claimed "tribute to these forgotten islanders, on the brink of a new Pacific age."

Mitchell's wanderings take us through the islands of Nauru, the Solomons, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Hawai'i, the Societies, and lonely Rapa Nui (Easter Island). His excursions include visits to various types of marine and terrestrial environment where he shares his multifarious adventures in tropical Pacific natural history. His often colorful descriptions of unique flora and fauna will delight those with even a modicum of background in biology, and will also enlighten "old Pacific hands" with much field background in the region.

Throughout the book, Mitchell describes his travel into the field with regional experts to encounter rare and endangered species first hand. He takes us on trips to many kinds of environment, including multicolored, species-rich coral reefs, treacherous jagged landscapes of raised limestone, and wet rainforests festooned with ferns and mosses. He describes culturally interesting and sometimes sensitive places of prehistoric and more recent importance. The book is embellished by a series of color photographs, many of which were taken by the author. Several are of high quality, and most enhance the reader's experience.

In sum, although it includes some minor errors, this volume is a valuable contribution to the popular literature addressing endangered species and endangered ecosystems in one of the most remote, but more intriguing, regions of the world. While describing the drastic exploitation of indigenous rainforests in some parts of the South Pacific, Mitchell makes the very important point that they contain a remarkably high proportion of unique species, and therefore their demise "will be felt far more than that of an equivalent area in the great rainforests of Amazonia or Southeast Asia would be." I highly recommend this book to all who have professional or recreational interest in the tropical islands of the South Pacific.

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This book is a welcome addition to published literature on the Pacific Islands. Given the social and economic importance of governments in the Pacific, it is surprising that the academic community has not given more attention to the topic.

The volume covers a wide range of topics: the constitutional foundations of public administration, health administration, land management, communications policy and planning, managing public enterprises, foreign investment, fisheries management, and South Pacific regionalism. The contributing authors clearly are "widely experienced in the Pacific Islands region," and their chapters reflect the depth of their knowledge of the topics they address.
The substantive shortcomings of the book are its selective coverage of the countries and territories of the region, a slight lack of theoretical and topical balance, and the absence of a descriptive chapter that would provide a better sense of the relative importance of government employment and expenditures. The geographical coverage was clearly limited to countries served by the Commonwealth Secretariat for which the book was prepared. However, the book would have greater appeal if more of the chapters discussed a wider range of countries and territories. The lack of theoretical and topical balance arises only from the greater attention given to analytical frameworks in the chapter on land management and the too-detailed description of the health status of Pacific Island countries in the chapter on health administration. The absence of a chapter describing the financing of government services, the size and composition of government bureaucracies, and their importance as a source of wage employment and economic activity is the book's only major fault.

Like any collection of papers, differences in writing styles and analytical approaches provide variety and differing points of view. More consistency in the use of section and subsection headings would have made the book a bit more reader friendly, as would a less academic style of writing in several of the chapters.

Yash Ghai's chapter on the "Constitutional Foundations of Public Administration" offers an interesting and informative introduction to government in the region. Although beyond the intended geographic scope of the book, some focus on the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, as well as the French and American territories, would have provided an interesting contrast to the governmental systems described. Professor Ghai's legal orientation is reflected in his style, but it does not detract from his presentation.

Peter Larmour's chapter on land management is more theoretical than the others, and his treatment of the public choice approach gives the chapter a potentially broader audience. However, his attempt to cover several aspects of the public choice approach distracts from the flow of the description of land management. An indication of which parts of his analysis of land management in Melanesia apply to other parts of the Pacific would have been useful.

Richard Taylor, writing on "Problems of Health Administration in Small States," provides the most comprehensive and detailed chapter, reflecting extensive knowledge of the region gained through his tenure with the South Pacific Commission. His inclusion of statistics on regional governments as well as health status and his coverage of the entire region make this chapter one of the strongest—and longest—in the book. He could have given less attention to the health status of specific Pacific Island countries.

Like Taylor's chapter, Pamela Thomas' on "Communication Policy and Planning in the Pacific Islands," provides broad regional coverage. She includes an excellent discussion of the major communications debates in the Pacific and links communications
trends in the region with broader theoretical discussions within her field.

Alan Whitworth's chapter on "Managing Public Enterprises in Small States" is limited to an analysis of commercial statutory authorities in Papua New Guinea. Limiting his focus to one country allowed Whitworth to provide a more detailed analysis of his topic than is found in other chapters. However, it would have been useful to attempt to relate the Papua New Guinea situation to those of other countries and territories in the Pacific.

The least Pacific-state-specific chapter is Tony Hughes' on "Small States and Foreign Investors." However, it is an excellent treatment of the problems of dealing with multinational corporations in both the Pacific and the Indian oceans. Moreover, this chapter will probably appeal more to policymakers and public servants than the other chapters because it clearly suggests specific approaches for dealing with the problems discussed.

David Doulman provides an excellent description of the role of the Forum Fisheries Agency in dealing with distant-water tuna fleets, in his chapter on "Fisheries Management Cooperation." He gives an overview of the status of the tuna resource regionally, a history of the Forum Fisheries Agency, and a review of attempts to cooperate on the development of a tuna industry in the region. A bit more information on the economic importance of tuna fishing, processing, and access fees to individual countries might have helped put the access fees and agreements into a broader economic context.

Ron Crocombe's chapter on "South Pacific Regionalism" is interesting and provocative and reflects his extensive knowledge of this topic. He provides reasons for the relatively high level of regional cooperation, addresses the major issues associated with it, gives an overview of the evolution of regionalism, and examines cooperation in marine resource coordination, transport, higher education, and among private voluntary organizations. His final substantive section deals with cost effectiveness, patterns of power and influence, staffing, and decision-making.

Public Administration and Management in Small States: Pacific Experiences will be of considerable interest to students of Pacific Islands studies as well as teachers of public administration and government in the region. I would hope those involved in government service will also read it because, as this book shows, there is much to be learned about public administration from within the region itself.

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This book is based on three papers and two commentaries delivered at the November 1989 Mont Pelerin Society's Pacific Regional Meeting held in Christchurch, New Zealand. Of the