

Alligator Gar Fish

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About Alligator Garfish:

- It is a close relative of the **bowfin species**
- It is known for its crocodile-like head and razor-sharp teeth.
- It is a **ray-finned euryhaline fish** and is one of the biggest freshwater fish in North America and the largest species in the 'gar' family.
- This garfish grows rapidly and has a life span of 20-30 years.
- They can even sustain in the cold waters they mostly live in is 11-23 degrees Celsius.
- **Geographical distribution:** Normally found in **northern and central America** and also in Mexico.
- **Threats:** It is a **predator fish and a carnivore**, it can eat all types of fish and therefore poses a threat to native species and the overall ecosystem.

Key facts about Dal Lake

- It is a lake in Srinagar, the summer capital of **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- It is surrounded by the **Pir Panjal mountains**.
- The lake is part of a natural wetland which covers 21.1 square kilometres (8.1 sq mi), including its **floating gardens**.

- The floating gardens, **known as “Raad”** in Kashmiri, blossom with lotus flowers during July and August.
 - The wetland is divided by causeways into four basins; Gagribal, Lokut Dal, Bod Dal and Nagin (although Nagin is also considered an independent lake).
 - **Islands:**
 - Dal Lake includes 3 islands, 2 of which are marked with beautiful **Chinar trees**.
 - The island located on the **Lakut Dal** is known as **Roph Lank** (Silver Island) and is marked by the presence of majestic Chinar trees at the four corners, thus known as Char-Chinari (Four Chinars).
 - The second Chinar Island, known as **Sone Lank** (Gold Island), is located on the Bod Dal (Big Dal) and overlooks the holy shrine of Hazratbal.
 - Dal Lake is also popular for the **floating market** (known as Raad) where vendors have their own Shikaras and approach tourists.
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Q1) What is Euryhaline?

Euryhaline refers to organisms that have the ability to tolerate and survive in a wide range of salinity levels in their environment. These organisms can adapt and thrive in both freshwater and saltwater habitats.

Source: [Carnivorous alligator gar, the latest threat for Srinagar’s idyllic Dal Lake?](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/alligator-gar-fish/>

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