their communities face, how they've met those challenges, and their determination to create a better world.



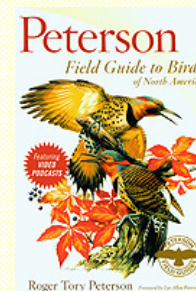
Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2009

By Roger Tory Peterson.

Houghton Mifflin Company. Boston ISBN 9780618966141

The Peterson Field Guides have been around for some time, but this new edition, released in the centennial year of Peterson's birth, conveniently combines his eastern and western guidebooks into one volume. The book includes 40 new paintings, newly rendered maps and updated text. It's all bundled into a first class package and is most certainly the bird watcher's bible.



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

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2010

By Joseph E. Taylor III.

Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA ISBN 9780674052871

This is one of those rare works 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 metamorphosis, 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.



Polar Bears: A Complete Guide to Their Biology and Behavior

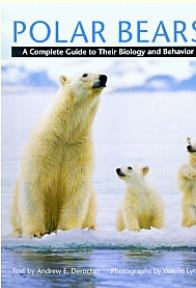
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2012

By Andrew E. Derocher. Photographs by Wayne Lynch.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

The John Hopkins University Press ISBN 9781421403052

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 impact that human activity 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.



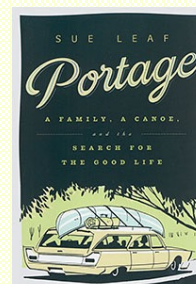
Portage: A Family, a Canoe and the Search for the Good Life

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2016

By Sue Leaf.

University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis ISBN 9780816698547

Sue Leaf knows her way around a canoe, but what's even better from our standpoint is that she is a gifted story teller. In this collection of writings spanning 35 years, Leaf takes ordinary canoe trips and brings them alive. Weaving the stories around family life, and natural and cultural history, her trips range from her home state of Minnesota to Canada to the bayous of Louisiana. Yes, it is all about the good life, and one that Leaf has captured so well.



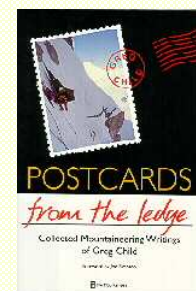
Postcards from the Ledge: Collected Mountaineering Writings of Greg Child

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 1998

By Greg Child.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

Postcards from the Ledge establishes Greg Child as one of most talented and versatile writers of the mountaineering genre. A competent and experienced climber, he is an astute and objective observer. He is humorous and serious, and as adept at elegant descriptions of the high moments of life in the mountains as he is describing the sordid and repulsive side of the sport.



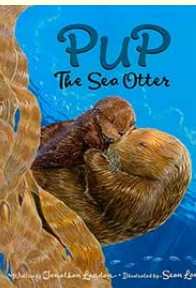
Pup the Sea Otter www.web.org/books17.htm

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2017

Jonathan London. Illustrated by Sean London.

WestWinds Press/Graphic Arts Books, Portland ISBN 978194332887

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 Sean, 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.



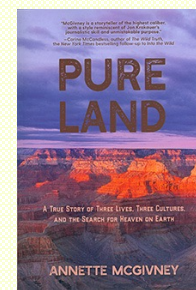
Pure Land: A True Story of Three Lives and the Search for Heaven on Earth

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2018

By Annette McGivney.

AUXmedia, Detroit ISBN 9780998527888

Havasu Creek. Its aqua colored waters, quiet pools and breathtaking falls, deep in the Grand Canyon, is one of the most beautiful places in all of the American Southwest. It's truly a backpacker's paradise, and many thousands have made the eight-mile hike into Supai, a small, remote Indian village, to spend time there. But in 2006, the serenity of Havasu was shattered when a young Japanese woman was murdered by a Native American. Author Annette McGivney, Backpacker Magazine's Southwest Editor, investigates the circumstances behind the incident. What emerges from her investigations is a captivating and an extraordinarily well crafted story, and one which takes a surprise twist as she finds her own life inexorably drawn into the narrative.



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



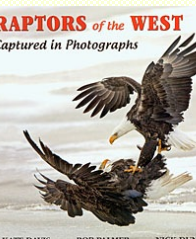
Raptors of the West Captured in Photographs

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2011

Photographed & Written By Kate Davis, Rob Palmer and Nick Dunlop.

Mountain Press Publishing, Missoula, MT ISBN 9780878425754

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.



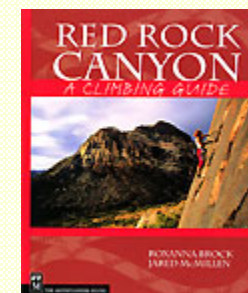
Red Rock Canyon: A Climbing Guide [books05.htm](#)

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2005

By Roxanna Brook and Jared McMillen.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898864860

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

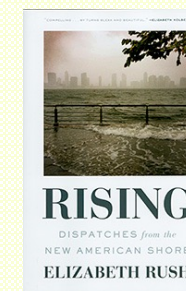
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2018

By Elizabeth Rush.

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

Milkweed Editions, Minneapolis ISBN 9781571313676

In this penetrating work, Elizabeth Rush 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 moans the irreparable damage to coastal environments. This, too, is 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 observations, *Rising* is a powerful work about one of the most pressing issues of our time.



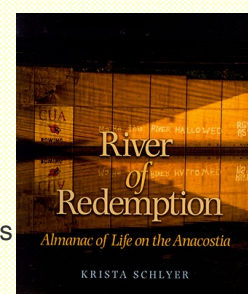
River of Redemption: Almanac of Life on the Anacostia

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2019

By Krista Schlyer.

Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX ISBN 9781623496920

The Anacostia River is not a long river. From its watershed in Maryland, it flows only nine miles before joining the Potomac River in Washington DC. Although short, it is long on cultural history, and even longer in the lessons to be learned from its checkered environmental past. *River of Redemption* is Krista Schlyer's moving, personal story of the river, a story she spent seven years photographing and even longer in exploring its natural world. It's a river which has been exploited and abused; yet despite all that it has suffered, Schlyer still finds isolated havens of beauty. While those havens are few to be found, Schlyer expresses hope that through continued efforts of restoration, the river may one day regain its former glory as a healthy, thriving ecosystem.



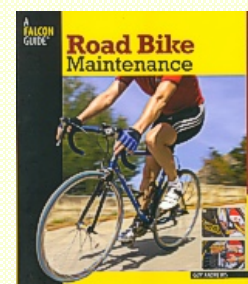
Road Bike Maintenance [books08.htm](#)

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2008

By Guy Andrews.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT ISBN 9780762747467

One word describes this full-color book on how to repair and maintain your road bike: wow! Everything you wanted to know about keeping your bike in tip-top shape is here, all pleasingly presented in step-by-step, crisp photographs and clear and understandable text. Whether you're an experienced hand with headset wrench or have never changed a tire, this is the book to have.



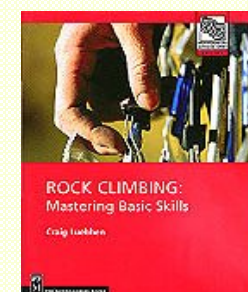
Rock Climbing: Mastering the Basic Skills [books04.htm](#)

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2004

By Craig Luebben.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898867436

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 paces, 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.



Rocky Mountain National Park: The Complete Guide

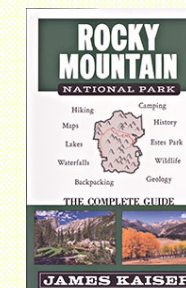
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2022

By James Kaiser.

Winner of the Outdoor Adventure Guides --Guidebook

Destination Press, Kalispell, MT ISBN 9781940754475

If you are planning to visit Rocky Mountain National Park, this is your guide. With a rugged cover and sized perfectly for carrying in a pack, it is designed to be used and taken wherever you go. Intelligently designed with color throughout, it has a bit of everything about the park with introductory segments on geology, ecology, wildlife, and history. That's followed by places to see and helpful suggestions on camping, hiking and backpacking.



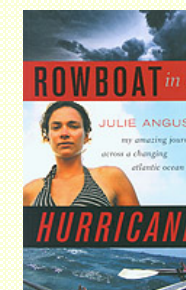
Rowboat in a Hurricane: My Amazing Journey Across a Changing Ocean

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2009

By Julie Angus.

Greystone Books, Vancouver. ISBN 9781553653370

In this riveting, true story, author Julie Angus, and her fiancée 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.



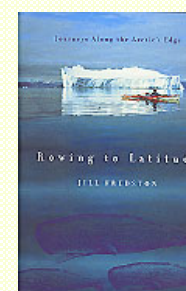
Rowing to Latitude [web.ore/books07.htm](#)

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2002

By Jill Fredston.

North Point Press, New York ISBN 0374281807

In her debut book, *Rowing to Latitude*, Jill Fredston emerges as a fresh new voice in outdoor literature: witty, touching, literate, bold and honest. She also emerges as a true adventurer. Pioneering the use of a recreational rowing shell, similar in shape and size to a sea kayak, she and her husband travel more than twenty thousand miles through the Arctic and sub-Arctic. This book is the story of those journeys, but intricately woven among them are the joys and struggles of her life. It's a marvelous book, one that will carry you away to the great hinterlands of the north latitudes.



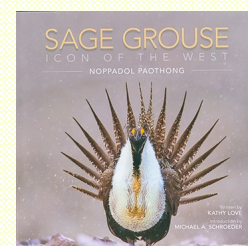
Sage Grouse: Icon of the West [books18.htm](#)

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2018

Photographed by Noppadol Paothong. Text by Kathy Love. Design by Stephanie Thurber & Susan Ferber.

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.



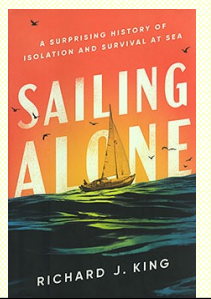
Sailing Alone: A Surprising History of Isolation and Survival at Sea

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Silver Medalist 2024

By Richard J. King.

Viking, New York ISBN 9780593656044

Let's face it. Reading a compendium of stories about historic sailing journeys can get a little tedious at times. But not in this book. Not when Richard King is doing the telling. What King does to heighten interest and keep the narrative flowing is to gradually recount the experiences of his own solo passage across the Atlantic. By blending these two aspects of the story—historic and personal—he creates an indelible portrait of what it is really like when sailing alone across the vast and unpredictable wilderness of the sea.



Salt: Coastal and Flats Fishing

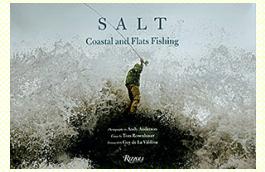
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2014

Photographs by Andy Anderson. Essays by Tom Rosenbauer.

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

Rizzoli International Publications, New York ISBN 9780789327062

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.



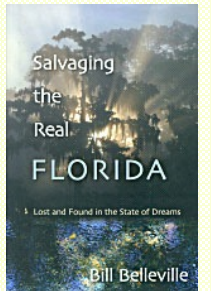
Salvaging the Real Florida: Lost and Found in the State of Dreams

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2011

By Bill Belleville.

University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL ISBN 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.



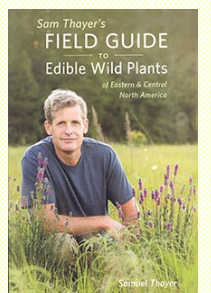
Sam Thayer's Field Guide to Edible Plants of Eastern & Central North America

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2023

By Samuel Thayer.

