

Desert Wetlands

Photography by Lucian Niemeyer

Text by Thomas Lowe Fleischner



“Water plays by different rules in the desert. It appears when we least expect it and hides when we want it most. One day we find an old spring dry and another usually barren rock swimming with life. Rain falls from dark thunderheads but never reaches the parched ground. Dry washes abruptly become rivers. In all this unpredictability one thing holds true: water in the desert enables life.” –Thomas Lowe Fleischner

"Desert Wetlands is a serious environmental book wrapped in disarmingly beautiful imagery."--The Durango Herald

"[Fleischner] does a superb job interjecting interesting narratives and useful information on the subject of desert wetlands... [Niemeyer's] work thrills the senses."--Tucson Weekly

“The book’s text ...is an informative overview of fresh water in the American Southwest. Fleischner’s writing is based on his many years of conducting field research as a naturalist.” --Albuquerque Sunday Journal

"[Desert Wetlands] reveals the beauty and vibrant life of these vital and imperiled lands in the Southwestern United States and Mexico."--Las Cruces Sun-News

“Desert Wetlands is a jewel.... This book is clearly a work of love by both photographer and author.” --Los Alamos Monitor

"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."--*The Times-Independent* (Moab, Utah)

"*Desert Wetlands* is an appealing photo essay with an extensive accompanying text."--*Winging It* (Newsletter of the American Birding Association)

"*Desert Wetlands* is a must for any collection focused on ecology and desert environments." – *Library Bookwatch*

"!!!!!!Must read" –*Today's Books*

"Fleischner is heartfelt and precise.... The stunning 157 full-color photographs really make this book special." – *New Mexico Magazine*

"Fleischner provides an elegant and relevant essay that supports the visuals and also provides insight into why these places are precious, and how they are becoming so few" – *SciTech Book News*

"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 treasure-lands."

–Thomas Lowe Fleischner

Thomas Lowe Fleischner, a naturalist and conservation biologist, is Professor of Environmental Studies at Prescott College in Prescott, Arizona. He is also the author of *Singing Stone: A Natural History of the Escalante Canyons* and numerous essays in journals such as *Conservation Biology* and in books including *The Encyclopedia of Ecology and Environmental Management*.

Lucian Niemeyer has published eight previous books of photography, most recently *New Mexico and Okefenokee*. He lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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