Islands in the Sand
Ecology and Management of Nearshore Hardbottom Reefs of East Florida

The first comprehensive book on the nearshore hardbottom reefs of east Florida, with applications to the Caribbean and beyond.

Over 90 color pictures bring the habitat and its fauna and flora to life.

Fills basic gaps in biological and ecological understanding for scientists, managers, divers, fisherfolk, and beachcombers, with over 1250 technical literature citations and glossary.

Islands in the Sand: Ecology and Management of Nearshore Hardbottom Reefs of East Florida
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An unprecedented collection of information, illustrated generously with color photographs of nearshore hardbottom reefs of Florida’s east coast, a habitat used by >1100 species of fishes, algae, invertebrates, and sea turtles.

The book also examines organism- and assemblage-scale responses to natural and man-made disturbances, including climate change. There is abundant information for researchers and agency personnel, as well as beachfront residents and water-users interested in their local islands in the sand.

“We prosper from their flora and fauna, and are treated to the landscapes they present at low tide, and through our dive mask... although we gain from these lovely, diverse, accessible patches of hard sea-bottom, we fail to appreciate the full depth of these shallow reefs...

To visit a Florida beach adorned by nearshore reef at low tide is to experience uniquely accessible nature - life-filled tide pools that tempt the curiosity of children and bring out blissful biophilia in us all. ... On this journey, this book will be our guide.”

Dr. Blair Witherington, from the Forward.


Images: (pg 1 clockwise) – D.B. Snyder, D.A. McCarthy, M. Daniel
          (pg 2 clockwise) – D.B. Snyder, M. Daniel, R. Smith