Mariana Islands
Fish species study guide

This presentation is intended to be a study aide and not a comprehensive list of all fish species recorded in the Marianas Islands

The following books are also excellent resources and are normally made available for use during the Coral Reef Ecosystem Program's research cruises.

- J. E. Randall's *Reef and Shore Fishes of the South Pacific*
- R. F. Myers' *Micronesian Reef Fishes*
- Allen, Steene, Humann and DeLoach's *Reef Fish Identification: Tropical Pacific*.

Abudefduf septemfasciatus
AB**SP** 20cm

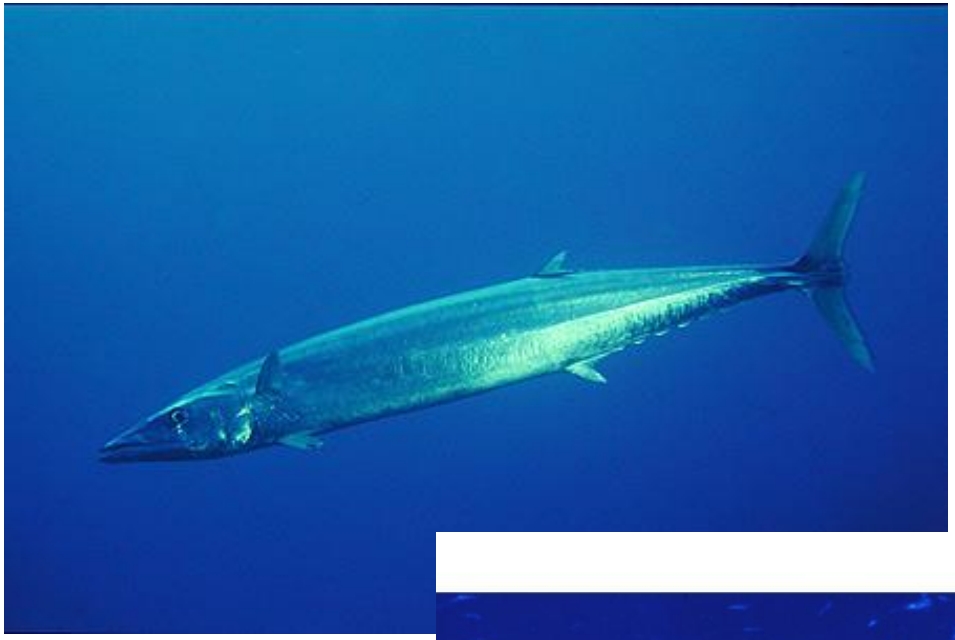
Abudefduf sordidus

ABSO 24cm

Abudefduf sexfasciatus

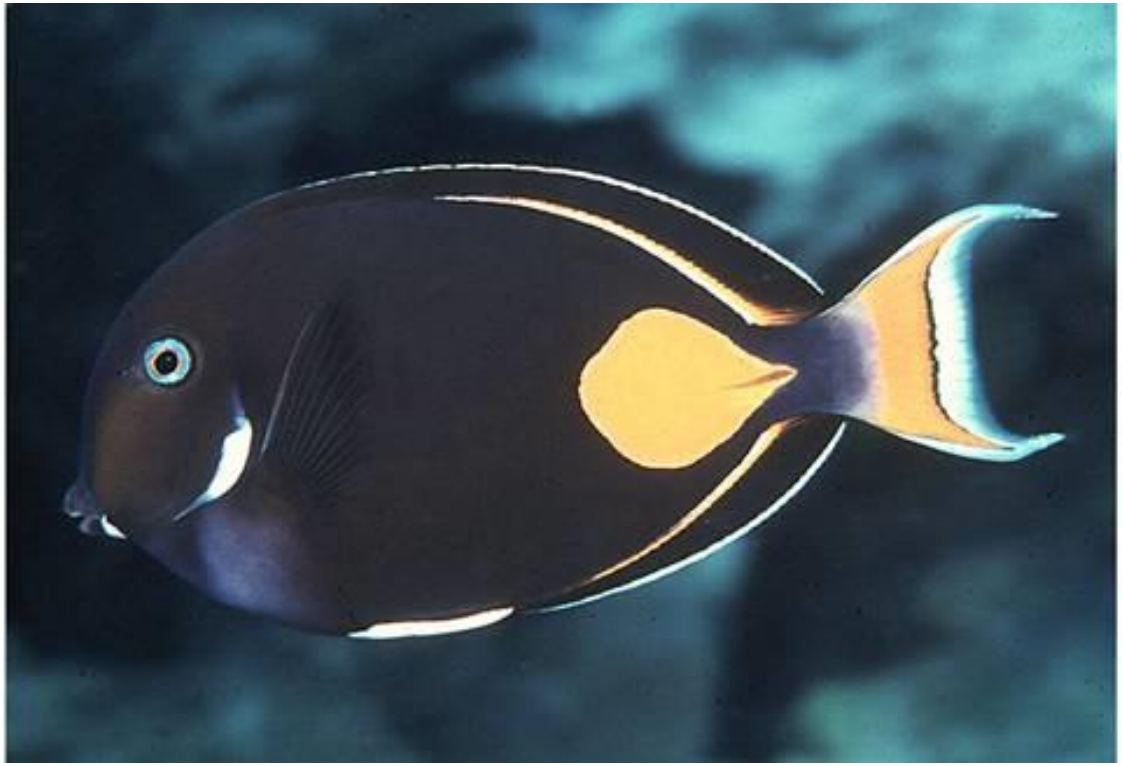
AB**SX** 15cm

Abudefduf vaigiensis
ABVA 20cm



Acanthocybium solandri

ACSO 210 cm



Acanthurus achilles
ACAC 25cm

Acanthurus blochii

ACBL 43cm

Acanthurus dussumieri
ACDU 54 cm

Acanthurus guttatus
ACGU 26 cm

Acanthurus leucopareius

ACLE 25cm

Acanthurus lineatus

ACLI 38cm

Acanthurus maculiceps
ACMA 41 cm

Acanthurus mata

AC**MT** 50 cm

Acanthurus nigricans

AC**NC** 23cm

Acanthurus nigricauda
ACNI 40cm

Acanthurus nigrofuscus

AC**NF** 23cm

Acanthurus nigroris

AC**NR** 25cm

Acanthurus nubilus
ACNU 26 cm

Acanthurus olivaceus

ACOL 30cm

Acanthurus pyroferus

ACPY 25cm

Acanthurus thompsoni
ACTH 28cm

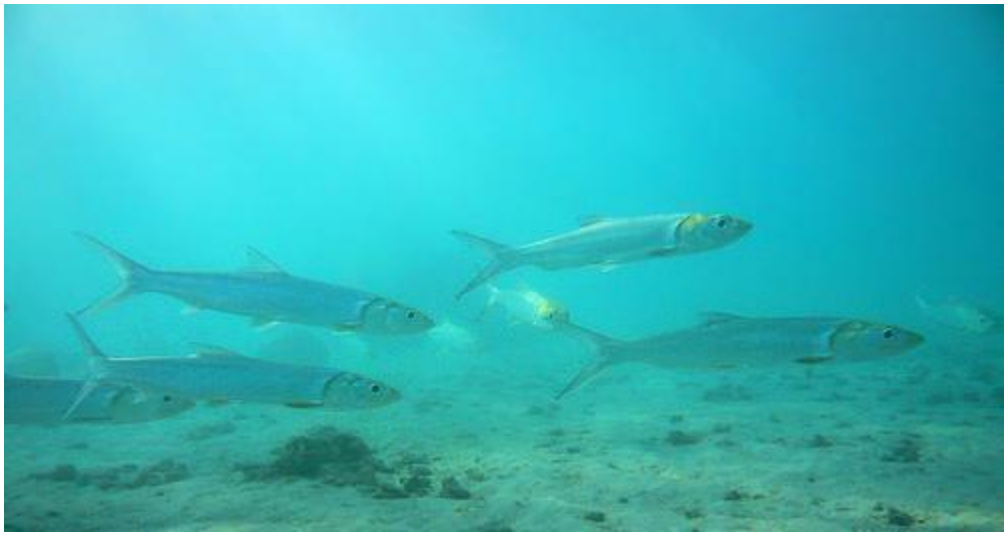
Acanthurus triostegus
ACTR 26cm

Acanthurus xanthopterus
ACXA 65cm

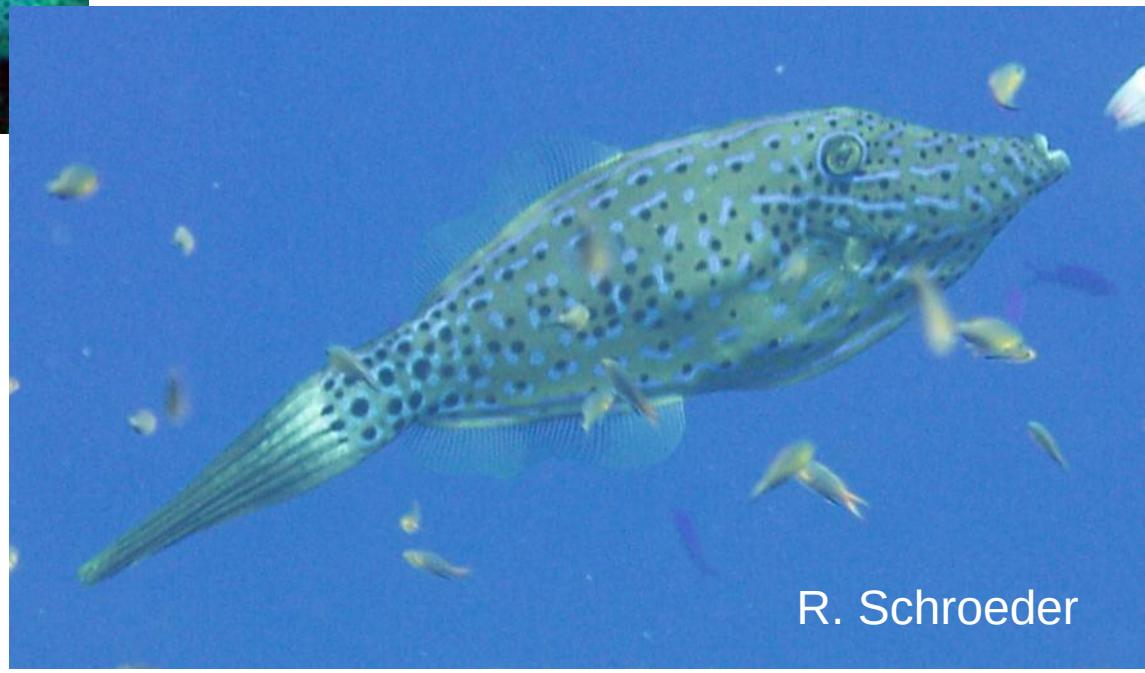
Aethaloperca rogaa
AERO 60 cm

Aetobatus narinari

AENA 230cm



Albula glossodonta
ALGL 90 cm



Aluterus scriptus

ALSC 76cm

Amanses scopas
AMSC 20cm

Amblycirrhitus bimacula

AMBI 8.5 cm

Amblyeleotris fasciata
AMFA 8cm

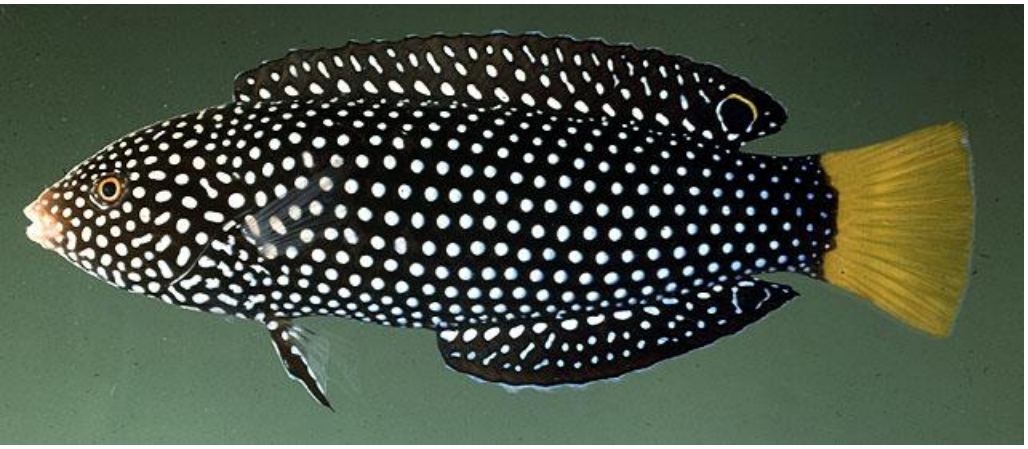
Amblygobius phalaena
AMPH 15 cm

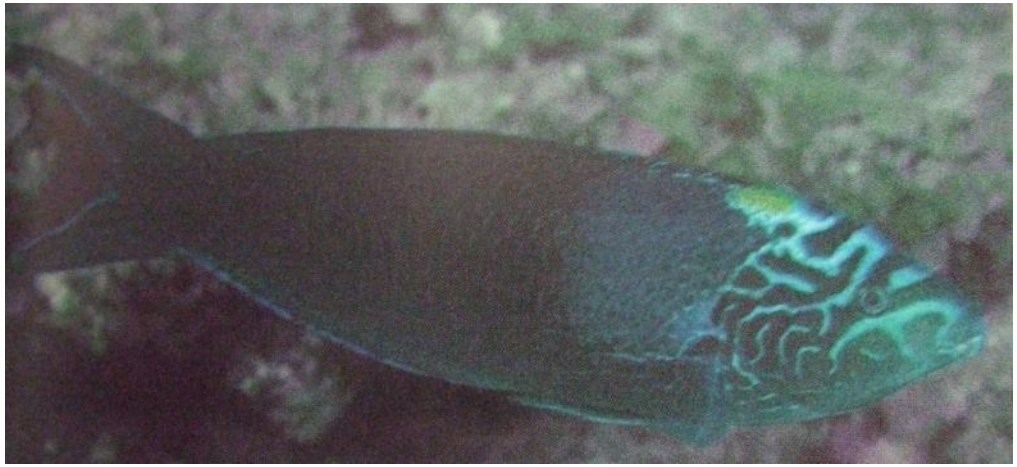
Amphiprion chrysopterus
AMCH 17 cm

Amphiprion clarkii
AMCL 15 cm

Amphiprion melanopus
