

distribution, and migration. Skua taxonomy is traced from present times back through the early 17th-century ornithologists to Aristotle. The expansion in numbers and range of Great Skuas, or "Bonxies" as they are known in the Shetlands, is chronicled through surprisingly detailed historical accounts from their original colonization of Iceland in the 16th century to their expansion throughout the North Atlantic within the past 100 years.

The bulk of the book treats the evolutionary adaptations and ecological relationships of skuas. The puzzling phenomenon of "reversed sexual dimorphism" (female larger than male), found in almost all predatory birds, is discussed in some detail. Because skuas are more closely related to gulls than to raptors, they clearly evolved reversed sexual dimorphism separately from raptors but presumably as a response to the same selective pressures. Furness concludes that female defense of the young is the principal reason for evolution of larger females in skuas and, by extrapolation, perhaps in other predatory birds.

Furness discusses implications of differences in the "Long-Call" display to skua systematics and the reasons for the evolution of persistent dive-bombing nest defense familiar to all northern travellers. Considerable attention is given to documenting diet differences and similarities, and relating these to aspects of behaviour and distribution. Factors influencing the evolution of kleptoparasitism (stealing from other birds) and plumage polymorphism are treated in detail.

The book ends with practical discussions of pollution, human-skuas conflict, and conservation. Predators accumulate pollutants concentrated through the food chain and consequently are sensitive indicators of environmental pollution. Furness presents data showing that DDE levels in skua tissue have been declining since 1970 but that PCBs have remained constant. Attitudes of the Shetland sheepherders (crofters) have changed over the past 200 years. In the late 1700s, Great Skuas were protected by law because they drove off Sea Eagles, which might prey on lambs. With the extinction of eagles around 1900, this role was terminated and attitudes toward skuas changed to annoyance or antipathy resulting from dive-bombing, some limited predation on livestock, and chasing of sheep and dogs. Furness presents a reasoned approach to solution of these problems.

The book lacks the dryness one fears from technical treatises. Throughout there are sensitive pencil drawings by John Busby. Chapters are headed with obscure and quirky quotes, such as:

There is a fowl called Scutiellan, of a black colour and as big as a Wild Duck, which doth live upon the Vomit and Excrements of other Fowls, whom they pursue and having apprehended them they cause them to vomit up what they have lately taken, not yet digested: the Lord's Works both of Nature and of Grace are wonderful, all speaking forth his Glorious Goodness, Wisdom and Power.

Rev. John Brand (1701)

Furness harbours no romantic illusions about his subject animals and expresses this in refreshing forthrightness. Lack of coordination in Great Skua nest defense "leads the anthropomorphic observer to think of them as being exceptionally stupid birds." Great Skua feeding behaviour leads Furness to conclude that "the bird is unusually lazy." He treats conservation problems with pragmatism unlikely to endear him to preservation-style conservationists. He argues that the best long-term conservation strategy is to minimize human-skuas conflict by shooting a small number of skuas from specific situations.

The book's production is immaculate. The photographs are crisp and I was able to locate only one editing error. This is a worthy addition to T & AD Poyser's ornithology list, a series that is setting the modern standard for technical works in natural history. *The Skuas* is recommended to anyone interested in avian behaviour, ecology, and evolution.

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LIVING ARCTIC: HUNTERS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH. By HUGH BRODY. Vancouver: Douglas and McIntyre (in collaboration with the British Museum and Indigenous Survival International), 1987. xvi + 251 p., bib., index, photos, maps. Cdn\$14.95.

In recent years, there has been an increasing interest among lay people in aboriginal peoples and their future, in the face of pressures of economic development, assimilation, and denial of aboriginal land claims. Much of this international attention has been in Europe, though by no means confined there. This book attempts to capture this interest in hunting cultures, to provide those in the Canadian North with a voice, and to counter the impact of animal rights groups and various boycotts.

