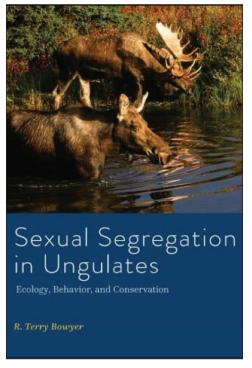
PRAIRIE NATURALIST BOOK REVIEWS

Sexual Segregation in Ungulates: Ecology, Behavior, and Conservation, by R. Terry Bowyer. 2022. John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. 184 pages. \$74.99 (hardcover). ISBN: 978-1-4214-4506-9.

Since the time of Charles Darwin, sexual segregation has been a consistent line of inquiry in ecology, behavior, conservation, and evolution, and thousands of academic publications have investigated the occurrence, causes, and consequences of sexual segregation across taxa. With such a rich body of literature, newcomers to the topic could easily be overwhelmed with where to start. In Sexual Segregation in Ungulates: Ecology, Behavior, and Conservation, Dr. R. Terry Bowyer, Professor Emeritus of Wildlife Ecology and Senior Research Scientist at the Institute of Arctic Biology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, provides a comprehensive overview of a topic that is challenging to even define because it sits between numerous disciplines, including



ecology, behavior, and conservation. It is an impressive collection of knowledge, written by an author who has been instrumental in understanding the operations and ramifications of sexual segregation in ungulates.

Sexual Segregation in Ungulates contains a synthesis of relevant ungulate ecology (Chapter 1); the occurrence, definitions, causes, and ecological implications of sexual segregation (Chapters 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7); how to detect and measure sexual segregation (Chapter 4); the implications of this biological phenomenon on management and conservation (Chapters 8 and 9); and what the future holds for this well-studied aspect of ecology (Chapter 10). The focus throughout the book is primarily on ungulates, although relevant examples from other taxa, ranging from plants to human, are incorporated where appropriate. The author has spent much of his career publishing articles about sexual segregation, yet he does not restrict information or selected examples to his own work; instead, he draws upon a large body of literature throughout the book, ranging from foundational ecology to contemporary investigations by a broad array of authors. Select, but informative, tables and figures are sprinkled throughout the book. When nuanced topics such as density-dependent recruitment are considered, the author provides a relevant primer for the reader. Each chapter ends with a succinct summary of the relevant points in the chapter.

This book is technical and scientific, and the author acknowledges in the Preface that "[t]he book is intended for scientists and students of science," though he believes that readers outside of science will still be able to access the information in the book (page x). Although the book is well-written for a scientific audience, I suspect that anyone other than the most studious and curious non-scientists will quickly put the book down because of its dense material. Readers who are entering graduate school to pursue research that

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concerns ungulate ecology or sexual segregation would likely be delighted by this comprehensive resource and read it cover to cover, but those pursuing other lines of inquiry would likely flip through the first and final chapters.

Sexual Segregation in Ungulates belongs on the bookshelf of any graduate student, professor, researcher, or manager whose work focuses on ungulates. The author convincingly presents the case throughout the book that sexual segregation is a critical, but often overlooked, aspect of ungulate ecology, behavior, and management, and improved understanding and management can only come through incorporating ideas of sexual selection.

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