

NATURE CONSERVATION AREA

SOME OF THE FISH FOUND HERE



جامعة الملك عبدالله
للعلوم والتقنية
King Abdullah University of
Science and Technology

Health, Safety
and Environment

DARKSPOTTED STINGRAY

HIMANTURA UARNAK



- Up to 320 cm
- Often partly buried
- Feed on fish, molluscs, jellyfish or shrimps
- Very long tail

BLUESPOTTED STINGRAY

TAENIURA LYMMA



- **Tan colored with blue spots**
- **Up to 90 cm**
- **Feeds on mollusks, worms and shrimps**
- **Base of tail has venomous barbs. Dangerous if stepped on**

SPOTFIN SQUIRRELFISH

NEONIPHON SAMMARA



- **Common at KAUST**
- **A predator feeding on shrimps and small crabs**
- **The red patch behind the eye is a venomous barb**
- **Up to 23 cm**

SMOOTH CORNETFISH

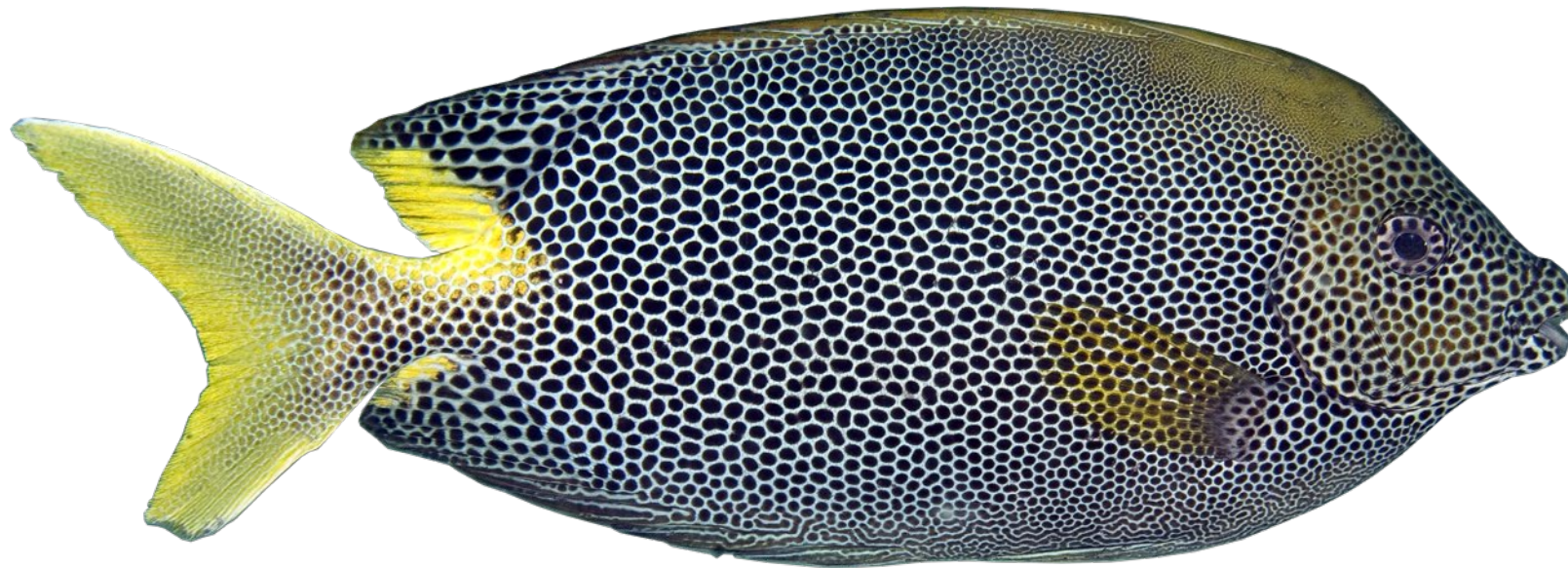
FISTULARIA COMMERSONNI



- **Very long, up to 107 cm**
- **Long tubular mouth**
- **Often in groups**
- **Feeds on small fish or crustaceans**

STELLATE RABBITFISH

SIGANUS STELLATUS (LAQUEUS)



- **Adults always paired**
- **Note close-set spots and yellow edges to tail**
- **Sub species here is laqueus**

SUMANNA GROUPE

EPINEPHELUS SUMMANA



- **Up to 52 cm**
- **Often in pairs**
- **Bold**
- **Red Sea and Gulf of Aden only**
- **Groupers are carnivorous fishing on smaller fish, crustaceans & cephalods**

PEACOCK GROUPEr

CEPHALOPHOLIS ARGUS



- **Often under ledges**
- **Widespread**
- **Up to 55 cm**
- **Note blue spots and up to six pale bars on lower body**

STOCKY HAWKFISH

CIRRHITUS PINNULATUS



- Feeds mainly on crabs
- Wary and cryptic
- Up to 30 cm

ARABIAN CARDINALFISH

CHEILODIPTERUS LINEATUS



- **Common at KAUST**
- **Male fish carry the eggs in their mouths**
- **Carnivorous**
- **Up to 15 cm**