AMME 12 cm

Anampses caeruleopunctatus
ANCA 42cm

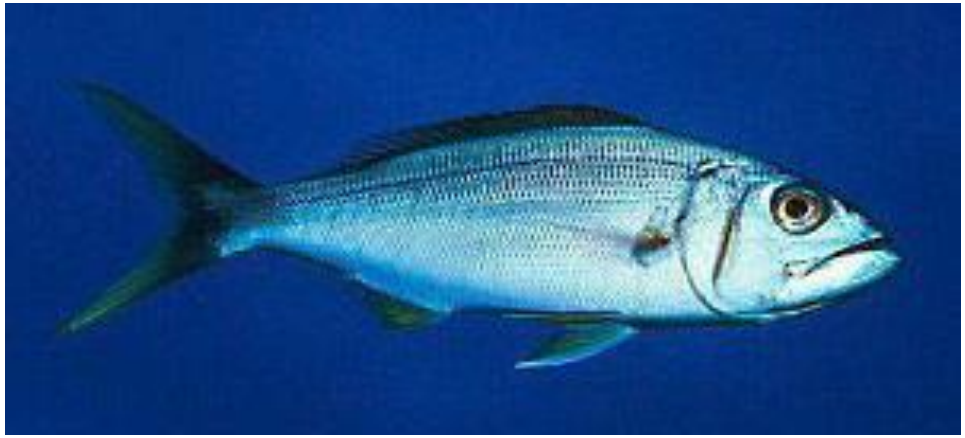




Anampses meleagrides

AN**MG** 22cm

Anampses twistii
ANTW 18cm



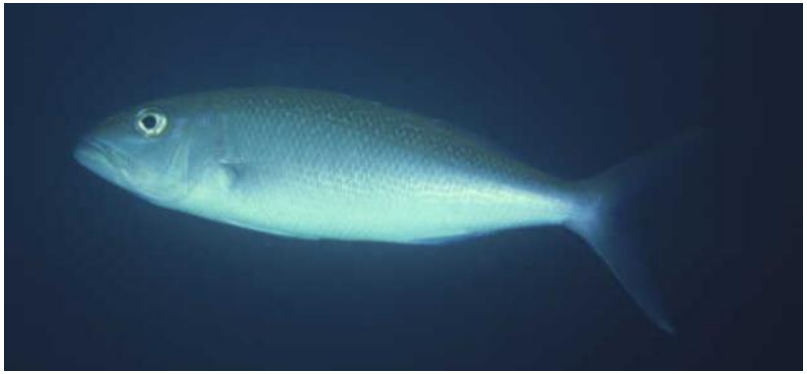
Aphareus furca

APFU 70cm

Apogon angustus
APAN 9cm

Apogon novemfasciatus
APNO 10 cm

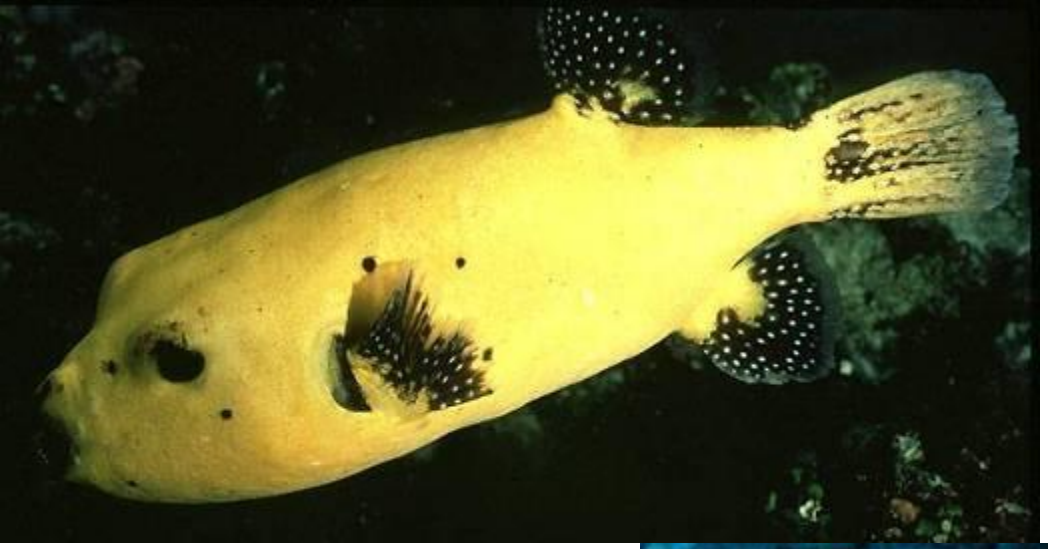
Apolemichthys trimaculatus
APTR 25cm



Aprion virescens

APVI 110cm

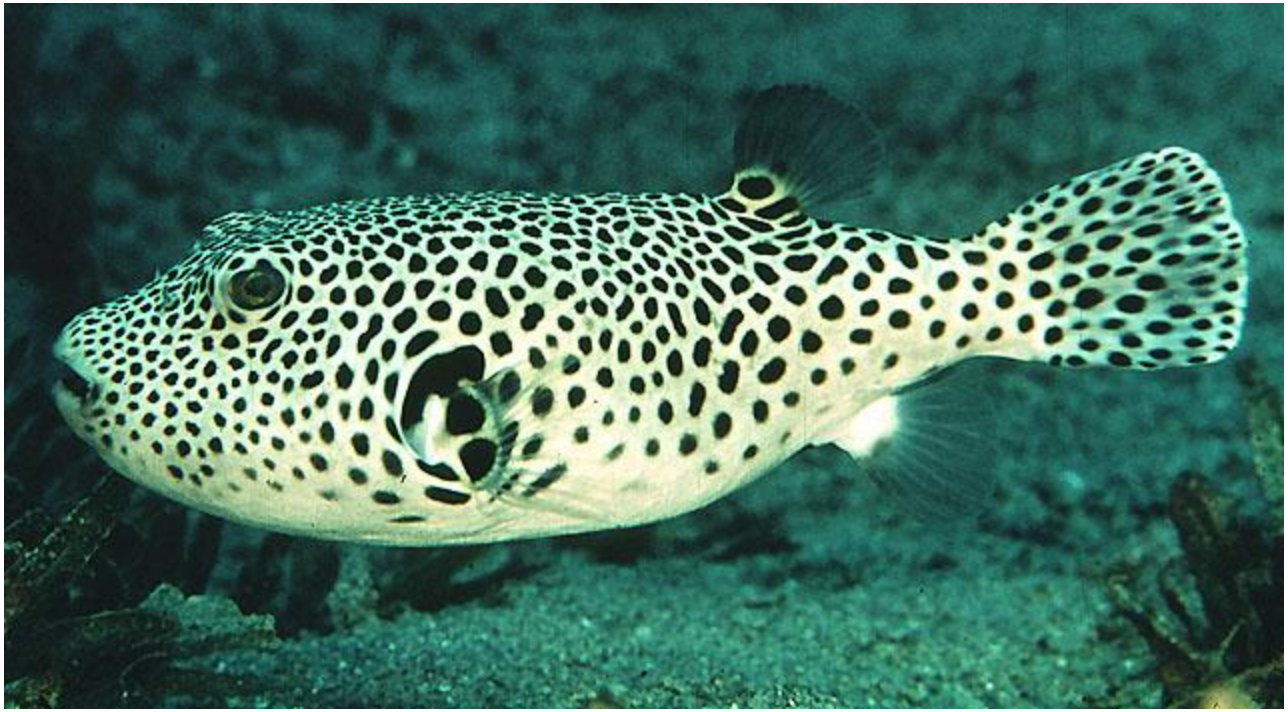
Arothron hispidus
ARHI 49cm



Arothron meleagris

ARME 34cm

Arothron nigropunctatus
ARNI 33 cm



Arothron stellatus
ARST 120 cm

Asterropteryx semipunctata
ASSE 4 cm

Aulostomus chinensis
AUCH 76cm

Balistapus undulatus

BAUN 30cm

Balistoides conspicillum
BACO 50 cm

Balistoides viridescens

BAVI 75cm

Blenniella chrysospilos
BLCH 13 cm

Bodianus anthioides
BOAN 24 cm

Bodianus axillaris

BOAX 20cm

Bodianus bimaculatus

BO**BM** 10 cm

Bolbometopon muricatum

BOMU 130 cm

Bothus mancus

BOMA 45 cm

Caesio caerulaurea

CA**CE** 29cm

Caesio cuning
CACU 60 cm

Caesio lunaris

CA**LN** 40 cm

Caesio teres

CATE 40cm

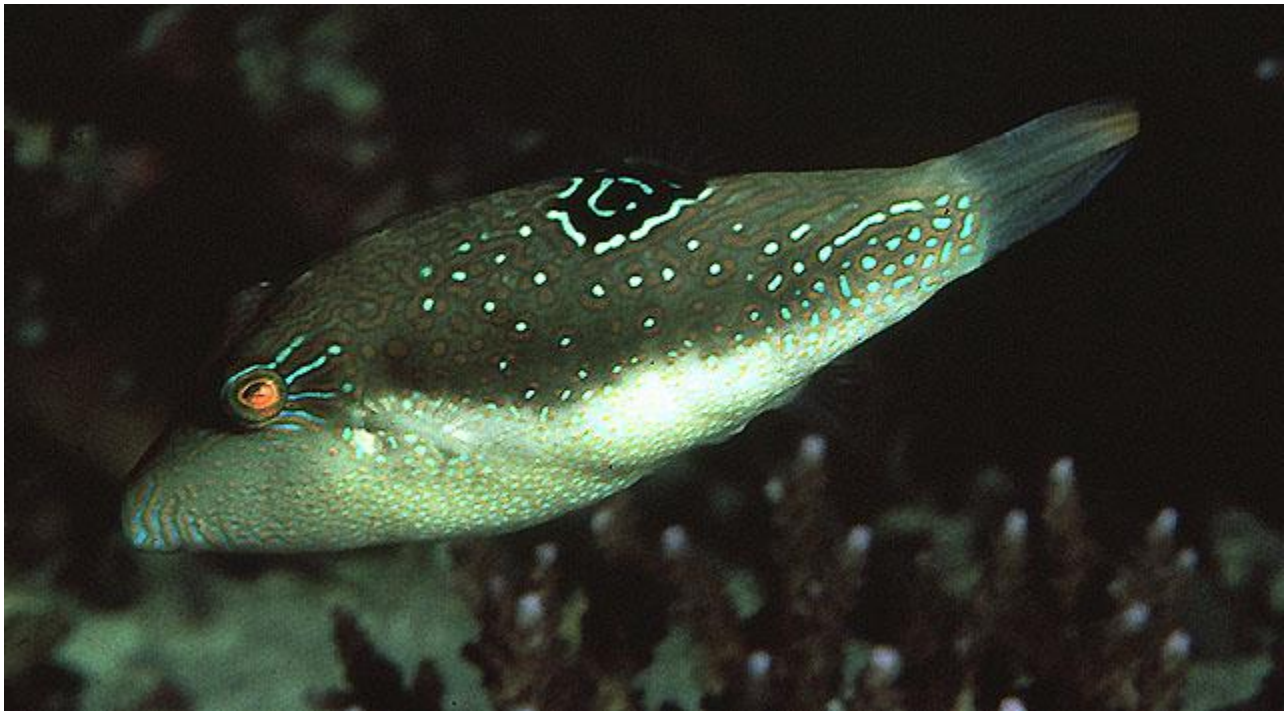
Calotomus carolinus

CACA 50cm

Cantherhines dumerilii

CADU 38cm

Cantherhines pardalis
CAPA 25cm



Canthigaster bennetti
CABE 10 cm

Canthigaster coronata
CACO 14 cm

Canthigaster janthinoptera

CA**JN** 9 cm

Canthigaster solandri
CASO 11cm

Canthigaster valentini
CAVA 9cm

Caracanthus maculatus

CA**MC** 5cm

Carangoides ferdau

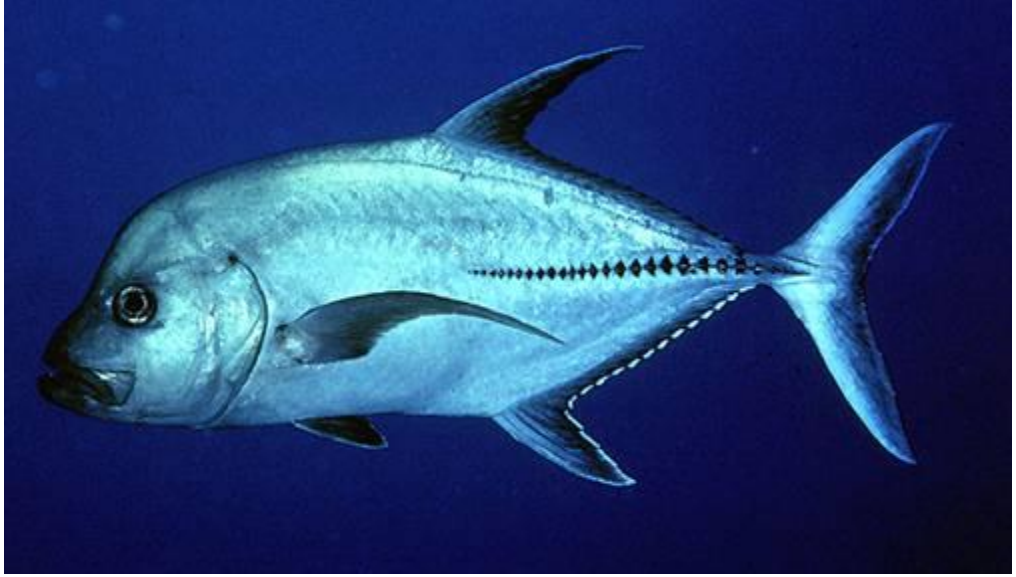
CAFE 53cm

Carangoides orthogrammus

CAOR 70cm

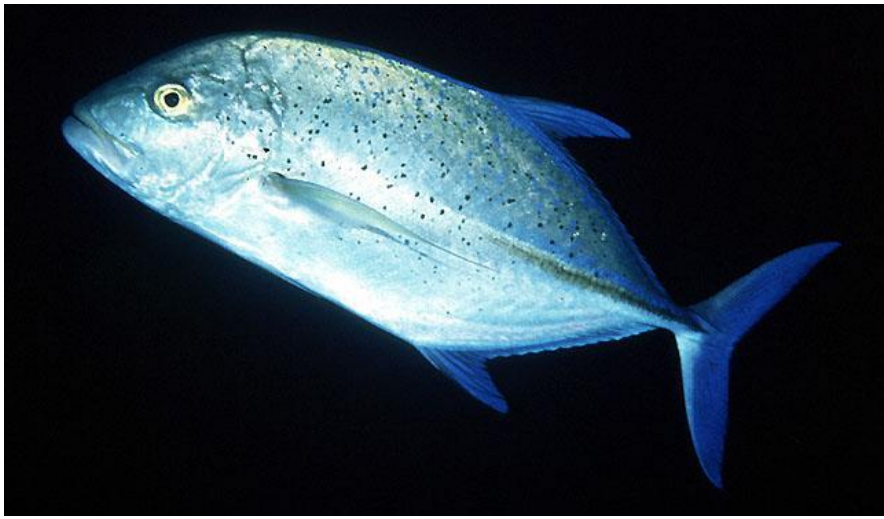
Caranx ignobilis

CAIG 165cm



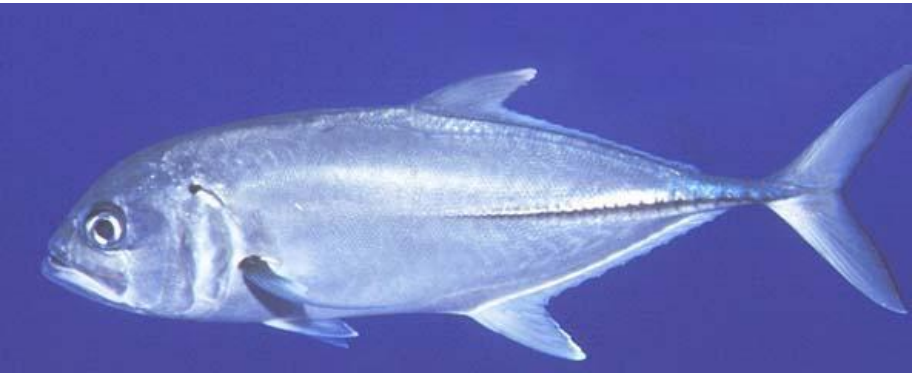
Caranx lugubris

CALU 100cm



Caranx melampygus

CAME　100cm

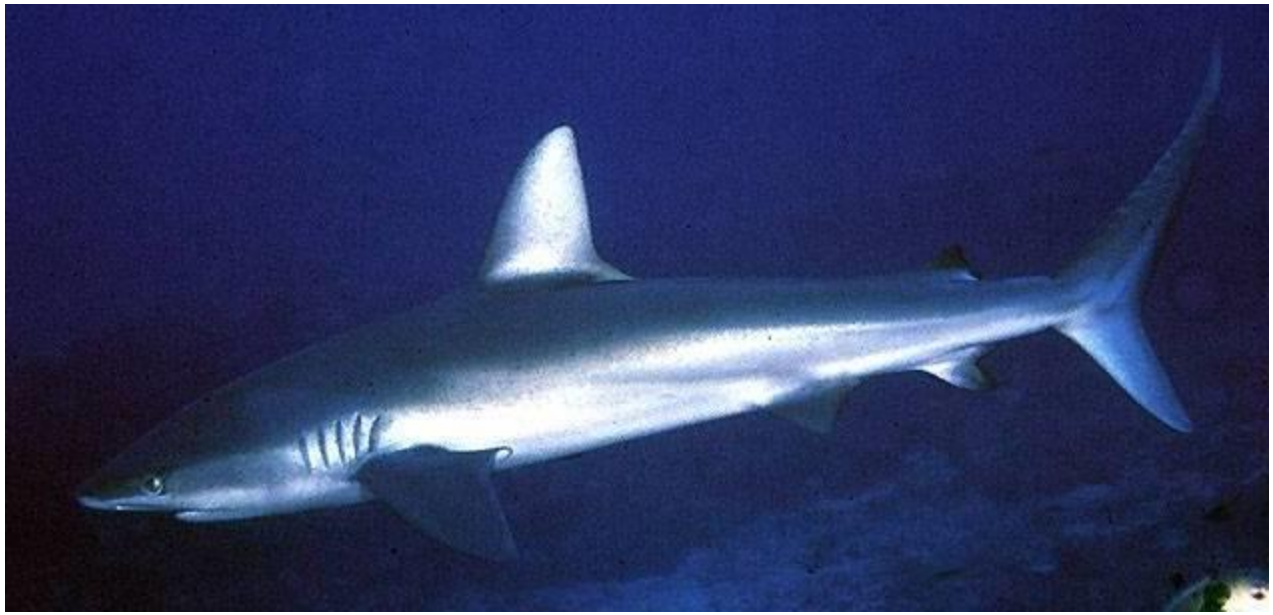


Caranx sexfasciatus

CASE 100cm

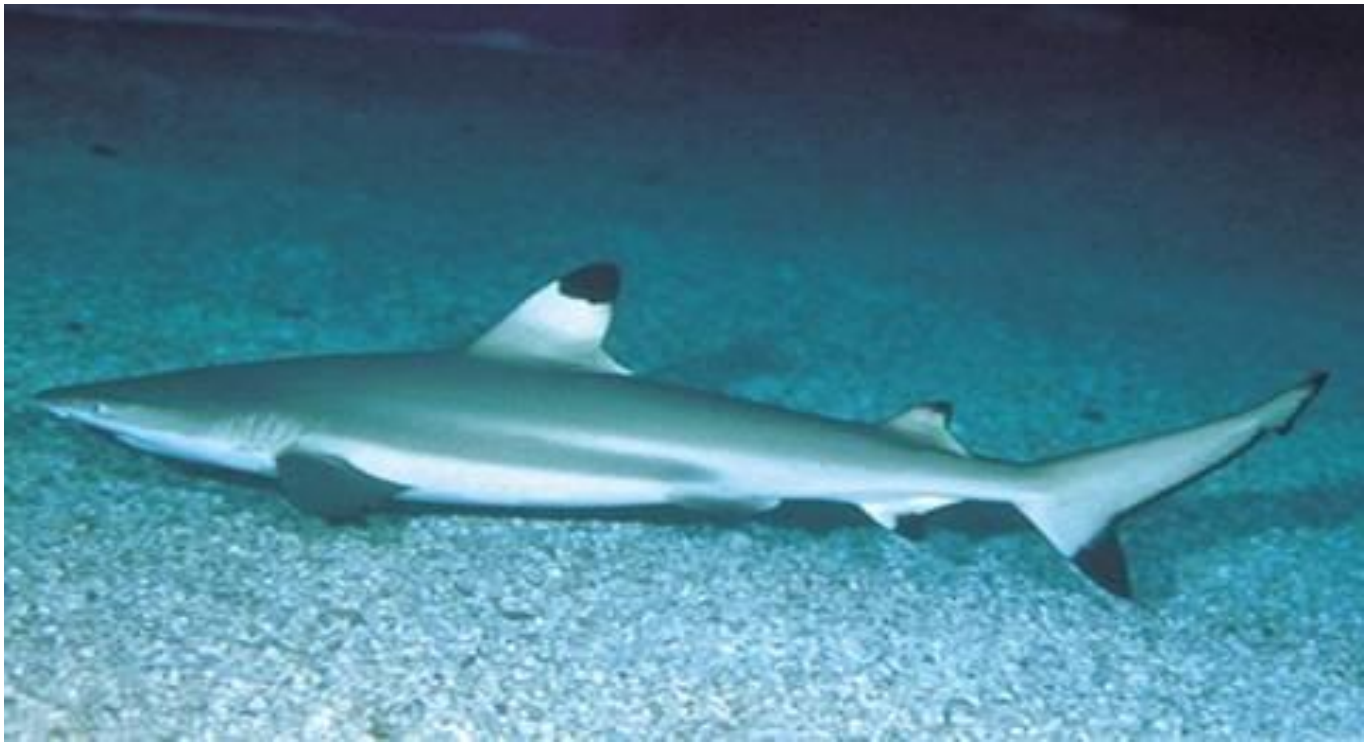
Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos

