

Needless to say, the officials in question found no contradiction in their own actions. Sandlos persuasively argues that to support commercial and recreational hunting while disparaging traditional hunting required denigrating aboriginal people and practices:

The presence of unruly Native hunters in Canada's hinterland regions was inimical to the implementation of modern and scientific wildlife management intended to produce a usable surplus of wild game. ...By the account of most conservationists, both Aboriginal people and the animals they hunted needed the rational guidance of state wildlife managers in order to have any chance of survival. (p. 12)

Putting these ideas into practice meant restricting hunting, "educating" aboriginal hunters, and creating game preserves that were strictly off-limits. For people trying to feed their families as they had always done, these approaches caused hardship and eventually led to dependence on aid from government and others. The regulations also systematically disenfranchised those who spent time away from their homelands. Fort Chipewyan trapper Alfred Benoit, for example, was initially classified as a half-breed and thus forced to leave the Wood Buffalo National Park area. Later, having obtained the status of a Treaty Indian, he petitioned to be allowed to resume his trapping activities in the park. Sandlos observes:

The assertion of state authority over wildlife in Wood Buffalo National Park was not limited to restrictions on Native hunting and trapping activities, but also caused dramatic changes to community, kinship, and cultural relationships among the Cree and Chipewyan communities in the region. ...To ignore the game regulations was, in a sense, an act of political restoration, an attempt to return to a time before an arbitrary and largely impersonal state bureaucracy mediated the relationship between humans and nature in the region. (p. 75)

At the same time, wildlife agencies were promoting ranching of big game in the hopes of providing a stable source of food and income. In part, this goal was guided by the belief (which has had many promoters over the years) that ranching would be an improvement over the uncertainties of the hunting way of life. In contrast to fur trapping,

The proposed ranching demanded a much broader transformation of economic and social life, however, entailing the marginalization of the hunting and trapping economy, the introduction of capitalism to the region, the transformation of Native hunters into wage labourers, the intensive management of wildlife for the purposes of production, and the further entrenchment of the North as a staple-producing region for southern commodity markets. (p. 235–236)

Sandlos offers useful (if tentative) conclusions about the implications of this history for present-day wildlife management and state-aboriginal relations in Canada, showing that history continues to shape the present, and that re-examining history can help illuminate current dilemmas and open new options for future action. *Hunters at the Margin* is well written, well produced, and a valuable contribution to the ongoing evaluation of the meanings of the North for those who live there, those who are new arrivals, and those for whom it looms large in imagination and expectation.

REFERENCE

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PENGUINS OF THE WORLD. By WAYNE LYNCH. Richmond Hill, Ontario: Firefly Books. ISBN: 978-1-55407-274-3. 175 p., maps, colour illus., further reading, index. Softbound. Cdn\$24.95.

Very nicely illustrated with numerous photos by the author, this volume provides a synopsis of what a traveler to the Southern Ocean might want to know about penguins before going there. Indeed, Wayne Lynch, as a naturalist and lecturer, has made many "ecotour" trips to southern coasts. The book summarizes what he has learned on his trips and in his library searches, illustrating points well with his photos. Throughout, the author sprinkles the text with his own experiences and anecdotes told by others who first discovered penguins for themselves in the early days. Almost all species are treated to some degree, though the author, whose experience is somewhat broader than the usual ecotour, focuses on such species as the gentoo penguin, the king penguin, and a few of the crested penguins found on sub-Antarctic islands.

A preface tells how the author acquired his wealth of knowledge about penguins and who his heroes are among students of penguinology. The main text is broken into six chapters, followed by two appendices, a section on "further reading," and an index.

Chapter 1, "Blueprint of a Penguin," reviews the attributes shared by all penguins, as well as some of those that distinguish penguins from other marine vertebrates. Lynch briefly describes the evolution of the penguin, as well as various morphological adaptations that aid penguins in what they do. Included is a table comparing the average length and body mass of the 17 extant species of penguins.

Chapter 2, “Penguin Haunts,” reviews the habitats in which penguins are found and discusses how these birds can cope with a range of conditions, from the intense tropical sun of the Galapagos Islands to the chilling cold of the Antarctic winter. The chapter closes with a subsection called “Penguin Imposters” about auks, members of the avian family Alcidae, which could be termed “imposters” only by a true penguin aficionado. Included in this discussion are anecdotes about the fate of penguins that have been taken by humans to the Northern Hemisphere.

