

BOOK REVIEW

***Mammals of Prince Edward Island and Adjacent Marine Waters.* R. Curley, P-Y. Daoust, D.F. McAlpine, K. Riehl, & J.D. McAskill. 2019. Island Studies Press at UPEI (University of Prince Edward Island), Charlottetown, PEI. 300 pp.**

A comprehensive guide to Prince Edward Island's mammals was published recently as a superbly produced soft-cover book. It covers in detail the 38 terrestrial mammals and 29 marine mammals of the island province and its surrounding waters, respectively, showing a remarkable biodiversity for this part of Canada. The book sections are organized taxonomically, covering seven Mammalian Orders, one of which (Order Carnivora) includes both terrestrial and aquatic species. For each species, there is a section for description, measurements, global range, the status on PEI, the animals' history on PEI, and its ecology, diet, reproduction, and behaviour.

Of special interest is the inclusion and details of species now extirpated from the Island. These include the wolf, black bear, Canada lynx, and caribou, and species introduced to the island, such as the woodchuck (unknown status) and white-tailed deer (no longer present). The book is beautifully illustrated with a full coloured drawing of each species, a range map, detailed drawings of tracks for the land mammals, and line drawings of each skull. The text is easy to read, with clear font. There is an excellent Glossary, an exhaustive and invaluable Reference listing, and an Index covering both common and scientific names of all the species.

The authors deserve great praise for researching and producing such a handsome and highly useful book. It is bound to become a classic reference. Sadly, it may be too large and heavy to be a practical field companion. This book should be of interest to every biologist engaged with the fauna of the Maritime Provinces, as well as to biology teachers in local schools and universities, and the outdoor-oriented public.

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