such a holistic and comprehensive perspective on the science, management, people, and economics of a tropical landscape. The book should appeal to students, teachers, land managers, and the educated general public interested in forests and their long history of interaction with humans.

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I have not read a volume about the ecology of a given state that was so engaging since I read John Curtis’s classic The Vegetation of Wisconsin: An Ordination of Plant Communities (1959. Madison (WI): University of Wisconsin Press) 40 years ago. Every ecologist, land manager, or policymaker in Wisconsin and adjacent areas will find this book essential; those living in other parts of the world will wish they had something like it. A common theme throughout is the status of Wisconsin’s natural resources prior to European settlement (the main wave occurred during the late 1800s), how we got to the current status, and where we may go in the future. This work is well organized and integrated compared with many edited volumes, and has excellent flow for readers. The writing can be understood by the interested general public while retaining enough information to satisfy scientists. The book is illustrated with numerous graphs and tables, as well as a color plate section with maps of change over time.

The Vanishing Present is comprehensive; 32 chapters cover many taxonomic groups, ecological communities, and environmental issues. These include plant communities (forests, savannas, prairies, wet meadows, and emergent and submergent aquatic communities), lichens, birds of forests and grasslands, carnivorous mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and butterflies and moths. Unique features of Wisconsin’s landscape are highlighted, including the Wisconsin River floodplain, Great Lakes coastal marshes, and the state’s two large archipelagos: Lake Superior’s Apostle Islands and Lake Michigan’s Grand Traverse Islands. Changes in fish communities and food webs in the Great Lakes and smaller inland lakes are covered. Several chapters are devoted to environmental issues such as urban sprawl, policy on management of public lands, invasive species, deer overabundance in forests, and best predictions for future effects of climate change. Finally, this book highlights the grand achievements of Wisconsin ecologists over the last several decades by drawing on “local” experts, most of whom are internationally renowned scientists. Few areas of the world have such a rich array of research on so many topics to draw from as does the state of Wisconsin.

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Although scientists have already long expressed their concerns about overharvesting of the world’s fish stocks, political actions to reduce fishing pressure have often been surprisingly slow. This is particularly true for migratory marine fish targeted by several states, which differ in terms of their economic and political interest. In her book Adaptive Governance: The Dynamics of Atlantic Fisheries Management, Webster investigates the dynamics of international fisheries management for highly migratory tunas and billfishes. For this purpose, she develops a vulnerability response framework to predict and analyze how individual states react to concerns associated to overfishing, depending on the vulnerability of their domestic fleets on expected economic costs. Yet the framework is generic, thus making simplifications in its description of the process through which the management evolves, it is also able to capture several typical features of this process. Examples illuminating how the management of tunas and billfishes has developed over past decades show the power of the framework in capturing several phases associated with finding commonly agreed ways to regulate these fisheries, but also point to weaknesses in assessing states’ responses purely based on economic interests. In this respect, the book provides a useful picture of how economic vulnerability affects the negotiation process and compromises made among counterparts sharing the same resources.

From a wider perspective of biologically based harvesting and conservation, the approach taken in the volume obviously omits several issues influencing fisheries management decisions. However, as the author states, her approach serves as a first step in understanding the dynamics of international fisheries management and it can be ex-