

BASSES

SNOWY GROUPER (*Epinephelus niveatus*)

COLOR: Gray-brown with white spots that continue onto dorsal fin. Dark saddle on caudal peduncle in juveniles.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Warsaw grouper (pg. 98), wreckfish (pg. 99).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / SEFSC / Pascagoula Laboratory; Collection of Brandi Noble

WARSAW GROUPER (*Epinephelus nigritus*)

COLOR: Brown. Dark saddle on caudal peduncle in juveniles.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Snowy grouper (pg. 97), wreckfish (pg. 99).

PHOTO CREDIT: NOAA / NMFS / SEFSC / Pascagoula Laboratory; Collection of Brandi Noble

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WRECKFISH (*Polyprion americanus*)

COLOR: Gray-brown. White trailing edge on caudal fin.

FINS: Convex caudal fin.

HEAD: Rough head. Ridge on opercle.



MAY BE CONFUSED WITH: Snowy grouper (pg. 97), warsaw grouper (pg. 98).

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BLACK SEA BASS (*Centropristis striata*)

COLOR: Variable olive-gray coloration with white spots Horizontal white bands on dorsal fin.

FINS: Spiny dorsal fin. Three-lobed caudal fin.

HEAD: Large mouth. Adult males have projecting forehead.



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BLACKMOUTH BASS (*Synagrops bellus*)

COLOR: Body, mouth, and gill cavity black.

BODY: Scales chafe easily in gear.

FINS: Two dorsal fins.

HEAD: Prominent fang-like teeth. Large eyes.



PHOTO CREDIT: MBL / Flescher Collection

STRIPED BASS (*Morone saxatilis*)

COLOR: Olive-gray dorsal surface. 7-8 dark horizontal stripes on lateral sides.

FINS: Forked caudal fin.

HEAD: Large mouth



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