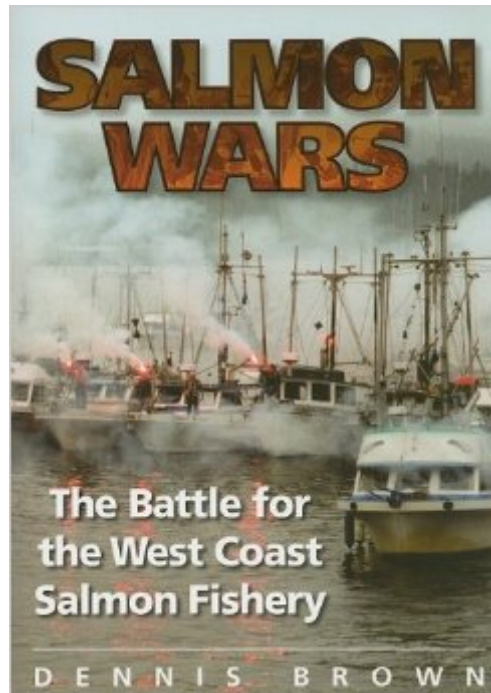


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Salmon Wars: The Battle For The West Coast Salmon Fishery



Synopsis

Shortlisted for 2006 George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in B.C. Writing and Publishing
In this remarkable book, author Dennis Brown reviews the history of the West Coast salmon resource with such comprehensiveness and clarity that even those closest to the issue will find themselves viewing it with new understanding. Brown places the reader at the centre of the controversies surrounding the Canada-United States Pacific Salmon Treaty, the subsequent Alaska ferry blockade and other highly charged media events while analyzing the motivations of key decision makers with a flair that makes for an invigorating read. *Salmon Wars: The Battle for the West Coast Salmon Fishery* is a landmark study of this crucial subject. "I can think of no more devoted or passionate observer than Dennis Brown. His account of the changing fortunes of Canada's West Coast salmon fishery, and of the people and communities whose lives and livelihoods are intertwined with that precious resource, should not be missed. This is a story that has been waiting to be told." --Yves Fortier, Canada's chief negotiator, Pacific Salmon Treaty (1993-1998)

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Salmon Wars by Dennis Brown, a very readable book, is different from the typical "fishery" story, as the title implies, and I dove into it eagerly. There are many good memoirs by commercial fishermen that tell in rich detail of the good life fishing, but few want to go into the political and management aspect of commercial fishing, even though it is such a highly political work and management environment. Why is this? Perhaps because it is just too darn complicated to try to cover it

adequately. Brown covers his side of the salmon wars thoroughly and fairly. The Canadians are more willing to take this battle on than the US fishermen. Dennis Brown's book, writing of BC fishing, is therefore a welcome change as he dives right into the politics with no thought of prettying it up. As a former commercial salmon fisherman, now subsistence fishing, I was glad to learn of all the background battles I barely knew of when out fishing. I was a little chagrined to learn how the coho we caught in Alaska were, many of them, from BC, most of the rest from Washington. But aside from interception--which did go both ways--most of commercial fishermen's problems have been identical on both sides of the border. The fate of small fishermen today is tenuous in both countries as fish habitat is destroyed and not rebuilt, management is weak and underfunded, and the federal solution is to privatize the fisheries--of no benefit to smaller fishermen, and a false solution to conservation in most cases. I wish Brown would write a follow-up book of equal insight and readability.

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