Finfish and Shellfish Identification Book

Companion Guide to the California Fishing Passport

Did you know that striped bass were introduced to California in 1879, and that they once supported a commercial fishery? Or that California sheephead begin life as females but then become males later in life? Or that the McCloud River redband trout survived the last Ice Age in free-flowing streams east of Mt. Shasta, isolated from other trout species?

These are just some of the fascinating facts you'll find in the new *California Finfish and Shellfish Identification Book*. Toss in a "legal limit" of fishing tips for some of the toughest species to catch, along with full color illustrations of 150 California finfish and shellfish, and you've got the perfect companion guide to the Department of Fish and Game's (DFG) new *California Fishing Passport.*

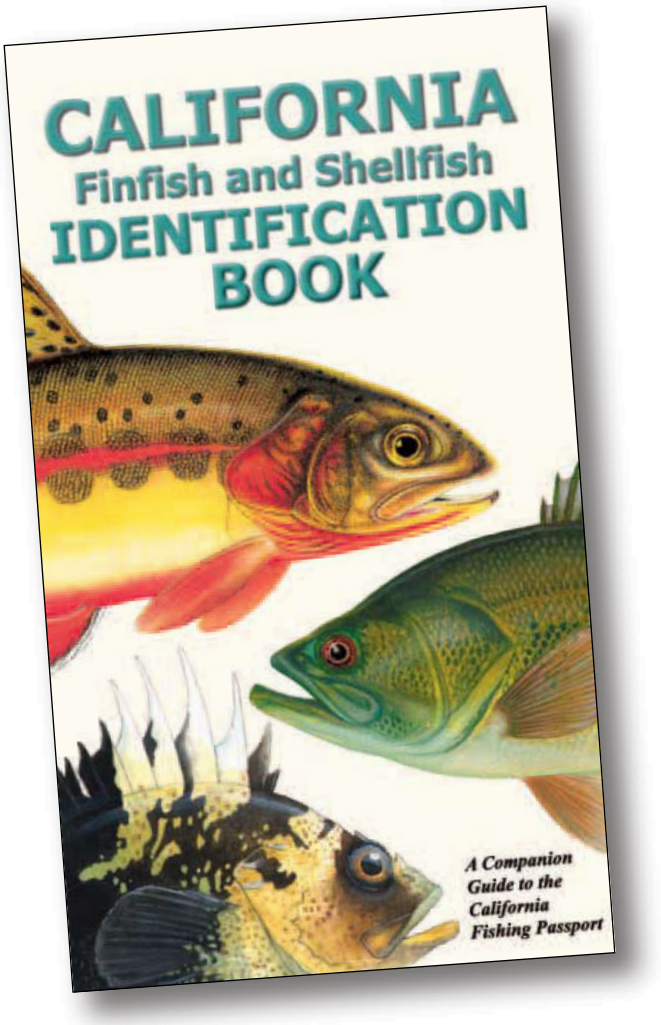
The California Fishing Passport program encourages anglers to try to catch California's most popular finfish and shellfish species, and earn stamps in their passports by successfully catching each species. Not only is the program fun and a great challenge, participating anglers can also work their way toward special recognition and prizes for their accomplishments.

The *California Finfish and Shellfish Identification Book* provides anglers with an inside edge for catching all the freshwater and saltwater species in the passport. Full color illustrations by top artists Joseph Tomelleri, Amadeo Bachar and Jeremy Taylor provide anglers with detailed pictures of the fishes they will encounter as they fish their way around the state. Range and habitat information within California, distinguishing characteristics, maximum length, weight, and lifespan data, and fishing tips are all provided in the book.

The *California Finfish and Shellfish Identification Book* contains a treasure trove of information collected and updated from prior DFG publications. DFG staff experts contributed their knowledge and insights into each entry, providing specific information about the many varied finfish and shellfish anglers can expect to encounter here. The *California Finfish and Shellfish Identification Book* is geared to provide an exciting peek into the many opportunities that await anglers of all ages in California.

DFG Director Ryan Broddrick officially kicked off the California Fishing Passport program in January, 2007. "This program serves as a great complement to California's highly prized ocean and freshwater fisheries," said Broddrick. "It invites all types of anglers to get out and explore the Golden State and meet the challenge of catching a variety of fish species."

The California Finfish and Shellfish Identification Book is available from official California Fishing Passport Program Supporters, DFG license sales offices, and by e-mailing publications@dfg.ca.gov. For the more information, visit **www.fishingpassport.org** for a list of official Supporters and DFG license sales offices.



What's Inside the California Finfish and Shellfish Identification Book?

Anglers will find loads of information about ocean and freshwater fish, shellfish, and more!

California Fishing Passport