

ISBE Newsletter

International Society for Behavioral Ecology

www.behavecol.com

Supplement to *Behavioral Ecology*

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O B I T U A R Y

Rauno Alatalo (1952 – 2012)

On November 9, 2012, we received the sad message that Professor Rauno Alatalo, University of Jyväskylä, Finland, had passed away. He was a very good friend of ours, so of course we were desolate. Our grief, however, was mixed with relief, for Rauno had been suffering a serious illness for several years. Sometimes, we thought, death brings escape and liberation.

Rauno Alatalo came to the Department of Animal Ecology at Uppsala University in 1979 and stayed until the end of 1985. He had obtained a grant to come and finish his doctoral training, and in December 1980 he defended his thesis titled "Bird Communities in Boreal Forests". It was based on many years worth of data collected in the subarctic forests around his home university city, Oulu, and those of us, who got an opportunity to accompany him in the field for a few days, could only gasp at his perseverance even under the worst of all possible weather conditions.

After having obtained his Ph.D. Rauno decided to stay at the Department of Animal Ecology in Uppsala, where he quickly became a stimulus and a model in our rapidly growing research programme of evolutionary behavioural ecology. Not until seven years later did he return to Finland, where he had gained a research position at the University of Jyväskylä. Of course our close collaboration continued in spite of the spatial separation. With admiration we followed



how, on his new homeground, he rapidly built a research activity that soon attracted a great deal of international attention. In 1994 he was appointed Professor of Ecology, and from 2001 until his retirement in 2009 he was the leader of a Centre of Excellence in Evolutionary Biology, both positions at the University of Jyväskylä.

Many traits converged to make Rauno such a brilliant researcher and research leader. He had an extraordinary ability to identify important scientific problems and suggest ways of tackling them. He was a master of designing experiments and employing computer modelling (years before this had become commonplace), without forgetting for a second that the study objects were real animals living "out there". His enthusiasm after discussions had ended and time had come to proceed from words to action was contagious. He was a co-founder of the department's "flycatcher project", which resulted in approx. 25 doctoral theses (and more in the pipeline). A prominent interest of Rauno's was the evolutionary background of lekking behaviour, which also became a subject of research by himself and a team around him. Some of the results of both these extremely successful projects have been summarized in books (references appended).

Not only did Rauno during his seven years in Uppsala carry out so much excellent research of his own, but he also greatly enhanced the spirit of team-working among all

researchers at the department. More than one of the then doctoral students, now professors at various universities, have said that even after so many years they still feel greatly influenced and inspired by Rauno's attitude and in difficult moments ask themselves – "how would Rauno have done to solve this problem?". A good many prominent visitors to the department have admitted that after an evening's discussion with Rauno they felt a need to carefully reconsider their plans in light of the insights they had gained.

More than anything, however, we shall remember Rauno as a friend in need and a friend indeed. We treasure our memories from the bright days when he was in our midst and meant so much to each and all of us.

Mats Björklund, Lars Gustafsson, Jacob Höglund, Arne Lundberg, Anders Pape Moller, Juan Moreno, Staffan Ulfstrand

Books coauthored by Rauno Alatalo
Lundberg, A. & Alatalo, R. V. 1992. The Pied Flycatcher. – T. & A. D. Poyser, London. 267 pp.
Höglund, J. & Alatalo, R.V. 1995. Leks. – Monographs in Behavior and Ecology, Princeton U.P., Princeton, N. J. 248 pp.

I S B E 2 0 1 4

ISBE 2014 New York, USA

The 2014 conference of the International Society for Behavioral Ecology will be held in New York City, USA, in collaboration with CABI: the CUNY Animal Behavior Initiative at the Department of Psychology, Hunter College, City University of New York.

We hope that you can join us to continue the society's tradition of high quality science presented in a fast-paced conference setting by diverse participants.

This will also be a chance to catch up with friends and collaborators, and to meet brand new and smart ones, all the while exploring our home, New York City!

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Prof. Thomas Seeley, Cornell University
Assoc. Prof. Elizabeth Tibbetts, University of Michigan
Prof. Karen Strier, University of Wisconsin, member of the USA National Academy of Sciences
Dr. Sarah Pryke, Australian National University
Prof. Juan Carlos Reboreda, University of Buenos Aires;

and ISBE's 8th W. D. Hamilton Memorial Lecturer:

Prof. Marlene Zuk, University of Minnesota

Please register your interest on the new website:
<http://www.isbe2014.com/> or contact
contact@isbe2014.com

Mark Hauber, Hunter College, CUNY



The poster for the ISBE 2014 Conference in NYC features a collage of images including the Empire State Building at night, a map of the world with ISBE highlighted, a bird's nest, and a person in a field. Text on the poster includes:

- HUNTER IS CUNY** (top left logo)
- HUNTER** The City University of New York (top right logo)
- ISBE 2014 Conference in NYC:**
- July 31- August 5, 2014**
- Contact and updates:**
- contact@isbe2014.com**
- http://www.isbe2014.com/**
- © H. Spence

The first electronic ISBE newsletter

This is it! The very first ever ISBE newsletter transmitted electronically only! We hope that most if not all society members have been able to access the newsletter through the advertised link.

