



RED LIONFISH



ORIGIN

The Red Lionfish is also known as Pterois Volitans, Lionfish, Turkeyfish, Zebrafish, Red Firefish, Peacock Lionfish, Butterfly Cod, Scorpion Volitans is a native of the Indo-Pacific region and the Red Sea.

This invasive species was unintentionally released from Aquariums and hobbyists in Florida and North Carolina. It reproduced rapidly, spreading south to Florida then to The Bahamas.

INTRODUCTION



The red lionfish can be found anywhere there are holes, crevices, overhangs, or artificial structures in the seabed. This can be on coral reefs, patch reefs, seagrass areas, shipwrecks, marinas, mangroves, and canals.



INVASION

The red lionfish reproduces rapidly and outcompetes the native species for food.

IMPACT



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The red lionfish are not poisonous but are venomous. Lionfish are considered a food delicacy in Asia. They can be safely eaten in The Bahamas and have a similar taste to grouper and hogfish.

The Red lionfish currently is present in the waters off the East coast of the US from as far north as New York and as far south as Florida and into The Bahamas. They are also now throughout most of the Gulf of Mexico and The Caribbean, with the most recent sighting in Trinidad & Tobago.

Learn more about this invasive species from our website:
<https://caribbeaninvasives.org/>