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Review of Deer of the Southwest: A Complete Guide to the Natural History, Biology, and Management of Southwestern Mule Deer and White-Tailed Deer.

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Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

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Deer of the Southwest: A Complete Guide to the Natural History, Biology, and Management of Southwestern Mule Deer and White-Tailed Deer. By Jim Heffelfinger. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2006. xx + 282 pp. Maps, photographs, figures, tables, literature cited, index. \$24.95 paper.

Very few books on the subject of deer in any particular region lend themselves to being complete. Jim Heffelfinger's book breaks the mold. It is by far the most

comprehensive book on mule deer and white-tailed deer in the southwestern part of the United States, including Plains portions of Texas, Colorado, and New Mexico, I've ever read. Everything you ever wanted to know about these two deer species can be found in its pages, starting from the natural history and early evolution of deer into the New World, separation into two species, selection of habitat types by the two, general management for these deer in the Southwest region, and specific southwestern state management programs. All of this under one cover and written in a style easy enough for the layperson to understand, but scientific enough for the professional biologist.

Heffelfinger does an excellent job in researching the various topics his volume covers. Of special interest to me was the historical perspective and influences deer had on the earliest human inhabitants and culture of the region. *Deer of the Southwest* is a pleasure to read and should be a part of every deer enthusiast's library. **Ruben Cantu**, *Regional Director for Wildlife, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department*.