## ken waters pet loads pdf

**ken waters pet loads pdf** is a term that resonates deeply with reloaders and firearm enthusiasts seeking reliable and well-researched ballistic data. For decades, Ken Waters' meticulous handloading data has been a cornerstone for safe and effective ammunition creation. This article delves into the significance of the Ken Waters Pet Loads, exploring what makes them so valuable, where to find them (specifically focusing on the PDF format), and how to interpret and utilize this essential reloading resource. We'll cover the history and legacy of his work, the advantages of having this data readily available in PDF format, and practical advice on applying these proven loads to your own shooting endeavors. Whether you're a seasoned handloader or just beginning your journey into custom ammunition, understanding the Ken Waters Pet Loads is crucial for success and safety.

# Understanding the Legacy of Ken Waters Pet Loads

The name Ken Waters is synonymous with meticulous handloading research and the development of safe, effective, and proven ammunition recipes. His "Pet Loads" series, first published in various shooting magazines and later compiled, became an indispensable resource for handloaders across generations. Waters approached his work with a scientific rigor, meticulously testing various powder charges, bullet weights, and firearm combinations to establish reliable load data. This dedication to accuracy and safety is precisely why his data remains so highly sought after, even in the digital age. The emphasis was always on understanding the nuances of each component and how they interacted within a specific firearm to achieve optimal performance and, most importantly, safety. His contributions have significantly shaped the modern understanding of safe handloading practices.

### The Importance of Proven Handloading Data

For anyone engaging in the practice of reloading ammunition, having access to accurate and trustworthy data is paramount. Handloading, while offering significant advantages in terms of cost savings, ammunition customization, and potentially improved accuracy, carries inherent risks if not approached with proper knowledge and guidance. Ken Waters' "Pet Loads" provided this crucial foundation by offering a comprehensive collection of tested and verified load specifications. These weren't just random guesses; they were the result of painstaking effort, often involving multiple test firings with different equipment and under varying conditions. This commitment to empirical evidence makes his data a gold standard for reloaders looking to avoid potential pitfalls and achieve consistent results.

### Why the Focus on PDF Format

The digital age has transformed how information is accessed and utilized, and the Ken Waters Pet Loads are no exception. The availability of Ken Waters Pet Loads in PDF format offers numerous advantages for the modern handloader. PDFs are universally compatible across devices, easily searchable, and can be stored digitally, making them readily accessible whether at a reloading bench, in the field, or on the go. This format eliminates the need for bulky physical books, ensuring that vital load data is always at your fingertips. Furthermore, PDF versions often include features like bookmarking and highlighting, allowing users to quickly reference their most frequently used loads or make personal annotations. The convenience and accessibility of a Ken Waters Pet Loads PDF cannot be overstated for the busy handloader.

# Navigating and Utilizing Ken Waters Pet Loads Data

Accessing and effectively using the Ken Waters Pet Loads requires a basic understanding of reloading principles and terminology. The data presented in these resources typically includes specific details about the firearm used for testing, the bullet weight and manufacturer, the type and manufacturer of the propellant, the primer type, and the resulting muzzle velocity and accuracy. It's crucial to recognize that these are "pet loads"—meaning they were specifically developed and found to perform exceptionally well in the particular rifle or handgun Waters was using at the time. This distinction is vital for safe reloading practices.

### **Key Components of Load Data**

When examining Ken Waters Pet Loads data, several critical pieces of information stand out, each contributing to the safety and efficacy of your reloaded ammunition. Understanding these components is essential for successful reloading. The following elements are typically detailed:

- Bullet Weight and Type: Specifies the exact grain weight and construction of the projectile (e.g., jacketed soft point, hollow point, lead cast).
- Powder Type and Charge: Identifies the specific smokeless powder used (e.g., Hodgdon Varget, Alliant Reloder 15) and the precise charge weight in grains.
- Primer: Indicates the type of primer required (e.g., large rifle primer, small pistol primer).
- Case: Denotes the cartridge case used for testing.
- Muzzle Velocity: Provides the average velocity of the projectile fired from the test firearm.
- Pressure Data (often implied or derived): While not always explicitly stated in older

compilations, Waters' work was deeply concerned with safe pressure levels.

