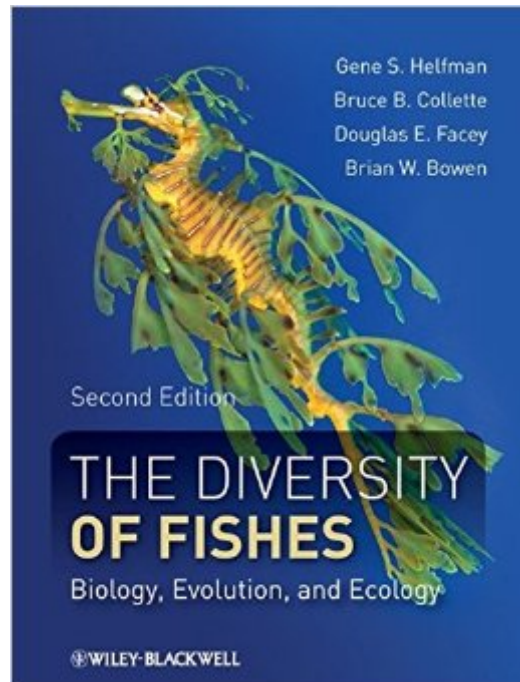


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# The Diversity Of Fishes: Biology, Evolution, And Ecology



## Synopsis

The second edition of *The Diversity of Fishes* represents a major revision of the world's most widely adopted ichthyology textbook. Expanded and updated, the second edition is illustrated throughout with striking color photographs depicting the spectacular evolutionary adaptations of the most ecologically and taxonomically diverse vertebrate group. The text incorporates the latest advances in the biology of fishes, covering taxonomy, anatomy, physiology, biogeography, ecology, and behavior. A new chapter on genetics and molecular ecology of fishes has been added, and conservation is emphasized throughout. Hundreds of new and redrawn illustrations augment readable text, and every chapter has been revised to reflect the discoveries and greater understanding achieved during the past decade. Written by a team of internationally-recognized authorities, the first edition of *The Diversity of Fishes* was received with enthusiasm and praise, and incorporated into ichthyology and fish biology classes around the globe, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The second edition is a substantial update of an already classic reference and text. Companion resources site This book is accompanied by a resources site:

[www.wiley.com/go/helfman](http://www.wiley.com/go/helfman) The site is being constantly updated by the author team and provides:

- Related videos selected by the authors
- Updates to the book since publication
- Instructor resources
- A chance to send in feedback

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have been using Moyle and Cech (an Introduction to Ichthyology) for years as the standard text to recommend to undergraduate students interested in developing a solid knowledge of basic fish taxonomy/biology/ecology but I think Helfman et al is a much more student-friendly textbook. It is split into sections: Introduction, form function & ontogeny, taxonomy phylogeny and evolution, zoogeography genetics and adaptations, behaviour and ecology, the future of fishes (conservation). These sections are sub-divided into sensible chapters. The writing style is clear, peppered with good references for further reading and the authors make good use of excellent figures. As well as the reference list there are supplemental reading recommendations. The authors make good use of boxes to highlight interesting areas, e.g. vicariance versus dispersal, should we eat farmed salmon? and finish off each chapter with a bullet point summary. Being a single book treatment of a vast subject there are some sections where I guess the need for brevity has enforced absences, e.g. there is no mention of the special properties of fish eye lenses in the vision section and the section on swimming seems a bit sparse (and would probably benefit from more use of diagrams). In summary, this is an excellent text that will appeal to undergraduates and serve as a useful sourcebook for tutors.

I am far from finished reading THE DIVERSITY OF FISHES, but have read enough to be able to say that it is a very well written text. THE DIVERSITY OF FISHES is full of information presented in a clean style of expository writing. I highly recommend this book to everyone. I was an entomology major and have a master's in biology, but have never taken an ichthyology class. When I finish reading THE DIVERSITY OF FISHES, I just may take an fish class. This book should be read by everyone since fishes are so important on the biosphere.

The Diversity of Fishes is a comprehensive, world-wide look at fish, including diversity and distribution, taxonomy, physical adaptations, behavior, role in food webs, importance to humans and their current status vis-à-vis habitat degradation and overexploitation. The book is well-written, thoroughly annotated and well illustrated. Highlighted boxes provide additional attention and insight into areas of particular interest, such how billfish maintain elevated brain temperatures and the matter of whether or not farmed salmon are ecologically responsible (the authors conclude that they are not). The reading is dense and there are over 600 pages of it – each one well worth it for anyone with a passionate interest in fish, their evolution, their habitats and their future.

One of the best textbooks on fish today. Gives a great overview of all the relevant topics going into

detail in the places where it is best needed. If you want to know anything about fish this is the perfect place to start and if you are going to be teaching a class on fish, this is the textbook for you!

This book is probably the most information dense textbook I've ever had, and that is a really good thing. The early chapters are lacking in pictures to help nail down an understanding of the skeletal and muscle systems, but conveniently the book references other research papers and literature that have all the information you could need. Well written and informative, what more can you ask for?

Even if you are not majoring in aquatics and fisheries, this book is very helpful and very well put together. One of the few great books about fishes. Very easy to read.

I bought this book just out of a general interest in fishes as I keep tropical freshwater fishes as a hobby. I also use the book as a reference when I write articles and books about aquarium fishes. It takes some time to navigate the text for an interested layperson but it's perfectly possible. I would recommend it for non-experts with a serious interest in fishes - well, you wouldn't even consider buying a book this expensive if you weren't seriously interested, I guess. In my personal opinion, aquarium keeping becomes much more interesting if you take the time to read up, and buying another book is often more rewarding than buying yet another tank or more equipment.

text was informative and supportive of information presented during course. Good fit for beginning Ich. course. As a rental: condition of text was marginal. the cover was barely attached but the pages were fairly clean of previous writing/highlighting/etc. I had to be more ginger than normal while studying text to keep it in a shape that might be returnable which did not support my study conditions. long and short of it: text was informative, understandable and generally well written; condition of rental kinda sucked but I didn't have time to send it back nor did I want to risk getting one in worse condition with lots of writing in it.

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