

Conservation and Outdoor Literature

While the foundations of natural resource management are in science, the inspiration for this work is often reflected in the words of some of our nation's greatest writers and scientists. Literature can take us to places we've never been; it can help us understand the life of an animal or the movement of a river; it can examine the conservation challenges we face; and perhaps most importantly, it can deepen our appreciation for the world around us and inspire us to take care of it.

Natural History

Archie Carr
So Excellent a Fish:
A Natural History of Sea Turtles

Archie Carr
The Windward Road: Adventures of a Naturalist on Remote Caribbean Shores

Rachel Carson
Silent Spring



Rachel Carson and Bob Hines conducting marine biology research in Florida. (1952) FWS HISTORICAL FILES

Charles Darwin
The Origin of Species

David Gessner
Return of the Osprey:
A Season of Flight and Wonder

Aldo Leopold
Game Management

Luna Leopold
A View of the River

Robert McFarlane
A Stillness in the Pines: The Ecology of the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker

Richard Nelson
Heart and Blood:
Living with Deer in America

Eugene Odum
Fundamentals of Ecology

James T. Tanner
The Ivory Billed Woodpecker

Fiction

Willa Cather
O Pioneers!

William Faulkner
Big Woods: The Hunting Stories

Ernest Hemingway
The Nick Adams Stories

Ernest Hemingway
Old Man and the Sea

Ernest Hemingway
True at First Light

Jack Kerouac
The Dharma Bums

Barbara Kingsolver
Prodigal Summer: A Novel

Jack London
The Call of the Wild

Nick Lyons, editor
Fisherman's Bounty: A Treasury of Fascinating Lore and the Finest Stories from the World of Angling

Norman Maclean
A River Runs Through It and Other Stories

Robert Ruark
The Old Man and the Boy

Memoir

Edward Abbey
Desert Solitaire

William Bartram
The Travels of William Bartram

Bill Bryson
A Walk in the Woods

Christopher Camuto
Hunting from Home: A Year Afield in the Blue Ridge Mountains

Christopher Camuto
Another Country: Journeying Toward the Cherokee Mountains



Jane Goodall
Reason for Hope: A Spiritual Journey

Walt Harrington
The Everlasting Stream: A True Story of Rabbits, Guns, Friendship, and Family

Bernd Heinrich
A Year in the Maine Woods

William Least Heat-Moon
River-Horse: Across America by Boat

Ted Leeson
Jerusalem Creek: Journeys into Driftless Country

Aldo Leopold
A Sand County Almanac

Amanda Lollar
The Bat in My Pocket: A Memorable Friendship

John McPhee
The Founding Fish

N. Scott Momaday
The Names: A Memoir

Farley Mowat
Never Cry Wolf: Amazing True Story of Life Among Arctic Wolves

John Muir
The Mountains of California

John Muir
My First Summer in the Sierra

Mark and Cordelia Owens
Cry of the Kalahari

John Steinbeck and Edward Flanders Ricketts
Log from the Sea of Cortez

Henry David Thoreau
Walden

Terry Tempest Williams
Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place

E. O. Wilson
Biophilia

Essays

Edward Abbey
One Life at a Time, Please

Rachel Carson
The Sense of Wonder

Annie Dillard
Pilgrim at Tinker Creek

Ralph Waldo Emerson
Nature

Barbara Kingsolver
Small Wonder

Ted Leeson
The Habit of Rivers

Barry Lopez
Apologia

Jose Ortega y Gasset
Meditations on Hunting

Gary Snyder
The Practice of the Wild: Essays

Izaak Walton
The Compleat Angler or The Contemplative Man's Recreation

History

John James Audubon
Delineations of American Scenery and Character

Gail Fishman
Journeys Through Paradise

Bill Mares
Fishing with the Presidents

Marc Reisner
Cadillac Desert: The American West and Its Disappearing Water