• Accuracy Notes: Comments on the accuracy achieved with the tested load.

### Interpreting and Applying Pet Loads Safely

The most critical aspect of using any handloading data, including Ken Waters Pet Loads, is safety. Waters himself was a staunch advocate for caution and thoroughness. It is imperative to understand that his "pet loads" are specific to the firearms and components he used. Therefore, when applying this data to your own reloading efforts, you must treat them as a starting point and exercise due diligence. Always begin with the minimum recommended charge (if provided) and work up incrementally, carefully observing for any signs of excessive pressure. Never exceed the maximum charge listed, and always use a chronograph to verify velocities. Adapting these loads to different barrels, slightly different components, or variations in environmental conditions requires a methodical approach and a deep respect for the potential dangers involved.

#### Where to Find Ken Waters Pet Loads in PDF

Locating Ken Waters Pet Loads in PDF format is a common objective for reloaders seeking this invaluable data. While direct, officially sanctioned digital downloads might be limited due to copyright, many resources exist where enthusiasts can find compiled versions. These are often found on reloading forums, dedicated shooting websites, or through digital archives. It's important to approach such sources with a critical eye, ensuring the data appears to be accurately transcribed and presented. Searching for "Ken Waters Pet Loads PDF download" or similar phrases online will often yield results, though users should exercise caution regarding the source and verify the integrity of the downloaded files. The enduring popularity of his work ensures that efforts to digitize and share this information persist within the reloading community.

# The Enduring Relevance of Ken Waters' Handloading Expertise

The principles of safe and effective handloading, as championed by Ken Waters, remain as relevant today as they were when his "Pet Loads" were first published. His emphasis on meticulous testing, component compatibility, and an unwavering commitment to safety provides a timeless blueprint for success. Even with the advent of modern ballistic software and advanced chronographs, the fundamental understanding derived from Waters' empirical research forms the bedrock of reliable ammunition manufacturing. The pursuit of optimal accuracy and performance in handloaded ammunition is a journey that benefits immensely from the detailed insights and proven methodologies that Ken Waters so generously shared. His legacy continues to empower and guide reloaders in creating

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Where can I find the Ken Waters Pet Loads PDF?

While an official, readily downloadable 'Ken Waters Pet Loads PDF' isn't widely distributed, the information from his extensive 'Pet Loads' columns is primarily found in his published books. These include 'Pet Loads' (1981) and 'More Pet Loads' (1988), which are often available through online booksellers, gun forums, and sometimes as scanned, user-uploaded PDFs, though the legality and completeness of these latter sources can vary.

## What kind of information is included in Ken Waters' Pet Loads?

Ken Waters' 'Pet Loads' primarily detail handloaded ammunition for a vast array of rifle and handgun cartridges. His work is characterized by meticulous testing, detailed reports on component performance (powders, bullets, primers), velocity data, accuracy results, and often insightful commentary on the practical application of these loads for hunting and general shooting.

### Are Ken Waters' Pet Loads still relevant today?

Absolutely. While some components and firearm designs have evolved, the fundamental principles of handloading and the scientific approach Ken Waters applied remain highly relevant. His data provides a solid foundation for understanding cartridge performance, and many of his tested loads are still excellent starting points or benchmarks for modern handloaders, especially for older or less common cartridges.

## What are the benefits of using Ken Waters' Pet Loads data?

The main benefits include accessing decades of carefully documented handloading data, learning from a respected authority on the subject, and finding reliable starting points for developing your own accurate and effective loads. His work emphasizes a systematic approach, which is invaluable for developing safe and consistent ammunition.

