

Interactions of LAND, OCEAN AND HUMANS

A Global Perspective

"... far more fun and educational than I ever anticipated. Through his work as a scientist and his personal experience, Chris takes the reader on a journey around the world to explain, understand, and appreciate the scientific, economic, and emotional linkages between the land, oceans, and people. He reminds us that our actions today are the choices that will determine the environmental legacy we leave for future generations. Also, that if the human species is to exist, we must do no harm to the very commons that support us at all levels of life. And, in conclusion, how we educate our youth will provide the foundation of hope needed to show the world that we must change our way of thinking if we are to save us from ourselves."

—Rollin R. Geppert, Forester, Washington State Department of Ecology

"This book is different. ... Chris Maser systematically describes often remarkably counterintuitive biophysical relationships and interactions. However difficult to understand and appreciate, everything, including humans and nonhumans, is an interactive, interdependent part of a system whole. And, forget about some idealized, reassuring notion of the balance of nature. Maser totally debunks such thinking with a hardy dose of cutting-edge science and common sense."

**—Robert T. Lackey, Professor, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife,
Oregon State University**

"All life is connected, a universal concept that in Maser's lyrical prose pulsates with the constant interchanges between land and sea. [The book] describes a planet of marvelous and intricate design too precious to defile. Yet defile it we have, as Maser recounts in unflinching detail. Despite his disheartening review of how badly humans have behaved since the advent of agriculture, Maser manages to leave us with optimism. The way forward, he says, is to reconnect what we have broken—to reestablish the global commons. He challenges us to mend our thinking with cooperative humility. Acting now will leave a sustainable world as our legacy to all generations. Who can resist that hope?"

—Jane Braxton Little, Writer/Photographer

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