LUNAR FUSILIERS

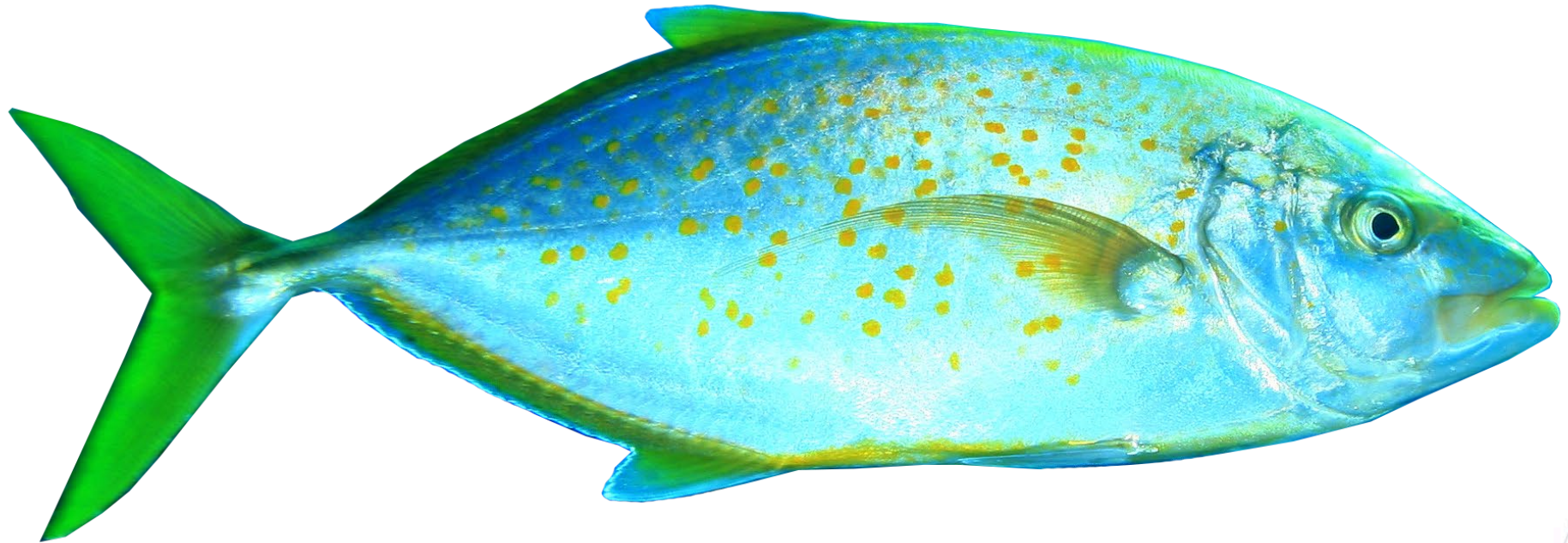
CAESIO LUNARIS



- **Feed on zooplankton**
- **Up to 40 cm**
- **Widespread throughout the tropical waters of the Indo/West Pacific area, including the Red Sea.**

ORANGESPOTTED TREVALLY

CARANGOIDES BAJAD



- **Up to 53 cm**
- **Family - Carangidae**
- **Note the strongly forked tail**
- **A powerful predator feeding on other fish**

BLUEFIN TREVALLY

CARANX MELAMPYGUS



- **Note tiny blue and black spots and has blue fins**
- **Up to 100 cm**
- **Predatory –juveniles eating crustaceans
& changing to a fish diet as they mature**

EHRENBERG'S SNAPPER

LUTJANUS EHRENBERGI



- **Common around KAUST**
- **Up to 35 cm**
- **Mostly feed at night**
- **Adults feed on other fish or invertebrates**

MANGROVE RED SNAPPER

LUTJANUS ARGENTIMACULATUS



- **Up to 120 cm**
- **Often reddish brown with dark centered scales**
- **Feed on fish and invertebrates on sea floor**
- **Snappers are fished commercially**
- **Very common**

SILVER MONO

MONODACTYLUS ARGENTEUS



- **Silver with yellow fins and tail**
- **Diamond shaped**
- **Very common in large schools**
- **Length to 22 cm**
- **Feed on plankton**

BLACKSPOTTED SWEETLIPS

PLECTORHINCHUS GATERINUS



- **Form large schools**
- **Up to 45 cm**
- **Undergo dramatic color changes with growth**
- **Most predators dislike their taste**

BLACKSPOT EMPEROR

LEPHRINUS HARAK



- **Common inshore species but aggregates to spawn**
- **Usually solitary**
- **Up to 50 cm**

DOUBLEBAR BREEM

ACANTHOPAGRUS BIFASCIATUS



- **Silvery with two black bars on head**
- **Up to 50 cm**
- **Has molar type teeth to crush hard shelled crustaceans**

YELLOWFIN GOATFISH

MULLOIDICHTHYS VANICOLENSIS



- **Common at KAUST**
- **During the day often join other similar species to form large schools**
- **At night feed solitarily**
- **Occasionally reach 39 cm but most only reach 28 cm**

YELLOWSTRIPE GOATFISH

MULLOIDICHTHYS FLAVOLINEATUS



- **Often in large groups**
- **When feeding the yellow stripe is replaced by a black blotch**
- **Up to 43 cm**

RED SEA GOATFISH

PARUPENEUS FORSSKALI



- **Often in groups**
- **The twin chin barbels are used to find invertebrates in the sand**
- **The barbels explain the goatfish name**
- **Up to 25 cm**

THREADFIN BUTTERFLYFISH

CHAETODON AURIGA

- **Black with white diagonal lines running in 2 directions**
- **Up to 23 cm**
- **Highly compressed body**
- **Food mostly coral or algae**



RED SEA RACCOON BUTTERFLYFISH

CHAETODON FASCIATUS



- **Orange with diagonal black lines;**
black around eye with short white band above
- **Up to 22 cm**
- **Usually in pairs or small groups**

EXQUISITE BUTTERFLYFISH

CHAETODON AUSTRACUS



- **Pairs patrol a home territory**
- **Main foods are coral polyps or anemone tentacles**
- **Up to 14 cm**
- **Red Sea and South Oman only**

