

# **Conservation Biology: Evolution in Action**

Scott P. Carroll and Charles W. Fox (editors)

## **Guidelines for Authors**

### **Current state of the book proposal**

We have had excellent success in gathering the community of colleagues to create this book. We envision approximately 25 subjects in five sections. We will be published by Oxford University Press. We anticipate a final length of approximately 300,000 words and 150 figures, or approximately 550 pages.

### **Objectives of the book**

A growing number of evolutionists are focusing on conservation issues, an area which has until now been more the province of population and community ecologists. The main goal of this book is to encourage and formalize that infusion of evolutionary thinking into mainstream conservation biology. In this book we will review the evolutionary foundations of conservation issues, and unify conceptual and empirical advances in evolutionary conservation biology. In doing so we will provide a volume that can be used as either a primary textbook or a supplemental reading in an advanced undergraduate or graduate course. The focus of chapters should thus be on current concepts in evolution as they pertain to conservation, and the empirical study of these concepts. This balance will help us to avoid composing exhaustive reviews, which are not a goal of this book.

When writing chapters, keep in mind that we intend this book to be suitable for two types of audience. First, we intend it to be used in courses/seminars in Conservation Biology and in some case Evolutionary Ecology. Second, because chapters will also provide a synthetic overview of the modern state of evolutionary ecology and conservation, we intend that the book will be of general interest to researchers and students in both evolution and conservation biology.

### **Format of chapters**

To ensure that this book achieves its objectives, we have invited authors to contribute chapters in their respective areas of specialization. Since you are invited for your expertise, you will have flexibility concerning the content of your chapters, but we emphasize that that your syntheses should cross taxonomic and methodological boundaries to illustrate unifying concepts. Authors will also have flexibility concerning the structure of your chapters, but we request that you use the following rough outline/sections:

- A. Introduction – A brief overview of the problem of interest and where the chapter will be going.
- B. Concepts – Modern concepts; overview of theoretical advances, recent empirical advances. This section should illustrate concepts, and use examples to illustrate concepts, but should not be an exhaustive review of the subject.
- C. Case studies – A brief review of one or two examples that illustrate the key points you discussed in the concepts section of the chapter, and that illustrates some of

the techniques used to answer questions in this field. In most cases, this will be a review of the your own work, but feel free to review other case studies instead of, or in addition to, your own work.

- D. Future directions – suggestions from you on where the field is headed, and what empirical/theoretical issues need to be explored.
- E. Suggestions for future reading – 3 to 5 references of more extensive reviews, or other manuscripts that students should read to better familiarize themselves with this subject.
- F. References Cited – To ensure that chapters are conceptually oriented and not extensive reviews, please cite *no more than 40* references.

Because many of the chapters discuss overlapping subject matter, we (the editors) will carefully coordinate the efforts of authors so that we can (a) reduce repetitiveness of concepts/topics across chapters and (b) ensure that chapters build upon each other as the reader progresses through the book.

The chapters in section 1 should assume that readers have had experience in ecology and evolution equivalent to the level of a senior undergraduate or first year graduate student. However, authors should assume little background in genetics beyond that which would be obtained in an introductory course, and that most readers will not yet appreciate the dynamic nature of contemporary evolution. The remaining chapters in the book should assume that readers have read the chapters in section 1 and thus have a basic understanding of the mechanisms of evolution. All authors can assume that readers have read the chapters that precede them in the volume. At the same time authors should explain the relevance and importance of their material to conservation issues.

### **Content of Section Introductions**

The editors will write an introduction to each section of the book. These introductions will be written after all chapters have been submitted (first versions) and will be used to introduce basic concepts we deem essential to understanding the chapters in the specific section.

### **Reference Style**

Manuscripts should contain a References Cited section formatted as in a recent issue of *Evolution*, with no more than 40 references.

### **Length**

All chapters must be < 8000 words with 6 or fewer tables/figures. This is a constraint that will be necessary to keep the volume to an acceptable length. Authors may trade off text length for additional figures.

### **Text Boxes**

Authors are encouraged to use text boxes to explain concepts that do not fit within the main body of the text but are relevant to/necessary for the chapter. Authors should coordinate content of text boxes with the editors to ensure that they do not overlap with content covered in other chapters. Note that the material in a text box counts towards the chapter length limits.

## Figures and Tables

Figures may be original artwork or previously published figures of your own work or another person's work. Most publishers will permit re-publication of figures when requested. However, to use previously published figures you **must** obtain permission (in writing) prior to submitting the final version of the manuscript. When using previously published figures, indicate in the figure legend the source of the figure.

## Time Frame

We are targeting a submission date of 1 January 2006. Following this date, it will take approximately 1 year to typeset and produce the book. We thus intend to follow this schedule:

Outlines of chapters	1 May 2005
First versions of chapters due	15 March 2006
Reviewing of chapters	15 March to 15 June 2006
Final versions of chapters due	15 September 2006
Submission to Oxford	15 October 2006

*Outlines of chapters* – All authors will be asked to e-mail the editors a short outline of their chapter. The outline will be reviewed by the editors and shared with other authors that are writing similar chapters. The editors will take responsibility for passing information between the authors and encouraging authors to communicate directly with each other. We understand that outlines may evolve during the writing of chapters, so authors will not be required to adhere strictly to the details of their outline, but will need to coordinate changes with other chapters with which material may overlap. This small effort will substantially improve the overall quality of the volume.

*Due dates* – Due dates were chosen to ensure that we have adequate time to review and revise chapters before submission of the final chapters to the publisher. We realize that authors are busy, that writing these chapters requires substantial time, and that you are dedicating time to this project in part as community service. For your time and help, we are very grateful. However, we must also insist that chapters are submitted by the due dates. We will not be pests, but will provide the organizational structure and assist you in utilizing it on an ongoing basis.

*Reviews* – To ensure rigorous standards, and to get advice regarding revisions, each chapter will be reviewed by the editors plus two other people (generally one other contributor to the book plus an outside person). The editors will ensure that chapters are written to be accessible by an audience of diverse background, that chapters are not excessively repetitive of each other, and that major topics in evolutionary genetics are not overlooked in the appropriate chapters.