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Wolf Island : Discovering the Secrets of a Mythic Animal [book review]

Kevin McDonough

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Isle Royale is a 45 mile long island located in northwest Lake Superior, sixty miles from the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan. For over sixty-two years, the island has been the site of the longest continuous study of predator-prey relationships in the world. In *Wolf Island*, famous wolf researcher L. David Mech tells of his initial years with the project, studying the dynamics between wolves and moose from 1958-1961. Written by science writer Greg Breining, the book is based on interviews with Mech and entries from his journals and notes from those years. Filled with fascinating discoveries and engaging stories, *Wolf Island* is not a boring scientific monograph. Breining weaves scientific questions—What animals did wolves hunt? Did wolves kill old and sick moose, or healthy ones too? What controls the wolf population?—with personal stories from Mech’s stay on the island. Thirty color photographs reveal his work and some of the people involved. The book concludes with a “View from Afar” where Mech summarizes what they know of wolves today, and offers his view on the controversial decision to reintroduce wolves to Isle Royale in 2018. Recommended for all readers and libraries.