Forager's Harvest Press, Weyerhaeuser, WI ISBN 9780976626640

With over 700 pages and color photos throughout, you can't go wrong with this comprehensive guide to edible plants. And you can't go wrong with the advice of author Samuel Thayer. An internationally known expert on edible plants, he lives with his family in an off-grid log cabin where he manages the land for wildlife and native edible plants. Each plant in this guide is accompanied by at least two photos, showing it in different angles and in different stages of growth. For each of the covered species, Thayer very helpfully includes plants which might be confused with it and why that is. Tack on range maps, foraging calendar, and an innovative system for identifying plants, and this is one fine field guide.



Sand: The Never Ending Story

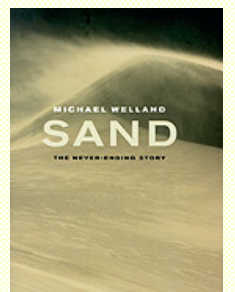
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2009

By Michael Welland.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

University of California Press. Berkeley ISBN 9780520254374

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.



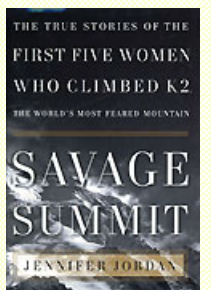
Savage Summit: The True Stories of the First Five Women who climbed K2, the World's Most Feared Mountain

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.



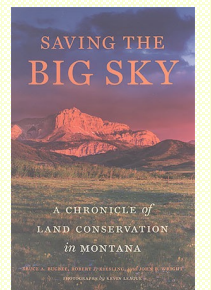
Saving the Big Sky: A Chronicle of Land Conservation in Montana

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2025

By Bruce A. Bugbee, Robert J. Kiesling, John B. Wright.

Oregon State University Press, Corvallis

If you want a success story of what can be done when it comes to land conservation, look no farther than Montana. Over a 50-year period, six million acres of land have been conserved. It wasn't easy, of course. It took the cooperative efforts of Native American tribes, nonprofit organizations, land trusts and government agencies. The tool central to those efforts was the ability to establish legally binding conservation easements on private land. This is the history of those efforts: how it was done and what was protected. It's all packaged in a beautifully designed and photographed book.



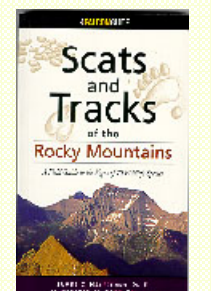
Scats and Tracks of the Rocky Mountains: A Field Guide to the Signs of 70 Wildlife Species

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.



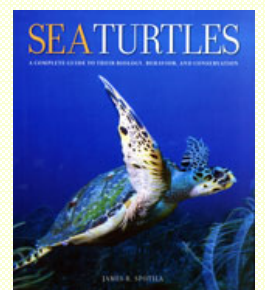
Sea Turtles: A Complete Guide to their Biology, Behavior and Conservation

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.



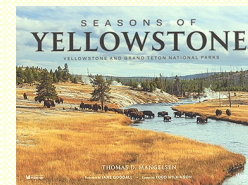
Seasons of Yellowstone: Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2023

By Thomas D. Mangelsen.

Rizzoli, New York ISBN 9780847872336

When Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872, it was oil paintings and black-and-white photographs made from glass plates that helped convince Congress that this remarkable area should be set aside as a “public park.” The fact that Congress was moved to do so is a demonstration of the power of images. Thomas Mangelsen believes in that power, and his life time work has been to use images for the purposes of conservation. In this stunning book, Mangelsen draws from years of painstaking work to capture the grandeur of Yellowstone and the Tetons. Whether it’s winter, spring, summer or fall, this book is truly the hallmark of a master.



Secrets of Snakes: The Science Beyond the Myths

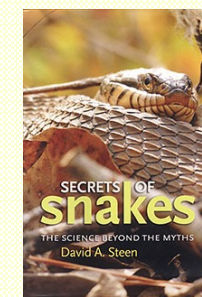
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2020

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.



Seeing the Silence: The Beauty of the World's Most Quiet Places

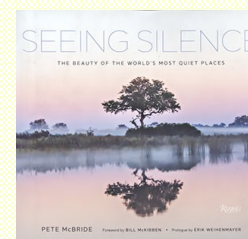
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2022

Photography and Text by Pete McBride.

There were two winners in this category. This is Winner #1.

Rizzoli, New York ISBN 9780847870868

When photographer Pete McBride uses the word “silence,” he means the absence of man-made sounds. The silence of nature, he writes, can range from “pin drop quiet one second and wonderfully loud the next.” We learn that there are few places where one can hear only nature’s silence. Even in wilderness areas, the frequent rumble of jets is heard as they pass over. McBride has travelled the globe, seeking out those rare hide-aways of nature’s silence, and in this fine work, he shares what he has found through stories and breathtaking photography.



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 9781604692198

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.



Sharing the Wonder of Birds with Kids

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 1997

By Laura Erickson, illustrated by Kathryn Marsaa.

Pfeifer-Hamilton

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

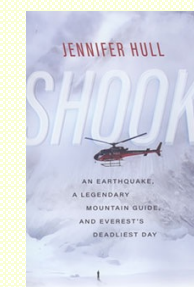
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2021

By Jennifer Hull.

University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque

ISBN 0780826261042

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 to put on your list. It's an impressive work which will hold your interest from start to finish.



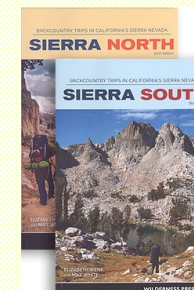
Sierra South / Sierra North

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2021

By Elizabeth Wenk and Mike White.

Wilderness Press/AdventureKEEN, Birmingham, AL ISBN 9780899978840 / 9780899978864

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 9781493036448

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 Yvon Chouinard, Craig Mathews and Mauro Mazzo. Paintings by James Prosek.

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 9781938340277

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.



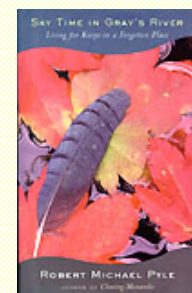
Sky Time in Gray's River: Living for Keeps in a Forgotten Place

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2007

By Robert Michael Pyle.

Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston ISBN 978039582812

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.



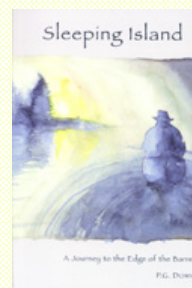
Sleeping Island: A Journey to the Edge of the Barrens

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Honorable Mention 2006

By P.G. Downes.

Heron Dance Press, New Ferrisburg, 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.



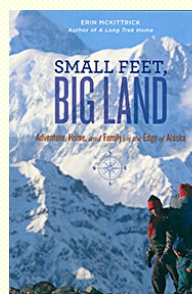
Small Feet, Big Land: Adventure, Home and Family on the Edge of Alaska

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2014

By Erin McKittrick.

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781594857362

Small Feet, Big Land is a beautifully rendered meditation of family, friendship, and the Alaskan outdoors. Erin McKittrick, her husband Hig, and their two children live in a 450-square foot yurt near Seldovia in Southcentral Alaska. No strangers to the rigors of wild country, McKittrick 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.



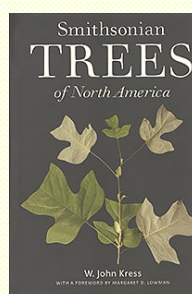
Smithsonian Trees of North America

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2025

By W. John Kress.

Yale University Press, New Haven, CT

"Awestruck" is what one judge wrote. Another who has reviewed, and evaluated books for over 20 years, awarded *Smithsonian Trees of North America* his highest score ever. W. John Kress has left no leaf unturned: over 800 pages of authoritative information, supplemented with several thousand photographs, with not one photograph out of focus. The book is so well designed, so well written and organized, that anyone can benefit from it whether you have a passing interest in trees or an advanced degree in botany. This is an exceptional work, a book at the very top of its game.



Snakes of the Southeast

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2005

By Whit Gibbons and Mike Dorcas.

The University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA ISBN 0820326526

Snakes of the Southeast is an eye-catching new nature guidebook melding 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.



Snow Travel: Skills for Climbing, Hiking, and Moving Across Snow

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2013

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.



Something Wonderful

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2021

By Matt Ritter

Pacific Street Publishing, San Luis Obispo, CA ISBN 9780999896013

When a child opens the cover of this charming book, they'll immediately be transported to someplace wonderful: a tropical forest, a place where the color green and all of its shades are the rule. The illustrator Nayl Gonzalez has done a magnificent job of creating the forest-like effect, and even adults will find themselves immersed among the green foliage and trees rising from the mist. Once in the forest, a story unfolds of a seed dropping from the air and landing on a branch. From that seed grows a tiny fig tree. The whole fascinating life cycle of fig trees is told from start to finish. What really makes it fun for children is a tree frog which is found on each page. Since it blends into its surroundings, the frog isn't easy to see, and children will love trying to find it as they listen to the story. At the end of the book, for parents' benefit, Author Matt Ritter adds some details and facts about fig trees (and tree frogs!). It's just enough so parents will have information at their fingertips to help answer any questions asked by curious little minds. (For ages 5-8)



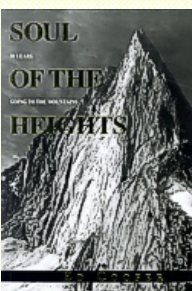
Soul of the Heights: 50 Years Going to the Mountains

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Honorable Mention 2008

Photographs and text by Ed Cooper.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT ISBN 9780762745272

Ed Cooper was a pioneer climber in 1950s and 60s, making many important first ascents in Canada, the North Cascades and Yosemite. In addition to his climbing experience, he is also an outstanding photographer, having published his work in a wide variety of magazines and books. In this moving and graphically striking book, Ed Cooper uses story and photographs to take the reader on a personal 50-year journey of his love affair with mountains.



Southern Exposure: A Solo Sea Kayaking Journey Around New Zealand's South Island

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2003

By Chris Duff.

Globe Pequot Press, Guilford, CT ISBN 0762725958

With this book, Chris Duff solidly establishes himself as a leading voice in outdoor adventure writing. His previous work, *On Celtic Tides* chronicled his circumnavigation of Ireland, but in *Southern Exposure*, the stakes are higher. Here, the waves loom larger, the shoreline more forbidding, and weather more unforgiving. Duff is up to the task and has created an engrossing and mesmerizing account that sweeps the reader along.



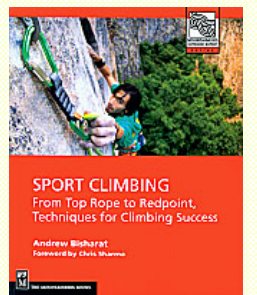
Sport Climbing: From Top Rope to Redpoint, Techniques for Climbing Success

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2010

By Andrew Bisharat.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781594852701

Andrew Bisharat is a senior editor at Rock and Ice magazine and he couldn't be better suited to write about sport climbing. He is an accomplished, versatile climber and an equally accomplished author. Bisharat's clear descriptions along with plentiful and instructive photographs provide thorough coverage of the sport. It's all there and all nicely done: history, gear, climbing moves, falling, belaying, motivation, and more.



