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Summer 2011

Cities and the Environment Editor, Eric Strauss, provides an introduction to the Summer 2011 issue. He discusses the journal's transition to its new home at Loyola Marymount University and the creation of the Center for Urban Resilience and Ecological Solution, while underscoring highlights of the special topics section on Urban Predators. The contributors to this section participated in the International Symposium on Urban Wildlife and the Environment hosted by the Wildlife Society at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in June of 2009. Finally, Dr. Strauss notes the breadth of our issue by mentioning the additional articles' focus on rain gardens, water quality, arthropod diversity, green roofs, and socio-ecological dynamics.

Welcome, dear readers, to the Summer 2011 Edition of *Cities and the Environment*. We are delighted to report that CATE has a brand new look and new home in Los Angeles as part of the digital collections of Loyola Marymount University. The journal's move is part of my shift from Boston College to LMU where I have accepted a new faculty appointment as Presidential Professor of Urban Ecology. We are developing a new *Center for Urban Resilience and Ecological Solution* (CURES) that includes undergraduate and graduate programs in urban ecology, community based research programs, secondary school science program development and a new urban natural history facility dedication to wetlands ecology called the Ballona Discovery Park. CATE Journal is an integral part of the scholarship and community engagement effort of the Center for Urban Resilience and we are enthusiastic to have the opportunity bring CATE to such a vibrant region for urban ecology scholarship and practitioner engagement. We are delighted to be in Los Angeles and look forward to expanding the breadth of our scholarship and recruiting new scholars as editors and advisors.

We are grateful to the Loyola Marymount University, especially Glen Johnson-Grau (Collection Development Librarian) and Carmen Mitchell (Digital Projects Librarian) for working diligently to make the move possible and for being such great hosts. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the Boston College Library for hosting the journal since its inception in 2008 and to Berkeley Electronic Press (BE Press) for their continued capacity to provide the digital infrastructure for this journal. Finally, it is our great good fortune to report that Anne Cumming has agreed to remain as our Managing Editor from her perch in Morgantown, West Virginia with the USDA Forest Service. Her efforts and the cooperation of the USDA Forest Service are a vital resource for the journal.

Our selection of offerings for this edition includes a suite of papers that came from a special session of the International Symposium on Urban Wildlife and the Environment hosted by the Wildlife Society at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in June of 2009. The session was Chaired by Camilla Fox (The Coyote Project) and Seth Riley (U.S. National Park Service) and focused on urban coyotes (*Canis latrans*), their ecological role in human-dominated communities and the future options for managing the expanding populations. We feature three papers from that session. First, Jonathan Way reports the trends in the spatial movement pattern data of coyotes from his long term study in Massachusetts. His data reveal the incredible mobility of this species, with radio-telemetered animals averaging nearly 24km over a 24-hour period. Second, Stan Gehrt considers the ecological role that coyotes play in urbanized habitats in the Chicago Metropolitan area. His data suggest a paradox, in that coyote density and survival are enhanced in urban habitats, but behavioral responses from coyotes suggest that they adapt strong patterns of human avoidance. Finally, Mitchell, et al. consider the role of human food subsidies on the behavior of coyotes studied in southern Rhode Island. Their

findings suggest that humans dramatically alter the foraging ecology and home range of local coyotes through both intentional and unintentional provisions of food. Food subsidies resulted in dramatically smaller home ranges. When the food subsidies were removed, coyote home ranges increased and new foraging areas were added. These studies, considered together, paint a very complex picture of coyotes as urban residents. The questions posed by these authors will spur research for the next ten years. We thank Camilla Fox for her contribution as a guest editor for this special edition.

In addition, we have three general papers that range from investigations of urban water quality and arthropod diversity to a multi-scalar approach to understanding residential landscapes. We hope you enjoy the articles in this edition and find them a useful resource in your research, teaching or management activities. We encourage your submission of papers, presentation of ideas for special editions and eagerness to serve on our editorial board. Thank you for supporting CATE through your readership and for the commitment to healthy and sustainable urban communities.