CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Orange roughy

Hoplostethus atlanticus

Hoplostethus atlanticus is a cautionary tale about fishing an animal you do not understand. Marketed from the late 1970s as a mild white fish — it was renamed from "slimehead," which was accurate but…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Trachichthyidae
Habitat: Deep-sea ocean
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 100-150 years
Weight: 1-7 kg
Scientific name: Hoplostethus atlanticus

Did you know?

- Orange roughy do not begin to reproduce until they are 20-30 years old, making population recovery from overfishing extremely slow.
- The oldest orange roughy reliably aged was around 149 years, meaning a fillet served today may come from a fish that hatched before the First World W…

What I learned

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