

Name _____

Lionfish: Predator with a Big Impact

Short Answer Key

1. Lionfish help control populations of smaller fish and shrimp, keeping the ecosystem balanced.
2. In invasive areas, lionfish eat too many smaller creatures, disrupting the balance of coral reefs.
3. Sharks and groupers are natural predators of lionfish in their native habitats.
4. The venomous spines of lionfish make predators avoid them, even in areas where they are invasive.
5. Humans are catching and eating lionfish, which helps reduce their numbers and protect coral reefs.

