



Rubber Boa

Charina bottae

Description: The rubber boa is often called the two headed snake because of their blunt tail. This effect helps ward off possible predators. They are small snakes with a smooth brown to black color, and often young rubber boas are mistaken for earth worms.

Range: Northwestern United States.

Habitat: Rubber boas are found in moist climates, anywhere from sea level to 10,000 ft. They can also live in drier regions, but will burrow underground to find moisture.

Life Span: In captivity they can live about 30 years, but there have been identified boas that are 50 years old.



Natural Diet: Small mammals and insects.

Zoo Diet: Mice once a week.

Behavior: These snakes are nocturnal so they are active at night. When threatened, they will coil up and use their tail as a decoy, waving it side to side and even striking with it.

Reproduction: Breeding only takes place in warmer winters which is not every year. Rubber boas are ovoviviparous, meaning the young develop in eggs inside the mother and are then born live. When the young are born, they are only about 2-3 inches and are a light cream to tan color.

Conservation: Least concern.

