

**Biology of Habitats**

## **The Biology of Polar Regions**

There is now an increased awareness of the importance of polar regions in the Earth system, as well as their vulnerability to anthropogenic-derived change, including of course global climate change. This new edition offers a concise but comprehensive introduction to polar ecology and has been thoroughly revised and updated throughout, providing expanded coverage of marine ecosystems and the impact of humans. It incorporates a detailed comparison of the Arctic and Antarctic systems, with a particular emphasis on the effects of climate change, and describes marine, freshwater, glacial, and terrestrial habitats. This breadth of coverage is unique in the polar biology literature.

As with other titles in the *Biology of Habitats Series*, particular emphasis is placed on the organisms that dominate these extreme environments, although pollution, conservation, and experimental aspects are also considered. This accessible text is suitable for both senior undergraduate and graduate students taking courses in polar ecology, often as part of a wider marine biology degree programme. It will also be of value and use to the many professional ecologists and conservation biologists requiring a concise overview of the topic.

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### **ABOUT INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR**

The International Polar Year (IPY) 2007–2008 represents one of the most ambitious coordinated international science programmes ever attempted. Researchers from over sixty countries and a broad range of disciplines are involved in this two-year effort to study the Arctic and Antarctic and explore the strong links these regions have with the rest of the globe.

Researchers in IPY 2007–8 have made a commitment to raising awareness about the polar regions and increasing the accessibility of science. This book is part of an internationally endorsed IPY outreach project.

For more information, please visit [www.ipy.org](http://www.ipy.org).

*The Biology of Polar Regions* is endorsed by the International Polar Year 2007–8.



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