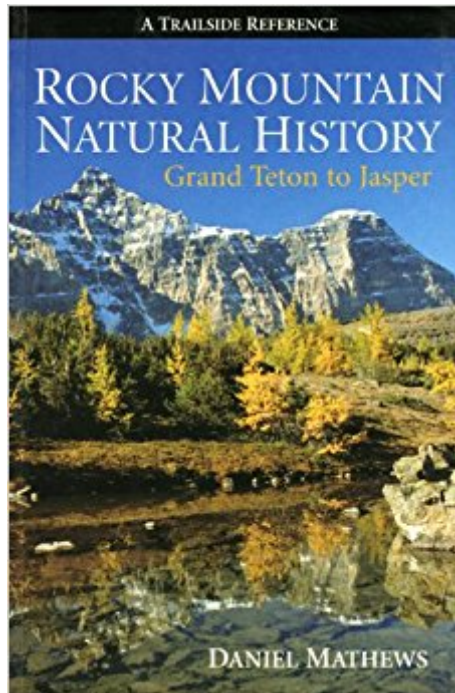




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# Rocky Mountain Natural History: Grand Teton To Jasper



## Synopsis

From majestic conifers to mosses and lichens, from grizzly bears to salamanders, from cutthroat trout to pine beetles, this reference offers a new approach to the concept of a field guide. Not only fun to read, its is infused with humor, passion, and lyricism. Author Daniel Mathews provides in-depth scientific information, informed by a broad array of current research. He covers a thousand species of plants, animals, fish, and insects found in the Rocky Mountains and discusses the geology, weather, and historic naturalist-explorers of the region. Includes information about Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Alberta, and British Columbia. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

## Book Information

Paperback: 600 pages

Publisher: Altitude Publishing; First Edition edition (October 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1551538180

ISBN-13: 978-1551538181

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 5.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #6,572,956 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 in [Books > Travel > United States > Idaho > General](#) #994 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Mountains](#) #119194 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > State & Local](#)

## Customer Reviews

"This book is exacting, funny, prophetic, sometimes dark, sometimes fantastic, and as rife with narrative pull as a fine novel. And that's only from an armchair. In the high country in summer it becomes a near-bible, opening a world that grows more mysterious and beautiful even as its grandeur is defined and its intricacies known. If I could own just ten books for the rest of my life, this guide to love of nonhuman neighbors would be one of them." --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

A field guide with a difference approach: fund to read with humour, personality and lyricism. Scientifically far-reaching and up to the minute, it covers a thousand plants, animals, fungi, microorganisms, rocks and historic naturalist-explorers, as well as the weather and geologic history

of a magnificent region shared by two provinces, five states, and ten national parks.

Rich in knowledge and style. Excellent.

i have been collecting native species books for the rockies for quite some time. i hike and work in the mountains and prairies of montana and am limited to what i can carry into the wild. this book is the best all encompassing book for anyone interested in identifying and knowing the world around them as they swagger through Montana's great wilderness areas!

Excellent book, well written and designed. Only draw back is it has only black and white illustrations.

I found this book last fall and can't praise it enough. Mathews has found a way to give us a nature guide that emphasizes the interconnectedness of the varied ecosystems of the Rockies with clarity and depth. This is a guide that opens up the diverse worlds of fauna, flora, weather and geology. In addition, in one of the appendices there is a marvelous essay on "scientific latin" drawing out in plain english those tags and phrases that are so confusing when needing to consult texts written by technical researchers. Its an exceedingly well written volume. As the back cover blurb by David James Duncan says, "This book is exacting, funny, prophetic, sometimes dark, sometimes fantastic, and as rife with narrative pull as a fine novel."

Mathews Cascade Olympic Natural History has been a delightful companion for years. It has so much more than "what kinda bird is that" and his new book has much more. When you take it along, and want to savour somewhere from Jasper to the Tetons, there is much to delight. Material the non-specialist can't find anywhere, such as the appendix on scientific names. I used to learn them to try to sound knowledgeable, but no more. Daniel's details on climate change force the reader to think for herself. The only other book like it is Ben Gadd's on the Canadian Rocky Mountains. They really complement one another.

You can find tomes about wildflowers or geology that may be more encyclopedic than Mathew's work, but for its sheer enjoyable style, comprehensiveness and breadth, there's nothing like Rocky Mountain Natural History (except maybe its companion Cascade-Olympic Natural History). This book reads the way the hiker or traveler thinks while exploring the wilds; where one's curiosity extends seamlessly from one inquiry to the next. Written in elegant yet efficient style, it's a page-turner. One

comes away from a reading more knowledgeable and appreciative of the interconnectedness of the natural world.

A field guide for those who go afield in fear of guides, this 656-page tome is by turns hilarious, stern, ominous, playful, instructive, instructed, and is more linguistically alive (Sphagnum species specialize than any member of the field guide family I've ever encountered.

This book is a noble effort but will leave the reader somewhat disappointed. The author should have reduced the scope of the book and provided more information on fewer topics. The result is a superficial 'all in one' book that is not satisfying for the natural history keener.

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