

What is Allegator Gar?

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About Allegator Gar:

- It is a **ray-finned euryhaline fish** and is **one of the largest of all freshwater fishes**.
- **Scientific Name: *Atractosteus spatula***
- It is the **largest species in the Gar family**.
- The fossil record traces its group's **existence back to the Early Cretaceous over 100 million years ago**.
- Gars are often referred to as "**primitive fishes**", or "**living fossils**" because they have **retained some morphological characteristics of their early ancestors**.
- **Distribution: Central and North America**
- **Features:**
 - It is **distinguished by its crocodile-like head and razor-sharp teeth**.
 - It can grow up to **8 feet long** and weigh more than **300 pounds**.
 - Adults have **two rows of large teeth** on either side of the upper jaw.
 - Colouration is generally **brown or olive above** and **lighter underneath**.
 - They can **live for many decades**.
- **Conservation Status:**
 - **IUCN: Least Concerned**

What are euryhaline organisms?

- They are a type of mostly marine organisms with the **ability to adapt to a wide range of water salinities**.
 - They can **survive either in freshwater, saltwater or brackish water**.
 - Some euryhaline organisms **migrate between freshwater and saltwater habitats** during their life cycle. Some examples of such organisms are **salmon, eels, etc.**
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Q1) What are euryhaline organisms?

They are a type of mostly marine organisms with the ability to adapt to a wide range of water salinities. They can survive either in freshwater, saltwater or brackish water.

Source: [Discovery of predator alligator fish in Srinagar's Dal Lake triggers surprise](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-allegator-gar/>

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