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the 21st Century; References; CHAPTER 3: Marine Conservation Mechanisms; 3.1 The Toolkit; 3.2 Biological Conservation; 3.2.1 Species conservation; 3.2.2 Habitat conservation  
3.2.3 Biodiversity conservation3.3 Spatially Explicit Conservation; 3.4 Governance: Policy, Strategy, Tactics; 3.4.1 Law; 3.4.2 Science; 3.4.3 Economics; 3.4.4 Sovereign power of nations; 3.5 Policy Instruments for Marine Conservation; 3.5.1 U.S. national environmental policy; 3.5.2 International governance and cooperation; 3.6 Management Concepts; 3.6.1 Fisheries management; 3.6.2 Coastal management; 3.6.3 Marine Protected Area management; 3.6.4 Biosphere reserves; 3.6.5 Restoration management; 3.6.6 Ecosystem-based management; 3.7 Agents for Conservation  
3.7.1 Environmental non-government organizations (NGOs)3.7.2 Development and financial assistance organizations; 3.8 Conclusion; References; CHAPTER 4: Marine Systems: The Base for Conservation; 4.1 A systems Approach; 4.2 Dynamic Planetary Forces; 4.2.1 The global ocean and climate; 4.2.2 Solar radiation and energy transfers; 4.2.3 Earth's rotation, gravity, and fluid motions; 4.2.4 Major geologic movements; 4.3 Major Ocean Structures and Conditions; 4.3.1 Physical structuring; 4.3.2 Chemical structuring; 4.4 Planetary Cycles; 4.4.1 Water cycle; 4.4.2 Biogeochemical cycle  
4.5 Major Planetary Interfaces4.5.1 Land-sea interface; 4.5.2 Benthic-pelagic interface; 4.5.3 Air-sea interface; 4.6 The Dynamic Coastal Realm; 4.6.1 Sculpting coastal land and seascapes; 4.6.2 Land-ocean interactions; 4.6.3 Geomorphologic patterns; 4.7 The Coastal Realm: An Ecosystem of Global Importance; 4.7.1 Attributes of the coastal realm; 4.7.2 Ecosystem properties; 4.8 The Ecosystem Concept; 4.9 Ecosystem Base for Conservation; References; CHAPTER 5: Natural History of Marine Organisms; 5.1 What Is Natural History?; 5.2 Darwinian Evolution; 5.3 Diversity of Marine Life  
5.3.1 Taxonomic diversity

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Providing a guide for marine conservation practice, Marine Conservation takes a whole-systems approach, covering major advances in marine ecosystem understanding. Its premise is that conservation must be informed by the natural histories of organisms together with the hierarchy of scale-related linkages and ecosystem processes. The authors introduce a broad range of overlapping issues and the conservation mechanisms that have been devised to achieve marine conservation goals. The book provides students and conservation practitioners with a framework for thoughtful, critical thinking in

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