



# California Fish ID Part One

*Fishinar 11/27/2012, Janna Nichols and Keith Rootsart - Instructors*

## **Rockfish (Scorpionfish) Family**

Black and Yellow Rockfish - not common, look for Black and Yellow spots, and pattern on tail.

Gopher Rockfish - White Gopher hole on dorsal. Yellow fins

Copper Rockfish - Copper tubing halfway back. Thick white line. Light underbelly.

Kelp Rockfish - Speckled. Large dumb eyes. Often hang vertically in kelp.

Brown Rockfish - Look for brown dot on gill cover. Shades of light and dark brown blotches.

Olive Rockfish - Olive yellow body and fins, dark spot under dorsal with light blotches inside.

Blue Rockfish - Worry lines on forehead, tear streaks from crying because he's feeling "Blue".

Black Rockfish - Black on silver background. Dark area under dorsal filled with a few white blotches

Vermilion Rockfish - Vermilion Red, sometimes streaked with silvery blotches.

China Rockfish - Yellow Nike Swoosh - Nikes made in China.

Treefish - Vertical Tree trunks on its side.

YOY Rockfish - Any small cute little rockfish less than a few inches long. Hard to tell exact species.

## **Sea Bass Family**

Kelp Bass - Also called Calico Bass. Hang out in kelp. Rectangular blotches on body.

Barred Sand Bass - Sit in sand and has a few dark dusky bars.

## **Greenling Family**

Painted Greenling - Red bars painted on with little pointy paintbrush of a snout.

Kelp Greenling Male - Baby blue blotches on front part of fish. Blue is for boys.

Kelp Greenling Female - Yellow spots, with bright yellow fins. Girls are beautiful.

Lingcod - Not a cod, but a greenling. Torpedo shaped fish. Doggie paw prints on side.

## **Wrasse Family**

California Sheephead - male - White chin. Black, Red Black sections. Develop hump on head.

California Sheephead - female - Peach to light brown even coloring. White chin.

Senorita - Cigar shaped schooling fish with Senorita's fan on tail in black.

Rock Wrasse - male - Has a belt to hold up its pants. Hang out in rocks.

Rock Wrasse - female - Has little rocks on her back. Hang out in rocks.

## **Sculpin Family**

Cabazon - Two large cirri right behind eyes. Massive head, tapering body. Cabeza=Head

Scalyhead Sculpin - Cirri on forehead. Several cirri at mouth. White dot at base of tail.

Coralline Sculpin - Long snout, large lips, flattened cirri

Snubnose Sculpin - Blunt snout, large rough scales on back

California Scorpionfish - Brown speckles throughout, hollow-looking eyes