CA**AB** 180cm



Carcharhinus galapagensis

CAGA 350cm



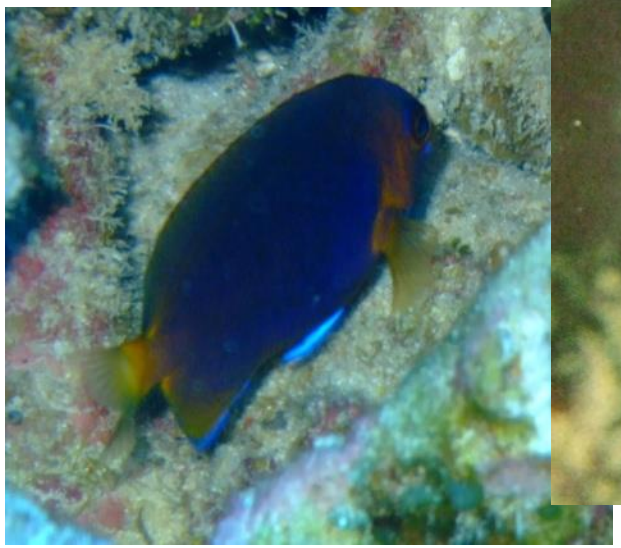
Carcharhinus melanopterus

CA**ML** 180cm

Centropyge bicolor

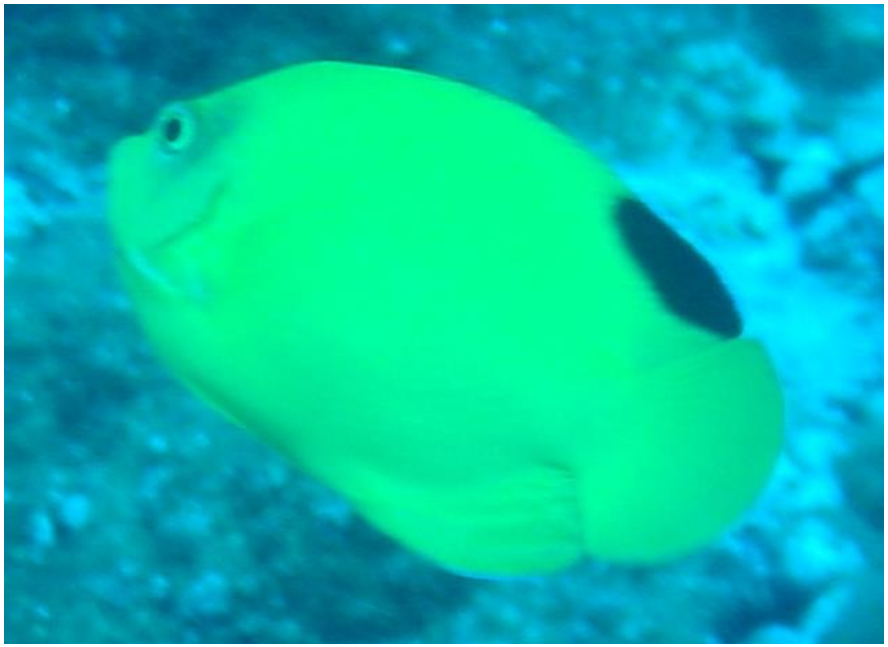
CE**BC** 15 cm

Centropyge bispinosa
CEBI 10cm

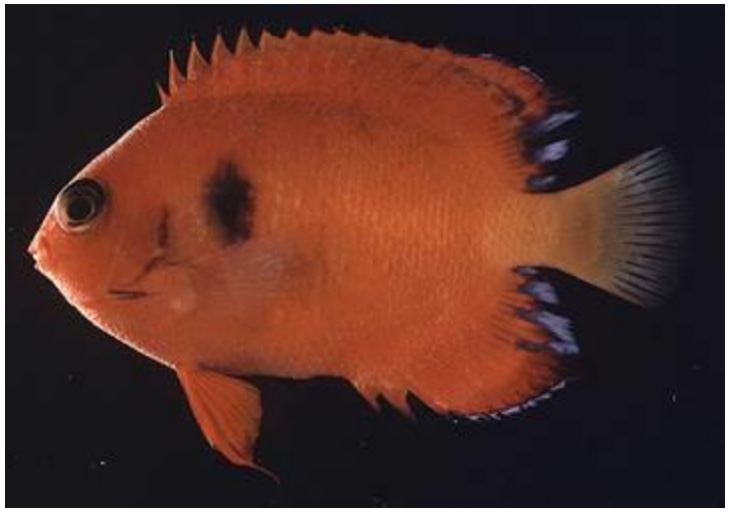


Centropyge fisheri
CEFI 6 cm

Centropyge flavissima
CEFL 14cm



Centropyge heraldi
CEHE 10cm



Centropyge loricula
CELO 10cm

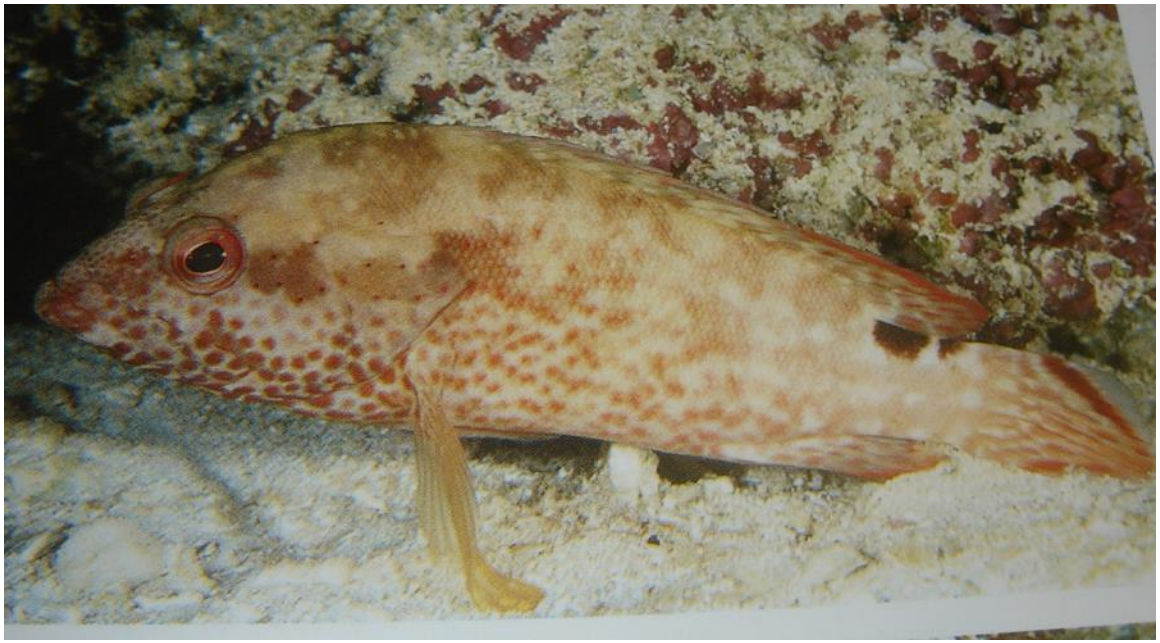
Centropyge multicolor

CE**ML** 9 cm

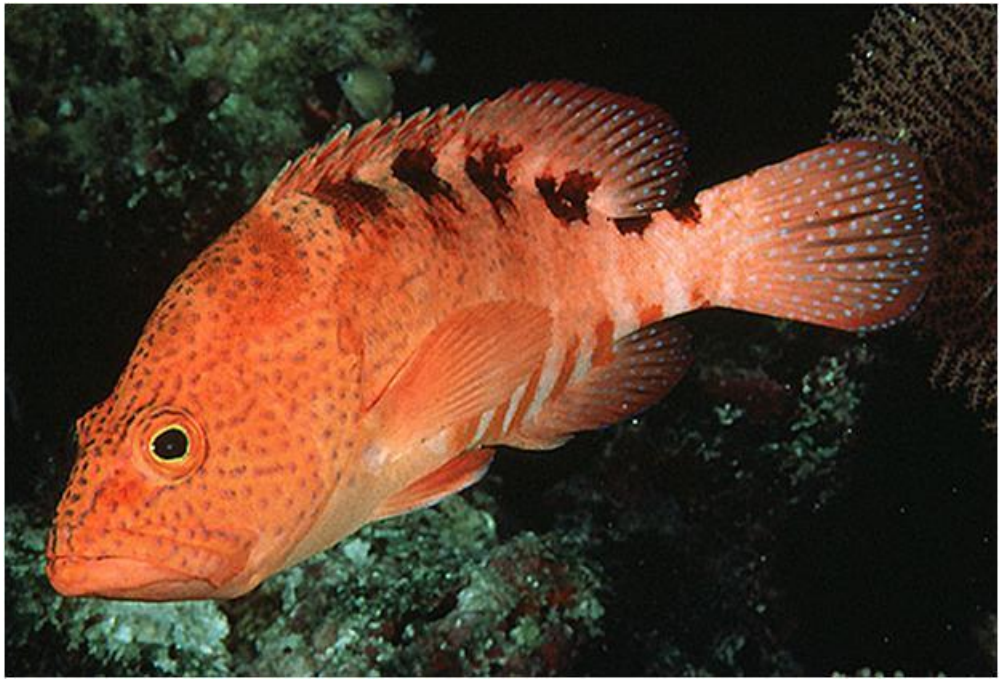
Centropyge multifasciata
CEMU 12 cm

Centropyge shepardi
CESH 9 cm

Cephalopholis argus
CEAR 60cm



Cephalopholis leopardus
CELE 20cm



Cephalopholis sexmaculata

CE**SX** 50 cm

Cephalopholis spiloparaea
CESP 22cm

Cephalopholis sonnerati
CESO 49 cm

Cephalopholis urodeta
CEUR 28cm

Cetoscarus bicolor

CE**BL** 90cm

Chaetodon auriga
CHAU 23cm

Chaetodon bennetti
CHBE 18cm

Chaetodon citrinellus
CHCl 13cm

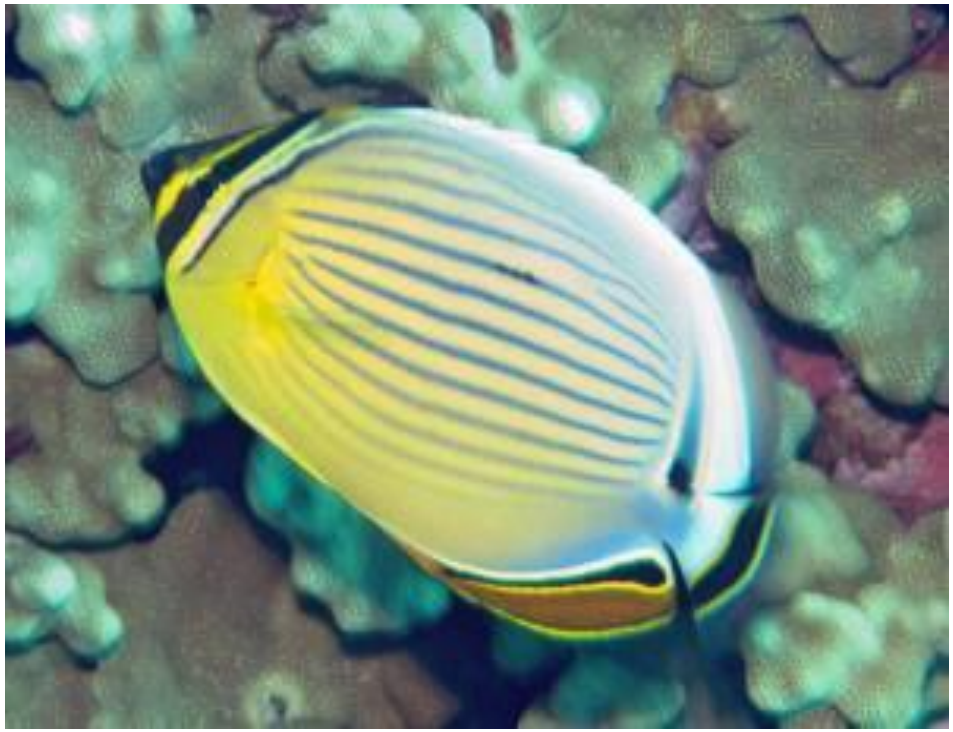
Chaetodon ephippium
CHEP 23cm

Chaetodon kleinii
CHKL 15 cm

Chaetodon lineolatus

CHLI 30 cm

Chaetodon lunula
CHLU 20cm



Chaetodon lunulatus

CH**LT** 14cm

Chaetodon melannotus

CH**ML** 18 cm

Chaetodon mertensii

CH**MR** 13cm

Chaetodon meyeri
CHME 18cm

Chaetodon ornatissimus
CHOR 20cm

Chaetodon punctatofasciatus
CHPU 12cm

Chaetodon quadrimaculatus
CHQU 15cm

Chaetodon reticulatus
CHRE 18cm

Chaetodon semeion

CHSE 24cm

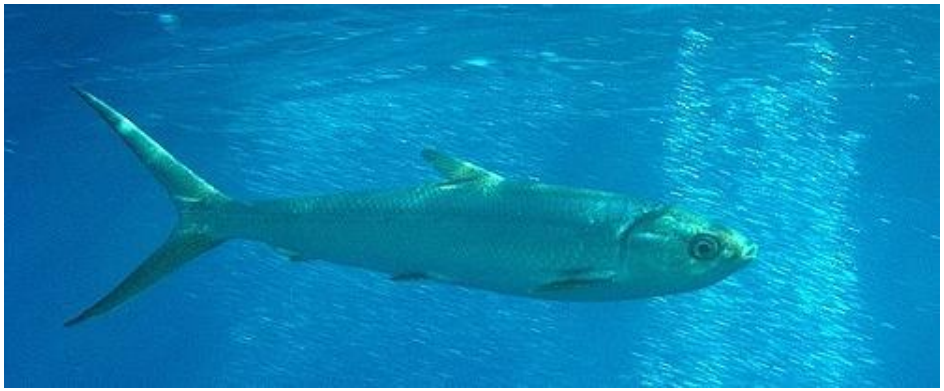
Chaetodon flavocoronatus
CHFL 15 cm

Chaetodon trifascialis

CHTR 18cm

Chaetodon ulietensis
CHUL 15cm

Chaetodon unimaculatus
CHUN 20



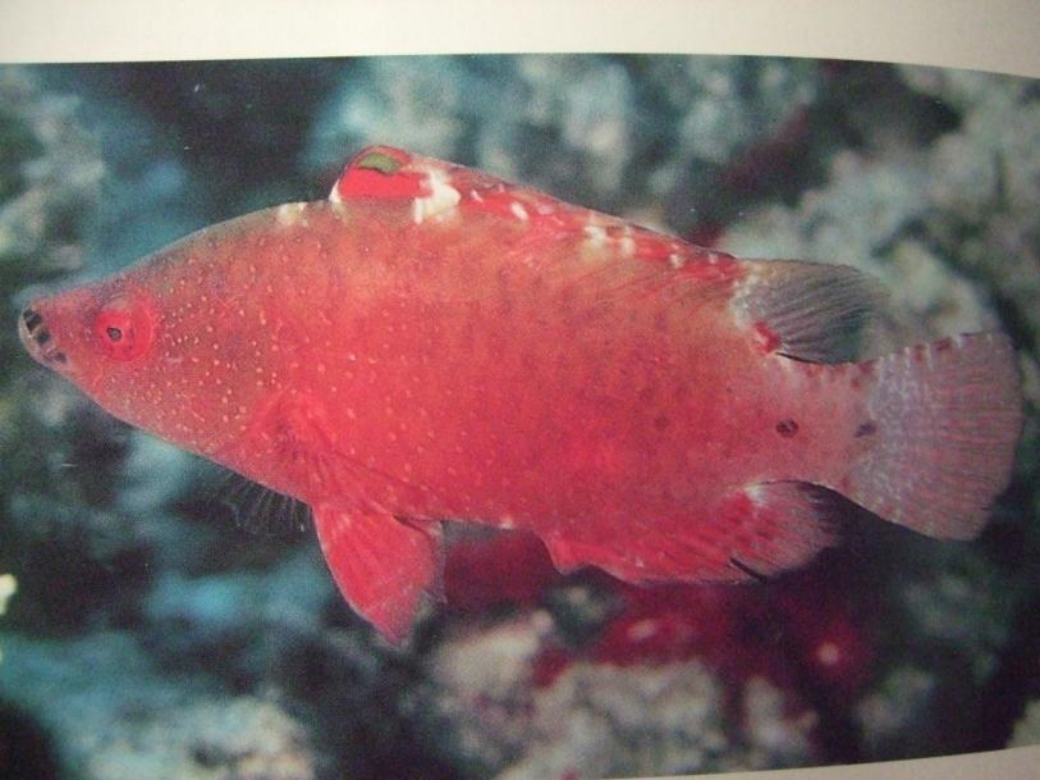
Chanos chanos

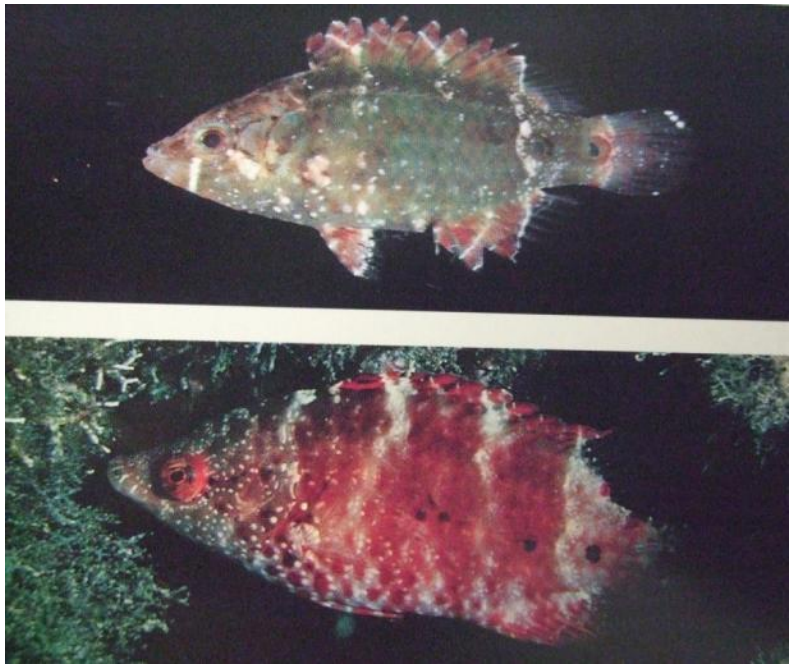
CHCH 180 cm

Cheilinus chlorourus

CH**CL** 45 cm

Cheilinus fasciatus
CHFA 40 cm

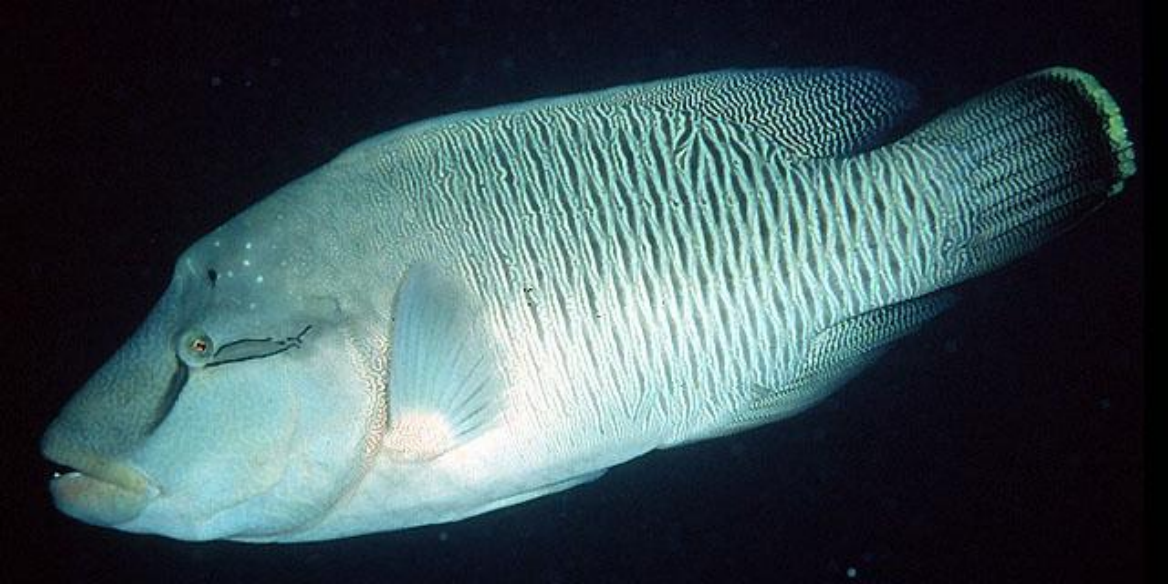




Cheilinus oxycephalus
CHOX 17cm

Cheilinus trilobatus

CH**TL** 45cm



Cheilinus undulatus

CHUD 229 cm

Cheilio inermis
CHIN 50 cm

Cheilodipterus artus
CHAR 18 cm

Cheilodipterus macrodon

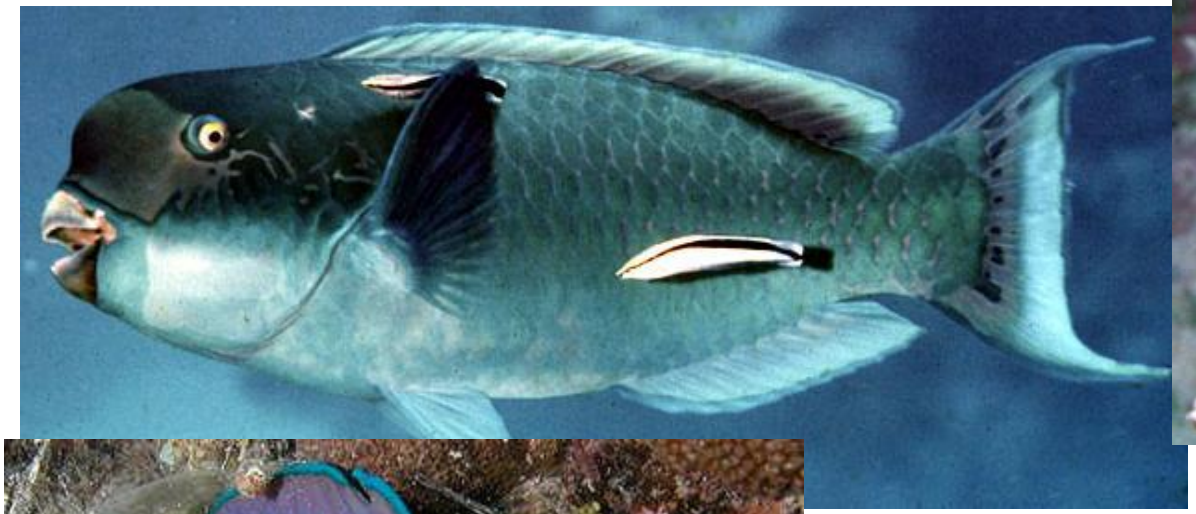
CH**MD** 25 cm

Cheilodipterus quinquelineatus

CH**QN**

Chlorurus frontalis

CH**FN** 50cm



Chlorurus microrhinos

CH**MC** 80cm

Chlorurus sordidus

CHSO 40cm

Chromis acares

