1. Record Nr. UNINA9910455491903321

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| Autore | Diamond Judy |
| Titolo | Kea, bird of paradox [[electronic resource] ] : the evolution and behavior of a New Zealand parrot / / Judy Diamond and Alan B. Bond |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | Berkeley, : University of California Press, c1999 |
| ISBN | 1-282-35618-6<br>9786612356186<br>0-520-92080-5 |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (248 p.) |
| Altri autori (Persone) | BondAlan B. <1946-> |
| Disciplina | 598.7/1 |
| Soggetti | Kea - Evolution<br>Kea - Behavior<br>Electronic books. |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Note generali | Description based upon print version of record. |
| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references (p. 201-222) and index. |
| Nota di contenuto | Frontmatter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. The Moa's Legacy -- 2. From Relict to Renegade -- 3. Hanging Out with the Gang -- 4. Growing and Learning -- 5. The Prince and the Pauper -- 6. From Bounties to Black Markets -- Appendix A: List of Common and Scientific Names -- Appendix B: Supplementary Tables -- Notes -- References -- Index |
| Sommario/riassunto | The kea, a crow-sized parrot that lives in the rugged mountains of New Zealand, is considered by some a playful comic and by others a vicious killer. Its true character is a mystery that biologists have debated for more than a century. Judy Diamond and Alan Bond have written a comprehensive account of the kea's contradictory nature, and their conclusions cast new light on the origins of behavioral flexibility and the problem of species survival in human environments everywhere. New Zealand's geological remoteness has made the country home to a bizarre assemblage of plants and animals that are wholly unlike anything found elsewhere. Keas are native only to the South Island, breeding high in the rigorous, unforgiving environment of the Southern Alps. Bold, curious, and ingeniously destructive, keas have a complex social system that includes extensive play behavior. Like coyotes, |

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| | crows, and humans, keas are "open-program" animals with an unusual ability to learn and to create new solutions to whatever problems they encounter.Diamond and Bond present the kea's story from historical and contemporary perspectives and include observations from their years of field work. A comparison of the kea's behavior and ecology with that of its closest relative, the kaka of New Zealand's lowland rain forests, yields insights into the origins of the kea's extraordinary adaptability. The authors conclude that the kea's high level of sociality is a key factor in the flexible lifestyle that probably evolved in response to the alpine habitat's unreliable food resources and has allowed the bird to survive the extermination of much of its original ecosystem. But adaptability has its limits, as the authors make clear when describing present-day interactions between keas and humans and the attempts to achieve a peaceful coexistence. |

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| Record Nr. | UNINA9910688384403321 |
| Autore | Aymar Y. Bossa |
| Titolo | Water Resources in a Variable and Changing Climate |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | MDPI - Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute, 2015 |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource |
| Soggetti | Environmental economics |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Sommario/riassunto | Climate change will bring about significant changes to the capacity of, and the demand on, water resources. The resulting changes include increasing climate variability that is expected to affect hydrologic conditions. The effects of climate variability on various meteorological variables have been extensively observed in many regions around the world. Atmospheric circulation, topography, land use and other regional features modify global changes to produce unique patterns of |

change at the regional scale. As the future changes to these water resources cannot be measured in the present, hydrological models are critical in the planning required to adapt our water resource management strategies to future climate conditions. Such models include catchment runoff models, reservoir management models, flood prediction models, groundwater recharge and flow models, and crop water balance models. In water-scarce regions such as Australia, urban water systems are particularly vulnerable to rapid population growth and climate change. In the presence of climate change induced uncertainty, urban water systems need to be more resilient and multi-sourced. Decreasing volumetric rainfall trends have an effect on reservoir yield and operation practices. Severe intensity rainfall events can cause failure of drainage system capacity and subsequent urban flood inundation problems. Policy makers, end users and leading researchers need to work together to develop a consistent approach to interpreting the effects of climate variability and change on water resources. This Special Edition includes papers by international experts who have investigated climate change impacts on a variety of systems including irrigation and water markets, land use changes and vegetation growth, lake water levels and quality and sea level rises. These investigations have been conducted in many regions of the world including the USA, China, East Africa, Australia, Taiwan and the Sultanate of Oman.