

# Checklist of the near shore fishes of Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

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This preliminary list is based on observations made during January–April by the authors, and also refers to information provided in the reference: Schultz, Martin. 1991. *Suggested snorkel dives around Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals, Hawaiian National Wildlife Refuge*. (unpublished) based on his observations during October–December. Place names are as described by Schultz (1991). The order of our list and common names follow that of Randall, J.E. 1996. *Shore fishes of Hawaii*, Natural World Press; page numbers refer to this book. Our aim is to list the fishes occurring close to Tern Island (i.e., likely to be seen by shore-based snorkelers) although in some cases the status of fish species seen elsewhere in French Frigate Shoals is referred to. This list was last updated November 24, 2003 based on corrections supplied by Arnold Suzumoto.

Status terms explained:

Abundant A– likely to be seen in large numbers (> 10 individuals) on every snorkel swim.

Common C– likely to be seen on every snorkel swim, sometime in large numbers.

Uncommon U– present but not seen on every snorkel swim.

Rare R– seldom seen (seen on less than one in ten snorkel trips)

## Requiem Sharks Carcharhinidae

- Tiger Shark *Galeocerdo cuvier* **mano R**
- Gray Reef Shark *Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos* **mano R**
- Galapagos Shark *Carcharhinus galapagensis* **mano R**
- Blacktip Reef Shark *Carcharhinus melanopterus* **mano pa'ele R**
- Whitetip Reef Shark *Triaenodon obesus* **mano lalakea C**
- Blainville's Dogfish *Squalus blainvillei* **R**

## Hammerhead Sharks Sphyrnidae

- Scalloped Hammerhead Shark *Sphyrna lewini* **mano kihikihi R**

## Rays Myliobatidae

- Spotted Eagle Ray *Aetobatus narinari* **hihimanu C**

## Manta Rays Mobulidae

- Manta Ray *Manta alfredi* **hahalua R**

## Bonefishes Albulidae

- Smallmouth (Indo-Pacific) Bonefish *Albula glossodonta* **'o'io R**

## Moray Eels Muraenidae

- Stout Moray *Gymnothorax eurostus* **puhi R**
- Yellowmargin Moray *Gymnothorax flavimarginatus* **puhi paka U**

- Whitemouth Moray *Gymnothorax meleagris* **puhi 'oni'o C**
- Dwarf Moray *Gymnothorax melatremus* **puhi U**
- Steindachner's Moray *Gymnothorax steindacneri* **puhi R**

## Snake Eels and Worm Eels Ophichthidae

- Saddled Snake Eel *Leiuranus semicinctus* **R**

## Conger Eels Congridae

- Bower's Conger Eel *Ariosoma bowersi* **puhi R**
- Mustache Conger *Conger cinereus* **puhi uha R**

## Brotulas and Cusk Eels (Ophidiidae)

- Large-eye Brotula (Reef Cusk Eel) *Brotula multibarbata* **palahoana R**

## Milkfish Chanidae

- Milkfish *Chanos chanos* **awa R**

## Lizardfishes Synodontidae

- Ulae *Synodus ulae* **'ulae U**

## Needlefishes Belonidae

- Keeltail Needlefish *Platybelone argalus* **'aha A**
- Houndfish *Tylosurus crocodiles* **'aha R**

## Halfbeaks Hemiramphidae

- Acute Halfbeak *Hyporhamphus acutus* **iheihe A**

## Squirrelfishes Holocentridae

- Bigscale Soldierfish *Myripristis berndti* **'u'u C**
- Spotfin Squirrelfish *Neoniphon sammara* **'ala'ihii C**
- Peppered Squirrelfish *Sargocentron punctatissimum* **'ala'ihii R**
- Saber (Longjaw) Squirrelfish *Sargocentron spiniferum* **'ala'ihii R**
- Hawaiian Squirrelfish *Sargocentron xantherythrum* **'ala'ihii U**

## Trumpetfishes Aulostomidae

- Trumpetfish *Aulostomus chinensis* **nunu U**

## Cornetfishes Fistulariidae

- Cornetfish *Fistularia commersonii* **nunu peke R**

## Pipefishes and Seahorses Syngnathidae

- Black-sided Pipefish *Doryramphus melanopleura* **R**
- Yellow Seahorse *Hippocampus kuda* **R**

## Orbicular Velvetfishes Caracanthidae

- Hawaiian Orbicular Velvetfish *Caracanthus typicus* **R**

## Groupers et c. Serranidae

- Hawaiian Grouper *Epinephelus quernus* **hapu'u. R**

## Flagtails Kuhliidae

- Hawaiian Flagtail *Kuhlia sandvicensis* **aholehole C**

**Bigeyes Priacanthidae**

- Glasseye *Heteropriacanthus cruentatus* 'aweoweo R  
 Hawaiian Bigeye *Priacanthus meeki* 'aweoweo C

**Hawkfishes Cirrhitidae**

- Redbar Hawkfish *Cirrhitops fasciatus* pili ko'a R  
 Stocky Hawkfish *Cirrhitus pinnulatus* po'o pa'a R  
 Arc-eye Hawkfish *Paracirrhites arcatus* pili ko'a C