RED SEA BANNERFISH

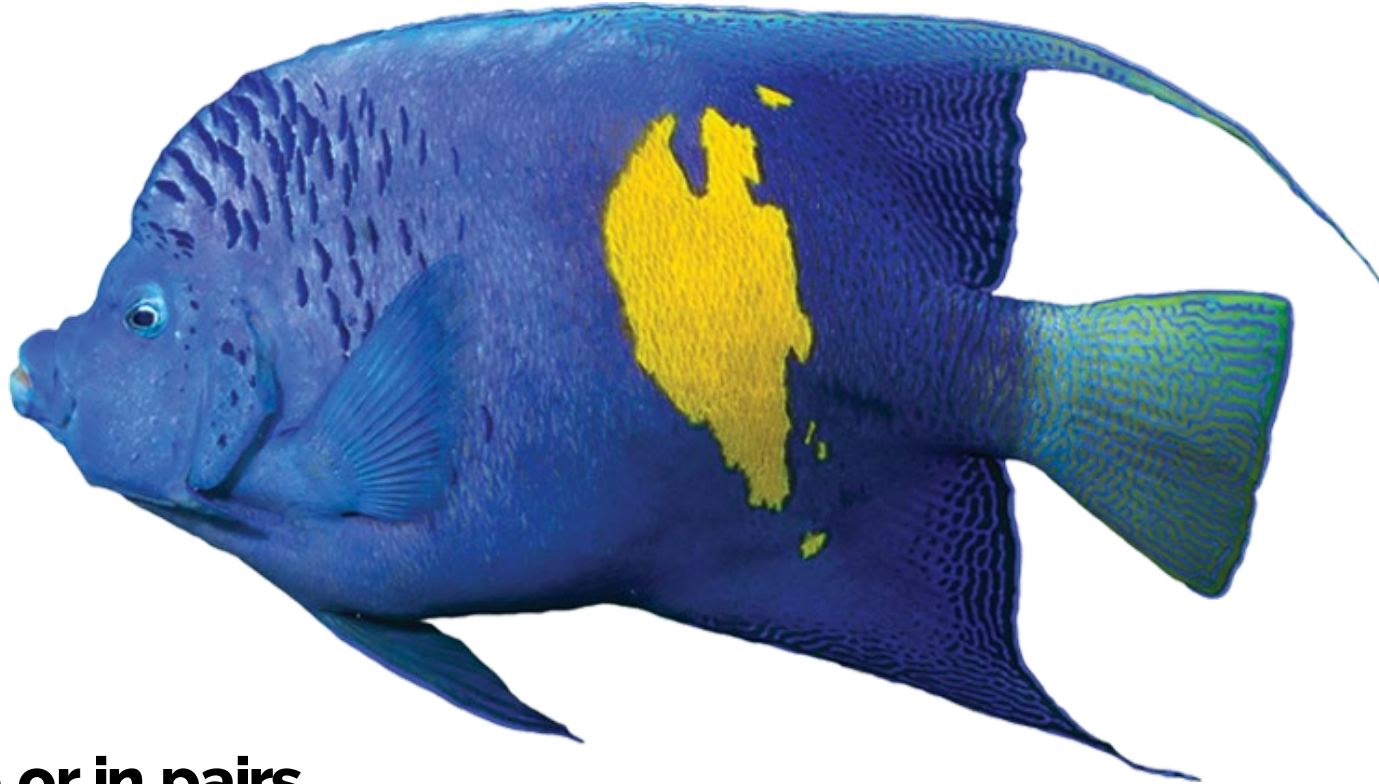
HENIOCHUS INTERMEDIUS



- **Common in groups**
- **Feed on zooplankton**
- **Up to 20 cm**

YELLOWBAR ANGELFISH

POMACANTHUS MACULOSUS



- **Up to 50 cm**
- **Usually single or in pairs**
- **Have large territories, up to 1000 square meters**

ARABIAN ANGELFISH

POMACANTHUS ASFUR



- Up to 40 cm
- Juveniles are very similar to those of Yellowbar Angelfish



INDO-PACIFIC SERGEANT

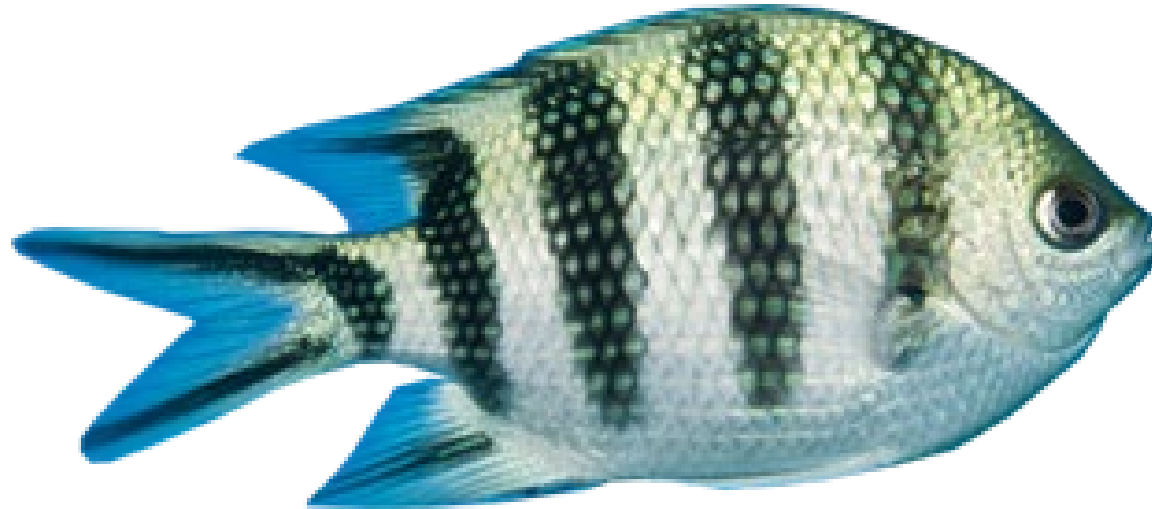
ABUDEFDUF VAIGIENSIS



- **Up to 20 cm**
- **Common in large groups**
- **5 black bars**
- **Becomes bluish during courtship**
- **Mainly feed on zooplankton**

