

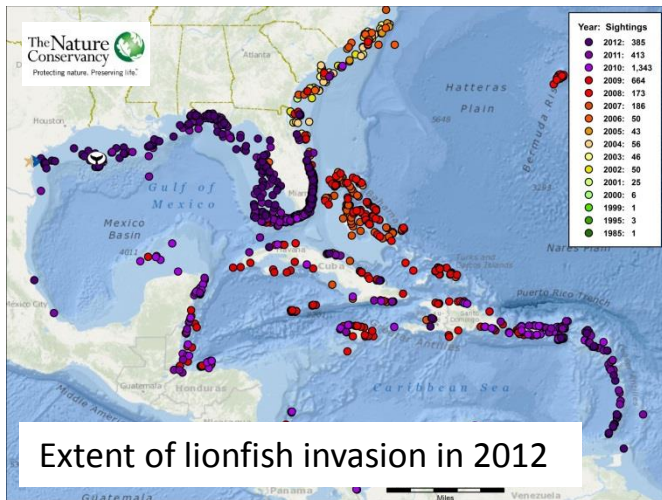
# Texas Lionfish Research and Response

## REPORT LIONFISH

*We are interested  
in all your reports of  
sightings, catches and stings*



Lionfish (*Pterois volitans* and *P. miles*) are native to the Indo-Pacific Ocean but they have spread along the U.S. coast, invading the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea. These top predators could disrupt native fish populations if their numbers continue to grow.



Since 2010 they have been reported in Texas offshore and inshore waters, primarily by SCUBA divers, snorkelers and fishermen in water depths from 5 to 300 ft on hard bottom, coral reef and artificial substrates. An adult lionfish can grow as large as 18 in.

If you catch a lionfish, be extremely careful. Do not come in contact with the venomous dorsal, anal or ventral spines. If stung, immerse the wound in hot water and seek medical attention as soon as possible.

**If you see and/or catch a lionfish, put it in ice and email [Leslie.Hartman@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Leslie.Hartman@tpwd.texas.gov) or call (361) 972-6253**



For inquiries about the **Texas Lionfish Research and Response Partnership** contact:  
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