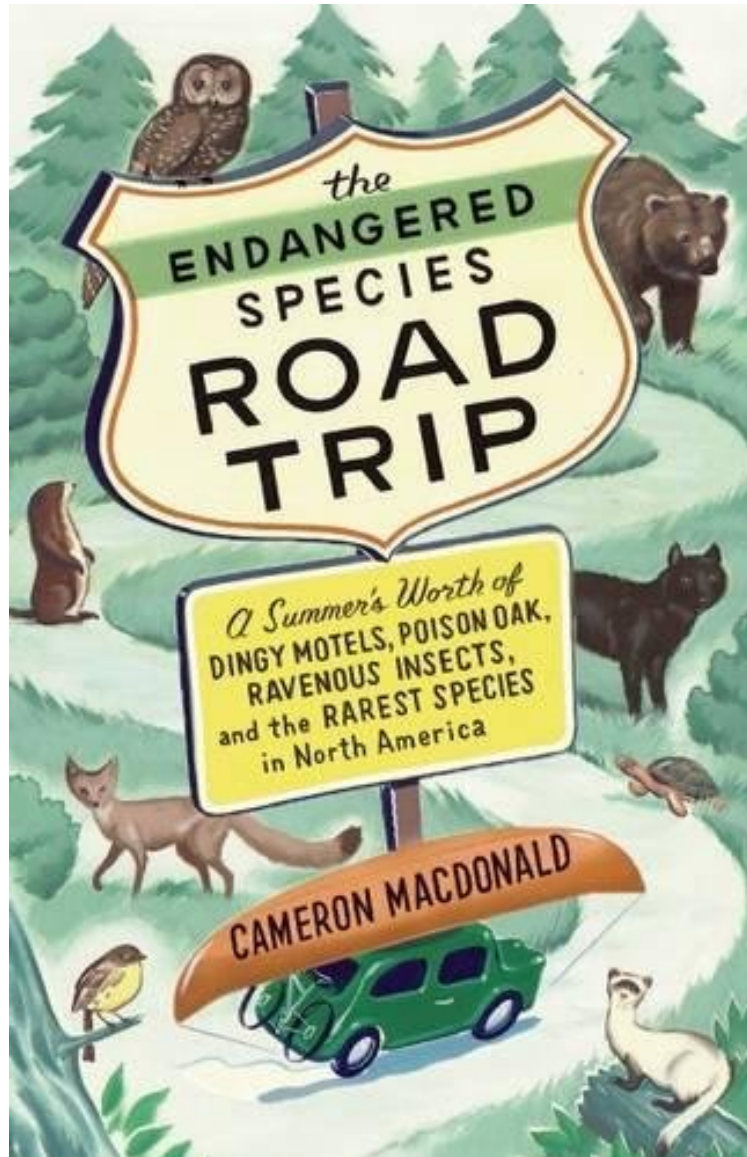


[Download] The Endangered Species Road Trip: A Summer's Worth of Dingy Motels, Poison Oak, Ravenous Insects, and the Rarest Species in North America

The Endangered Species Road Trip: A Summer's Worth of Dingy Motels, Poison Oak, Ravenous Insects, and the Rarest Species in North America

Cameron MacDonald

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Cameron MacDonald : The Endangered Species Road Trip: A Summer's Worth of Dingy Motels, Poison Oak, Ravenous Insects, and the Rarest Species in North America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it

would be worth my time, and all praised *The Endangered Species Road Trip: A Summer's Worth of Dingy Motels, Poison Oak, Ravenous Insects, and the Rarest Species in North America*:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fun Read
By Holly Nicholas
This was a fun read. And educational too!
2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Humerous well written road trip tale
By Geoffrey Dodds
Humerous well written road trip tale with interesting facts on the endangered species encountered. It is a ery enjoyable read.
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not quite Bill Bryson, but still a great road trip read
By M. Palasik
I really enjoyed this book. I don't remember how I heard about it, but I'm glad I did. The author is a biology professor who teaches about environmental studies and endangered species and decides that he's telling his classes this information about species he hasn't even seen before - only gathered shots from the internet to show them. So he takes his wife, under 12-month-old infant son, toddler daughter, and dog on a round continent trip through southern Canada and much of the continental United States, to find some of these species. This book, while not quite as funny as Bill Bryson, still has laugh out loud funny moments. His story is just as much about the adventures of finding places to sleep and things that happen with the family, as it is about seeing the endangered species. He offers some background for most species, explanations as to why they are endangered, and photos of the ones he actually sees. The book is a quick read where the chapters are broken up by each different species. They were on the road for 114 days, which is impressive, spent almost \$3,500 on gas alone, and saw about 2/3 of the species he set out to see. He was able to spend quality time with his family which, while he admits at the end of the book, the children won't remember, they do get to see through the pictures they printed and are hanging throughout their home. Did I mention they didn't have a GPS system and only had one cell phone between the 2 adults? Also impressive.

Bill Bryson meets John Vaillant in this life list quest to see the rarest species in North America. Crammed into a minivan with wife, toddler, infant, and dog, accompanied by mounds of toys, diapers, tent, sleeping bags, and other paraphernalia, Cameron MacDonald embarks on a road trip of a lifetime to observe North America's rarest species. In California, the family camps in the brutally hot Mojave, where he observes a desert tortoise "the size and shape of a bike helmet and the colour of gravel sitting motionless in the shade of a scrubby sagebush. In Yellowstone, after driving through unseasonal snow, he manages to spot a rare black wolf and numerous grizzlies, which, unfortunately, call forth a crowd of "grizzly gawkers." The journey takes the MacDonald family from British Columbia, along the west coast of the U.S., through the Southwest and Florida, up the east coast of the U.S., and finally to eastern Canada and then back home to BC. Along the way, MacDonald offers fascinating details about the natural history of the endangered species he seeks, as well as threats like overpopulation, commercial fishing, and climate change that are driving them towards extinction.

From Publishers Weekly
Starred . Confronted with his personal inexperience with the endangered animals about which he teaches, academic MacDonald decides to rectify this shortcoming by investing a summer in field work. Accompanied by his wife, children and dog, MacDonald devotes a summer to finding 34 of Canada and the USA's rarest animals. His quest will take him on two great loops across the two nations, from Canada's urban core to the forbidding depths of America's dismal south. He finds species teetering on the edge of extinction, in most cases pushed towards the precipice by climate change and the activities of humans. The condor, the manatee and the polar bear cling to existence, at least for the moment, but others, unfortunates like the ivory-billed woodpecker, have probably forever vanished, part of the vast wealth of biodiversity squandered by that highly successful but short-sighted hominid species to which the author and his readers belong. Documenting the ongoing simplification of North America's ecologies could be grim work the specters of death and total extinction are ever present but MacDonald's comedic sense and his engaging style are addictive and the resulting tale is intensely charming. Comparable to Douglas Adams's seminal *Last Chance to See*, MacDonald's debut book should be considered a must-buy. Agent: Sam Hiyate, The Rights Factory. (Aug.) MacDonald's comedic sense and his engaging style are addictive and the resulting tale is intensely charming. Publishers Weekly, Starred
MacDonald's bush-country odyssey is a mix of conservation insight, dubious parenting techniques, and pure, rare, wild joy of discovering North America's last living treasures. Zac Unger, author of *Never Look a Polar Bear in the Eye*