SCISSORTAIL SERGEANT

ABUDEFDUF SEXFASCIATUS



- **Up to 19 cm**
- **5 black bars and 2 tail stripes**
- **Common in large groups**
- **Feed on zooplankton**

HALF-AND-HALF CHROMIS

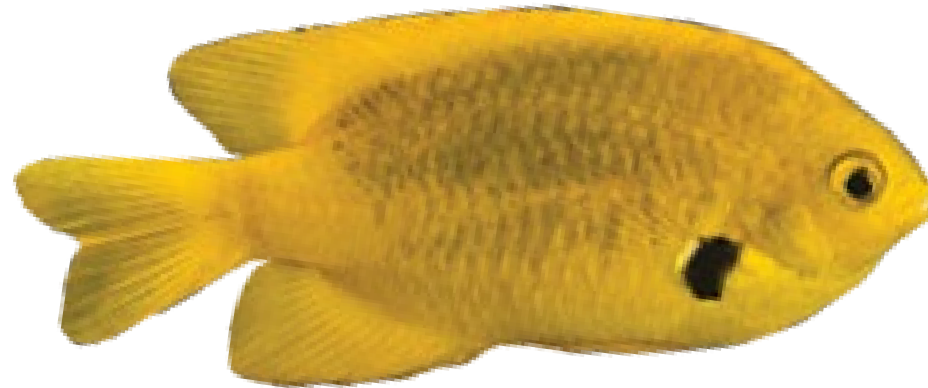
CHROMIS DIMIDIATA



- **Appears in large groups**
- **Feeds on zooplankton**
- **Up to 9 cm**

SULPHUR DAMSELFISH

POMACENTRUS SULFUREUS



- **Common around KAUST**
- **Up to 11 cm**
- **Aggressive towards other species**
- **Territorial**

DUSKY GREGORY

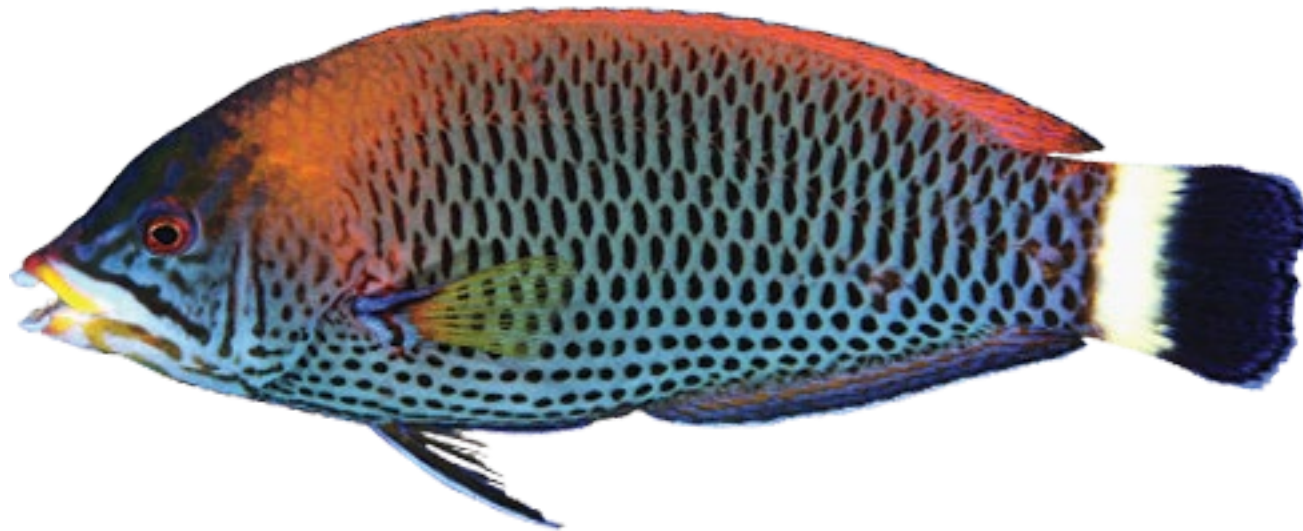
STEGASTES NIGRICANS



- **Varied but has black spot a base of dorsal fin**
- **Up to 13 cm**
- **Nickname the 'farmer fish' as it cultivates desired patches of algae on coral branches & removing other unwanted types**

CHISELTOOTH WRASSE

PSEUDODAX MOLUCCANUS



- **Strong chisel-like teeth**
- **Feeds on encrusting invertebrates**
- **Fast**
- **Up to 25 cm**

INDIAN BIRD WRASSE

GOMPHOSUS CAERULEUS



- **Note the snout shape**
- **Collects invertebrates using snout to probe coral or rocks**
- **Up to 28 cm**
- **Males solitary, females in groups**