The decision to go electronic only is based on a desire to operate with greater sustainability, by avoiding paper and shipping. It may however take a little while before the we all get used to the new system, and I hope to count on your patience and feedback.

We have the opportunity to discuss how the new electronic delivery of the newsletter is working during the AGM at the 2014 meeting in New York.

If you have any questions or suggestions in the please email me (marie.herberstein@mq.edu.au).

As always, my special thanks goes to Richard Peters, web master extraordinaire who relentlessly upkeep the society webpages.

Mariella Herberstein, Macquarie University

ISBE PHOTO COMPETITION

2014 ISBE photo competition is now OPEN

The Please send your best photos to (isbephotocomp@gmail.com) by February 1st 2014. The winner and runners up will be announced in the 2014 Spring ISBE newsletter.

Prizes will include book prizes from Oxford University Press for winning entries for each of the three categories. The winning photographs will be published on the ISBE website (www.behavecol.com).

Categories

Behavior and interactions: Photos should depict aspects of behavior or behavioral interactions between organisms.

Behavioral Ecology in action: Photos should relate to conducting research in behavioral ecology and could include field work or experiments.

Student Prize: Photos should depict any aspect of behavior and behavioral ecology.

Competition rules

- The competition is open to current (2013) ISBE members only
- Applicants can only submit one photograph per category and the same photo can not be submitted for more than one category
- All photos must be accompanied by an entry form available from www.behavecol.com that describes the species name and a description of the scene.
- Entries must be digital images saved in TIFF, JPEG or RAW file.
- Digital enhancements must be kept to a minimum and must be declared. Both the original and the enhanced image must be submitted.
- All submitted files must include the entrant's surname in the file name.
- A panel of judges appointed by the ISBE executive will judge the entries and their decision is final. Winning entries will be announced in the March ISBE newsletter and displayed on the ISBE website. Winners will be notified by email.
- It is a condition of entry that all submissions are entered under a Creative Commons License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/deed.en_GB), will be displayed on the ISBE website and may be used for non-commercial purposes.
- The ISBE does not accept any responsibility should an entry be lost, damaged or the submission be delayed. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.
- The closing date for entries is 1st of February 2014.

New Address

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New Journal *Animal Migration*

Animal Migration is an international journal that publishes cutting-edge research on the biology of migratory species. We strive to present a forum where all aspects of migratory biology can be discussed, from genetics and physiology to ecosystem-level interactions between migrants and their environment and everything in between—and, of course, the orientation and navigation of migratory animals.

Animal Migration an open access journal, published by Versita (www.versita.com). Volume 1 of Animal Migration is freely available online at <http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/ami.2012.1.issue/issue-files/ami.2012.1.issue.xml>

The polyandry revolution

Royal Society Publishing has just published The polyandry revolution, compiled and edited by Tommaso Pizzari and Nina Wedell. See – <http://bit.ly/Q7doj3> for further details or you can go straight to the issue contents at <http://rstb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/368/1613.toc>

Facebook page for *Behavioral Ecology*

Behavioral Ecology has recently launched a Facebook page <<https://www.facebook.com/behecol>>. We hope that this page will serve as a social media hub for the journal, providing a forum for *Behavioral Ecology* readers and authors to discuss the research published within the journal.

We encourage critical evaluation and debate on the papers we publish, and for authors to "socialize" their science. No longer is it sufficient to publish scientific research in learned journals. In a modern world with ever increasing numbers of journals and publications, we need to ensure our work gets noticed, read, and cited. We hope that our Facebook page will provide authors with the forum to do just that.

Leigh Simmons, Editor in Chief, *Behavioral Ecology*

Science or mammon? The choice should be easy

In 'Behavioral Ecology - Report from the Editor-in-Chief,' Simmons (2012) identifies several ways to pursue the worldly riches represented by the ISI Impact Factor (IF) of *Behavioral Ecology*, one of which is '... I and my editors will be working to identify submissions that are unlikely to be cited and to reject them.' The submissions that the editors hope to identify for immediate rejection are those that they deem unlikely to be cited within the two-year period following publication, a metric used in calculating a journal's IF.

