The idea for this book began when Dara was a graduate student in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation at the University of Florida. Several months into her second year in graduate school, she brought her adviser, Susan Jacobson, an outline of her dissertation proposal to review. Susan, an extremely supportive and patient advisor, handed the document back and informed Dara that she had written a book outline instead of a thesis proposal and she couldn’t possibly complete this effort in four years. Fortunately, with Susan’s help, Dara was able to whittle the proposal down to several manageable chapters for her dissertation, but the idea for a book stuck. The interviews and research described here would not have been possible without Susan’s advice and encouragement.

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