CHEQUERBOARD WRASSE

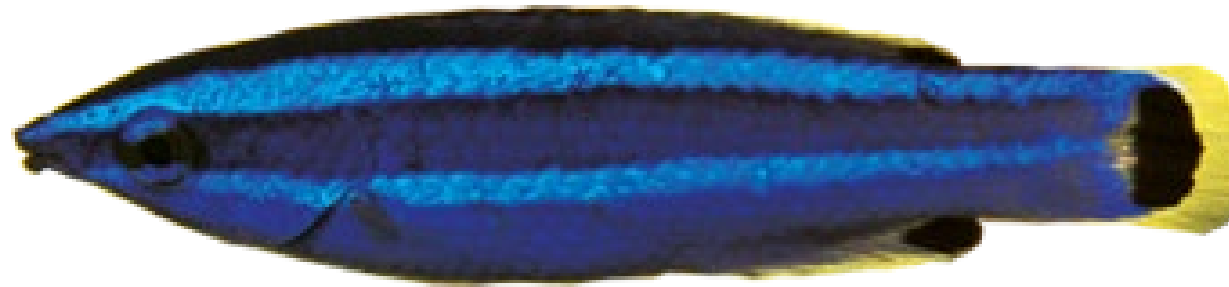
HALICHOERES HORTULANUS



- **Fairly common**
- **Small –up to 27 cm**
- **Changes color several times as it grows with colors also changing by location**

FOURLINE WRASSE

LARABICUS QUADRILINEATUS



- **Up to 11 cm**
- **Are cleaners, feeding on parasites or mucus cleaned from other fish.**
- **Attracts fish to it by performing a dance**

SLINGJAW WRASSE

EPIBULUS INSIDIATOR



- **Length up to 54 cm**
- **This species can use its jaws to form a long tube that can be used to suck in food, like crustaceans and other fish.**
- **The tube can be half its body length**

CRESCENT MOON WRASSE

THALASSOMA LUNARE



- **Up to 27 cm**
- **Named for the yellow central rays on tail**
- **Eats invertebrates or small fishes**
- **Each male has a territory with harem**

ROCKMOVER WRASSE

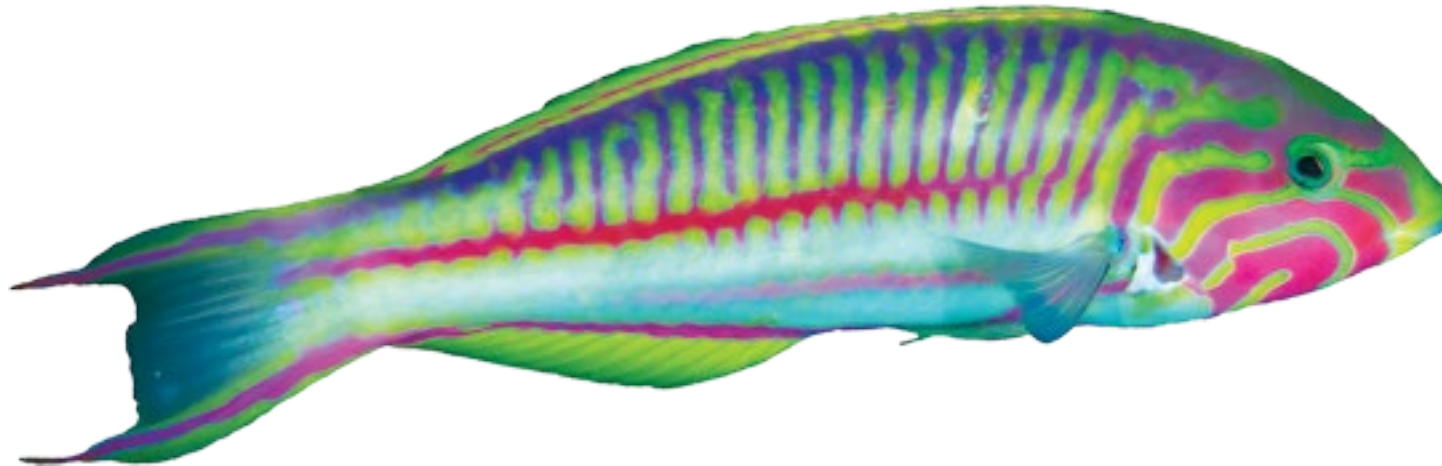
NOVACULICHTHYS TAENIOURUS



- **Up to 32 cm**
- **Bites if handled**
- **Prefers mixed rubble and sand patches which it turns over to find invertebrates**
- **Juveniles mimic clumps of algae**

KLUNZINGER'S WRASSE

THALASSOMA RUEPELLII



- **Red Sea only**
- **Up to 20 cm**
- **Haremic**
- **Active & inquisitive**

DAPPLE CORIS

CORIS VARIEGATA



- **Pale green with thin pale bars above & black specs on sides**
- **Red Sea only**
- **Up to 20 cm**