CHAC 6cm

Chromis agilis

CHAG 11cm

Chromis alpha
CHAL 12 cm

Chromis amboinensis

CHAM 9cm

Chromis margaritifer

CHMA 8cm

Chromis vanderbilti

CHVA 15cm

Chromis viridis

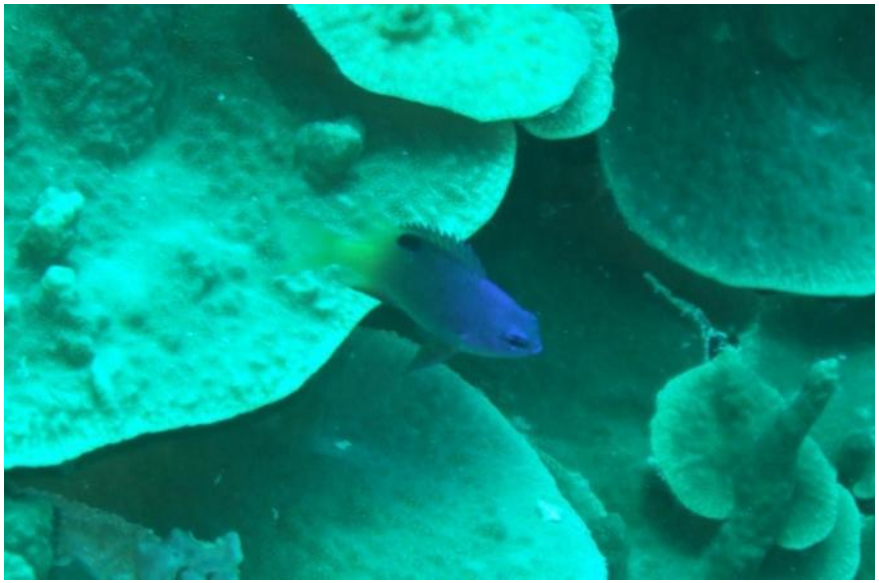
CH**VR** 8cm

Chromis xanthura

CHXA 15cm

Chrysiptera brownriggii
CHBR 8 cm

Chrysiptera glauca
CHGL 8cm



Chrysiptera traceyi

CH**TY** 4.5 cm

Cirrhilabrus katherinae

CIKA 7cm

Cirrhitichthys falco

Cl**FL** 7 cm

Cirrhitus pinnulatus

CIPI 30cm

Cirripectes polyzona
CIPO 13 cm

Cirripectes variolosus

CI**VR** 8cm

Conger cinereus

COCI 130 cm

Coris aygula

COAY 55cm

Corythoichthys flavofasciatus

COFF 12 cm

Coris gaimard

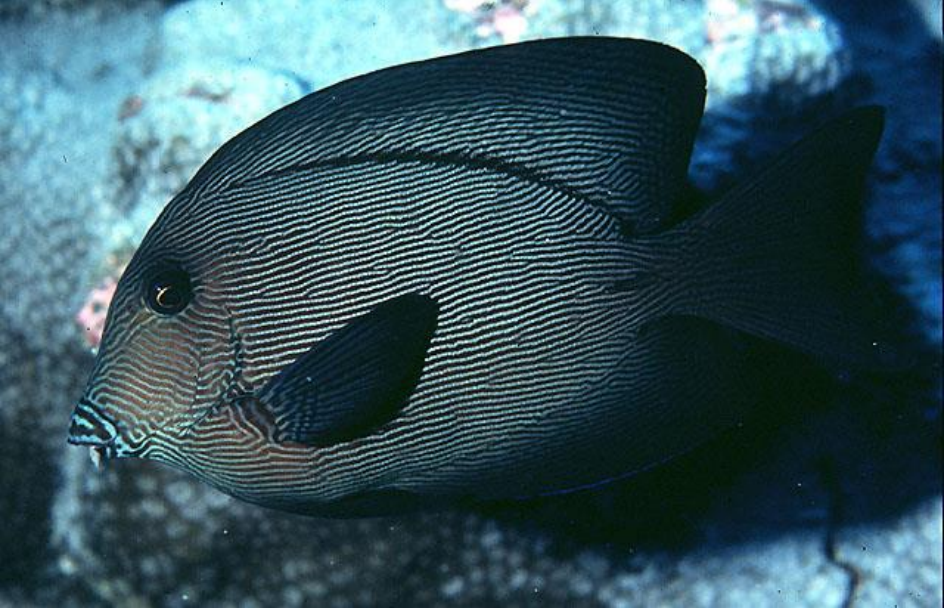
COGA 38cm

Ctenochaetus binotatus

CTBI 22cm

Ctenochaetus cyanocheilus

CTCY 20cm



Ctenochaetus hawaiiensis

CTHA 25 cm

Ctenochaetus striatus

CT**SR** 28cm

Ctenogobiops pomastictus
CTPO 8 cm

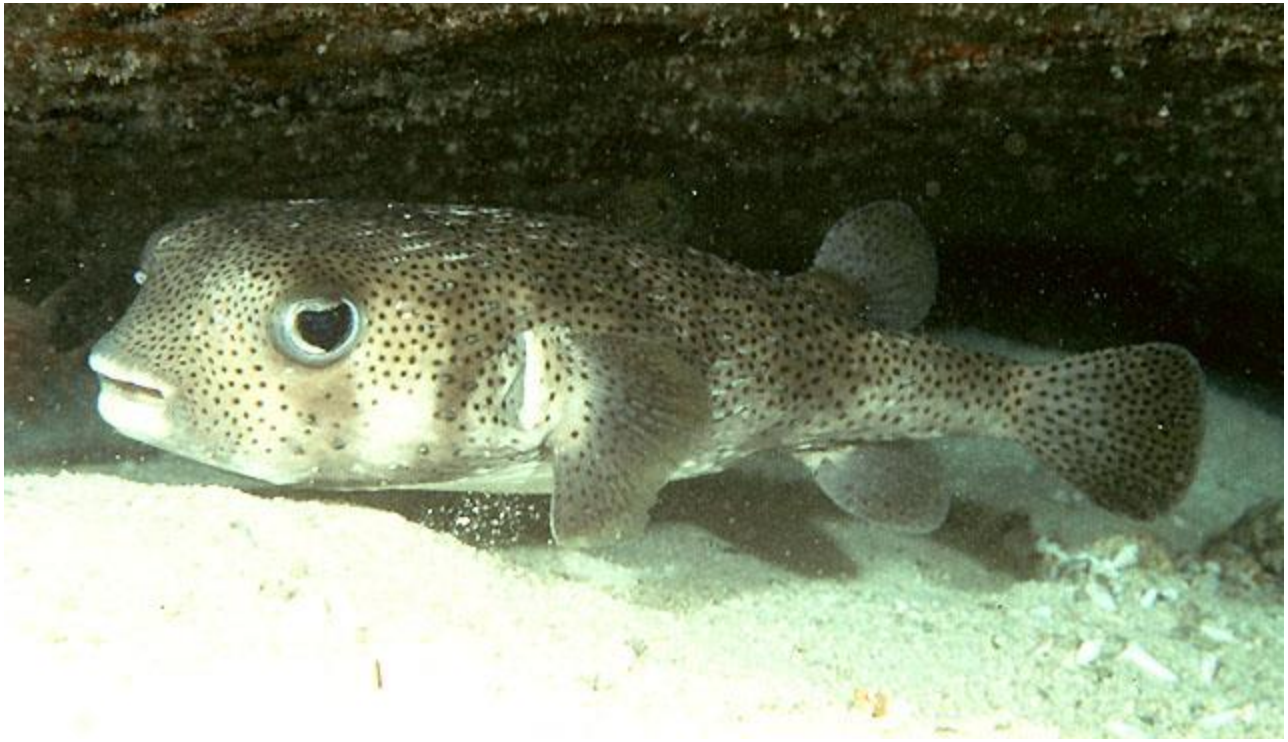
Dascyllus aruanus

DAAR 8cm

Dascyllus reticulatus
DARE 8cm

Dascyllus trimaculatus
DATR 14cm

Decapterus macarellus
DEMA 46 cm



Diodon hystrix
DIHY 91 cm

Ecsenius bicolor

EC**BC** 11 cm

Ecsenius opsifrontalis
ECOP 5 cm

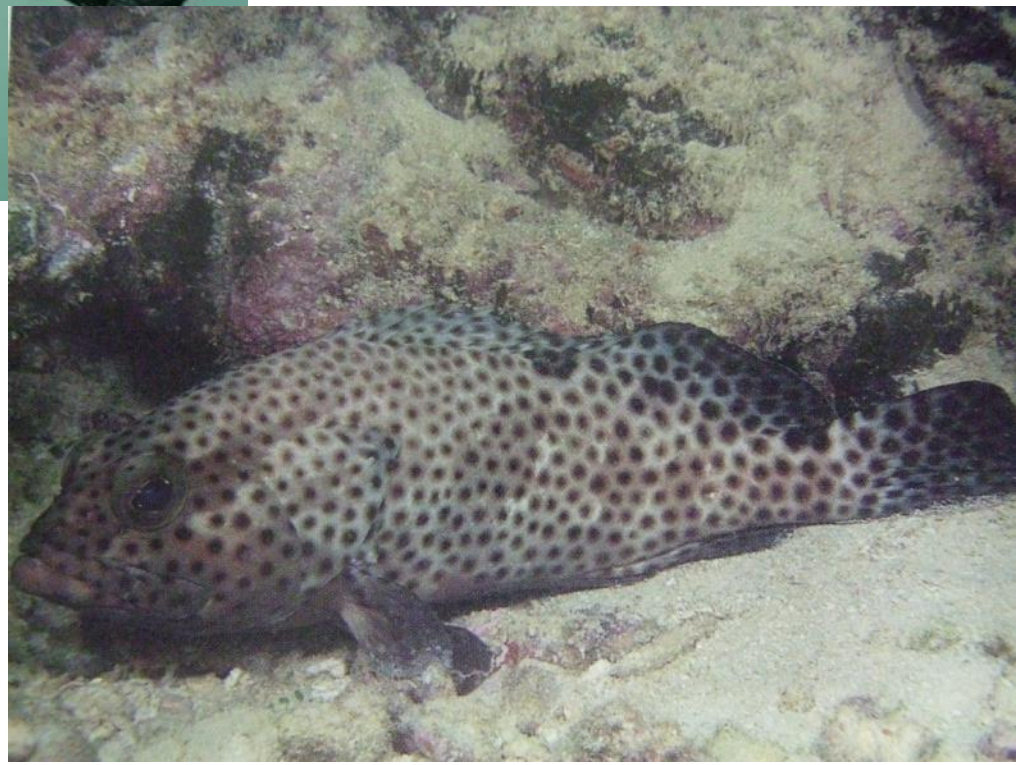
Elagatis bipinnulata
ELBI 180 cm

Epibulus insidiator

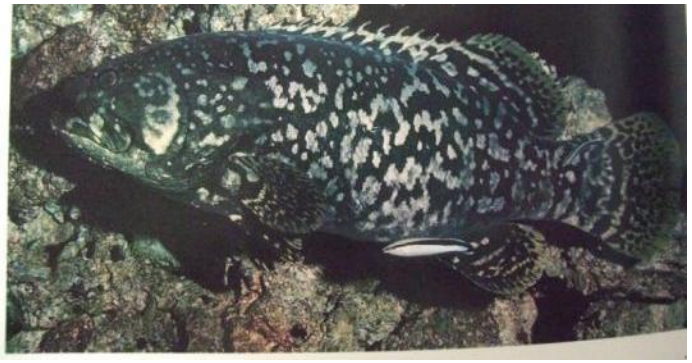
EPIN 35cm

Epinephelus fasciatus
EPFA 43cm

Epinephelus hexagonatus
EPHE 26cm



Epinephelus howlandi
EPHO 55cm



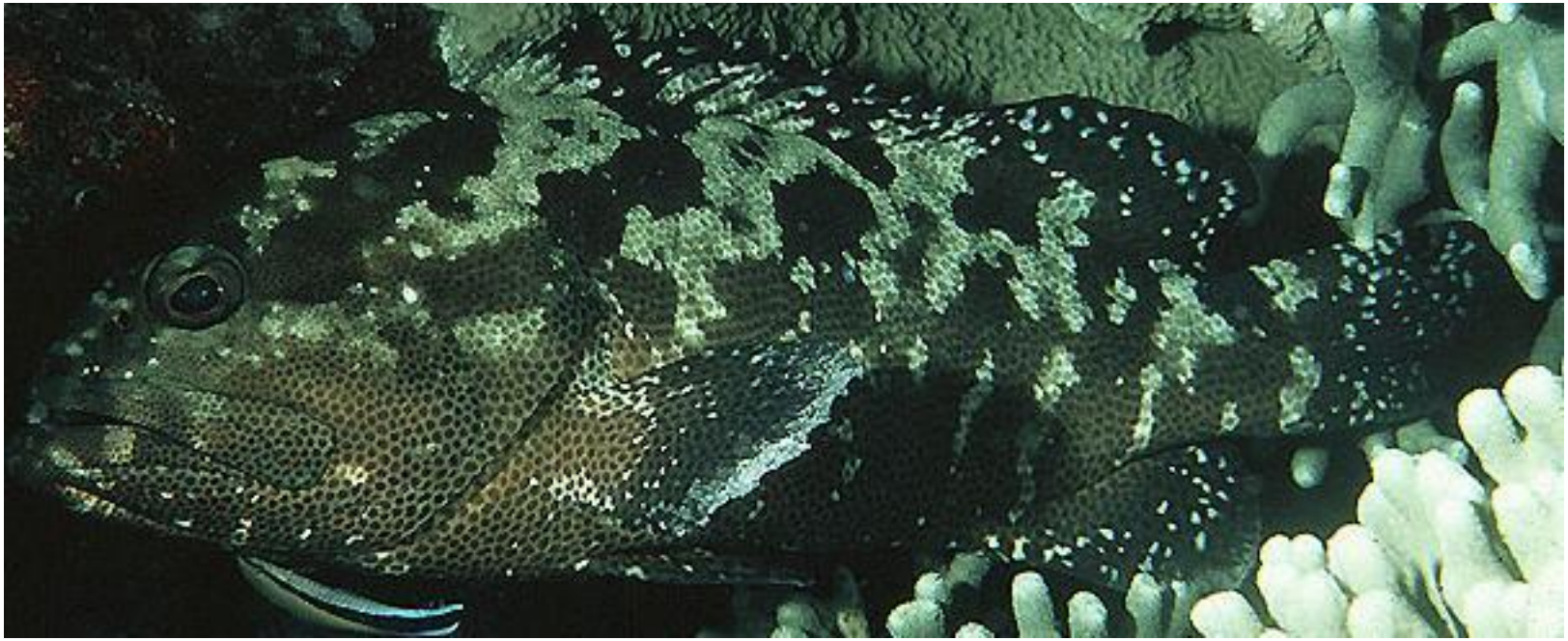
Epinephelus lanceolatus

EPLA 270 cm

Epinephelus melanostigma

EP**ML** 33cm

Epinephelus merra
EPME 33cm



Epinephelus polyphekadion
EPPO 75cm

Epinephelus tauvina
EPTA 75 cm

Euthynnus affinis
EUAF 100 cm

Exallias brevis

EXBR 15cm

Fistularia commersonii

FICO 160 cm

Forcipiger flavissimus
FOFL 19cm

Forcipiger longirostris
FOLO 22cm

Fusigobius duospilus
FUDU 6 cm

Fusigobius neophytus
FUNE 7.5 cm

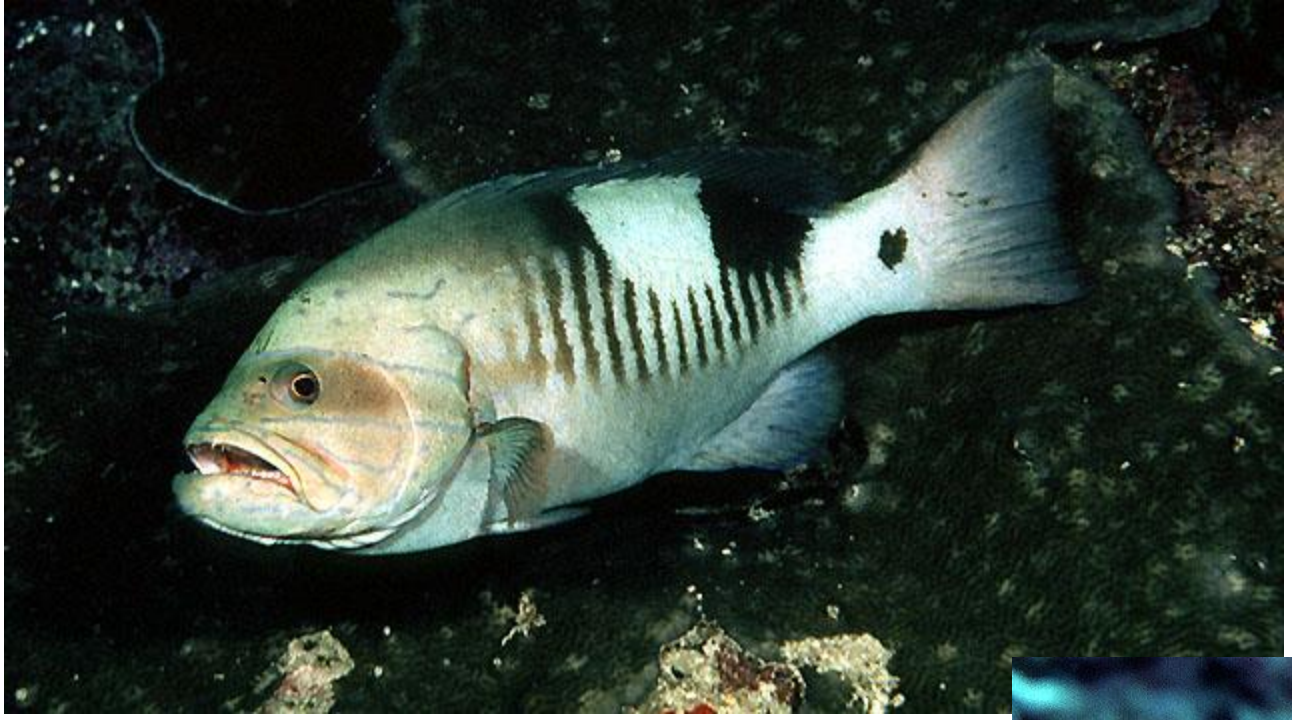
Gnathanodon speciosus
GNSP 120cm

Gnathodentex aureolineatus

GNAU 30cm

Juvenile

Gomphosus varius
GOVA 28cm



Gracila albomarginata

GRAL 50cm

Grammistes sexlineatus
GRSE 30 cm

Gymnosarda unicolor

GY**UC** 220cm

Gymnomuraena zebra
GYZE 150 cm

Gymnothorax flavimarginatus
GYFL 150cm

Gymnothorax javanicus
GYJA 245cm

