

Books on Nature Writing, Natural History, and National Parks

Below is a partial list of the many books on the natural environment available in the Leatherby Libraries. To get started reading nature writing and other books about natural history and national parks, begin at the Leatherby Libraries homepage, <http://www1.chapman.edu/library>. Just search for the title under Library Catalog. If you need any more suggestions, please stop by the Reference Desk.

***Walden* by Henry D. Thoreau**
PS3048.A2 S5 1971 - 2nd FL Humanities Books

Thoreau's daily life on the shores of Walden Pond in Massachusetts are intertwined with his reflections on self-reliance, society, and other topics.

***Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson**
QH545.P4 C38 1994
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

Influential in the history of the environmental movement, this classic book prompted revolutionary changes in environmental policy, including the banning of DDT.

***A Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold**
QH81.L56 1970
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

This is a classic text that explores the natural history of America. Originally published in 1949, it was written by Aldo Leopold, who believed in a mutually beneficial relationship between humans and nature.

***Essential Muir* by John Muir**
QH31.M9 A3 2006
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

This book is a varied collection of Muir's work that includes his scientific descriptions as well as writings that demonstrate his love for nature.

***The Mountains of California* by John Muir**
F866.M95 1993 - 2nd FL Humanities Books

This classic book describes the landscape and natural history of California's mountain ranges, focusing on the Sierra Nevadas.

***The Log from the Sea of Cortez* by John Steinbeck**
QL225.S74 1995
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

An interesting mixture of science, philosophy, and adventure, this is an account of Steinbeck's journey to the Gulf of California with biologist Ed Ricketts.

***The Measure of a Mountain* by Bruce Barcott**
F897.R2 B23 1998 - 2nd FL Humanities Books

This book describes the Mount Rainier, the largest volcano in the United States, intertwining accounts of trekking with natural and cultural history and a bit of philosophy.

***Organ Pipe: Life on the Edge* by Carol Ann Bassett**
QH105.A65 B37 2004
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

The beauty and mystery of the desert are portrayed in this book that explains the natural and cultural history of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in Arizona's Sonora Desert.

***Gathering the Desert* by Gary Paul Nabhan**
QK211.N33 1985
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

Divided according to the seasons of the year, this book looks at 12 native plants of the Sonoran desert and their uses by humans over time.

***A Place Called Grand Canyon* by Barbara J. Morehouse**
GF504.A6 M67 1996
2nd FL Social Science Library Books

In this geographical history, Morehouse examines the "greater Grand Canyon," an area that extends well beyond the parks boundaries, looking at the changes that have taken place over time and the relationships of people with this landscape.

***Yosemite: The Embattled Wilderness* by Alfred Runte**
QH105.C2 R86 1990
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

This book is an environmental history of Yosemite National Park, focusing on the management of natural resources.

***Challenge of the Big Trees* by Lary M. Dilsaver and William C. Tweed**
F868.S4 D55 1990 - 2nd FL Humanities Books

Illustrated with helpful maps, this is a human history of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Included are discussions about the effort to preserve the big trees and the establishment of the parks.

***Yellowstone: The Creation and Selling of an American Landscape, 1870-1903* by Chris J. Magoc**
F722.M23 1999 - 2nd FL Humanities Books

This is an environmental history of the founding years of Yellowstone National Park, discussing the Euro-American perception of the park, wilderness values, tourism and the railroad, extraction of resources, and how the park's current ecological well-being may be threatened by tourism and industrial development.

***One Day at Teton Marsh* by Sally Carrighar**
QL215.C3 1955
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

In timeless nature writing, Carrighar describes the activities of individual animals that inhabit a marsh in Grand Teton National Park. The stories connect with one another, showing the interaction of the inhabitants of this environment.

***Ansel Adams in the National Parks* edited by Andrea G. Stillman**
E160 .A297 2010 - 2nd FL Humanities Books

Accompanied by commentary and essays, this book includes more than 200 photographs by Ansel Adams of national parks and wilderness areas.

***The Snow Leopard* by Peter Matthiessen**
QH193.H5 M37 1978
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

This book is about Matthiessen's travels to study Himalayan blue sheep and the snow leopard, but it is also a spiritual journey through the remote mountains of Nepal.

***An Island Called California* by Elna S. Bakker**
QH105.C2 B3 1971
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

This classic in ecology examines the diverse environments and natural communities found throughout the state of California.

***Natural State* edited by Steven Gilbar**
QH105.C2 N425 1998
3rd FL Science & Technology Library Books

Essays, journal entries, and excerpts are included in this anthology of nature writing on California. Several well-known and less familiar authors are included, and the writings are arranged by geographic areas and features (e.g., mountains, the coast).