Although we do not fault the editors for wanting to increase the quality of *Behavioral Ecology*, or even its IF, we think the focus of this particular approach is fraught with obvious pitfalls. We are certain that all ISBE members would agree that only sound, quality science that advances the field should be published in *Behavioral Ecology*, so the question becomes would this policy help to accomplish this worthy goal? We think not. First, the policy's implementation would depend on a level of scientific prescience that heretofore perhaps only funding agencies have dared to claim. Editors are not immune to the intrinsic biases that all of us harbor about what is, and is not, important, and view the world through that prism. Predictions about future impact are best left to the external review process. Second, there is always the possibility that an innovative paper addressing a hitherto un-appreciated topic will fail to be cited in the years immediately following publication only to be 'discovered' and widely cited later.

Consider, for example, the seminal paper by Parker (1979), which was largely ignored for the first few years following its publication, but helped establish an entire field of inquiry within behavioral ecology, namely, sexual conflict (Arnqvist and Rowe 2005). Finally, this and the related approach of pre-screening submissions for immediate rejection without review, which is apparently on the increase (see Cooke and

Lapointe 2012 and references therein), seem associated with the wide-spread belief that increasing rejection rates will increase the IF, an assumption that is called into question by the recent finding that 'Resubmissions [manuscripts rejected by journal A and later published in journal B] were significantly more cited than first-intents [manuscripts first submitted to journal A and published in journal A] published in the same year in the same journal.' (Calcagno et al. 2012). This result led Bowers (2012) to suggest that editors could increase the quality and the IF of their journals by giving authors increased opportunities to revise and resubmit their manuscripts rather than to increase rejection rates. We endorse that suggestion, and hope that our editors will consider such issues in their on-going quest to maintain and improve the quality of *Behavioral Ecology* in the service of science.

Charles F. Thompson and Scott K. Sakaluk
School of Biological Sciences, Illinois State University

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R E S P O N S E

Science of course

Our aim with *Behavioral Ecology* is to make it the journal of choice for behavioral ecology research. It would be naive to think that researchers do not consider the impact factor of a journal when deciding where to publish, and as such we must strive to keep *Behavioral Ecology* strong. I appreciate Thomson and Sakaluk's concern, and emphasis here that it is not our intention to allow impact factors to drive our decision processes. Our mission is, first and foremost, to publish the best quality science that is available to us. If we achieve that, the IF will follow because good science gets cited. We actively seek papers, such as Parker's seminal contribution on sexual conflict, that offer novel conceptual advances as these contributions progress science, however long they may take to be noticed. The fact is that some 30% of submissions to the journal are either outside of its remit, do not offer

robust scientific approaches to answering their central questions, or are too specialist to be of general interest to our readership. These are the manuscripts that we reject without review. And we do so for two important reasons. First, it saves authors the time required for reviewing and decision making, when there is little chance of success. And second, it avoids wasting referees time in reviewing manuscripts that are unlikely to be found suitable for publication. It is also a fact that when these manuscripts slip through and appear in the journal, they are never cited. Our aim is to publish only the best science, that is of general interest to our community.

Leigh W. Simmons
Editor-in-Chief, Behavioral Ecology

Video surveillance of nesting birds

Edited by Christine A. Ribic, Frank R. Thompson III & Pamela J. Pietz.

Studies in Avian Biology No. 43, University of California Press, 2012. 224pp

ISBN-978-0-520-27313-9

Everyone who studies wild birds has experienced the sinking feeling of visiting a nest expecting to measure eggs or band nestlings only to find it to be perfectly intact, but perfectly empty. Nest predation is common in birds, and yet in most cases the identity of the predator is unknown because of their stealth or their nocturnal habits. This presents a major problem for those studying threatened birds: how does one prevent or at least reduce nest predation if you don't know what is causing it? Many grassland birds in particular have been declining for decades because of low nesting success, but the reasons for the low success could only be guessed at because the nests of these species are well hidden and extremely difficult to observe directly. To overcome this problem several dedicated research groups have been carefully monitoring nests of a range of grassland birds using video cameras, and the results of over a decades' worth of effort are synthesized in this reasonably-priced and well-produced book, which arose out of a symposium held at the 2008 joint meeting of several North American ornithological societies. Although all of the chapters use data from North American birds and are heavily skewed toward grassland passerines, their habitats and ecology are not unique and thus the techniques and results described are relevant to a great many bird species across the world.

The book starts with a strong overview chapter by Pietz, Granfors and Ribic summarizing what we have learned about the breeding ecology of grassland passerines through the use of video cameras. The critical early advance was to confirm the long-held suspicion that predators, both diurnal and nocturnal, were the leading cause of nest failure, but sufficient comparable data are now available to analyze predator activity in more detail and thus illustrate the different challenges faced by conservationists across the continent. For example, mammals are the main nest predators of birds that breed in the north, while snakes and sometimes fire ants are the main predators of birds that breed in the south, although birds throughout the continent are all threatened by corvids, hawks and cowbirds. The fact that these predators use different methods to locate nests (sight, scent, thermolocation) highlights the difficulty of making general conclusions about nest predation between species and sites in the absence of hard evidence. The chapter also emphasizes that video surveillance is not restricted to threatened species, or to documenting predators. Video recordings are rapidly filling gaps in our

knowledge of the nesting biology of grassland birds, and also aiding in their conservation by improving the accuracy of how we gauge their success. For example, estimates of a species' productivity in different habitats are crucial for conservation efforts but without video evidence it can be very difficult to distinguish a nest that fledged successfully from a nest that was depredated close to fledging. Similarly, without video evidence it may not be possible to distinguish between nestlings lost through partial predation and those that were ejected by the parents after they starved because of low nestling food availability. Such misclassification of nest fates could lead to the wrong recommendations for a species' management.

