

CONTENTS

CONTRIBUTORS vii

PREFACE ix

1. Ecology of Freshwater and Estuarine Wetlands:

An Introduction / 1

REBECCA R. SHARITZ, DAROLD P. BATZER,
AND STEVEN C. PENNINGS

What Is a Wetland? / 1

Why Are Wetlands Important? / 2

Characteristics of Selected Wetlands / 3

Wetland Loss and Degradation / 20

What This Book Covers / 21

2. Wetland Soils, Hydrology, and Geomorphology / 23

C. RHETT JACKSON, JAMES A. THOMPSON,
AND RANDALL K. KOLKA

Wetland Soils / 24

Hillslope and Wetland Hydrology / 34

Wetland Water Budgets / 50

Hydropatterns / 50

Wetland Hydraulics and Residence Time / 52

Geomorphic Controls on Wetland Hydrology / 54

Effects of Land Use on Wetland Hydrology / 58

3. Abiotic Constraints for Wetland Plants and Animals / 61

IRVING A. MENDELSSOHN, DAROLD P. BATZER,
COURTNEY R. HOLT, AND SEAN A. GRAHAM

Hydrology / 61

Salinity / 76

Acid Conditions / 82

4. Wetland Microbial Ecology and Biogeochemistry / 87

PAUL I. BOON, PETER C. POLLARD, AND DARREN RYDER

A Cast of Billions: The Taxonomic and Physiological
Diversity of Wetland Microbes / 88

Are Microbes Important to the Ecological Structure and
Function of Wetlands? / 97

How Can We Study Wetland Microbes? / 99

Microbial Habitats in Wetlands / 105

Biogeochemistry and Carbon Transformations / 109

Microbes, Plant Decay, and Nutrient Regeneration / 121

Microbial Autotrophy and Wetland Food Webs / 124

Microbial Heterotrophy and Wetland Food Webs: The
Microbial Loop / 127

5. Development of Wetland Plant Communities / 133

REBECCA R. SHARITZ AND STEVEN C. PENNINGS

The Importance of Hydrologic Conditions / 133

Plant Community Development / 136

Plant Distributions in Wetlands / 141

Primary Productivity / 147

Limiting Nutrients in Wetlands / 149

6. Wetland Animal Ecology / 151

DAROLD P. BATZER, ROBERT COOPER,
AND SCOTT A. WISSINGER

Trophic Ecology / 152

Community Ecology / 162

Focal Wetland Animals / 172

7. Carbon Dynamics and Ecosystem Processes / 185

SCOTT D. BRIDGHAM

The Basic Carbon Cycle: Metrics of Productivity and
Carbon Balance / 185

Breakdown and Decomposition of Organic Matter / 187

Anaerobic Carbon Cycling / 194

Why Do Wetlands Accumulate Soil Carbon? / 196

Dissolved Organic Matter Fluxes from Wetlands / 197

The Big Picture / 197

8. United States Wetland Regulation, Policy, and Assessment / 203

C. ANDREW COLE AND D. ERIC SOMERVILLE

Wetland Definitions / 204

Federal Jurisdiction of Wetlands / 206

Wetland Delineation / 218

Wetland Functions and Values / 219

Functional Assessment Methods / 220

9. Wetland Restoration / 225

SUSAN M. GALATOWITSCH AND JOY B. ZEDLER

Adaptive Management and Restoration / 227

Selecting Suitable Targets and Setting Restoration Goals / 230

Restoration Planning / 236

Restoration Methods / 243

Evaluating Progress and Long-Term Stewardship / 257

Restoration Challenges and Emerging Issues / 258

10. Consequences for Wetlands of a Changing Global Environment / 261

ROBERT R. TWILLEY AND MARK M. BRINSON

Assumptions / 263

Effects on Species Composition and

Redistribution / 266

Effects on Carbon Balance / 271

Effects on Wetland Ecogeomorphic Types / 273

Management and Policy Options / 282

LITERATURE CITED 287

INDEX 353