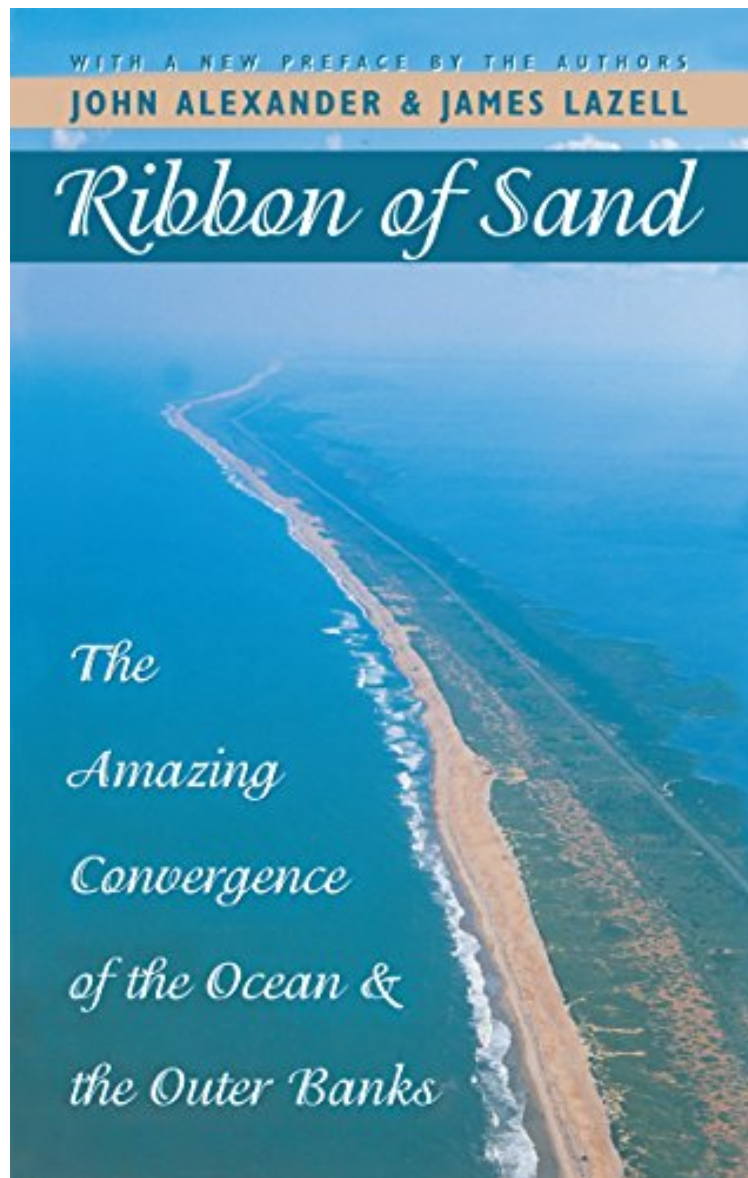


[Free pdf] Ribbon of Sand: The Amazing Convergence of the Ocean and the Outer Banks

Ribbon of Sand: The Amazing Convergence of the Ocean and the Outer Banks

John Alexander, James Lazell

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John Alexander, James Lazell : Ribbon of Sand: The Amazing Convergence of the Ocean and the Outer Banks before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ribbon of Sand: The Amazing Convergence of the Ocean and the Outer Banks:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. one of my favorite nature books
By Kenway I've been going to Hatteras Island since 1972 so it's probably obvious that I love the place. If your interested in either the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, the Wright Brothers, Blackbeard, geology, reptiles (sea turtles and a very specific snake) or nature in general you'll most likely find this book interesting. The book will lead you to a better understanding of the natural processes and special concerns that the Cape Hatteras National Seashore faces. Ribbon of Sand explains the dynamic, fragile and unique ecosystem that is the Outer Banks and the relatively recent pioneers in botany, geology and herpetology that have studied the area and flipped conventional science upside down. I'd venture to say that if you've ever visited (or plan to visit) the area and have an interest in natural sciences that you'd also enjoy this book. The book presents some history but from a perspective of how nature helped shape history - an approach I find refreshing. I re-read this book before every trip to Hatteras and it brings back great memories along with reminding me that I'm visiting a special place on this earth that's alive and constantly changing.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is another book about the Outer Banks. The ...
By carlover This is another book about the Outer Banks. The Outer Banks is a ribbon of sand. Just a strip of land in the ocean off the coast of North Carolina.. This book is very interesting and very good
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. a straightforward explanation of an incredible geological structure
By John A. Leraas A very interesting discussion of the geology of the outer banks interspersed with its history and kept most interesting and readable. This book explains the existence of the outer banks in a very understandable format. Nicely done.

