



For many centuries people have used estuaries for a great variety of purposes. However, in recent decades, more leisure time has led to increased recreational use of coasts and estuaries in north-west Europe. This is regarded as a major concern for the safeguarding of the nationally and internationally important breeding, migrant and wintering waterfowl which depend upon these places. In addition to the development that contributes to habitat losses on estuaries, disturbance to feeding and roosting birds is caused by a wide variety of leisure activities, including sail-boarding, sailing, water-skiing, walking and trail-biking. This volume focusses on the effects of various types of disturbance on wintering and migrant waterfowl within estuaries. Together, the reports provide a much wider range of insights into disturbance effects than has previously been published, and provides a vital reference work for coastal managers and research workers.