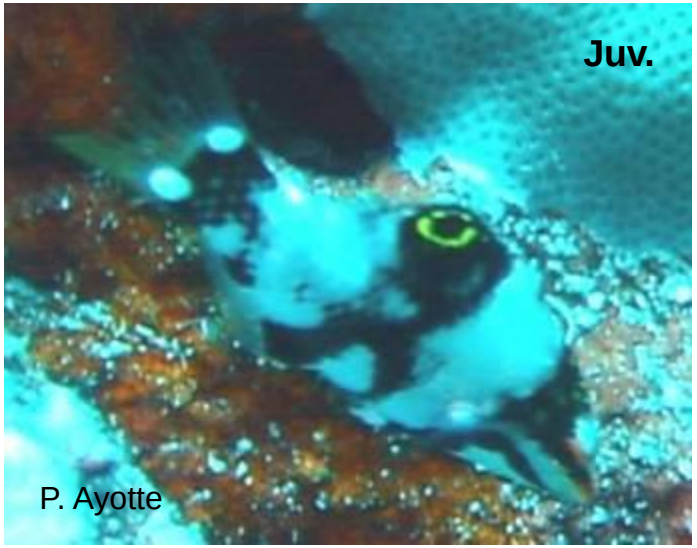
Gymnothorax meleagris
GYME 100 cm

Gymnothorax undulatus

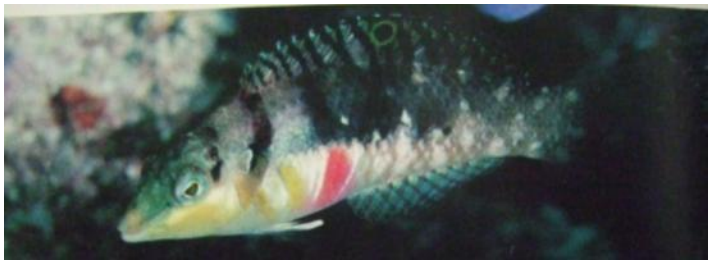
GYUN 150 cm

Halichoeres biocellatus

HABI 12cm



Halichoeres hortulanus
HAHO 27cm



Halichoeres margaritaceus

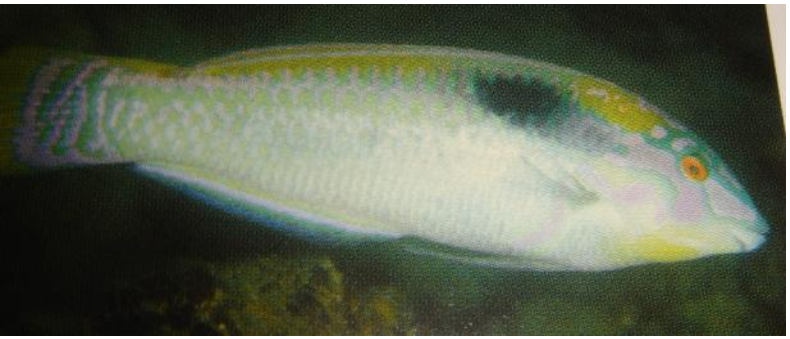
HA**MT** 13cm

Halichoeres marginatus
HAMA 17cm

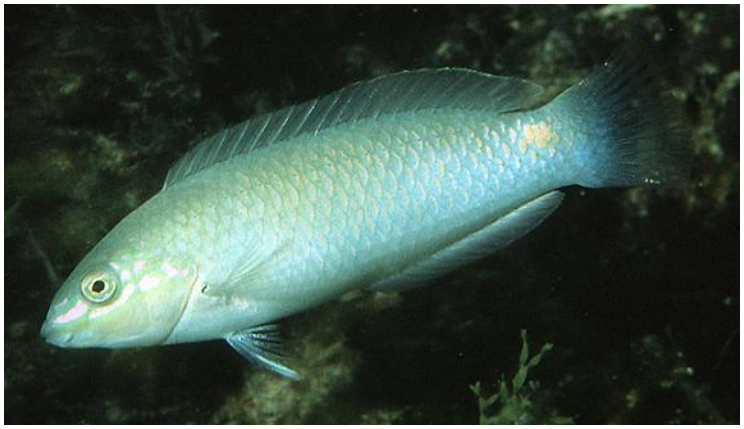
Halichoeres melasmapomus
HAME 14cm

Halichoeres ornatissimus

HAOR 15cm



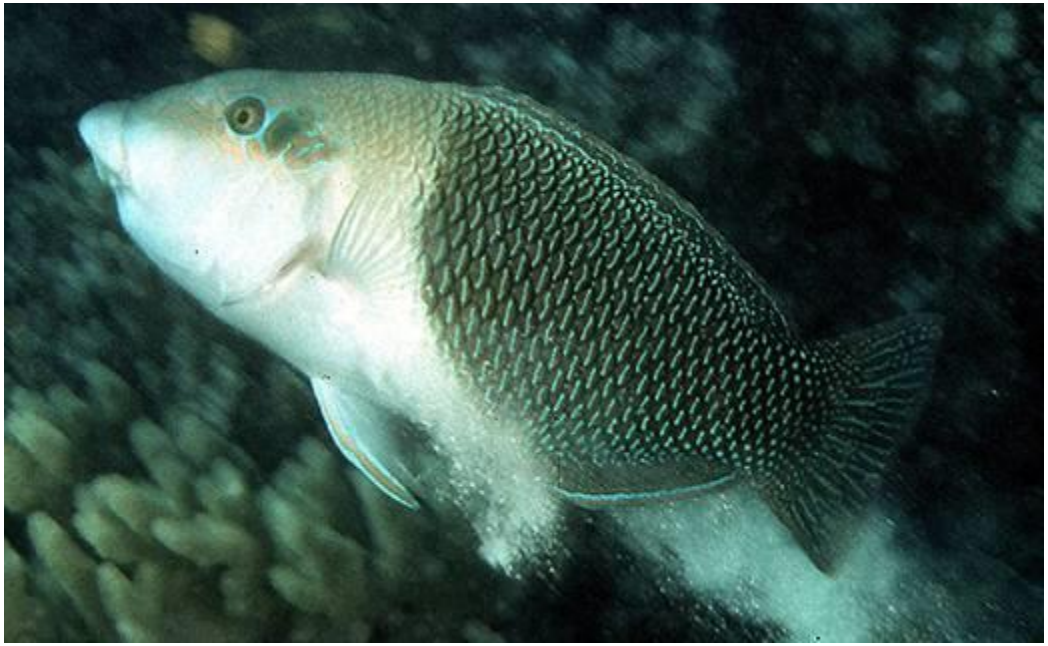
Halichoeres scapularis
HASC 20 cm



Halichoeres trimaculatus

HATR 27 cm

Hemigymnus fasciatus
HEFA 50cm



Hemigymnus melapterus
HEME 60cm

Hemitaurichtys polylepis
HEPO 18cm

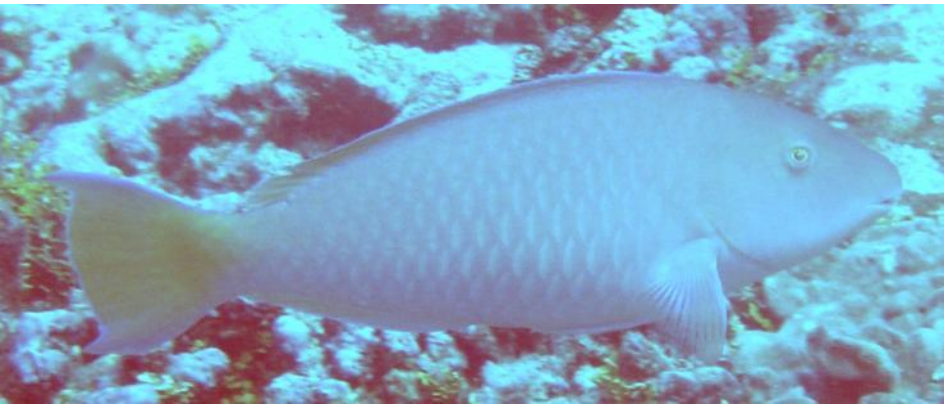
Hemitaurichthys thompsoni
HETH 21cm

Heniochus chrysostomus
HECH 18cm

Heniochus monoceros
HEMO 25 cm

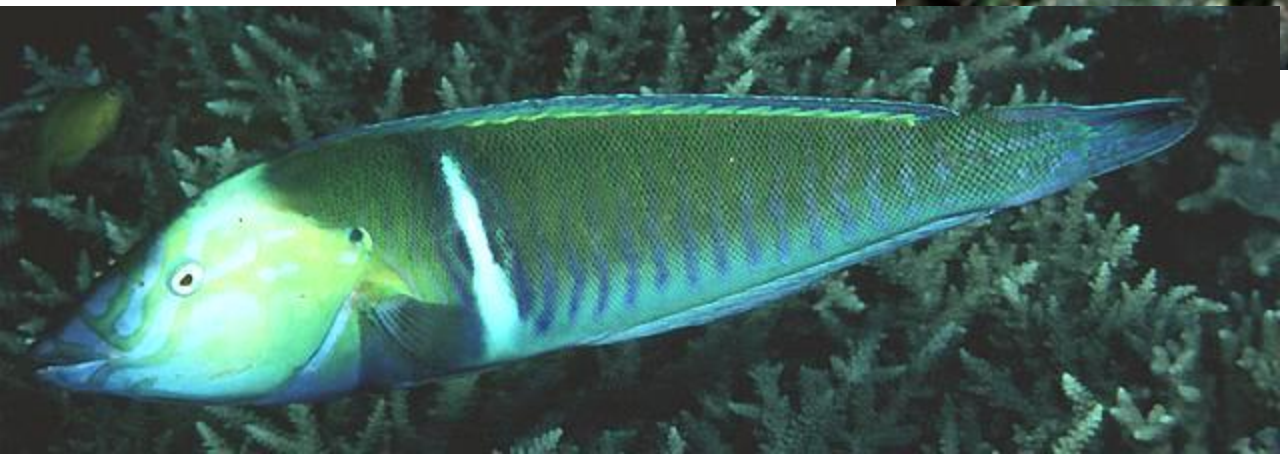
Heniochus singularius
HESI 30 cm

Heteropriacanthus cruentatus
HECR 32cm



Hipposcarus longiceps
HILO 60cm

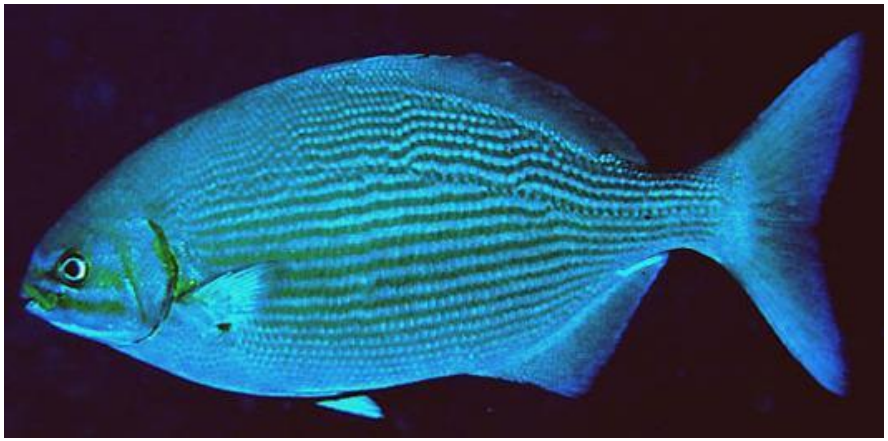
Hologymnosus annulatus
HOAN 40cm



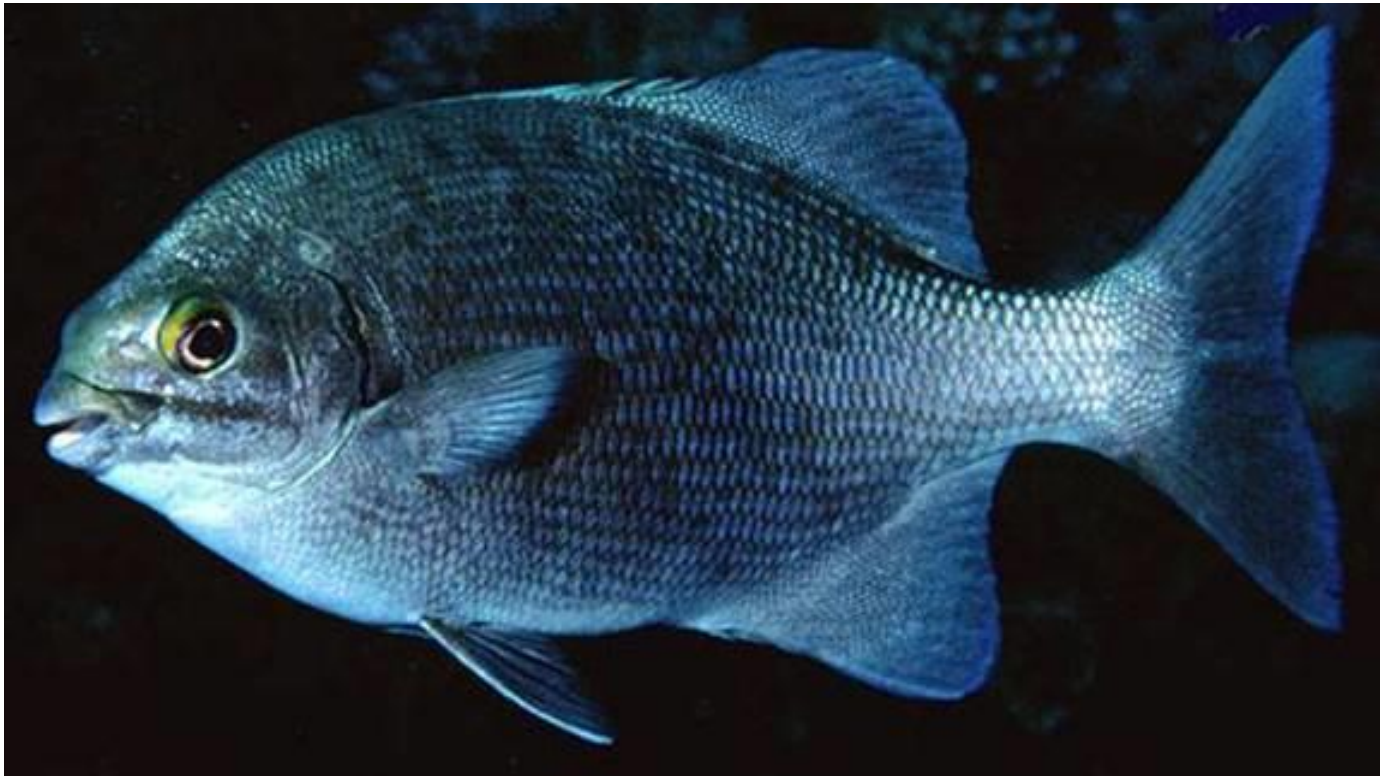
Hologymnosus doliatus

HODO 40cm

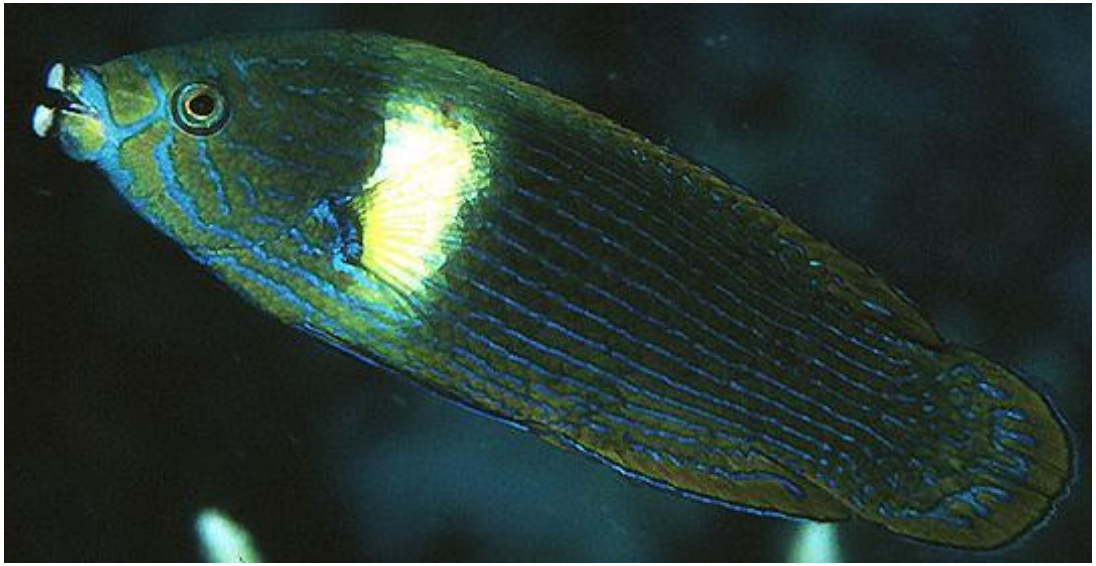
Katsuwonus pelamis
KAPE 110 cm

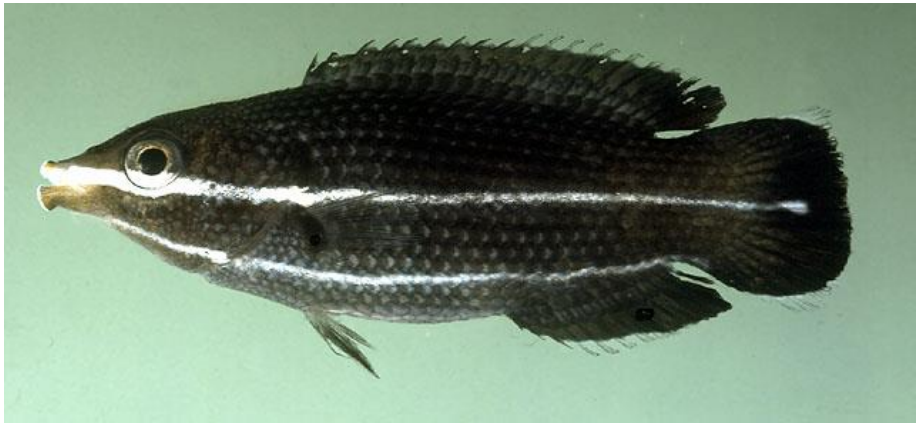


Kyphosus species
CHUB 75cm



Kyphosus cinerascens
KYCI 51cm

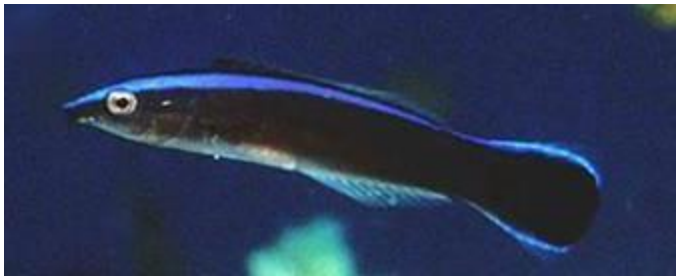




Labrichthys unilineatus
LAUN 16cm

Labroides bicolor

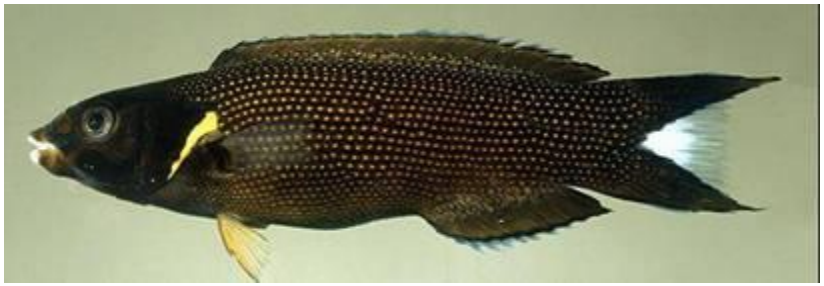
LABI 14cm



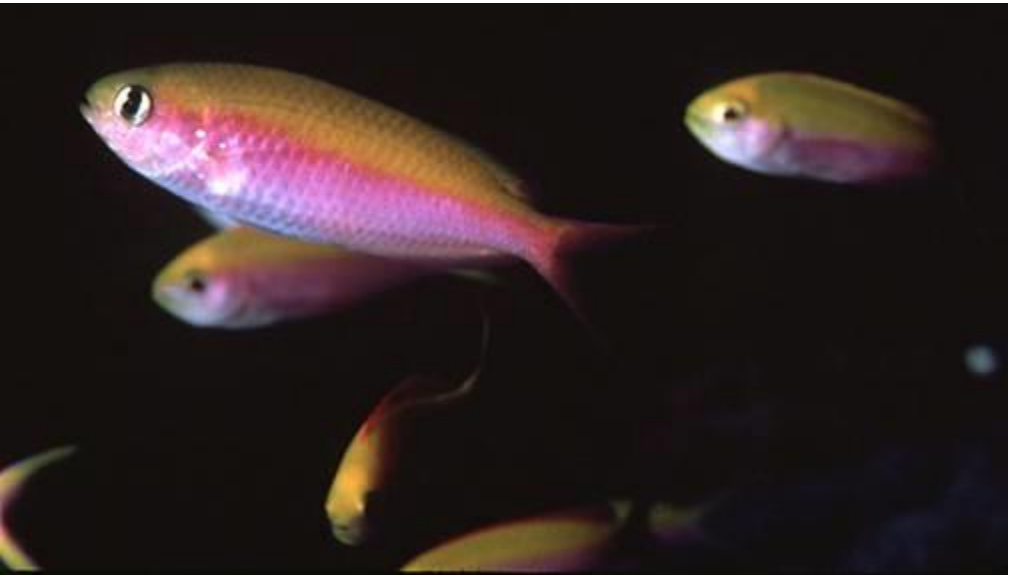
Labroides dimidiatus

LADI 12cm

Labroides pectoralis
LAPE 8cm



Labropsis xanthonota
LAXA 14cm



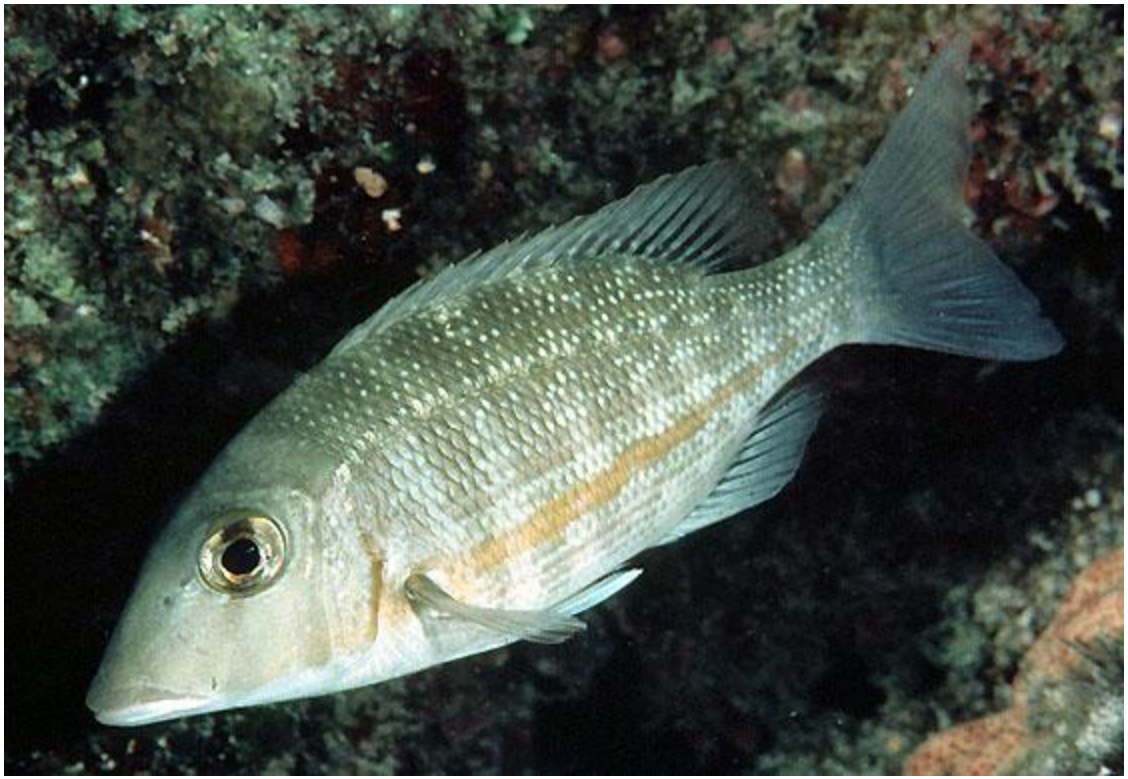
Lepidozygus tapeinosoma
LETA 9cm

Lethrinus harak

LEHA 50 cm

Lethrinus microdon

LEMI 80 cm



Lethrinus obsoletus

LEOB 60 cm

Lethrinus olivaceus

LEOL 100cm

Lethrinus rubrioperculatus

LERU 50 cm

Lethrinus xanthochilus

LEXA 62cm

Liza vaigiensis

LIVA 52 cm

Lutjanus bohar

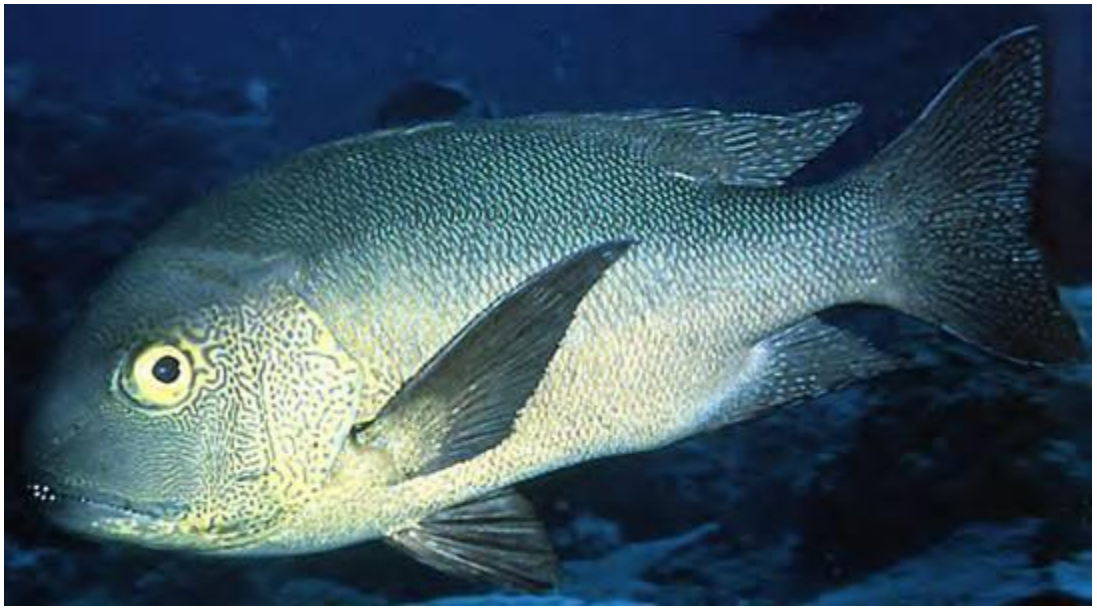
LUBO 83cm

Lutjanus fulvus
LUFU 43cm

Lutjanus gibbus
LUGI 53cm

Lutjanus kasmira
LUKA 40cm

Lutjanus monostigma
LUMO 60cm

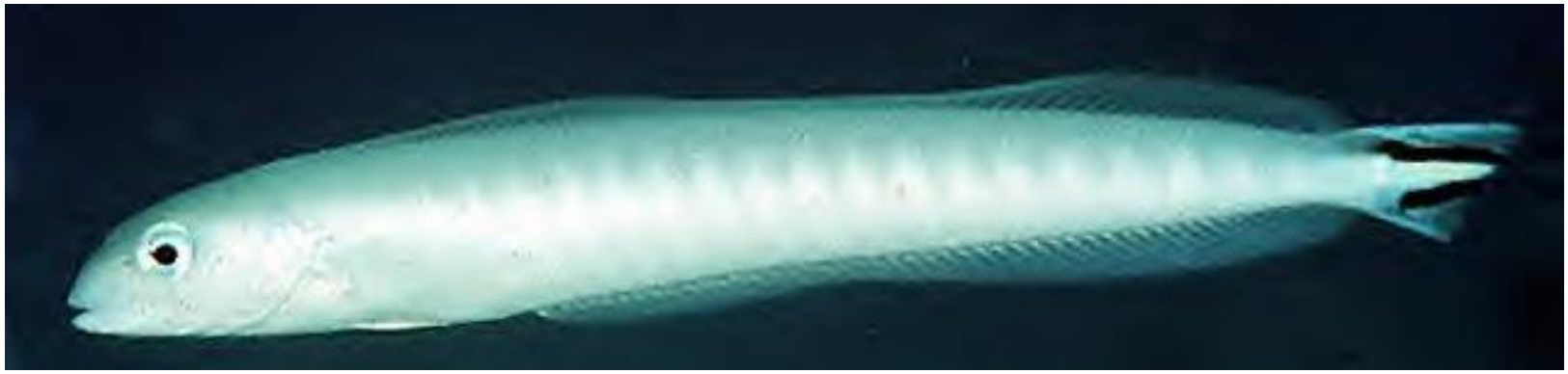


Macolor macularis

MAMA 60cm

Macolor niger
MANI 75cm

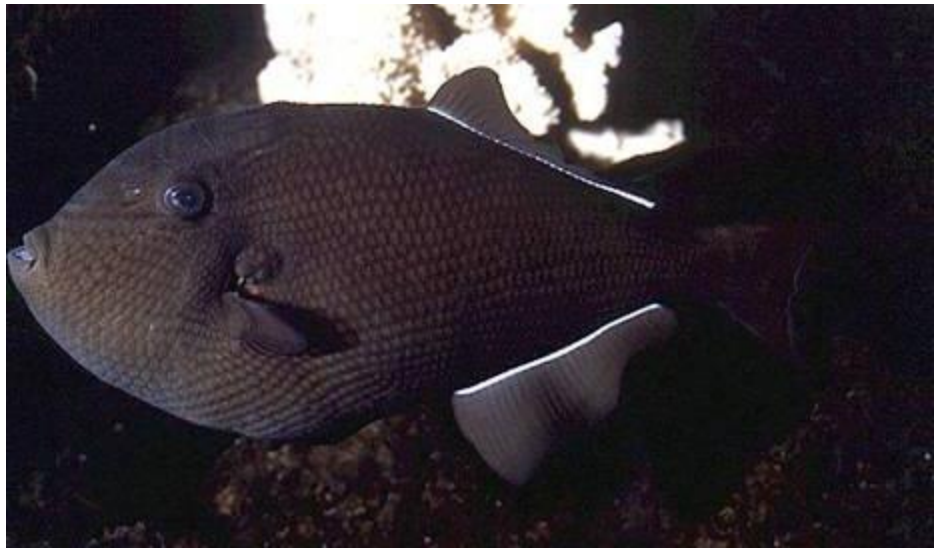
Macropharyngodon meleagris
MAME 15cm



