

Myledaphus bipartitus

Common Name:

Fresh water ray

Classification:

Class: Chondrichthyes

Order: Rajiformes

Family: Rhinobatioidea incertae sedis



Tooth of the freshwater ray, *Myledaphus*. 12 mm high.

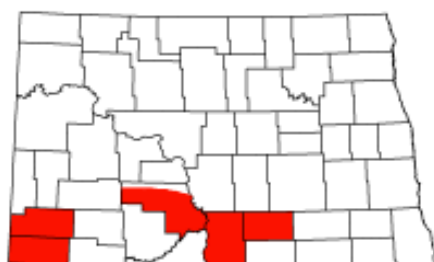
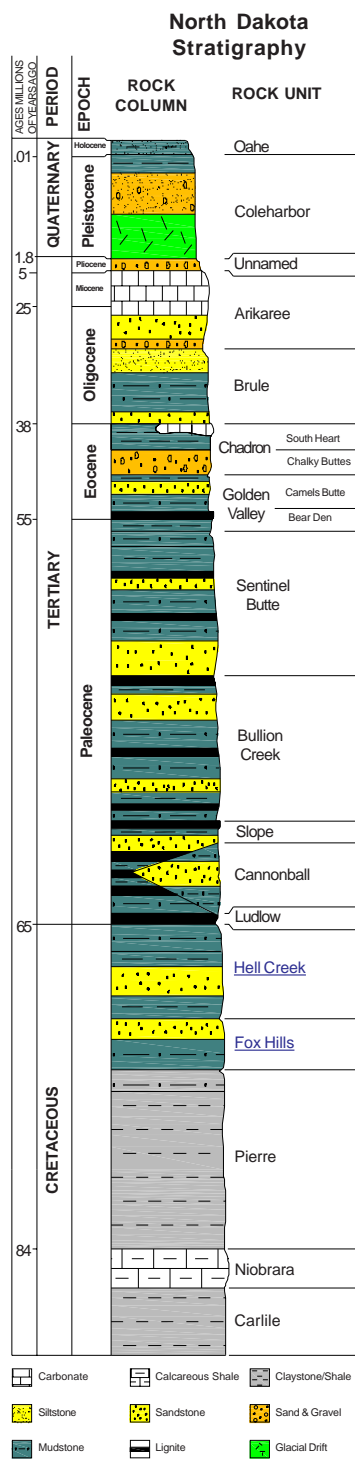
Cretaceous [Fox Hills](#) Formation. Logan County. North Dakota State Fossil Collection.

Description:

Myledaphus bipartitus was a ray that inhabited fresh water habitats, ponds, lakes, and rivers, during the Cretaceous in North Dakota at the same time that dinosaurs lived here. They were in the group of fish (Chondrichthyes) whose skeletons consist mostly of cartilage rather than bone. This group also includes sharks and ratfish. *Myledaphus* was similar in appearance to the modern stingray and probably no more than three feet long. These rays had numerous small, flat teeth that were tightly arranged in the mouth to produce a crushing surface for breaking open shells of animals such as clams.



Myledaphus.



Locations where fossils have been found