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Autore	Wicksten Mary K.
Titolo	Vertical reefs : life on oil and gas platforms in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico / / Mary Katherine Wicksten
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (118 p.)
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Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The why and where of drilling for oil and gas -- The leasing process -- Rigs and platforms -- Natural reefs and banks compared to the platforms -- How life arrives at the platforms -- Visitors above the waves -- Below the water -- Biological invasions and platforms -- Resident animals -- Seaweeds and the basis of the food chain -- Life on near-shore platforms -- Life on platforms of the outer continental shelf -- Life on blue-water platforms -- Deep life on platforms -- Life on platforms at night -- Large visiting animals -- Recreational use -- Fishing -- Diving -- The fate of platforms -- General resources.
Sommario/riassunto	On a clear night, the bright lights of oil platforms sparkle in the Gulf of Mexico. Thousands of these platforms off the coasts of Texas and Louisiana play an important role in the lives of underwater species who find food, shelter, and permanent homes in the ecosystem created by these big, three-dimensional structures standing on the flat sea floor. They may also play lesser-known roles "above the waves" in the migration of birds and even insects. Tapping into years of diving experience, marine biologist Mary Wicksten looks at the inhabitants and visitors of these "vertical reefs", explaining