



# Northern Snakehead

*Channa argus*



## Description:

- ◆ pelvic fins directly behind pectoral fins
- ◆ elongate anal fin
- ◆ brown with dark blotches
- ◆ flattened head
- ◆ eyes located in dorsolateral position
- ◆ anterior nostrils tubular
- ◆ all fins supported by only rays

## Size:

- ◆ maximum size exceeds 33 inches

## Range:

- ◆ Native range is in China, Russia and Korea but has been found more recently on the East and West coast of the United States

## Facts:

- ◆ prefers stagnant shallow ponds, swamps, slow streams
- ◆ commonly found in muddy substrate or vegetated substrate
- ◆ found in temperatures ranging from 0-30°C
- ◆ 97% of diet is other fish species

**\*The Northern snakehead is considered an invasive species\***

For more information, please visit these websites:

[http://njfishandwildlife.org/aquatic\\_invasives.htm](http://njfishandwildlife.org/aquatic_invasives.htm)

<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?speciesID=2265>

<http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/aquatics/snakehead.shtml>

## **NORTHERN SNAKEHEAD CATCH TOTALS**

Year	Total
2013	1
2016	1
2017	1
2018	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4</b>

NJ Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Bureau of Marine Fisheries  
[www.NJFishandWildlife.com](http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com)

\*Northern snakeheads were only caught during the years shown