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Physiological And Ecological Consequences Of Extreme Body Size In Whales -- 16. Ecosystem Impact Of The Decline Of Large Whales In The North Pacific -- 17. The Removal Of Large Whales From The Southern Ocean Evidence For Long-Term Ecosystem Effects? -- 18. Great Whales As Prey Using Demography And Bioenergetics To Infer Interactions In Marine Mammal Communities -- 19. Whales And Whaling In The North Pacific Ocean And Bering Sea Oceanographic Insights And Ecosystem Impacts -- 20. Legacy Of Industrial Whaling Could Killer Whales Be Responsible For Declines Of Sea Lions, Elephant Seals, And Minke Whales In The Southern Hemisphere? -- 21. Predator Diet Breadth And Prey Population Dynamics Mechanism And Modeling -- 22. Bigger Is Better The Role Of Whales As Detritus In Marine Ecosystems -- 23 Gray Whales In The Bering And Chukchi Seas -- 24. Whales, Whaling, And Ecosystems In The North Atlantic Ocean -- 25. Sperm Whales In Ocean Ecosystems -- 26. Ecosystem Effects Of Fishing And Whaling In The North Pacific And Atlantic Oceans -- 27. Potential Influences Of Whaling On The Status And Trends Of Pinniped Populations -- 28. The Dynamic Between Social Systems And Ocean Ecosystems Are There Lessons From Commercial Whaling? -- 29. Whaling, Law, And Culture -- 30. Whales Are Big And It Matters -- 31. Retrospection And Review -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

This unprecedented volume presents a sweeping picture of what we know about the natural history, biology, and ecology of whales in the broad context of the dynamics of ocean ecosystems. Innovative and comprehensive, the volume encompasses multiple points of view to consider the total ecological impact of industrial whaling on the world's oceans. Combining empirical research, ecological theory and modeling, and historical data, its chapters present perspectives from ecology, population biology, physiology, genetics, evolutionary history, ocean biogeography, economics, culture, and law, among other disciplines. Throughout, contributors investigate how whaling fundamentally disrupted ocean ecosystems, examine the various roles whales play in food webs, and discuss the continuing ecological chain reactions to the depletion of these large animals. In addition to reviewing what is known of the current and historic whale populations, Whales, Whaling, and Ocean Ecosystems considers how this knowledge will bear on scientific approaches to conservation and whaling in the future and provocatively asks whether it is possible to restore ocean ecosystems to their pre-whaling condition.

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