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Sommario/riassunto	Wetland science is a new and rapidly evolving branch of ecosystem science, and wetland regulation is increasingly central to conservation policy. Regulatory initiatives frequently raise unanswered questions, while scientific study supports or calls into question regulatory practice, which occurs in an environment of intense public scrutiny. This primer lays out the science and policy considerations in a format accessible and useful to all who would be involved in wetland ecology, and his book would also serve as a supplementary text for courses on conservation biology, wetlands or environmental policy.