

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE . . . . .	7
1. INTRODUCTION . . . . .	9
1.1. The Growing Field of Ecocriticism . . . . .	9
1.2. Delineating the Plastic Boundaries . . . . .	12
1.3. Deep Ecology in a Nutshell . . . . .	15
1.4. Goals . . . . .	16
1.5. Organization . . . . .	18
2. WEST OF THE WEST . . . . .	23
2.1. Ecological Island . . . . .	23
2.2. Human Presence . . . . .	25
2.3. Literary California . . . . .	31
3. BIO(GEO)GRAPHY OF THE WRITERS . . . . .	39
3.1. John Muir . . . . .	39
3.2. Mary Hunter Austin . . . . .	46
3.3. Robinson Jeffers . . . . .	51
3.4. John Steinbeck . . . . .	56
3.5. Gary Snyder . . . . .	61
4. THE PLATFORM OF DEEP ECOLOGY AND ITS LITERARY FOUNDATIONS . . . . .	69
4.1. Ecocentrism . . . . .	70
4.2. Richness and Diversity . . . . .	76
4.3. Vital Needs . . . . .	81
4.4. Population Decrease . . . . .	85
4.5. Excessive Human Interference . . . . .	89
4.6. Policy Change . . . . .	94
4.7. Life Quality . . . . .	98
4.8. Implementation of Changes . . . . .	101

5. THE COMMON GROUND: INGREDIENTS	
OF DEEP ECOLOGICAL WRITING . . . . .	109
5.1. Syncretistic Vision . . . . .	109
5.2. Gestalt Ontology . . . . .	116
5.3. Their Place in Space . . . . .	126
5.4. Science or Fiction? . . . . .	136
6. INSPIRATIONS, INTERRELATIONS, IMPACTS . . . .	163
6.1. The Uninterrupted Stream . . . . .	163
6.2. The Ripening of Deep Ecological Seeds in California	167
6.3. Where Literature and Deep Ecology Meet . . . . .	169
7. CONCLUSION . . . . .	177
WORKS CITED . . . . .	183
RÉSUMÉ . . . . .	201