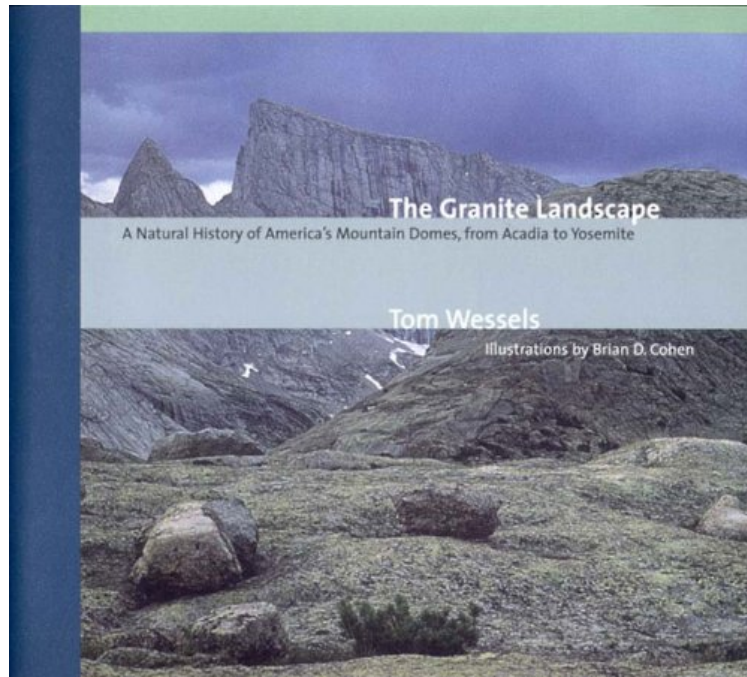


(Free) The Granite Landscape: A Natural History of America's Mountain Domes, from Acadia to Yosemite

## The Granite Landscape: A Natural History of America's Mountain Domes, from Acadia to Yosemite

*Tom Wessels, Brian D. Cohen*  
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**Tom Wessels, Brian D. Cohen : The Granite Landscape: A Natural History of America's Mountain Domes, from Acadia to Yosemite** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Granite Landscape: A Natural History of America's Mountain Domes, from Acadia to Yosemite:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerAs expected from this amazing ecologist, Tom Wessels,1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic and InformativeBy Elizabeth KentI bought this for my grandson who was taking geology in College. It was so interesting, I bought one for myself. If you are at all interested in America's mountains, this is the book for you. It's interesting, informative and you don't need a degree to understand the content.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Really interesting and readableBy ABI really enjoyed this book. Tom writes very clearly with anecdotes and context that are fascinating. If you have a practical, outdoors person's interest in geology and geography I'd recommend this book.

From the author/illustrator team that produced the bestselling Reading the Forested Landscape comes this fascinating and beautiful natural history of North America's granite summit balds. This fascinating new book focuses on a rare and dramatic landscape: the granite summit balds of North American mountains. Tom Wessels synthesizes history, geology, biology, and personal narrative to enhance our understanding and appreciation of these high, wild places. He explores the unique and fragile ecosystem that is common to exposed granite expanses from Acadia to Yosemitehow it evolved slowly over millennia, and how it is threatened today by foot traffic and overuse. Wessels' dramatic photographs and Brian Cohen's beautifully detailed illustrations bring the denizens of the granite bald to life. The

mountains they celebrate include: Acadia National Park in Maine; the White Mountains of New Hampshire; the Adirondacks of New York; the Wind Rivers of Wyoming; the Beartooths of Montana; the Enchantments of Washington; and Yosemite National Park in California. 18 black white photographs, 30 illustrations, 1 map, glossary, index.

From Publishers Weekly Since his college days in New Hampshire, Tom Wessels, now professor of ecology at Antioch New England Graduate School, has been fascinated with mountains whose smooth, bald peaks were formed by the glaciers that once spanned the northern U.S. In *The Granite Landscape: A Natural History of America's Mountain Domes*, from Acadia to Yosemite, Wessels takes outdoor enthusiasts to the Beartooths of Montana and the Enchantment Range of Washington State, where he reveals how their shared origins have resulted in numerous similarities, such as their nearly identical ecologies. Personal and engaging, Wessels will have readers reaching for their hiking boots in no time. Illus. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From *Library Journal* Why would a man who is neither a geologist nor a rock climber write about granite domes? Because he has an inordinate fondness for lichen: "I am particularly enamored of the moss and fuiticose lichen communities on granite outcrops," writes Wessels, a professor of ecology at Antioch New England Graduate School and chair of the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation. "Looking down at them from a few feet above, I am reminded of flying over mixed forests of conifers and hardwoods Lilliputian woodlands surrounded by crustose-lichen covered fields." Wessels tracks the unique lichen and shrub ecology of barren granite mountains that exists in Acadia and Yosemite National Parks, as well as the White Mountains (NH), Adirondacks (NY), Wind Rivers (WY), Beartooths (MT), and Enchantments (WA). This is a natural history in the best tradition, describing how geology, geomorphology, plant community interactions, environmental forces, and human history are all interrelated. Written with a combination of scientific clarity and poetry, this book will give readers a new appreciation for life in these austere yet intricate places. For most collections. [Wessels and Cohen's previous collaboration, *Reading the Forested Landscape* (Countryman, 1997), traced the evolution of New England's forests. Ed.] Amy Brunvand, Univ. of Utah Lib., Salt Lake Cit.- Amy Brunvand, Univ. of Utah Lib., Salt Lake City Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. A 'must have' for any naturalist's library. -- Ann Zwinger, author of *Land Above the Trees* Wessels is one of the great cartographers of the New England landscape, and of the New England imagination. -- Bill McKibben