Secrets Of The Greatest Snow On Earth: Weather, Climate Change, And Finding Deep Powder In Utah's Wasatch Mountains And Around The World
Synopsis
Utah has long claimed to have the greatest snow on Earth—the state itself has even trademarked the phrase. In Secrets of the Greatest Snow on Earth, Jim Steenburgh investigates Wasatch weather, exposing the myths, explaining the reality, and revealing how and why Utah’s powder lives up to its reputation. Steenburgh also examines ski and snowboard regions beyond Utah, making this book a meteorological guide to mountain weather and snow climates around the world. Chapters explore mountain weather, avalanches and snow safety, historical accounts of weather events and snow conditions, and the basics of climate and weather forecasting. Steenburgh explains what creates the best snow for skiing and snowboarding in accurate and accessible language and illustrates his points with 150 color photographs, making Secrets of the Greatest Snow on Earth a helpful tool for planning vacations and staying safe during mountain adventures. Snowriders, weather enthusiasts, meteorologists, students of snow science, and anyone who dreams of deep powder and bluebird skies will want to get their gloves on Secrets of the Greatest Snow on Earth.

Book Information
Paperback: 244 pages
Publisher: Utah State University Press; 1 edition (November 14, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0874219507
Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.6 x 10 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (14 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #331,890 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Snowboarding #68 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Skiing #265 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Rivers

Customer Reviews
Wasatch and other snow climates are covered (maritime, continental, transition, none), including the Sierra Nevada, Andes of South America and New Zealand. Steenburgh discusses the science of snow, increased snowfall adjacent to large bodies of water (Great Lakes, Great Salt Lake, Sea of Japan); development, use and evolution of artillery, predicting low water content snow (powder), snow climates and the impact of climate change. Doppler Radar is covered. Page 47 features an
excellent “atmosphere river” map. This is a solid primer for those who want to understand snow and avalanche potential, as well as historic photographs of avalanche pioneers Monty Atwater and Ed LaChapelle. The author uses inch-pound measuring units, not the more universal SI (metric) units which calls for a revision. SI is the legal and preferred system of measurement for all trade and commerce. "Beyond the Ropes" (final chapter) is a good discussion of skiing out of bounds (away from patrolled downhill ski areas) such as sidecountry and slackcountry. Many photographs and tables are shown including the "North American Public Avalanche Danger Scale" and visible infrared and water vapor satellite imagery. This is a solid basis for the "Greatest Snow’ on Earth. There is an excellent glossary of current snow jargon, including "Cascade Concrete," "Sierra Cement," "Seeder" and "Feeder" clouds, blocked and unblocked orographic precipitation and various regional terms. Good topographic representations help illustrate snow in the Wasatch Mountains, Sierra Nevada, Andes, European Alps and Japan. Every skier should read this book.

If you like skiing, or snow, or Utah, pick up this fascinating book. Climatologist Jim Steenburgh knows his weather science and LOVES skiing in Utah. An easy read with great illustrations, Secrets of the Greatest Snow on Earth is a surprising treasure.

Very informative, insightful and well-researched. Particularly interested in the segment about the origin of The Greatest Snow on Earth phase...because I was there! Good job, Jim, on all fronts.

Steenburg’s exciting revelations about the incredible Utah powder stash offer a great read! As a meteorologist and backcountry snowboarder, I repeatedly reference Secrets as both a work manual and motivation for adventure. His thorough science is presented in uncomplicated terms that are comprehensible at any level; the photos make me want to drop everything and get out on the slopes!

Steenburgh makes me want to move to Utah just for the skiing. As a cross country ski nut, I found Secrets of the Greatest snow on earth a great read.

loved this book. read it while skiing at Alta, Snowbird, and Canyons. I was loaded with snow trivia to share for the week!

This book is a must have for choosing those great days to call in sick.....I mean well!