

ANNULATED SEA SNAKE

- Sea snakes are marine reptiles with flattened, paddle-like tails for efficient swimming, and eyes & valvular nostrils positioned on top of the head to aid in breathing at the water's surface.
- These snakes also have specialized salt-excreting glands, allowing them to regulate the high salt levels they encounter in their marine environment.
- Out of 20 species of sea snakes in India, the Annulated Sea Snake (*Hydrophis cyanocinctus*), is a true sea snake that is entirely aquatic.

DESCRIPTION

Scientific Name: *Hydrophis cyanocinctus*

Length: 1.5 m

Habitat: Marine

Gestation Period: 6 months

Diet: Fishes and eels



IMPORTANCE

- An important predator, primarily feeding on fish and eels
- Helps maintain the balance of marine populations.

FUN FACT

It has a dense network of veins on its forehead and snout that probably helps to get more oxygen to its brain during longer periods underwater.

THREATS

Bycatch, entangled in nets

IUCN STATUS

Least Concern

