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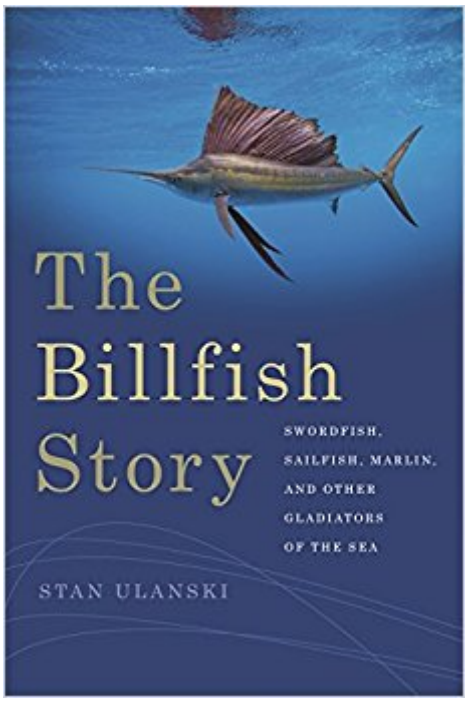
The Billfish Story: Swordfish, Sailfish, Marlin, And Other Gladiators Of The Sea (Wormsloe Foundation Nature Book Ser.)



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Synopsis

The saga of a unique group of fish and those who have formed bonds with them: anglers, biologists, charter-boat captains, and conservationists. Ulanski brings a rich background to the subject in a multifaceted approach that will enrich not only readersÃ¢â ¬â„¢ appreciation of billfish but the whole of the natural world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Stan Ulanski, himself a scientist and angler, uses his talents in both arenas to blend the facts of science with the practical aspects of fishing. The result is a readable and informative account of the billfish fishery. There is something for everyone with an interest in billfish. (Ron Presley author of Fishing Secrets from Florida's East Coast)UlanskiÃ¢â ¬â„¢s book provides the most comprehensive, easy-to-read text I have seen on the evolution of billfish, their oceanic habitat, and the sport of billfishing. Nothing escapes his notice. This is an excellent read for anyone truly interested in billfish. (Ellen M. Peel, President, The Billfish Foundation)

Swordfish, Sailfish, Marlin, andOther Gladiators of the Sea --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

My 7 yr old liked it, read it through, cover to cover.

Great book.

This is an excellent overall account of billfish (marlin, swordfish, spearfish and so on). It’s a "Wormsloe" book from this publisher, which seems to guarantee quality (I’ve read several). Ulanski writes clearly and mixes science with culture in a way that informs both. This book discusses billfish biology, life cycle, prey and migration patterns, along with the development of a major sports fishery--with one chapter on billfish fishing tournaments. Swordfish are treated in a separate chapter, because they have long been fished for food, with other species fished largely for the sport.Two literary figures are important, because both had a mania for fishing--Zane Grey and Ernest Hemingway. Both has a lot to do with the development of the billfish sports fishery, which by now involves many thousands of fishers and quite large amount of money as prizes in tournaments. Catch and release prevails now, and apparently if done with care, most of the fish survive.There’s some interesting discussion of long-line fishing and how it impacts these fish, primarily swordfish, as well as discussion of currents, water temperatures and currents, with how the fish use these phenomena. I found the best chapters to be 5, on blue marlin (it has a good section on the mechanics of the fish swimming), and 6. on swordfish. The chapter on swordfish also looks at how this animal is endangered.

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