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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Preface and Acknowledgments -- 1. The Ecology of Place -- The Imprint of Place on Ecology and Ecologists -- 2. The Role of Place in the History of Ecology -- 3. Leopold's Legacy: An Ecology of Place -- The Idiosyncrasy of Place: Challenges and Opportunities -- 4. Ecological Invariance and the Search for Generality in Ecology -- 5. Convergence and Divergence in Mediterranean-Climate Ecosystems: What We Can Learn by Comparing Similar Places -- 6. Ecological Insights into the Causes of an Adaptive Radiation from Long-Term Field Studies of Darwin's Finches -- 7. Individual Fitness, Social Behavior, and Population Dynamics of Yellow-Bellied Marmots -- 8. The Aleutian Archipelago: Addressing the Functional Importance of Carnivory through Variation in Space and Time -- Building an Understanding of Place -- 9. Understanding the Role of Predation in Open Systems: The Value of Place-Based Research -- 10. The Ecology of Place in Oak Forests: Progressive Integration of Pairwise Interactions into Webs -- 11. A Sense of Place: Tatoosh -- 12. The Ecology of Place and Natural Resource Management: Examples from Marine and Terrestrial Ecosystems -- The Interaction between Local and General Understanding -- 13. Case Studies and Ecological Understanding --

14. Responsive Science: The Interplay of Theory, Observation, and Experiment in Long-Term, Place-Based Research -- 15. To Know a Tropical Forest: What Mechanisms Maintain High Tree Diversity on Barro Colorado Island, Panama? -- Building the Capacity for Place-Based Research -- 16. The Model Ecosystem as a Paradigm of Place-Based Research: The Intersection of Geology, Ecology, and Economics at the McLaughlin Reserve -- 17. Managing Place-Based Data: The Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory as a Case Study -- 18. Local People, Scientific Inquiry, and the Ecology and Conservation of Place in Latin America -- 19. Concluding Remarks: Taking Advantage of the Power of Place -- List of Contributors -- Index

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## Sommario/riassunto

Ecologists can spend a lifetime researching a small patch of the earth, studying the interactions between organisms and the environment, and exploring the roles those interactions play in determining distribution, abundance, and evolutionary change. With so few ecologists and so many systems to study, generalizations are essential. But how do you extrapolate knowledge about a well-studied area and apply it elsewhere? Through a range of original essays written by eminent ecologists and naturalists, *The Ecology of Place* explores how place-focused research yields exportable general knowledge as well as practical local knowledge, and how society can facilitate ecological understanding by investing in field sites, place-centered databases, interdisciplinary collaborations, and field-oriented education programs that emphasize natural history. This unique patchwork of case-study narratives, philosophical musings, and historical analyses is tied together with commentaries from editors Ian Billick and Mary Price that develop and synthesize common threads. The result is a unique volume rich with all-too-rare insights into how science is actually done, as told by scientists themselves.

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