Human activity during the Anthropocene has transformed landscapes worldwide on a scale that rivals or exceeds even the largest of natural forces. Landscape ecology has emerged as a science to investigate the interactions between natural and anthropogenic landscapes and ecological processes across a wide range of scales and systems: from the effects of habitat or resource distributions on the individual movements, gene flow, and population dynamics of plants and animals; to the human alteration of landscapes affecting the structure of biological communities and the functioning of entire ecosystems; to the sustainable management of natural resources and the ecosystem goods and services upon which society depends. This novel and comprehensive text presents the principles, theory, methods, and applications of landscape ecology in an engaging and accessible format that is supplemented by numerous examples and case studies from a variety of systems, including freshwater and marine 'scapes'.

Essentials of Landscape Ecology is suitable for upper-level undergraduate and graduate courses in landscape ecology. This textbook can also be used as a supplemental text in other ecology courses, as well as courses in forestry, resource and wildlife management, conservation and restoration biology, sustainable land-use and environmental planning. For the professional landscape ecologist, it provides an authoritative overview of the latest research and developments.

Cover image: © Linda Gass, 2007. *Fields of Salt*. Art quilt (stitched painting) depicting a landscape in the San Francisco Bay Area (California, USA) where the natural wetlands have been converted to salt ponds for industrial salt production.

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