

The Wolves Of Isle Royale

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mech s landmark study of wolves and moose on isle royale national park on lake superior the author lived among them during the three years of his research isle royale is an isolated wilderness ecosystem which is perfect for scientific study dr l david mech is the best known and most highly regarded wolf researcher in the world he works with the biological services division u s geological survey and is also the author of several other books on wolves he has studied wolves and their prey full time since 1958 except for a four year period when he studied radio tracking during this record long career as a wolf biologist he has published numerous books and articles this book was originally published by the national park service in 1966 mech is the foremost expert on wolves in this country possibly in the world hands down smithsonian magazine

a new edition of a classic the compelling firsthand account of an ancient predator prey relationship the isle royale wolf and moose dynamic

this field study took place in isle royale national park canada began in june 1958 there meech met donald e murray of mountain iron minnesota who served as one of the aircraft pilots for the project during the 3 year project the team achieved great things in the aerial observation of wolves and their hunting with a grant from the national science foundation

in this exhilarating installment of the award winning scientists in the field series journey to the isolated islands of isle royale national park where the longest predator prey study in the world is being conducted along with a controversial genetic rescue to save not only the wolves and moose but the entire island ecosystem on isle royale a unique national park more than fifty miles from the michigan shore and about fifteen miles from minnesota a thrilling drama is unfolding between wolves and moose the island s ultimate predator and prey for over sixty years in what has been known as the longest study of predator and prey in the world scientists have studied the wolves and moose of isle royale and the island s ecology to observe and investigate wildlife populations but due to illness and underlying factors the population of wolves on the island has dropped while the number of moose has increased putting the isle royale ecosystem in jeopardy now for the first time ever scientists are intervening join celebrated author nancy castaldo in this exciting journey to isle royale to document the genetic rescue experiment scientists there are embarking on if they can successfully relocate twenty to thirty wolves from the mainland to isle royale scientists can potentially restore the balance among wolves moose and trees of the island s ecosystem now the living laboratory experiment begins

excerpt from the wolves of isle royale advent of the timber wolf methods and extent of present research results the timber wolf and its ecology about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks.com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

wolves on a wilderness island illuminate lessons on the environment extinction and life for more than a quarter century celebrated biologist john vucetich has studied the wolves and the moose that sustain them of the boreal forest of isle royale national park an island in the northwest corner of lake superior during this time he has witnessed both the near extinction of the local wolf population driven largely by climate change and the intensely debated relocation of other wolves to the island in an effort to stabilize and maintain isle royale s ecosystem health in restoring the balance vucetich combines environmental philosophy with field notes chronicling his day to day experience as a scientist examining the fate of wolves in the wild he shares lessons from these wolves and explains their impact on humanity s fundamental responsibilities to the natural world vucetich s engaging narrative and unique clear eyed perspective provide an accessible course in wolf biology and behavioral ecology he tackles profound unresolved questions that will shape our future understanding of what it means to be good to life on earth are humans the only persons to inhabit earth or do we share the planet with uncounted nonhuman persons what does a healthy relationship with the natural world look like should we intervene in nature s course in order to care for it touching on the triumph and tragedy of how wolves kill moose to the shakespearean drama of wolves social lives vucetich comments on ravens mice winter ticks and even a life changing encounter he shared with a toad vucetich produces exquisite insight by masterfully connecting his observations to a far reaching history of ideas about the environment combining natural history

and memoir with fascinating commentary on humanity's relationship with nature restoring the balance evokes our connections with wolves as fellow apex predators demonstrating how our shifting views on nature have implications for both their survival and ours this book will be treasured by any thoughtful reader looking to deepen their relationship with nature and learn about the wolves of isle royale along the way

contributors include recognized scientists and other wolf experts who introduce new and sometimes controversial findings the world of wolves included colour photographs of wild wolves by peter a dettling david c olson and robert j weselmann and drawings by wildlife artist susan shimeld book jacket

discussing all types of wolf in great detail and with extensive illustrations this work is an essential guide to wolf ecology behaviour physiology and pathology thanks to legal protection wolves are increasing in number and this work celebrates this feat of conservation

a fascinating look at the wolf as seen through the eyes of biologists wildlife managers ranchers trappers wolf lovers and haters this book reveals why the wolf has taken center stage in the debate over the preservation and the use of the wilderness steinhart eloquently persuades us why our continued coexistence matters

describes the origins family traits physical characteristics hunting methods of wolves and the reintroduction of wolves into the yellowstone ecosystem

the world's leading wolf expert describes the first years of a major study that transformed our understanding of one of nature's most iconic creatures in the late 1940s a small pack of wolves crossed the ice of lake superior to the island wilderness of isle royale creating a perfect laboratory for a long term study of predators and prey as the wolves hunted and killed the island's moose a young graduate student named dave mech began research that would unlock the mystery of one of nature's most revered and reviled animals and eventually became an internationally renowned and respected wolf expert this is the story of those early years wolf island recounts three extraordinary summers and winters mech spent on the isolated outpost of isle royale national park tracking and observing wolves and moose on foot and by airplane and upending the common misperception of wolves as destructive killers of insatiable appetite mech sets the scene with one of his most thrilling encounters witnessing an aerial view of a spectacular hunt then venturing by snowshoe against the pilot's warning to photograph the pack of hungry wolves at their kill wolf island owes as much to the spirit of adventure as to the impetus of scientific curiosity written with science and outdoor writer greg breining who recorded hours of interviews with mech and had access to his journals and field notes from those years the book captures the immediacy of scientific fieldwork in all its triumphs and frustrations it takes us back to the beginning of a classic environmental study that continues today spanning nearly sixty years research and experiences that would transform one of the most despised creatures on earth into an icon of wilderness and ecological health

a lively study of the relationship between predator and prey

no group of wild mammals so universally captures the emotions of people world wide than do wild canids that emotion can be enchantment and fascination but it can also be loathing because

the opportunism that is the hallmark of the dog family also leads them into conflict with humans in the developed world at least the fascination with wild canids doubtless stems from people s captivation with domestic dogs everybody feels they are an expert on canids while most people may be familiar with only the better known members of the dog family such as the grey wolf and the red fox there are in fact 36 species of wolves dogs jackals and foxes they attract hugely disproportionate interest from academics conservationists veterinarians wildlife managers and the general public this book brings together in single volume an astonishing synthesis of research done in the last twenty years and is the first truly compendious synthesis on wild canids beginning with a complete account of all 36 canid species there follow six review chapters that emphasise topics most relevant to canid conservation science including evolution and systematics behavioural ecology population genetics diseases conflict control of troublesome species and conservation tools fifteen detailed case studies then delve deeply into the very best species investigations currently available written by all the leading figures in the field much of the material is previously unpublished and will make fascinating reading far beyond the confines of canid specialists these chapters portray the unique attributes of wild canids their fascinating and conflictive relationship with man and suggestions for future research and conservation measures for the canidae while most canid species are widespread and thrive in human dominated landscapes several are in severe jeopardy habitat loss illegal hunting persecution by farmers and disease all imperil dwindling populations a final chapter analyses the requirements of and approaches to practical conservation with lessons that go far beyond the dog family it concentrates particular attention on priorities for the protection of the most threatened canid species including the red wolf african wild dog ethiopian wolf island fox and darwin s fox the wild canids provide examples that will thrill the evolutionary biologists and theoretician enthral the natural historian and challenge the conservationist and wildlife manager anybody interested in evolutionary and behavioural biology in mammals in the environment or in conservation will find much that is new and enriching in this book

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