CLOWN CORIS

CORIS AYGULA

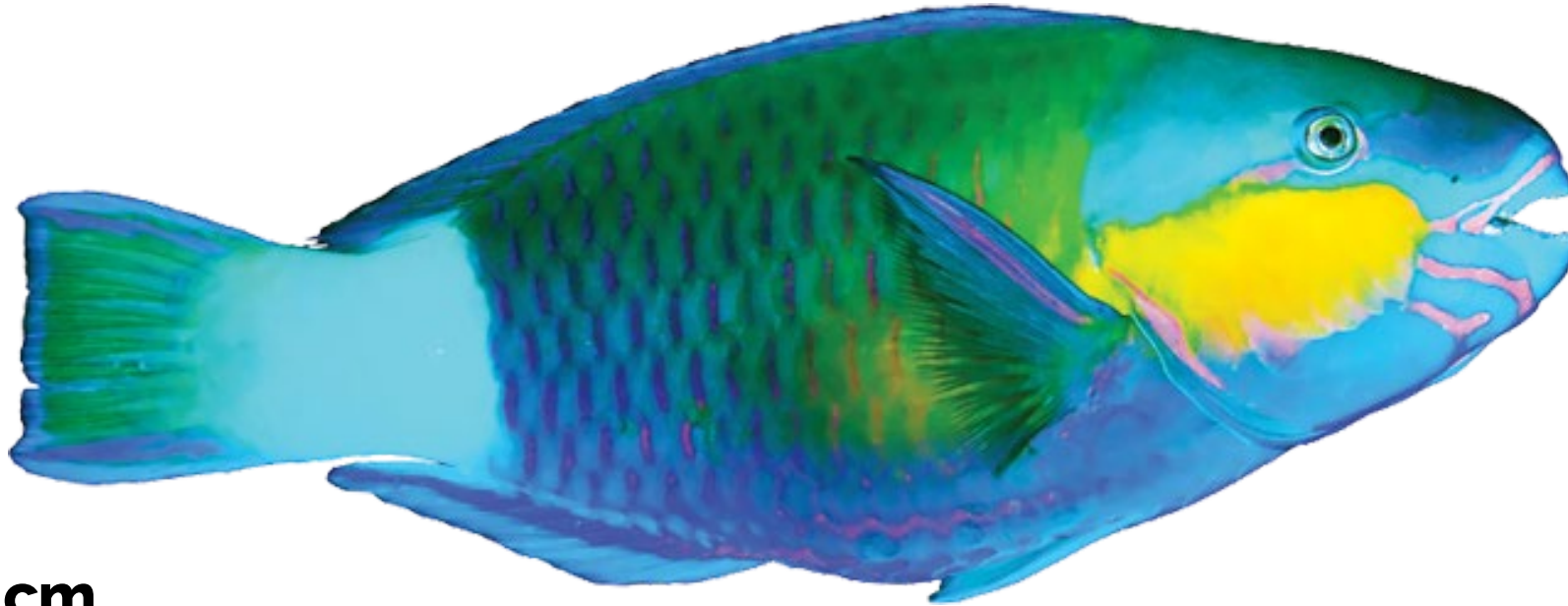


- **Up to 100 cm**
- **Juvenile shown right**
- **Note broom-like tail**
- **Feeds on hard-shelled invertebrates which it crushes with teeth**



BULLETHEAD PARROTFISH

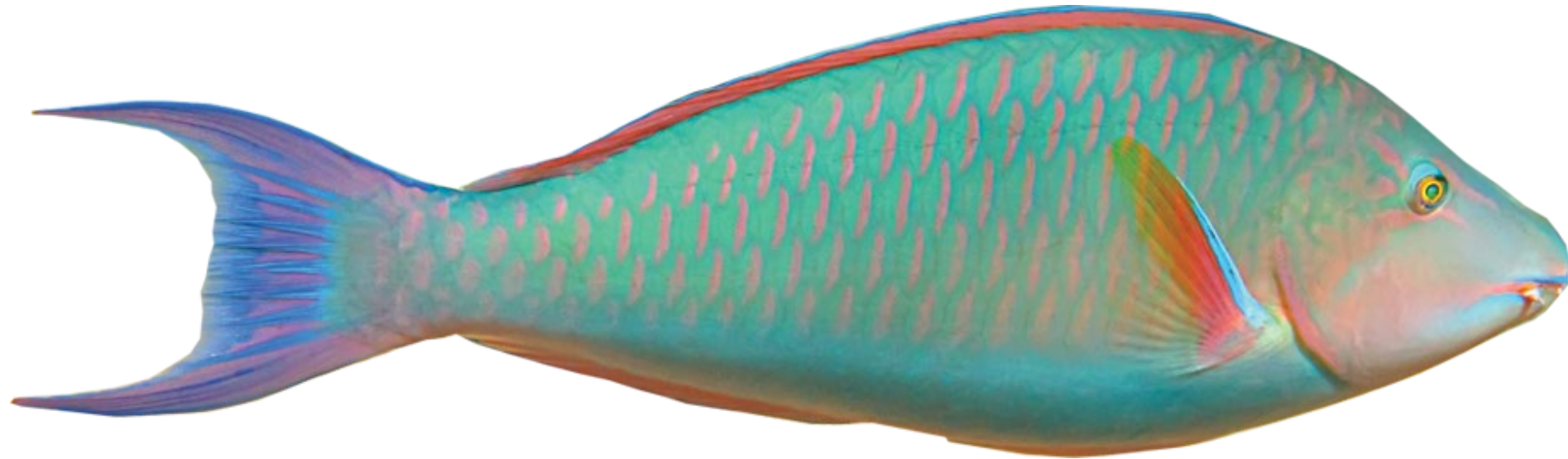
CHLORURUS SORDIDUS



- **Up to 40 cm**
- **Head smoothly rounded**
- **The most common parrotfish**
- **Note diamond pattern**

INDIAN LONGNOSE PARROTFISH

HIPPOSCARUS HARID



- **Common around KAUST**
- **Up to 60 cm**
- **Males are more brightly colored**
- **Feed on coral and algae**

DUSKY PARROTFISH

SCARUS NIGER



- **Up to 40 cm**
- **Usually solitary**
- **Feed on algae scraped from coral**

PURPLE-BROWN PARROTFISH

SCARUS FUSCOPURPUREUS



- **Up to 38 cm**
- **Note broad dark chevrons and pale bar to rear of body**
- **Usually solitary or in small groups**

RUSTY PARROTFISH

SCARUS FERRUGINEUS



- **Up to 40 cm**
- **Territorial**
- **Haremic**
- **A Red Sea endemic**
- **Common at KAUST**

RIVULATED RABBITFISH

SIGANUS RIVULATUS



- **Has sharp incisor type teeth**
- **Has venom glands in the fins**
- **Most are 10 to 20 cm but up to 40 cm has been recorded**
- **Often form large groups which can overfish a reef**

