

*Deep-bottom fish
identification cards
for small-scale
fishermen*



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These identification cards are produced by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) to help improve catch data and statistics from small-scale vessels that regularly target deep-bottom fish species. With a better understanding of small-scale vessel catches, regional fisheries managers can ensure that stocks are better managed throughout their range and that small-scale fishermen get more recognition and support for their contribution to food security and employment at the local level. The most likely users of these cards are small-scale fishers who actively target deep-bottom fish stocks, along with fishery officers who are tasked with monitoring these fisheries. Fisheries training institutions are other potential users.

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Deep-bottom fish identification cards for small-scale fishermen / produced by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community

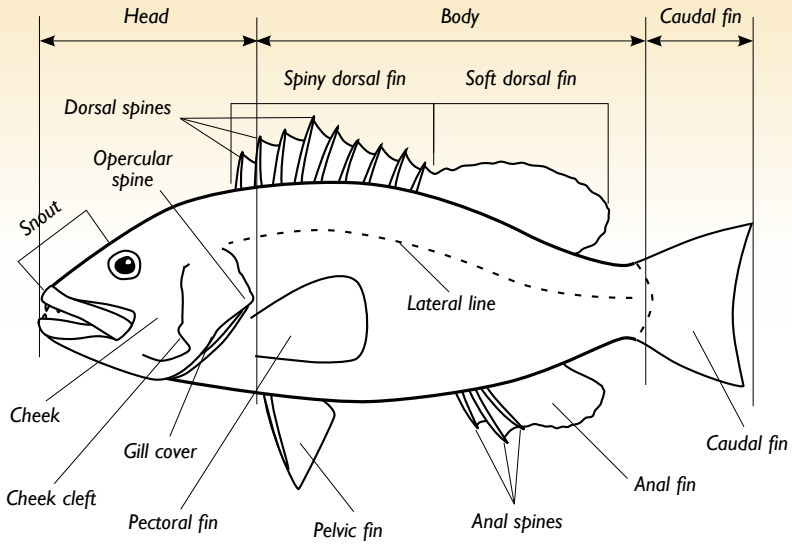
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2. Fishery management – Oceania.
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AACR2



Different caudal fin types

Rounded



Truncate



Emarginate



Lunate



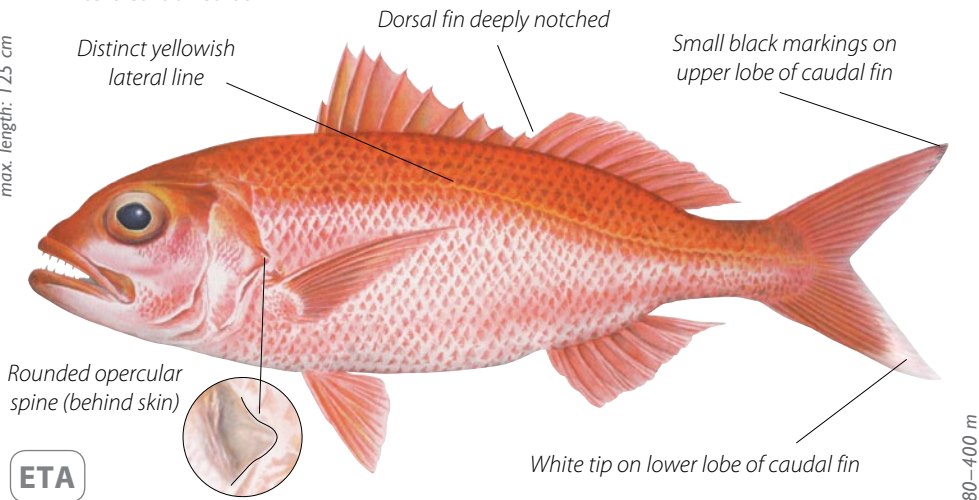
Forked



Ruby snapper

Etelis carbunculus

max. length: 125 cm



Marshi snapper

Etelis marshi

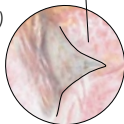
max. length: 70 cm

Dorsal fin deeply notched

Distinct yellowish lateral line

No black markings on upper lobe of caudal fin

Pointed opercular spine (behind skin)



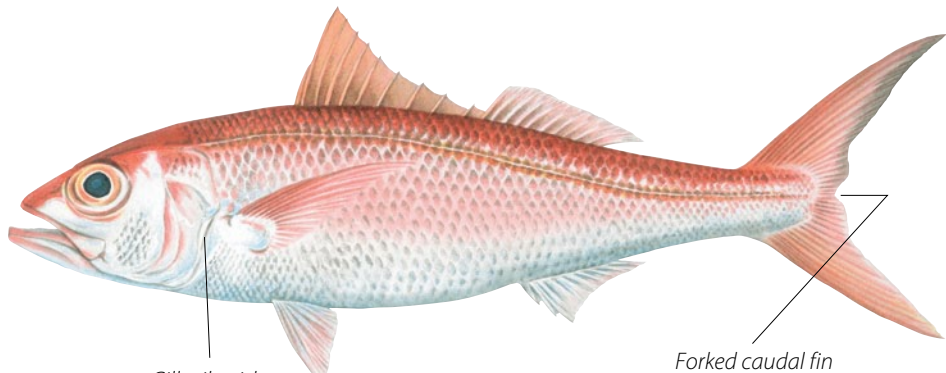
White tip on lower lobe of caudal fin

F96

80–400 m

Scarlet snapper

Etelis radiosus



Gills silverish

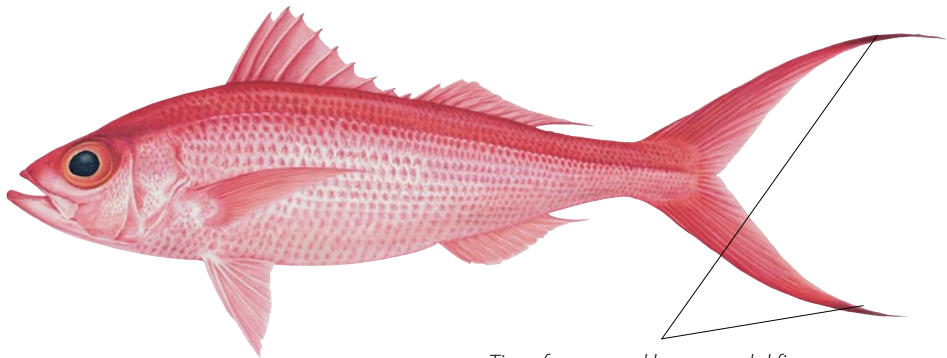
Forked caudal fin
with notch in centre



90–360 m

Flame snapper

Etelis coruscans



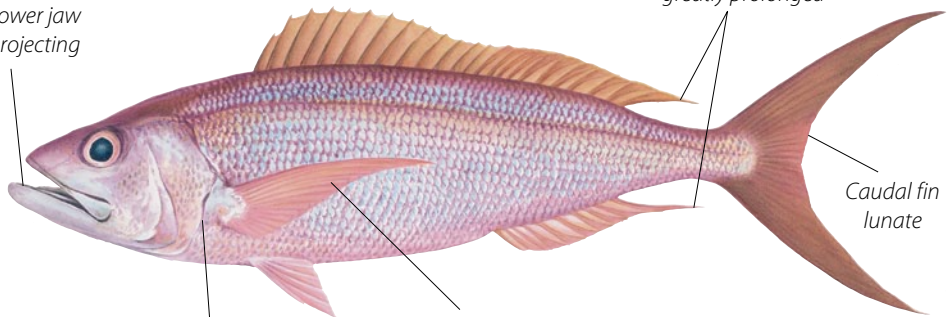
*Tips of upper and lower caudal fin
elongated to form filaments, often black*

