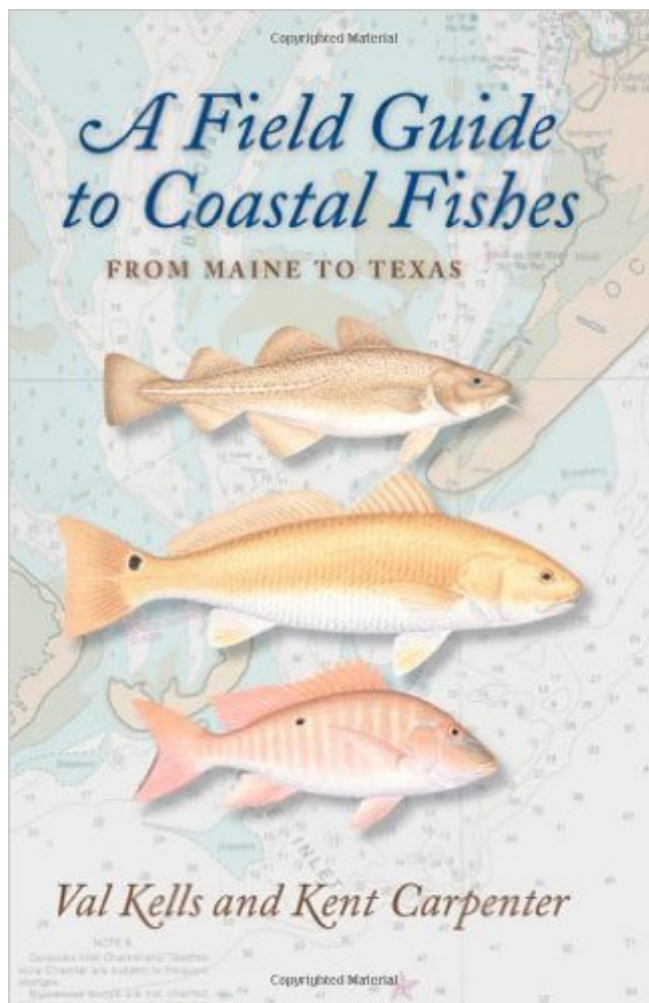


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# A Field Guide To Coastal Fishes: From Maine To Texas



## 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 • 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

What an absolutely AMAZING book! One can tell that a vast amount of time and dedication - and blood, sweat, and tears also - went in to this book. It is comprehensive, well organized, and the illustrations are absolutely spectacular. I bought two copies - one for my desk and another to take with me on my fishing trips. I've been a fisherman most of my life - one of my first memories is catching a redfish at the Quintana Jetties in Texas at the age of four - and this book has inspired me to expand on that hobby. Just as birders have their life lists, I'm going to start a life list of fish that

I've caught, and this book is the perfect tool to help me do just that. So THANKS to the authors of this great book - a life-altering book, in my case!

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.

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.

This book is to fishes what Peterson's Guide to Eastern Birds is to....well. Its utility seems endless serving fishermen, divers/snorklers, beachcomers or those simply wanting to ponder what glorious animals lie beneath the surface. The illustrations are rich and varied - and the pages are water-resistant, so it begs to be used equally in the hands of those close to the action or on a coffee table (or near a hammock) for more relaxed reference. Exceptionally well executed and indispensable.

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.

One of the most detailed field guides that I have seen. It uses drawings instead of actual photos of

the animals, but the pictures are so well detailed, that you can still tell the differences between similar species.

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.

Once you get past the fact that all the fish are drawing and not pictures, this is the best book for fish ID around the eastern US. It covers far more species than the Reef series does and the price is reasonable. Nice work.

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