

CONTENTS

Preface 13

CHAPTER 1

1 The Nature of Ecology 17

- 1.1 Ecology Is the Study of the Relationship between Organisms and Their Environment 18
 - 1.2 Organisms Interact with the Environment in the Context of the Ecosystem 18
 - 1.3 Ecological Systems Form a Hierarchy 19
 - 1.4 Ecologists Study Pattern and Process at Many Levels 20
 - 1.5 Ecologists Investigate Nature Using the Scientific Method 21
 - QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 1.1: Classifying Ecological Data 23
 - QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 1.2: Displaying Ecological Data: Histograms and Scatter Plots 24
 - 1.6 Models Provide a Basis for Predictions 26
 - 1.7 Uncertainty Is an Inherent Feature of Science 26
 - 1.8 Ecology Has Strong Ties to Other Disciplines 27
 - 1.9 The Individual Is the Basic Unit of Ecology 27
 - ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS: Ecology Has a Rich History 28
- Summary 30 • Study Questions 31
• Further Readings 31

PART 1 THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

CHAPTER 2

2 Climate 32

- 2.1 Surface Temperatures Reflect the Difference between Incoming and Outgoing Radiation 33
- 2.2 Intercepted Solar Radiation and Surface Temperatures Vary Seasonally 35
- 2.3 Geographic Difference in Surface Net Radiation Result in Global Patterns of Atmospheric Circulation 35
- 2.4 Surface Winds and Earth's Rotation Create Ocean Currents 38
- 2.5 Temperature Influences the Moisture Content of Air 39
- 2.6 Precipitation Has a Distinctive Global Pattern 40

- 2.7 Proximity to the Coastline Influences Climate 41
 - 2.8 Topography Influences Regional and Local Patterns of Climate 42
 - 2.9 Irregular Variations in Climate Occur at the Regional Scale 43
 - 2.10 Most Organisms Live in Microclimates 44
 - ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS: Rising Atmospheric Concentrations of Greenhouse Gases Are Altering Earth's Climate 46
- Summary 49 • Study Questions 50
• Further Readings 50

CHAPTER 3

3 The Aquatic Environment 51

- 3.1 Water Cycles between Earth and the Atmosphere 52
 - 3.2 Water Has Important Physical Properties 53
 - 3.3 Light Varies with Depth in Aquatic Environments 55
 - 3.4 Temperature Varies with Water Depth 56
 - 3.5 Water Functions as a Solvent 57
 - 3.6 Oxygen Diffuses from the Atmosphere to the Surface Waters 58
 - 3.7 Acidity Has a Widespread Influence on Aquatic Environments 60
 - 3.8 Water Movements Shape Freshwater and Marine Environments 61
 - 3.9 Tides Dominate the Marine Coastal Environment 62
 - 3.10 The Transition Zone between Freshwater and Saltwater Environments Presents Unique Constraints 63
 - ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS: Rising Atmospheric Concentrations of CO₂ Are Impacting Ocean Acidity 64
- Summary 66 • Study Questions 67
• Further Readings 67

CHAPTER 4

4 The Terrestrial Environment 68

- 4.1 Life on Land Imposes Unique Constraints 69
- 4.2 Plant Cover Influences the Vertical Distribution of Light 70
 - QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 4.1: Beer's Law and the Attenuation of Light 72

- 4.3 Soil Is the Foundation upon which All Terrestrial Life Depends 74
- 4.4 The Formation of Soil Begins with Weathering 74
- 4.5 Soil Formation Involves Five Interrelated Factors 74
- 4.6 Soils Have Certain Distinguishing Physical Characteristics 75
- 4.7 The Soil Body Has Horizontal Layers or Horizons 76
- 4.8 Moisture-Holding Capacity Is an Essential Feature of Soils 77
- 4.9 Ion Exchange Capacity Is Important to Soil Fertility 77
- 4.10 Basic Soil Formation Processes Produce Different Soils 78