ETC

Rusty jobfish

Aphareus rutilans

Lower jaw
projecting



Gills silver

Pectoral fin long,
reaching to above the anus

Dorsal and anal rays
greatly prolonged

Caudal fin
lunate

ARQ

40–330 m

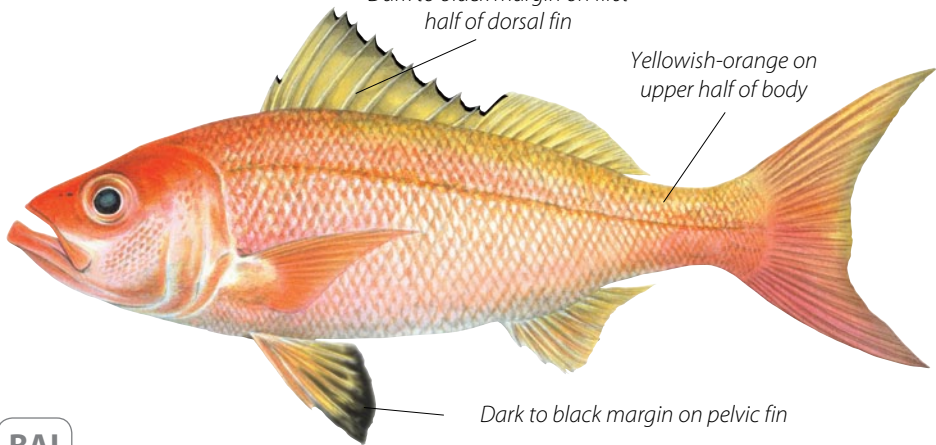
Randall's snapper

Randallichthys filamentosus

Dark to black margin on first half of dorsal fin

Yellowish-orange on upper half of body

Dark to black margin on pelvic fin



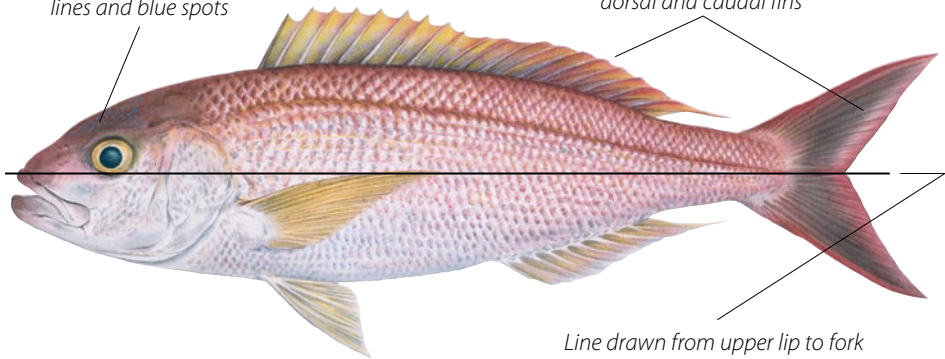
RAI

Crimson jobfish

Pristipomoides filamentosus

Top of head has yellow lines and blue spots

Crimson to reddish margin on dorsal and caudal fins



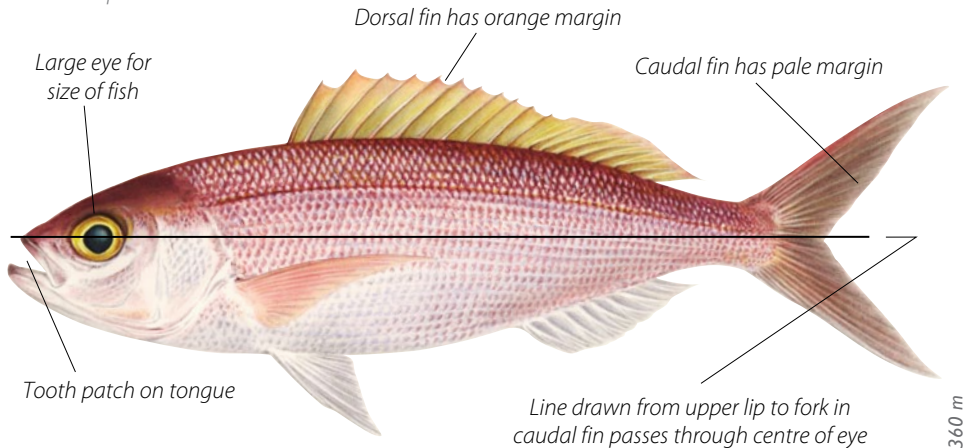
Line drawn from upper lip to fork in caudal fin passes below eye

