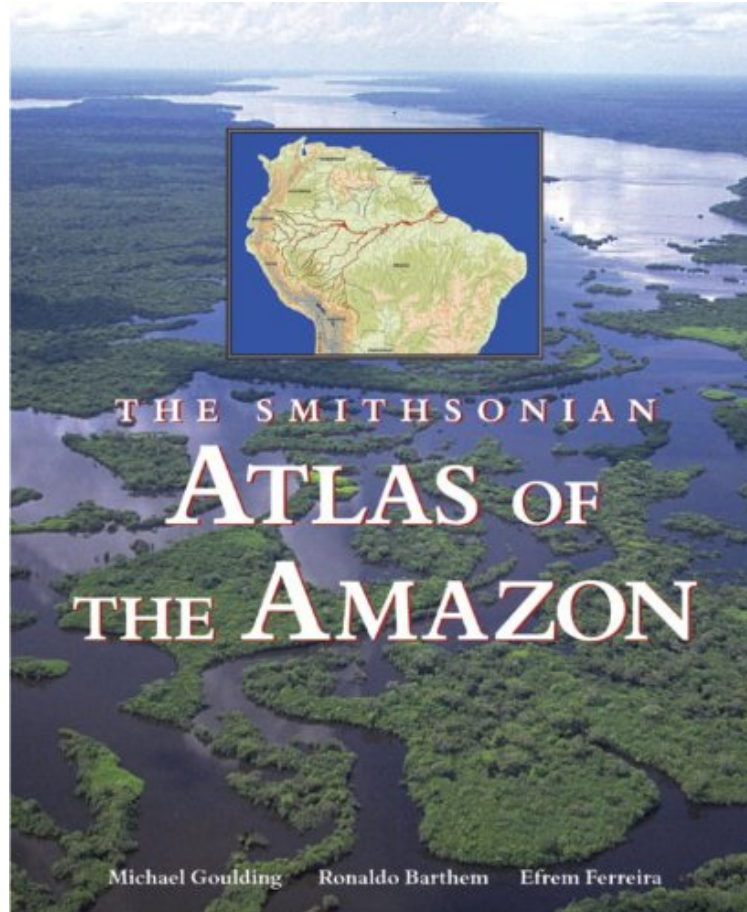


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Smithsonian Atlas of the Amazon

Michael Goulding, Ronaldo Barthem, Efrem Jorge Gondim Ferreira
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Michael Goulding, Ronaldo Barthem, Efrem Jorge Gondim Ferreira : Smithsonian Atlas of the Amazon before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Smithsonian Atlas of the Amazon:

39 of 40 people found the following review helpful. Good effort, but far from comprehensive By Alan Dean Foster While thorough in some areas, such as its discussion of sedimentation and flow volume river by river, this atlas of the is sorely lacking in others. Some examples: while major tributaries are named, many large ones that are minor only by ian standards are never named. Despite the fact that many maps cover significant mountainous areas, including the Andes, none of the maps are colored to show altitude, which would greatly help the reader in visualizing the direction and rate of riverine flow. Too few cities are shown on the maps, and then only on some. Cities that are mentioned as being in a map area are sometimes not shown on the relevant map at all. Other items significant to an atlas are completely omitted. Areas used for cattle ranching, rice growing, etc., are mentioned, but there are no maps that delineate them. Such areas are only shown as "deforested". Important roads, such as Pucallpa-Lima, are not

labeled. Important proposed roads are referred to, but their routes are not shown. With the exception of Macchu Picchu, important archeological sites are mentioned but not shown. Contentious oil discoveries are discussed, but their locations are not shown on any maps, nor are the relevant pipelines. On page 213, protected-reserved areas are shown via three separate maps, but the areas are not combined, which would give a clearer picture of how much of the region being discussed (Rio Negro) is actually under some form of protection. Writing tends to the repetitious. Despite the biological diversity of the basin, virtually no photos of indigenous wildlife are included. Some photos look like low-rez digital shots that have been enlarged too much. A couple are notably blurry. A useful reference book to be sure, but far from definitive.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating, balanced, colorful and inviting to visit the place...By Jiri Matus Beautiful atlas with huge amount of information and large number of pictures related to each issue and map. Lot of space is devoted to the description of dynamics that are shaping the entire river basin and the river and its tributaries themselves. Weather and rainfall pattern, bedrock and resulting water qualities are related and well described. Quite well balanced ecological informations and human interaction with it are available for the reader throughout the book. The whole concept is very well set, so information always come with the reasoning. The book is definitely opposite of the type of encyclopedia fact loaded dull text and maps. Reader will learn what makes each river different and why that happens, what are the factors behind each distinct fact stated here. There are some mistakes when some pictures are related to the map, so it will make the reader to think a bit more and take the quiz where they belong but those are minor bugs. Overall I rate this book with five stars and wish to get similar one about different ecosystem or place on earth. It will be a hard task as the bar is set quite high...1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Exciting pictures and maps By Mauro C This book has lots of exciting pictures, maps and data but is a bit heavy reading. I'd like some more information on the people of this thrilling region but this does not detract the book in any way. Highly recommended.

The Amazon River flows more than 4,000 miles through the world's greatest rainforest, into the Amazon delta, and finally into the Atlantic Ocean. This extraordinary atlas is the first comprehensive view of not only the Amazon River but also its thirteen major tributaries. More than 150 color maps and nearly 300 vivid photographs provide spectacular views of the river and rainforest. Along the way, the authors explore many intriguing topics such as why some of the Amazon's tributaries have black water, what happens when the freshwater of the Amazon reaches the salty ocean, and why we all should be concerned about the deforestation that contributes to the loss of species biodiversity.

About the Author Michael Goulding is a rainforest ecologist with the Conservation Alliance and author of several books, including *Floods of Fortune*. Ronaldo Barthem is a biologist with the Goeldi Museum in Belém, Brazil. Efreim Ferreira is a fisheries ecologist with the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas de Amazônia in Manaus, Brazil.