Malacanthus brevirostris
MABR 30cm

Malacanthus latovittatus
MALA 44cm

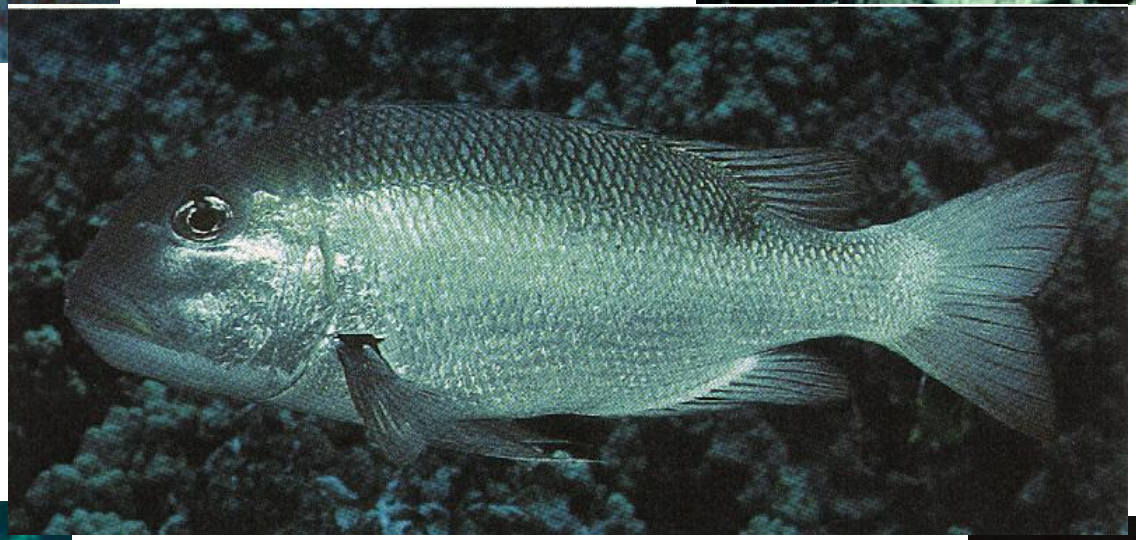
Meiacanthus atrodorsalis
MEAT 11cm



Melichthys niger

MENI 38cm

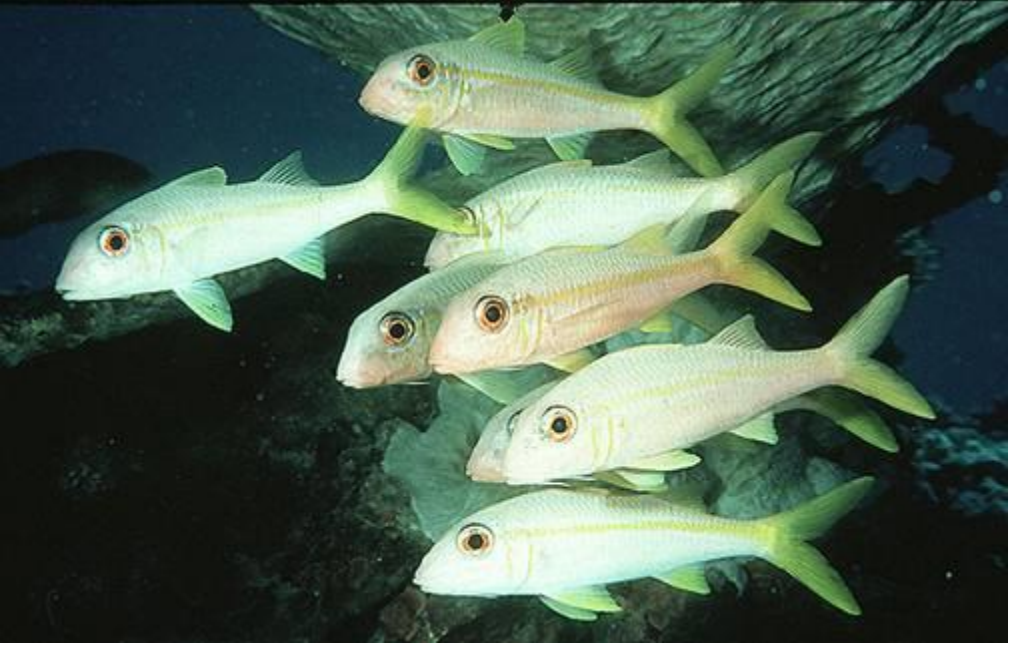
Melichthys vidua
MEVI 34cm



Monotaxis grandoculis

MOGR 63cm

Mulloidichthys flavolineatus
MUFL 40cm



Mulloidichthys vanicolensis
MUVA 38cm

Myripristis adusta
MYAD 32cm

Myripristis amaena
MYAM 32cm

Myripristis berndti
MYBE 33cm

Myripristis kuntee
MYKU 19cm

Myripristis murdjan
MYMU 27cm

Myripristis violacea

MY**VL** 35 cm

Myripristis vittata
MYVI 20cm

Naso annulatus

NAAN 100cm

Naso brachycentron

NA**BH** 90cm

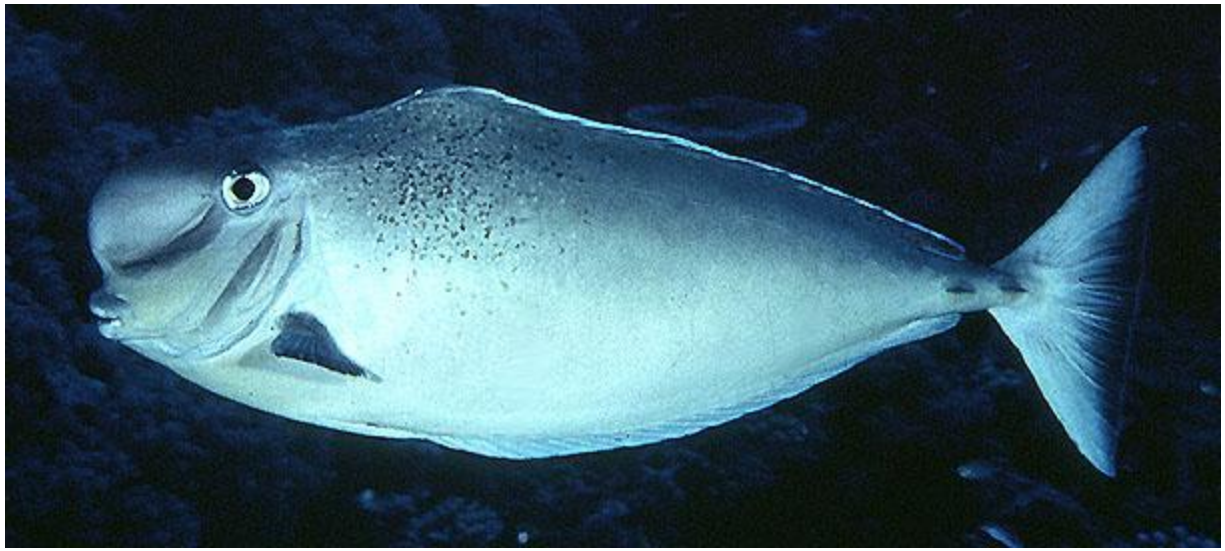
Naso brevirostris

NABR 50cm

Naso hexacanthus
NAHE 75cm

Naso lituratus

NALI 46cm



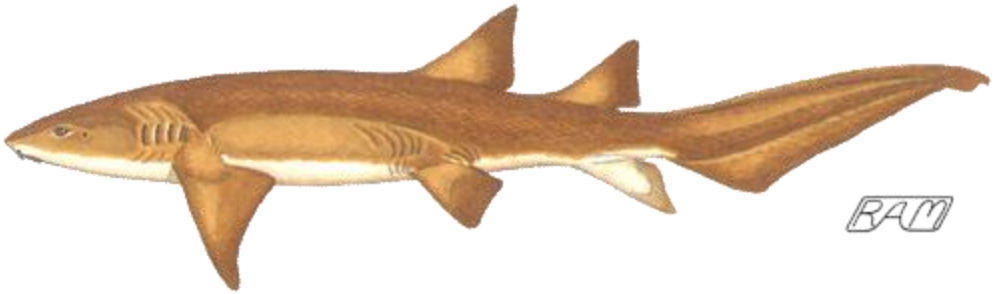
Naso tonganus
NATO　63cm

Naso unicornis

NAUN 70cm

Naso vlamingii

NA**VL** 60cm



Nebrius ferrugineus

NEFE 320 cm

Nemateleotris magnifica
NEMA 9cm

Neocirrhites armatus

NEAR 9 cm

Neoniphon argenteus

NE**AG** 24 cm

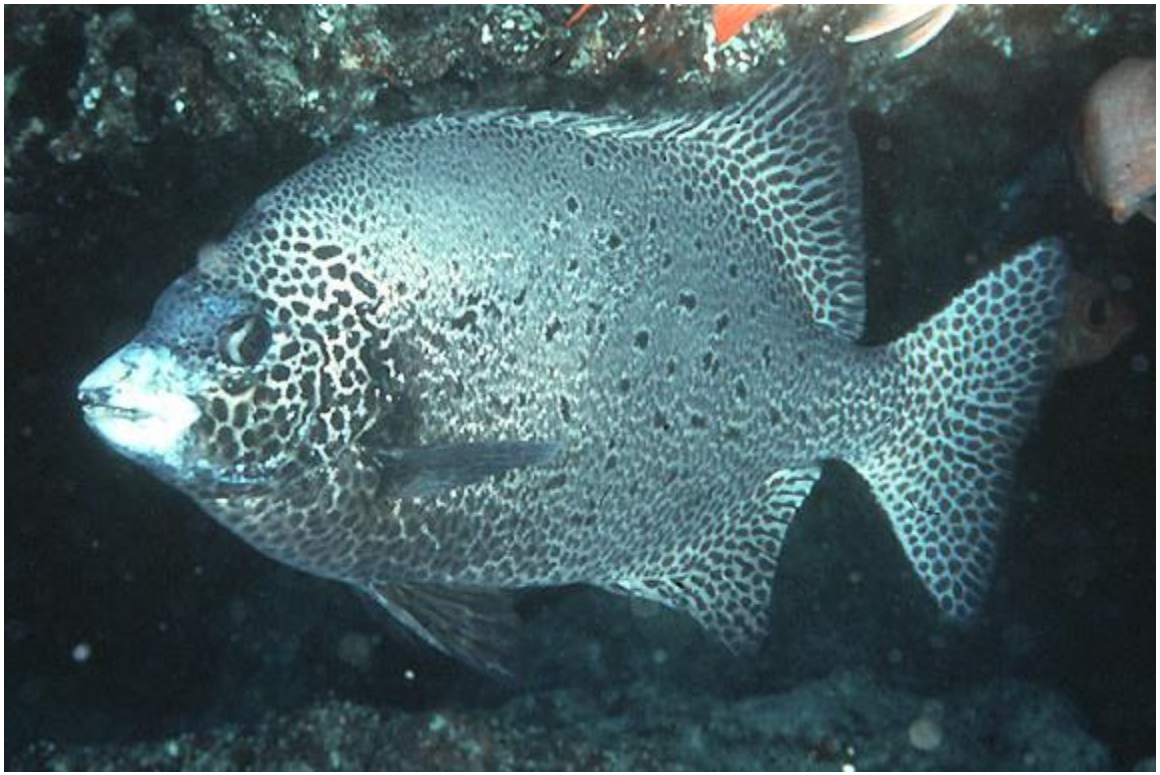
Neoniphon opercularis
NEOP 35cm

Neoniphon sammara
NESA 30cm

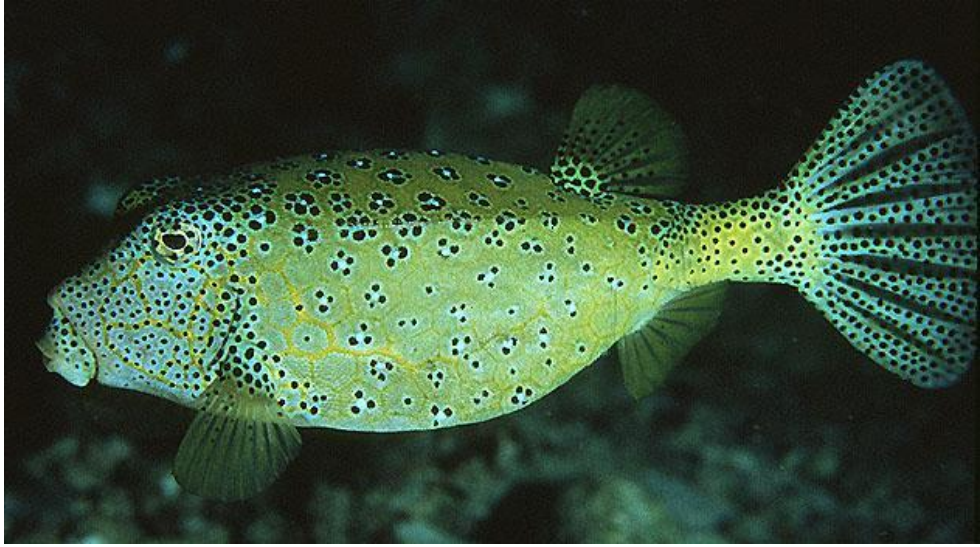
Novaculichths taeniourus

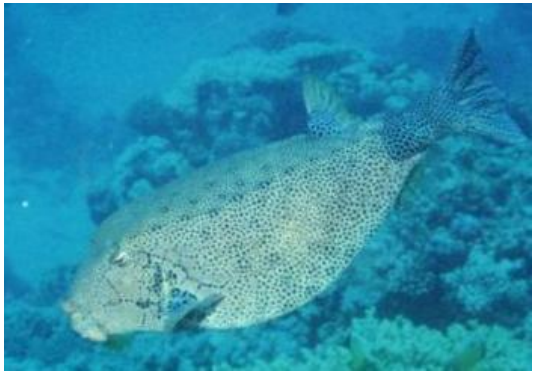
NOTA 30cm

Odonus niger
ODNI 40cm



Oplegnathus punctatus
OPPU 62cm





Ostracion cubicus
OSCU 45 cm

Ostracion meleagris
OSME 16cm

Oxycheilinus diagrammus

OXDI 30cm

Oxycheilinus unifasciatus
OXUN 46cm

Paracanthurus hepatus

PA**HP** 31cm

Paracirrhites arcatus

PAAR 14cm

Paracirrhites forsteri

PAFO 23cm

Paracirrhites hemistictus

PAHE 28cm

Paraluteres prionurus
PAPR 11 cm

Parapercis clathrata
PACL 18 cm

Parapercis millipunctata
PAMI 18cm

Parupeneus barberinus

PABA 50cm

Parupeneus ciliatus

PACI 24.5 cm

Parupeneus cyclostomus
PACY 50cm

Parupeneus insularis

PAIN 33cm

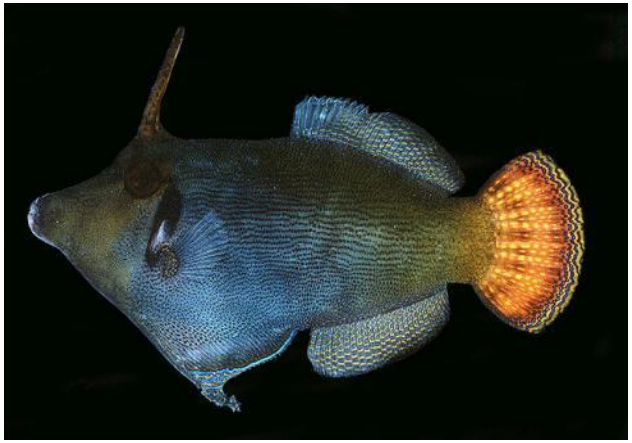
Parupeneus multifasciatus
PAMU 29cm

Parupeneus pleurostigma

PAPL 33cm

Pempheris oualensis
PEOU 22cm

Pentapodus caninus
PECA 35 cm



Pervagor janthinosoma

PEJA 13 cm

Pervagor melanocephalus
PEME 11cm

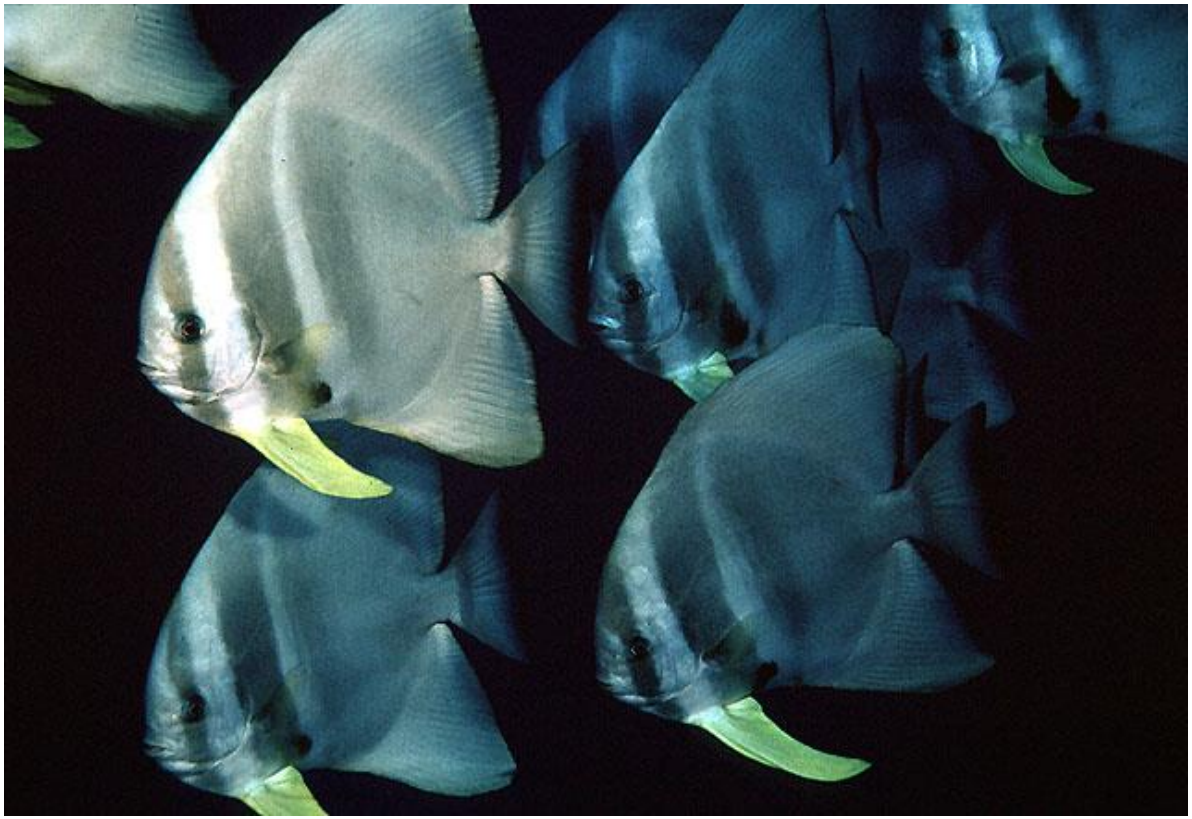
Plagiotremus laudandus laudandus

PL**LD** 8 cm

Plagiotremus rhynorhynchos
PLRH 12cm

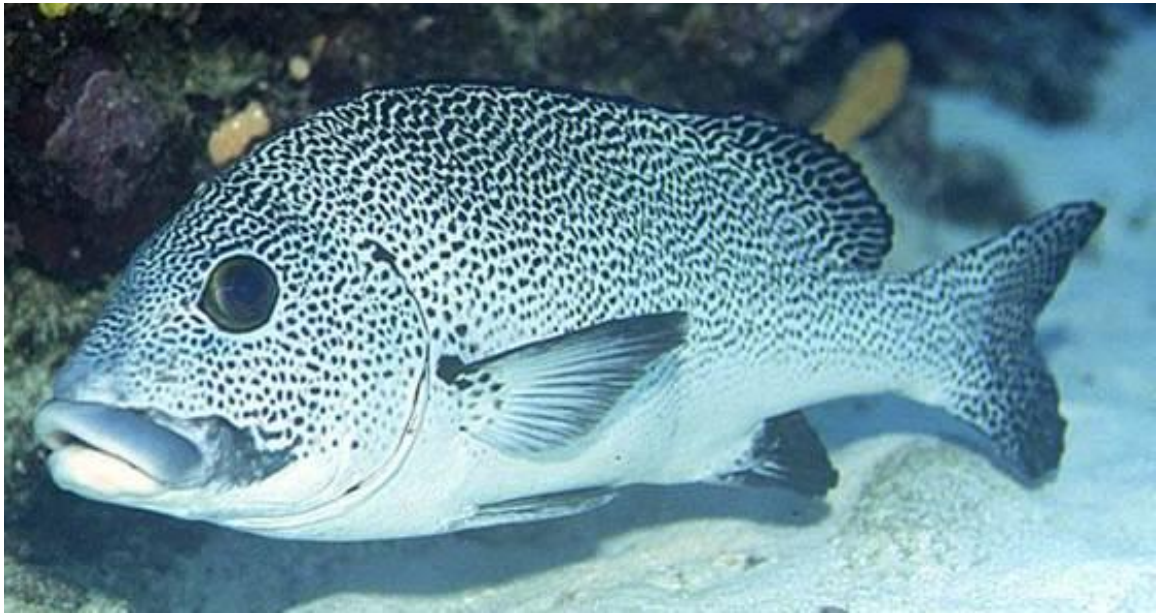
