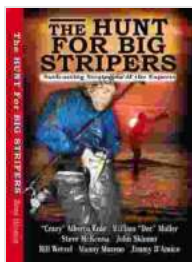


# The Hunt for Big Stripers

Striped bass are one of the most sought-after fish by anglers of all levels. They're powerful, hard-fighting fish that can reach impressive sizes. If you're looking to catch the fish of a lifetime, there's no better target than a big striper.



## The Hunt for Big Stripers by Simon Needham

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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But catching big stripers isn't easy. They're a migratory fish that can cover a lot of ground, and they're often found in deep water or near structure.

That's why it's important to do your research and use the right techniques if you want to be successful.

## Gear for Big Stripers

The right gear can make all the difference when you're fishing for big stripers. Here's what you need:

- **Rod:** A medium-heavy to heavy-action rod is best for casting large lures and fighting big fish. Look for a rod that's 7-8 feet long.
- **Reel:** A spinning reel or baitcasting reel with a gear ratio of 5:1 or higher is ideal. You'll need a reel that can hold at least 150 yards of 20-pound line.
- **Line:** Braid is the best line for big stripers because it's strong and has low stretch. Use 20-pound braid for most situations.
- **Lures:** Big stripers are attracted to a variety of lures, including bucktails, jigs, and topwater plugs. Choose lures that are at least 6 inches long and weigh at least 1 ounce.

## Techniques for Big Stripers

There are a number of different techniques that can be used to catch big stripers, including:

- **Trolling:** Trolling is a great way to cover a lot of water and find fish. Troll lures behind your boat at speeds of 2-4 knots.
- **Casting:** Casting is a more active way to fish for stripers. Cast lures into areas where fish are likely to be holding, such as near structure or drop-offs.
- **Jigging:** Jigging is a good way to catch stripers that are holding near the bottom. Drop a jig to the bottom and then jig it up and down.

## Locations for Big Stripers

Big stripers can be found all along the Atlantic coast, from Maine to Florida. Some of the best places to fish for them include:

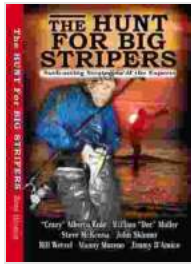
- **Cape Cod, Massachusetts:** Cape Cod is a world-renowned striped fishery. The best time to fish here is during the fall run, when big stripers migrate to the area to feed.
- **Chesapeake Bay, Maryland:** The Chesapeake Bay is another great place to catch big stripers. The bay is home to a large population of stripers, and they can be caught year-round.
- **Hudson River, New York:** The Hudson River is a tidal river that flows into New York Harbor. The river is home to a large population of stripers, and they can be caught from shore or by boat.

## Tips for Catching Big Stripers

Here are a few tips to help you catch big stripers:

- **Use live bait:** Live bait is the best way to catch big stripers. Use live eels, bunker, or shad.
- **Fish at the right time:** The best time to fish for big stripers is during the fall run, when they're migrating to spawn. Fish during the early morning or late evening when the fish are most active.
- **Be patient:** It takes time to catch a big striper. Don't get discouraged if you don't catch anything right away. Keep fishing and you'll eventually be rewarded.

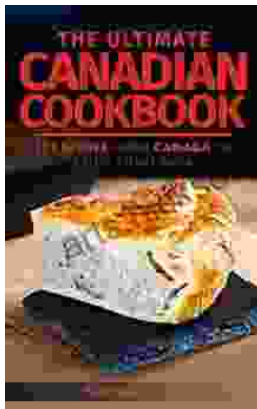
Catching a big striper is a challenge, but it's a challenge that can be overcome with the right gear, techniques, and locations. If you follow the tips in this article, you'll increase your chances of landing the fish of a lifetime.



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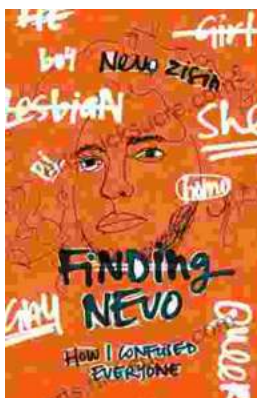
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