CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Antarctic scale worm

Eulagisca gigantea

The Antarctic scale worm is a large, predatory polychaete worm found in the frigid waters surrounding Antarctica. Recognizable by its broad, flattened body covered with overlapping scales (elytra), t…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Polynoidae
Habitat: Deep Antarctic Ocean
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: Unknown, estimated several years
Weight: Up to 100 grams
Scientific name: Eulagisca gigantea

Did you know?

- Despite its fearsome appearance, the Antarctic scale worm is rarely seen by humans and was first described only in the early 20th century.
- Antarctic scale worms have enormous jaws that can extend outward to capture prey. They possess iridescent scales that may help protect them from pred…

What I learned

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