CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Sea Mouse

Aphrodita aculeata

The sea mouse (Aphrodita aculeata) is not a mouse but a stout polychaete worm of North Atlantic and Mediterranean seabeds, usually 10 to 20 centimetres long, that spends most of its time buried head-…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Aphroditidae
Habitat: Ocean floor (continental shelf, sandy or muddy substrates)
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 3-5 years
Weight: 20-75 grams
Scientific name: Aphrodita aculeata

Did you know?

- Despite their soft appearance, sea mice are voracious predators that can consume other polychaete worms nearly their own size.
- The sea mouse's iridescent bristles are one of the few natural photonic crystals with near-perfect reflectance, and their fine structure has been cop…

What I learned

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