



Life in the Muck, Part 2

Blue Heron Bridge

(West Palm Beach, Florida)

Fishinar 6/7/2016, Carlos & Allison Estapé – Instructors

Questions? Feel free to contact us on our webpage www.100fishid.com



Eyed flounder: 2 - 60ft.

- Male: widely spaced eyes with band of yellow/orange spots and dashes in between
- Rings and rosettes may appear ocellated
- Copper colored blotch on lateral 2/3 back



Twospot flounder: 15 - 60ft.

- Two dark spots on tail, one behind the other
- Dark brown, with scattered, indistinct tan to brown rosettes



Dusky flounder: 15 - 300ft.

- Shades of brown, row of well separated dark spots along base of dorsal & anal fins
- Male: Widely spaced eyes w/ iridescent edges on head



Gulf flounder: 1 - 60ft.

- Three large ocellated spots forming a rear pointing triangular pattern
- Large canines



Naked sole: 3 - 600ft.

- Usually 20-30 dark complete cross bars, bars as wide as or slightly narrower than pale interspaces



Sooty eel: 10 - 40ft.

- Large head with bulbous snout extending well beyond mouth
 - Memory trick: Jimmy Durante eel
- Photo credit: Raul Fernandez



Sharptail eel: 5 - 40ft.

- Small, yellow spots on head
- Large, diffuse, pale spots on body



Bluethroat pikeblenny: 10 - 70ft.

- Soda straw thin-body
- Broad, duck-like mouth
- Males: Elevated foredorsal fin; first membrane / orange blotch over a black crescent



Shortfin pipefish: surface - 125ft.

- 2 short, dark lines extend from rear of each eye
- Numerous evenly spaced pale body bands/rings



Whitenose pipefish: 3 - 40ft.

- Short, white (unpigmented) snout
- Shades of brown, occasionally banded



Lancer dragonet: 6 - 300ft.

- Tall first dorsal fin
- Large goggle eyes
- Pointed head, downturned snout



Pygmy bass: 1 - 200ft.

- Series of small dark spots along lateral line
- Dusky blotch below rear of spinous dorsal fin
- Wide whitish irregular body bar from below rear dorsal fin to tail base



Belted sandfish: 1 - 85ft.

- Dark wedge-shaped “belt” begins between spiny & soft dorsal fins & extends to belly
- Large white patch on belly
- *Memory Trick: White shirt over a dark belt*