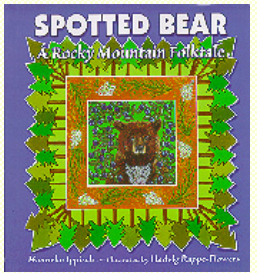
Spotted Bear: A Rocky Mountain Folktale

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Honorable Mention 1999

By Hanneke Ippisch. Illustrated by Hedvig Rappe-Flowers. Designed by Kim Ericsson. Kathleen Ort, Editor-in-Chief.

Mountain Press Publishing

This enchanting children's book is the story of how bears, some bears, at least, get their spots. It is a wonderfully designed book and beautifully illustrated with Hedvig Rappe-Flowers' rich and colorful paintings. For young children--and adults too--it is certain to provoke wonder and excitement.



Spring Wildflowers of the Northeast: A Natural History

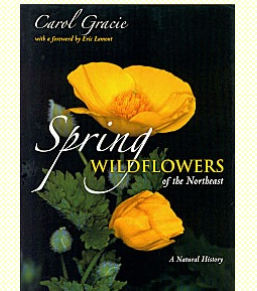
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2012

By Carol Gracie.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Princeton University Press ISBN 9780691144665

Spring Wildflowers is as elegant as the flowers found within its pages. That's due to the multi-talented Carol Gracie who is a writer, a botanist and a photographer. In the book, she describes a host of Northeastern plants, but she doesn't stop at the usual botanical boundaries. Unique among plant guides, she goes on to include what species pollinate each plant. She further firmly places each plant into the context of its habitat, what animals consume it, how it has been used as a medicinal plant. Gracie's book is a noteworthy achievement and quite effectively broadens our thinking about plants to include their many-sided relationship with all aspects of the ecosystem.



Sunk Without a Sound: The Tragic Colorado Honeymoon of Glen and Bessie Hyde

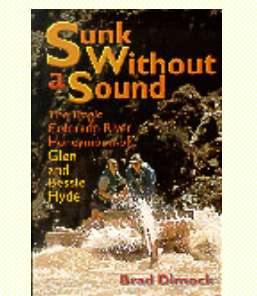
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2001

By Brad Dimock.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Fretwater Press, Flagstaff, Arizona

The 1920s was the decade of mysteries for the outdoor world. The mountaineering world had Mallory dissolving into the mists of Everest, while the whitewater world had Bessie and Glen Hyde disappearing in the depths of the Grand Canyon. This fascinating exploration into what happened to the Hydes is an important contribution to the whitewater genre, and seasoned Colorado River boater, Brad Dimock, was the perfect person to write it. Few others would have been able to put the right amount of heart and soul into an investigation of the mystery; indeed, Dimock and his wife, Jeri, actually built a replica of the Hydes' wooden scow and ran the river in much the same manner as the young couple would have done in the 1920s. Enthralling and compelling, this is a book that refuses to be put down.



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

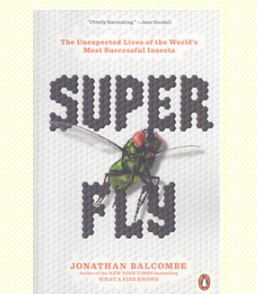
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2021

By Jonathan Balcombe.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Penguin Books, New York 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.



Surfboards

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2008

By Guy Motil.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CT ISBN 9780762746217

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 Motil'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.



Survival is Not Assured: The Life of Climber Jim Donini

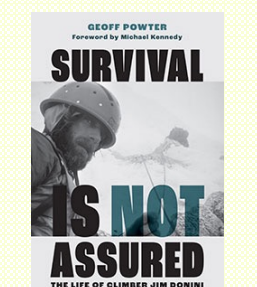
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2024

Geoff Powter.

There were two winners in this category. This is Winner #1.

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680515374

In this extraordinarily well-done biography, Geoff Powter lifts the veil on the life of alpinist Jim Donini. What makes this book stand out is the way that Powter inserts the reader in the biography. It's akin to hiking with Donini to the base of a climb, and listening, while Donini casually reveals more and more of himself. Yes, we get the low-down on Donini's amazing climbs in Patagonia, Alaska, Pakistan and elsewhere, but what makes Powter's narrative shine is that we come to know this complex man, and the peaks and valleys of his life, apart from his time in the climbing world.



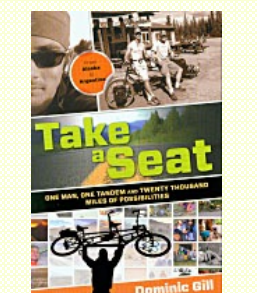
Take a Seat: One Man, One Tandem and Twenty Thousand Miles of Possibilities

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2011

By Dominic Gill.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CN 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.



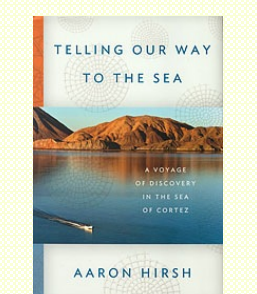
Telling Our Way to the Sea: A Voyage of Discovery in the Sea of Cortez

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2013

By Aaron Hirsh.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York ISBN 9780374272845

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.



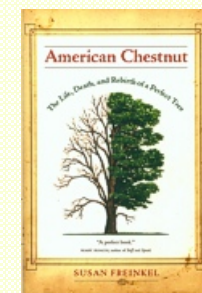
The American Chestnut: The Life, Death, and Rebirth of a Perfect Tree

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 chestnuts 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.



The Appalachian Trail: Celebrating America's Hiking Trail

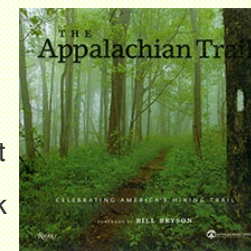
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2013

By Brian B. King.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Rizzoli Int'l 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.



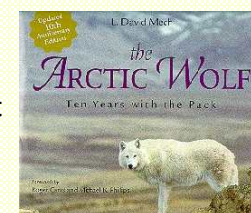
The Arctic Wolf: Ten Years with the Pack

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.



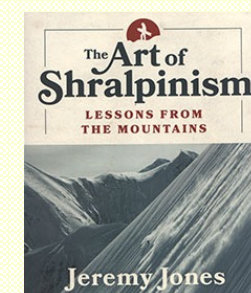
The Art of Shralpinism: Lessons from the Mountains

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2023

By Jeremy Jones.

Mountaineers Books Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680513301

Undoubtedly, after taking a quick look at the cover, you'll be thinking . . . what the heck is shralpinism? Without giving too much away, it's a combination of shredding—as in shredding snow—and alpinism. Once you dive into the book, you'll find this instructional guide unlike any other. There are no photographs. Rather it's an assemblage of drawings, watercolors and text which ranges from type-set to hand-written notes. It has a journal feel to it. In fact it consists of journal-like entries made by snowboarder Jeremy Jones as he shifted his interests from a racing career to a backcountry devotee. Adding to the book's appeal, Jones has supplemented his own thoughts with interviews of other experienced skiers and snowboarders.



The Avalanche Factor: Understanding and Avoiding Avalanches

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2024

By Joe Stock.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

Stock Alpine LLC, Anchorage, AK ISBN 070821812254

What makes this new text on avalanche safety by Joe Stock especially useful is the book's illustrative and graphical content. Hardly a page goes by without visuals of some kind, and Joe Stock takes full advantage of them. Doubling their value as instructional tools, he overlays textual information on the images, clarifying what you are seeing. He might use an image to demystify a key aspect of avalanche avoidance, or to point out a dangerous terrain feature, or even to highlight a mistake that he's personally made in the field. It's all there in one complete package: A fine, new addition to avalanche safety instructional books.



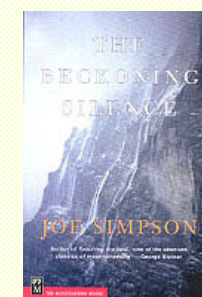
The Beckoning Silence

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2003

By Joe Simpson.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 0898869412

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.



The Bee: A Natural History

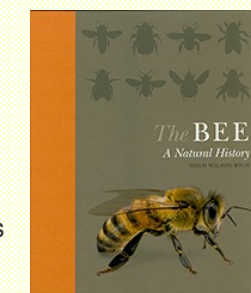
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2015

By Noah Wilson-Rich.

Two books won Honorable Mention, this is winner 1.

Princeton University Press, Princeton ISBN 9780691161358

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 inescapably 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 a 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.



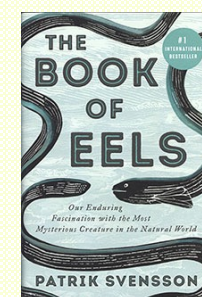
The Book of Eels: Our Enduring Fascination with the Most Mysterious Creature in the Natural World

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2020

By Patrik Svensson.

Ecco / HarperCollins, New York ISBN 9780062968814

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.



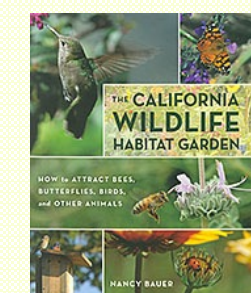
The California Wildlife Habitat Garden: How to Attract Bees, Butterflies, Birds and Other Animals

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable 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.



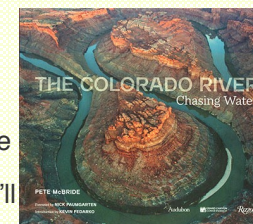
The Colorado River: Chasing Water [s24.htm](#)

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2024

By Pete McBride.

Rizzoli, New York ISBN 9780847899746

In this striking, large format book, photographer Pete McBride takes us down the Colorado River from its source to sea. With just the right amount of text and a whole lot of images, this book tells a story. The story is about the river's beauty and its rugged canyons, of course, but the larger story told by McBride is how the river is used. With fifteen dams on its main stem and hundreds more on its tributaries, the river serves millions of people in the Southwest. McBride captures all of this by blending several forms of photography: aerial, landscape and his trademark fine art. With instructive captions and stunning, full-page photography you'll come away from this book with a better understanding of this great river of the West.



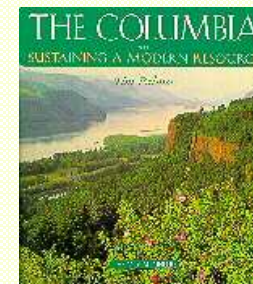
The Columbia: Sustaining a Modern Resource

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 1998

By Tim Palmer.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

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.



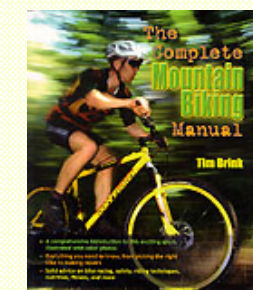
The Complete Mountain Biking Manual [.htm](#)

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2007

By Tim Brink.

Ragged Mountain Press, Camden, ME ISBN 9780071493901

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.



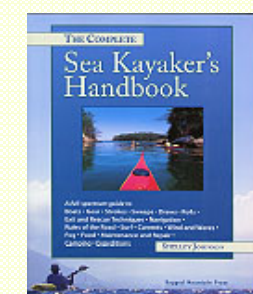
The Complete Sea Kayaker's Handbook [.htm](#)

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2002

By Shelley Johnson.

Ragged Mountain Press, Camden, NH ISBN 007136210X

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 [books13.htm](#)

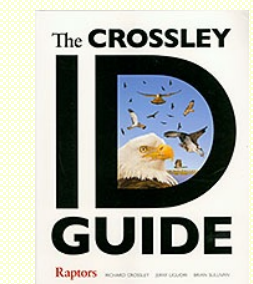
NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2013

By Richard Crossley, Jerry Liguori and Brian Sullivan.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

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.



