

Preface

The massive quantity and diversity of scientific research papers dealing with several aspects of fish migration hinder undergraduate and graduate students to find an easy introduction to the subject. Furthermore, the access to some of the seminal books and papers is also difficult. Therefore, when we planned the structure of this book, we aimed at covering the aspects we considered essential for undergraduate and graduate students to be introduced to the study of fish migrations, and to provide college professors and scientists with another complementary tool for their work. Indeed, as far as we are aware, this is the first book to cover all fish migratory tactics, i.e., potadromy, diadromy and oceanodromy, since the 1980's.

The book is divided in three parts. It was clear for us that the first part ought to revise the history of fish migration research, the definitions and concepts, as well as the challenges that fish migration scientists must consider in the future. In the second part, the book focuses on the general patterns and processes of each life history, but without focusing on any particular species or family, and it also briefly explores their conservation status. The most common techniques used to study fish migration are described in the third part of this book, and examples on the use of each technique are described for each migratory tactics, if suited for the technique and available in the literature.

We also claim that this book is not an end on itself. We are convinced that the momentum that exists in fish migration research, either on basic or more complex aspects of fish migration, plus the advances in technology and the growing perception on the importance to protect migratory fish species and their habitat, will force a continuous revision of this book through the years to come.