## What are some common search terms if I'm looking for information related to Ken Waters' Pet Loads online?

When searching for Ken Waters' Pet Loads, good search terms include: 'Ken Waters Pet Loads book', 'Pet Loads by Ken Waters', 'Ken Waters reloading data', 'Ken Waters cartridge loads', and specific cartridge names followed by 'Pet Loads' (e.g., '30-06 Pet Loads Ken Waters'). You might also find discussions on reloading forums by searching for his name in conjunction with 'handloading' or 'reloading'.

#### **Additional Resources**

Here are 9 book titles related to Ken Waters' "Pet Loads" and its subject matter, formatted as requested:

- 1. Handloader's Manual: The Definitive Guide to Reloading
- This comprehensive manual delves into the fundamental principles of cartridge reloading, covering everything from component selection to safe loading practices. It offers detailed insights into propellant types, bullet construction, and case preparation, providing a solid foundation for aspiring and experienced handloaders alike. Readers will find extensive data and explanations to help them achieve accurate and reliable ammunition for a variety of firearms.
- 2. Accurate Rifle Reloading: Secrets of the Savvy Handloader
  Focusing on the pursuit of pinpoint accuracy, this book explores the finer points of
  handloading for rifle cartridges. It dissects the critical factors that contribute to exceptional
  precision, including barrel harmonics, seating depth, and primer consistency. The author
  shares techniques and methodologies honed over years of experimentation, aiming to
  elevate the shooter's ability to consistently hit their intended targets.
- 3. Modern Reloading: From Basics to Advanced Techniques
  This updated guide provides a thorough overview of modern reloading practices, suitable for beginners and those looking to refine their skills. It systematically covers essential equipment, safety protocols, and the process of developing safe and effective loads. The book also touches upon advanced topics such as load optimization for specific shooting disciplines and the use of analytical tools for load development.
- 4. The Complete Book of Reloading: A Practical Guide for Every Hunter and Shooter Designed for the practical hunter and shooter, this book demystifies the process of reloading ammunition. It emphasizes real-world applications and provides clear, step-by-step instructions for assembling reliable cartridges. The author addresses common questions and concerns, offering pragmatic advice on saving money, improving firearm performance, and tailoring loads to specific hunting or shooting scenarios.
- 5. Cartridge Reloading for Maximum Accuracy and Performance
  This title zeroes in on maximizing the accuracy and performance potential of reloaded cartridges. It delves into the nuances of bullet-to-barrel compatibility, optimal powder charges for specific bullet weights, and the impact of various reloading techniques on ballistic results. The book aims to equip reloaders with the knowledge to extract the best possible performance from their firearms and chosen components.
- 6. The Handloader's Companion: A Practical Guide to Custom Ammunition
  Serving as a constant reference for the handloader, this guide focuses on the creation of custom ammunition. It explores how to select and combine components to achieve desired performance characteristics, whether for hunting, target shooting, or self-defense. The book offers practical tips and considerations for various firearm types and cartridge families, making it an invaluable resource for personalized load development.
- 7. Powder, Primer, and Bullet: The Core Elements of Reloading Success
  This book dissects the three fundamental components of metallic cartridge reloading:
  gunpowder, primers, and bullets. It provides detailed information on the properties and

characteristics of each component, explaining how their selection and interaction influence the final loaded cartridge. Readers will gain a deeper understanding of the science behind propellant burn rates, primer sensitivity, and bullet design.

- 8. The Art of Rifle Load Development: Crafting Ammunition for Precision Shooting Exploring the more artistic and experimental side of reloading, this book guides readers through the process of crafting precision rifle loads. It emphasizes the systematic approach to developing accurate loads, including the importance of test firing, data collection, and iterative refinement. The author shares strategies for overcoming common challenges and achieving consistent accuracy through thoughtful experimentation.
- 9. Handloading for the Modern Rifleman: Safety, Accuracy, and Efficiency
  This comprehensive guide caters to the modern rifleman seeking to handload their own
  ammunition efficiently and safely. It covers essential safety protocols, equipment setup,
  and practical reloading techniques tailored for contemporary rifle cartridges. The book also
  addresses how to achieve both accuracy and cost-effectiveness through smart component
  choices and well-developed loads.