The middle part of the book is divided into two broad sections on breeding behavior and behavioral responses to predation/predator identification. These featured a series of fairly short and snappy chapters presenting empirical data on such diverse topics as incubation, hatching and fledging times (in a range of species including several passerines, quail and shorebirds), patterns of parental nest attendance and nest defense, and an intriguing chapter by Slay et al. on nocturnal activity at the nest in shrubland and grassland passerines as measured using infrared equipment. The tables on nest fates and predator identification were fascinating, as some were expected whereas others were not (deer, mice, ground squirrels and other bird species not generally considered to be predatory).

These chapters are peppered with useful advice concerning the field deployment of cameras, knowledge that was hard-won during the early period of trial and error that inevitably accompanies the use of new technology. The chapters also highlight further data that can be gathered using video cameras at the nests of birds with different habitats and thus different predator assemblages, such as nestling begging rates and predation rates in relation to nestling age. These valuable data could be gathered from multiple latitudes and then be used to test long-standing and yet under-examined fundamental ideas like Skutch's hypothesis that parental nest visitation rates increase the risk of predation.

The book contains a very useful appendix listing all the publications that have used cameras to monitor nests, and a chapter by Cox et al. devoted to the technological aspects of recording convinced me that this list will likely increase exponentially thanks to relatively recent improvements in logistics. VHS cassettes have been replaced by small rewritable SD cards, the lifespan of rechargeable batteries has been extended, and the cost of storage devices like external hard drives has dropped. If cell phones are anything to go by, nest cameras are going to become smaller, more user friendly, and have better resolution.

Perhaps the most thought-provoking chapter was that by Thompson and Ribic on conservation implications once the nest predators are known. I appreciated the frankness with which they admitted that controlling some nest predators is simply not feasible, nor even desirable, and instead emphasized carefully planned habitat management and selective exclusion. I hope I do not sound cynical, but I found it difficult to visualize what this would specifically entail. For example, habitat management seems achievable in areas of mixed meadows and woodland with well-defined edges, but how one could minimize predation by snakes or hawks in a homogenous prairie without some serious intervention is less clear. Nevertheless, this uncertainty only serves to highlight

the challenges faced by conservation biologists, and I applaud their efforts. It is clear from this book that the thousands of hours spent in collecting and then watching video-tapes has answered the question of which predators are responsible for the reduced nesting success of grassland birds. The next question is how we use this information.

Ian Stewart

University of Delaware, USA

B O O K R E V I E W S

Urban Bird Ecology and Conservation

Edited by Christopher A. Lepczyk and Paige S. Warren
University of California Press 2012, 344 pages
ISBN: 9780520273092

Christopher Lepczyk and Paige Warren, editors of *Urban Bird Ecology and Conservation*, describe their volume as “a sequel of sorts to *Avian Ecology in an Urbanizing World*” (Marzluff et al. 2001), the influential text that helped introduce many biologists (myself included) to the myriad interesting topics that can and should be explored in anthropogenically altered environments. The field of urban ecology has seen many important discoveries since the publication of the latter volume in 2001, and thus a sequel was definitely warranted. However, much as I wanted to appreciate all that *Urban Bird Ecology and Conservation* has to offer, I am not entirely sure that it always succeeds in its goal.

As outlined in the introductory chapter, the book seeks to “explore the complex relationships between humans and birds.” To this end, it is divided into four sections covering broad themes associated with human-bird dynamics: Mechanisms and Urban-Rural Gradients (5 chapters), Citizen Science and Demography of Urban Birds (6 chapters), Human-Avian Interactions and Planning (5 chapters), and Future Directions (1 chapter).

Those who read the book from cover to cover will notice that the introductory sections of the individual chapters often contain similar information. This is understandable given that the volume is probably targeted towards people who will dip in and out of the chapters most relevant to their interests. However, this homogeneity of background/review information also means that particular issues are never addressed in much detail. Overwhelmingly, these “neglected” topics (e.g.,

morphological and physiological traits that vary along the urban gradient; anthropogenic noise- and habitat structure-induced alterations to communication behavior; effects of various types of anthropogenic pollution; effects of the urban environment on health and fitness) are those associated with individual species’ behaviors and life histories. Although these may not be as directly useful to conservationists as, say, population numbers and species distributions, they form the basis of exciting and thriving areas of urban bird research—and are incredibly important for understanding the mechanisms driving the persistence or demise of birds in urban environments.