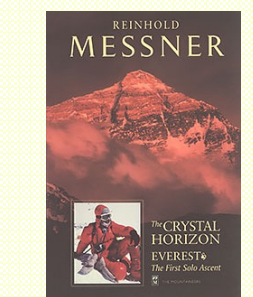
The Crystal Horizon: Everest – The First Solo Ascent

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2025

By Reinhold Messner.

The Mountaineers, Seattle

This is the story of one of mountaineering's greatest achievements: the first solo ascent of Mt. Everest. The Crystal Horizon, Reinhold Messner's account of the climb, was first released in 1982. Since that first edition, the book has been published in at least six different languages. What amazed the climbing world at the time is that Messner climbed without the help and support of other climbers — an unheard-of proposition when it comes to great peaks of the Himalaya. There's more. Ascending alone, through the death zone, that area above 8,000 meters where the air is so rarefied that body functions deteriorate, he did so without using supplemental oxygen, all the while managing in one remarkable push, to pioneer a new route to the summit.



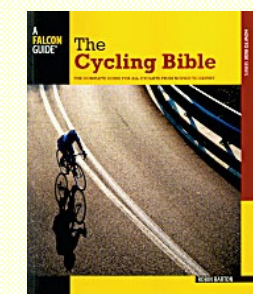
The Cycling Bible: The Complete Guide for all Cyclists from Novice to Expert

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2011

By Robin Barton.

Falcon Guides, 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.



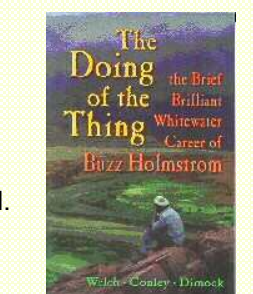
The Doing of the Thing: The Brief, Brilliant Whitewater Career of Buzz Holmstrom

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 1998

By Vince Welch, Cort Conley, and Brad Dimock.

Fretwater Press

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.



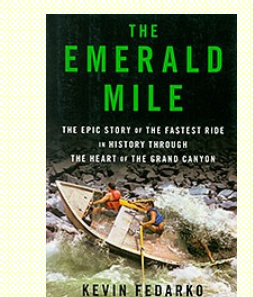
The Emerald Mile: The Epic Story of the Fastest Ride in History Through the Heart of the Grand Canyon

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 adeptly 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

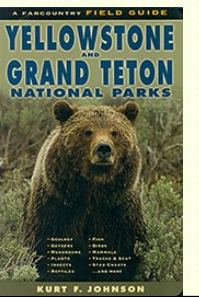
NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2013

By Kurt F. Johnson.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Farcountry Press, Helena, MT ISBN 9780691157405

Heading to Yellowstone or the Tetons? 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.



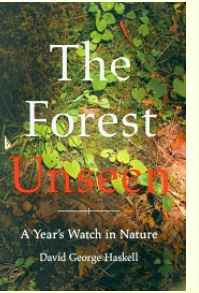
The Forest Unseen: A Year's Watch in Nature

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2012

By David George Haskell.

Viking ISBN 9780670023370.

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.



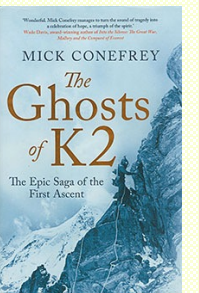
The Ghosts of K2: The Epic Saga of the First Ascent

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2016

By Mick Conefrey.

Oneworld Publications, London ISBN 9781780745954

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.

Rizzoli International Publications, New York ISBN 9780847863044

This large format book is more than a collection of beautiful photographs – although, it certainly is that – rather it is a moving, visual story of an amazing 750-mile hike from one end of the Grand Canyon to the other. Photographer Pete McBride and fellow companion Kevin Fedarko did it the hard way: traveling off-trail, searching out weaknesses in the canyon walls: thin, airy ledges, faint wildlife trails, and zigzagging through sweltering boulder fields. This is a real treat: an inspiring adventure and superb photography all rolled into one colorful and marvelous work of art.



The Great Lakes: The Natural History of a Changing Region

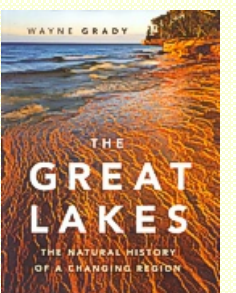
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2008

By Wayne Grady.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

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 it is the perfect vehicle to understand this remarkable area.



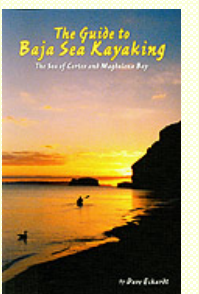
The Guide to Baja Sea Kayaking

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2009

By Dave Eckardt.

Paddle Publishing, Eagle, CO ISBN 97809645839914

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.



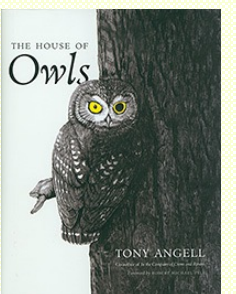
The House of Owls

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2015

By Tony Angell.

Yale University Press, New Haven ISBN 9780300203448

If you've thrilled to the haunting, magical sound of an owl on a summer's evening, you'll love Tony Angell's captivating book about these charismatic creatures. The House of Owls begins with just that: a bird house in the woods near Angell's home which is occupied by a pair of Screech Owls. Over the years, more owl pairs come and raise their young, and for the Angell family—and the reader as well—watching them becomes a shared and enchanting experience. As the book's narrative moves along, Angell traces mankind's fascination with owls in art and writing, and then in a relaxing, readable style, covers all nineteen species of owls found in North America. Angell's beautifully crafted pen and ink drawings add an elegance to the book of which photos could never do justice. All in all, 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.



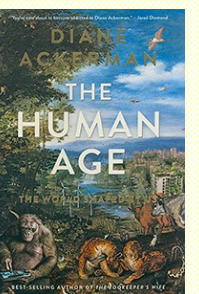
The Human Age: The World Shaped By Us

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2015

By Diane Ackerman.

W. W. Norton & Company, New York ISBN 9780393240740

In The Human Age we are reminded of the tremendous changes that man has brought to our planet. We have warmed the globe, created new weather patterns, disrupted animal migratory patterns, and accelerated the rate that species are going extinct. But author Diane Ackerman's skillfully reasoned message in this book is not doom and gloom. Rather it's one of guarded optimism. In this far reaching work, she takes us around the world on what she calls a "mental caravan." While on the caravan, she interviews innovators and scientists, and gives examples throughout the book of what is being done to improve the environment and restore natural systems. We humans are not idle, she writes summing up her core belief. "We are not helpless. We can become Earth-restorers and Earth-guardians. We still have time and talent . . . our mistakes are legion, but our imagination is immeasurable."



The Incidental Steward: Reflections on Citizen Science

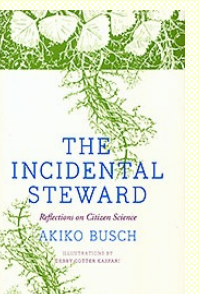
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2013

By Akiko Busch.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Yale University Press, New Haven ISBN 9780300178791

In this elegant and introspective work, Akiko Busch examines the contributions and value of volunteer naturalists and amateur scientists. She uses the term "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 scientists 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.



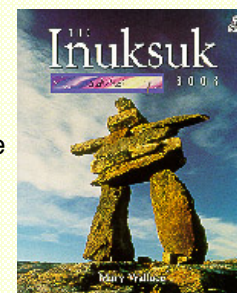
The Inuksuk Book web.org/books99.htm

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 1999

Text and illustrations by Mary Wallace.

Greystone Books (Owl Books)

An Inuksuk is a stone structure, a type of road sign, used by the Inuits of the Arctic to communicate important information. They show the way when travelers are a long way from home, or warn of dangerous places, or point to a place of reverence. This 64-page book, which will intrigue children of the pre-teen years, consists of a series of short stories about the Inuksuk and its importance in the Inuit culture.



The Kid's Guide to Birds of Minnesota web.org/books99.htm

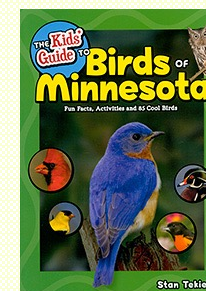
CHILDREN'S~~Honorable Mention 2018

By Stan Tekiela. Illustrations by Elleyna Ruud. Design by Jonathan Norberg.

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

Adventure Publications, Cambridge, MN ISBN 9781591937869

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 stuff."



The Kid's Outdoor Adventure Book: 448 Great Things to Do in Nature Before You Grow Up

CHILDREN'S~~Honorable Mention 2013

By Stacy Tornio and Ken Keffer. Illustrations by Rachel Riordan.

Falcon Guides, Guilford, CN ISBN 9780762783526

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 Killer Whale Journals: Our Love and Fear of Orcas

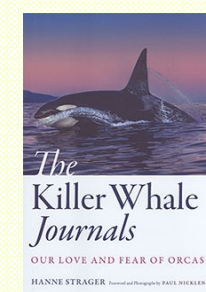
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2023

By Hanne Strager.

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

Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore ISBN 9781421446226

This wonderful book on orca whales is done through the eyes and experiences of Hanne Strager, a Danish biologist. She fell in love with whales when as a biology student, she served as a cook on a Norwegian whale research vessel, and from those early experiences, the study of whales became her life's work. In this series of stories, we learn about whales as she learns, each new experience revealing more details about these remarkable creatures. Many of the chapters begin with historical accounts, helping shed light on current trends among whale populations. Like a whale pod in search of food, she travels to Denmark, Iceland, Greenland, Russia, Seattle and British Columbia in an effort to more fully understand whales and their relationship to humankind. It is a complicated relationship, but through Strager's very personal stories, we have a better understanding of that kinship and of the whales themselves.



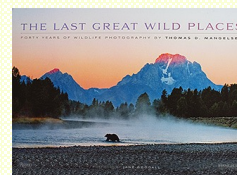
The Last Great Wild Places: Forty Years of Wildlife Photography

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2015

Photography by Thomas D. Mangelsen. Text by Todd Wilkinson

Rizzoli, New York ISBN 9780789327420

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

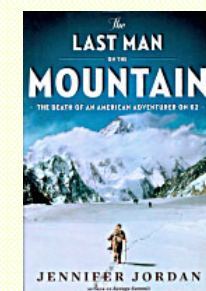
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Honorable Mention 2010

By Jennifer Jordan.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

W. W. Norton & Company, New York ISBN 9780393077780

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.

Braided River Books, an imprint of The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781594850592

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 web.org/books96.htm

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2006

By Eric Blehm.

HarperCollins, New York ISBN 9870060583002

Randy 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 pieces together a fascinating story of an individual comforted by his solitary time in the wilderness but who is increasingly troubled by life in civilization. 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.



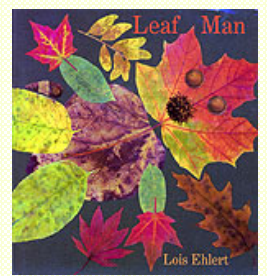
The Leaf Man aha-web.org/books05.htm

CHILDREN'S~~Honorable Mention 2005

By Lois Ehlert.

