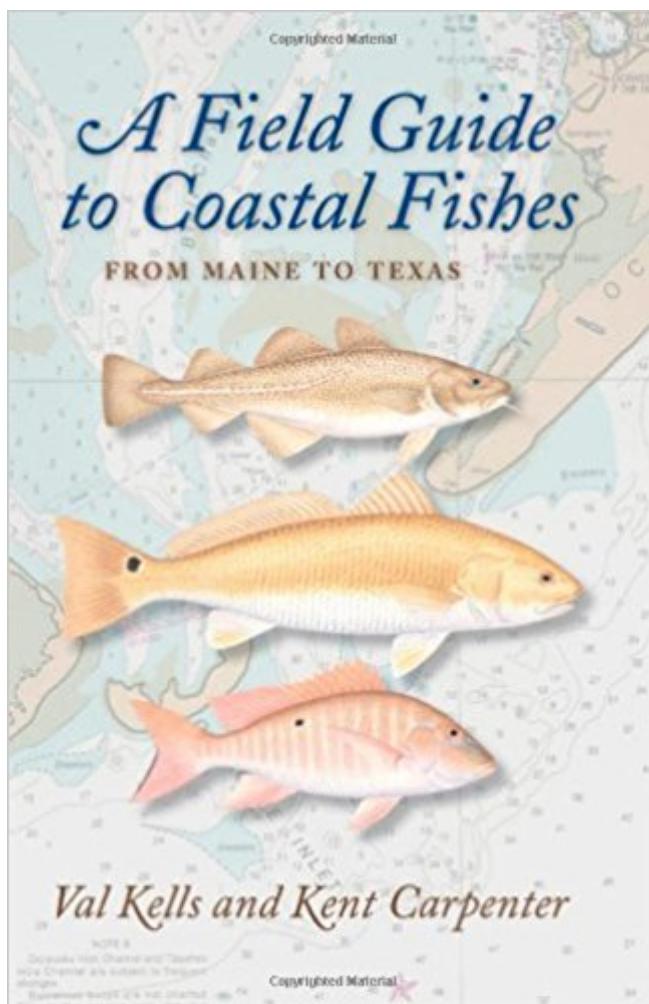


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A Field Guide To Coastal Fishes: From Maine To Texas



Synopsis

A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes is a comprehensive, current, and accurate identification guide to the more than 1,000 nearshore and offshore fishes that live in brackish and marine waters from Maine to Texas. Val Kells and Kent Carpenter bring decades of experience to this project. With Kells' detailed, vivid illustrations and Carpenter's deep knowledge of biology, taxonomy, and nomenclature, this book captures the stunning diversity of species along America's eastern shores. Key features of the book include: more than 1,000 full-color illustrations, set side-by-side with descriptions of each fish's details about the biology of each species: habitat, distribution, and size information. Reliable and up-to-date, A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes is the most complete book ever published on East and Gulf Coast fishes—perfect for boat, home, or classroom. Its beautiful design and accessible format make it an ideal guide for fishermen, divers, students, scientists, naturalists, and fish enthusiasts alike.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"I was surprised to discover just how comprehensive and well-illustrated this book is. Good field guides don't come along too often... But this one covers well over 1,000 species and includes everything you're likely to encounter from the coastal bays out to 200 meter (660 foot) deep waters. Flip through, and you'll discover species you didn't imagine existed (the Atlantic Spiney Lumpfish? The Freckled Driftfish?) as well as the ones you know and

love... to catch!" (Lenny Rudow Boater Mouth)"This book is a wonderful identification guide... It will make an excellent addition to any tying library both for its detailed baitfish illustrations as well as a tool for catch identification and research." (Stuart Patterson Florida Fly Fishing Magazine)" A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes is a resource that shouldn't be overlooked for any student of marine life." (Midwest Book Review)"This is a substantial improvement on the Peterson Field Guide... Val Kells' illustrations are vivid and beautiful. The comprehensiveness of this text, along with the amount of detail in both illustration and text, are impressive. For these reasons, along with the very reasonable price, I would recommend this book to my colleagues in the scientific community, as well as to my fishing and diving companions." (Bulletin of Marine Science)"This comprehensive field guide to the marine and brackish water fishes of the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts is as well executed as it is accurate." (Mariner)"Significant and news worthy... comprehensive and compact... A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes is a must have book for any serious angler." (Coastal Angler Magazine)"You would be hard pressed to find a more comprehensive, beautifully illustrated, and well organized book than A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes: From Maine to Texas and I highly recommend it for anyone interested in marine life." (Mark Watanabe YakAngler.com)"Quite comprehensive, and the illustrations are marvelous!" (Aqua-Notes)"A must for anyone fishing the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the U.S.... it is a great reference for the coffee table, boat or tackle box." (International Angler)"A must-have for any person interested in fish from the US Atlantic coastal region. Highly recommended." (Choice)"Exquisite color illustrations... A great reference that is accessible for a wide audience." (Caleb D. McMahan Copeia)"The overview of diversity and classification of marine fish provided by the authors will be an asset to both the fishery biologist and layperson interested in coastal marine fishes and I highly recommend the text to anyone interested in marine fisheries." (Fred J. Brenner BIOS)"A compact and wide-ranging resource; truly, a labor of love. The product of over 15 years of research from conception to publication, it is the first comprehensive field guide to the fish of the marine and brackish waters of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts to be published in more than 25 years... I highly recommend this book." (Beth Hester Virginia Wildlife Magazine)"Val is a well-known scientific illustrator--she paints those painfully accurate fish for scientific books. And one of her books, A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes from Maine to Texas, has shown me, for hour after painful hour, exactly how many species I have not caught in the Atlantic. This sort of thing makes me lose a lot of sleep." (Steve Wozniak Sport Fishing)"If you haven't seen this publication, it is by far the best guide I've ever seen for fishes of this region with 100% original color illustrations which are large enough for easy comparison. In addition, the diagnostic characteristics are on the opposing page, not far away in the text." (Ron Kernehan