Since this is a book designed to provide a comprehensive examination of the state of the field, I wish there had been even just a single review chapter summarizing what we now know about this diverse array of issues related to urban birdlife. To some extent, this does happen in the excellent and enlightening concluding chapter in which John Marzluff (persuasively) argues in favor of using urban ecosystems to study evolution in real time. Given that this chapter addresses future directions, it undoubtedly does belong at the end of the book; however, a literature review like the one contained in this section would have worked well at the beginning of the book in order to highlight the breadth of work being performed in urban environments and to characterize the field of urban bird ecology.

I also felt that several of the chapters might have worked better as journal papers—particularly because, as I mentioned above, they frequently addressed the same issues in a repetitive way. For example, while I whole-heartedly agree that citizen science is a wonderful way to simultaneously collect data and encourage public engagement in, and support of, conservation efforts, I do not think that the book needed four separate chapters on citizen

science projects. A single review chapter would have sufficed, leaving space for additional chapters addressing some of the “neglected” topics mentioned above.

Despite my misgivings about these issues, I do also think that the book contains many excellent and informative chapters—including the editors’ arguments about urban gradients (Chapter 1), Amanda Rodewald’s examination (Chapter 5) of avian communities, and Richard Fuller et al.’s (Chapter 16) look at human-bird interactions. The last of these chapters is located in the section of the book that I found most illuminating and novel: Part III, Human-Avian Interactions and Planning. This (especially Mark Hostetler’s Chapter 14) is essential reading for any avian ecologist who wants to generate data that will have practical applications in urban environments.

Thus, *Urban Bird Ecology and Conservation* is definitely worth reading, even if it is not the sort of definitive text that its predecessor was. It is worth mentioning that I am an animal behaviorist who hopes that my work on avian ecology will be useful to conservationists; I am not a manager, a planner, or any of the many other types of people found working on the “front lines” of conservation. As highlighted in the book, there continues to be a gap between researchers and those who apply their findings; It is, therefore, entirely possible that I have under-appreciated this volume because of my own narrow-minded focus. If that is the case, then my somewhat tepid feelings towards the volume may actually be proof of how much it is needed.

Caitlin R. Kight

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REFERENCES

Marzluff J, Bowman R, Donnelly R. (eds) 2001. Avian ecology and conservation in an urbanizing world. Norwell, Massachusetts, USA: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

Complete table of contents:

1. Preface (Warren and Lepczyk)
2. Using gradient analysis to uncover pattern and process in urban bird communities (Pennington and Blair)
3. From forests to cities: effects of urbanization on tropical birds (MacGregor-Fors et al.)
4. Does nest predation shape urban bird communities (Stracey and Robinson)
5. Evaluating factors that influence avian community response to urbanization (Rodewald)
6. Impacts of seasonal small-scale urbanization on nest predation and bird assemblages at tourist destinations (Kaisanlahti-Jokimäki et al.)
7. The use of citizen volunteers in urban bird research (Vargo et al.)
8. Painted bunting conservation: traditional monitoring meets citizen science (Rotenberg et al.)
9. A new approach to urban bird monitoring: the Tucson bird count (McCaffrey et al.)
10. Distribution and habitat of greater roadrunners in urban and suburban Arizona (DeStefano and Webster)
11. Edges, trails, and reproductive performance of spotted towhees in urban greenspaces (Smith et al.)
12. Post-fledging mobility in an urban landscape (Whittaker and Marzluff)
13. Avian conservation in urban environments: what do ecologists bring to the table? (Miller)
14. How biologists can involve developers, planners, and policymakers in urban avian conservation (Hostetler)
15. Predicting avian community responses to increasing urbanization (Hepinstall-Cymerman et al.)
16. Interactions between people and birds in urban landscapes (Fuller et al.)
17. Who feeds the birds? A comparison across regions (Lepczyk et al.)
18. Urban evolutionary ecology (Marzluff)

Behavioural Responses to a Changing World: Mechanisms and Consequences

Ulrika Candolin and Bob B.M. Wong, Oxford University Press, 2012, 256 Pp. ISBN 978-0-19-960257 (paperback)

This is an edited book that falls under the broad heading of "conservation behavior". It substantially differs, however, from the four original edited volumes (Clemmons & Buchholz 1997; Caro 1998; Gosling & Sutherland 2000; Festa-Bianchet & Apollonio 2003) that tried to show how knowledge of behavior might have potential to fine tune conservation theory and management strategy. Instead the 17 chapters in this book rigorously document how animals' behavior is changing to cope with the Anthropocene. Therefore it is light on conservation solutions but heavy on the mechanisms underlying behavioral changes and the population consequences of those changes. Perhaps this reflects the evolving field of conservation behavior with its retreat from asking (some would say begging) conservation biologists to listen to both behavioral ecologists and animal behaviorists to moving to the more academic task of documenting phenotypic responses to exploitation, urbanization, pollution and climate change. This volume makes it very clear that we are good at the second task.