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# Ken Waters Pet Loads PDF: Your Comprehensive Guide to Safe and Effective Reloading

Ebook Title: The Ultimate Guide to Ken Waters' Pet Loads: Safety, Precision, and Performance

#### **Ebook Outline:**

Introduction: Understanding Ken Waters' Legacy and the Importance of Pet Loads

Chapter 1: Safety First: Essential Precautions for Reloading Ammunition

Chapter 2: Understanding Cartridge Components and Their Impact on Pet Loads

Chapter 3: Developing Your Own Pet Loads: A Step-by-Step Guide

Chapter 4: Testing and Refining Your Pet Loads for Optimal Performance

Chapter 5: Record Keeping and Documentation: Best Practices for Reloading

Chapter 6: Troubleshooting Common Reloading Problems

Chapter 7: Legal and Ethical Considerations of Reloading Ammunition

Conclusion: Mastering the Art of Reloading with Ken Waters' Methodology

The Ultimate Guide to Ken Waters' Pet Loads: Safety,

## **Precision, and Performance**

This comprehensive guide delves into the world of Ken Waters' pet loads, providing a detailed exploration of this influential reloading technique. We'll cover safety protocols, the science behind cartridge components, the step-by-step process of developing your own loads, and the critical aspects of testing and refinement. This isn't just about replicating Waters' work; it's about understanding the principles and applying them to your specific needs and equipment. Whether you're a seasoned reloader or a beginner taking your first steps, this guide will empower you to safely and effectively create custom ammunition tailored to your firearms. We will also address the legal and ethical considerations surrounding ammunition reloading. Let's dive in.

# Introduction: Understanding Ken Waters' Legacy and the Importance of Pet Loads

Ken Waters, a legendary figure in the world of handgun reloading, championed the concept of "pet loads." These aren't simply pre-packaged commercial loads; they represent the pinnacle of personalized ammunition, meticulously crafted to deliver optimal performance from a specific firearm. Waters' philosophy centered on achieving pinpoint accuracy and consistent results, tailoring ammunition to the individual gun's characteristics. Understanding his legacy means understanding the meticulous attention to detail and the scientific approach he advocated. Pet loads aren't a shortcut; they're the culmination of careful experimentation and precise measurement. The significance of this lies in the ability to achieve a level of accuracy and reliability far exceeding factory ammunition, crucial for competitive shooting, hunting, or self-defense. This introductory chapter sets the stage by outlining Waters' influence and introducing the core principles underlying his approach to pet load development.

## Chapter 1: Safety First: Essential Precautions for Reloading Ammunition

Reloading ammunition is inherently dangerous. Improper techniques can lead to catastrophic equipment failure, injury, or even death. This chapter emphasizes the paramount importance of safety. We'll detail essential safety equipment, including safety glasses, hearing protection, a reloading bench with appropriate accessories, and the critical need for a well-ventilated workspace. We will also thoroughly cover safe handling procedures for gunpowder, primers, and bullets, emphasizing the potential hazards of each component. We'll cover the proper techniques for case preparation, powder measurement, bullet seating, and crimping, highlighting common mistakes and emphasizing the consequences of negligence. This section provides a foundational understanding of safe reloading practices, laying the groundwork for all subsequent steps.

# Chapter 2: Understanding Cartridge Components and Their Impact on Pet Loads

This chapter delves into the intricate details of cartridge components – cases, powders, primers, and bullets – and their interplay in achieving optimal performance. We'll discuss the different types of cases, their metallurgy, and their impact on pressure and accuracy. An understanding of powder characteristics, burn rates, and their effect on velocity and pressure is crucial. Different powders behave differently in various cartridges and barrels. Similarly, we'll explore the various primer types, their sensitivity, and their influence on ignition consistency. Finally, bullet design, weight, and construction will be discussed, highlighting how these factors influence accuracy, ballistic performance, and overall load characteristics. This chapter serves as a critical foundation for understanding how to tailor components to create a perfectly balanced pet load.

