

**R**ecent advances in molecular genetics and genomics have been embraced by many scientists in natural resource conservation. Today, several major conservation and management journals are using the "genetics" editors of this book to deal solely with the influx of manuscripts that employ molecular data. The editors have attempted to synthesize some of the major uses of molecular markers in natural resource management in a book targeted not only at scientists but also at individuals actively making conservation and management decisions. To that end, the text features contributors who are major figures in molecular ecology and evolution – many having published books of their own. The aim is to direct and distill the thoughts of these outstanding scientists by compiling compelling case histories in molecular ecology as they apply to natural resource management.

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Cover photo: Island Fox (*Urocyon littoralis*) is an endangered species, found only on California's Channel Islands and nowhere else on Earth. © Adam Blazczak

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