1. Record Nr. UNINA9910975003403321 Autore Laity Julie **Titolo** Deserts and desert environments / / Julie Laity Pubbl/distr/stampa Chichester, UK;; Hoboken, NJ,: Wiley-Blackwell, 2008 **ISBN** 9786612026478 9781282026476 128202647X 9781444300741 1444300741 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (364 p.) Collana Environmental systems and global change series;; 2 551.415 Disciplina 551.65 Soggetti Deserts Geomorphology 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. [285]-319) and index. Nota di contenuto CONTENTS; PREFACE; 1: INTRODUCTION: DEFINING THE DESERT SYSTEM: 1.1 DEFINING THE DESERT SYSTEM: 1.1.1 PHYSICAL. BIOLOGICAL, AND TEMPORAL COMPONENTS; 1.2 EVOLUTION OF DESERTS; 1.2.1 GLOBAL CONSIDERATIONS; 1.2.1.1 Subtropical highpressure belts; 1.2.1.2 Continental interiors; 1.2.1.3 Polar deserts; 1.2.2 REGIONAL CONSIDERATIONS; 1.2.2.1 Cold-current influences; 1.2.2.2 Rainshadow effect; 1.2.2.3 Edaphic environments; 1.3 INDICES OF ARIDITY; 1.4 DESERT SURFACES; 1.5 TECTONICALLY STABLE AND UNSTABLE DESERTS; 1.6 DESERTS OF THE PAST; 1.7 CHANGING HUMAN PERSPECTIVES ON DESERTS 2: DESERTS OF THE WORLD2.1 INTRODUCTION: THE EXTENT OF GLOBAL ARIDITY: 2.2 GLOBAL DESERTS: 2.2.1 AFRICA: 2.2.1.1 North Africa: the Saharan Desert and the Sahel; 2.2.1.2 North Africa: the Somali-Chalbi Desert; 2.2.1.3 Southern Africa: arid Madagascar; 2.2.1.4 Southern Africa: the Karoo, Kalahari, and Namib Deserts; 2.2.2 MIDDLE

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Taking a global perspective, this book provides a concise overview of drylands, including their physical, biological, temporal, and human components. Examines the physical systems occurring in desert environments, including climate, hydrology, past and present lakes, weathering, hillslopes, geomorphic surfaces, water as a geomorphic agent, and aeolian processes Offers an accessible introduction to the physical, biological, temporal, and human components of drylands Investigates the nature, environmental requirements, and essential geomorphic roles of plants and