CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Bowfin

Amia calva

The bowfin is the sole survivor of an entire lineage. Every other member of the Halecomorphi is a fossil, and the bowfin has been swimming in North American swamps essentially unchanged for well over…

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…
- Male bowfin carry an eyespot on the upper base of the tail, ringed in orange or yellow; females usually lack the ring. Bowfin roe is now marketed as …

What I learned

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