# SAWFISH



By sharing your sawfish encounters with the International Sawfish Encounter Database, you can help scientists learn more about the population density, habitat preference, and migration patterns of this endangered species.

## Who should I contact?

International Sawfish Encounter Database (ISED)

ISED

Florida Museum of Natural History Tel: (352) 392-2360 sawfish@flmnh.ufl.edu www.flmnh.ufl.edu/sawfish/



# Recreational and commercial fishers:

Due to the endangered conservation status of sawfishes, it is illegal to intentionally harm or fish for these animals. However, we understand that accidental captures do occur while fishing for other species. Please use caution if you hook or net one, since sawfishes are large powerful animals.

# **Sawfish Safe Release Guidelines:**

### If hooked or tangled in a net

- Keep sawfish in the water at all times.
- Make every effort to free the animal from the line/net with minimal stress or injury
- Do not handle the animal or attempt to remove any hooks on the saw unless you have a long-handled de-hooker.
- If hooked, cut the line as close to the hook as possible.
- Remove as much line/net as possible and release the animal quickly.

### It is illegal to remove the saw.