■ **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Soil Erosion Is a Threat to Agricultural Sustainability 80

Summary 83 • Study Questions 84
• Further Readings 84

PART 2 THE ORGANISM AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

5

Adaptation and Natural Selection 85

- 5.1 Adaptations Are a Product of Natural Selection 86
- 5.2 Genes Are the Units of Inheritance 87
- 5.3 The Phenotype Is the Physical Expression of the Genotype 87
- 5.4 The Expression of Most Phenotypic Traits Is Affected by the Environment 88
- 5.5 Genetic Variation Occurs at the Level of the Population 90
- 5.6 Adaptation Is a Product of Evolution by Natural Selection 91
- 5.7 Several Processes Other than Natural Selection Can Function to Alter Patterns of Genetic Variation within Populations 94
- 5.8 Natural Selection Can Result in Genetic Differentiation 95

■ **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 5.1: Hardy-Weinberg Principle** 96

■ **FIELD STUDIES: Hopi Hoekstra** 100

- 5.9 Adaptations Reflect Trade-offs and Constraints 102

■ **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Genetic Engineering Allows Humans to Manipulate a Species' DNA 104

Summary 106 • Study Questions 107
• Further Readings 108

CHAPTER

6

Plant Adaptations to the Environment 109

- 6.1 Photosynthesis Is the Conversion of Carbon Dioxide into Simple Sugars 110
- 6.2 The Light a Plant Receives Affects Its Photosynthetic Activity 111
- 6.3 Photosynthesis Involves Exchanges between the Plant and Atmosphere 112
- 6.4 Water Moves from the Soil, through the Plant, to the Atmosphere 112
- 6.5 The Process of Carbon Uptake Differs for Aquatic and Terrestrial Autotrophs 115
- 6.6 Plant Temperatures Reflect Their Energy Balance with the Surrounding Environment 115
- 6.7 Constraints Imposed by the Physical Environment Have Resulted in a Wide Array of Plant Adaptations 116
- 6.8 Species of Plants Are Adapted to Different Light Environments 117
- 6.9 The Link between Water Demand and Temperature Influences Plant Adaptations 123
- 6.10 Plants Exhibit Both Acclimation and Adaptation in Response to Variations in Environmental Temperatures 128
- 6.11 Plants Exhibit Adaptations to Variations in Nutrient Availability 130
- 6.12 Plant Adaptations to the Environment Reflect a Trade-off between Growth Rate and Tolerance 132

■ **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Plants Respond to Increasing Atmospheric CO₂ 133

Summary 136 • Study Questions 137
• Further Readings 138

CHAPTER

7

Animal Adaptations to the Environment 139

- 7.1 Size Imposes a Fundamental Constraint on the Evolution of Organisms 140
- 7.2 Animals Have Various Ways of Acquiring Energy and Nutrients 143
- 7.3 In Responding to Variations in the External Environment, Animals Can Be either Conformers or Regulators 144
- 7.4 Regulation of Internal Conditions Involves Homeostasis and Feedback 145

■ **FIELD STUDIES: Martin Wikelski** 146

- 7.5 Animals Require Oxygen to Release Energy Contained in Food 148
- 7.6 Animals Maintain a Balance between the Uptake and Loss of Water 149
- 7.7 Animals Exchange Energy with Their Surrounding Environment 151
- 7.8 Animal Body Temperature Reflects Different Modes of Thermoregulation 152
- 7.9 Poikilotherms Regulate Body Temperature Primarily through Behavioral Mechanisms 153
- 7.10 Homeotherms Regulate Body Temperature through Metabolic Processes 156
- 7.11 Endothermy and Ectothermy Involve Trade-offs 157
- 7.12 Heterotherms Take on Characteristics of Ectotherms and Endotherms 158
- 7.13 Some Animals Use Unique Physiological Means for Thermal Balance 159
- 7.14 An Animal's Habitat Reflects a Wide Variety of Adaptations to the Environment 161