**Morwongs Cheilodactylidae**

- Hawaiian Morwong *Cheilodactylus vittatus* kikakapu R

**Tunas Thunnidae**

- Wavy-backed Skipjack *Euthynnus affinus* kawa kawa R

**Cardinalfishes Apogonidae**

- Iridescent Cardinalfish *Apogon kollopterus* 'upapalu C

**Remoras Echeneidae**

- Sharksucker *Echeneis naucrates* leleiona R  
 Common Remora *Remora remora* R

**Jacks Carangidae et c.**

- Barred Jack *Carangoides ferdau* ulua U  
 Giant White Trevally *Caranx ignobilis* 'ulua aukea C  
 Island (Yellow-spotted) Jack *Carangoides orthogrammus* ulua U  
 Bluefin Trevally *Caranx melampygus* 'omilu C  
 Mackerel Scad *Decapterus macarellus* 'opelu R  
 Rainbow Runner *Elegatis bipinnulata* kamanu R  
 Leatherback *Scomberoides lysan* lai R  
 Frigate Mackerel *Auxis thazard* keo keo R  
 Japanese Mackerel *Scomber japonicus* R

**Snappers Lutjanidae**

- Smalltooth Jobfish *Aphareus furca* wahanui R  
 Small-scaled Snapper *Pristipomoides microlepis* o'pakapaka R  
 Green Jobfish *Aprion virescens* uku U  
 Blacktail Snapper *Lutjanus fulvus* to'au R  
 Bluestripe Snapper *Lutjanus kasmira* ta'ape C

**Emperors Lethrinidae**

- Bigeye Emperor *Monotaxis grandoculis* mu U

**Threadfins Polynemidae**

- Six-fingered Threadfin *Polydactylus sexfilis* moi U

**Mulletts Mugilidae**

- Sharpnose (Acute-jawed) Mullet *Neomyxus leuciscus* uouoa U  
 Striped Mullet *Mugil cephalus* 'ama'ama U

**Goatfishes Mullidae**

- Yellowstripe Goatfish *Mulloidichthys flavolineatus* weke A  
 Yellowfin Goatfish *Mulloidichthys vanicolensis* weke 'ula A  
 Doublebar Goatfish *Parupeneus bifasciatus* munu R  
 Manybar Goatfish *Parupeneus multifasciatus* moano A  
 Blue Goatfish *Pseudupeneus cyclostomus* moano kea R  
 Sidespot Goatfish *Parupeneus pleurostigma* malu U  
 Whitesaddle Goatfish *Parupeneus porphyreus* kumu U

**Chubs Kyphosidae**

- Gray Chub *Kyphosus bigibbus* nenue C

**Butterflyfishes Chaetodontidae**

- Threadfin Butterflyfish *Chaetodon auriga* kika kapu C  
 Speckled Butterflyfish *Chaetodon citrinellus* lauhau R  
 Bluestripe Butterflyfish *Chaetodon fremblii* kika kapu C  
 Raccoon Butterflyfish *Chaetodon lunula* kika kapu C  
 Oval Butterflyfish *Chaetodon lunulatus* kapuhili R (LPP)  
 Milletseed Butterflyfish *Chaetodon miliaris* lau wiliwili A  
 Multiband Butterflyfish *Chaetodon multicinctus* kikakapu U  
 Ornate Butterflyfish *Chaetodon ornatissimus* kikakapu R  
 Fourspot Butterflyfish *Chaetodon quadrimaculatus* lau hau R (LPP)  
 Chevron Butterflyfish *Chaetodon trifascialis* R (LPP)  
 Teardrop Butterflyfish *Chaetodon unimaculatus* lau hau R (LPP)  
 Forcepsfish *Forcipiger flavissimus* lau wiliwili nukunuku'oi'oi C  
 Longnose Butterflyfish *Forcipiger longirostris* wiliwili nukunuku'oi'oi R  
 Pennantfish *Heniochus diphreutes* R

**Angelfishes Pomacanthidae**

- Potter's Angelfish *Centropyge potteri* C

**Damselishes Pomacentridae**

- Sergeant Major *Abudefduf abdominalis* mamu A  
 Indo-Pacific Sergeant *Abudefduf vaigiensis* mamu R  
 Blackspot Sergeant *Abudefduf sordidus* kupipi C  
 Chocolate-dip Chromis *Chromis hanui* C  
 Oval Chromis *Chromis ovalis* C  
 Blackfin Chromis *Chromis vanderbilti* R  
 Hawaiian Dascyllus *Dascyllus albisella* 'alo'ilo'i A  
 Brighteye Damselish *Plectroglyphidodon imparipennis* C  
 Blue-eye Damselish *Plectroglyphidodon johnstonianus* C  
 Rock Damselish *Plectroglyphidodon sindonis* R  
 Pacific Gregory *Stegastes fasciolatus* A

**Wrasses Labridae**

- Psychedelic Wrasse *Anampses chrysocephalus* R  
 Pearl Wrasse *Anampses cuvier* 'opule U  
 Hawaiian Hogfish *Bodianus bilunulatus* 'a'awa C  
 Cigar Wrasse *Cheilio inermis* kupoupou R  
 Yellowstriped Coris *Coris flavovittata* hilu U  
 Yellowtail Coris *Coris gaimard* hinalea 'akilolo C