Alexander and Lazell's delightful study of North Carolina's Outer Banks contains a wealth of statistics and facts . . . A Ribbon of Sand--written in romantic prose--is more like a novel. . . . Small and lightweight with chapters of less than 20 pages, this is the perfect book to take on a trip to the North Carolina coast. Interesting and informative, you'll look at a grain of sand or a wave with a whole new perspective.--TasteFull
Ribbon of Sand is a rich and beautifully written exploration of the unique natural history and romantic past of the Outer Banks, the fragile barrier islands that stretch for almost two hundred miles down the North Carolina coast. A new preface discusses recent developments on the Banks, including the discovery and excavation of a wreck believed to be Blackbeard's ship and the continuing threat of offshore oil drilling, and throughout the book the authors reveal the controversies, natural wonders, and fascinating legends that make the Outer Banks one of the nation's most beloved treasures.

From Publishers Weekly North Carolina's Outer Banks region, 180 miles of shifting sands, has both a romantic past--including the lost colony of Roanoke Island, the Wright brothers, pirates and shipwrecks--and a unique natural history. Alexander, a former newspaper editor, and naturalist Lazell, president of the Conservation Agency, examine this fragile ecosystem and unravel an evolutionary mystery. Explaining the actions of ocean currents, winds and waves, they show how island contours change, how inlets open and close. They describe the fauna and flora of maritime forests and beaches and search for a rare Ocracoke king snake, sticticeps. Their finding it yields an engrossing story of field science and discloses a remarkable example of relatively recent co-evolution (snake, rice rat, warmyrtle) . The authors also chart the changes brought by development of the island. As natural history or as description of barrier islands, this book leaves the reader with a clear sense of place and an understanding of the forces of wind and water. Illustrations. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal In a popular style of science writing that will appeal to lay readers, the authors discuss the history, geography, and ecology of North Carolina's Outer Banks in the context of barrier island geology and ecology. Among the topics they explore are the interactions of wind, sea, sand, and land on the Outer Banks, the influence of the Gulf Stream, geological development, and the ecological role of the maritime forest. Line drawings of native flora and fauna and maps (not seen) accompany the text. Alexander, a journalist, and Lazell, a scientist, love the unspoiled Outer Banks and warn of possible threats to the area. A useful supplement to more specialized studies (Orrin H. Pilkey's *From Currituck to Calabash*, Duke Univ. Pr, 1982, and Paul V. Godfrey's *Barrier Island Ecology of Cape Lookout National Seashore and Vicinity*, N. Carolina, G.P.O., 1976), this work is suitable for natural history collections in public and academic libraries.- Judith B. Barnett, Pell Marine Science Lib., Univ. of Rhode Island, Kingston
Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. This is a guidebook to be taken along when exploring this fragile place that deserves to be preserved."Booklist"
Leaves the reader with a clear sense of place and an understanding of the forces of wind and water."Publishers Weekly"
This fine book paints a distinct portrait of a delicate ecosystem and how humans have forever affected it."In Southern Words"
A beautifully drawn picture of 'the resiliency and self-correcting mechanism of the natural order' at work on the Outer Banks."Outer Banks Magazine"
This book provides gentle yet informative reading to round out a portrait of the Outer Banks."Audubon Naturalist News"