Harcourt, New York ISBN 0152053042

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

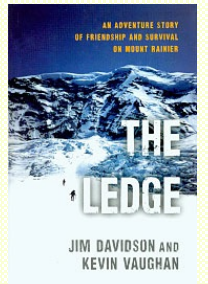
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2012

By Jim Davidson and Kevin Vaughan.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Ballantine Books ISBN 9780345523198

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 small avalanche of snow covers him completely. 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 the while, delicately balanced on his pack. His 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 Light Eaters: How the Unseen World of Plant Intelligence Offers a New Understanding of Life on Earth

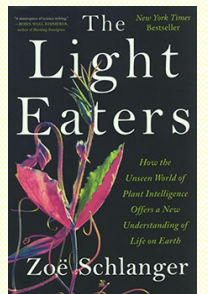
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2024

By Zoë Schlanger.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

HarperCollins Publisher, New York ISBN 9870063073852

In this fascinating work, Zoë Schlanger brings us up to date on past and current research on plant behavior and intelligence. She poses a series of questions. Can plants detect touch? Do they have the ability to exchange information? Can they listen to their surroundings? And the biggie: do plants have memory? To find the answers, she travels far and wide, introducing us to researchers and their work. Those she visits are serious researchers, doing serious scientific work that can be replicated by others. What she discovers, and shares with us in the book, is nothing short of astonishing.



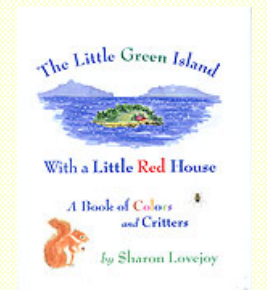
The Little Green Island With a Little Red House: A Book of Colors and Critters

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.



The Living Bird: 100 Years of Listening to Nature

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2016

Photography-Gerrit Vyn.Design-Jane Jeszeck.Essays-Scott Weidensaul, Lyanda Haupt, John Fitzpatrick, & Jared Diamond.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Mountaineers Books-Seattle in conj. W/Cornell Lab of Ornithology-NY ISBN 9781594859656

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 aha-web.org/books01.htm

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.



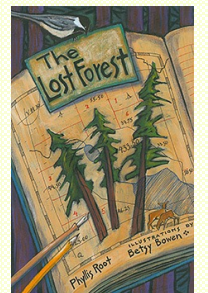
The Lost Forest aha-web.org/books18.htm

CHILDREN'S~~Honorable 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.



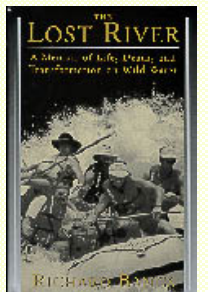
The Lost River: A Memoir of Life, Death, and Transformation on Wild Water

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 1999

By Richard Bangs.

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.



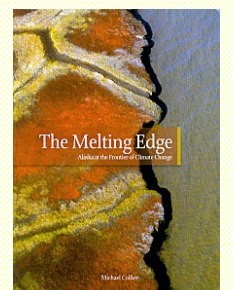
The Melting Edge: Alaska at the Frontier of Climate Change

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2012

By Michael Collier.

Alaska Geographic Association ISBN 9780982576519

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.



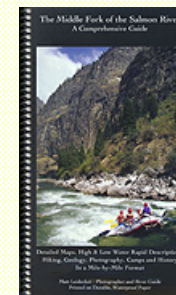
The Middle Fork of the Salmon River: A Comprehensive Guide

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 Milkweed Lands: An Epic Story of One Plant Its Nature and Ecology

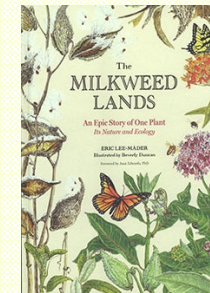
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2023

By Eric Lee-Mäder.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

Storey Publishing, North Adams, MA ISBN 9781635864366

Like a milkweed pod ready to burst apart, this lovely book cries to be opened. And once opened, it comes alive with Beverly Duncan's enchanting watercolors of the milkweed in all of its forms. Ecologist Eric Lee-Mäder guides us along, explaining the plant's biology and its life cycle in a relaxed voice, not burdened by overly technical language. Of all the critters that depend on milkweed—and by Lee-Mäder's count, there are at least 40 insects that do—the most well-known, of course, is the monarch butterfly. Of particular importance for the monarch is the Mississippi River corridor which because of its flood plain, side channels and generally un-farmable terrain, still hosts adequate milkweed for the monarch migration. That's just one small fact of the many found in this fine synthesis of art and nature writing.



The Mountain Traveller's Handbook

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Honorable Mention 2002

By Paul Deegan.

British Mountaineering Council, Manchester, UK ISBN 0903908476

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

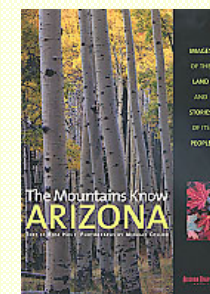
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2004

Photographs by Michael Collier. Text by Rose Houk. Designed by Mary Winkelmann Velgos.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Arizona Highways, Phoenix ISBN 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.



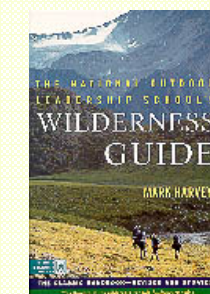
The National Outdoor Leadership School's Wilderness Guide

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.



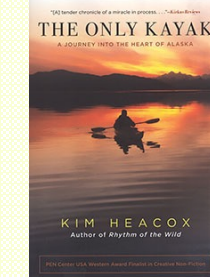
The Only Kayak: A Journey Into the Heart of Alaska

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2020

By Kim Heacox.

Lyons Press, Guilford, CT ISBN 9781493049400

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 untrammelled 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 Walinchus. 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 Pacific Alone: The Untold Story of Kayaking's Boldest Voyage

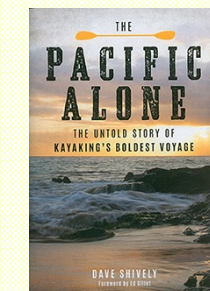
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2019

By Dave Shively.

There were 2 winners in this category. This is winner 1.

Falcon, Guilford, CT ISBN 9781493026814

This is one of those absorbing books that is certain to carry you away on an inner voyage of your own. It is about an audacious attempt by Ed Gillet to cross the Pacific Ocean from California to Hawaii, a journey that would take at least two months. His means of travel? A kayak. That's right. A kayak! Even solo adventurers crossing the ocean in a row boat have a place to sleep. But a kayak? This is truly a great adventure, and outdoor writer and kayaking aficionado Dave Shively is perfect to tell the story. Does Gillet make it? You can find out in this first rate chronicle of the journey.



The Pacific Crest Trail (Series). In three volumes: Southern California, Northern California and Oregon & Washington.

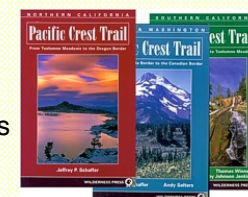
OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2008

By Thomas Winnett, Ben Schifrin, Jeffrey Schaffer, Ruby Johnson Jenkins, and Andy Selters.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Wilderness Press, Berkeley ISBN 9780899973166, 9870899973173, 9780899973753

The 2,650 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.

Luc Mehl, Anchorage ISBN 9781578338542

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 www.noba-web.org/books15.htm

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2015

By Errol Fuller.

Two books won Honorable Mention, this is winner 2.

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.



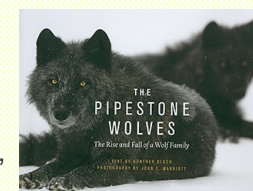
The Pipestone Wolves: The Rise and Fall of a Wolf Family

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2017

By Günther Bloch.

Rocky Mountain Books, Vancouver, BC ISBN 9780691166353

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 families. Later chapters deal with the eventual collapse of the Pipestone wolves and how human activity contributed to it. Researcher and writer, Günther Bloch pulls no punches when he discusses the management of wolves and other wildlife in Banff. It is the old dilemma of how to maintain a healthy environment for animals in the face of a growing human population. It is hoped that, at the least, key aspects of his research will lead to management improvements.



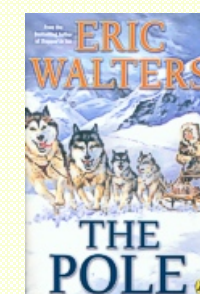
The Pole www.noba-web.org/books98.htm

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.



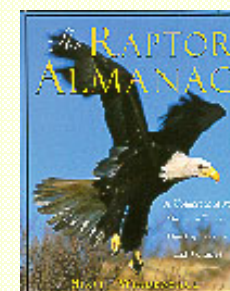
The Raptor Almanac: A Comprehensive Guide to Eagles, Hawks, Falcons and Vultures

NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2001

By Scott Weidensaul.

The Lyons Press, New York

A far-reaching reference and 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.



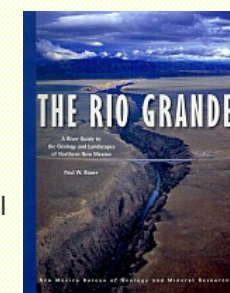
The Rio Grande: A River Guide to the Geology and Landscapes of Northern New Mexico

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.



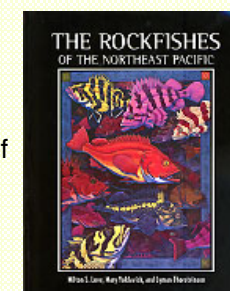
The Rockfishes of the Northeast Pacific www.noba-web.org/books11.htm

NATURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 2003

By Milton S. Love, Mary Yoklavich, and Lyman Thorsteinson.

University of California Press, Berkeley, CA ISBN 0520234383

Who says that 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.



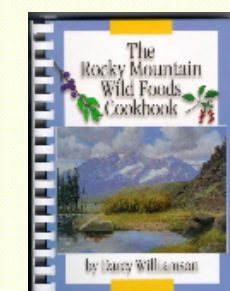
The Rocky Mountain Foods Cookbook www.noba-web.org/books11.htm

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Honorable Mention 1997

Written and illustrated by Darcy Williamson, cover art by Larry Milligan, design by Teresa Sales.

Caxton Press

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 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

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.



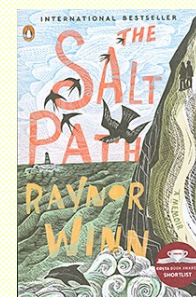
The Salt Path coba-web.org/books18.htm

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2019

By Raynor Winn.

Penguin Books, New York ISBN 9780143134114

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 ks17.htm

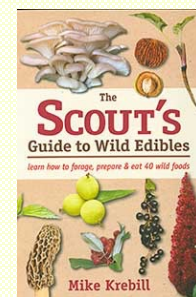
NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2017

By Mike Krebill.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

St. Lynn's Press, Pittsburgh ISBN 9781943366064

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 half 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 Secret Lives of Backyard Bugs s11.htm

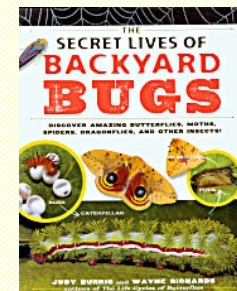
CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2011

By Judy Burris and Wayne Richards.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Storey Publishing, North Adams, MA ISBN 9781603425636

Judy Burris and brother 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

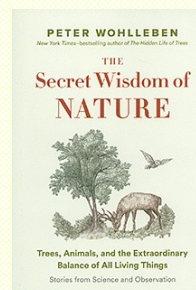
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2019

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 palette of colors.



