Explore the Burbot

Go to go.wisc.edu/nn387b for the presentation.

Field Notes

As you watch the video, jot down observations (what you notice) and new facts in the space below.
LABEL THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF A BURBOTH

lateral line
dorsal fins

barbel  pelvic fin  caudal fin (tail)
HELPFUL VOCABULARY

**barbel**: A whisker-like organ near the mouth or snout of a fish that is used to sense the presence of food or other objects.

**benthic**: Of, relating to, or occurring at the bottom of a body of water.

**bottom feeder**: A species that mainly feeds near the bottom of a lake or river in or near the sediment. The bottom of a lake or river is called the benthic zone.

**diet study**: Researching the food that a fish eats to better understand their ecology and how they respond to changes in the food we.

**lateral line**: Specialized scales on the side of the fish that can detect movement and vibrations.”

**pelvic fin**: A pair of fins on the underside of a fish.

FIELD NOTES continued

**True or False?** Burbot are a member of the cod family.

True

**What time of year do burbot spawn?**

They spawn in the middle of winter.

**How does a burbot find food?**

Burbot live on the bottom and use their barbel, lateral line, and eyes to find prey.

**What does a burbot eat?**

Burbot are top predators and feed on other fishes.

**True or False?** Burbot have scales.

True

CONTINUE TO EXPLORE

- What challenges do burbot face? Research and create a call to action poster.
- Burbot live in other parts of North America. Research it and make a burbot range map.
- Learn what other fish species live in the deep waters of the Great Lakes.
- Look for recipes that use burbot (or other Great Lakes species) and try them out.

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