■ **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Increasing Global Temperature Is Affecting the Body Size of Animals 162

Summary 164 • Study Questions 165
• Further Readings 166

PART 3 POPULATIONS

8

Properties of Populations 167

- 8.1 Organisms May Be Unitary or Modular 168
- 8.2 The Distribution of a Population Defines Its Spatial Location 169
 - **FIELD STUDIES: Filipe Alberto** 170
- 8.3 Abundance Reflects Population Density and Distribution 174
- 8.4 Determining Density Requires Sampling 176
- 8.5 Measures of Population Structure Include Age, Developmental Stage, and Size 178
- 8.6 Sex Ratios in Populations May Shift with Age 180
- 8.7 Individuals Move within the Population 181
- 8.8 Population Distribution and Density Change in Both Time and Space 182

■ **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Humans Aid in the Dispersal of Many Species, Expanding Their Geographic Range 183

Summary 186 • Study Questions 186
• Further Readings 187

9

Population Growth 188

- 9.1 Population Growth Reflects the Difference between Rates of Birth and Death 189
- 9.2 Life Tables Provide a Schedule of Age-Specific Mortality and Survival 191
 - **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 9.1: Life Expectancy** 193
- 9.3 Different Types of Life Tables Reflect Different Approaches to Defining Cohorts and Age Structure 193
- 9.4 Life Tables Provide Data for Mortality and Survivorship Curves 194
- 9.5 Birthrate Is Age-Specific 196
- 9.6 Birthrate and Survivorship Determine Net Reproductive Rate 196
- 9.7 Age-Specific Mortality and Birthrates Can Be Used to Project Population Growth 197

■ **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 9.2: Life History Diagrams and Population Projection Matrices** 199

- 9.8 Stochastic Processes Can Influence Population Dynamics 201
- 9.9 A Variety of Factors Can Lead to Population Extinction 201

■ **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
The Leading Cause of Current Population Declines and Extinctions Is Habitat Loss 202

Summary 206 • Study Questions 207
• Further Readings 207

10

Life History 208

- 10.1 The Evolution of Life Histories Involves Trade-offs 209
- 10.2 Reproduction May Be Sexual or Asexual 209
- 10.3 Sexual Reproduction Takes a Variety of Forms 210
- 10.4 Reproduction Involves Both Benefits and Costs to Individual Fitness 211
- 10.5 Age at Maturity Is Influenced by Patterns of Age-Specific Mortality 212
- 10.6 Reproductive Effort Is Governed by Trade-offs between Fecundity and Survival 215

- 10.7 There Is a Trade-off between the Number and Size of Offspring 218
- 10.8 Species Differ in the Timing of Reproduction 219
- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 10.1:** Interpreting Trade-offs 220
- 10.9 An Individual's Life History Represents the Interaction between Genotype and the Environment 220
- 10.10 Mating Systems Describe the Pairing of Males and Females 222
- 10.11 Acquisition of a Mate Involves Sexual Selection 224
- **FIELD STUDIES:** Alexandra L. Basolo 226
- 10.12 Females May Choose Mates Based on Resources 228
- 10.13 Patterns of Life History Characteristics Reflect External Selective Forces 229
- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:** The Life History of the Human Population Reflects Technological and Cultural Changes 231
- Summary 233 • Study Questions 234
- Further Readings 234

CHAPTER 11

Intraspecific Population Regulation 235

- 11.1 The Environment Functions to Limit Population Growth 236
- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 11.1:** Defining the Carrying Capacity (K) 237
 - **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 11.2:** The Logistic Model of Population Growth 238
- 11.2 Population Regulation Involves Density Dependence 238
- 11.3 Competition Results When Resources Are Limited 239
- 11.4 Intraspecific Competition Affects Growth and Development 239
- 11.5 Intraspecific Competition Can Influence Mortality Rates 241
- 11.6 Intraspecific Competition Can Reduce Reproduction 242
- 11.7 High Density Is Stressful to Individuals 244
- **FIELD STUDIES:** T. Scott Sillett 246
- 11.8 Dispersal Can Be Density Dependent 248
- 11.9 Social Behavior May Function to Limit Populations 248