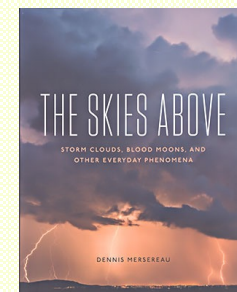
The Skies Above: Storm Clouds, Blood Moons, and Other Everyday Phenomena

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Silver Medalist 2022

By Dennis Mersereau.

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680515558

This is the sort of book that you can page through time and time again and always find something new and fascinating. The title says it all. It is about the skies and what you see when you look up. The author guides you through each of the seasons and the science behind thunderstorms, blizzards, tornadoes, hurricanes, rainbows, and much more. It's a first-rate reference book, perfect for any outdoor lover's library.



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 9780820347578

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 puts us at ease, describing the natural surroundings in a way which is comforting 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.



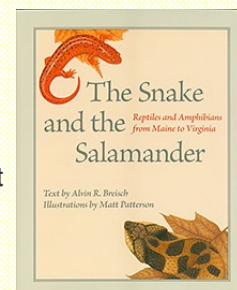
The Snake and the Salamander: Reptiles and Amphibians from Maine to Virginia

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2018

By Alvin R. Breisch. Illustrated by Matt Patterson.

John Hopkins University Press. Baltimore ISBN 9781421421575

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 refreshing, conversational style. Scattered about 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 s11.htm

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2004

By Kenneth Libbrecht. Photography by Patricia Rasmussen.

Voyageur Press, Stillwater, Minnesota ISBN 0896586308

John Muir called them snow flowers. Thoreau 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 ks10.htm

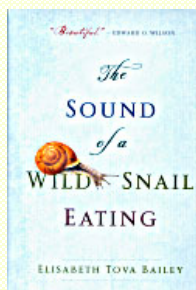
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2010

By Elisabeth Tova Bailey.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC ISBN 9781565126060

Author Elisabeth Tova Bailey is struggling to recover from a severe illness which has kept her bedridden for months at a time. While barely able to lift her head, she begins to take interest in a common woodland snail residing in a flower pot that a friend has given her. One evening, she watches transfixed as the snail, ever so slowly, begins to eat the withered blossoms of some long-gone flowers. In the quiet of her room, she can hear something . . . She can hear it eating! In this beautifully written, mesmerizing work, Bailey skillfully merges her own observations with scientific information. In the end, reader and author alike learn that a simple but wondrous little creature can give solace and hope to a life gone awry.



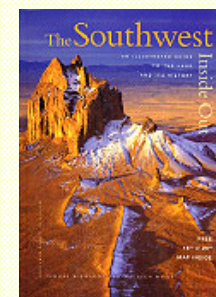
The Southwest Inside Out: An Illustrated Guide to the Land and Its History

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Honorable Mention 2002

By Thomas Wiewandt and Maureen Wilks.

Wild Horizons Publishing. Tucson, AZ ISBN 1879728036

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.



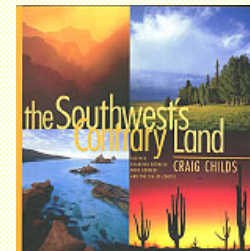
The Southwest's Contrary Land: Forever Changing Between Four Corners and the Sea of Cortes

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Honorable Mention 2002

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

Arizona Highways Books. Phoenix, AZ ISBN 1893860191

For many years, Arizona Highways has been publishing colorful, high quality books of the Southwest—and this is one that excels both pictorially and textually. Craig Childs' sensitive and inspired text is supplemented by intelligent design and magnificent photography.



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

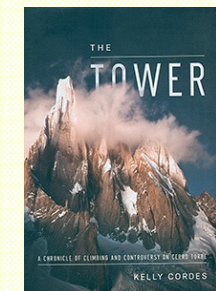
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2015

By Kelly Cordes.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 781938340338

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 shriek turned to stone," as the great mountaineer Reinhold Messner described it. Author Kelly Cordes has tackled the shriek in two ways: by creating this excellent work of mountaineering history—and by climbing and standing on Cerro Torre's summit. Cordes parlays 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.



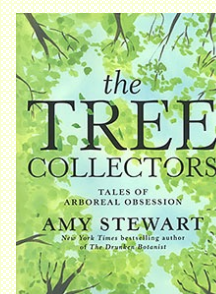
The Tree Collectors: Tales of Arboreal Obsession

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2024

By Amy Stewart.

Random House, New York ISBN 9780593446850

Amy Stewart is both an artist and a writer and has a way of combining art and science to educate and inspire. In this book, she introduces us to fifty individuals whose lives and trees are intertwined. For some, trees have helped them to heal. For others, trees improve the beauty of their neighborhood. Still others plant trees to preserve them. Illustrated with Stewart's lovely and expressive watercolor paintings, the book is a celebration of trees and a tribute to their passionate devotees.



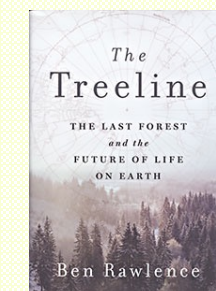
The Treeline: The Last Forest and the Future of Life on Earth

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Silver Medalist 2022

By Ben Rawlence.

St. Martins Press, New York ISBN 9781250270238

Ben Rawlence is captivated with the taiga, the boreal forest, that band of hardy trees which encircle the globe's northern regions. In fact, we all should be thankful for this great forest, the largest of the world's biomes which breathes oxygen into our atmosphere and stores vast amounts of carbon. In essence, it's part of the planet's respiratory system. You might say it is a great, green lung. But that green lung isn't as healthy as it once was. The boreal forest is changing due to man's activities - and that has consequences everywhere. For an illuminating look at this vital biome, follow along as Rawlence journeys from place to place, conversing with scientists and spending time with the people who live in the boreal forest and experience it firsthand.



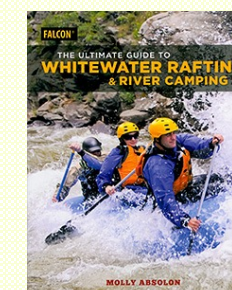
The Ultimate Guide to Whitewater Rafting and River Camping

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2018

By Molly Absolon.

Falcon Press, Guilford, CT ISBN 9781493032334

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

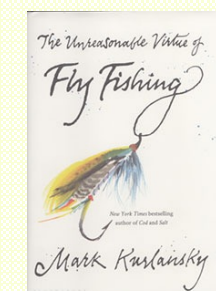
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2021

By Mark Kurlansky.

There were 3 winners in this category. This is winner 2.

Bloomsbury, New York ISBN 9781635573077

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

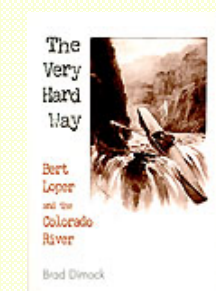
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2007

By Brad Dimock.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

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 oaring 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.



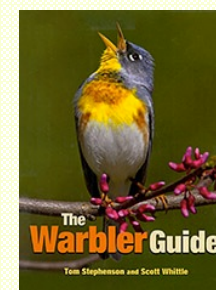
The Warbler Guide

NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2014

By Tom Stephenson and Scott Whittle.

Princeton University Press, Princeton ISBN 9780691154824

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 it up and 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 White Ladder: Triumph and Tragedy at the Dawn of Mountaineering

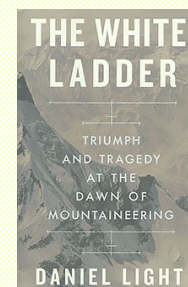
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2025

By Daniel Light.

There were two winners in this category. This is Winner #2.

W. W. Norton, New York

In this sweeping, exceedingly readable history of mountaineering, Daniel Light covers the events and personalities from ancient history up to the 1920's when the British had set their sights on Everest. What keeps the book moving along is the rivalry among climbers to ascend ever higher mountains. By the end of the book, the highest, Mt. Everest remains unclimbed — or has it? Find out more in this excellent work of scholarship and the exploration of the heights.



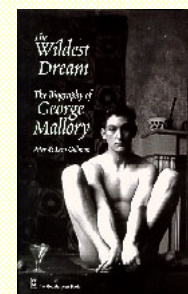
The Wildest Dream: The Biography of George Mallory

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2000

By Peter and Leni Gillman.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

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, Stikeen, Steep Trails and others)

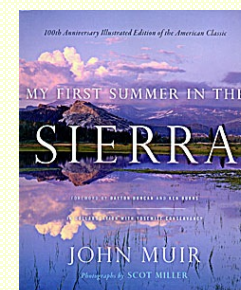
OUTDOOR CLASSIC: Life-time Achievement Recognition~~Winner 2011

By John Muir. Photographs by Scot Miller.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston ISBN 9780618988518

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 and the monumental contributions he made toward preserving the American outdoor heritage. 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



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

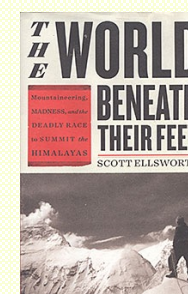
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2020

By Scott Ellsworth.

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, itching 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 of Snow: A Journey Across the North in Winter

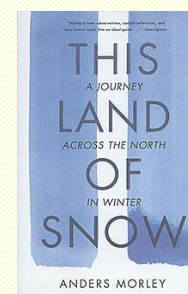
JOURNEYS~~Winner 2021

By Anders Morley.

Gold in this category.

Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680512724

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

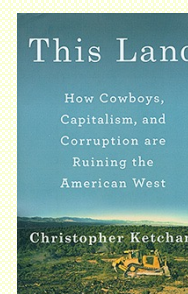
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2019

By Christopher Ketcham.

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

Viking, New York ISBN 9780735220980

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 these lands. Often approaching it on a personal level, Ketcham interviews those on the front lines whose lives are thrown into turmoil. Raw and unrestrained, Ketcham's work goes to the heart of this increasingly virulent national crisis.



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

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2015

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 act of painting birds and was drawn again and again into the natural world. Complimenting Plain's engaging 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

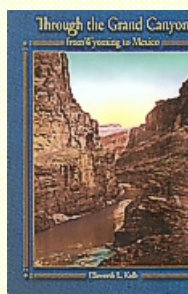
OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2008

By Ellsworth L. Kolb.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

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.



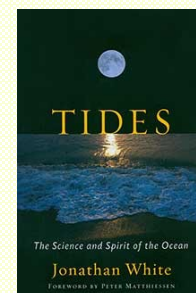
Tides: The Science and Spirit of the Ocean

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 Kalinin 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

[ab.org/books11.htm](http://www.ab.org/books11.htm)

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

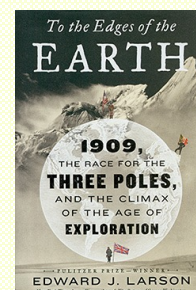
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2018

By Edward J. Larson.

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

William Morrow, New York ISBN 9780062564474

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, 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



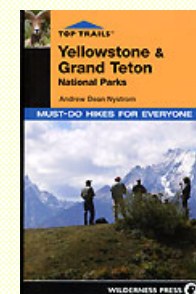
Top Trails Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2005

By Andrew Dean Nystrom.

Wilderness Press, Berkeley ISBN 089997368X

If this year's winner of the Guidebook Category is any indication, *Top Trails* are top notched 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

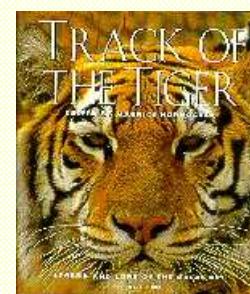
www.web.org/books98.htm

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 1998

Edited by Maurice Hornocker. Andy Lewis, Art Director. Tom 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.