SOHAL SURGEONFISH

ACANTHURUS SOHAL



- **Up to 40 cm**
- **Lay eggs at new moon just after the sun rises**
- **Males fiercely defend their feeding territory**
which includes a harem of females

BLACK SURGEONFISH

ACANTHURUS GAHHM



- **Up to 40 cm**
- **The white bar can be 'turned off'!**
- **Feed on algae growing on sand or rubble**

LINED BRISTLETOOTH

CTENOCHAETUS STRIATUS



- **Found worldwide**
- **Can live for 25 years +**
- **Member of the surgeonfish family**
- **Common and often the most common fish on a reef**

YELLOWTAIL TANG

ZEBRASOMA XANTHURUM



- **Up to 22 cm**
- **Feeds on algae or dead coral**
- **In pairs or small groups**
- **Note fan-like fins and yellow tail**

SAILFIN TANG

ZEBRASOMA DESJARDINII



- Juvenile more yellow
- Up to 40cm
- Usually in pairs or small groups
- Deep body with fan-like fins



ORANGE-STRIPED TRIGGERFISH

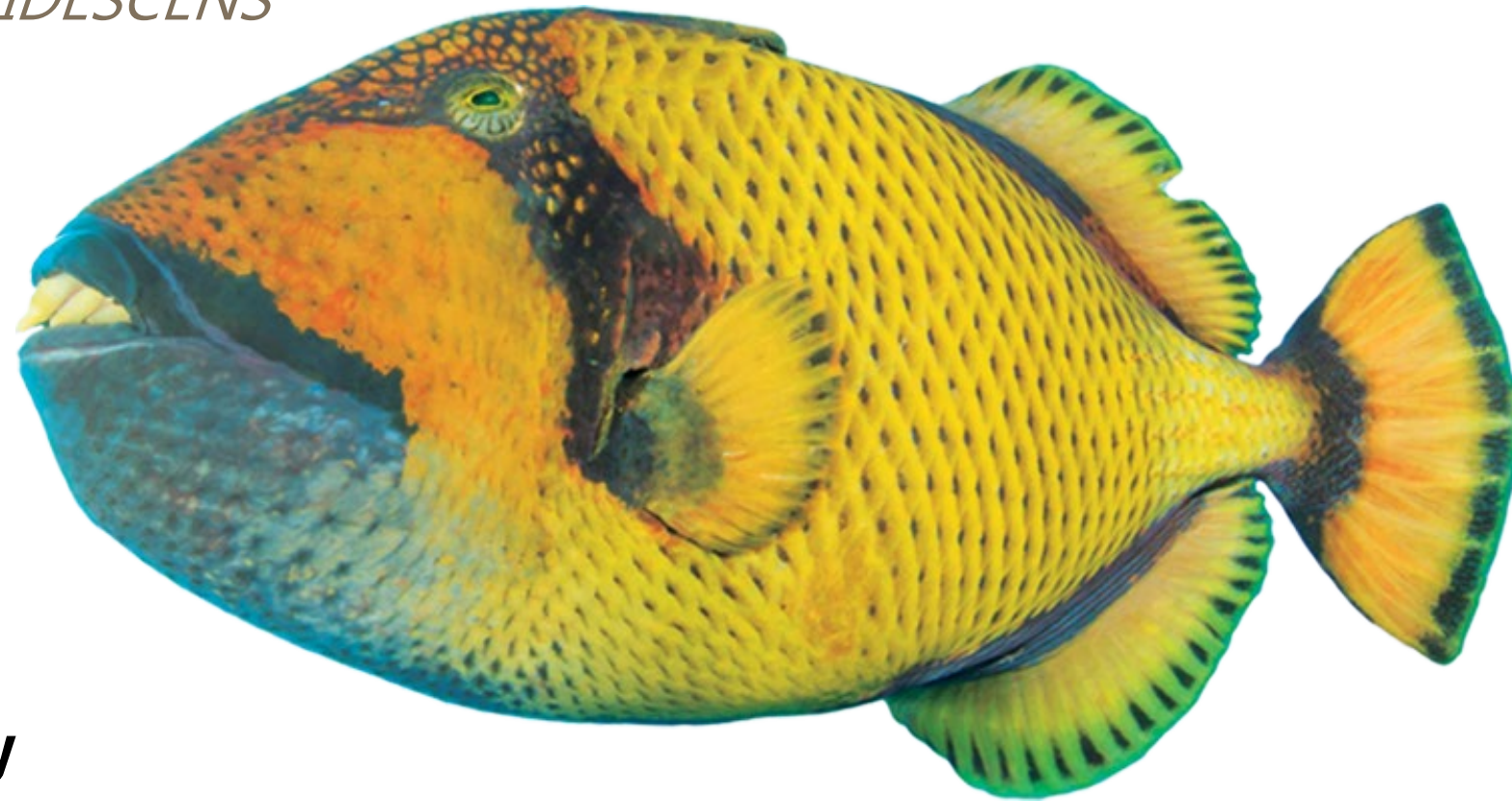
BALISTAPUS UNDULATUS



- **Up to 30 cm**
- **Digs a nest in sand**
- **Green with curved orange stripes**
- **Eats fish, coral, algae**

TITAN TRIGGERFISH

BALISTOIDES VIRIDESCENS



- **Up to 75 cm**
- **Usually solitary**
- **Food-invertebrates including coral, crabs and sea urchins**
- **Can be aggressive towards humans when guarding eggs**

PICASSOFISH

RHINECANTHUS ASSASI



- **A type of triggerfish**
- **Up to 30 cm**
- **Territorial**
- **Always near shelter**

