

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910785338803321
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Titolo	Consider the eel [[electronic resource] /] / Richard Schweid
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chapel Hill, N.C., : University of North Carolina Press, 2002
ISBN	979-88-908734-3-9 0-8078-9926-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (196 p.)
Disciplina	597/.432
Soggetti	Anguillidae Eel fisheries - North America Eel fisheries - Europe Eel fisheries
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 161-170) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Preface; 1 Pamlico County, North Carolina; 2 Interstate 95; 3 Guipuzcoa, Basque Country, Spain; 4 Lough Neagh, Northern Ireland; 5 Yankee Eels; 6 Fishing and Farming; A Taste of Eel; Bibliography; Acknowledgments; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Journalist Richard Schweid first learned the strange facts of the freshwater eel's life from a fisherman in a small Spanish town just south of Valencia. "The eeler who explained the animal's life cycle to me did so as he served up an eel he had just taken from a trap, killed, cleaned, and cooked in olive oil in an earthenware dish," writes Schweid. "I ate it with a chunk of fresh, crusty bread. It was delicious. I was immediately fascinated." As this engaging culinary and natural history reveals, the humble eel is indeed an amazing creature. Every European and American eel begins i