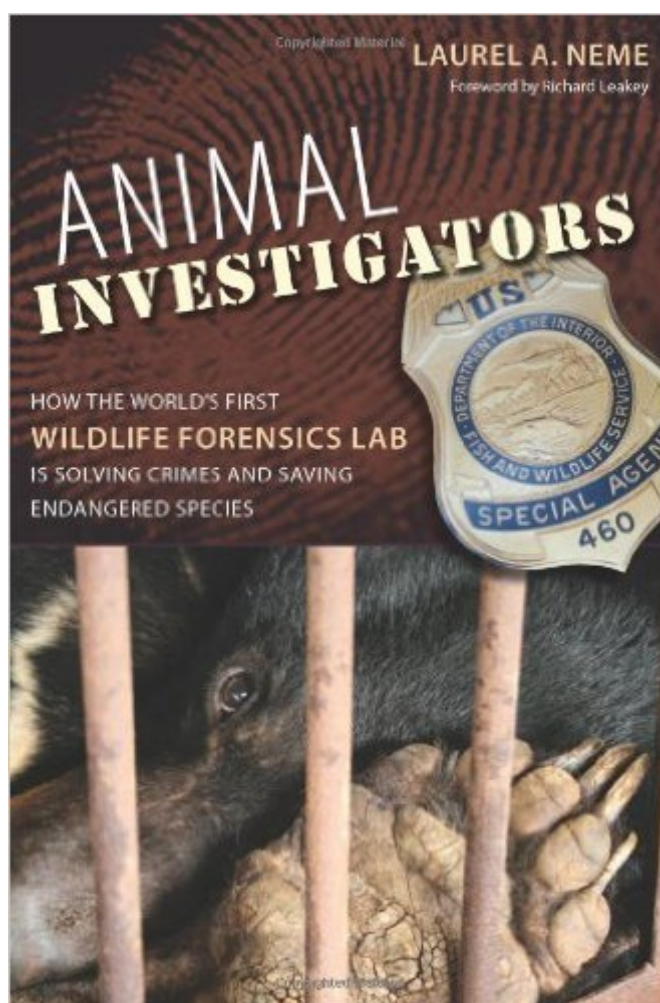


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Animal Investigators: How The World's First Wildlife Forensics Lab Is Solving Crimes And Saving Endangered Species



Synopsis

"Neme reveals concrete clues and fascinating sidelights that should keep fans of police procedurals hooked, while also focusing on cultural issues and the challenges of global regulation."--Publishers Weekly
"A fantastic, exciting and revealing read! Neme takes us deep into the dark world of wildlife exploitation with a thrill level and suspense rivaling any episode of CSI."--Jeff Corwin, wildlife biologist, producer, & host
"Tells an amazing story about concerned scientists and forensic teams working to solve the murder mysteries that all too often are overlooked: the poaching and smuggling of endangered species."--Jane Goodall
"Think CSI: Wilderness. Neme's book gives us a new set of heroes, in the labs of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and reminds us of one of the uglier set of villains on the planet, the traffickers in wildlife."--William McKibben, author of Deep Economy and The End of Nature
Accomplished environmental journalist Laurel Neme goes behind the scenes at the only wildlife forensics crime lab in the world to reveal how scientists and agents of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are working to investigate wildlife crimes, protect endangered species, and stem illegal wildlife tr

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Customer Reviews

While animal rights are often relegated to an extreme aspect of environmentalism by politicians, the palpable cruelty that befalls animals has in fact motivated some of the earliest international treaties on animal rights. The International Convention on the Regulation of Whaling was the first international environmental agreement (1946) and continues to endure many claims to cultural exception. The Convention on the International trade of Endangered Species (CITES, 1975), is one

of the few environmental agreements which directly interfaces with law enforcement. It is within this context that Laurel Neme's *Animal Investigators* provides a close-up account of how the international trade in endangered species is monitored and enforced. Focusing on three key case studies of walrus poaching in Alaska, the trade in bear bile across Asia and exotic bird feathers from Brazil, Neme documents the challenges of animal forensics. Writing with clarity and investigative zeal, she follows the path from crime scene to labs to court rooms. At times her narrative reads like a crime novel and at others like a biology lesson. Yet this synthesis of styles and themes is so essential in capturing the gravity of crimes against our fellow organisms worldwide. Unlike most international environmental narratives, in this one, the United States comes out particularly positive. Not only was the US a founding signatory to CITES, but it also hosts one of the key animal forensic labs that investigates over 30,000 species of animal crime victims. The staff of the Clark R Bavin U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Forensics Laboratory are key protagonists in the book.

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