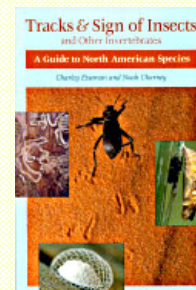
Tracks and Sign of Insects and Other Invertebrates: A Guide to North American Species

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.



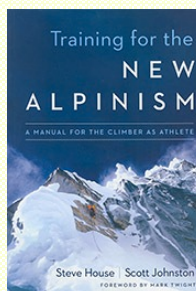
Training for the New Alpinism: A Manual for the Climber as Athlete

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2014

By Steve House and Scott Johnston.

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 9781938340239

In this expansive 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.



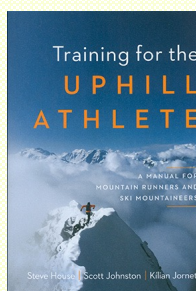
Training for the Uphill Athlete: A Manual for Mountain Runners and Ski Mountaineers

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Winner 2019

By Steve House, Scott Johnston and Kilian Jornet.

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 9781938340840

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.



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 cubs. 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.



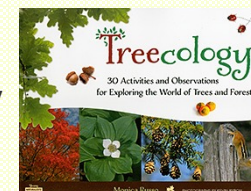
Treecology: 30 Activities and Observations for Exploring the World of Trees and Forests

CHILDREN'S~~Honorable Mention 2017

Jonathan London. Illustrated by Sean London.

Chicago Review Press, Chicago ISBN 9871613733967

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 web.org/books03.htm

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable 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.



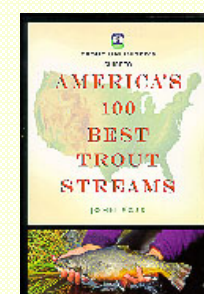
Trout Unlimited's Guide to America's 100 Best Trout Streams

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 1999

By John Ross. Jeff Wincapaw, Art Director.

Falcon Publishing and Trout Unlimited

These are the streams that fire an angler's imagination: 100 of them in 30 states across the US, voted the best places to catch trout by members of Trout Unlimited. The writing in this well organized guide is strong, lively and stylish. It makes you want to grab your rod and hit the road.



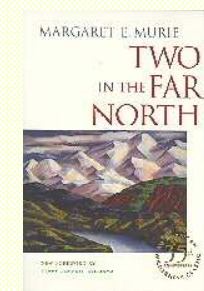
Two in the Far North web.org/books98.htm

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 1998

By Margaret Murie.

Alaska Northwest Books

This book, first written in the 1950s 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.



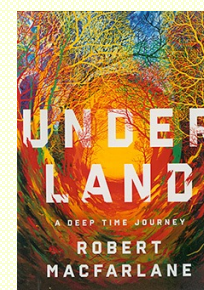
Underland: A Deep Time Journey ike18.htm

NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2019

By Robert Macfarlane.

W. W. Norton, New York ISBN 9780393242140

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

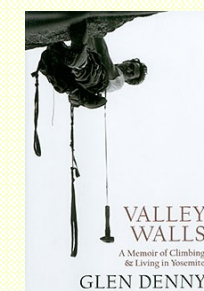
HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Honorable Mention 2016

By Glen Denny.

Two books won HM, this is winner 2.

Yosemite Conservancy. Yosemite National Park ISBN 9781930238633

They were an unkempt bunch. Some of them went days on end without bathing. They were the denizens of that notorious campground in Yosemite called Camp 4 who pioneered the techniques and equipment of modern day big wall climbing. In the 1960's, author Glen Denny was there, taking many of the era's iconic photographs and making some of his own notable first ascents. Valley Walls is his engrossing and memorable story of those raucous days.



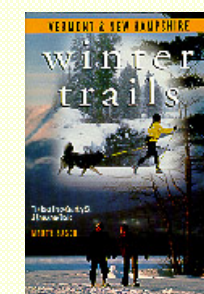
Vermont and New Hampshire Winter Trails

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Honorable Mention 1999

By Marty Basch.

The Globe Pequot Press

Designed for all levels, from consummate winter recreational skiers and snowshoers to beginners and families, Winter Trails covers the best places to snowshoe and cross-country ski in Vermont and New Hampshire.



Vesper Flights the-web.org/books21.htm

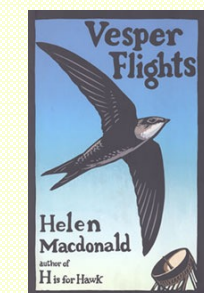
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2021

By Helen Macdonald.

Silver Medalist Winner in this category.

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.



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 9781771620536

During World War I and II, many people planted "victory gardens." It was 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

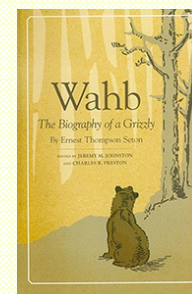
OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2015

By Ernest Thompson Seton. Edited by Jeremy M. Johnston & Charles R. Preston.

University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK ISBN 9780806150826

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.



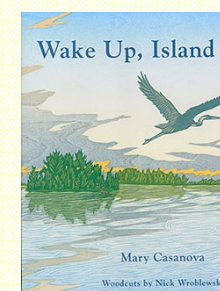
Wake Up, Island

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-chee 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.



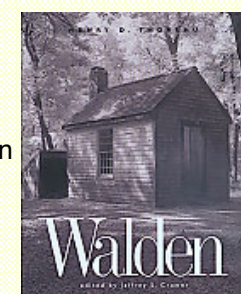
Walden

OUTDOOR CLASSIC~~Winner 2004

By Henry David Thoreau. Edited by Jeffrey S. Cramer.

Yale University Press, New Haven ISBN 0300104669

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.

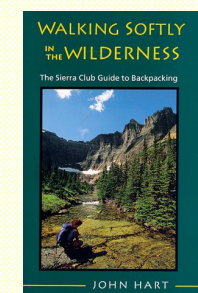


Walking Softly in the Wilderness: The Sierra Club Guide to Backpacking

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.



Was it Worth It? A Wilderness Warrior's Long Trail Home

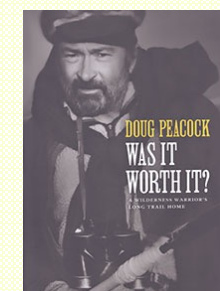
OUTDOOR LITERATURE (NON-FICTION)~~Winner 2022

By Doug Peacock.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 9781952338045

The first thing you notice about Doug Peacock's writing is his devil-may-care attitude. His experience in Vietnam certainly plays a role in that temperament. After returning from military duty there in the 1960's, all he wanted was to spend time alone in the wilds of the West. In particular, he found solace studying and filming grizzly bears in Yellowstone. From Yellowstone, he expanded his range, travelling to Mexico to track down the remnants of a grizzly population. Instead of being the tracker, however, he was the tracked when one chilling night he and his companion were stalked by a jaguar. The jaguar story, along with others in the book, represent some of Peacock's best writing. You'll find him always questioning, always asking whether it was worth it. Was it? The answer lies somewhere in this engrossing read.



Washington's Mount Rainier National Park: A Centennial Celebration

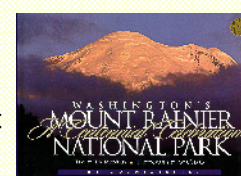
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 1999

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 books succeeds wonderfully. Every sacred mountain should have its story so handsomely told.



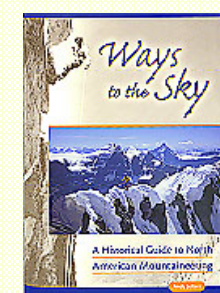
Ways to the Sky: A Historical Guide to North American Mountaineering

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2004

By Andy Selters.

American Alpine Club Press, Golden, Colorado ISBN 0930410831

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 an Owl Knows: The New Science of the World's Most Enigmatic Birds

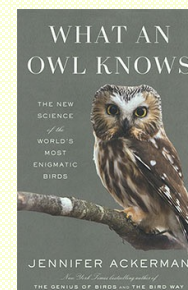
OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2023

By Jennifer Ackerman.

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

ISBN ISBN 9780593298886

It just takes a few pages and Jennifer Ackerman will have you hooked. She writes with the enthusiasm of someone who thoroughly loves her subject. Moreover, she is not one to sit still while doing it. Throughout the book, she travels about, looking for different owl species, visiting scientists, observing their work, and bringing us up-to-date with the latest discoveries about these enchanting creatures. We learn how they fly without making sound, how they hoot to defend their territory, how some live underground, and how others can make a tasty meal of black widows and scorpions. Pick up a copy and jump in. The next time you are walking in the woods and you hear a hoot from a nearby tree, you'll have an idea of what an owl knows.



What Does the Sky Say? [oregonbooks01.htm](https://www.oregonbooks01.htm)

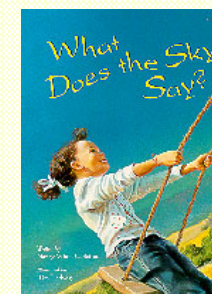
CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2001

By Nancy White Carlstrom. Illustrated by Tim Ladwig.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, Grand Rapids, Michigan

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.



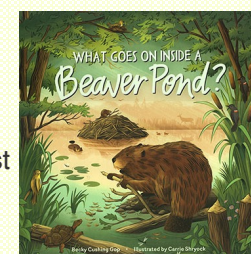
What Goes On Inside a Beaver Pond? [oregonbooks02.htm](https://www.oregonbooks02.htm)

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2023

By Becky Cushing Gop.

Storey Publishing, North Adams, MA ISBN 9781635865271

This charming story for eight- to ten-year-olds will take them on an adventure to a beaver pond. Guided along by lovely illustrations, the story begins with a beaver family going about what all beaver families do. Eventually, we follow a young beaver setting out on her own. She travels along the stream looking for just the right place to start her own family. Soon she is joined by a mate, and together they build a dam, stock up on their winter supply of food, and construct their new home. At the conclusion of the story, children can play a fun game. Pictured are a series of drawings of animals which have appeared earlier in the book. The child must try to find where in the book where animal is found. It is a perfect way for children to relive the story and have a bit fun too.



Where the Falcon Flies: A 3,400 Kilometre Odyssey from my Doorstep to the Arctic

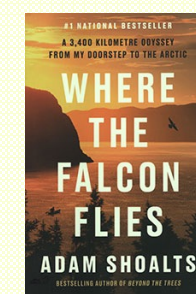
JOURNEYS~~Winner 2024

By Adam Shoalts.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

Allen Lane/Penguin Canada, Toronto ISBN 9780735241015

One thing is certain about Adam Shoalts. He is one tough guy. In a past trek, he travelled alone across the Arctic from the Yukon Territory to Nunavut in eastern Canada, a staggering 2,500 mile journey. In another adventure, he crossed the Hudson Bay Lowlands, a vast, subarctic swamp, inhabited by arguably the largest concentration of blood sucking insects on the planet. This engrossing book is about his latest venture: a canoe journey which begins near his home in Lake Erie and ends 2,000 miles to the north in the Arctic. All of his wilderness experiences come to play in this journey—and even some civilization skills—as he paddles through the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River and finally through northern wilderness. An exceptionally fine writer as well as adventurer, Shoalts knows how to keep you turning the pages, whisking you along, every paddle stroke of the way.