## Chapter 3: Developing Your Own Pet Loads: A Step-by-Step Guide

This is the heart of the guide, providing a detailed, step-by-step process for developing your own pet loads. We'll begin with selecting appropriate components based on your specific firearm and intended application. This includes choosing the correct case, powder, primer, and bullet based on manufacturer's recommendations and load data. Detailed instructions on the use of reloading equipment will be provided, including case preparation, powder measuring, bullet seating, and crimping. We'll cover various techniques and tools, highlighting best practices and common pitfalls. Throughout this section, emphasis will be placed on meticulous accuracy and consistency in every step of the process. The goal is to empower the reader to confidently create their own ammunition.

## Chapter 4: Testing and Refining Your Pet Loads for Optimal Performance

Creating a pet load is an iterative process. This chapter focuses on testing and refinement. We'll discuss the importance of accurate chronograph data for measuring velocity and ensuring consistency. We'll explore techniques for evaluating accuracy, including target shooting at various distances. This chapter will also cover the analysis of data and interpreting the results to identify areas for improvement. We'll explore the impact of adjusting powder charges, bullet seating depth, and other variables, and how these adjustments affect accuracy and velocity. The iterative process of testing, analyzing, and refining is critical for optimizing performance and achieving the desired results.

# Chapter 5: Record Keeping and Documentation: Best Practices for Reloading

Meticulous record-keeping is essential for safe and effective reloading. This chapter details best practices for documenting every aspect of the reloading process. We'll discuss the importance of maintaining a detailed log of each load, including the components used, the quantities, and the resulting velocity and accuracy data. We'll explore various methods for recording this information, including spreadsheets, databases, and dedicated reloading logbooks. This systematic approach enables tracking performance over time, identifying successful loads, and avoiding potential issues in the future. Good record-keeping is crucial for safety and repeatability.

### **Chapter 6: Troubleshooting Common Reloading Problems**

This chapter provides practical solutions for common problems encountered during the reloading process. We'll address issues such as inconsistent powder charges, misfires, squib loads, and excessive pressure signs. Detailed troubleshooting steps will be provided, focusing on identifying the root causes and implementing corrective measures. This section emphasizes preventative maintenance of reloading equipment and the importance of identifying potential problems early. Problem-solving is a crucial skill for every reloader, and this chapter equips the reader with the knowledge and techniques to address common issues effectively.

## Chapter 7: Legal and Ethical Considerations of Reloading Ammunition

Reloading ammunition is subject to legal regulations and ethical considerations. This chapter provides a clear overview of the legal framework governing the manufacture and possession of ammunition. It will cover state and federal laws, emphasizing the importance of compliance and responsible gun ownership. The chapter will also address the ethical responsibilities of reloaders, including safe storage, proper disposal of components, and the avoidance of unsafe or illegal practices. Understanding the legal and ethical landscape is crucial for responsible reloading.

# Conclusion: Mastering the Art of Reloading with Ken Waters' Methodology

This guide has provided a comprehensive exploration of Ken Waters' pet load methodology. By combining safety awareness, meticulous record-keeping, and a scientific approach to testing and

refinement, you can master the art of reloading and achieve optimal performance from your firearms. Remember that safety is paramount, and consistent practice is key to developing proficiency. With dedication and attention to detail, you can replicate the precision and reliability that Ken Waters himself championed.

