

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Florida Manatee

Trichechus manatus latirostris

The Florida manatee is a large, slow-moving aquatic mammal native to the warm coastal waters and rivers of Florida and the southeastern United States. Recognizable by its rounded, paddle-shaped tail ...

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal

Family: Trichechidae

Habitat: Shallow coastal waters, rivers, estuaries, and freshwater springs

Diet: Herbivore

Conservation status: Vulnerable

Lifespan: 40-60 years

Weight: 400-1,300 pounds

Scientific name: *Trichechus manatus latirostris*

Did you know?

- Manatees have no natural predators, but their greatest threat comes from human-related activities, especially boat strikes.
- Florida manatees can eat up to 10% of their body weight in aquatic plants daily. They are closely related to elephants, sharing a distant common ancestor.

What I learned
