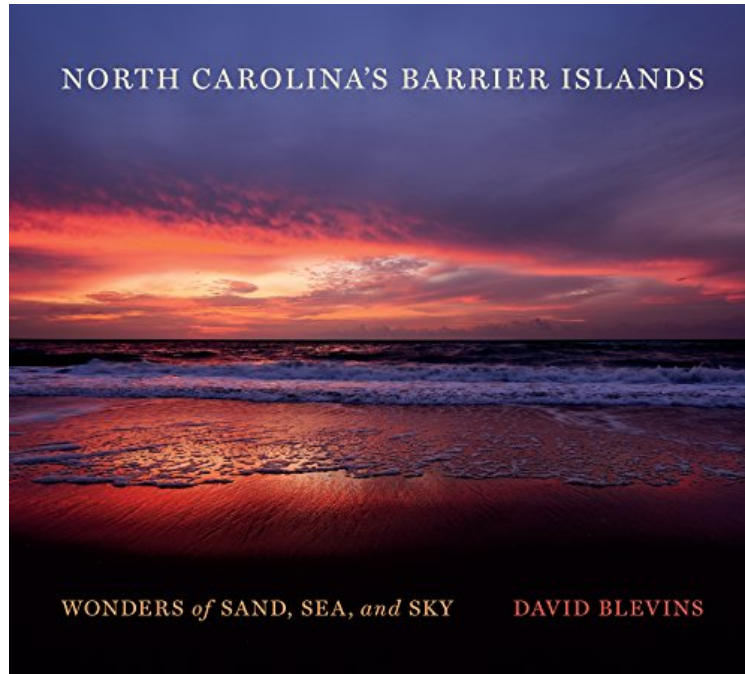


(Download pdf) North Carolina's Barrier Islands: Wonders of Sand, Sea, and Sky

## North Carolina's Barrier Islands: Wonders of Sand, Sea, and Sky

*David Blevins*

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**David Blevins : North Carolina's Barrier Islands: Wonders of Sand, Sea, and Sky** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised North Carolina's Barrier Islands: Wonders of Sand, Sea, and Sky:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Environmental Photography that Teaches with Beauty By Anna Faktorovich A beautiful collection of photographs of the natural world of North Carolina's Barrier Islands, with some brief and light descriptions of these scenes. This is a breath of fresh air after some of the heavier scholarly books I just finished. Sometimes pictures just make an observer feel good about the world, and this is the effect made here. The author and the photographer are one and the same, photo-ecologist David Blevins. The environmental angle is only lightly mentioned throughout rather than being pushed on the reader propagandistically. The beauty of nature argues for its own protection. The book is elegantly designed, with a soft sunset for a cover, a photo of distinctive sand inside the cover pages, two other abstract and descriptively beatific images on the title pages. Some of the interior pages have a different paper texture than others: this is a pretty tough challenge for a printer. A map of the region is uniquely drawn for the purposes of this book, rather than re-used from an archival version. Even the copyrights page is set against a blurred image of streaks in the sky, so pretty much every page has some innovative design elements on it. The photos capture moments of loneliness, as solitary herons or turtles are caught in contemplative positions, as well as flocks of birds and tree branches mingling into tight communities and giving a sense of general connection. One striking picture is of a hawk standing over an orange-white marsh rabbit that was just struck down and killed and is about to be devoured by the hawk. The hawk looks lost in thought as it has stopped to look back, as if at the observer glancing at the page or at the photographer (20). The text across from this image describes the geological history of the

region, with details about a prehistoric river, and how the beach expanded and the landscape changed with a changing climate (21). There are a few photos of seashells, but not just a single seashell, but rather a beach littered with gigantic, near-perfectly, un-cracked seashells. There is also a great image taken with a special night-sky-vision lense that shows a galaxy full of stars in the sky, and a large turtle sitting in the sand up front, with eyes slightly open as if peaking at the camera (170). Everybody that is interested in taking photographs of nature for amusement or as a profession should study the craft displayed in these images. Their composition, lighting and artistic taste make them outstanding achievements. An inspiring and gently persuasive book. --Pennsylvania Literary Journal, Volume IX, Issue 12 of 2 people found the following review helpful. GorgeousBy J. JohnsonI'm an amateur photographer and I've had a home on the Outer Banks for over 20 years. I've looked at a lot of professional pictures, but I've never seen the Islands photographed like this. The lighting, composition, colors, etc are all superb and his choice of shots is particularly creative. The text is very informative although frankly I've spent so much time admiring the photos that I haven't read it carefully. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Spectacular photography and introduction to the Barrier IslandsBy Vicki M. Beautiful photography, great choice of locations, times of day, and subject matter. Excellent written material provided, esp. for anyone who has not been there. Book arrived in absolutely perfect condition, well packed, and quickly shipped. A+++++++ book and vendor.

In this stunning book, nature photographer and ecologist David Blevins offers an inspiring visual journey to North Carolina's barrier islands as you have never seen them before. These islands are unique and ever-changing places with epic origins, surprising plants and animals, and an uncertain future. From snow geese midflight to breathtaking vistas along otherworldly dunes, Blevins has captured the incredible natural diversity of North Carolina's coast in singular detail. His photographs and words reveal the natural character of these islands, the forces that shape them, and the sense of wonder they inspire. Featuring over 150 full-color images from Currituck Banks, the Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout National Seashores, and the islands of the southern coast, North Carolina's Barrier Islands is not only a collection of beautiful images of landscapes, plants, and animals but also an appeal for their conservation.

Through his artful writing and insightful photography, David Blevins explores life on the barrier islands. His language is as rich and sparse as the islands themselves, accompanied by photographs that could only be taken by a man who knows and loves these places well. North Carolina's Barrier Islands sets a new standard for books exploring the value of North Carolina's coastal ecosystems. --Beth Young, conservation photographer David Blevins offers a unique and essential way to understand the beauty and life that make up North Carolina's barrier islands. This book is entertaining, wise, and a joy to behold. --Lawrence S. Earley, author of *The Workboats of Core Sound* About the Author David Blevins is a nature photographer and forest ecologist.