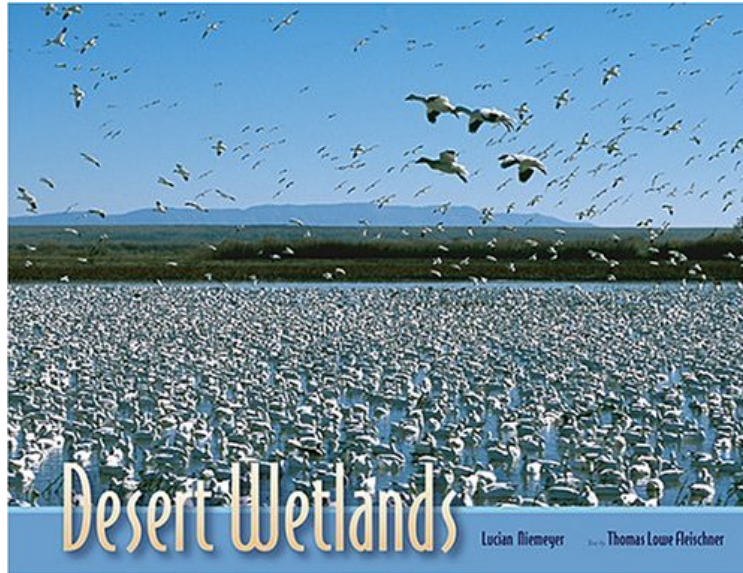


## Desert Wetlands

*Thomas Lowe Fleischner*

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#13967496 in Books 2005-06-30 Original language: English PDF # 1 12.42 x .84 x 9.221, 2.99 #File Name: 0826332609160 pages | File size: 29.Mb

**Thomas Lowe Fleischner : Desert Wetlands** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Desert Wetlands:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice PhotosBy Richard WorfelThe photography is nice but the book was not what I expected. I wanted something with more natural history detail and it was not there. Recommend for someone into animal photos but not to someone looking for a nature guide.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent photographs coupled with a very good textual introduction to desert wetlands ecologyBy R. M. PetersonThe subject of this splendid book is the ecologically valuable and imperiled wetlands scattered throughout the four major deserts of southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico. Wetlands are basically of two types: (a) riparian (along streams, rivers, and lakes), and (b) cinegas, marshes, and springs. In the United States, wetlands account for only 3.5 percent of the land mass (the figure is even lower in desert areas), but about half of all endangered animal species depend on wetlands habitat. There are two aspects to the book. First, there are the magnificent color photographs of Lucian Niemeyer, photographs of wetlands themselves and of many varieties of wetlands wildlife. Almost half of the photographs were taken at the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, along the Rio Grande near Socorro, New Mexico. Others are from elsewhere in New Mexico, in Texas (Big Bend National Park), along the Colorado River, in Arizona (especially along the San Pedro River), and in Utah, California, and Mexico. For those who care about such things, Niemeyer used Leica SLR 35mm cameras, without filters or flash and without after-the-fact manipulation of the images. Niemeyer's technical competence is impressive, and the results are glorious, worthy of any coffee table. The second aspect of the book is the text by Thomas Lowe Fleischner; it runs along with the photographs throughout the book, although there is very little coordination between text and photos. Fleischner emphasizes the ecological significance of the desert wetlands. His text is not academic in tone, although it imparts a fair amount of information. On a few occasions it is a little too "New Age"/touchy-feely for my taste, but in general it is addressed more to readers' intellects than to their emotions. All in all, I think Fleischner provides a very good general introduction to the ecological issues surrounding desert wetlands. At the end of the book there are four pages

of references for those who wish to investigate certain matters in greater detail. And even if a reader's knowledge is beyond the general level of Fleischner's text, DESERT WETLANDS should be worth paging through simply for Niemeyer's photographs. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A 'must' for any collection focused on ecology and desert environments

By Midwest Book Review

Lucien Niemeyer and Thomas Lowe Fleischner's Desert Wetlands is a 'must' for any collection focused on ecology and desert environments. 'Desert wetlands' may seem an inconsistent term, but there are indeed wetlands in the desert, as photographer Lucian Niemeyer and environmental scientist Thomas Fleischner demonstrate. While Niemeyer photographs such wetlands in Arizona, Utah and New Mexico, among other states, naturalist Fleischner provides stories about water and his encounters with desert wetlands during his field research in the southwest.

Water plays different roles in the desert. It appears when we least expect it and hides when we want it most. Rain falls but never reaches the ground, and dry washes abruptly become rivers. One constant holds true: water enables life. In Desert Wetlands a distinguished photographer and a passionate naturalist document sites in the American Southwest and Mexico that are gauges to the environment. The wetlands included are Cuatro Ciénegas Basin in Coahuila, Mexico, the San Pedro River in Arizona, the Escalante River in Utah, the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico, the playas and wetlands in Arizona, the Mohave Desert in California, and the Big Bend National Park in Texas. Exploration of desert wetlands--whether on foot, with photographs, or in words--involves vacillating between tremendous, uplifting beauty and great, heartbreaking degradation. We offer the images and words in your hands that you might grasp the beauty more readily, and join the chorus of voices calling for an end to despoiling of these treasurelands."--Thomas Lowe Fleischner in Desert Wetlands

Mr. Niemeyer's photography . . . is utterly superb."--Southern Living

"Desert Wetlands" is as beautiful as it is important." "Lucian Niemeyer's photographs capture all the beauty of the Southwest." "Desert Wetlands" is an appealing photo essay with an extensive accompanying text. "Desert Wetlands" is a serious environmental book wrapped in disarmingly beautiful imagery. "Desert Wetlands" reveals the beauty and vibrant life of these vital and imperiled lands in the Southwestern United States and Mexico. "Fleisher provides an elegant and relevant essay that supports the visuals and also provides insight into why these are precious, and how they are becoming so few." "Fleischner does a superb job interjecting interesting narratives and useful information on the subject of desert wetlands. . . . Niemeyer's work thrills the senses." "Niemeyer's "Desert Wetlands" is luminous. The visually inclined will feast at this photographic table, as each color plate is more astonishing than the next, and each color plate is worthy of prolonged attention. For the literary, Fleischner's text is both informative and interesting; it is at varying times anecdotal and scientific, a personal tale of exploration and a discourse on the role and history of desert wetlands." "Desert Wetlands" is a jewel. " ["Desert Wetlands"] reveals the beauty and vibrant life of these vital and imperiled lands in the Southwestern United States and Mexico. " [Fleischner] does a superb job interjecting interesting narratives and useful information on the subject of desert wetlands. . . . [Niemeyer's] work thrills the senses. " "This book exposes the raw natural beauty of desert wetlands and emphasizes their ecological necessity, as well as how human impact affects their existence. . . . ["Desert Wetlands"] is filled to the brim with fascinating information. "From the Inside Flap

Over 150 color photos and accompanying text document wetland sites in the American Southwest and Mexico.

About the Author

Lucian Niemeyer is a professional photographer who operates out of Santa Fe. He has traveled the world, photographing human and environmental conditions. He is author and photographer of numerous books including Chesapeake Country, Okefenokee, and

Thomas Lowe Fleischner teaches in the Environmental Studies Program at Prescott College in Arizona. He is also the author of Singing Stone.