

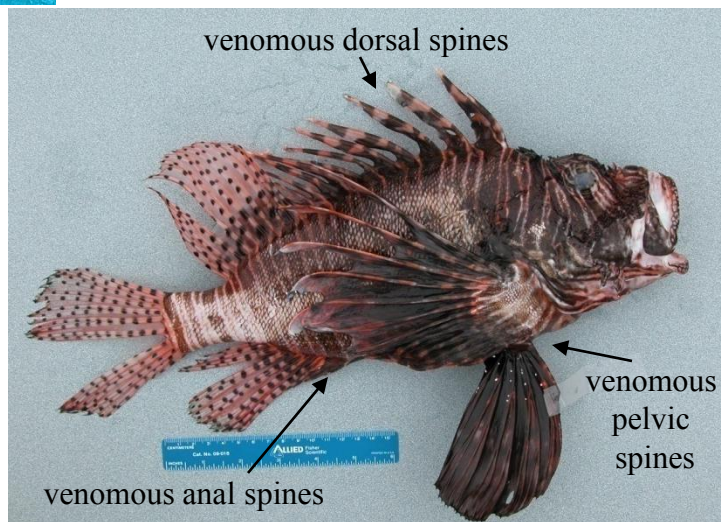
Have you seen me?



The venomous Indo-Pacific 'Lionfish' is now found within the southeast United States from Cape Hatteras, North Carolina to the Florida Keys and throughout the Bermuda, Bahamas, and Caribbean region. These fish are not native to Atlantic waters and may have a negative impact on marine life. **All of their spines are venomous and can cause extreme pain!** (See treatment recommendations below).

Geographic Location and Habitat:

Lionfish are being reported primarily by Scuba divers in water depths from 1 to 100 meters on rocky outcrops, coral reef and artificial substrates and mangrove habitats. You can help by reporting all lionfish sightings to the USGS website below. Location information such as lat/long, depth and type of habitat is also encouraged.



Identification: Lionfish have distinctive red, maroon, and white vertical stripes; fleshy tentacles above eyes and below mouth; fan-like pectoral fins, 13 long separated dorsal spines, 10-11 dorsal soft rays, 3 anal spines and 6-7 anal soft rays. An adult lionfish can grow as large as 18 inches.

Recommendation: Stings from lionfish can be serious, and should not be taken lightly. If stung, immerse wound in hot water (100-110 °F or 38-43 °C) for 15-20 minutes. Do not burn skin and seek medical attention as soon as possible. It is recommended that you call the Aquatic Toxins Hotline at the Florida Poison Information Center in Miami, where medical experts will advise you immediately. This Hotline is available 24/7, and the number is (outside US 011, not toll-free) 888-232-8635.



To report a lionfish online <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/sightingreport.aspx>
or call: 1-877-STOP-ANS

For more information email: pschofield@usgs.gov or reportlionfish@noaa.gov
or go to: <http://nas2.er.usgs.gov/viewer/omap.aspx?SpeciesID=963>

