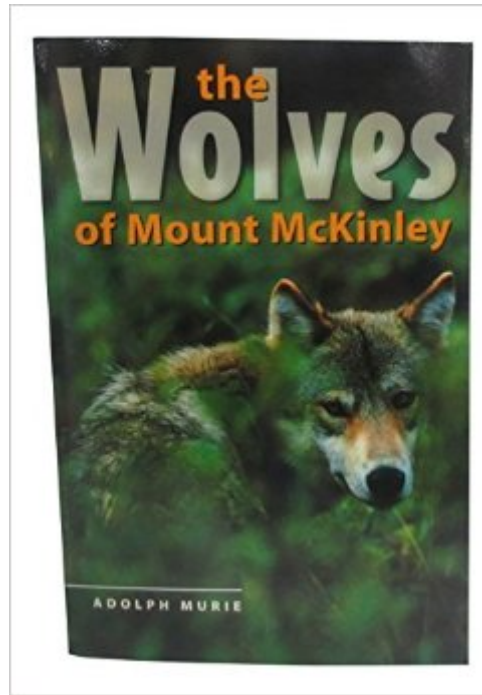


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# The Wolves Of Mount McKinley



## Synopsis

In the time of Lewis and Clark, wolves were abundant throughout North America from the Arctic regions to Mexico. But man declared war on this cunning and powerful animal when cattle replaced the buffalo on the western plains, reducing the wolf's range to those few areas in the Far North where economic necessity did not call for its extinction. Between 1939 and 1941, Adolph Murie, one of North America's greatest naturalists, made a field study of the relationship between wolves and Dall sheep in Mount McKinley National Park (since renamed Denali National Park) which has come to be respected as a classic work of natural history. In this study Murie not only described the life cycle of Alaskan wolves in greater detail than has ever been done, but he discovered a great deal about the entire ecological network of predator and prey. The issues surrounding the survival of the wolf and its prey are more important today than ever, and Murie helps us understand the careful balance that must be maintained to ensure that these magnificent animals prosper. Originally available only in government publications which are long out-of-print, this account of a much maligned animal is now available in its first popular edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The title of Murie's book is far too restrictive to represent the full range of its contents. While the longest single chapter of the book is, indeed, devoted to the habits and ranges of wolves, including their interrelationships with other species inhabiting the huge national park surrounding Mt. McKinley (or Denali, as it is more popularly known in Alaska), other chapters deal with many other

animals native to the region. Among those studied rather intensively are Dall sheep, caribou, moose and fox. Two rather brief chapters give sketches of grizzly bear and golden eagle as well. A more inclusive title for this study might have been "The Fauna of Mount McKinley." First published in 1944, this book is a record of observations made by an astute naturalist bent upon discovering how the animals live, what they eat, where they range, when they give birth, and, most importantly, how they feed upon one another to maintain a healthy and natural population balance. Not a few myths about prey and predator are dispelled by Murie's objective observations, which include examining the contents of scats and stomachs. Murie does not preach environmentalism, but a careful reading of this book should leave the reader with new insights into the natural world and may make him or her just a little more hesitant to intrude destructively into what is actually a highly complex interrelationship among many species inhabiting the few wild spaces left to them. Murie's approach to his study is highly objective and non-judgmental, however, and another reader could probably come away with insights different from mine. Still, I can scarcely conceive of any reader's coming away from this book with no new insight of some sort! If one is particularly intrigued by the great grizzly bear, I recommend that he also read Murie's work entitled "The Grizzlies of Mount McKinley," for it goes into far more detail than does the single chapter on grizzlies in this book. Before investing the purchase price and the reading time in either book, do understand that these are not "story books" and that they are in no way sentimental or emotive approaches to their subjects. They are highly descriptive, scantily illustrated with old black and white photos from the early 1940's, and, at times, recite fairly dry statistical observations. Overall, however, they are well worth the investment by anyone who has an interest in the wild creatures that still inhabit the less-traveled areas of North America.

Yes , it's true .. This is a classic work by Adolph Murie , who bet 1939 & 1941 , made a field study of the relationship bet Wolves & Dall sheep in Mount McKinley National Park (today Denali National Park) . In this study Murie not only described the life circle of Alaskan Wolves in greater detail than had ever been done , but he revealed a great deal about the entire ecological network of predator & prey ... **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED ... DOUBTLESS ....**

Very difficult reading. Excellent study. Great subject. Buy it if you want very comprehensive information about what could be the most misunderstood animal on the planet.

After returning from recent Alaskan tour, the only animal we didn't see near Danali was wolves. This

book was a scientific study of what we missed. Very interesting even though based on a period of up to 50 years ago.

This book give an accurate, though sometimes "dry", account of wildlife which inhabits what we call today Denali National Park. The records may be dated, but they are factual and more-than-likely still true to fact. It presents a real picture of the interaction of the Park's wildlife species and how each copes with enviornmental and predatory conditions of everyday life.

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enjoying the book, was in decent shape for a 60 yr old book

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