Behavioral Responses to a Changing World is a mine of information about conceptual ideas and empirical findings that characterize the contemporary study of behavioral change, and it contains a deep seam of useful references so it is worth digging through it chapter by chapter. In chapter 1, López-Sepulcre and Kokko demonstrate through modeling how individual life histories can affect population persistence in the face of environmental change. Rosenthal and Stuart-Fox then give an overview of the mechanisms by which pollution and habitat change can affect signal production, transmission and signal reception.

Next Buchanan and Partecke outline how climate change, urbanization and pollutants can impact avian endocrine systems. Brown then shows how behavior shifts under environmental disturbance due to learning during development, interactions between learnt and innate responses, and social learning and the extent to which such shifts depends on the degree of behavioral plasticity and reaction norms.

Moving to chapters focusing on specific classes of behavior, Chaine and Clobert identify the costs and information involved in decisions to disperse and how habitat quality and fragmentation affect these. Gienapp explores the effects of rising temperatures on the timing of migration of birds and salmon. Ydenberg and Prins examine flexibility to both changing foraging opportunities as well as the extirpation and reintroduction of predators. Then, in a particularly impressive chapter, Moller shows how domestication, urbanization and global change affect reproductive behaviors including singing, timing of reproduction, mate choice and infanticide. Much of Moller's recent work focuses on these issues and his authority shows through.

Blumstein highlights the environmental factors that influence sociality and how people might perturb these influences. Finally, Hoover and Tylanakis show how environmental change alters species interactions in complicated ways: think of geographic range shifts of some but not all species, altered phenology of certain species, and introduction of new species into the community pool.

In the final section of the book, called *Implications*, Buskirk reports on the role of behavioral plasticity in enabling organisms to survive and reproduce in altered environments and its converse: maladaptive consequences of behavior that take the form of ecological traps. Pelletier and Garant explore the reciprocal interactions between individual behavior and population growth rates from a conceptual and empirical standpoint. Ratcheting up a level, Palkovacs and Dalton show how behavioral plasticity and rapid evolutionary change can affect ecosystem processes such as nutrient cycling and consumption.

There is another good discussion of reaction norms here. Phillips and Suarez then document the import of behavior in the spread of invasive species; (remember those wondrous and horrible cane toads *Rhinella marina* wreaking havoc across northern Australia). In chapter 15 the editors themselves discuss aspects of sexual selection in disturbed situations – those poor male beetles mating with beer bottles – and their population consequences.

In the penultimate chapter, Barrett and Hendry investigate how plastic responses or population level evolutionary changes affect population persistence or demise from a modeling perspective. This is the chapter that really bears down on the extent to which evolutionary change or behavioral plasticity can be responsible for allowing individuals to survive in a rapidly changing world – a subfield swimming with ideas but rather little data (Ghalambor et al 2007).

In the last chapter, Buchholz, the grand old man of conservation behavior, teams up with Hanlon to review whether behavioral approaches to studying wildlife disturbance have conservation relevance. They conclude that behavioral research is not yet suitable for guiding policy decisions in regards to people disturbing wildlife. This jab of realism reminds us that behavioral study often fails the conservation agenda (Caro 2007).

We all know the mantra about edited tomes: chapters are of variable quality and nobody reads them. Not so, on the first count with this volume. Virtually every contribution consists either of thought provoking ideas, a thorough review of the literature, or manages both. On the second count, I predict this book will prove the naysayers wrong too.

Conservation behavior has inched from being a laundry list of the potential ways in which behavioral knowledge could benefit conservation programs, to how it does affect reintroduction and captive breeding programs (Blumstein & Fernandez-Juricic 2010), now to documenting how so many species are changing their behavior in response to anthropogenic pressures in the wild. For me, this book resoundingly shows that animal behaviorists have now "got

the message”: studying behavioral responses to a changing world is intellectually challenging and extremely topical (Caro & Sherman 2013). Whether their behavioral findings will be of real help in crafting practical conservation solutions is still an open question.

Tim Caro, Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology and Center of Population Biology, University of California, USA

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Many thanks to everyone who sent in their photographs. We have received over 25 entries in three categories (Student Prize; Behavioral Ecology in Action; Behavior & Interaction). I am very pleased to announce the winners for all three categories, as judged by our panel consisting of the ISBE executive.

Student Prize: Oded Berger-Tal

Nubian ibex (*Capra nubiana*) during mating season in Midreshet Ben-Gurion, Israel



Behavior and Interaction: Per Terje Smiseth

A female burying beetle of the species *Nicrophorus vespilloides* regurgitates pre-digested carrion to a begging larva.



