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# Fishes of the Solomon Islands

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## **Princess Anthias (*Pseudanthias smithvanizi*) – Anthias / Seabass**

Purplish-pink body. All phases have **orange spots on body scales**. Males have **purple border on top lobe of tail fin**, tail is deeply forked. Females have **thin blue/white line below dorsal fin**, tail is clear with red borders. Up to 3.75"

Photo by: Jeanette Johnson



## **Redfin Anthias (*Pseudanthias dispar*) – Anthias / Seabass**

Males have pink head, bright red dorsal fin that it flashes as it defends territory. Females are unmarked with orange body and pale chin. Up to 3.75"

Photo by: Mark Rosenstein



## **Scalefin Anthias (*Pseudanthias squamipinnis*) – Anthias / Seabass**

Males can be either reddish-orange or purple, always have **purple blotch on pectoral fin** and long dorsal thread. When reddish, yellow spots on body. Females are orange. Both sexes have violet-edged strip running from eye. Up to 6"

Photo by: Jeffrey Haines



## **Threadfin Anthias (*Pseudanthias huchti*) – Anthias / Seabass**

Males have red border on ventral fins ("redfin on threadfin"), long dorsal thread, variable body color (typically yellow). Females are unmarked, pale yellow body with bright yellow border on tail fins. Up to 4.75"

Photo by: Klaus Steifel



## **Clown Anemonefish (*Amphiprion percula*) - Damselfish**

Orange with **3 white body bars, middle bar has a bulge**. Bars and fins have various levels of black edging. Made famous by "Finding Nemo". Similar in appearance to False Clown Anemonefish (*A. ocellaris*; aka Western Clownfish), distinguished mostly by distribution. Up to 3"

Photo by: John Randall



**White-bonnet Anemonefish (*Amphiprion leucokranos*) - Damselfish**

Orange body (sometimes brownish) with **broad white patch on head** that tapers along back, second white patch at mid-dorsal fin. **Broad white patch on cheek** (occasionally connects to head patch). Localized distribution. Up to 4.75"

Photo by: Paddy Ryan



**Royal Dottyback (*Pictichromis paccagnallae*) - Dottyback**

Distinctly **bi-colored, purple head and yellow back** half. Secretive crevice-dweller, typically deeper than 50ft. Up to 2.25"

Photo by: Mark Rosenstein



**Pale Monocle Bream (*Scolopsis affinis*) – Coral Bream**

Pale/silver body with **yellowish tail**. 3-4 rows of black spots along upper back. Juvenile has two dusky stripes on back and wide mid-body black strip. Up to 10"

Photo by: Christy Semmens



**Pearly Monocle Bream (*Scolopsis marginifera*) – Coral Bream**

Pearly yellow/gray body. Base of pectoral fin is yellow. **Two narrow white bars** on back half of body near tail. Juvenile has mid-body dark stripe and black spot on front of dorsal fin. Up to 10"

Photo by: Andy Lewis/Reef Life Survey



**Pearly Dartfish (*Ptereleotris microlepis*) - Dartfish**

**Pale bluish/pearly body with no obvious markings**. Small dark bar at base of pectoral fin. Often in small groups, hovering above burrow. Up to 4.75"

Photo by: Paul Humann



**Spottail Dartfish (*Ptereleotris heteroptera*) – Dartfish**

Pale to bright bluish body with **elongate black area on center of tail**. Small dark bar at base of pectoral fin. Often in small groups, hovering above burrow. Up to 4.75"

Photo by: Mark Rosenstein



**Twotone Dartfish (*Ptereleotris evides*) – Dartfish**

**Bicolored**, with pale bluish head and dark back half of body. **Large dorsal and anal fins.** Hovers higher up in water column than other dartfish. Up to 5.5”  
Photo by: Paddy Ryan



**Bluehead Tilefish (*Hoplolatilus starcki*) – Tilefish**

Yellowish-white slender body with **bright blue head**. Typically found in pairs, hovering above burrow on deep reef slope. Up to 6”  
Photo by: Paddy Ryan



**Blue Blanquillo (*Malacanthus latovittatus*) – Tilefish**

**Large tilefish, brilliant blue body** with broad black mid-body stripe that extends on to tail. Seen over rubble/sand, solitary or in pairs, typically don’t dart in to burrow. Juveniles lack the blue on body (just black and white). Up to 17”  
Photo by: Ian Shaw



**Flagtail Blanquillo (*Malacanthus brevirostris*) - Tilefish**

Elongate pearly white bluish body (sometimes with faint body bars), two black stripes on tail (looks like a flag!). Hover above sand in undulating motion, often in pairs. Will dive into rubble burrow when disturbed. Up to 12”  
Flagtail Tilefish in HAW.  
Photo by: Barry Fackler