BLUESPINE UNICORNFISH

NASO UNICORNIS



- **Up to 70 cm**
- **Feed on leafy algae**
- **The horn and tail fin elongate with age**

GREAT BARRACUDA

SPHYRAENA BARRACUDA



- **Up to 190 cm and 38 kg**
- **Note the black tail and fin markings**
- **Often in groups waiting for fish at the pipes linking the lagoon with the sea near the Monument**

MASKED PUFFER

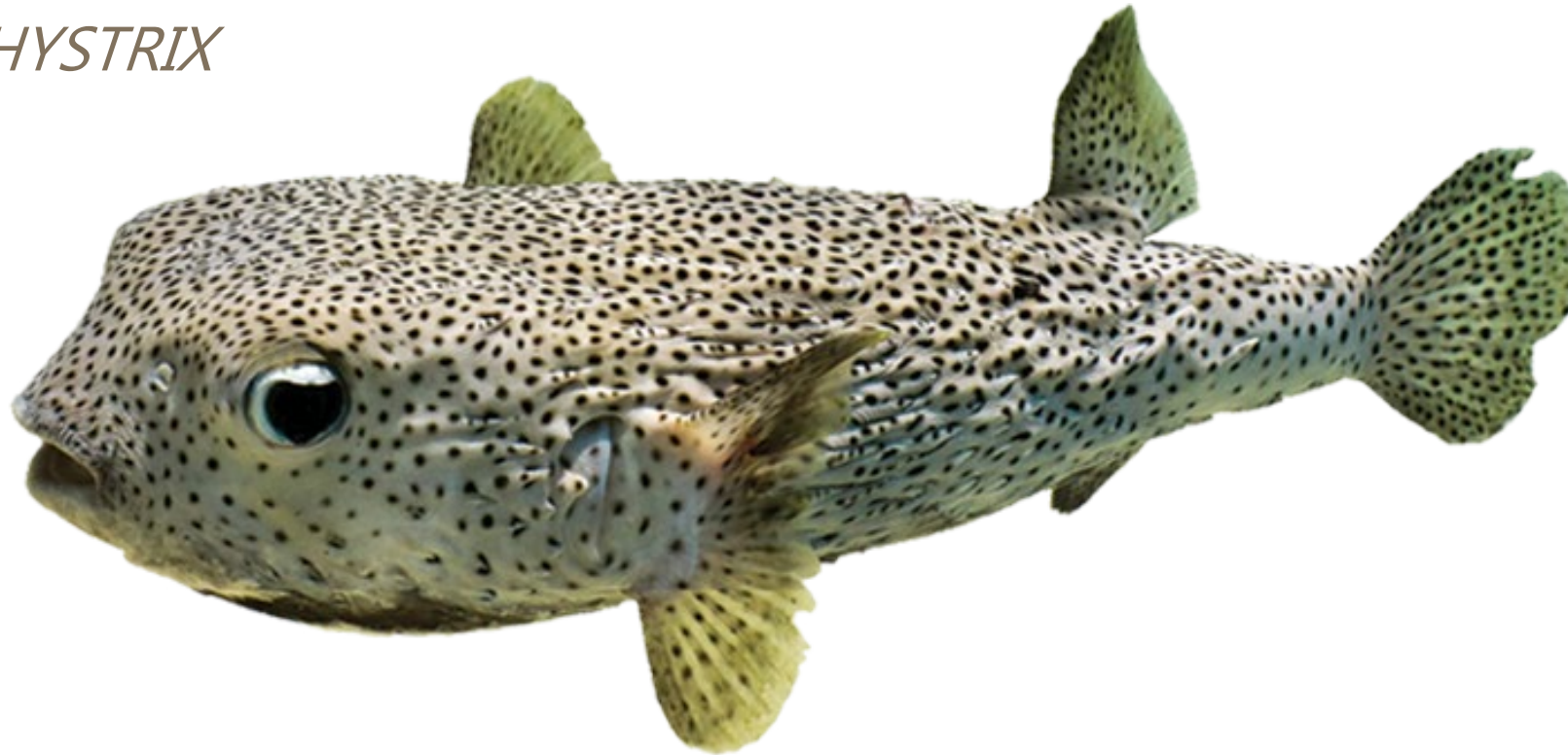
AROTHRON DIADEMATUS



- **Common**
- **Only found in Red Sea**
- **Puffers may inflate their bodies by pumping water into their stomachs**
- **The 'puffed ball' deters predators**
- **Spines are highly poisonous**

PORCUPINEFISH

DIODON HYSTRIX



- **May inflate the body in the same way as puffers**
- **The spines over the head and body may choke predators including sharks**
- **Beak-like jaws crush their prey like crustaceans**

MOON JELLYFISH

AURELIA AURITA



- Up to 25 cm diameter
- Transparent with 4 ear-like tissues
- Has mild sting which can cause a prickly sensation

UPSIDEDOWN JELLYFISH

CASSIOPEA ANDROMEDA



- **This species is infrequently seen at KAUST.**
- **Its sting can cause pain, rashes, vomiting and swelling.**
- **Its common name is because it usually swims with the tentacles below the body. This exposes zooxanthellae (algae), which live on the ventral surface, to sunlight which they need to reproduce. In turn the jellyfish feeds on the algae.**

MOTTLED SALLY LIGHTFOOT

GRAPSUS ALBOLINEATUS



- **Hides in cracks**
- **Body up to 10cm diameter**
- **Found in rocky tidal areas**
- **Feeds on algae above the waterline**

FIDDLER CRAB

GENUS UCA



- **There are over 100 species of uca or fiddler crabs**
- **Note one very large claw and one much smaller**
- **Burrow under mangrove roots**