

Little File Snake

<u>Average Adult Size</u>	2-4 feet
<u>Average Life Span with proper care</u>	3-5 years;
<u>Diet</u>	Carnivore(Fish)

Enclosure

Medium Used in Enclosure

Fully Aquatic

Fresh or Salt Water

They generally prefer shallow water habitats because they must surface often for air. File snakes can stay completely submerged for hours at a time while hunting for prey and can withstand both slow and fast-moving currents.

Habitat for Enclosure

Lots of Hiding Spots

During the day, they spend their time burrowed in the mud or in sea grass. They use these spots to either hang out or hunt File snakes are nocturnal and prefer quiescent seclusion within darkened refugia during daylight hours. Providing snakes with sections of PVC pipe (which simulate burrows) helps reduce stress and improves the chances of snakes feeding regularly. Lastly, they move around by crawling as well as by swimming. Sharp or rough materials in habitat should be avoided because of possible skin abrasion which increases chances for bacterial infection.

Temperature and Humidity Control used in Enclosure

80°-86°F

File snakes are sensitive to low temperatures and to rapid thermal change. Captive snakes do well when maintained at water temperatures of 80°-86°F and will not thrive if water temperatures are below 77°F.

Does not need specific lighting requirements, however, darker is always better!

Diet

Live

Fish Fish Fish!

File snakes are piscivores and their diet primarily consists of small fish, snails, and small crustaceans. More specifically, little file snakes prey heavily on sleeper fish and gobies. Snakes are more inclined to feed well if live prey are offered in shallow water where they are more easily captured.

Water

Maintain Regularly

Can be kept in either fresh water or seawater. Snakes in sea or brackish water dehydrate, however, and must be allowed to drink fresh water periodically. If snakes from marine populations are maintained in saline water, 60–70% seawater is recommended. In all cases, water should be filtered or changed periodically to maintain quality.

Temperament

Shy But Friendly

They are extremely mellow and non-aggressive towards people. However, we must mention that although you can remove the snake from water, handling should be limited to removing the snake for cleaning of its tank or other such necessities.

Little file snakes may live in groups and burrow together, but do not communicate with one other as some species do and are not known to have an established social hierarchy, even during the mating season. Little file snakes are not aggressive towards one another. When kept as pets, as many as 10 individuals may share an aquarium without displays of aggressive behaviors. They typically hunt as individuals; however, captive individuals may feed as a group when fish prey are provided.