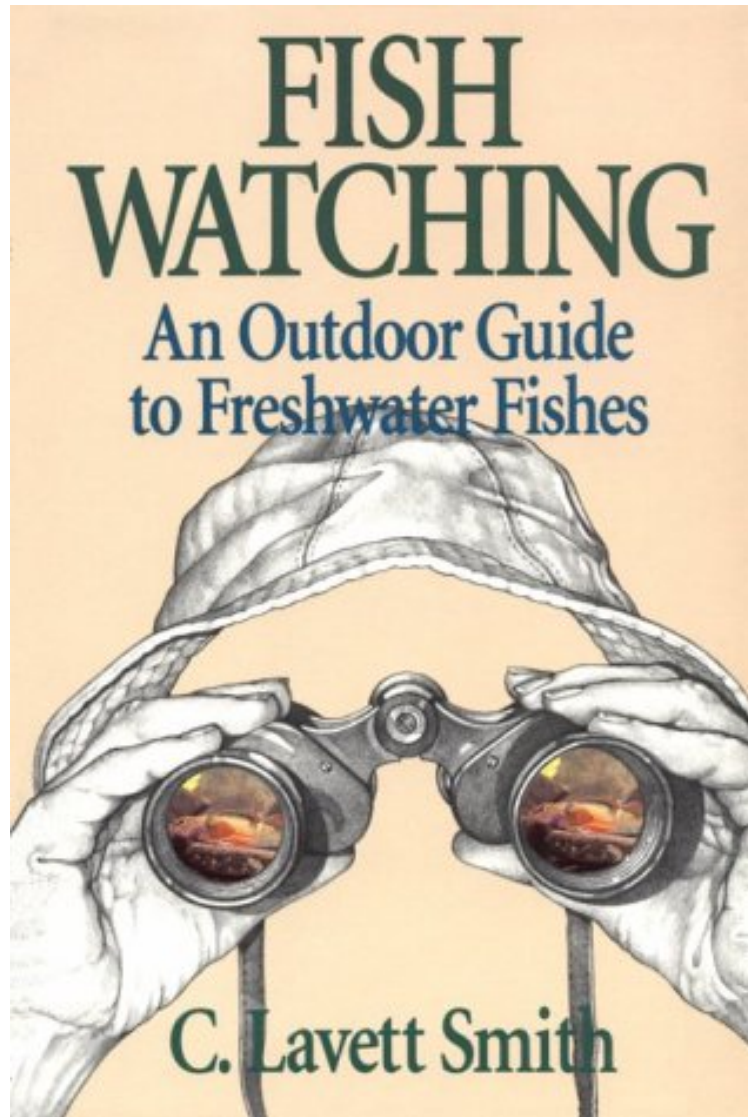


(Download) Fish Watching: An Outdoor Guide to Freshwater Fishes (Comstock Book)

## Fish Watching: An Outdoor Guide to Freshwater Fishes (Comstock Book)

*C. Lavett Smith*

*ePub | \*DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1545832 in Books C Lavett Smith 1994-05-26Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x .67 x 6.05l, .91  
#File Name: 0801480841256 pagesFish Watching An Outdoor Guide to Freshwater Fishes | File size: 69.Mb

**C. Lavett Smith : Fish Watching: An Outdoor Guide to Freshwater Fishes (Comstock Book)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fish Watching: An Outdoor Guide to Freshwater Fishes (Comstock Book):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Guide to Fish WatchingBy Joseph M. McGeeFish watching is an excellent book. I recommend it to any nature lover who thinks he or she might develop an interest in

fish. C. Lavett Smith may have done for fish watching what Roger Tory Peterson did for bird watching. He really shows the reader how to enjoy watching fish (something not immediately obvious as being possible to the novice considering the medium in which fish occur). I find the chapter on fish watching by habitat especially interesting and useful. Chapter 4, "The Fishes" is a wonderful introduction to the North American freshwater fish families--essentially a mini-course in fish taxonomy which Smith expands on in Appendix 1. The book includes much more than one can go into here (e.g., a good list of references for further reading although the list is predictably dated considering the book's publication date). I can not praise this book too highly. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Buyer beware - limited geographic coverage! By KS Although the general concepts and tips for watching fishes presented in this short book seem useful, I was quite disappointed to find out after purchasing the book that "although this book focuses on the northeastern United States, it will be useful throughout the United States and Canada east of the Rocky Mountains". Clearly this information should have been noted in the title or somewhere on the cover of the book - this is a geographically limited guide that does not cover western North America.

