CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Sailfish

Istiophorus platypterus

Istiophorus platypterus is routinely called the fastest fish in the sea at 110 km/h, and that figure is almost certainly wrong. It comes from a 1940s experiment in which a hooked sailfish stripped li…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Istiophoridae
Habitat: Open ocean (pelagic zone)
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 4-10 years
Weight: 40–100 kg
Scientific name: Istiophorus platypterus

Did you know?

- Despite their incredible speed, sailfish usually rely on stealth and teamwork rather than pure speed to capture prey.
- The colour changes during a hunt happen in under a second and are controlled by hormones and by direct nervous signalling to chromatophores, and a sa…

What I learned

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