

Manatee Rescue and Rehabilitation Center

Species	Range/Habitat	Diet	More Info	Photo
Florida Manatee- <i>Trichechus manatus latirostrus</i> 4.0 Stubby, (F) Erie (F) Redrock (F) Rosalyn (F)	•Florida-West to Louisiana, north to Virginia/Carolinas •Shallow, slow-moving rivers, estuaries, bays, saltwater canals (fresh and saltwater)	•Zoo: Romaine lettuce, endive (some fruits & vegetables in moderation for treats & in ice blocks) •Wild: 60+ species of sea grasses	•Subspecies of West Indian Manatee •Herbivorous, aquatic, mammal •Avg. size: 10-13' long, 1000-3000 lbs. •Eat 6-8 hours/day •Hold breath for 3-5 min., 20 min. when resting •Closest living relative is an elephant •Sexual maturity 5-9 years •MLE: Data deficient •Conservation Status: Threatened	
Hawksbill Sea Turtle- <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> 0.1 Buddy (F) h. 2006	•Tropical/subtropical Atlantic, Pacific, Indian Ocean and Caribbean Sea •Rocky areas, coral reefs, shallow coastal areas, lagoons or oceanic islands, narrow creeks	•Zoo: Herring, capelin, squid, mackerel & produce •Wild: Sponges	•Average Size: 2.5-3' long, 95-165 lbs. •MLE: UNK •Conservation Status: Critically Endangered	

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Southern Stingray- <i>Dasyatis americana</i> All females	•Atlantic: Southern U.S., Central and South America •Mostly on seabed	•Zoo: Lake smelt, capelin, herring, sardines, anchovies •Wild: Small fish, lobsters, crabs, oysters, bivalves, worms, shrimp	•Up to 6–7-foot wingspan, up to 200 lbs. •Spend time buried in sand on seafloor •Skeleton is cartilage, no bone •Barb made from dentin-like material-venom is a protein-based toxin •Reproduction is ovoviviparous •Senses are very strong, use electroreception to sense prey •Suck water in thru spiracles & out gills •MLE: UNK •Conservation Status: Near Threatened	
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Brown Pelican- <i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i> 1 Scoop(?)h~2006	•Coasts of southern North America, Central America, northern South America •Shallow estuaries, bays	•Zoo: Capelin, lake smelt, herring, ocean smelt •Wild: Fish	•Average size: 6.5' wingspan, 4.5-11 lbs. •Use throat pouch as a net to catch fish •Dissipate heat through moving throat membranes •Highly social •Migrate seasonally •MLE: UNK •Conservation Status: Least Concern	

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Pompano Jack AKA Permit- <i>Trachinotus falcatus</i>	•Western Atlantic •Coastal waters	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Mollusks, small fish, crustaceans & other invertebrates	•Very fast, often leap and slap across wave tops •Will follow under stingrays to grab fish they have not swallowed	
Bermuda Chub- <i>Kyphosus secator</i> AKA Black Snapper, Brim, Beaked Chub, Rudderfish	•Caribbean, Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico- Florida, Bahamas, Bermuda •Shallow waters, over turtle grass, reef flats, coral reefs	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Herbivorous	•Schools in loose formations •Inhabits shallow waters, over turtle grass, sand or rocky bottom, around coral reefs and reef flats	

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		Diet	More Info	
French Grunt- <i>Haemulon flavolineatum</i>	•Western Atlantic Ocean off Bermuda to South Carolina, Gulf of Mexico to Brazil •Rocky substrate, coral reefs, under ledges or close to elkhorn coral	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Small crustaceans, worms, and mollusks	•Occurs in large schools that can number in the thousands. •Nocturnal scavenging/feeding	
Blue striped Grunt- <i>Haemulon scirus</i>	•Western Atlantic Ocean from South Carolina south to Brazil, including the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea and Bermuda •Common in mangroves, reefs, and seagrass beds	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Crustaceans, bivalves, and small fish	•Makes a grunt noise by grinding their teeth •Engage in “kissing-display” with others •Nocturnal feeding in mangrove and seagrass habitats •Observed opening its mouth to be cleaned by juvenile porkfish •Frequently steals the eggs of damselfish.	

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Cotton wick Grunt- <i>Haemulon melanurum</i>	•Western Atlantic: Bermuda to SE Florida and the Bahamas to Brazil. •Clear inshore and offshore reefs and adjacent grass beds, often in schools.	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Larger crustaceans (shrimp, crabs), fish	•Nocturnal scavenging/feeding	
Atlantic Spadefish- <i>Chaetodipterus faber</i>	•Atlantic Ocean	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Crustaceans, small invertebrates	•Travel in large schools of up to 500 individuals	
Lookdown- <i>Selene Vomer</i>	•Atlantic Ocean- Maine to Florida •Shallow, coastal, murky waters	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Crabs, shrimp, fish, worms	•Usually in schools, hunt like a pack of wolves •Hover over bottom in a slightly forward tilted position appearing to “look down”	

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Porkfish- <i>Anisotremus</i> <i>varginicus</i>	•Atlantic Ocean	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Crustaceans, mollusks, worms, echinoderms	•Cleans parasites from other fish •Nocturnal feeder	
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Blue tang- <i>Acanthurus</i> <i>coeruleus</i>	•Tropical Atlantic Ocean •Reefs, rocky bottoms and grass beds	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Algae	•Sharp yellow spine on each side near the tail used to fend off predators or defend territory •Plays an important role on reefs, keeping fast-growing algae from overtaking the coral	
Doctor fish- <i>Acanthurus</i> <i>chirurgus</i>	•Atlantic Ocean •Shallow reefs	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Feeds on algae, organic detritus found on compacted sand/rock	•Sharp white spine on each side near the tail used to fend off predators or defend territory	

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Needlefish- <i>Strongylura marina</i>	•Freshwater and marine water, most common in Tropics •Shallow water, surface of open water	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Small fish, cephalopods and crustaceans, plankton	•Needlefish have no stomach-secretes an enzyme called trypsin, which breaks down food •Leap out of water •Closely resemble freshwater gars	
Spanish Grunt <i>Haemulidae</i>	Widespread Western Atlantic, Caribbean	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Crustaceans, sea urchins	Also called “Sweetlips” because of their large rubbery lips The grunting sound is made when their flat teeth plates rub together and is amplified by their air bladders	
Black Surgeon/ Trigger Fish <i>Melichthys Niger</i>	Atlantic (Bermuda to Brazil) Pacific (Hawaii to the East Indies) Lives in tropical marine water’s rocky reefs and coral area	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides •Wild: Plankton, algae, small fish, squid, shrimp	Locks its dorsal spine in crevices to deter predators. They are almost entirely black with a distinct blue line along the base of their dorsal and anal fins.	

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Sailor's Choice/ Grunt <i>Haemulon parra</i>	Western Atlantic, Bahamas, Florida, Gulf of Mexico	•Zoo: Gel diet, flake, pellets, krill, herrings, sardines, anchovies, silversides Wild: Mollusks, fish	Inhabits coastal reefs. Feeds at night.	
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