Who hasn't stopped along the banks of a stream to look for fish? Anyone who wants to enjoy fish in their own world will want this lavishly illustrated guide to a new kind of nature study. An expert whose passionate interest in fish is contagious, C. Lavett Smith is promoting a whole new outdoor pastime - fish watching.

From Library Journal There are guides to watching birds (Sheila Buff's *Birding for Beginners*, LJ 6/1/93), whales (Patricia Corrigan's *Where the Whales Are*, LJ 3/15/91), and marine life (David Bulluch's *The Underwater Naturalist*, LJ 3/1/91). There is even a guide for catching and watching fish in a tank (John Quinn's *Our Native Fishes*, LJ 2/1/91). But Smith here endorses watching fish in their freshwater home. Smith, an ichthyologist, knows his subject well. He gives clear suggestions on how to start watching fish and provides descriptions of fish habitats and fishes classified by family with line drawings and three dozen color photos. There is a slight emphasis on Eastern U.S. species, but Smith intends this guide to be used in the field. His personal anecdotes add interest. Brief appendixes for classification and names of fishes are included. For public libraries with large hobby collections, especially near freshwater creeks, ponds, bogs, etc. (Index not seen.)-Jean E. Crampon, Hancock Biology Oceanography Lib, Univ. of Southern California, Los Angeles Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. "This book should delight anyone who is interested in the natural world, and should help fish watching take its rightful place alongside the better known pursuits of amateur naturalists." John A. Baker, Biological Sciences, University of Arkansas, *The Quarterly of Biology*, Vol. 70 "Provides a wealth of information on eastern North American freshwater fishes as would be expected from someone whose ichthyological legacy includes E. Raney, R. Suttkus, and R. Bailey." Bruce A. Thompson, Coastal Fisheries Institute, Center for Coastal, Energy, and Environmental Resources, Louisiana State University, *Copeia*, 1996, No. 1 "Until C. Lavett Smith published *Fish Watching*, good fish books were as scarce as unicorns. . . . An emeritus curator of herpetology and ichthyology at the American Museum of Natural History, Smith crafted *Fish Watching* as a book about fishes. Not about catching them. Not about keeping them. Not about cooking them. Just about them. . . . The result is a most pleasant and surprising work of natural history writing devoted solely to fishes. The surprise is how successfully Smith keeps *Fish Watching* simple. . . . For feeling good about loving fishes just for what they are, I'll read *Fish Watching*." Kevin Cook, *The Coloradoan*, August 1, 2004 From the Back Cover Who hasn't stopped along the banks of a stream to look for fish? Anyone who wants to enjoy fish in their own world will want this lavishly illustrated guide to a new kind of nature study. An expert whose passionate interest in fish is contagious, C. Lavett Smith is promoting a whole new outdoor pastime - fish watching. Designed to be used outside, the book opens with tips on where, when, and how to find and watch fishes in their natural habitats. Smith starts with hints for the beginner, and comments on equipment and ways of taking notes. He describes the major types of running and still waters, along with the kinds of fishes to be found in each. Nearly 200 drawings and photographs, thirty-six in color, illustrate the habitats and the fishes a watcher may see, and there are general accounts of the major groups of fishes found in the fresh waters of the United States and Canada. The central theme of the book is natural history: habitat selection, food and feeding habits, defense adaptations, and reproductive mechanisms. Smith describes habitats ranging from tiny headwater creeks to large rivers and estuaries. Food habits include straining plankton, cropping small insects, and feeding on other animals. He points out the reproductive specializations that watchers may often see - the development of special, sometimes brilliant breeding colors, the construction of nests, courtship rituals, and in a few cases parental care of the young. Vignettes describing Smith's adventures in the field add a special flavor to a charming book that will appeal to readers of all ages - including those who fish.