CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Humphead Parrotfish

Bolbometopon muricatum

The parrotfish eats the reef. Its teeth are fused into a heavy beak, and behind that sits a second set — a pharyngeal mill in the throat, which grinds up what the beak has bitten off. It scrapes and …

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Scaridae
Habitat: Coral reefs
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 20–40 years
Weight: 50–75 kg
Scientific name: Bolbometopon muricatum

Did you know?

- Despite their massive size and tough beaks, humphead parrotfish are known to sleep in groups in shallow reef areas, sometimes even producing a mucous…
- It bites off chunks of coral, digests the algae and excretes the rock — much of a tropical beach's white sand has been through a parrotfish. Behind i…

What I learned

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