

CHOICE

CURRENT REVIEWS FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

A publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries
A division of the American Library Association
Editorial Offices: 575 Main Street, Suite 300, Middletown, CT 06457-3445
Phone: (860) 347-6933 Fax: (860) 704-0465
www.choicemag.org

November 2013 Vol. 51 No. 03

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Biology - Zoology

Nicholas Lilly Promotions and Marketing Assistant
University of Chicago Press
1427 E 60th St

Chicago, IL 60637

The following review will appear in the November 2013 issue of CHOICE. The review is for your internal use only until our publication date of 01 November 2013

51-1488

SH351

2012-44795 CIP

Bailey, Kevin M. **Billion-dollar fish: the untold story of Alaska pollock.** Chicago, 2013. 271p bibl index afp ISBN 9780226022345, \$25.00; ISBN 9780226022482 e-book, \$18.00

Bailey (Alaska Fisheries Science Center; Univ. of Washington) is more than a fishery biologist specializing in Alaskan pollock. He is also a talented writer with a graceful style who can casually deliver a wealth of unusual insights and enliven his topic. The white-fleshed relative of the cod makes up 40 percent of the US's seafood catch. Its flesh is found in fish sticks, imitation scallops and crabs, and many other products. Vast schools of pollock went through a boom-bust cycle before the fishery was stabilized after the 1970s. The author's broad background lets him capture the essence of biological as well as science and regulatory policy issues and provide well-chosen data that could occupy many volumes. For example, he contrasts a 1964 Department of the Interior report indicating that the world's oceans could yield 500 million tons of fish annually with primary production estimates and recent harvests of less than 100 million tons. Bailey is one of those aristocrats among science writers whose work illuminates his field, rewarding general readers as well as professionals. *Billion-Dollar Fish* is the most authoritative source of information on the US's most important fish. **Summing Up:** Essential. All academic, general, and professional audiences. -- *F. T. Manheim, George Mason University*