Contributors

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Veit Koester is master of law; barrister and former external professor at Roskilde University in Denmark. As former Head of the Ecological Division of the Danish Nature Agency, he led work on national conservation issues and represented his country in international negotiations regarding, inter alia, the Ramsar Convention, the World Heritage Convention, the Migratory Species Convention, the CITES Convention, the CBD, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Bern Convention on European Wildlife, and the Aarhus Convention. He served as chair at numerous of these negotiations and on several occasions represented the Danish EU Presidency. He has contributed to the work of the International Council of Environmental Law and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law. After his retirement he was the first chair of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee (2003–2011), and of the Compliance Committee of the Cartagena Protocol (2004–2009). Since 2010 he has been the chair of the Compliance Committee of the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. He has published numerous articles and other publications in the field of national and international environmental law, including an extensive Commentary on the Danish Nature Protection Act (2009). His awards include, among others, the Elizabeth Haub Award for Environmental Diplomacy (2001) and the Environmental Law Prize of the Danish Society for Environmental Law (2010).

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Tom West is soon to complete his PhD thesis on Human and Nonhuman Rights at the School of Law, University of Nottingham. He has degrees in Mathematics (BSc) from the University of Warwick, and Law and Environmental Science (MSc) from the University of Nottingham. During 2013, he worked at the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, a transdisciplinary research institution based in Kyoto. His research interests encompass a range of topics from law and philosophy including eco-phenomenology, analytical rights jurisprudence, and the emerging field of rights of nature.