- 11.10 Territoriality Can Function to Regulate Population Growth 249
- 11.11 Plants Preempt Space and Resources 250
- 11.12 A Form of Inverse Density Dependence Can Occur in Small Populations 251
- 11.13 Density-Independent Factors Can Influence Population Growth 253
- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:** The Conservation of Populations Requires an Understanding of Minimum Viable Population Size and Carrying Capacity 255
- Summary 256 • Study Questions 257
- Further Readings 258

PART 4 SPECIES INTERACTIONS

CHAPTER 12

Species Interactions, Population Dynamics, and Natural Selection 259

- 12.1 Species Interactions Can Be Classified Based on Their Reciprocal Effects 260
- 12.2 Species Interactions Influence Population Dynamics 261
- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 12.1:** Incorporating Competitive Interactions in Models of Population Growth 263
- 12.3 Species Interactions Can Function as Agents of Natural Selection 263
- 12.4 The Nature of Species Interactions Can Vary across Geographic Landscapes 267
- 12.5 Species Interactions Can Be Diffuse 268
- 12.6 Species Interactions Influence the Species' Niche 270
- 12.7 Species Interactions Can Drive Adaptive Radiation 272
- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:** Urbanization Has Negatively Impacted Most Species while Favoring a Few 273
- Summary 275 • Study Questions 276
- Further Readings 276

CHAPTER 13

Interspecific Competition 278

- 13.1 Interspecific Competition Involves Two or More Species 279
- 13.2 The Combined Dynamics of Two Competing Populations Can Be Examined Using the Lotka-Volterra Model 279

- 13.3 There Are Four Possible Outcomes of Interspecific Competition 280
- 13.4 Laboratory Experiments Support the Lotka–Volterra Model 282
- 13.5 Studies Support the Competitive Exclusion Principle 283
- 13.6 Competition Is Influenced by Nonresource Factors 284
- 13.7 Temporal Variation in the Environment Influences Competitive Interactions 285
- 13.8 Competition Occurs for Multiple Resources 285
- 13.9 Relative Competitive Abilities Change along Environmental Gradients 287
- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 13.1:** Competition under Changing Environmental Conditions: Application of the Lotka–Volterra Model 290
- 13.10 Interspecific Competition Influences the Niche of a Species 291
- 13.11 Coexistence of Species Often Involves Partitioning Available Resources 293
- 13.12 Competition Is a Complex Interaction Involving Biotic and Abiotic Factors 296
- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:** Is Range Expansion of Coyote a Result of Competitive Release from Wolves? 296
- Summary 298 • Study Questions 299
- Further Readings 300

Predation 301

- 14.1 Predation Takes a Variety of Forms 302
- 14.2 Mathematical Model Describes the Interaction of Predator and Prey Populations 302
- 14.3 Predator–Prey Interaction Results in Population Cycles 304
- 14.4 Model Suggests Mutual Population Regulation 306
- 14.5 Functional Responses Relate Prey Consumed to Prey Density 307
- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 14.1:** Type II Functional Response 309
- 14.6 Predators Respond Numerically to Changing Prey Density 310
- 14.7 Foraging Involves Decisions about the Allocation of Time and Energy 313
- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 14.2:** A Simple Model of Optimal Foraging 314
- 14.8 Risk of Predation Can Influence Foraging Behavior 314

