

# PREVENT *Invasives* in the CARIBBEAN

## LIONFISH

The lionfish are also known as 'Pterois' is an invasive nocturnal species. Native to the South Pacific and Indian Oceans, it can now be found in the Western Atlantic Ocean, specifically throughout the Northern Caribbean.



The lionfish outcompetes native marine life and they consume 50 different types of fish species.

Their venomous spines are harmful and are a risk to humans.



This species is a top predator that preys on snapper and grouper fishes, with a potential to harm reef ecosystems. Lionfish is a common 'pet' fish, but this pet should not be released as the female lionfish has the capability to reproduce 50,000 eggs every three days.

## CONTROL MEASURES

- Divers have managed to capture the lionfish for local control
- The lionfish is hunted as a 'spear' sport.
- It can be eaten, just not the spines.