

Tiger Salamander

APPEARANCE

- Very large, up to 13 inches in length
- Black to gray with irregular yellow spots or blotches all over the body
- Adults usually have a yellow throat and lower lip
- Gold irises

STATUS

- Valid Iowa fishing license required to possess Tiger Salamanders as bait.

RANGE IN IOWA

- Statewide

FUN FACTS

- One of the most secretive salamanders in Iowa
- Spends most of its time underground in burrows
- May fall into window wells or be found in damp basements
- Has four toes on its front feet and five on its back feet
- Snaps quickly and uses its tongue to catch prey
- Adults secrete a milky toxin from glands on their back and tail for defense against predators



HABITAT

- Open fields and prairies, cultivated fields, pastures, forests, or even towns
- Must have permanent bodies of water for breeding

DIET

- Vigorous feeder that will eat anything smaller than itself