- 14.9 Coevolution Can Occur between Predator and Prey 315
- 14.10 Animal Prey Have Evolved Defenses against Predators 316
- 14.11 Predators Have Evolved Efficient Hunting Tactics 318
- 14.12 Herbivores Prey on Autotrophs 319
- **FIELD STUDIES:** Rick A. Relyea 320
- 14.13 Plants Have Evolved Characteristics that Deter Herbivores 322
- 14.14 Plants, Herbivores, and Carnivores Interact 323
- 14.15 Predators Influence Prey Dynamics through Lethal and Nonlethal Effects 324
- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:** Sustainable Harvest of Natural Populations Requires Being a “Smart Predator” 325
- Summary 327 • Study Questions 328
- Further Readings 329

Parasitism and Mutualism 330

- 15.1 Parasites Draw Resources from Host Organisms 331
- 15.2 Hosts Provide Diverse Habitats for Parasites 332
- 15.3 Direct Transmission Can Occur between Host Organisms 332
- 15.4 Transmission between Hosts Can Involve an Intermediate Vector 333
- 15.5 Transmission Can Involve Multiple Hosts and Stages 333
- 15.6 Hosts Respond to Parasitic Invasions 334
- 15.7 Parasites Can Affect Host Survival and Reproduction 335
- 15.8 Parasites May Regulate Host Populations 336
- 15.9 Parasitism Can Evolve into a Mutually Beneficial Relationship 337
- 15.10 Mutualisms Involve Diverse Species Interactions 338
- 15.11 Mutualisms Are Involved in the Transfer of Nutrients 339
- **FIELD STUDIES:** John J. Stachowicz 340
- 15.12 Some Mutualisms Are Defensive 342
- 15.13 Mutualisms Are Often Necessary for Pollination 343
- 15.14 Mutualisms Are Involved in Seed Dispersal 344
- 15.15 Mutualism Can Influence Population Dynamics 345

- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 15.1: A Model of Mutualistic Interactions** 346
- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Land-use Changes Are Resulting in an Expansion of Infectious Diseases Impacting Human Health 347

Summary 349 • Study Questions 350
• Further Readings 351

PART 5 COMMUNITY ECOLOGY

CHAPTER 16

Community Structure 352

- 16.1 Biological Structure of Community Defined by Species Composition 353
- 16.2 Species Diversity Is defined by Species Richness and Evenness 354
- 16.3 Dominance Can Be Defined by a Number of Criteria 356
- 16.4 Keystone Species Influence Community Structure Disproportionately to Their Numbers 357
- 16.5 Food Webs Describe Species Interactions 358
- 16.6 Species within a Community Can Be Classified into Functional Groups 363
- 16.7 Communities Have a Characteristic Physical Structure 363
- 16.8 Zonation Is Spatial Change in Community Structure 367
- 16.9 Defining Boundaries between Communities Is Often Difficult 368
 - **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 16.1:**
Community Similarity 370
- 16.10 Two Contrasting Views of the Community 370
 - **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Restoration Ecology Requires an Understanding of the Processes Influencing the Structure and Dynamics of Communities 372

Summary 374 • Study Questions 374
• Further Readings 375

CHAPTER 17

Factors Influencing the Structure of Communities 376

- 17.1 Community Structure Is an Expression of the Species' Ecological Niche 377
- 17.2 Zonation Is a Result of Differences in Species' Tolerance and Interactions along Environmental Gradients 379
 - **FIELD STUDIES:** Sally D. Hacker 380
- 17.3 Species Interactions Are Often Diffuse 385

- 17.4 Food Webs Illustrate Indirect Interactions 387
- 17.5 Food Webs Suggest Controls of Community Structure 390
- 17.6 Environmental Heterogeneity Influences Community Diversity 392
- 17.7 Resource Availability Can Influence Plant Diversity within a Community 393
 - **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
The Reintroduction of a Top Predator to Yellowstone National Park Led to a Complex Trophic Cascade 396

