

Women in Conservation in Leadership [WCL] Shared Reading List			
Title	Author	Synopsis / Summary / Critique (if available)	Shared by (optional)
<a href="https://www.nwf.org/Our-Work/People/Women-in-Conservation-Leadership">https://www.nwf.org/Our-Work/People/Women-in-Conservation-Leadership</a>		1/3/2019	
<a href="#">Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls</a>	Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo		Tara Bergeson, WI DNR
<a href="#">Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World</a>	Rachel Ignotofsky	Great for girls... because smart, strong girls grow up to be smart, strong women!	Tara Bergeson, WI DNR
<a href="#">The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness</a>	Sy Montgomery	In pursuit of the wild, solitary, predatory octopus, popular naturalist Sy Montgomery has practiced true immersion journalism. From New England aquarium tanks to the reefs of French Polynesia and the Gulf of Mexico, she has befriended octopuses with strikingly different personalities—gentle Athena, assertive Octavia, curious Kiki, and joyful Karma. Each creature shows her cleverness in myriad ways: escaping enclosures like an orangutan; jettisoning water to bounce balls; and endlessly tricking companions with multiple “sleights of hand” to get food.	Lisa Frank, Environment America; Environment America Research & Policy Center
<a href="#">Lab Girl</a>	Hope Jahren	<a href="#">Vladimir Nabokov once observed that “a writer should have the precision of a poet and the imagination of a scientist.” The geobiologist Hope Jahren possesses both in spades. Her engrossing new memoir, “Lab Girl,” is at once a thrilling account of her discoveries of her field and a gift to teachers’ road map to the secret lives of plants — a book that, at its best, does for botany what Oliver Sacks’s essays did for neurology, what Stephen Jay Gould’s writings did for paleontology. Click link to read more...</a>	Lisa Bloodgood, Newtown Creek Alliance, lisabloodgood@gmail.com
<a href="#">Hedy's Folly: The Life and Breakthrough Inventions of Hedy Lamarr, The Most Beautiful Woman in the World</a>	Richard Rhodes		jvasiz@gmail.com
<a href="#">Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants</a>	Robin Wall Kimmerer	As a botanist and professor of plant ecology, Robin Wall Kimmerer has spent a career learning how to ask questions of nature using the tools of science. As a Potawatomi woman, she learned from elders, family, and history that the Potawatomi, as well as a majority of other cultures indigenous to this land, consider plants and animals to be our oldest teachers.  Braiding Sweetgrass is a fabulous book. And Robin Wall Kimmerer is also a terrific speaker if anyone has events for which she'd be appropriate. She spoke at the banquet at our Wetland Science Conference a couple years ago and we got rave reviews. Frankly that book made me look at the world differently. ~Katie Beilfus	Jennifer Hammonds, NWF
<a href="#">Hidden Figures</a>	Margot Shetterly		Barbara Bramble, NWF
<a href="#">The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</a>	Rebecca Skloot		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">Headstrong: 52 Women Who Changed Science...</a>	Rachel Swaby		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">Rise of the Rocket Girls</a>	Nathalia Holt		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">The Glass Universe</a>	Dava Sobel		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">The Girls of Atomic City</a>	Denise Kiernan		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">The Radium Girls</a>	Katie Moore		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">Inferior: How Science Got Women Wrong</a>	Angela Saini		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">The Only Woman in the Room: Why Science is Still a Boys' Club</a>	Eileen Pollack		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">The Other Einstein</a>	Marie Benedict		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">A Singularly Unfeminine Profession</a>	Mary K. Gaillard		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage</a>	Sydney Padua		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">Hypatia of Alexandria</a>	Maruša Dželska		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">Silent Spring</a>	Rachel Carson		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">Soundings: the story of the remarkable women who mapped the ocean floor</a>	Hali Felt		Brooke Randolph <Randolph@NWF.ORG>
<a href="#">The Fossil Hunter: Dinosaurs, Evolution, and the Woman Whose Discoveries Changed the World</a>	Shelley Erning	Mary Anning is a fascinating figure, somebody who changed paleontology before she was fifteen years old, and who was repeatedly taken advantage of by the scientific community for her troubles. The only reason this book isn't higher is its tendency to muse at length on what Anning might have been thinking at different points. But if you've got a young paleontology fan in your house, this is a good one.