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John J. Craighead's and Frank C. Craighead's book, "Hawks, Owls and Wildlife," scheduled for July publication

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Dr. John J. Craighead of the Montana State University faculty is co-author with his brother, Dr. Frank C. Craighead Jr., of "Hawks, Owls and Wildlife," scheduled for publication in July by the Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa., and the Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, D. C.

The 468-page book is based on exhaustive field study conducted by the brothers over a period of sixteen years in Michigan and Wyoming. Gathering the data for the book required endless hours of patient watching, hundreds of climbs up and down trees and treacherous cliffs, a wide variety of skills, and a boundless enthusiasm for the work, according to Ira N. Gabrielson of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Besides 68 photographs, 100 tables, and 22 maps by the authors, the book contains drawings for each chapter by their sister, Jean Craighead George.

The book explodes many myths about hawks and owls, according to the publishers. Sportsmen and farmers, generally, have considered these and other birds of prey to be enemies of game and livestock. "Actually," Dr. John Craighead said, "birds of prey do mankind a service by regulating small-animal populations and so helping to keep a balance among various species of wildlife. This book shows how predation functions as a biological force and shows the role hawks and owls play in nature's plan."

The Craighead brothers are co-authors of "Hawks in the Hand," a popular work about photographing birds of prey and training birds for falconry, and of "How to Survive on Land and Sea," a text written for the U. S. Navy during World War II. With Dr. Ray J. Davis, they have written "A Field Guide to Flowers of the Rocky Mountain Region" for the Peterson Field Guide Series published by Houghton Mifflin. This volume is now in the hands of the publishers.

Dr. John J. Craighead is leader of the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, which is affiliated with MSU. Dr. Frank C. Craighead Jr. is with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in Nevada.