



SHARK FACTS

SPOTTED BRANCHED RATFISH

DID YOU KNOW?

They have a venomous spine located at the leading edge of their dorsal fin, used for defense

CONSERVATION STATUS
Spotted ratfish are classified as **LEAST CONCERN** on the IUCN Red List

SPOTTED RATFISH (*Hydrolagus colliet*)

- ▶ The spotted ratfish is named for their white spots along their backs and pointed rat-like tail
- ▶ Female spotted ratfish lay leathery egg cases on the seafloor made of keratin. Eggs take up to a year to mature before a juvenile can hatch

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Spotted ratfish are abundantly found in the north-eastern Pacific Ocean. They have been observed as shallow as the sea surface in some inshore waters, but generally occur on the outer shelf and upper continental slope

Image: Andy Murch

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