PFM

40–400 m

Lavender jobfish

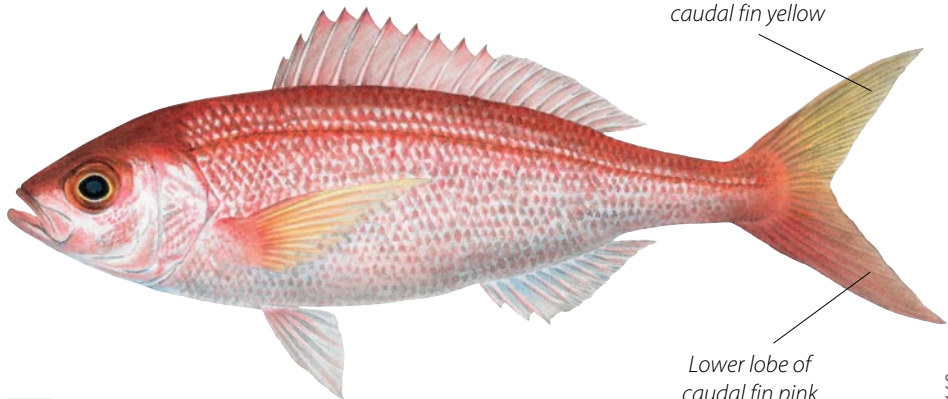
Pristipomoides sieboldii



LRB

Scalemouth jobfish

Parapristipomoides squamimaxillaris



Upper lobe of
caudal fin yellow

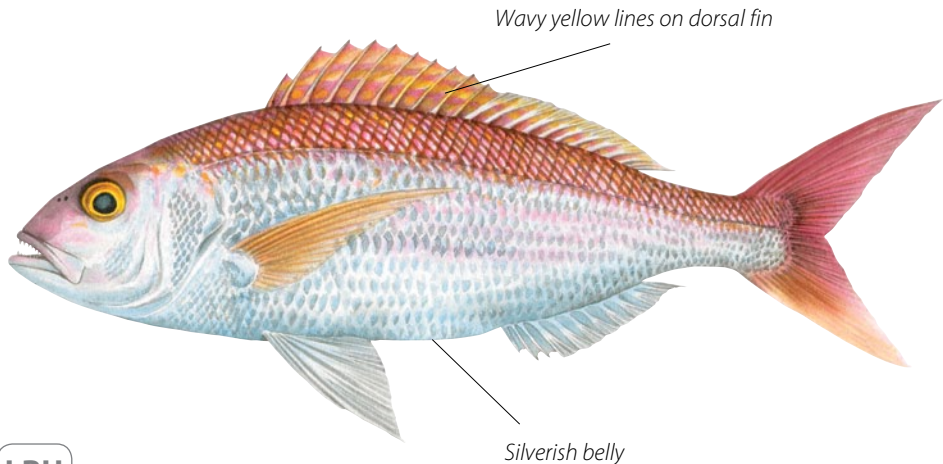
Lower lobe of
caudal fin pink

PQM

130–460 m

Sharptooth jobfish

Pristipomoides typus



LRU

Snappers

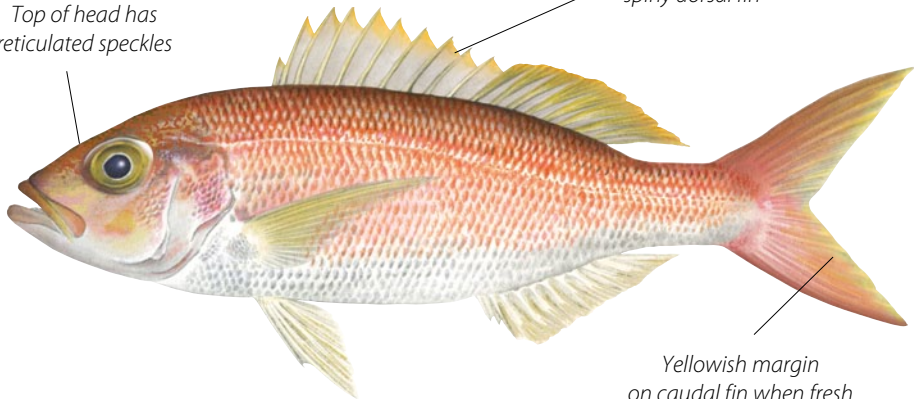
40–120 m

Golden eye jobfish

Pristipomoides flavipinnis

Top of head has
reticulated speckles

Yellow margin on
spiny dorsal fin

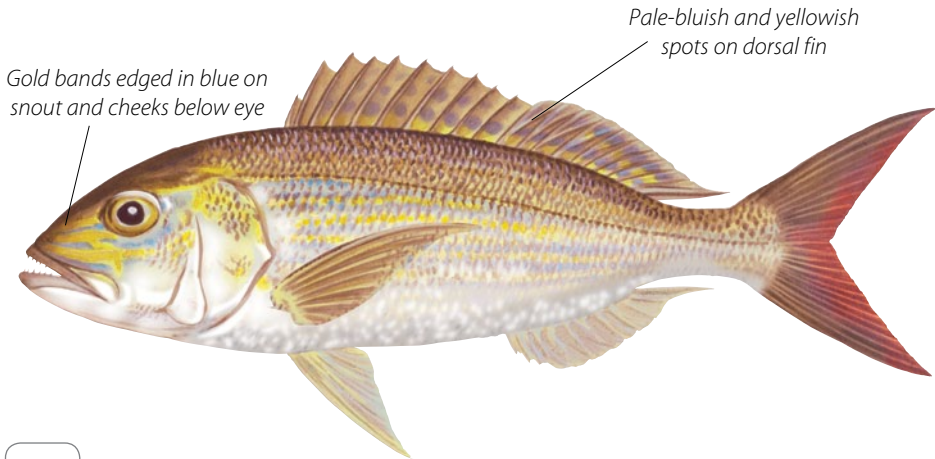


Yellowish margin
on caudal fin when fresh

LWF

Goldbanded jobfish

Pristipomoides multidentis

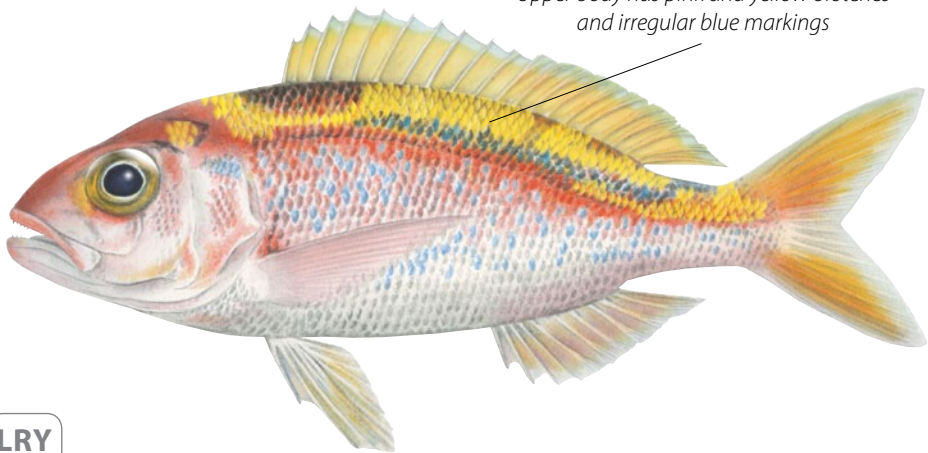


LRI

Ornate jobfish

Pristipomoides argyrogrammicus

Upper body has pink and yellow blotches
and irregular blue markings

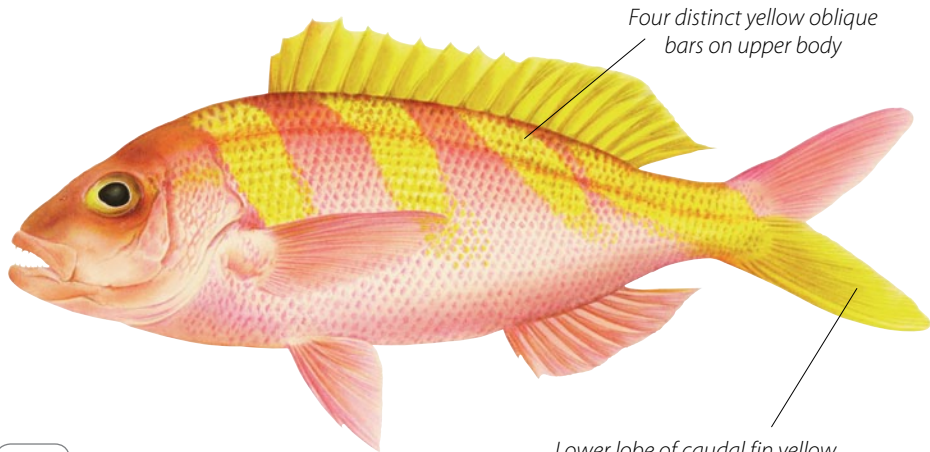


LRY

70–300 m

Oblique-banded snapper

Pristipomoides zonatus



Four distinct yellow oblique bars on upper body

Lower lobe of caudal fin yellow

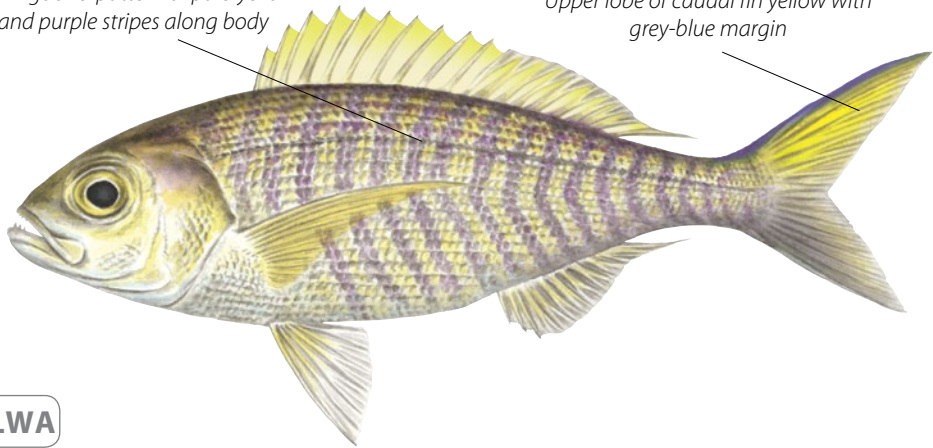


Goldflag jobfish

Pristipomoides auricilla

'Herringbone' pattern of pale-yellow and purple stripes along body

Upper lobe of caudal fin yellow with grey-blue margin

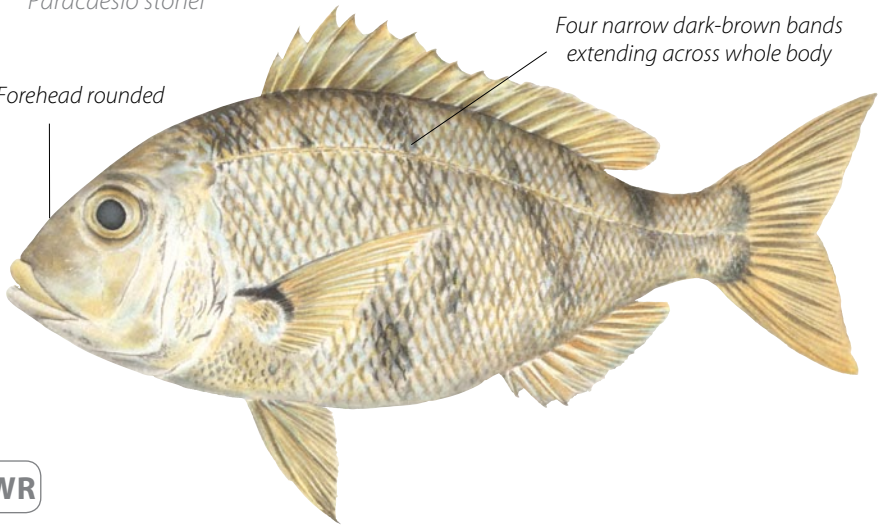


Cocoa snapper

Paracaesio stonei

Four narrow dark-brown bands
extending across whole body

Forehead rounded



LWR

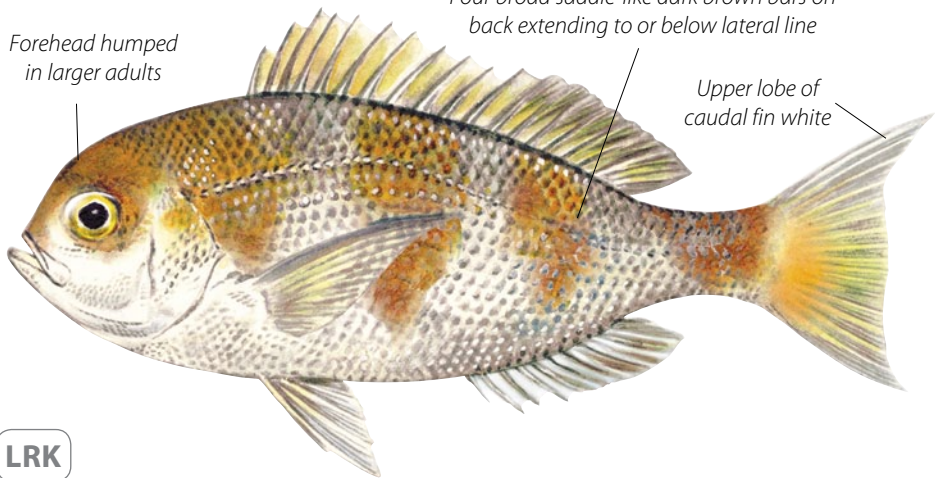
Saddle-back snapper

Paracaesio kusakarii

Forehead humped
in larger adults

Four broad saddle-like dark brown bars on
back extending to or below lateral line