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">The Illustrated Women in Science: Year One</a>	Dale Debakovic		Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">The Illustrated Women in Science: Year Two</a>	Dale Debakovic		Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Elin Swallow: The Woman Who Founded Ecology</a>	Robert Clarke	When Clarke wrote this book in the Seventies, America was just coming back around to the ecological insights and concerns that Swallow had raised a half century earlier. It's a great and earnest take about one of the most undervalued figures in the history of twentieth century science, a woman who created several new branches of scientific inquiry from scratch. Earnest and inspiring, it's worth hunting down.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">An Autobiography and Other Recollections</a>	Cecilia Payne-Gaposchki	Payne-Gaposchki is the person who told us at long last what stars were made of, and had to fight every step of the way to do it. Time after time, she reversed or silenced herself in the face of her superiors' scorn for her ideas. This autobiography tells the tales of those clashes, but also tells the story of doing science in a world that is trying to tear itself apart as fast as it can. A beautifully written tale of a vitally important scientific life.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Nobel Prize Women in Science: Their Lives, Struggles, and Momentous Discoveries</a>	Sharon Bertsch McGrayne	There are a number of Women in Science compendia out there which offer twenty or so brief biographies of famous female scientists, but this one is my favorite. It focuses on all the women who won Nobel Prizes prior to 1993, with substantial biographies of each. As a diving-in point on the breadth and scope of female contributions to science, it's hard to do better.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Blazing the Trail: Essays by Leading Women in Science</a>	Emma Ideal and Rhannon Mehrachand	I love this book, because it's the only one on this list which went out of its way to ask what is happening in science right now. Ideal and Mehrachand found a broad cross section of modern era female scientists and let them speak their own stories and concerns. It's the first book on this list I'd give to anybody considering a career in science for some current insights into what all is going on and what to expect.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Dorothy Hodgkin: A Life</a>	Georgina Ferry	[Spoiler Alert] Dorothy Hodgkin is coming up pretty soon in year three as one of the towering figures of early twentieth century crystallography. This book, the first work from Georgina Ferry, is a charming combination of science and life, leaning towards the latter. Pair it with Maddox's Franklin and you've got the makings of a great week of reading.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">On Her Own Terms: Annie Montague Alexander and the Rise of Science in the American West</a>	Barbara R. Stein	Alexander's life was so weird and improbable that I don't think you could write a bad biography of her if you set out to. It's a story of the glory days when Oakland, California was the Athens of the West, and one woman set out to document the natural history of vanishing American ecosystems. Alexander, the rich heiress tromping through the wilds of Alaska with her specimen traps, is irresistible.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Seduced by Logic: Emilie du Chatelet, Mary Somerville, and the Newtonian Revolution</a>	Robyn Ariarhod	I have made no secret about not liking the title of this book, but everything else is delightful. A dual biography of two magnificent thinkers, one of whom brought Newton to France, and the other of whom brought Laplace to a mathematically moribund Britain, told with verve and panache.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Caroline Herschel: Priestess of the New Heavens</a>	Michael Hoskin	Herschel lived for a gloomy near-century, a quarter of it as an unknown household drudge, a quarter as a bitter former celebrity, and a half as the nexus for the recataloguing of the Northern Sky. Hoskin is the main biographer of the whole Herschel clan, and this biography shines with his knowing familiarity with their foibles and quirks.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Maria Mitchell and the Sexing of Science: An Astronomer Among the American Romantics</a>	Renee Bergland	This book shines a light on a part of science that otherwise most people would have known nothing about, namely the pro-female, pro-science culture of Nineteenth Century Quakerism. That is a fascinating world to explore for a while, and we have Bergland to thank for unfolding it. Does Bergland say not particularly accurate things when she strays from this community? Yes. Are the statements about Elin Swallow's life and science ignorant and condescending? Yes. But if that's the price we have to pay to get the rest, so be it.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Lise Meitner: A Life in Physics</a>	Ruth Lewin Sime	This is a delicious challenge of a book. It's a scientific mystery where, rather than cast everything in terms of the solution that was ultimately arrived at, and which we're all familiar with, we follow Meitner through the dim alleys and cul-de-sacs of scientific progress, including all the dead-ends and wrong guesses and missed chances that bedevil every scientist. Sime doesn't say, "This result was obtained, which we now know really happened because of X," and thereby allow us to orient ourselves. She rather says, "This result was obtained, and made no sense, and Meitner interpreted it this way, and this is where that lead" without any hint of what corresponds to that result, making all of our modern knowledge of the topic useless, which is an interesting place to be.