Behavioral Ecology in Action: Jolle Jolles

This photo was taken while tagging recently hatched jackdaw chicks to determine their parents' reproductive success.



ISBE Logo competition - Extended until September 01, 2013!

We have already had several entries the the new ISBE logo and want to encourage more submissions. In addition to fame and glory, there will be a book prize from Oxford University Press for the chosen logo. The logo will feature the ISBE website and the newsletter for everyone to admire. Entry closes September 01 2013 and winners will be announced in the Autumn 2013 ISBE newsletter. Please email your logo design to: isbephotocomp@gmail.com

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How to contribute to the newsletter

The ISBE Newsletter publishes Book Reviews, Conference and Workshop Reviews and Commentary Articles of interest to the International Society for Behavioral Ecology. The ISBE Newsletter will only consider work that is not already published or intended to be submitted for publication elsewhere.

Book Reviews: Reviews are generally solicited by the Editor as new books arrive at the office, and are deemed to be of interest to the society. Persons involved in the publishing of books who would like these to be considered for review in the Newsletter should contact the Editor and arrange for their publisher to forward a review copy to this office. Authors may submit a list of possible reviewers. Alternately, members who wish to review a particular text should contact the Editor. The Editor will provide reviewers with instructions and a style sheet. Reviews are typically 1500-2000 Words.

Workshop/Conference Reviews: Workshop and/or Conference reviews should be prepared in one of the following two formats. **Brief synopses** (max 1500 words) and **Longer reports** (max 3000 words) Graduate students and postdocs are strongly encouraged to consider contributing to writing these reports.

Cartoons: Cartoonists and other artists are encouraged to submit artwork, either in hardcopy, or as TIFF or high resolution (300 dpi) GIF files. All cartoons published in the newsletter will be credited to the illustrator, and will appear on the Newsletter's website (www.behavecol.com).

1st Argentine Congress on Behavioral Biology

15-17 April, 2013, Mar del Plata, Argentina
<http://www.grieta.org.ar/comporta/>

6th Snake Ecology Group Meeting

21-23 June 2013, Okinawa, Japan
gappa@ethol.zool.kyoto-u.ac.jp

19th International Congress of Arachnology

23-28 June 2013, Kenting National Park, Taiwan
<http://araneae.thu.edu.tw/ica2013/welcome>

Australasian Society of Study of Animal Behavior (ASSAB)

1-4 July 2013, Auckland, New Zealand
<http://www.assab.org/conference2013/>

2013 Joint Meetings of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists

10-15 July 2013 Albuquerque, New Mexico
<http://www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/>

50th Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society

28 July-1 August 2013, Boulder, Colorado, USA
<http://animalbehaviorsociety.org/>

Third International Conference on Invertebrate Vision

1-8 August 2013, Bäckaskog Castle, Sweden
<http://www.iciv.se/>

IEC/ASAB Behaviour2013 Conference

4-8 August 2013, Newcastle Gateshead, UK
www.iec2013.com

11th International Mammalogical Congress

11 - 16 August 2013, Belfast, Ireland
<http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/IMC11/>

XIV Congress of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology

19-24 August 2013, Lisboa, Portugal
<http://www.eseb2013.com/>

9th Conference of the European Ornithologists' Union

28-31 August 2013, University of East Anglia, UK
<http://www.norwich.eounion.org>

Ento '13 - "The evolution of insect mating systems: 30 years of Thornhill and Alcock"

4-6 September 2013, University of St Andrews, Scotland
<http://www.royensoc.co.uk/meetings>

37th Annual Meeting of the Waterbird Society

24-29 September 2013, Wilhelmshaven, Germany
www.waterbirds.org

9th International Veterinary Behaviour Meeting

26-29 September 2013, Lisbon, Portugal
www.ivbmportugal.org

8th Biannual Meeting of the Australasian Evolution Society

30 Sept - 2 October 2013, Geelong, Australia
<http://australasianevolutionsociety.com/conferences/>

4th Annual ISWE Conference

(International Society of Wildlife Endocrinology)
 14-16 October 2013 Chicago, USA
<http://www.iswe-endo.org/Conference.aspx>

