CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Weedy seadragon

Phyllopteryx taeniolatus

The weedy or common seadragon (Phyllopteryx taeniolatus) drifts over kelp and seagrass along the southern Australian coast, and the leaf-like appendages that give it its name do no work at all in swi…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Syngnathidae
Habitat: Temperate coastal reefs and seagrass beds
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Near Threatened
Lifespan: 6-10 years
Weight: 45-90 grams
Scientific name: Phyllopteryx taeniolatus

Did you know?

- Weedy seadragons lack a stomach and must eat almost constantly to survive.
- The leafy flaps are camouflage and contribute nothing to swimming; the fish is driven by two nearly invisible fins beating about thirty times a secon…

What I learned

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