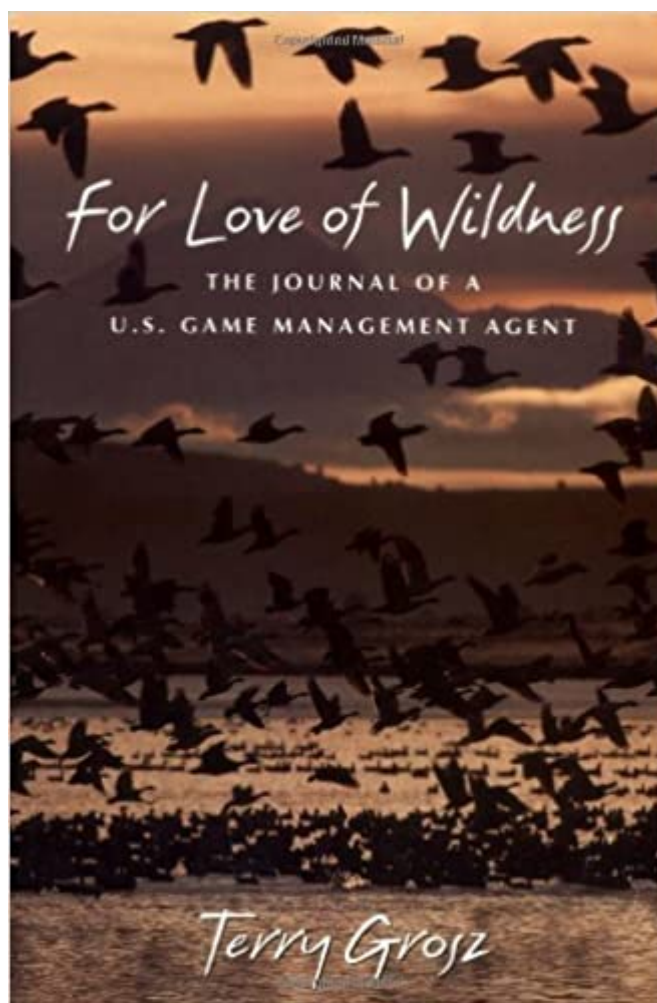


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# For Love Of Wildness: The Journal Of A U.S. Game Management Agent



## Synopsis

"For Love of Wildness" is Terry Grosz's eagerly anticipated sequel to the stories he told in his first book, "Wildlife Wars." Picking up where he left off, Grosz, who was a conservation officer for California and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for more than 30 years, begins this new book with his move from the state to the federal level, where the cases are often bigger and more complex. Grosz's stories are action-packed, yet always infused with his love of wildlife and the great outdoors, and he makes the urgent point in his book, as he did in his career, that our failure to protect our fragile natural resources is the same as stealing from our children and our children's children. "Having been unable to put the first book down until the last shot was fired and the last poacher was clapped in irons, I'm eagerly awaiting more" from the safety of a reading lamp." Ed Dentry, Denver Rocky Mountain News

## Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Johnson Books (October 17, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1555662641

ISBN-13: 978-1555662646

Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 6.3 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #485,214 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Hunting & Fishing #397 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Environmentalists & Naturalists #520 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Wildlife

## Customer Reviews

Terry Grosz earned his bachelor's degree in 1964 and his master's in wildlife management in 1966 from Humboldt State College in California. He was a California State Fish and Game Warden, based first in Eureka and then Colusa, from 1966 to 1970. He then joined the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and served in California as a U.S. Game Management Agent and Special Agent until 1974. After that, he was promoted to Senior Resident Agent and placed in charge of North and South Dakota for two years, followed by three years as Senior Special Agent in Washington, D.C., with the Endangered Species Program, Division of Law Enforcement. While in

