Wolffish

QUICK FACTS

- After females lay eggs, they hunt for food and their mates stay behind to guard the nest
- They are heavier than water, so they sink when they stop swimming
- They tolerate the cold by making antifreeze proteins in their blood
- They can grow up to 1.5 meters and weigh up to 20 kg



ATLANTIC WOLFFISH

- Listed as Special Concern under the Species at Risk Act.
- May be striped, or not, and is often found denning in rocky reefs.



NORTHERN WOLFFISH

- Listed as Threatened under the Species at Risk Act.
- Largest species of wolffish.
- Dark body and broad head.



SPOTTED WOLFFISH

- Listed as Threatened under the Species at Risk Act.
- Spotted skin.



DIET

- Wolffish have powerful wolf-like teeth which allow them to eat hard foods like sea urchins and shellfish.
- Seaweeds like kelp can thrive when the sea urchins that eat them are kept in check.

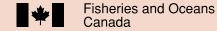


HABITAT

North Atlantic and Arctic Oceans. They love cold water between -1°C and 11°C at depths between 100-500 meters.

THREATS

Wolffish are often caught by mistake (bycatch) in nets or other fishing gear. If caught, releasing them with care where they were caught can help populations recover.



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