

# Preface

Ten years ago when I put together the first *Primates in Fragments* book, I had great hope for the business of damaged habitats. Even as I was initially gathering the chapters for this second volume—calling in the experts and seeking new authors—I was sure the story we would tell would be one of promise: that somehow our combined efforts over the last decade had made a difference to the lives of primates around the world. Don't get me wrong, in many ways I believe we did have an impact: one of awareness, if nothing else, that Fragmentation Science is its own discipline and that primates that experience these landscapes have a different skill set than those that live in continuous habitat.

The first volume, subtitled “Ecology and Conservation,” was meant to show promise and movement in the field. This volume, “Complexity and Resilience,” is meant to show our maturity in the field. We know there are issues that primates and the people who live with them face. We know there are challenges to conservation and the study of these animals. We also know both primates and people are managing in many cases in very bleak circumstances. Every decade brings a new host of stories about primates in fragments that we are eager to tell, as many species' very existence depends upon us paying attention to them, even in the worst of habitats.

Compared to the first *Primates in Fragments*, where we had 51 authors from 10 countries and 4 sections with 21 chapters, we have 104 authors from 23 countries and 7 sections with 34 chapters in this volume. In the first volume, there was only one chapter on genetics, seven on population dynamics, seven on behavioral ecology, and five on conservation and management. In this volume we branch out. We had far more genetics chapters than we could include, but settled on six that discuss not only advances in genetic work on primates in disturbed habitats, but also diseases and parasites. New to this volume are the Long-Term and Regional Studies and Endemic, Endangered, and Nocturnal sections. The latter is of particular relevance since it is likely in the next decade, we will see more and more chapters on endangered primates in fragmented landscapes. Several things have become clear in the last 10 years: more people are studying primates in damaged habitats, more people acknowledge fragmentation as distinct science, and more people have a concern for them.

No collected work is ever perfect, and we certainly have some holes. For one, we do not have any chapters on apes this time, and in the section on long-term studies some obvious sites are missing. But unlike the introductory nature of the first volume, we go deeper in this volume into topics like climate change, disease, and survivability. This time, it starts and ends with conservation because without a collective focus on habitat loss in general and how best to mitigate it, our forest-dwelling primate species are doomed.

I am grateful that the first *Primates in Fragments* has had over 500 citations for all of the chapters combined, has been used by universities and classes as a text book, and has been a go-to reference for students all over the world. And I am even more grateful that the first volume will be available electronically with this one, so that even more people can get a good, inexpensive resource that can be made available in even the remotest campuses.

When I was 18, I was standing in a rainforest before I ever knew what one was. In high school in southern California, our biology texts had a final chapter in them called “Environment.” It in part had two paragraphs and one photo on each of the major biomes—including rainforest—and a paragraph about conservation. We never got to that chapter. I always wanted to read the texts that started with environment as a cohesive unit, or that started with conservation. Now we have two excellent volumes where students can be informed about the current tropical landscape. It is my hope to everyone reading about forest fragments for the first time that you understand what you are getting into before you are standing in one.

I have to thank all of the contributing authors and especially my co-editor Colin A. Chapman without whom we would not have this finished book. He very consistently and enthusiastically nudged me to keep going on it and helped mightily with the editing of individual chapters.

We are also two of the first in the new generation of authors and editors of primate books to put our money where we say our conscience lies: both Colin and I will donate all of our personal proceeds from the sale of this book to the International Primatological Society’s Conservation Fund. We challenge other authors in our field to do the same.

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