Upper lobe of
caudal fin white

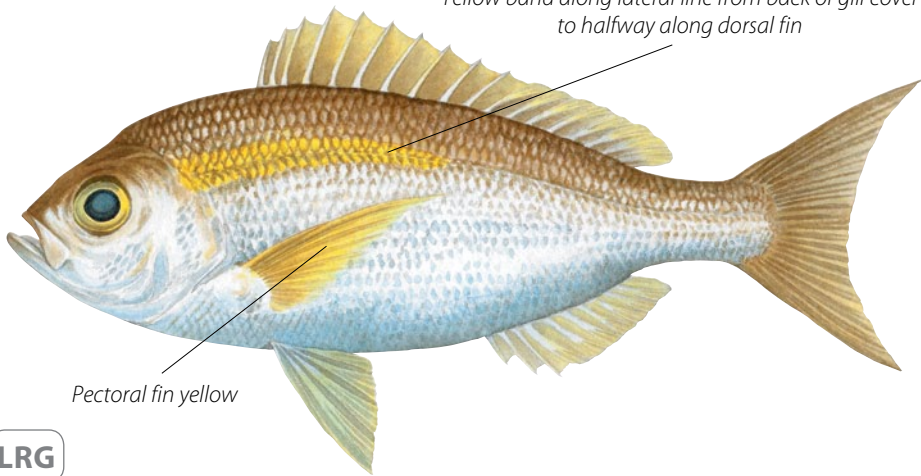


LRK

Vanuatu snapper

Paracaesio gonzalesi

Yellow band along lateral line from back of gill cover to halfway along dorsal fin



Pectoral fin yellow

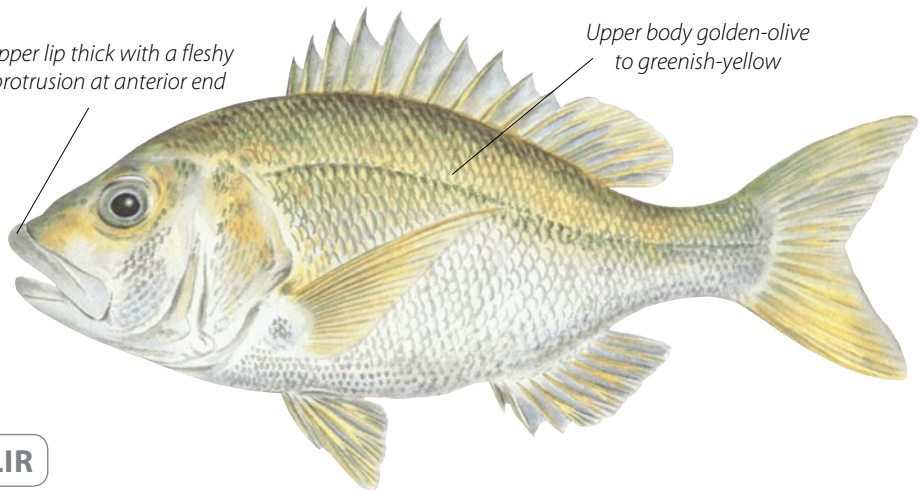
LRG

Tang's snapper

Lipocheilus carnolabrum

Upper lip thick with a fleshy protrusion at anterior end

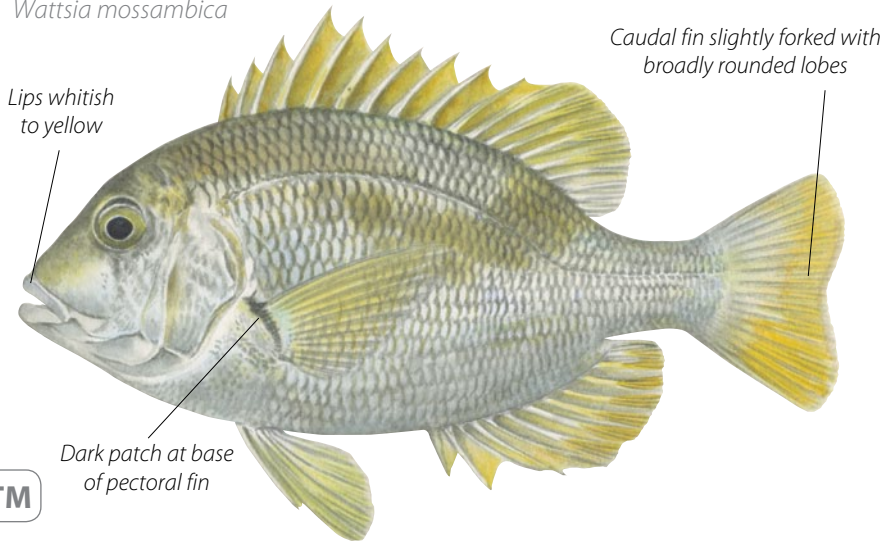
Upper body golden-olive to greenish-yellow