....and beyond 2013

XVII IUSSI International Congress

13-18 July 2014, Cairns, Australia
<http://www.iussi.org/>

11th International Congress of Neuroethology

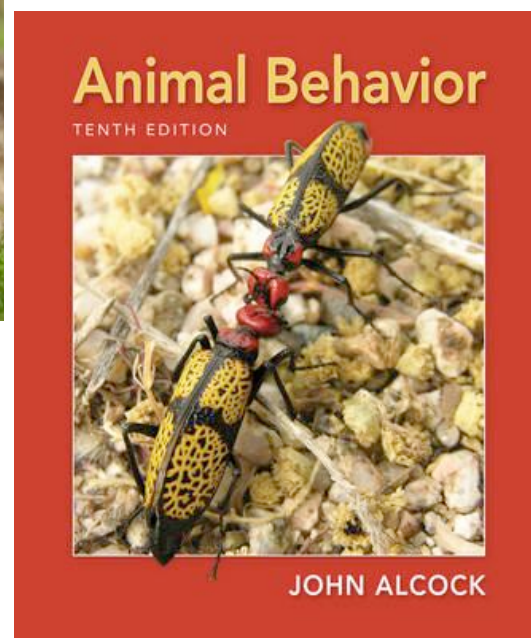
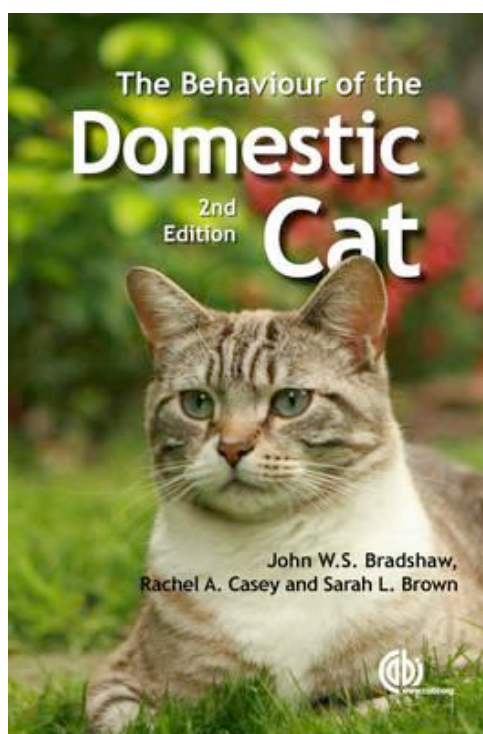
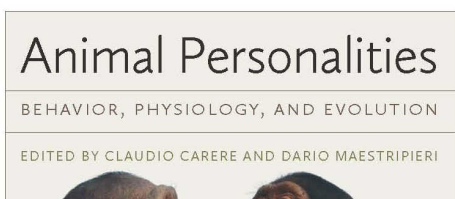
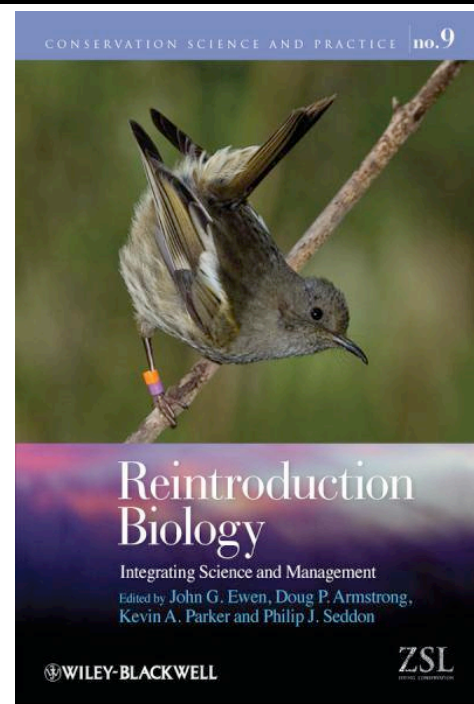
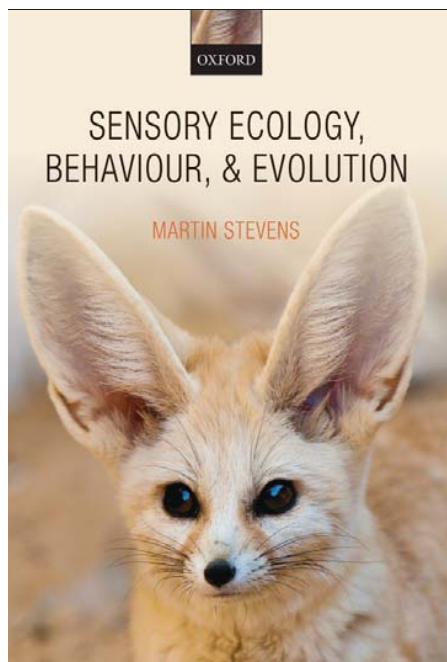
28 July-2 August, Sapporo, Japan
<http://icn2014.wordpress.com/>

Xth European Congress of Entomology

3-8 August, 2014, York, UK
<http://www.royensoc.co.uk/meetings>

ISBE2014

31 July-4 August, New York, USA
<http://www.isbe2014.com/>



If you are interested in receiving AND reviewing these books, please email me (marie.herberstein@mq.edu.au). The due date for the review is 01 September 2013.

BEHAVIORAL SYNDROMES



Personality Type: Jerk

Ken Otter, University of Northern BC, Canada