



SHARK FACTS

DID YOU KNOW?

The smalltooth sawfish is one of five species of sawfish. Although they may look like sharks, sawfish are actually rays because their **gills and mouths are found on the underside of their bodies**



SMALLTOOTH SAWFISH



SMALLTOOTH SAWFISH

(*Pristis pectinata*)

- ▶ Recent studies have demonstrated that these sawfish use their "saw" (rostrum) to both sense and manipulate prey
- ▶ The rostrum of a newborn sawfish is covered in a thick sheath in order to protect the mother during live birth

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Smalltooth sawfish are most often found off the southwest coast of Florida. They have also been observed in the Bahamas



Because of intense fishing pressures and low rates of population growth, they are classified as

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

on the IUCN Red List

Image: Andy Murch