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Women in Science: Antiquity through the Nineteenth Century. A Biographical Dictionary with an Annotated Bibliography.</a>	Marilyn Bailey Ogilvie	Ogilvie is the wellspring of female scientist studies. This was the book that first put me onto the track of women scientists outside the Curie-Meitner-Franklin trinity, and it's served that role for many others for four decades now. Today, much (but still not all, amazingly enough) of this information can be found through Wikipedia, but if you're looking for the reference that Started It All, this is it.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Grace Hopper and the Invention of the Information Age</a>	Kurt W. Beyer	Beyer was charged with the task of making the standardization of programming code seem engaging, and he absolutely succeeded. Hopper was the hard-drinking, hard-working force behind the first code, the first debugging protocols, and the mammoth COBOL system, and Beyer tells her story in properly massive terms.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Emmy Noether's Wonderful Theorem</a>	Dwight E. Neuwenschwander	I loves me a book that's half biography and half hard-core mathematics. That's what this is. There's a biographical introduction, followed by a steady and absolutely lovely development of Noether's theorem that linked all the laws of conservation ever. If you've got your differential equations still in your skull, this makes for a fun and intellectually keen read.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">In Praise of Imperfection</a>	Rita Levi-Montalcini	If it weren't for Feynman, this might be my favorite scientific memoir of all time. The story of chasing down the secrets of Nerve Growth Factor while on the run from Mussolini's fascist purity squads is gripping and highlighted here and there by bittersweet psychological insight into the work and troubles of the scientists around her.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Irene Joliot-Curie</a>	Noelle Lorient	Irene Curie's story has everything. The daughter of the most famous female scientist of all time, she herself lived a cinematic life that combined service amongst the carnage of World War I, resistance to the Nazis, service as a government minister, and all the while a persistent level of scientific excellence that uncovered the phenomenon of artificial radiation. Lorient has a firm grasp of Curie's haunted psychological world, and tells the story with vividness. If you are comfortable with reading French, this is one of the tucked-away delights of the genre.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Jane Goodall: The Woman Who Redefined Man</a>	Dale Peterson	Massively researched, engagingly written, Peterson's Goodall is a perfect combination of field science gnashing against bureaucracy with a small clutch of idiosyncratic pioneers dancing around the chaos to make fundamental discoveries about the natural world. Peterson takes nothing for granted. While other biographers usually toss off the Childhood and Ancestors section without any particular care for finding the fragile beauty therein, Peterson makes this section among the most interesting in a book filled to the brim with Very Interesting Things.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Chrysalis: Maria Sibylla Merian and the Secrets of Metamorphosis</a>	Kim Todd	When I get asked in interviews or after talks about who my favorite female scientist is, my answer is immediate: Merian. And Todd's book is mainly responsible for that. She tells the story of Merian's exotic, artistic, scientifically rigorous, but spiritually complex life with easy grace and a real sense of her importance in the development of an ecological approach to taxonomy. Plus, it includes a nice selection of Merian's absolutely gorgeous entomological illustrations. A book lovely in every detail.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF
<a href="#">Rosalind Franklin: The Dark Lady of DNA</a>	Brenda Maddox	I know, it's like ending a list of the Top 100 Albums of All Time with Sgt. Pepper or Thriller. But, guess what, Sgt. Pepper and Thriller were really good albums, and The Dark Lady of DNA is a phenomenally good book. I don't know what I love most about it. The portrayal of the British Jewish community at the beginning of the Twentieth Century. Franklin's carefree years doing coal science in Paris, falling desperately in love while honing her craft. The masterful account of her time doing DNA crystallography in the least amenable work environment ever. Actually, I do know what I love most, and it's Maddox's account of her years researching the Tobacco Mosaic Virus, surrounded at last by people who respected her and whom she respected in turn, traveling the world as a scientific celebrity all the while slowly dying inside from cancer. It's a triumphant tragic end, and Maddox handles it beautifully.	Gerahly Hoey, NWF