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Sommario/riassunto

The first in-depth examination of the ecological and political significance of the patterned peatlands of Minnesota, one of the largest peatland complexes in the world. Research conducted during the past decade has unraveled many secrets of the intricate peatland ecosystem, unique because it has been so little altered by human action and remarkable for its display of the complex adjustment of living organisms to their environment. The book describes the flora, vegetation, and animal life of the different patterned peatlands and considers the role of surface water and ground water in the development and differentiation of fens and raised bogs. Specific chapters explore the role of mammals, birds, and amphibians and reptiles in the peatland ecosystem. "A rich deposit of knowledge in the form of this book-a comprehensive treatment of the largest peatland area in the 48 contiguous United States. The editors of The Patterned Peatlands of Minnesota have organized its 19 chapters around five major themes: vegetation (including development. The Patterned Peatlands of Minnesota - the culmination of the efforts of all these scientists - establishes a benchmark for North American peatland ecology." Science "For all those who have any kind of interest in peatlands it ought to be very inspiring to have a book like this one, which is well illustrated, easy to read, and has a broad and comprehensive approach to ecology, development, management, and land use of peatlands. The knowledge presented is of great interest for scientists all over the world who desire condensed and easily accessible information about these unique peatlands." Journal of Quaternary Science
