SHORT ANSWER EXAMPLE

Invasive Species

Description

They have brown or maroon, and white stripes covering their complete bodies and head. They have pectoral fins like fans. They also have fleshy tentacles above their head and below their mouths. And long separated dorsal spines. Adults grow until 18 inches, while the younger ones grow 1 inch or less.

Background Information

Most of them live in the warm waters of the tropics. They are predatory fish; the younger ones eat invertebrates like crustaceans. But when they become adults they eat other fish. More than 70 species of local fish of the Atlantic and the Caribbean are Lionfish prey.

Native Environment

They are native from the South Pacific and Indian Oceans. In an area that extends from the coasts of Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and Japan to the waters of French Polynesia and the Pitcairn Islands.

They were introduced in the Atlantic waters possibly intentionally, because they are popular ornamental fish. The first sighting was in 1985, and in the beginning of the 2000’s the species began to be seen regularly. Now they live in the southeast coast of the United States and the Caribbean.

Remedies

Governments are trying to implement the human consumption of lionfish as a more mainstream thing. They also pay trained divers to capture the fish and also host derbies for divers to catch a large number of them. Another preventive measurement is monitoring the growth patterns and sponsoring the research of the lionfish prey and possible predator species like the grouper. Other measures are collaborating with other nation’s governments and partnerships with the fishing and tourism industries.

Organizations

Organizations like: (NOAA Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research) are interested in reports of sightings and would also like to receive specimens in the Gulf of Mexico. The Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) receives online forms about sightings. The dive community professional and recreational also help remove the fish.

Opinion

Lionfish consume over 50 economically and ecologically important species. Which has a negative effect in the reefs because they eat the fish that feed themselves on the algae, which stops the growing of these on the reefs. They also can have an impact on the biodiversity.

I think that the species is a big treat because it does not have as much value to keep destroying. It does not have predators, eats all the important fish, reproduces massively, it’s not consumed much and its only value is in aquariums. It causes more damage than it should and its affecting more important species.

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Works Cited

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