

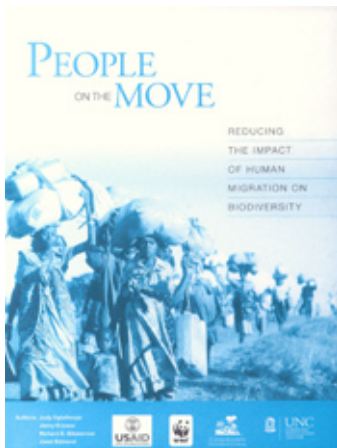
The chapters in the book's third section identify proposed peace parks and their possible benefits. While all the proposals demonstrate potential, the feasibility of several is questionable—not due to lack of resources (as donor interest is high), but because of lack of political interest. This section, while inspiring, is weaker than the first two, because the feasibility of implementing the proposed parks depends heavily on external factors.

A number of chapters discuss the different processes that have been and could be used when creating an international peace park. Some level of decentralization is inherent—and in itself problematic in most developing countries, points out Dramé-Yayé et al. The decision-making capacity of communities and a cooperation model driven by bottom-up technical and situational demands are critically important to the success of such efforts, some authors argue. However, Duffy contends that

efforts to decentralize and link up with local communities are just window-dressing for top-down, market-oriented interventions by international bureaucracies.

As mentioned earlier, donors find the international peace parks model attractive and may help galvanize the establishment of shared management between border communities, for which state governments are not well-equipped. For example, Blundell and Christie call on international partners to provide the funds for a proposed international peace park along Liberia's borders in order to promote dialogue between West African countries.

Ali concludes that “environmental cooperation is both a result of conflict mitigation and leading to conflict reduction itself, in a dialectical process of a non-linear and complex series of feedback loops in the conflict de-escalation process” (p. 6). *Peace Parks* is a must-read for anyone interested in transboundary conservation areas.



People on the Move: Reducing the Impacts of Human Migration on Biodiversity

By Judy Oglethorpe, Jenny Ericson, Richard E. Bilborrow, and Janet Edmond

Washington, DC: World Wildlife Fund & Conservation International Foundation, 2007. 93 pages.

Available online from <http://www.panda.org>

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prompted and stymied by factors such as political boundaries, population growth, and environmental damage. As they work to protect Earth's biological diversity, conservation planners and practitioners must increasingly consider the effects of human migration.

In *People on the Move: Reducing the Impacts of Human Migration on Biodiversity*, co-authors Judy Oglethorpe, Jenny Ericson, Richard Bilborrow, and Janet Edmond point out that “responding to migration is a relatively new concept for the conservation sector” (p. viii). To help focus this

People have been migrating from one place to another since the first humans walked out of Africa into an uncertain future. Over the millennia, our movement has become increasingly complicated. Human migration today is both

response, this book provides conservation planners and protected area managers with an excellent overview of contemporary human migration, emphasizing its impacts on biodiversity. They stress, however, that they “seek solutions that work for people as well as the environment: for both local residents and, where possible, the migrants themselves” (p. viii).

People on the Move offers a clear, concise discussion of the movement of human populations across landscapes and across international borders. As the authors point out, approximately three million people migrate across international borders each year, and the number of internal migrants may be 100 times as large. The book’s survey covers long-recognized factors in migration, such as growing populations and increasing natural disasters, but it also discusses emerging issues, such as globalization, climate change, and the increasing number of civil wars in the last century. Most importantly, the authors provide documented case studies, maps, and graphs, as well as an action plan to improve our understanding of migration and create effective approaches to mitigating its impacts on the biological foundations of human life on Earth. As they indicate, their goal is to prompt “the development of practical tools and new approaches for conservation practitioners in the future” (p. viii).

After defining migration and outlining its potential impacts, the authors dedicate the bulk of the book’s chapters to 13 case studies in high-priority natural areas in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Each case study presents the factors that prompted the migration, the resulting impacts on ecosystems and human populations, and what, if any, attempts were made to alter the outcome. Ten of these cases involved some form of intervention that altered migratory patterns in high-biodiversity environments or mitigated the impact on natural ecosystems and local people. Together, the case studies provide an excellent overview of the complex “push” and “pull” factors that prompt individuals, families, and communities to move from one location to another. The authors look at rural-to-urban, urban-to-

rural, and rural-to-rural migration, pointing out that studies of rural-to-rural migration are less prominent in the literature than the other types, despite the fact that it can have the most serious consequences for natural ecosystems.

In a chapter titled “Deciding Whether and How to Intervene,” the authors write that no single blueprint can be applied “to prevent migration or avoid its environmental impacts” (p. 25). Rather, interventions must be carefully selected for each situation. This well-constructed chapter reviews interventions that may help conservation planners and protected area managers prevent migration, influence its course, or reduce its adverse impacts on biological diversity and local populations. The text is complemented by a detailed matrix of possible migration interventions—from local to global scales—that considers such factors as areas of origin, areas of destination, armed conflict, policies, and the parties involved.

As the authors point out, *People on the Move* reviews “what’s in the tool kit” for confronting human migration in biodiversity-rich areas (p. 29). They acknowledge that “it is too early to draw conclusions about the most effective interventions, because there are few documented examples and little monitoring of outcomes” (p. 55). However, their action plan is designed to remedy these gaps and help counter the ecological problems human migration can cause.

In sum, these nine brief chapters of well-written text present a state-of-the-art guide to human migration for conservation researchers, planners, and practitioners. The book concludes with an illustrated and annotated list of published and online resources in this too-long neglected field. As population growth, climate change, and civil unrest continue, *People on the Move* will help guide our search for viable solutions to the environmental impacts of human migration. The book will be useful to strategic planners and on-the-ground practitioners of biodiversity conservation throughout the world, as well as to researchers seeking to understand the causes and consequences of the increasing movement of human populations in the 21st century.