LIR

Mozambique large-eye bream

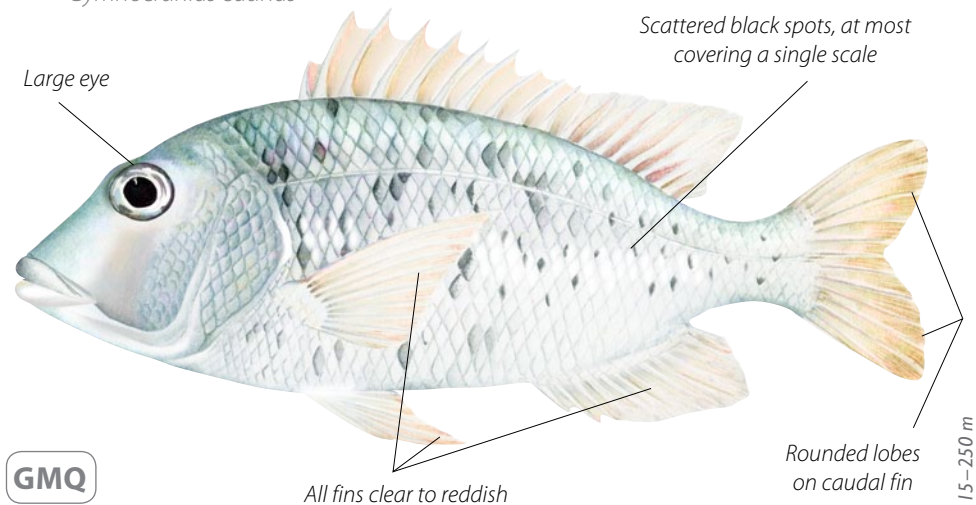
Wattsia mossambica



WTM

Japanese large-eye bream

Gymnocranius euanus

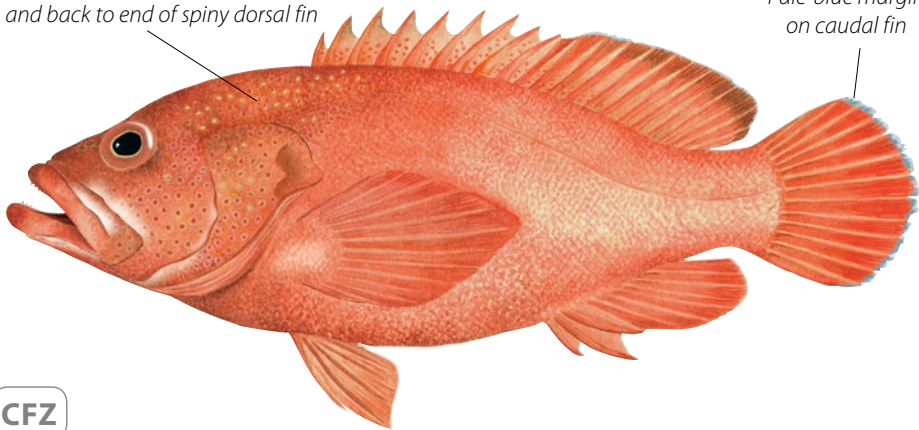


Golden hind

Cephalopholis aurantia

Small red or yellow dots on head
and back to end of spiny dorsal fin

Pale-blue margin
on caudal fin



CFZ

Eightbar grouper

Epinephelus octofasciatus

Eight pale vertical bands across body
extending over dorsal fin



EWO

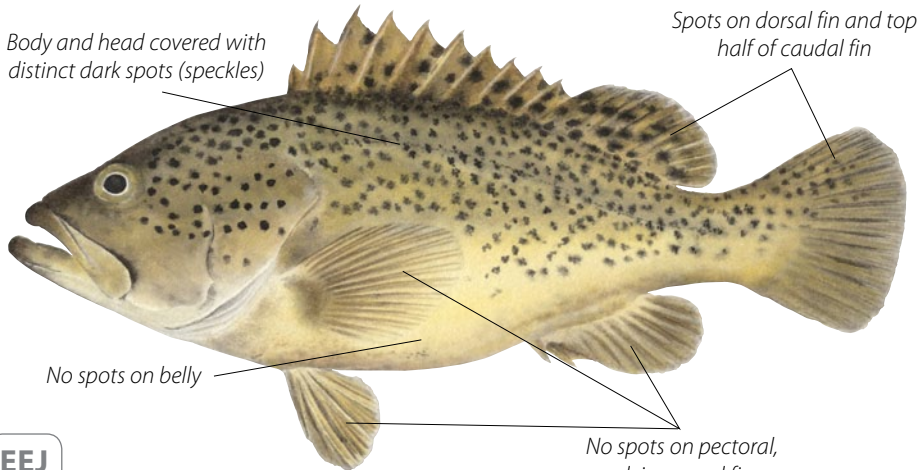
80–300 m

Speckled grouper

Epinephelus magniscuttis

Body and head covered with distinct dark spots (speckles)

Spots on dorsal fin and top half of caudal fin



No spots on belly

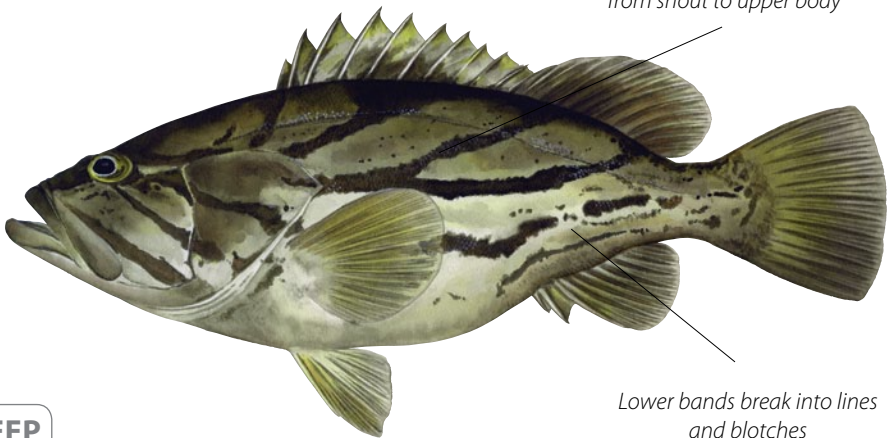
No spots on pectoral, pelvic or anal fins