## **FAQs**

- 1. Is reloading ammunition dangerous? Yes, reloading ammunition can be dangerous if not done properly and safely. Always follow safety precautions.
- 2. What equipment do I need to reload ammunition? You'll need a reloading press, dies, powder measure, scale, case trimmer, and safety equipment.
- 3. Where can I find reliable load data? Consult reputable reloading manuals and manufacturer websites. Never guess or experiment without proper data.
- 4. How do I determine the correct powder charge for my pet load? Start with minimum loads from reputable sources and work up gradually while carefully monitoring pressure signs.
- 5. What happens if I use too much powder? Overcharging can lead to dangerously high pressures, causing damage to your firearm or serious injury.
- 6. How often should I clean my reloading equipment? Regular cleaning is crucial to maintain accuracy and prevent malfunctions. Clean your equipment after each reloading session.
- 7. What are the legal restrictions on reloading ammunition? Laws vary by location. Check your state and federal regulations before reloading.
- 8. Can I reload all types of ammunition? Most common handgun and rifle cartridges can be reloaded, but some specialized ammunition may be more difficult or impossible.
- 9. What is the benefit of using pet loads over factory ammunition? Pet loads allow you to tailor ammunition to your specific firearm for optimal accuracy and performance.

### **Related Articles:**

- 1. Handgun Reloading for Beginners: A step-by-step guide to starting handgun reloading safely and effectively.
- 2. Choosing the Right Reloading Press: A comparison of different press types and their suitability for various reloading tasks.

- 3. Understanding Reloading Dies and Their Function: A detailed explanation of the different types of dies and how they work in the reloading process.
- 4. Safe Powder Handling Techniques for Reloading: Essential safety procedures for handling and measuring gun powder.
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- 6. Troubleshooting Common Reloading Problems: Solutions for problems such as misfires, squib loads, and inconsistent velocities.
- 7. Bullet Selection for Optimal Accuracy: Factors to consider when choosing bullets for reloading and achieving best accuracy.
- 8. Case Preparation Techniques for Reloading: Methods for cleaning, sizing, and trimming cases for consistent reloading.
- 9. Legal Aspects of Ammunition Reloading: A state-by-state guide to legal requirements and restrictions regarding ammunition reloading.

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ken waters pet loads pdf: Managing California's Water Ellen Hanak, 2011

ken waters pet loads pdf: My New Roots Sarah Britton, 2015-03-31 Holistic nutritionist and highly-regarded blogger Sarah Britton presents a refreshing, straight-forward approach to balancing mind, body, and spirit through a diet made up of whole foods. Sarah Britton's approach to plant-based cuisine is about satisfaction--foods that satiate on a physical, emotional, and spiritual level. Based on her knowledge of nutrition and her love of cooking, Sarah Britton crafts recipes made from organic vegetables, fruits, whole grains, beans, lentils, nuts, and seeds. She explains how a diet based on whole foods allows the body to regulate itself, eliminating the need to count calories. My New Roots draws on the enormous appeal of Sarah Britton's blog, which strikes the perfect balance between healthy and delicious food. She is a whole food lover, a cook who makes simple accessible plant-based meals that are a pleasure to eat and a joy to make. This book takes its cues from the rhythms of the earth, showcasing 100 seasonal recipes. Sarah simmers thinly sliced celery root until it mimics pasta for Butternut Squash Lasagna, and whips up easy raw chocolate to make homemade chocolate-nut butter candy cups. Her recipes are not about sacrifice, deprivation, or labels--they are about enjoying delicious food that's also good for you.

ken waters pet loads pdf: How to Feed the World Jessica Eise, Kenneth A. Foster, 2018-03-15 By 2050, we will have ten billion mouths to feed in a world profoundly altered by environmental change. How will we meet this challenge? In How to Feed the World, a diverse group of experts from Purdue University break down this crucial question by tackling big issues one-by-one. Covering population, water, land, climate change, technology, food systems, trade, food waste and loss, health, social buy-in, communication, and equal access to food, the book reveals a complex web of challenges. Contributors unite from different perspectives and disciplines, ranging from agronomy and hydrology to economics. The resulting collection is an accessible but wide-ranging look at the modern food system.

**ken waters pet loads pdf:** <u>Fast Food Nation</u> Eric Schlosser, 2012 An exploration of the fast food industry in the United States, from its roots to its long-term consequences.