Summary 398 • Study Questions 399
• Further Readings 400

CHAPTER 18

Community Dynamics 401

- 18.1 Community Structure Changes through Time 402
- 18.2 Primary Succession Occurs on Newly Exposed Substrates 404
- 18.3 Secondary Succession Occurs after Disturbances 405
- 18.4 The Study of Succession Has a Rich History 407
- 18.5 Succession Is Associated with Autogenic Changes in Environmental Conditions 410
- 18.6 Species Diversity Changes during Succession 412
- 18.7 Succession Involves Heterotrophic Species 413
- 18.8 Systematic Changes in Community Structure Are a Result of Allogenic Environmental Change at a Variety of Timescales 415
- 18.9 Community Structure Changes over Geologic Time 416
- 18.10 The Concept of Community Revisited 417
 - **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Community Dynamics in Eastern North America over the Past Two Centuries Are a Result of Changing Patterns of Land Use 421

Summary 423 • Study Questions 424
• Further Readings 424

CHAPTER 19

Landscape Dynamics 426

- 19.1 A Variety of Processes Gives Rise to Landscape Patterns 427
- 19.2 Landscape Pattern Is Defined by the Spatial Arrangement and Connectivity of Patches 429

- 19.3 Boundaries Are Transition Zones that Offer Diverse Conditions and Habitats 431
- 19.4 Patch Size and Shape Influence Community Structure 434
- 19.5 Landscape Connectivity Permits Movement between Patches 438
 - FIELD STUDIES: Nick A. Haddad 440
- 19.6 The Theory of Island Biogeography Applies to Landscape Patches 442
- 19.7 Metapopulation Theory Is a Central Concept in the Study of Landscape Dynamics 444
 - Quantifying Ecology 19.1: Model of Metapopulation Dynamics 445
- 19.8 Local Communities Occupying Patches on the Landscape Define the Metacommunity 447
- 19.9 The Landscape Represents a Shifting Mosaic of Changing Communities 448
 - ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS: Corridors Are Playing a Growing Role in Conservation Efforts 449
- Summary 452 • Study Questions 453 • Further Readings 454

PART 6 ECOSYSTEM ECOLOGY

20

Ecosystem Energetics 455

- 20.1 The Laws of Thermodynamics Govern Energy Flow 456
- 20.2 Energy Fixed in the Process of Photosynthesis Is Primary Production 456
- 20.3 Climate and Nutrient Availability Are the Primary Controls on Net Primary Productivity in Terrestrial Ecosystems 457
- 20.4 Light and Nutrient Availability Are the Primary Controls on Net Primary Productivity in Aquatic Ecosystems 460
- 20.5 External Inputs of Organic Carbon Can Be Important to Aquatic Ecosystems 463
- 20.6 Energy Allocation and Plant Life-Form Influence Primary Production 464
- 20.7 Primary Production Varies with Time 465
- 20.8 Primary Productivity Limits Secondary Production 466
- 20.9 Consumers Vary in Efficiency of Production 468
- 20.10 Ecosystems Have Two Major Food Chains 469
 - FIELD STUDIES: Brian Silliman 470

- 20.11 Energy Flows through Trophic Levels Can Be Quantified 472
- 20.12 Consumption Efficiency Determines the Pathway of Energy Flow through the Ecosystem 472
- 20.13 Energy Decreases in Each Successive Trophic Level 473
 - ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS: Humans Appropriate a Disproportionate Amount of Earth's Net Primary Productivity 474
 - QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 20.1: Estimating Net Primary Productivity Using Satellite Data 476
- Summary 477 • Study Questions 479 • Further Readings 479

