CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Spotted gar

Lepisosteus oculatus

The spotted gar is a long, slender freshwater fish recognized by its olive-green to brown coloration and distinctive dark spots covering its body, head, and fins. This ancient fish is characterized b…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Lepisosteidae
Habitat: Freshwater rivers, lakes, swamps, and bayous with abundant vegetation
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 8-10 years
Weight: 2-4 kg
Scientific name: Lepisosteus oculatus

Did you know?

- The spotted gar's eggs are highly toxic to humans and many other animals if ingested.
- Spotted gars are considered 'living fossils' because their lineage dates back over 100 million years. They have a specialized swim bladder that also …

What I learned

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