Plagiotremus tapeinosoma
PLTA 13cm

Platax orbicularis
PLOR 40cm



Platax teira

PLTE 70 cm



Plectorhinchus picus
PLPI 85cm

Plectorhinchus vittatus
PLVI 60cm

Plectroglyphidodon dickii
PLDI 11cm

Plectroglyphidodon imparipennis
PLIM 7cm

Plectroglyphidodon johnstonianus
PLJO 12cm

Plectrophididodon lacrymatus
PLLA 10cm

Plectroglyphidodon leucozonus
PLLE 12 cm

Plectrophididodon phoenixensis
PLPH 8.5cm

Plectropomus laevis

PL**LV** 125cm

Pogonoperca punctata
POPU 35cm

Pomacanthus imperator
POIM 38cm

Pomacentrus pavo

POPA 11cm

Pomacentrus vaiuli

POVA 10cm

Pomachromis guamensis
POGU 4.5 cm

Pseudanthias cooperi
PSCO 14 cm

Pseudanthias pascalus
PSPA 17cm

Pseudobalistes flavimarginatus

PSFL 60 cm

Pseudobalistes fuscus
PSFU

Pseudocheilinus evanidus

PSEV 14cm

Pseudocheilinus hexataenia
PSHE　8cm

Pseudocheilinus ocellatus
PSOT 10 cm

Pseudocheilinus octotaenia

PSOC 14cm

Pseudocheilinus tetrataenia

PSTE 8cm

Pseudocoris yamashiroi
PSYA 15 cm

Pseudodax molucanus

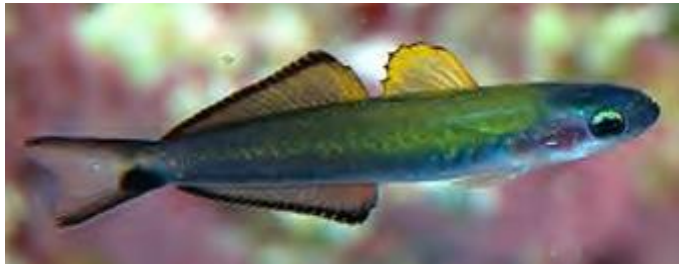
PSMO 25cm

Pterogogus enneacanthus
PTEN 15 cm

Pseudojuloides atavai
PSAT 13 cm

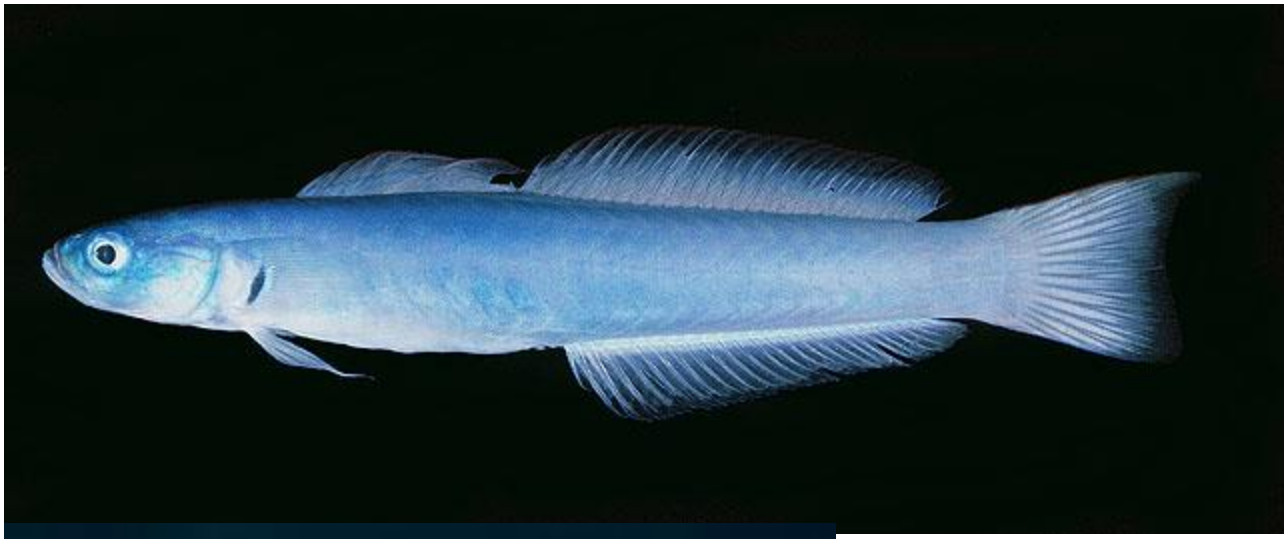
Pseudojuloides cerasinus
PSCE 12 cm

Psilogobius mainlandi
PSMA 3.7 cm



Ptereleotris evides
PTEV 13 cm

Ptereleotris heteroptera
PTHE 12cm



Ptereleotris microlepis

PTMI 13cm

Ptereleotris zebra
PTZE 12cm

Pterocaesio marri

PTMA 35cm

Pterocaesio tile

PTTI 25 cm

Pterois antennata

PTAN 20 cm

Pterois volitans

PTVO 38 cm

Pygoplites diacanthus
PYDI 25cm

Rhinecanthus aculeatus

RHAC 30cm

Rhinecanthus rectangulus

RHRE 25cm

Sargocentron caudimaculatum
SACA 25cm

Sargocentron diadema

SADI 15cm

Sargocentron ensifer
SAEN 25 cm

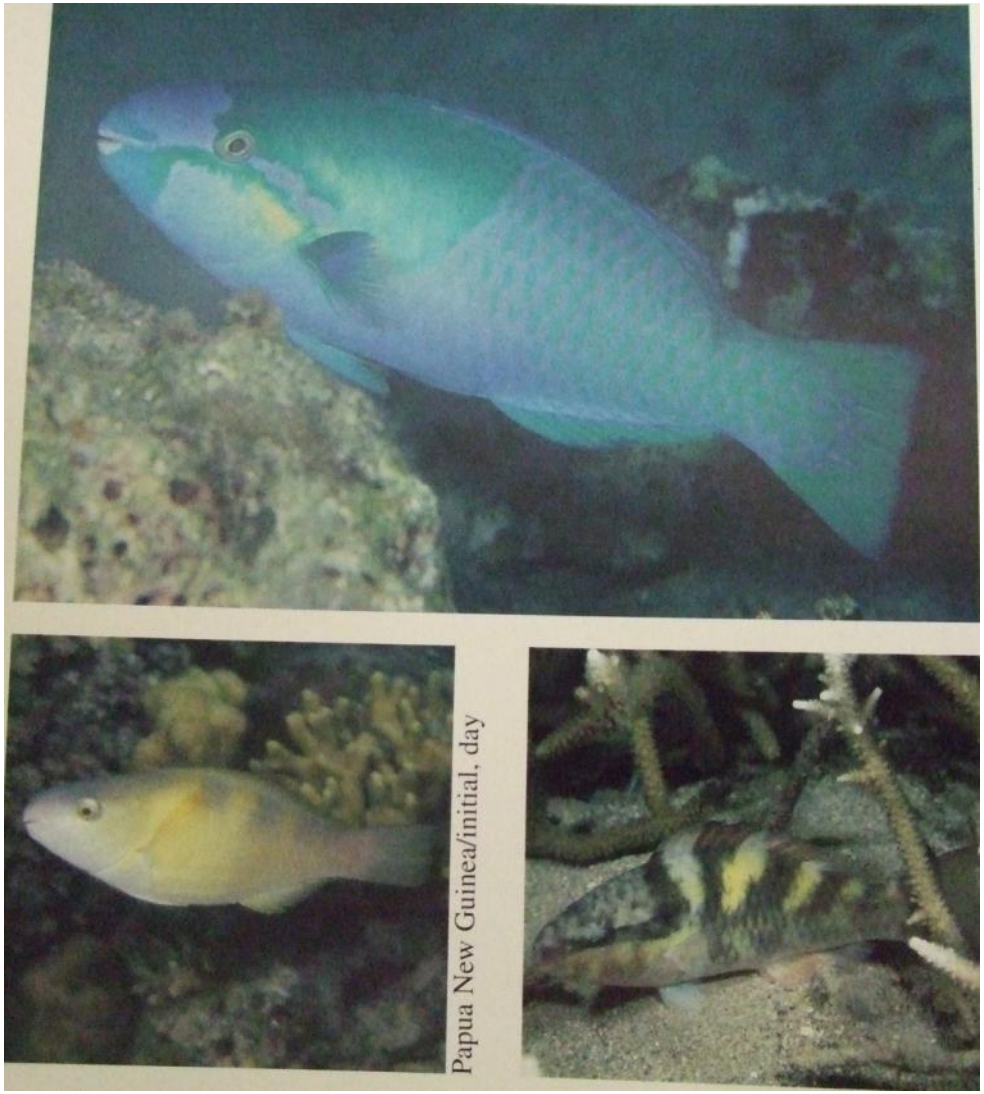
Sargocentron microstoma
SAMI 20 cm

Sargocentron spiniferum
SASP 45cm

Sargocentron tiere
SATI 33cm

Saurida gracilis
SAGR 32 cm

Scarus altipinnis
SCAL 60cm



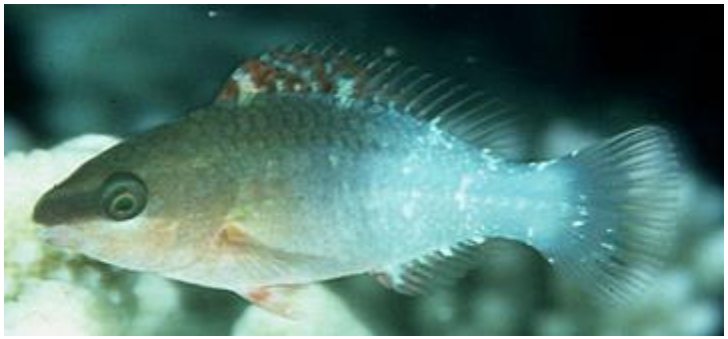
Scarus dimidiatus

SC**DM** 40 cm

Scarus festivus
SCFE 45 cm

Scarus forsteni

SCFO 55cm



Scarus frenatus

SCFR 50cm

Scarus fuscocaudalis

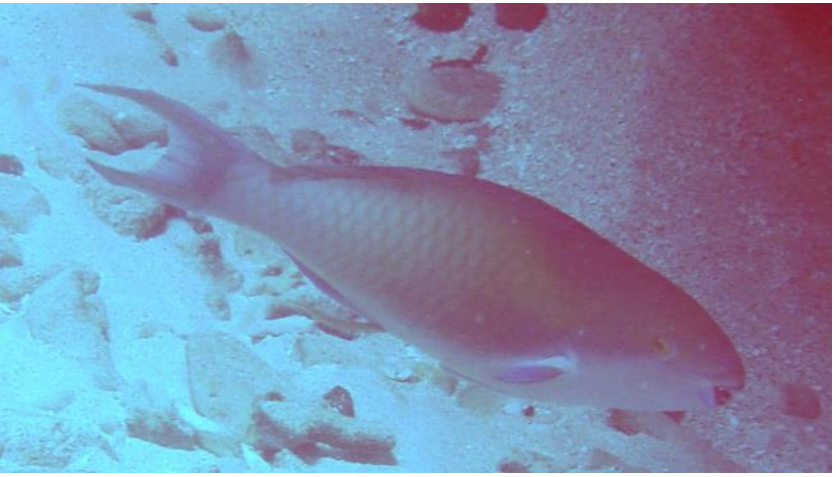
SCFU 25 cm

Scarus ghobban
SCGH 90cm

Scarus globiceps
SCGL 27cm

Scarus niger

SCNI 43cm

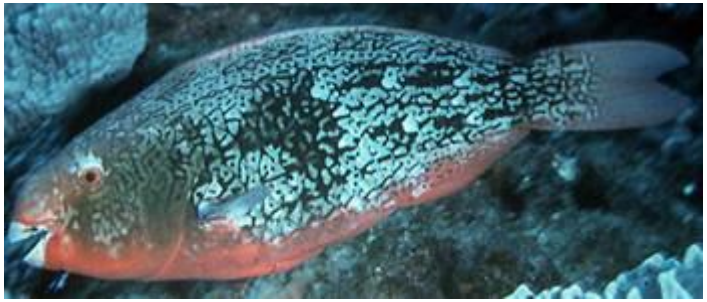


