

# Moray Eels (Muraenidae)

Moray eels are a group of elongated, snake-like fish that are found in the shallow waters of the tropical and subtropical regions of the world. They are part of the family Muraenidae, which includes several hundred species of eels that are known for their long, slender bodies, sharp teeth, and powerful jaws.

Moray eels are typically medium to large-sized fish, reaching a maximum length of about 3 meters (10 feet). They have a long, slender body with a pointed head and a large mouth filled with sharp teeth. Their body is typically brown, green, or yellow in color, with patterns of spots, stripes, or blotches.

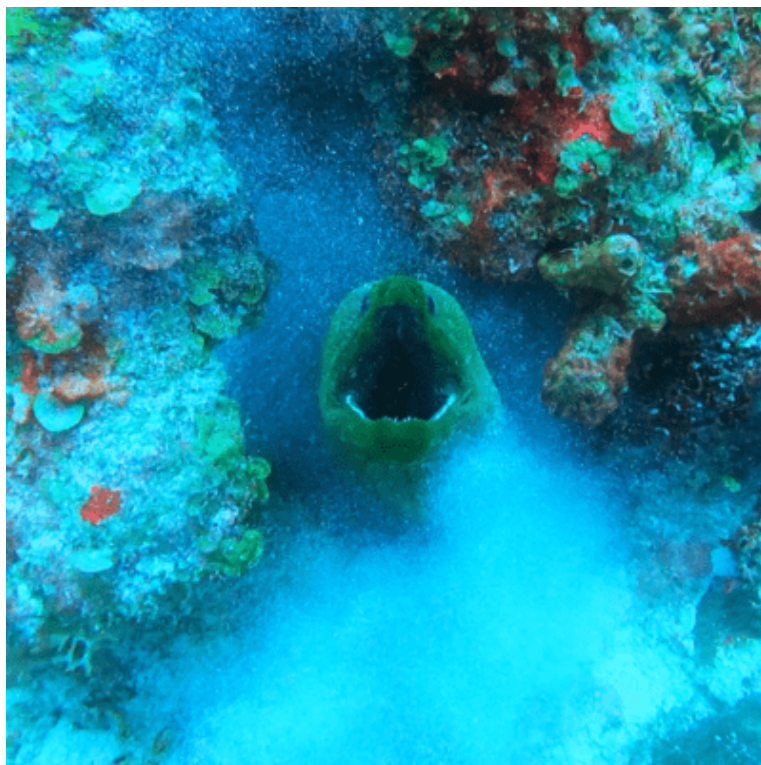
Moray eels are carnivorous predators that feed on a wide variety of smaller fish and invertebrates. They are generally non-aggressive towards humans, but they have very powerful jaws that can deliver a painful bite if they are handled or if they feel threatened, including biting off a finger.



spotted moray, *Gymnothorax moringa*

The spotted moray (*Gymnothorax moringa*) is a species of moray eel that is found in the tropical and subtropical waters of the western Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea. It is a medium-sized eel, typically reaching a maximum length of about 1.5 meters (5 feet).

The spotted moray has a long, slender body with a pointed head and a large mouth filled with sharp teeth. Its body is typically brown or green in color, with numerous small, white spots or markings that give it its common name. It has a pair of small, protruding eyes that are located high on its head, which helps it see prey in the dimly lit waters where it lives.



green moray, *Gymnothorax funebris*

The green moray (*Gymnothorax funebris*) is a species of moray eel that is found in the tropical and subtropical waters of the western Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea. It is a large eel, typically reaching a maximum length of about 3 meters (10 feet).

The green moray has a long, slender body with a pointed head and a large mouth filled with sharp teeth. Its body is typically green in color, with numerous small, white spots or markings. It has a pair of small, protruding eyes that are located high on its head, which helps it see prey in the dimly lit waters where it lives.