

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Pistol Shrimp

Alpheus bellulus

The pistol shrimp, also known as the snapping shrimp, is a small marine invertebrate famous for its unique claw that can snap shut at incredible speeds. This snap creates a powerful cavitation bubble...

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate

Family: Alpheidae

Habitat: Shallow tropical and subtropical coastal waters, coral reefs, and seagrass beds

Diet: Carnivore

Conservation status: Least Concern

Lifespan: 2-4 years

Weight: 5-25 grams

Scientific name: *Alpheus bellulus*

Did you know?

- The snap of a pistol shrimp's claw is so loud it can disrupt sonar and is one of the loudest biological sounds in the ocean.
- Pistol shrimp claws can snap so fast that they momentarily generate temperatures nearly as hot as the surface of the sun. There are over 600 species ...

What I learned
