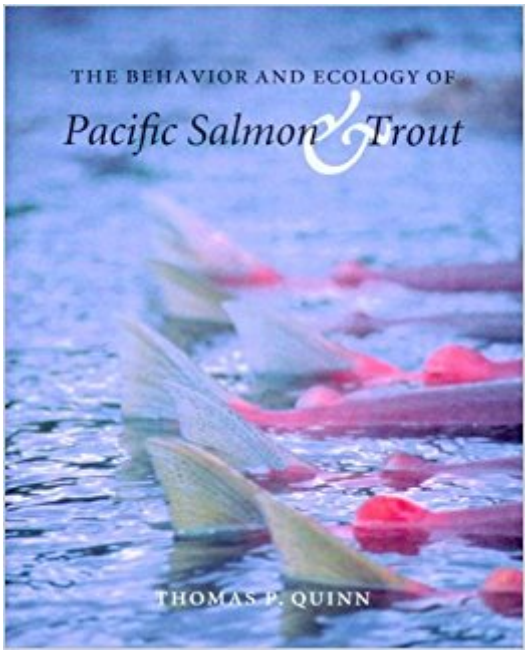
The Behavior And Ecology Of Pacific Salmon And Trout



Synopsis

Few subjects have generated as much emotional dialogue around conflicting scientific and policy agendas as the protection and management of Pacific salmon resources. In this major new work, esteemed fisheries expert Thomas Quinn distills from the vast scientific literature the essential information on the behavior and ecology of Pacific salmon, including steelhead and cutthroat trout. Unlike other books that examine only selected life stages, habitats, or species, this book--richly illustrated with beautiful photographs and original drawings--thoroughly covers the complete life cycle, emphasizing common themes and differences among the various species of salmon.Representing the range of species and geographic regions, Quinn includes examples from classic studies by pioneers of salmon biology and from the most current research to illustrate the important features of salmon life history and behavior and the complex physical, biological, and human factors that affect them.The Behavior and Ecology of Pacific Salmon and Trout introduces salmon and trout as a group, with a brief description of each species, and compares them to other fishes. The book then follows salmon on their amazing homeward migration from the open ocean, through the complex coastal waters, and upstream to the precise location where they were spawned years earlier. It explains the patterns of mate choice, the competition for nest sites, and the fate of the salmon after their death. It describes the lives of offspring during the months they spend incubating in gravel, growing in fresh water, and migrating out to sea to mature. Quinn emphasizes the importance of salmon to humans and to natural ecosystems and the need to integrate sound biology into conservation efforts.This thorough, up-to-date survey should be on the shelf of anyone with a professional or personal interest in Pacific salmon and trout. Written in a technically accurate but engaging style, it will appeal to a wide range of readers, including students, anglers, biologists, conservationists, legislators, and armchair naturalists.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"A highly readable and dilligently researched up-to-date survey of what is known and not known about Pacific salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. This book is timely too, since unique policy discussions are currently taking place focusing on the protection and management of these noble fish in the Northwest."â •Salmon Trout Steelheader"Quinn has assembled a work destined to become a milestone in salmon literature. Based on cutting-edge research, it offers the most detailed explanation of salmon life history and behavior to appear in print."â •The Seattle Times"[This] is perhaps the finest compilation of information on this fascinating group of fish."â •In-Fisherman"The new Bible for those fascinated by wild salmon, whether personally or professionally."â •Tidepool"A readable book aimed not only at scientists and academics but also at ordinary people who just want to learn more about these ecologically and economically important animals. Salmon have played such a prominent role in our social and ecological history: let us arm ourselves with knowledge of their fascinating life histories and ecological importance as we fight for their conservation and survival into the future."â •Discovery

"No book on salmon and salmon ecosystems is as well integrated or as up to date as this one. Thomas Quinn has brought together a wealth of information on salmon behavior, life history, and ecology."â •Peter Bisson, Pacific Northwest Research Station, U.S. Forest Service

In the nearly two decades since "Pacific Salmon Life Histories" was written by Groot and Margolis, much more research on salmon has been done, and that research is well summarized in this book, with appropriate references. Quinn writes for his fellow scientists, but technical jargon is kept to a minimum, so the product is accessible to any reasonably intelligent reader.I disagree with an earlier reviewer who faulted Quinn for not inveighing more against dams. Quinn could as well be faulted for failing to note the threat to wild salmon through disease transfer from rampant salmon aquaculture in British Columbia [e.g., M. Krkosek et al., Science v318:p1772 (2007)], but such criticisms miss the point. The job of a scientist in writing a book for fellow scientists is to summarize what research has been done and what it implies. In any case, near the end of the book, Quinn notes"Given the

high fishing rates, habitat loss and degradation, careless transfers of fish among basins, overzealous hatchery propagation, and other stressors, the remarkable thing is not that salmon are in danger but that they still persist at all....their chances of recovery are good if we would only take our collective foot off their neck."and"Salmon are important to many of us, in so many ways. They are our food, our recreation, our symbol and inspiration, and a critical component in the ecosystems that we value and depend on. If we dedicate ourselves to ensuring that they continue to play these roles, I believe the salmon will do the rest. If we preserve habitat they will use it, and if we restore habitat and make it accessible, they will find it."You can tell where his heart is.

a book about fish, very nice how much? I don’t remember but I needed it

I have been studying the literature on salmon off and on for over 20 years. Well, more accurately I studied it around 20 years ago when I wrote the draft of a novel on salmon. It had a number of plot holes, so I put the manuscript and only recently revived it. Once again I scoured the literature for all the latest findings on salmon behavior. This is it. It comprises virtually all the data I have been able to uncover so far and adds to it. It is written in a friendly, easy to understand style that doesn’t dumb down the material. It even has some humor. The photos are beautifully rendered and add to the text considerably. Well worth the money for the serious student of salmon and trout behavior.