EEJ

Comet grouper

Epinephelus morrhua

Distinct oblique bands running from snout to upper body



Lower bands break into lines and blotches

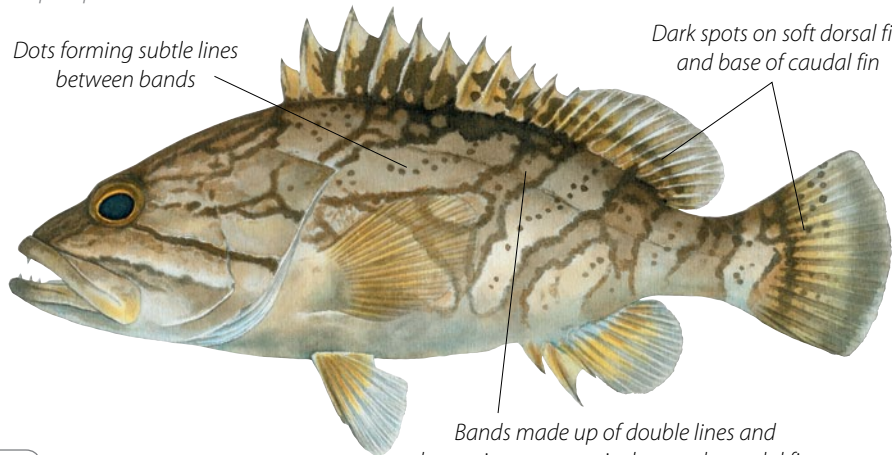
EEP

Oblique-banded grouper

Epinephelus radiatus

Dots forming subtle lines
between bands

Dark spots on soft dorsal fin
and base of caudal fin

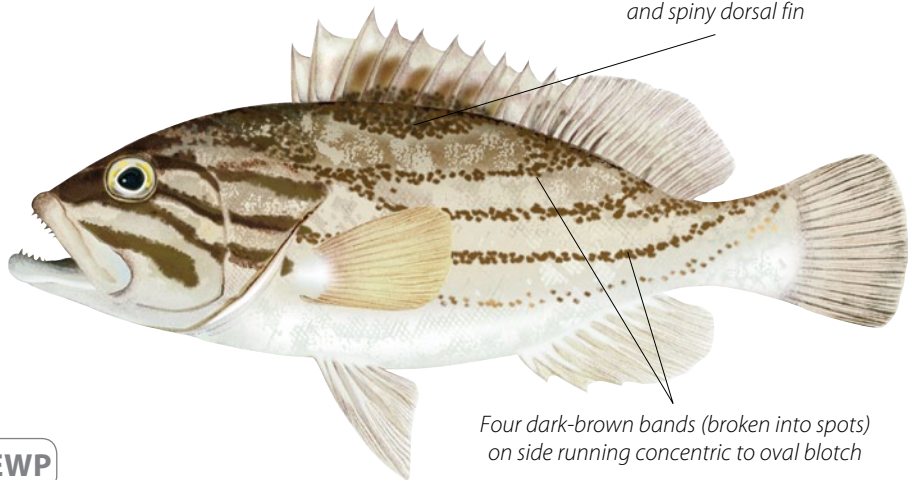


Bands made up of double lines and
becoming more vertical towards caudal fin

EZR

Dot-dash grouper

Epinephelus poecilonotus



EWP

Reticulate grouper

Epinephelus tuamotuensis

Irregular coarse dark-brown reticulum
on body and back of head

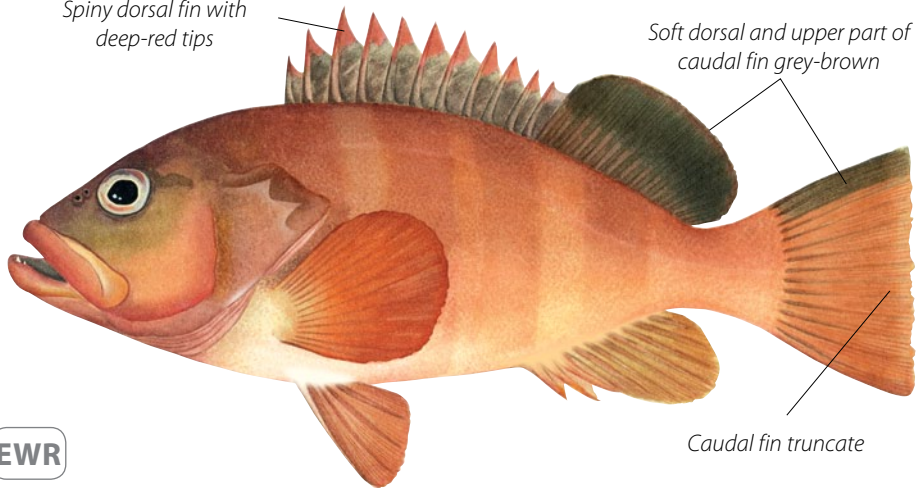


Red-tipped grouper

Epinephelus retouti

Spiny dorsal fin with
deep-red tips

Soft dorsal and upper part of
caudal fin grey-brown



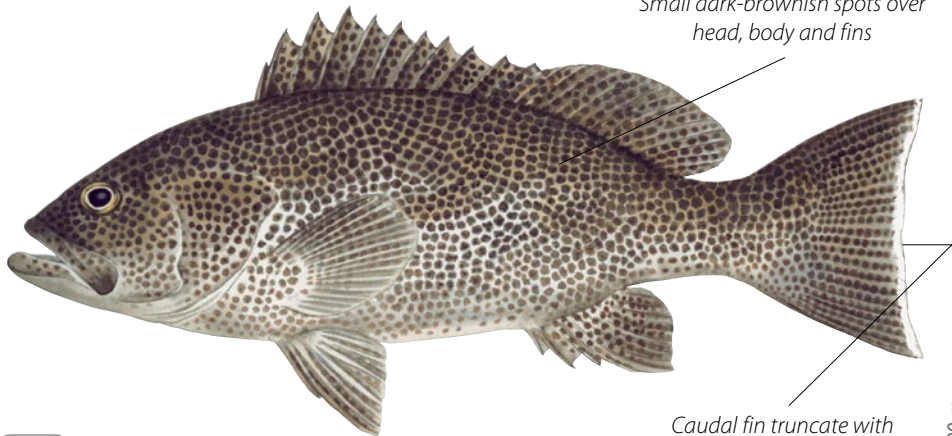
EWR

Caudal fin truncate

40–220 m

Brownspeckled grouper

Epinephelus chlorostigma



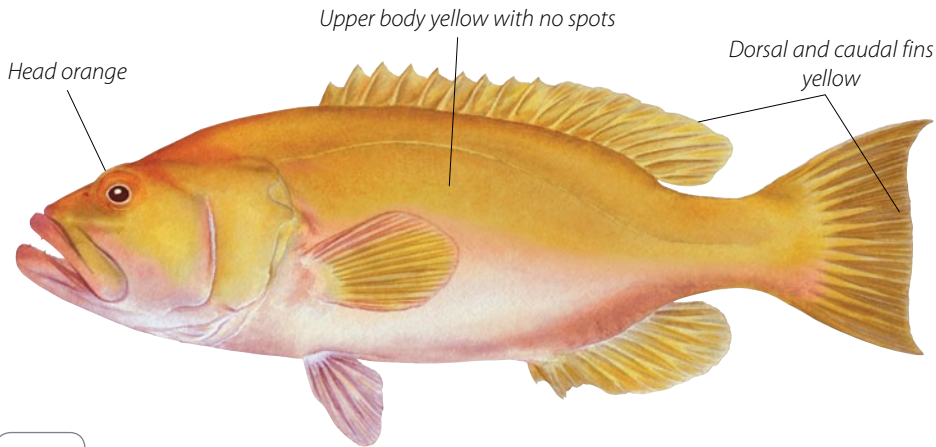
Small dark-brownish spots over head, body and fins

Caudal fin truncate with white margin

EFH

Golden grouper

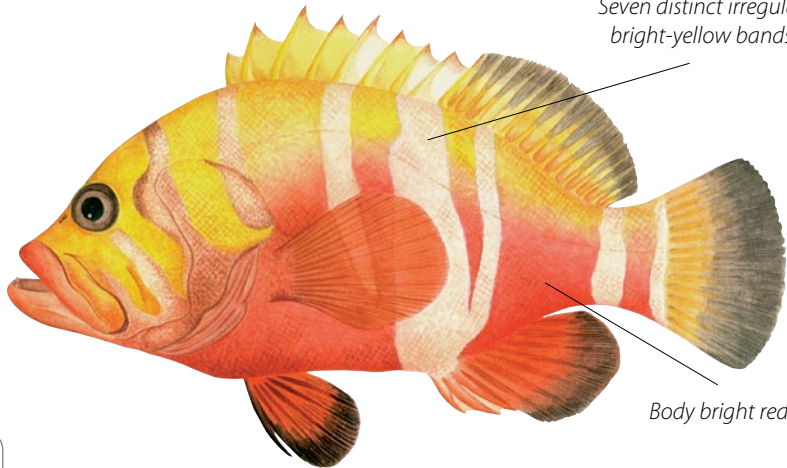
Saloptia powelli



OOW

Garish hind

Cephalopholis igarashiensis



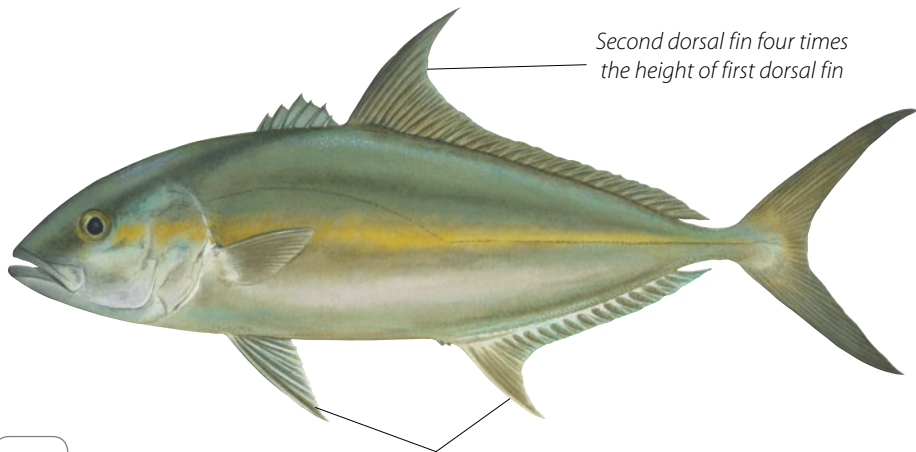
Seven distinct irregular
bright-yellow bands