The overall theme of the book basically is the adaptability and flexibility of these hunting cultures. Brody illustrates how the aboriginal populations have adapted their hunting skills to the climate. He notes how in wintertime they use the tracks of animals such as rabbits; if one lies in wait, clothing such as caribou skin insulates the hunter, while if moving through the bush, one wears relatively light clothing. For housing, Brody discusses the insulating effects of snow, whether in the *iglu* or banked snow around forest cabins. But modern homes of settlements also prevail. The climate and geographic diversity lead to differing hunting patterns, whether for wildfowl or sea mammals. Moreover, the hunting lifestyle is not simply economic nor is it random and unsettled, as Westerners generally believe. As in the traditional economy, adaptability can be seen in the involvement in the petroleum or wage economy. Brody also demonstrates the flexibility and adequacy of the diet.

Another aspect Brody touches on is culture. For one thing, he discusses the role of authority within these societies, particularly how it differs from southern concepts. Authority is diffuse and based on consensus. The leaders are experts in a particular field, hence worthy of "following." Another critical aspect of the culture is the role children play: above all, the stress is on bringing them up to learn and grow at their own pace, unlike southerners. Among the learning methods is storytelling — this is particularly so in relation to learning about the animals upon which they depend to survive. In the discussion on native languages, Brody tries to break the myth of their primitiveness or inability to deal with the abstract. Language above all reflects their experience with climate and with animals. Moreover their adaptability emerges as these people learn to write in their own languages.

Concerning relations to the "outside," particularly in the chapter entitled "Frontiers," the author tries to illustrate how outside forces have affected their lives especially since the nineteenth century. In areas such as tools or music, the natives incorporated them into their culture. With the development of the fur trade, a new culture including credit, seasonal movements, and licences has emerged. Christianity has seen adaptability as they make an amalgam with shamanism. But by the 1960s and 1970s, these northern hunters were "unwillingly drawn into a web of social and economic life that paid very little heed to their long established customs and needs" (p. 217). This has led to a struggle for survival. The last chapter deals with the politics of survival — the political evolution in northern Canada as well as reaction to issues such as James Bay, the northern pipeline, and the Labrador bases. The problem is for outsiders to understand the system of authority based on the inseparability of land, animals, and a society seeking to ensure the renewability of its resources (p. 231). This is a challenge for modern political life. These hunters seek the right to choose.

The structure of the book is unusual. While the text, on one page, gives Brody's interpretation of their life, on the opposite page are photographs of the people (historic and contemporary) and citations from various natives, which show their relation to the land and their experience. In this sense, Brody accomplishes his purpose in giving a voice to the hunting societies. In giving a voice, he hopes to break the myth of their being a static society, picturing them as a hunting, not a peasant, society — as modern contemporaries.

The scholar of the North will find little that is new. And indeed Brody's approach runs the risk of creating new myths. One might ask,

considering the great changes that have gone on in the North, to what extent is the terminology "hunting society" sufficient. Moreover, because the book is written for those with only a superficial knowledge of the Canadian North, there is little discussion on some of the problems encountered in meeting the challenge of a new socio-economic situation. There is little discussion of struggles such as alcoholism, the relation of the traditional economy to a fast-increasing population, unemployment, alienation of the young, dependency on the welfare structure, and tensions with welfare officers. There is little on the dynamics of contemporary politics, including elections and conflicts within native groups and the use of territorial politics, though he notes the consensus approach in politics.

There are a couple of small problems. On the map on page 30, he uses the southern names for some Eastern Arctic communities, though the Inuit name has been used officially for some time. In the bibliography, Maria Campbell's book is *Halfbreed* published 1973.

One must realize, however, that the author has written this for a native rights lobby group, Indigenous Survival International, and the perspective is not so much of a detached observer, but of an advocate. And if it succeeds in awakening readers to the ethos of northern cultures, it may have done its job.

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**HINTERLAND OR HOMELAND? LAND-USE PLANNING IN NORTHERN CANADA.** Edited by TERRY FENGE and WILLIAM E. REES. Ottawa: Canadian Arctic Resources Committee, 1987. 161 p. Softbound. Cdn\$20.00.

This timely book examines both the idea and the structure of land use planning as it has come to be applied in the two Canadian northern territories. The editors have assembled a group of papers by authors who share interest and expertise in northern affairs but who differ in the perspectives they bring to the issue of northern land use planning. This combination of interest, expertise and perspective is quite successful in providing readers with insights into the surprising complexity concerning land use planning in the North.