**ken waters pet loads pdf: Handloader's Digest** Philip P. Massaro, 2015-12 The world's greatest handloading book.

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ken waters pet loads pdf: General Kenney Reports: A Personal History of the Pacific War, 1997 General Kenney Reports is a classic account of a combat commander in action. General George Churchill Kenney arrived in the South- west Pacific theater in August 1942 to find that his command, if not in a shambles, was in dire straits. The theater commander, General Douglas MacArthur, had no confidence in his air element. Kenney quickly changed this situation. He organized and energized the Fifth Air Force, bringing in operational commanders like Whitehead and Wurtsmith who knew how to run combat air forces. He fixed the logistical swamp, making supply and maintenance supportive of air operations, and encouraging mavericks such as Pappy Gunn to make new and innovative weapons and to explore new tactics in airpower application. The result was a disaster for the Japanese. Kenney's airmen used air power-particularly heavily armed B-25 Mitchell bombers used as commerce destroyers-to savage Japanese supply lines, destroying numerous ships and effectively isolating Japanese garrisons. The classic example of Kenney in action was the Battle of the Bismarck Sea, which marked the attainment of complete Allied air dominance and supremacy over Japanese naval forces operating around New Guinea. In short, Kenney was a brilliant, innovative airman, who drew on his own extensive flying experiences to inform his decision-making. General Kenney Reports is a book that has withstood the test of time, and which should be on the shelf of every airman.

ken waters pet loads pdf: Let My People Go Surfing Yvon Chouinard, 2006-09-05 Yvon Chouinard-legendary climber, businessman, environmentalist, and founder of Patagonia, Inc.-shares the persistence and courage that have gone into being head of one of the most respected and environmentally responsible companies on earth. From his youth as the son of a French Canadian blacksmith to the thrilling, ambitious climbing expeditions that inspired his innovative designs for the sport's equipment, Let My People Go Surfing is the story of a man who brought doing good and having grand adventures into the heart of his business life-a book that will deeply affect entrepreneurs and outdoor enthusiasts alike. A newly revised edition of Let My People Go Surfing is available now. From the Trade Paperback edition.

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contribution to the history of ethology-not a definitive history, but the personal view of a major figure in that story. It is all the more welcome because such a grand theme as ethology calls for a range of perspectives. One reason is the overarching scope of the subject. Two great questions about life that constitute much of biology are How does it work (structure and function)? and How did it get that way (evolution and ontogeny)? Ethology addresses the antecedent of it. Of what are we trying to explain the mechanism and development? Surely behav ior, in all its wealth of detail, variation, causation, and control, is the main achievement of animal evolution, the essential

consequence of animal structure and function, the raison d' etre of all the rest. Ethology thus spans between and overlaps with the ever-widening circles of ecol ogy over the eons and the ever-narrowing focus of physiology of the neurons. Another reason why the history of ethology needs perspectives is the recency of its acceptance. For such an obviously major aspect of animal biology, it is curious how short a time-less than three decades-has seen the excitement of an active field and a substantial fraternity of work ers, the addition of professors and courses to departments and curricula in biology (still far from universal), and the normal complement of spe cial journals, symposia, and sessions at congresses.

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duration of spill, water depth, environmental conditions, affected biomes, potential human community impact, and available resources may vary significantly. Also, each spill may be governed by policy guidelines, such as those set forth in the National Response Plan, Regional Response Plans, or Area Contingency Plans. To respond effectively to the specific conditions presented during an oil spill, spill responders have used a variety of response optionsâ€including mechanical recovery of oil using skimmers and booms, in situ burning of oil, monitored natural attenuation of oil, and dispersion of oil by chemical dispersants. Because each response method has advantages and disadvantages, it is important to understand specific scenarios where a net benefit may be achieved by using a particular tool or combination of tools. This report builds on two previous National Research Council reports on dispersant use to provide a current understanding of the state of science and to inform future marine oil spill response operations. The response to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon spill included an unprecedented use of dispersants via both surface application and subsea injection. The magnitude of the spill stimulated interest and funding for research on oil spill response, and dispersant use in particular. This study assesses the effects and efficacy of dispersants as an oil spill response tool and evaluates trade-offs associated with dispersant use.

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