CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Scaly-foot gastropod

Chrysomallon squamiferum

The scaly-foot gastropod (Chrysomallon squamiferum) lives only at a handful of deep hydrothermal vent fields in the Indian Ocean, at depths around 2,400 to 2,900 metres. It is the only animal known t…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Peltospiridae
Habitat: Deep-sea hydrothermal vents
Diet: Chemosymbiotroph
Conservation status: Endangered
Lifespan: Unknown; estimated several years
Weight: Up to 45 grams
Scientific name: Chrysomallon squamiferum

Did you know?

- This species is so specialized to vent environments that it cannot survive outside of hydrothermal vent fields.
- Scaly-foot snails from the Kairei vent field are iron-plated and black, but those at the Solitaire field lack the iron sulfide coating and appear whi…

What I learned

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