American Fisheries Society)"Sized to fit inside the tackle-box, center console, dive bag, tote, or back-pack... If you've seen or caught a fish anywhere along the coast from Maine to Texas, from shallow inshore bays to offshore depths of about 660 feet, it is most likely identified here." (Reid Martin)" A Field Guide to Coastal Fishes will soon become my go to reference book. Val Kells and Kent Carpenter have combined their talents and wealth of experience to produce an accurate, easy-to-use field guide that clearly explains and shows a reader how to correctly identify coastal fishes. This book is a must have item for anyone who works with or has an interest in fish, fishing, and the marine environment. After seeing this book, I've discovered I need two copies; one for my office and one for my boat!" (Joe Malat, Joe Malat Communications)"Magnificent book. Thank you Val and Kent for this labor of extraordinarily detailed, painstaking and accurate artwork/scientific illustration inseparable. It is the go-to reference of images and complementary text." (John Karges, The Nature Conservancy, Texas Chapter)"A fresh splash of well-designed, beautifully illustrated information in a field-friendly book." (Carl Safina, author of Song for the Blue Ocean)"What a marvelous piece of work! I have used it to identify fish that I prepared as skeletons for the Smithsonian. Everyone connected with the production of the book deserves the heartiest congratulations. Val Kells must surely be one of the best scientific illustrators of all time." (Storrs Olson, Smithsonian Institution)

Val Kells is a marine science illustrator whose clients include publishers, designers, museums, nature centers, and aquariums. Her work has appeared in over 30 public aquariums and museums and numerous publications. Kent Carpenter is a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Old Dominion University. He is author and editor of numerous publications, including the multivolume FAO Species Identification Guide for Fishery Purposes.

I love this book! This is a terrific guide to salt water fish. So you won't learn anything about, for example, Tilapia, which are fresh water fish. And in this first edition, some fish known under one name, for example, bergall, will be found here under another name, cunner. Neither bergall nor its 3rd name, connor, are in the index. Same for the common black fish, here known only as tautog. Someday publishers will have robots on the staff who can take an index like this and run it far beyond the scope of human writers. Until then, we have Google to fill in the gaps. Favorite new find so far: the roundscale spearfish. Can anyone tell it from a white marlin without this book?

This book is the ONLY reasonable choice for identifying western Atlantic coastal fishes. The other

guides are neither as comprehensive, nor anywhere near as well illustrated. The color plates (paintings) in this work are stunning. It's hard to imagine all the work that went into them. This is a book that just begs to be sat with and carefully perused. It's a handy ID guide for the field but, like any field guide (birds, flowers, etc.), a thorough familiarization with its contents and layout is vital before taking it out for use in the field. It helps before you use it to have a general idea of the families of fishes and their locations in the book.

I've always used the Peterson's Field Guides for researching fish, birds, trees, etc. as they are the very best. I saw this new guide and after reading about it, ordered it. To my delight, it's a very good guide with excellent illustrations on opposite page as species descriptions. (The Peterson Guides have a separate glossy "plate" section for illustrations.) It's not quite as comprehensive as the Peterson Guide is, but nearly so. Certainly a great guide, I recommend highly.

I purchased this book to learn more and more about the fishes in the coastal waters of the American US shores. Wow! This is a wonderful Guide and I will purchase the Hard bound copy as soon as I locate it. I am blown away by the detail, the drawings and illustrations. One of the best guides on Coastal Fishes I have found. Thank you Ms. Kells for your contributions to my world. Just Wonderful.

This is the best pictorial field guide I have been able to find. The drawings in this guide are excellent, with few exceptions, and the average angler should be able to determine what type of fish they have landed easily by consulting the photographs. But that is where it ends, the descriptions of fish are limited. Peterson's generally includes spine and lateral line counts, and this guide generally does not. It is an excellent resource for those just wanting to know that they caught, but lacking for those who require exact counts to determine to the species level. I disagree with the other reviewer that stated it is hard to find fish in this book; it is not. Fish are organized by family, which makes for quick reference if you have a basic knowledge in fish taxonomy. If that knowledge is lacking, it is still much easier to consult this guide than others out there, as the color photographs are highly detailed and make general identification easy. I use this guide almost every day, and it has held up well over a period of almost two years.

This is an excellent book for anyone who is interested in finding fish. This book really shines if you're looking for obscure fish. There are big, colorful photos of every fish to help you identify them

by sight. If you fish in varied locations or if you go on vacations and fish away from home, it's a must-have.

This book is packed with good information, very nice color drawings of what seems like every treated species. Although the book is primarily figure-driven, the text is still packed with useful, interesting, and accurate data suitable for both the professional biologist and the layman fisher. This book is an excellent value and is a real gem in any fish fancier's library. Although the book is softcover (I haven't seen a hardcover version offered), the binding seems to be nice and sturdy and will likely hold up to much use. I have already cited this book in a report to NMFS, and I expect to use it as a reference often.

I work in the Fisheries field and would not leave home without this book

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