Chapters 3 and 4, “Sex and the Single Penguin” and “Family Life,” go into the social systems and behavior of these birds, as does Chapter 6, “The Cycle Ends.” Subjects covered include advertising, pair bonding and breakup, egg laying, and chick rearing, as well as the penguins’ interactions with the scavengers and predators associated with their colonies, a topic also treated in Chapter 5.

Chapter 5, “Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner,” discusses what penguins eat and how they catch their prey, as well as a bit more on what eats them at sea. I was intrigued by the author’s attempts to explain why penguins don’t eat more fish than they do and—not to criticize the author’s expertise or insights—by the fact that like many other researchers, he has been tricked by what Daniel Pauly, renowned University of British Columbia fishery biologist, refers to as the “sliding baseline syndrome.” A myth circulating rampantly among biologists studying the Southern Ocean is that it is still pristine, or nearly so, and has been altered recently only by the pressures of climate change. Most have forgotten about the millions of whales that lived there well before they began to “practice ecology,” and the repercussions on the ecosystem of their loss. But more importantly, they have lost track of the vast schools of fish that used to ply the waters of the banks and shelves ringing the Antarctic and sub-Antarctic islands and the continental shelves of Antarctica itself. While Lynch makes an admirable attempt to explain why there are no fish, it is apparently not within his ken that, quite simply, we humans have eaten them all, having vacuumed clean important areas during the 1960s and 1970s (a fact well documented in at least three books on fishes; see Gon and Heemstra, 1990; Kock, 1992; Duhamel et al., 2005). No wonder that present-day penguins eat krill and squid, and no wonder that the book’s Appendix 2, “Penguins and People,” describes briefly how humans have affected the well-being of penguins—but without a word about industrial fishing.

Appendix 1, “Penguins of the World,” presents for each species a short text and a map detailing where it lives, its population size, and its status, though Lynch does not specify the source of the status information.

Anyone planning a trip to the Southern Ocean, especially to experience its natural world, should read this book from cover to cover. It will also be of interest to anyone who wishes to develop a fuller appreciation of penguins and who doesn’t have the time or resources to review the primary literature, some of which is listed under “Further Reading” at the end of the book.

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- EIGHT MEN IN A CRATE: THE ORDEAL OF THE ADVANCE PARTY OF THE TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION 1955–1957. By ANTHEA ARNOLD. Based on the diary of RAINER GOLDSMITH. Norwich and Huntingdon, United Kingdom: The Erskine Press and Bluntisham Books, 2007. ISBN 978-1-85297-095-6. 133 p., maps, b&w illus. Softbound. £12.75.

Starting with Robert Falcon Scott’s 1901–04 Antarctic Expedition, the British Commonwealth had launched nine land expeditions to Antarctica prior to the Vivian Fuchs and Edmund Hillary Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition in 1955. The author of *Eight Men in a Crate* based her story principally on the diary of the advance party’s young medical officer, Rainer Goldsmith. Anthea Arnold also relied on access to photographic materials and reflections by other members of the expedition. As was the case with Shackleton’s unsuccessful 1914 Trans-Antarctic expedition, when that expedition’s support party was left to endure a miserable winter on the shores of the Ross Sea, Vivian Fuchs’ Trans-Antarctic Expedition also overshadowed and diminished the extraordinary ordeal of an advance party of eight men left to winter in Antarctica in 1955.

Dr. Goldsmith’s first impression of the 650-ton motor vessel, *Theron*, their transport to Antarctica, sounds familiar to readers of other 20th-century British expedition accounts. The vessel was small, heavily loaded above and below deck with crates, dogs, barrels, coal, materials for the expedition hut, even track vehicles and a relatively new addition to Polar exploration, an airplane. Fuchs’ Trans-Antarctic plans called for the advance party, under the leadership of Kenneth Blaiklock, to establish “Shackleton Base” near Vahsel Bay in the Weddell Sea. The expedition hut was to be erected at the base before the *Theron* headed home, leaving eight men behind.

Goldsmith’s descriptions of conditions onboard are easily imagined. In the heat of the equatorial passage, the smell of dogs, suffocating lack of ventilation in the cabins,