For over three decades, *The Handbook of Environmental Chemistry* has established a solid reputation as a publication series that produces valuable reference documents containing sound, solid, and comprehensive knowledge about environmental topics. The publication of *The Skadar/Shkodra Lake Environment* continues that tradition as this book represents an outstanding overview and detailed compilation of our current knowledge of the lake and its basin. The book’s 508 pages comprehensively document how the lake and its basin are truly a unique ecosystem – one to be cherished and sustained. Located in the western Balkans, with its waters shared by Montenegro and Albania, it is the largest lake in the entire Balkan Peninsula. It measures approximately 44 km long and up to 20 km wide and has a surface area fluctuating seasonally from approximately 350 to 500 km$^2$. The whole lake basin is massive, at over 5,600 km$^2$. The book includes 23 chapters written by 50 of the leading experts in their disciplines. The chapters are well illustrated with a total of 210 graphics, including 147 in color. The topics covered are diverse, including ecology, parasitology, geography, geology (e.g., hydrogeology), botany (e.g., charophytes, submerged macroscopic algae, phytoplankton, vascular plants), zoology (e.g., zooplankton, zoobenthos, molluscs, mites, vertebrate parasites, subterranean fauna, fish, birds, amphibians, and reptiles), meteorology (e.g., regional climate change), chemistry (e.g., waters and sediments), limnology, metal pollution, satellite remote sensing, and cultural-historic heritage. A key theme in the book is the importance of a science-based, international, integrated approach (e.g., transboundary cooperation) to monitor and protect the lake and basin, and how this is particularly pressing given the global challenges that the region is expected to face with climatic change and the increasing demands for water. In summary, this book is a publication that will be valued for years to come as a milestone scientific contribution and an essential reference book to a wide audience, including scientists, environmental managers, public-interest groups, and policymakers in industry and government.

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