I bought this for a graduate level course on Salmon ecology. It is a fun read for anyone wanting to learn all about salmon. While it is in-depth, the author did a great job of putting together a lot of information in a digestible manner.

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Easy to read from cover to cover, providing excellant overall background to salmonid life history and ecology, including past and current work. Also useful as a reference to find original works.

On the face of it, this text is positioned to become the definitive reference on the state of our understanding of Pacific salmon, a rich and complex topic with huge implications for environmental policy. It is sponsored by the American Fisheries Society, the semi-official academic organization that pays attention to these things. The author is a respected academic with deep understanding of the topic. And the book itself is beautiful. As a coffee table book it deserves four stars. The writing

style is accessible, and the text covers many hundreds of current research studies.So, what's the problem? Like Oakland, there is no there there. Instead of a guided tour through the state of our understanding of salmon, we get what amounts to an unstructured core memory dump. Studies are cited, summarized, and dropped for the next pretty bauble. There is little in the way of integration of the huge knowledge base that is out there. Quinn awkwardly fluctuates between an academic and vernacluar style (in his defense, accessible writing on complex academic topics is hard to do).But Quinn's most bizarre transitions come when he mentions a a few seminal works on Pacific Northwest salmon extinction, simultaneously genuflecting in their general direction and edging away from their implications. Quinn's conscious avoidance of the issues at the heart of the controversy over salmon extinction is the most troubling part of the text, and the main reason I think this book is unworthy of the subject. There is a reason for this. His research center at the University of Washington is largely funded by the government agencies and electric utilites responsible for salmon extinction in the Columbia river basin. Understandably, it does not behoove Quinn to take a definitive stand on these issues. But it belittles him that he does not openly acknowledge what the issues are, and clearly present the evidence we have.In approving Columbia River development in 1937, the US Fisheries Comissioner ignored a half-millenium of evidence that dams make salmon go extinct, saying that it was a complicated issue requiring more scientific study. Seventy years later, hundreds of salmon stocks on the Columbia and Snake rivers are extinct, and all are in jeopardy. Yet Quinn apparently believes that the solution is...more scientific study. Basic questions - how big do salmon get? How many did there used to be? What is the evidence that modifying or removing dams will or will not help salmon survive? - is either buried in the detritus of multiple studies, or entirely absent.The big problem with public policy is that you always have to make critical choices with imperfect knowledge. Inaction in dynamic systems like climate and species ecologies is a choice, and repurposing science as a passive excuse for inaction often guarantees a bad outcome. In his unwillingness to engage controversy, Quinn has, unfortunately, avoided relevance.

I am currently an Undergrad at the University of Washington and had the opportunity to study under Professor Quinn in Alaska for a number of weeks this summer. While the book may not be best suited to sit down and read cover to cover, it is a very valuable reference for academics looking into topics pertaining to pacific salmonids. I can say with certainty that Tom sees writing as a process that is never finished (the art of rewriting), and science is as well. It is unrealistic to try to find a book containing every relevant detail on such a hot and emerging topic as salmon, but this book comes as close as any in recent times.

Salmon Recipes : 50 Delicious of Salmon Recipes (Salmon Recipes, How To Cook Salmon, Salmon Cookbook, Making Salmon, Salmon cookbooks) (Karen Gant Recipes Cookbook No.1) The Behavior and Ecology of Pacific Salmon and Trout Savour the Flavour of Salmon: A Simple Guide to Cooking Easy Salmon Dishes The Fly-Tying Bible: 100 Deadly Trout and Salmon Flies in Step-by-Step Photographs Trout Unlimited's Guide to America's 100 Best Trout Streams, Updated and Revised Horse Behavior, Second Edition (Noyes Series in Animal Behavior, Ecology, Conservation, and Management) S Is for Salmon: A Pacific Northwest Alphabet Buddhism and Ecology: The Interconnection of Dharma and Deeds (Religions of the World and Ecology) Maximum Entropy and Ecology: A Theory of Abundance, Distribution, and Energetics (Oxford Series in Ecology and Evolution) The World of Wolves: New Perspectives on Ecology, Behaviour, and Management (Energy, Ecology and Environment) Ecology: Global Insights and Investigations (Botany, Zoology, Ecology and Evolution) Freshwater Ecology, Second Edition: Concepts and Environmental Applications of Limnology (Aquatic Ecology) Social Ecology: Applying Ecological Understanding to our Lives and our Planet (Social Ecology Series) Ecology: Global Insights & Investigations (Botany, Zoology, Ecology and Evolution) Biology and Ecology of Earthworms (Biology & Ecology of Earthworms) Freshwater Ecology: Concepts and Environmental Applications of Limnology (Aquatic Ecology) Time and Complexity in Historical Ecology: Studies in the Neotropical Lowlands (Historical Ecology Series) Reptile Ecology and Conservation: A Handbook of Techniques (Techniques in Ecology & Conservation) Ecology and Classification of North American Freshwater Invertebrates, Third Edition (Aquatic Ecology (Academic Press)) Freshwater Algae of North America: Ecology and Classification (Aquatic Ecology)