

CREATURE ATLAS
Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Bowfin

Amia calva

The Bowfin is a primitive freshwater fish native to North America, notable for its elongated body, long dorsal fin, and rounded tail. It is the sole surviving species of the order Amiiformes, a group...

Quick facts

Classification: Fish

Family: Amiidae

Habitat: Freshwater swamps, rivers, and lakes

Diet: Carnivore

Conservation status: Least Concern

Lifespan: 10–12 years (occasionally up to 30 years in the wild)

Weight: 2.5–6.5 kg (5.5–14.3 lbs)

Scientific name: *Amia calva*

Did you know?

- Despite their fierce appearance, bowfins are not related to true pikes or gars, but represent a unique evolutionary lineage dating back over 150 mill...
- Bowfins can gulp air at the surface to survive in oxygen-poor waters. Males guard their nests and young aggressively. Their lineage dates back to the...

What I learned
