

Ecology and Evolution of Cooperative Breeding in Birds

Cooperative breeders are species in which more than a pair of individuals assist in the production of young. Cooperative breeding is found in only a few hundred bird species worldwide, and understanding this often strikingly altruistic behavior has remained an important challenge in behavioral ecology for over 30 years. This book highlights the theoretical, empirical, and technical advances that have taken place in the field of cooperative breeding research since the publication of the seminal work *Cooperative Breeding in Birds: Long-Term Studies of Behavior and Ecology* (Cambridge, 1990). Organized conceptually, this book pays special attention to ways in which cooperative breeders have proved fertile subjects for testing modern approaches to classic evolutionary problems including those of sexual selection, sex-ratio manipulation, life-history evolution, partitioning of reproduction, and incest avoidance. It will be of interest to both students and researchers in the fields of behavior and ecology.

WALTER KOENIG is Research Zoologist at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Integrative Biology, at the University of California, Berkeley. He has studied the phenomenon of cooperative breeding for over 25 years. He is the coeditor of *Cooperative Breeding in Birds: Long-Term Studies of Ecology and Behavior* with P. B. Stacey, and author or coauthor of over 150 technical and popular articles on behavioral and population ecology.

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Ecology and Evolution of Cooperative Breeding in Birds

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To the “founding fathers” of the modern study of cooperative breeding
Jerram Brown, Steve Emlen, Frank Pitelka, Ian Rowley, and Glen Woolfenden

and our favorite pseudo-pensioner
Nick Davies

whose influence, both through their own work and through that of their students and associates,
is evident on every page of this book

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