

Acknowledgments

We hope that this book contributes to the process of halting destruction of the Atlantic Forest hotspot and beginning its restoration. One of the first steps in this endeavor is to get people on the same page. We have been fortunate to get a variety of people from different disciplines, affiliations, regions, and countries on the same pages—literally. Each of them is intensely committed to preventing the loss of one of the greatest treasures of our planet. We are extremely grateful to all the authors for their contributions and for the trust they placed in us to adjust their chapters to fit the book requirements. As you will read in the book, they are passionate about their work and filled with optimism in the face of the alarming trends they describe.

Luiz Paulo Pinto, Maria Cecília Wey de Brito, Monica Fonseca, Paulo Gustavo, and Roberto Cavalcanti from Conservation International Brazil provided logistical support, valuable comments on several chapters, and help in recruiting an excellent team of Brazilian authors.

From the beginning of the project, Hernán Povedano and José Luis Cartes went out of their way to invite and help interview many of the contributors from Argentina and Paraguay. They continued to provide much-needed assistance throughout the development of the book.

Penny Langhammer undertook the painstaking job of creating maps to illustrate the chapters and provide the reader with a sense of place. She also made immense contributions in editing early versions of the manuscripts and in managing the entire project. Rob Waller, Greg Buppert, Lorena Bustos, and Mark Denil from Conservation International helped Penny create the maps, from obtaining map layers to editing final illustrations. Many information layers for the creation of these maps were provided by Fundação SOS Mata Atlântica, Guyra Paraguay, and Germán Palé and Guillermo Placci of Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina.

The contributions benefited greatly from the work of the CABS publications team, led by Philippa Benson. Her relentless scrutiny and tenacious editing greatly improved the clarity and readability of the final book. Her team included the superb translators Laura Vlasman and Muriel Vasconcellos, who translated

Portuguese and Spanish versions into English in meticulous academic detail. They scrutinized the clarity of meanings, references, and consistency, often examining primary sources. Neil Lindeman and Natasha Atkins thoroughly cleaned up many chapters of the book. Glenda Fabregas contributed her ideas to early versions of the book's cover. Brigid Willson from Island Press developed the interior design and later versions of the cover. We also thank Kevin Schafer for the use of his photographs on the cover of this volume, including the background image and the muriqui (right most inset).

We were lucky to have Anthony Rylands down the hall here at CABS, with his encyclopedic knowledge of the Atlantic Forest (and his library). His careful review of parts of this book added much polish and many edges of accuracy.

Finally, Barbara Dean, Barbara Youngblood, and Laura Carrithers of Island Press took on this project enthusiastically. Of course, grateful thanks go to Silvio Olivieri, Gustavo Fonseca, and Russ Mittermeier from Conservation International, who provided guidance and much-needed support throughout the process.

Bringing together the various aspects of this book has been a complex and sometimes daunting enterprise. We hope the book gives you the same understanding and sense of urgency we have about the future of the Atlantic Forest.