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.

St. Martin's Press, New York ISBN 0312290659

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.



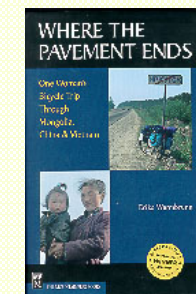
Where the Pavement Ends: One Woman's Bicycle Trip Through Mongolia, China and Vietnam

OUTDOOR LITERATURE~~Winner 2001

By Erika Warmbrunn.

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle

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 middle 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.



Whistling Wings [oregonbooks05.htm](https://www.oregonbooks05.htm)

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2009

By Laura Goering.

Sylvan Dell Publishing, Mt Pleasant, SC ISBN 9781934359303

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.



White Paradise: Journeys to the North Pole

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2007

By Francis Latreille.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Abrams, New York ISBN 9780810930940

This lavish, large format volume by French adventurer and photojournalist, Francis Latreille unveils the Arctic hinterlands like no other. Introductory text covers expeditions, research and the peoples of the North, but mostly Latreille shows us the Arctic—and the effects of global warming—through a stunning collection of photographs.



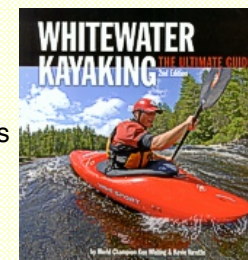
Whitewater Kayaking: The Ultimate Guide [oregonbooks06.htm](https://www.oregonbooks06.htm)

INSTRUCTIONAL~~Honorable Mention 2008

By Ken Whiting and Kevin Varette.

Heliconia Press. Beachburg, Ontario ISBN 9781896980300

This splendidly done, full-color book lives up to its title. It is the ultimate guide to whitewater paddling. Authored by two world renowned kayakers, its coverage is extensive, ranging from basic concepts to cutting edge paddling techniques.



Whose Garden Is It? web.org/books04.htm

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2004

By Mary Ann Hoberman. Illustrated by Jane Dyer.

Harcourt, New York ISBN 0152026312

Who owns that beautiful garden blooming with every color of the rainbow? The gardener says it belongs to him. But the woodchuck insists it's his. And so does the rabbit, the butterfly, and the little squash bug. This lovingly done book does what all good children's books should do: it stimulates thought, and through words and illustrations, it asks youngsters to reach their own conclusion to that pressing question: who really owns that garden? (For ages 3-7.)



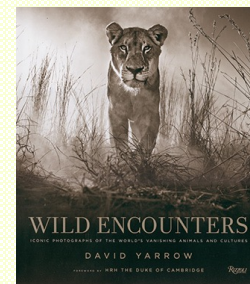
Wild Encounters: Iconic Photographs of the World's Vanishing Animals and Cultures

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2017

Photography and Commentary by David Yarrow.

Rizzoli, New York ISBN 9780847858323

David Yarrow is one of the virtuosos of black and white wildlife photography. 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.



Wild New World: The Epic Story of Animals & People in America

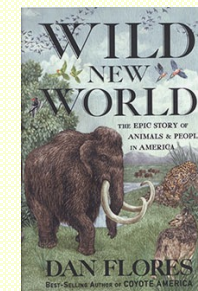
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2023

By Dan Flores.

There were two winners in this category. This is winner #1.

W. W. Norton & Company, New York ISBN 9781324006169

In this expansive work on environmental history, Dan Flores concentrates on a period of time, starting some 16,000 years ago and leading up to the present. It's during this period of time when humankind became a dominant force on the North American continent. In a highly readable style, Flores blends genetic science, anthropology, evolutionary biology, and cultural history to trace the decline of wildlife diversity. The decline didn't start with the coming of Europeans. Flores documents how it was well on its way thousands of years before, but it has, of course, accelerated over the past couple of hundred years. Flores points out that hopeful strides have been made to slow the eradication of species, but his work is also a warning to what lies ahead should we not continue those efforts.



Wild Solutions: How Biodiversity is Money in the Bank

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2001

By Andrew Beattie and Paul Ehrlich. Illustrated by Christine Turnbull.

Yale University Press, New Haven

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.



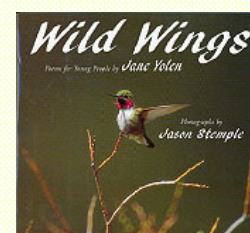
Wild Wings: Poems for Young People web.org/books02.htm

CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2002

By Jane Yolen. Photographs by Jason Stemple.

Wordsong and Boyds Mills Press, Honesdale, PA ISBN 1563979047

Wild Wings is a beautiful collaborative effort between author Jane Yolen and her son, Jason, the book's photographer. The images, both visual and verbal, can't help but engage a child's interest and nurture a desire to learn about birds. For ages: 10-12.



Wilder Mississippi web.org/books02.htm

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2002

Photographs by Stephen Kirkpatrick. Text by Marlo Carter Kirkpatrick. Design by Heidi Flynn Allen.

The Marvelous Works, Madison, MS ISBN 0961935359

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 subtitles 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.



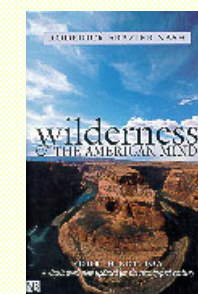
Wilderness and the American Mind web.org/books01.htm

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.



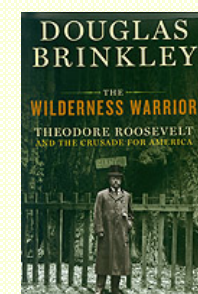
Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2009

By Douglas Brinkley.

Harper, New York ISBN 9780060565282

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 web.org/books05.htm

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 18.htm

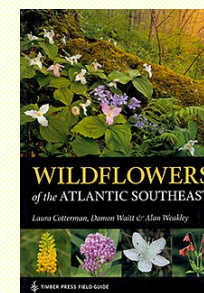
NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2019

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

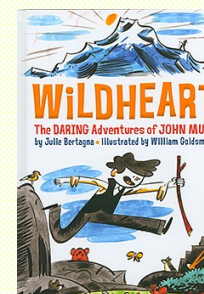
CHILDREN'S~~Winner 2019

By Julie Bertagna. Illustrated by William Goldsmith.

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

Yosemite Conservancy, El 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 and immediately sets out on a hike across 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 Stikeen 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 for moving the story along. Age group: 9-12 years old.



Wildlife Wars: The Life and Times of a Fish and Game Warden

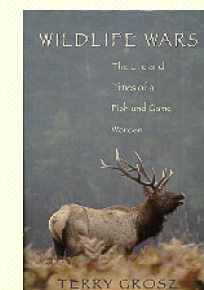
NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT~~Winner 2000

By Terry Grosz.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Johnson Books

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 story teller, 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 and text by Chuck Hagner.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA ISBN 9780811701419

Wings of Springs 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 one leg forlorn in June snowfall, a Western Screech-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

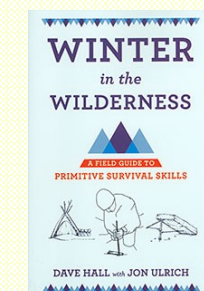
INSTRUCTIONAL~~Honorable Mention 2016

By Dave Hall with Jon Ulrich.

Two books won HM, this is winner 1.

Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY ISBN 9780801479953

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, unaffected, and plain good advice.



With Every Great Breath: New and Selected Essays 1995-2023

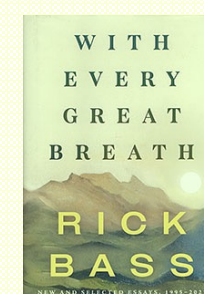
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Winner 2024

By Rick Bass.

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

Counterpoint, Berkeley, CA ISBN 9781640096301

Rick Bass needs no introduction. He is clearly in the top echelon of American writers, and you'll see why in this series of well-turned essays. The range of subjects is broad: firefighting, whales, larch trees, elephants, wolves, polar bears, and an environmental disaster close to his home. He has a distinctive and folksy voice, and the ability to swing from description to drama. If you've never read anything by Bass, this is an excellent place to start.



Wolves in the Land of Salmon books13.htm

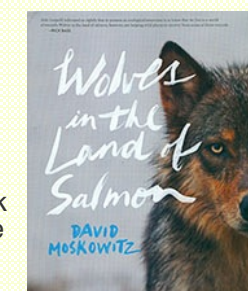
NATURAL HISTORY LITERATURE~~Honorable Mention 2013

By David Moskowitz.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Timber Press, Inc., Portland ISBN 9781604692273

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.



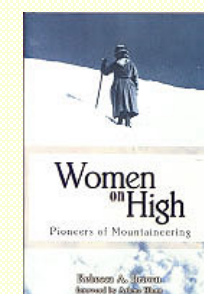
Women on High: Pioneers of Mountaineering

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Honorable Mention 2003

By Rebecca A. Brown.

Appalachian Mountain Club Books, Boston, MA ISBN 192917313X

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.



Written in the Snows: Across Time on Skis in the Pacific Northwest

HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY~~Winner 2022

By Lowell Skoog.

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

The Mountaineers Books, Seattle ISBN 9781680512908

Over 20 years in the making comes one outstanding work on ski history. Lowell Skoog covers the northwest scene like none other: Alpine, Nordic, backcountry and even fastest ascents and descents. But the book is not just a recounting of history; Skoog immerses himself into that history by organizing long forgotten ski races and retracing historic mountain traverses. Highly readable and filled with fascinating stories of the past, this is a fine addition to the literature of skiing.



Yellowstone Expedition Guide: The Modern Way to Explore America's Oldest National Park

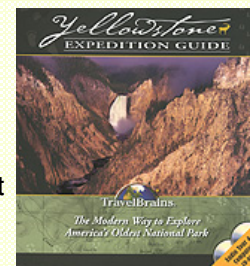
NATURE GUIDES~~Winner 2006

By Charissa Reid.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

TravelBrains, Inc., Bedford, NH ISBN 1933763000

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.



Yosemite in the Fifties: The Iron Age 16.htm

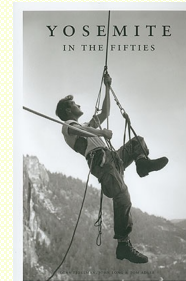
DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2016

Design by Tom Adler and Evan Backes. Photo Editing by Dean Fidelman. Edited by John Long.

Two books won, this is winner 2.

Patagonia Books, Ventura, CA ISBN 9781938340482

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.



Yosemite in the Sixties 16.org/books07.htm

DESIGN AND ARTISTIC MERIT~~Winner 2007

Essays by Kevin Starr, Steve Roper and Glen Denny. Photographs by Glen Denny.

Two books won, this is winner 1.

Patagonia and T. Adler Books, Santa Barbara, CA ISBN 0979064909

This is Yosemite in the golden age: the big walls, the climbing action, the quiet times, the high times, the whole gamut of life and rock. Glen Denny, no slouch as a climber himself, was the era's premier photographer. The book's crisp and clear, black and white reproductions are perfectly complemented by insightful essays by Denny, Steve Roper and Kevin Starr. Yosemite in the 1960s ushered in a period of fast-paced growth, advancing technique, and a lifestyle of total commitment. Thankfully Glen Denny was there to capture it.



Your Guide to the National Parks: The Complete Guide to All 58 National Parks

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GUIDES~~Winner 2013

By Michael Joseph Oswald.

Stone Road Press, Whitelaw, WI ISBN 9781621280002

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.