Scarus oviceps

SCOV 38 cm

Scarus psittacus

SCPS 30cm



Scarus rubroviolaceus

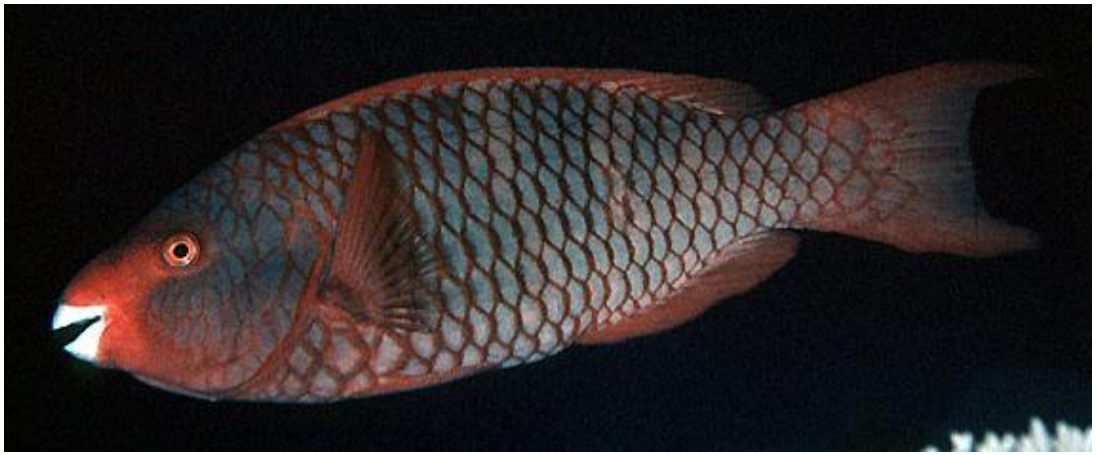
SCRU 70cm

Scarus schlegeli

SCSC 38 cm

Scarus spinus

SC**SI** 30 cm



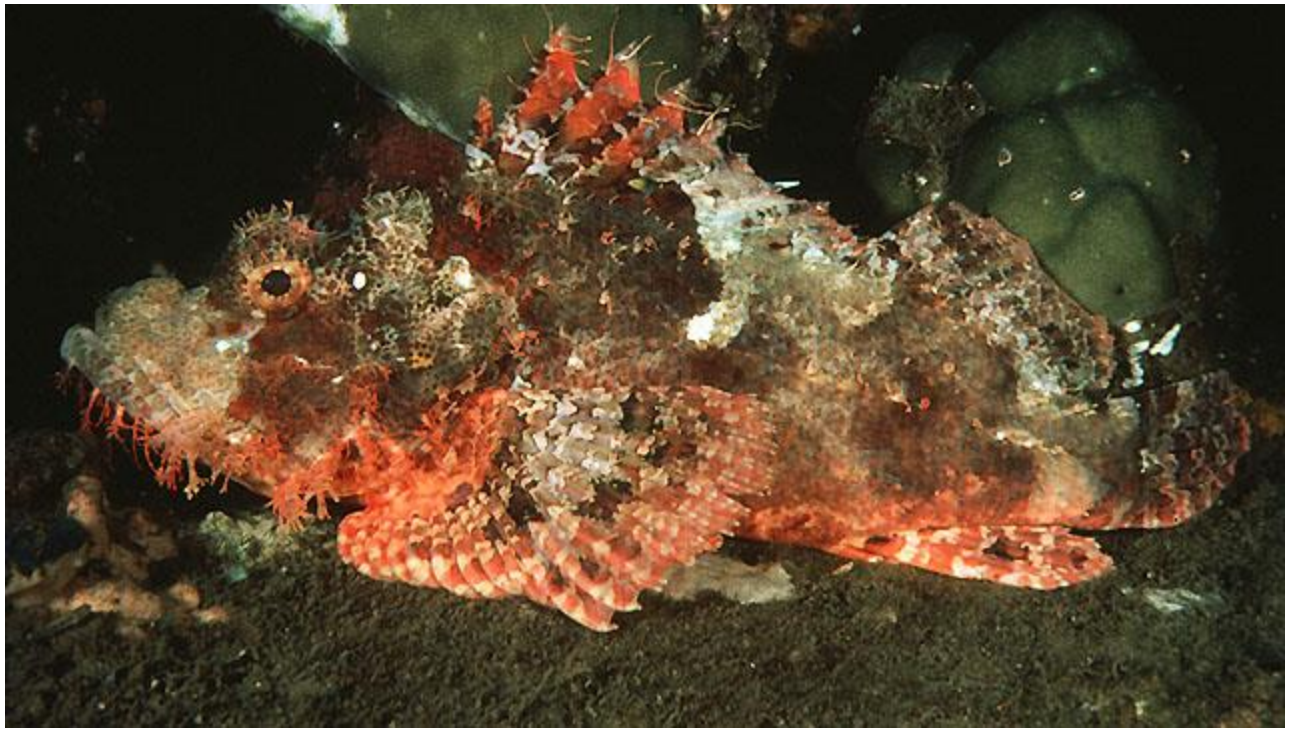
Scarus xanthopleura

SCXA 55 cm

Scolopsis lineata
SCLI 20 cm

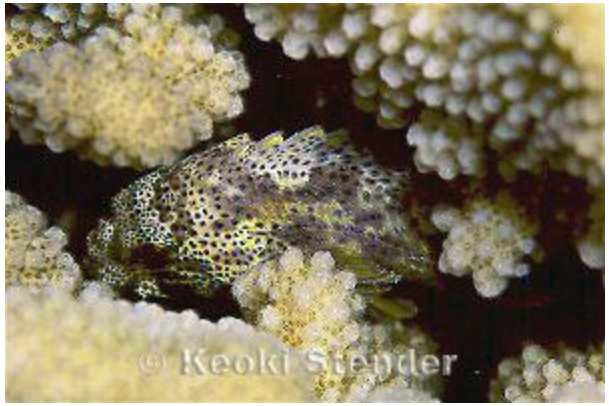
Scomberoides lysan
SCLY 70cm

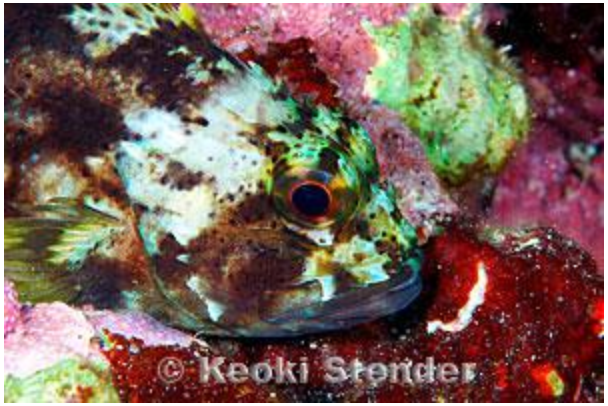
Scorpaenopsis diabolus
SCDI 30 cm



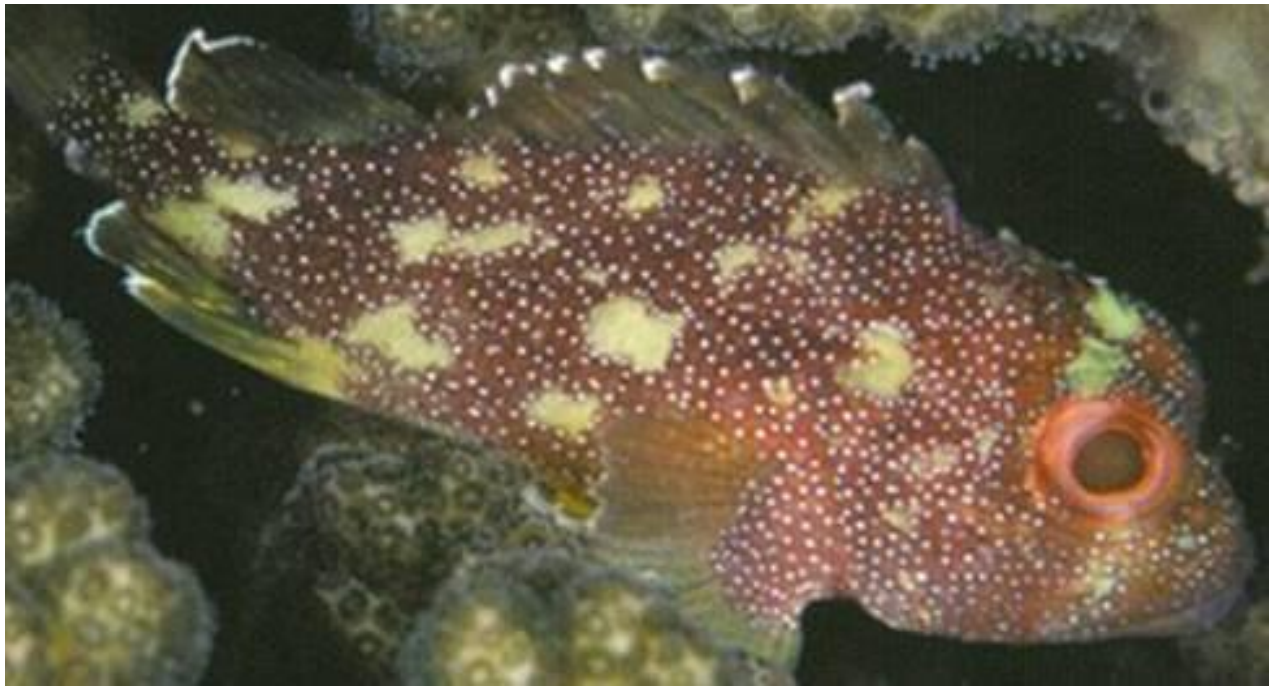
Scorpaenopsis oxycephala
SCOX 36 cm

Scuticaria tigrina
SCTI 120 cm





Sebastapistes coniorta
SECO 10 cm



Sebastapistes cyanostigma
SECY 8cm

Sectator ocyurus

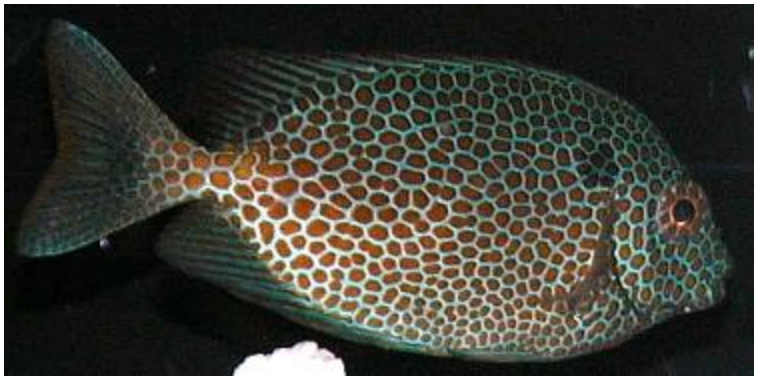
SE**OX** 38 cm

Selar crumenophthalmus
SECR 30 cm

Seriola dumerili

SEDU 188cm

Siganus argenteus
SIAR 44cm



Siganus punctatus

SI**PN** 32 cm

Siganus spinus

SI**SI** 28cm

Sphyraena barracuda

SPBA 200cm

Sphyraena helleri

SPHE 80cm

Sphyraena qenie

SPQE 170 cm

Spratelloides delicatulus
SPDE 7 cm

Stegastes albifasciatus
STAL　11cm

Stegastes fasciolatus

STFA 15cm

Stegastes lividus

STLI 16cm

Stegastes nigricans
STNI 14cm

Stethojulis bandanensis
ST**BN** 16cm

Stethojulis strigiventer
STST 15 cm

Sufflamen bursa
SUBU 22cm

Sufflamen chrysopterum
SUCH 22cm

Sufflamen fraenatus
SUFR 38cm

Synodus binotatus

SYBI 18 cm

Synodus variegatus

SYVA 40 cm

Taeniura meyeni
TAME 180 cm

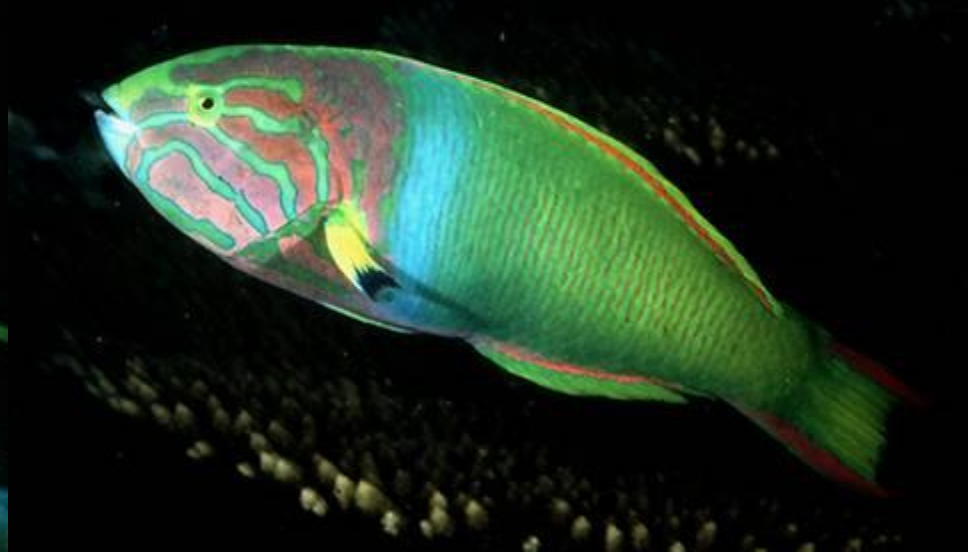
Thalassoma amblycephalum

THAM 14cm

Thalassoma hardwicke
THHA 20cm

Thalassoma lunare

TH**LN** 25cm



Thalassoma lutescens

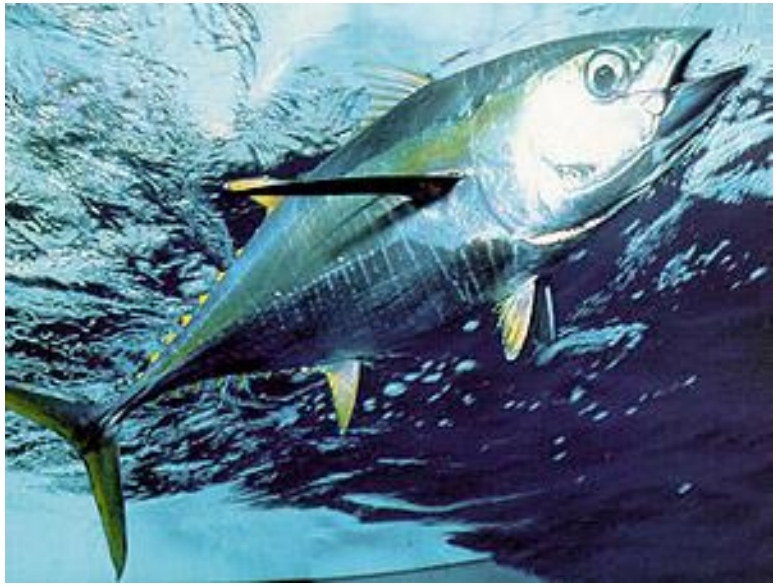
THLU 25cm

Thalassoma purpureum
THPU 43cm

Thalassoma quinquevittatum
THQU 17cm

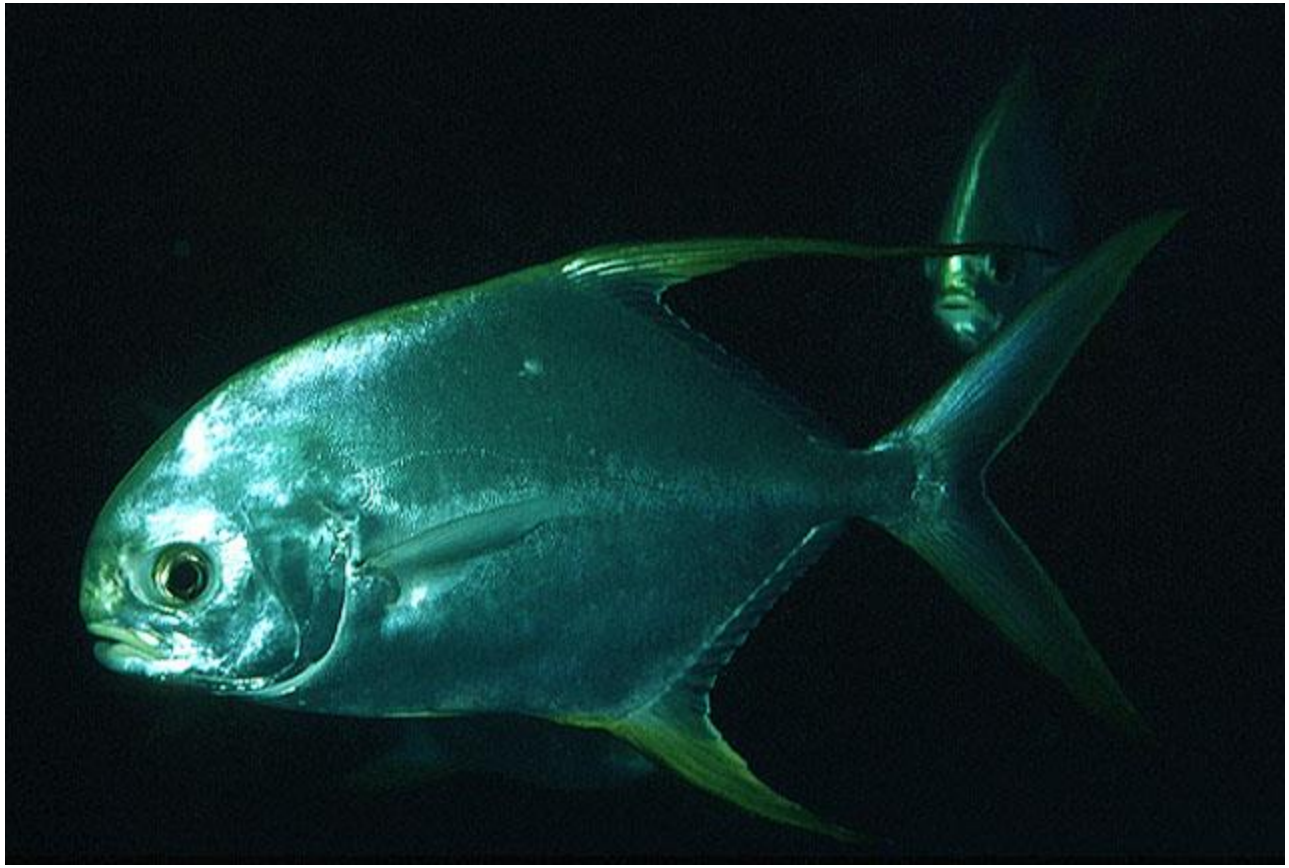
Thalassoma trilobatum

THTR 33cm



Thunnus albacares

THAL 220cm

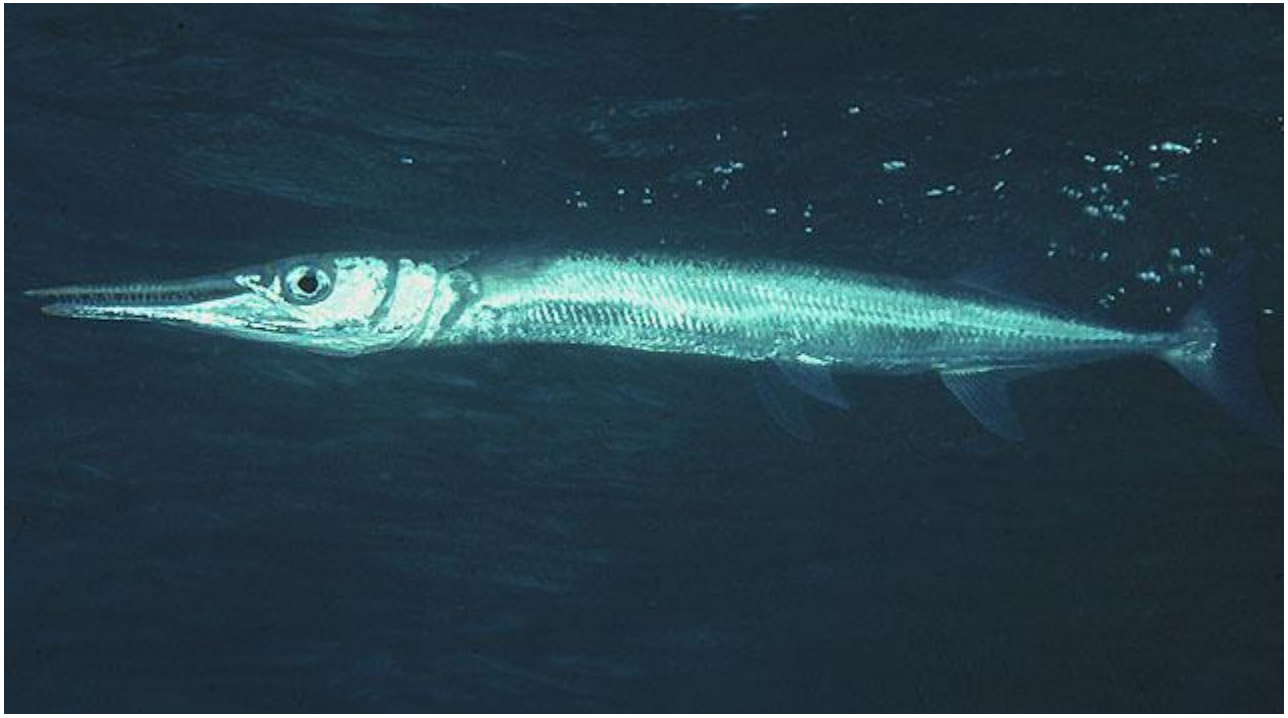


Trachinotus blochii

TRBL 110 cm

Trianodon obesus

TROB 350cm



Tylosurus crocodilus
TYCR 150 cm

Valenciennea strigata
VAST 16cm

Variola albimarginata
VAAL 65cm

Variola louti

VALO 66cm

Xanthichthys auromarginatus
XAAU 22cm

Xanthichthys caeruleolineatus
XACA 35cm

Zanclus cornutus

ZACO 20cm

Zebrasoma flavescens

ZEFL 20cm

Zebrasoma scopas

ZESC 20cm

Zebrasoma veliferum

ZEVE 40cm