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Books Received

A Field Guide to the Native Trees of New Zealand, by J.T. Salmon (\$32.95, Reeds). Anyone who has attempted to carry Professor Salmon's large *The Native Trees of New Zealand* into the bush will appreciate the convenience of this field guide. The best feature of the original — easy identification of our native trees — remains, and to save space all species from outlying islands have been eliminated, along with tree ferns. The text has also been shortened.

The Offshore Islands of Northern New Zealand, edited by A.E. Wright and R.E. Beaver (\$16.50, Lands and Survey Dept). Three years ago the Offshore Islands Research Group convened a symposium in Auckland. This 255-page book contains all the papers presented and is essential reading for anyone interested in the plants, animals, fish and their interaction on islands mainly from Coromandel northwards. It is immensely readable and hence ideal for the amateur naturalist interested in conservation of our unique island biota. Available by writing to Information Services, Lands and Survey Dept, Private Bag, Wellington.

Wetlands: Discovering New Zealand's Shy Places, by Gordon Stephenson (\$16.95, Government Print). This easily readable booklet is a compelling contribution to the cause of wetland protection. The author takes the reader on a chatty ramble to a few of our more accessible wetlands, describing their formation and why each is a place of special interest and importance. The booklet discusses various types of wetlands and focuses on examples of each. You may not find your favourite wetland mentioned here but you should gain a greater appreciation for why we should protect what remains.

Jonathan White's New Zealand (\$99.95, Moa Publications). For those lovers of traditional landscape painting, artist Jonathan White's latest offering will be a welcome addition to their collection. The selection of 41 scenes is New Zealand-wide, with some emphasis on areas important to conservation such as Puketi Forest, the Catlins coast, Stewart Island and Takahe Valley. Text is by well known Southlander, John Hall-Jones.

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