The editors do not set as their task the detailing of the best system of land use planning for the North; nor do they attempt to compare experience in the Canadian context with that of Alaska or Scandinavia. Rather, in tracing the development of the land use planning system now in place, they seek to clarify how that system came to be and to point out issues that still require attention if land use planning is to yield the benefits claimed for it. In their words, the aim of the book is:

. . . to shine a little northern light on the issue of land and future land use in the Canadian Arctic. . . . [The book] is a pragmatic examination of critical policy-in-the-making in a turbulent environment of political forces. [p. x.]

The strengths of the book go well beyond the obvious credibility of the authors of the papers it contains. The organization of the book fosters a fourfold division into sections dealing with the idea of land use planning in the North (Rees), political and technical issues surrounding land use planning in the North (Fenge, Richardson), the benefits of land use planning for northern residents (Staples, Bankes and Bayly) and, finally, experiences from another part of the country, northern Quebec (Jacobs and Kemp), where land use planning has been applied. Each of these sections and the papers they include are worthy of comment.

Rees's paper introduces the notion of land use planning for the North. He argues that important differences between North and South mean that planning will have to be adapted to northern realities. Rees goes on to make the point that planning is a process of making decisions about alternatives. While one must agree, the question of the nature of that process — technical, social, economic or political — warrants

greater attention if Rees is to be convincing in his claim that northern land use planning must differ from that attempted in the South. To be sure, all of these elements can be found in land use planning, but the issue, which is identified in subsequent papers, concerns the question of priority among these elements. To be fair, however, Rees contributes a general introduction to land use planning. If he relies upon the dominant and rather narrow southern view of planning, he does so because the elements of a unique northern view have not yet come into focus.

The papers by Fenge and Richardson, which follow Rees's introduction, are solid contributions. Fenge, drawing on his experience with the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC) itself and with the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN), traces the development of the federal government's land use planning program. He documents the social and political resistance among natives and non-natives alike to the centralized nature of the early attempts and, in doing so, is able to highlight the definite political aspects of land use planning clearly. Richardson addresses the technical issues of land use planning and its relationships with other forms of land management, including environmental assessment and regional planning. His paper affords an opportunity to ponder the relative merits of these established forms and the place of land use planning among them. That there is continuing confusion about land use planning and its relationship to these other processes serves to underline the political issues to which Fenge draws attention.

The next group of papers presents views of the federal government's land use planning initiatives from specific interests in the North. Staples's paper focuses on the struggle between the federal government and the Yukon territorial government over land use planning, a struggle based on the deeper issues of land claims settlement and provincial status. In the Yukon, concerns over land use planning merged into questions of political control. Bankes presents the position of the TFN on land use planning. That view re-emphasizes the one found in Staples's paper that land use planning cannot be divorced from wider questions such as land claims settlements. For the TFN, land use planning ". . . establishes the ground rules" (p. 110). Bayly's paper brings the focus to the relationship between non-renewable resource developments in the Beaufort Sea and land use planning. His paper points out quite well the difficulties associated with connecting environmental assessment structures, such as the federal Environmental Assessment Review Process, with any form of land use planning, a question explored somewhat more abstractly by Richardson earlier in the book.

The final paper, from Jacobs and Kemp, is significant for two reasons. First, it provides a case study against which land use planning initiatives and issues in the North may be compared. Secondly, Jacobs and Kemp address an issue that has not appeared in the previous contributions, namely, the make-up of information that can be used to produce plans and to make decisions. This is not so much a question of the amount of information available as it is one of what constitutes scientific information. In their paper, Jacobs and Kemp point out that information collection itself is a part of the issue of control of land use planning. If local people, native or non-native, are to be in positions of influence in land use planning, they must be supported by their own information collection strategies.

In spite of its numerous strengths, the book has several weaknesses, only one of which might be classed as major. That major weakness is the absence of a paper dealing with the planning issues associated with the use of the sea. There is no doubt that both renewable and non-renewable resource use have marine dimensions. Moreover, native cultures make extensive use of the sea. The strict adherence to the "land" in land use planning is not warranted, especially if the editors wish to do more than lip service to the idea of a uniquely northern type of land use planning. Other complaints are minor. A federal government view might be of assistance in appreciating the view from Ottawa. Perhaps greater prominence might be accorded the problems associated with reconciling scientific and "traditional" forms of information.

This book will be of considerable use to those people who have recently become interested in northern affairs. It effectively serves to