21

Decomposition and Nutrient Cycling 480

- 21.1 Most Essential Nutrients Are Recycled within the Ecosystem 481
- 21.2 Decomposition Is a Complex Process Involving a Variety of Organisms 482
- 21.3 Studying Decomposition Involves Following the Fate of Dead Organic Matter 484
 - QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 21.1: Estimating the Rate of Decomposition 485
- 21.4 Several Factors Influence the Rate of Decomposition 486
- 21.5 Nutrients in Organic Matter Are Mineralized During Decomposition 489
 - FIELD STUDIES: Edward (Ted) A. G. Schuur 490
- 21.6 Decomposition Proceeds as Plant Litter Is Converted into Soil Organic Matter 493
- 21.7 Plant Processes Enhance the Decomposition of Soil Organic Matter in the Rhizosphere 495
- 21.8 Decomposition Occurs in Aquatic Environments 496
- 21.9 Key Ecosystem Processes Influence the Rate of Nutrient Cycling 497
- 21.10 Nutrient Cycling Differs between Terrestrial and Open-Water Aquatic Ecosystems 498
- 21.11 Water Flow Influences Nutrient Cycling in Streams and Rivers 500
- 21.12 Land and Marine Environments Influence Nutrient Cycling in Coastal Ecosystems 501
- 21.13 Surface Ocean Currents Bring about Vertical Transport of Nutrients 502

- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Agriculture Disrupts the Process of
Nutrient Cycling 503

Summary 506 • Study Questions 507
• Further Readings 508

Biogeochemical Cycles 509

- 22.1 There Are Two Major Types of Biogeochemical Cycles 510
- 22.2 Nutrients Enter the Ecosystem via Inputs 510
- 22.3 Outputs Represent a Loss of Nutrients from the Ecosystem 511
- 22.4 Biogeochemical Cycles Can Be Viewed from a Global Perspective 511
- 22.5 The Carbon Cycle Is Closely Tied to Energy Flow 511
- 22.6 Carbon Cycling Varies Daily and Seasonally 513
- 22.7 The Global Carbon Cycle Involves Exchanges among the Atmosphere, Oceans, and Land 514
- 22.8 The Nitrogen Cycle Begins with Fixing Atmospheric Nitrogen 515
- 22.9 The Phosphorus Cycle Has No Atmospheric Pool 517
- 22.10 The Sulfur Cycle Is Both Sedimentary and Gaseous 518
- 22.11 The Global Sulfur Cycle Is Poorly Understood 519
- 22.12 The Oxygen Cycle Is Largely under Biological Control 520
- 22.13 The Various Biogeochemical Cycles Are Linked 521
- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
Nitrogen Deposition from Human Activities Can Result in Nitrogen Saturation 521

Summary 523 • Study Questions 525
• Further Readings 525

PART 7 ECOLOGICAL BIOGEOGRAPHY

Terrestrial Ecosystems 526

- 23.1 Terrestrial Ecosystems Reflect Adaptations of the Dominant Plant Life-Forms 528
- 23.2 Tropical Forests Characterize the Equatorial Zone 530
- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 23.1:**
Climate Diagrams 531

- 23.3 Tropical Savannas Are Characteristic of Semiarid Regions with Seasonal Rainfall 533
- 23.4 Grassland Ecosystems of the Temperate Zone Vary with Climate and Geography 535
- 23.5 Deserts Represent a Diverse Group of Ecosystems 538
- 23.6 Mediterranean Climates Support Temperate Shrublands 540
- 23.7 Forest Ecosystems Dominate the Wetter Regions of the Temperate Zone 542
- 23.8 Conifer Forests Dominate the Cool Temperate and Boreal Zones 544
- 23.9 Low Precipitation and Cold Temperatures Define the Arctic Tundra 546
- **ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS:**
The Extraction of Resources from Forest Ecosystems Involves an Array of Management Practices 549
- Summary 552 • Study Questions 553
• Further Readings 554

