

explained. "The availability of various resources is not generally uniform in nature, and use may change as availability changes". This is particularly true when the scale of the study changes; therefore, multiscale RSFs are recommended.

Ultimately, almost any radio-telemetry study will apply RSFs sooner or later. The beauty of RSFs is that they can be used for such a huge variety of applications; most of them deal with wildlife species, but the book also shows an example that deals with pre-historic site preferences of Maya settlements. There is almost nothing to stop the RSF concept being used for botany.

This nicely structured book is divided into 14 chapters, a summary and exercises. A full list of symbols is given, which facilitates the understanding of the terminology and formulas greatly. The book also presents some RSF computing advice; e.g., short SAS software codes. In addition, the wildlife biologist will also appreciate the seven pages of RSF-references, and the many examples that deal with classical wildlife studies, for instance the ones by Neu et al. 1974 (Moose habitat selection), Ryder 1983 (Pronghorn wintering habitat), Harris 1986 (Fernbird nest site selection), Popham 1944 (Minnows foraging on Corixids) and Bartunock et al. 1976 (animals depleting their prey). Further, sample datasets are also presented (but not in digital format).

The book is also very strong in presenting all common indices of selectivity. RSFs can be used to assess old-fashioned HSI (Habitat Suitability Index) and Habitat Capability mapping and even to quantify ecological wildlife niches. As the experienced authors state, it is hoped that RSFs replace less powerful ad hoc methods.

Most of the authors of this book are affiliated with Western EcoSystems Technology Inc., a well known environmental NGO (non-governmental organization) in Cheyenne, Wyoming, which sets world standards when it comes to RSFs. The authors make clear that most RSFs are correlational *per se*. Specifically RSF-GIS studies are exploratory, pointing towards new hypothesis and field studies. The GIS chapters are very timely, readable and will be appreciated by the scholar, although this chapter is relatively slim. The use of "spatial bins" and Remote Sensing imagery is shown,

but for instance the use of aspect is not explained nor is how to correct for terrain slope underestimations in 2-dimensional GIS mapping. Another topic not fully addressed is statistical model selection when many predictors are involved; e.g., as commonly encountered in modern GIS studies; the Burnham and Anderson (2002) reference is still required. Another good set of additional references to keep in mind is the ones dealing with DISTANCE Sampling, e.g. Buckland et al. (2001), to derive absolute abundances (densities). Many RSF applications rely on high quality wildlife survey data.

In times of literally "exploding" data availabilities; e.g., via the WWW, the reviewer is personally convinced that Neural Networks will play a major role on the future RSF field; and the authors give credit to these and to other algorithms and approaches such as Compositional Analysis and Mahalanobis Distance. Applications of jackknifing and bootstrapping are shown as well. Despite the extremely good coverage for RSFs in this book, Resource Selection Probability Functions (RSPFs) are less well described. Color graphs are not given, but therefore this "bible" is affordable. It is really impressive to read the sections on how RSFs can be used for Spatial Predictions, Risk Assessment of Future Actions and Population Viability Analysis; e.g., Boyce and McDonald (1999).

This book presents well-structured and sound information for the advanced, as well as for the general wildlife biologist. It is a reference on "how to". Some people suggested that this book has an index problem as the latter is only two pages long and has mis-matching page numbers. However, this should not hold back anyone from reading this book. It is simply a must for any wildlife biologist and conservationist. Without RSFs, efficient research and conservation of wildlife and habitat resources is impossible. It is hoped that this brilliant book will aid safeguarding these resources.

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## All-Weather Hawk Watcher's Field Journal

By Donald Heintzelman. J. L. Darling Corporation, Tacoma, Washington. 66 pp.

This handy pocket field notebook, 12 by 17.5 cm., consists of a conservation note, a one-page introduction, a three-page list of the diurnal birds of prey of North and Central America, and 51 pages for field observations. At the top of each page are blanks to

fill in for date, time, weather, and location, including GPS coordinates. The special feature is the use of all-weather writing paper so that one can write in the rain!

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