Sawfishes of Queensland - an ID guide

This guide illustrates the key features unique to each species of sawfish found in Queensland. Features are only listed if they vary from the typical form (i.e. dorsal fin above/slightly behind pelvic fins, teeth occur on entirety of the saw, peg/awl shaped teeth on saw, tooth gap at tip of saw smaller than preceding gap, all teeth similar in length).

Please report sawfish sightings to www.CYTAGS.com.

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<th>Narrow sawfish</th>
<th>Green sawfish</th>
<th>Dwarf sawfish</th>
<th>Freshwater sawfish</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anoxypristis cuspidata</td>
<td>Pristis zijsron</td>
<td>Pristis clavata</td>
<td>Pristis pristis</td>
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- **Narrow sawfish**
  - Pectoral fins as long as they are wide
  - Flat triangular teeth
  - 16 - 33 teeth per side of saw
  - No teeth on base of saw
  - Forked tail

- **Green sawfish**
  - Pectoral fins longer than they are wide
  - Teeth at base of saw shorter than at the tip
  - 23 - 37 teeth per side of saw
  - No fork in tail

- **Dwarf sawfish**
  - Pectoral fins longer than they are wide
  - 18 - 27 teeth per side of saw
  - No fork in tail

- **Freshwater sawfish**
  - Pectoral fins as long as they are wide
  - Tooth gap at tip of saw bigger than 2nd tooth gap
  - 14 - 24 teeth per side of saw
  - Dorsal fin in front of pectoral fins
  - Forked tail

**Teeth at base of saw shorter than at the tip**

**No fork in tail**

**Tooth gaps unevenly spaced**

**Tooth gaps evenly spaced**

**Flat triangular teeth**

**Pectoral fins as long as they are wide**

**Teeth at base of saw shorter than at the tip**
YOU can help SAWFISH!

Learn
- There are 4 species of sawfish found in Queensland’s waters
- Sawfish are protected in Qld and on the EPBC Act
- Some sawfish can grow to 7m (23 ft) long
- Sawfish live in fresh and/or marine tropical and sub-tropical waters
- Sawfish are threatened with extinction due to fishing, habitat destruction and the shark fin trade

Share and report
Visit www.CYTAGS.com and share your sawfish encounters.

Conserve
Please release all captured sawfish quickly, without removing them from the water.
Do not remove their saws!
Pick up trash you find in the water and on land.

Don’t just observe. Be part of it.
To join Sharks And Rays Australia in the field visit www.saw.fish/expeditions

Sharks and Rays Australia (SARA) is based in Cairns, Far North Queensland. Since 2015 we have been conducting a tagging program of sawfish and other sharks and rays in Queensland.

You can get involved by reporting all sawfish encounters in Queensland on our homepage www.CYTAGS.com or by calling 1800 CYTAGS (1800 298 247). Find us on social media @SharksAndRaysAU
To subscribe to our newsletter, receive updates of tagged animals and join future expeditions, please visit www.saw.fish

This flyer was produced together with the Sawfish Conservation Society, which aims to inform and educate the public about sawfish and provide an environment to encourage cooperation between researchers, aquarists and fishers to maximize research efforts.
Please join our group on Facebook or share, play and learn about sawfish at www.sawfishconservationsociety.org