Washington, he also served as a foreign liaison officer. In 1979 he became Assistant Special Agent in Charge in Minneapolis, and then was promoted to Special Agent in Charge, and transferred to Denver in 1981, where he remained until retirement in June 1998 (although his title changed to Assistant Regional Director for Law Enforcement). He has earned many awards and honors during his career, including, from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Meritorious Service Award in 1996, and Top Ten Awards in 1987 as one of the top ten employees (in an agency of some 9,000). The Fish & Wildlife Foundation presented him with the Guy Bradley Award in 1989, and in 1995 he received the Conservation Achievement Award for Law Enforcement from the National Wildlife Federation. His first book, "Wildlife Wars," was published in 1999. Terry Grosz lives in Colorado with his wife, Donna, who teaches fourth grade and makes the best pies in the world. They have three grown children.

This is the second book in a series of memoirs by game warden Terry Grosz. I really enjoyed the first book, in which he began as a California Game Warden. There he confronted a wide range of wildlife problems, from abalone fishing to steelhead and salmon poachers, endangered Tule elk, deer, and interstate shipment of illegally harvested items. Grosz is a born raconteur, and the variety made the previous book lively and interesting. Grosz is still a great story-teller but unfortunately he left his state job to work as a warden for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). This job involves enforcing the provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act in the Sacramento Delta region, a hugely important flyway. In practice, this means catching illegal duck hunters. Sadly, there are only so many things that duck hunters can do. They can hunt over the limit. They can remove the plugs on their shotguns to shoot more ducks faster. They can bait the ducks, and shoot over a baited area. They can shoot protected species of ducks. Usually, they do all of these things at the same time, early in the morning. So the book consists of Terry Grosz staking out wetlands and then watching hunters violate the same laws over and over again. Of course, there is some variety in the stories. But not enough. It's ducks over and over again. Fortunately, his next book involves a promotion to a supervisory position in the USFWS. From this higher vantage point, his life became more varied once again. As a result, this book is the only real disappointment in the series.

A+

It was fun to read about the duck clubs and their history in the Sacramento and Stockton area from a personal view as an officer.

I have enjoyed all of Terry Grosz's books

Terry Grosz was a conservation officer for the California and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for more than thirty years. His first memoir, *Wildlife Wars*, covered his early life. *For Love Of Wilderness: The Journal Of A U.S. Game Management Agent* begins with his move from the state to the federal levels, where his cases were bigger and more complex. Grosz's stories are as infused with his love of wildlife and enjoyment of the great outdoors as they are action-packed and totally engaging. In these memoirs Grosz makes a repeated point that our failure to protect our fragile natural resources is the same as stealing from our children, and our children's children. *For Love Of Wilderness* is a superbly presented, candid and engaging autobiography that will also have immense appeal to anyone with an interest in wildlife and conservation issues.

After reading Mr. Grosz' first book, *Wildlife Wars*, I couldn't wait to get his next one. *For Love of Wildness* exceeded my expectations and now I am looking forward to reading his new book. The main reason I found it so enjoyable is because the passion with which the Mr. Grosz conducted himself while carrying out his profession comes through in his writing. I felt like I was right beside him during his adventures. For a busy person, it is an easy book to read because each chapter is independent of the others and can be read as time permits. The problem is you want to keep reading. When I completed this book, I was sorry it that was finished.

After reading *Wildlife Wars*, I wondered if Terry Grosz could keep up the pace with a new set of memories and fascinating law enforcement experiences. Not to worry. *For Love of Wildness* takes you into a world almost never visited by even those of us who love the outdoors. Seldom does one who possesses a depth of knowledge in one field of endeavor, rise to be able to chronicle that knowledge and experience in an entertaining and compelling manner. Grosz has risen above all but a very few professional authors. Don't miss this one! Larry Jay Martin, author *The Last Stand*

Terry Grosz is a good writer and a great storyteller. However, it doesn't take long to realize that these stories are a little "over the top". In the beginning of the book the author states that the stories have been somewhat "altered" and that some "blind alleys" have been added. I think he got carried away with the alterations and blind alleys. If you like entertaining outdoor stories of fiction and fantasy with some reality mixed in, then this is the book for you.

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