Body bright red



Almaco jack

Seriola rivoliana



Second dorsal fin four times
the height of first dorsal fin

Leading edge of pelvic fin and margin of anal fin white

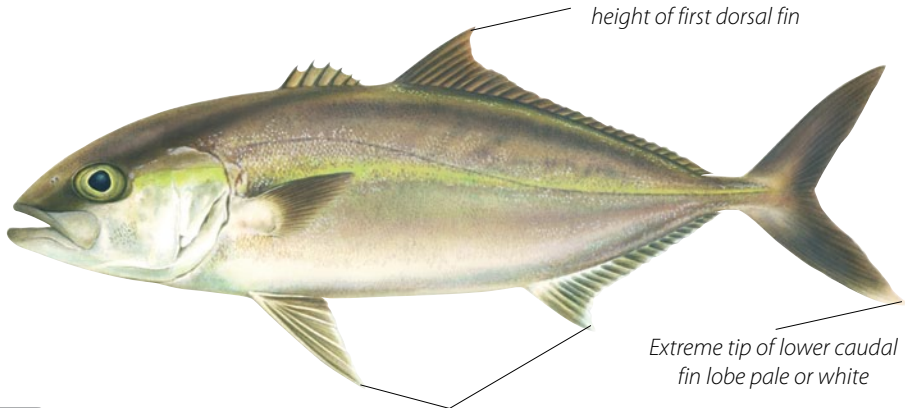
YTL

10–340 m

Greater amberjack

Seriola dumerili

Second dorsal fin twice the height of first dorsal fin



Extreme tip of lower caudal fin lobe pale or white

Tip of pelvic fin and anal fin lobes white



Black jack

Caranx lugubris



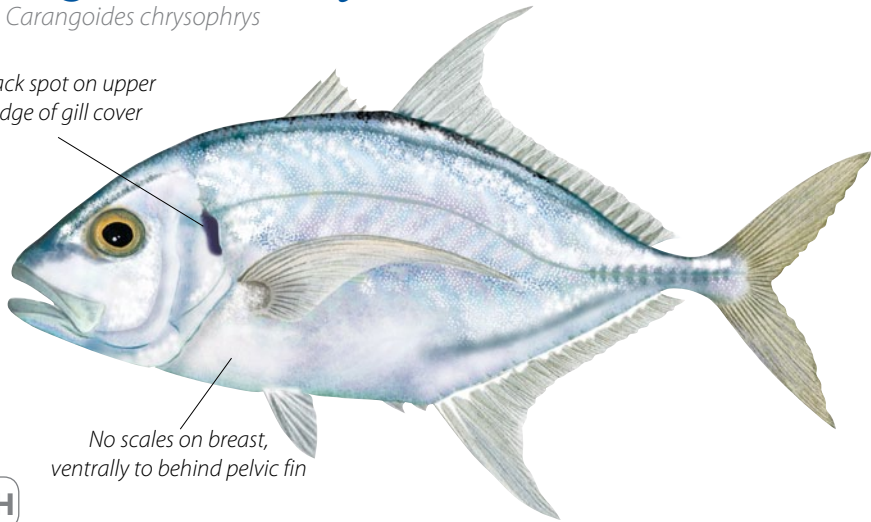
NXU

10–350 m

Longnose trevally

Carangoides chrysophrys

Black spot on upper
edge of gill cover



No scales on breast,
ventrally to behind pelvic fin

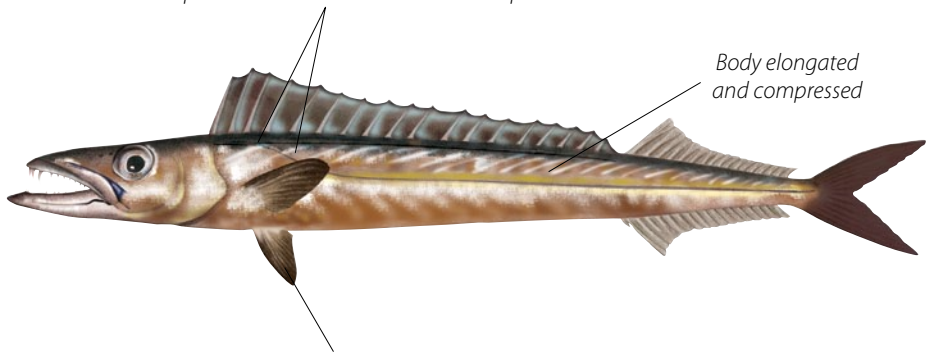
NGH

Black snoek

Thyrsitoides marleyi

Lateral line starts level with back of gill cover, then splits into two around fourth dorsal spine

