

text, but something of a reference book that has a great deal of utility and interest to users, managers and residents of coastal California. *Living with the California Coast* is likely to be found in the bookshelves and on the coffee tables of many shorefront homes and on the ready reference shelves of all libraries and planning offices.

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Geomorphology from Space: A Global Overview of Regional Landforms, edited by N.M. Short and R.W. Blair, Jr., 1986, Washington, DC: NASA, Scientific and Technical Information Branch, 717 pp. 486p.

This new book contains analysis and comments on satellite images. They are ordered from a genetic point of view, and so the different chapters are actually chapters of the geomorphology. In one sense, it is an atlas-like collection of images, but the commentaries are centered on specific geomorphological features of the primary image.

Nearly all plates are accompanied by three or four ancillary photographs, which are mostly oblique and vertical aerial views or ground panoramic photographs. In this way, attention is focused on coastal landforms, but they are also shown in chapters other than those devoted to coastal landforms. Thus, the chapter on tectonic landforms has good examples of the coastal influence of block liminary tectonics, folded structures, shields and other regional features. The part on volcanic landforms shows some types of volcanic islands, arcs and volcanic coastal piedmonts. Within the deltaic landforms it is possible to discover different types, but there is also evolutive superposition of them.

The part devoted to coastal landforms is structured by Professor Arthur Bloom. His selection allows estuarine landforms, littoral lagoons, rias, fjords, zeta-form bays, barriers, barrier islands, barrier reefs, coral islands and forelands to be found. It is also a complement of former chapters, because structural and volcanic landforms are also included. The chapter on eolian landforms contains only few examples of coastal eolian landforms, but the image of the Namib desert is a good example of a beach-dune interaction megasystem. The section on glacial landforms includes suggestive images of the glacio-littoral morphogenetic system and also on some inherited glacial features on the coast. Finally, the chapter on global geomorphology has

some examples on the geomorphology of the coastal margin, such as submarine meanders on shelf sediments, submarine canyons or side-scan sonographs.

An introductory section opens each "gallery" chapter and reviews the state of current knowledge for each subject area. Moreover, an opening and two closing chapters complete the book, dealing respectively with regional landform analysis under the global perspective of mega-geomorphology, geomorphological mapping and an outlook for the future.

This important book, then, brings in a key methodological question of contemporary geomorphology, that of the principle of scale, and how representative of major regions are certain local landforms and processes. The use of the comparative method is facilitated, and extrapolations over many orders of magnitude in scale are possible. Obviously, the selection of images did not achieve optimal results, especially in the case of the ancillary photographs, because of problems inherent in the process of collection. Small omissions in over-viewing some images may appear. In addition, despite the considerable bibliography in each chapter, few works in languages other than English are used; important works such as P. Birot's *Géomorphologie Structurale*, for instance, and *Traité de Géomorphologie* by A. Gailleux and J. Tricart, are omitted.

Despite these problems, however, it is beyond argument that this this serious and great work is one of the more important new contributions to geomorphology.

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Coasts: Institutional Arrangement for Management of Coastal Resources, by Jens C. Sorensen, Scott M. McCreary and Marc J. Hershman. 1984, Columbia, SC: South Carolina Research Planning Institute for the National Park Service and U.S. Aid, 165p. Paperbound.

The extensive environmental legislation passed in the U.S. during the 1970's has often been exported to developed and developing countries, yet very little has been written comparing coastal zone management efforts on the national levels. Sorensen, McCreary and Hershman's monograph, *Institutional Arrangement for Management of Coastal Resources*, is one of the first such attempts. The