Aquatic Ecosystems 555

- 24.1 Lakes Have Many Origins 556
- 24.2 Lakes Have Well-Defined Physical Characteristics 556
- 24.3 The Nature of Life Varies in the Different Zones 558
- 24.4 The Character of a Lake Reflects Its Surrounding Landscape 559
- 24.5 Flowing-Water Ecosystems Vary in Structure and Types of Habitats 560
- 24.6 Life Is Highly Adapted to Flowing Water 561
- **QUANTIFYING ECOLOGY 24.1:**
Streamflow 562
- 24.7 The Flowing-Water Ecosystem Is a Continuum of Changing Environments 564
- 24.8 Rivers Flow into the Sea, Forming Estuaries 565
- 24.9 Oceans Exhibit Zonation and Stratification 567
- 24.10 Pelagic Communities Vary among the Vertical Zones 568
- 24.11 Benthos Is a World of Its Own 569
- 24.12 Coral Reefs Are Complex Ecosystems Built by Colonies of Coral Animals 570

- 24.13 Productivity of the Oceans Is Governed by Light and Nutrients 572
- ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS: Inputs of Nutrients to Coastal Waters Result in the Development of "Dead Zones" 572

Summary 574 • Study Questions 576
• Further Readings 576

- 26.7 Regional Patterns of Species Diversity Are a Function of Processes Operating at Many Scales 603
- ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS: Regions of High Species Diversity Are Crucial to Conservation Efforts 604

Summary 606 • Study Questions 607
• Further Readings 607

Coastal and Wetland Ecosystems 577

- 25.1 The Intertidal Zone Is the Transition between Terrestrial and Marine Environments 578
- 25.2 Rocky Shorelines Have a Distinct Pattern of Zonation 578
- 25.3 Sandy and Muddy Shores Are Harsh Environments 580
- 25.4 Tides and Salinity Dictate the Structure of Salt Marshes 581
- 25.5 Mangroves Replace Salt Marshes in Tropical Regions 582
- 25.6 Freshwater Wetlands Are a Diverse Group of Ecosystems 583
- 25.7 Hydrology Defines the Structure of Freshwater Wetlands 585
- 25.8 Freshwater Wetlands Support a Rich Diversity of Life 587
- ECOLOGICAL ISSUES & APPLICATIONS: Wetland Ecosystems Continue to Decline as a Result of Land Use 587

Summary 589 • Study Questions 590
• Further Readings 590

Large-Scale Patterns of Biological Diversity 591

- 26.1 Earth's Biological Diversity Has Changed through Geologic Time 592
- 26.2 Past Extinctions Have Been Clustered in Time 593
- 26.3 Regional and Global Patterns of Species Diversity Vary Geographically 594
- 26.4 Various Hypotheses Have Been proposed to Explain Latitudinal Gradients of Diversity 596
- 26.5 Species Richness Is Related to Available Environmental Energy 598
- 26.6 Large-scale Patterns of Species Richness Are Related to Ecosystem Productivity 600

The Ecology of Climate Change 608

- 27.1 Earth's Climate Has Warmed over the Past Century 609
- 27.2 Climate Change Has a Direct Influence on the Physiology and Development of Organisms 611
- 27.3 Recent Climate Warming Has Altered the Phenology of Plant and Animal Species 614
- 27.4 Changes in Climate Have Shifted the Geographic Distribution of Species 615
- 27.5 Recent Climate Change Has Altered Species Interactions 618
- 27.6 Community Structure and Regional Patterns of Diversity Have Responded to Recent Climate Change 621
- 27.7 Climate Change Has Impacted Ecosystem Processes 623
- 27.8 Continued Increases in Atmospheric Concentrations of Greenhouse Gases Is Predicted to Cause Future Climate Change 624
- 27.9 A Variety of Approaches Are Being Used to Predict the Response of Ecological Systems to Future Climate Change 626
- FIELD STUDIES: Erika Zavaleta 628
- 27.10 Predicting Future Climate Change Requires an Understanding of the Interactions between the Biosphere and the Other Components of the Earth's System 633

Summary 635 • Study Questions 636
• Further Readings 637

References 639

Glossary 657

Credits 673

Index 683