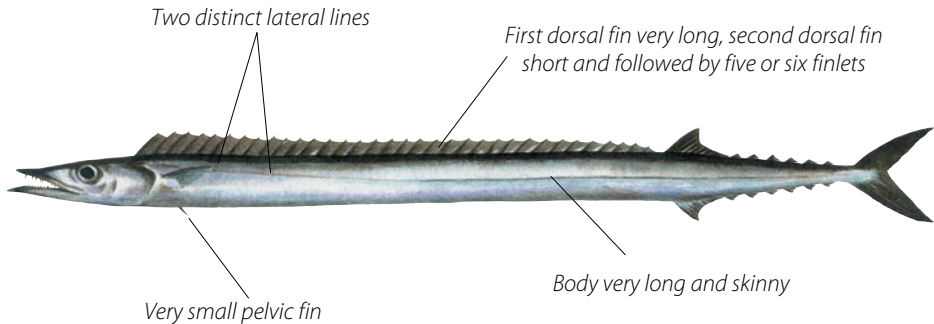
Body elongated and compressed



Well-developed pelvic fin, as long as pectoral fin

Snake mackerel

Gempylus serpens



GES

Oilfish

Ruvettus pretiosus

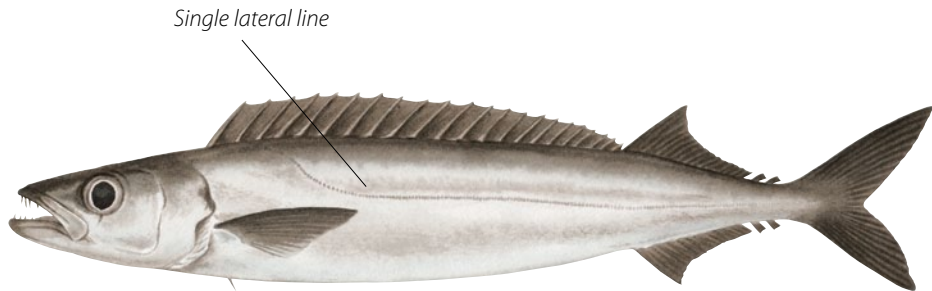


OIL

100–800 m

Roudi escolar

Promethichthys prometheus



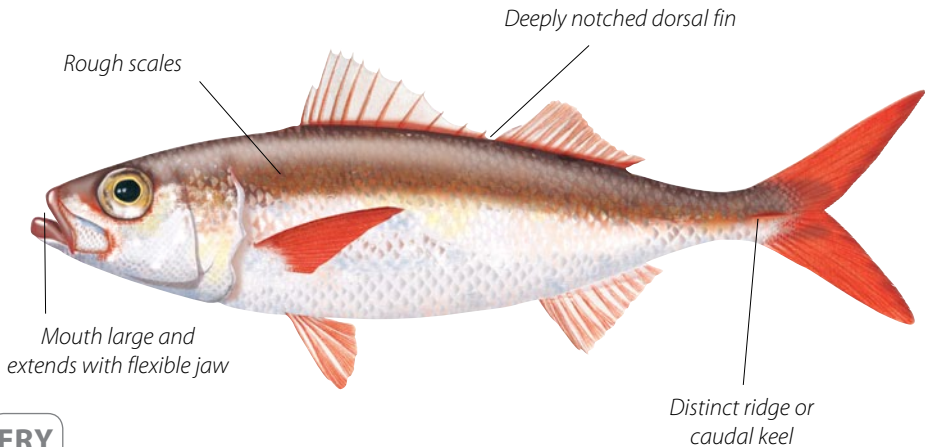
Single lateral line

Small pelvic fin, represented by a single very small spine and soft ray

PRP

Japanese rubyfish

Erythrocles schlegelii

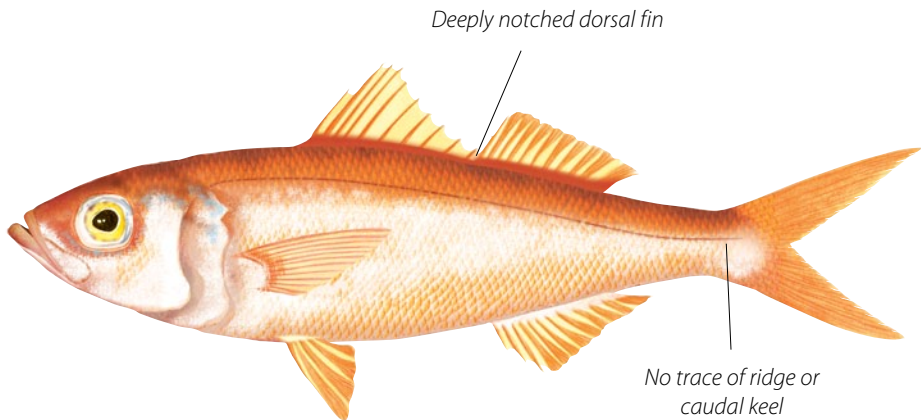


ERY

50–250 m

Golden kalikali

Erythrocles scintillans



ERZ

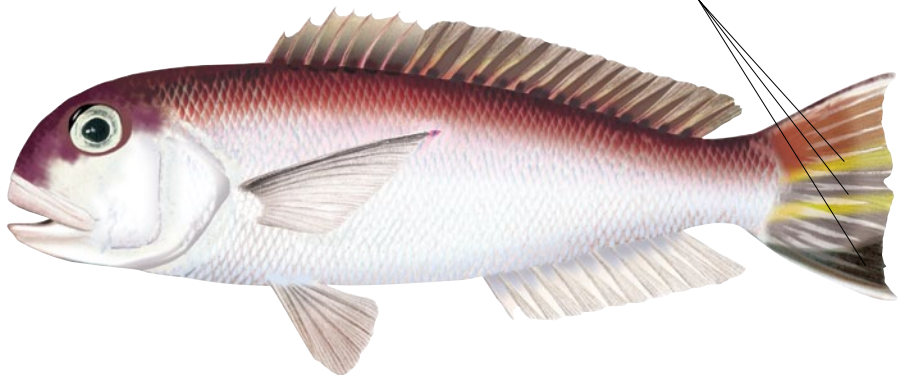
Other deep-bottom fish

250–350 m

Ward's tilefish

Branchiostegus wardi

Caudal fin has dark triangle on lower lobe and two yellow stripes above

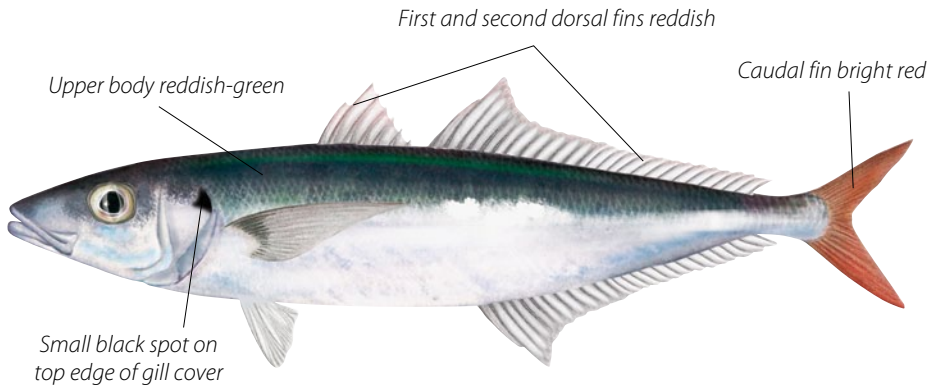


TIZ

100–250 m

Roughear scad

Decapterus tabl



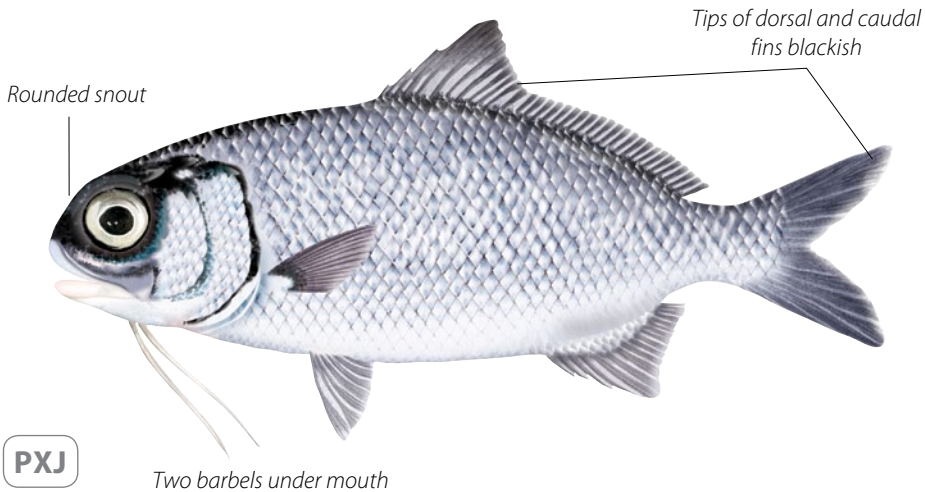
DCT

Other deep-bottom fish

200–360 m

Silver eye

Polymixia japonica



Large-headed scorpionfish

Pontinus macrocephalus



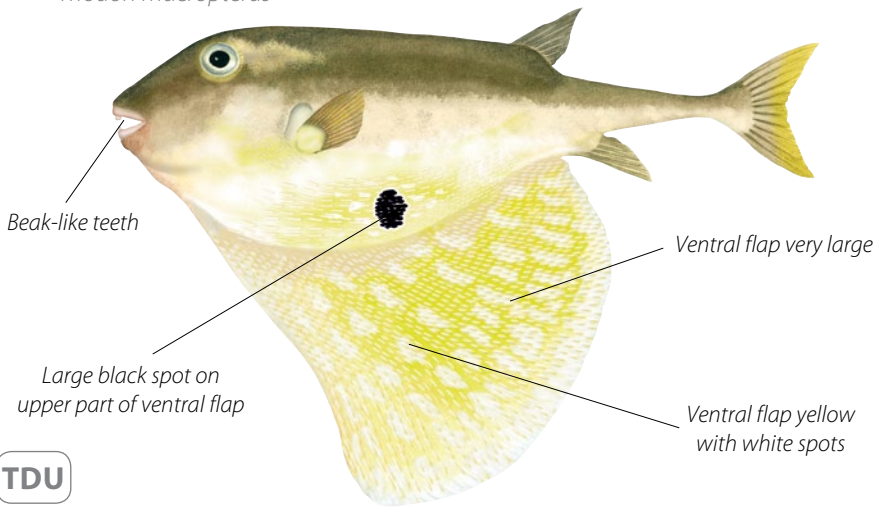
PZM

Other deep-bottom fish

170–275 m

Threetooth puffer

Triodon macropterus



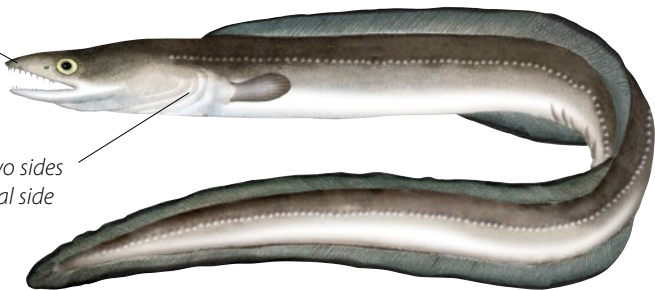
TDU

Daggertooth pike conger

Muraenesox cinereus

Elongated snout

Gill openings of the two sides
nearly meet on ventral side



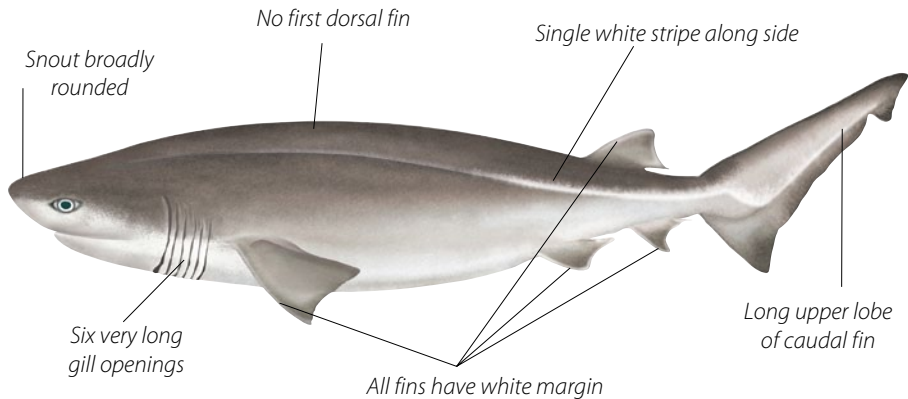
DPC

Other deep-bottom fish

1-740 m

Bluntnose sixgill shark

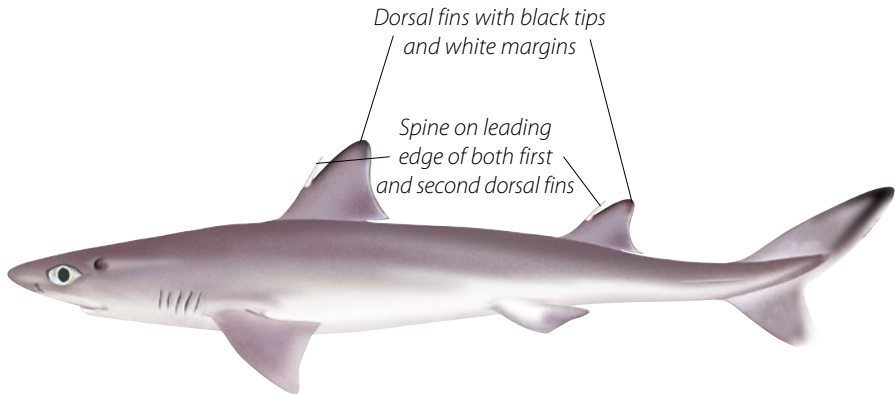
Hexanchus griseus



SBL

Shortnose spurdog

Squalus megalops



DOP

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SPC
Secretariat
of the Pacific
Community



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

BP D5 • 98848 NOUMEA CEDEX • NEW CALEDONIA

Telephone: +687 26 20 00

Facsimile: +687 26 38 18

Email: cfpinfo@spc.int

<http://www.spc.int/fame>