

UPPER NEWPORT BAY FISHES

Here is information on some of the more common fishes found here. All of the fish with an asterisk after their names have skeletons made of cartilage instead of bone.

<u>Name</u>	<u>When/where Seen</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Useful Tidbits</u>
Gray Smoothhound Shark*	All year, sandy areas	Crab, shrimp, small fish	Grows to 4 feet. Females are larger than males.
Leopard Shark*	All year, sandy areas	Crab, clams, small fish	Grows to 6 feet. Schools with smoothhounds.
Round Stingray*	All year, sand bottoms	Worms, crabs, clams	Has venomous barb on tail.
Shovelnose Guitarfish*	Springtime, sandy bottoms	Worms, crabs, molluscs	Has live birth
Pacific Staghorn Sculpin	May-July, mudflats	Crustacea, worms, small fish	Can walk on its pectoral fins
Killifish	All year, brackish water	Algae, detritus	Fresh/salt water fish
Longjaw Mudsucker	All year, mudflats	Ghost shrimp, crab	Fresh/salt water fish. Can breath air
Arrow Goby	All year, mudflats	Copepods, small worms	Fresh/salt water fish
Mosquitofish	Big Canyon	Insects, larvae	Freshwater fish. Gives birth to live baby fish
Silvery Mullet	All year	Algae, plankton	Often seen jumping in the air <i>WHY?</i>
Topsmelt	All year, more in summer	Algae, detritus	Tolerates large swings in salinity
Deepbody Anchovy	Jan. – Sept.	Algae, plankton	Eaten by smoothhound sharks and herons, etc.
California Halibut	All year, sandy bottoms	Small fish, invertebrates	Spawns here. Adults leave and grow to 5 ft.
Spotted Sand Bass	Sandy or muddy bottom	Crabs, clams, small fishes	Can change sex.
Yellowfin Croaker	Sandy areas, May - July	Worms, crabs, shrimp	Makes a drum-like noise. Reason not known
Bat Ray*	Sandy or rocky areas	Worms, octopus, crabs	Barb on tail and powerful crushing jaws.
Thornback Ray	Fine sand to mud areas	Amphipods, molluscs	3 rows of spines on back and tail
Diamond Turbot	Mud or sand bottom	Clams, worms, fishes	Both eyes are on the right side of the fish.
Yellowfin Goby	All year, mudflats	Crustaceans and molluscs	Invasive species from Asia
Threadfin Shad	Shallow water	Algae, small plankton	Last ray in dorsal fin is long.
Pacific Sardine	Pelagic near shore	Plankton (copepods, eggs)	Occurs in large schools, baitfish
Northern Anchovy	Pelagic near shore	Algae, plankton, eelgrass	Occurs in large schools, baitfish
Shiner Surfperch	Near eelgrass or piers	Small crustaceans	Easily caught off piers
Corbina	Sandy shores	Sand crabs, worms	Important pier sport fish
Opaleye	Near rocks or kelp	Algae, some invertebrates	Have blue-green eyes, white spot under dorsal fin
Pile Surfperch	Big Canyon, rocky shores	Wavy chione, crabs	A large surfperch
Red Shiner	Big Canyon, sandy areas	Algae, small inverts	Freshwater fish
Fathead Minnow	San Diego Creek, mud	Insect larvae, algae	Freshwater fish
Tilapia spp.	Estuaries, lakes	Mosquito larvae, algae	Introduced from S. Africa for mosquito control

A complete listing as published in the 1989 UNB Ecological Reserve Management Plan follows hereafter.

Fish List as Published in the 1989 UNB Ecological Reserve Management Plan

Saltwater Bony Fish of Upper Newport Bay

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Abundance in UNB</u>
Bonefish	<i>Albula vulpes</i>	R
Threadfin shad	<i>Dorsoma petenense</i>	C
Pacific sardine	<i>Sardinops sagax</i>	R
Northern anchovy	<i>Engraulis mordax</i>	R
Deepbody anchovy	<i>Anchoa compressa</i>	A
Slough anchovy	<i>Anchoa delicatissima</i>	C
Specklefin midshipman	<i>Porichthys myriaster</i>	C
California clingfish	<i>Gobiesox rhessodon</i>	R
California killifish	<i>Fundulus parvipinnis</i>	A
California grunion	<i>Leuresthes tenuis</i>	R
Topsmelt	<i>Atherinops affinis</i>	A
Kelp pipefish	<i>Syngnathus californiensis</i>	R
Bay pipefish	<i>Syngnathus leptorhynchus</i>	C
Barred pipefish	<i>Syngnathus auliscus</i>	C
Rockfish sp.	<i>Sebastes sp.</i>	R
Staghorn sculpin	<i>Leptocottus armatus</i>	A
Striped bass	<i>Morone saxatalis</i>	C
Kelp bass	<i>Paralabrax clathratus</i>	R
Spotted sand bass	<i>Paralabrax maculatofasciatus</i>	C
Barred sand bass	<i>Paralabrax nebulifer</i>	U
Pacific butterfish	<i>Peprilus simillimus</i>	R
Salema	<i>Xenistius californiensis</i>	R
Sargo	<i>Anisotremus davidsonii</i>	C
Queenfish	<i>Seriphus politus</i>	C
White seabass	<i>Atractoscion nobilis</i>	C
Yellowfin croaker	<i>Umbrina roncadore</i>	A
California corbina	<i>Menticirrhus undulatus</i>	C
White croaker	<i>Genyonemus lineatus</i>	C
Spotfin croaker	<i>Roncadore stearnsii</i>	C
Black croaker	<i>Cheilotrema saturnum</i>	R
Opaleye	<i>Girella nigricans</i>	R
Zebraperch	<i>Hermosilla azurea</i>	R
Barred surfperch	<i>Amphistichus argenteus</i>	R
Walleye surfperch	<i>Hyperprosopon argentum</i>	R
Shiner surfperch	<i>Cymatogaster aggregata</i>	C
Pile surfperch	<i>Rhacohilus vacca</i>	C
White surfperch	<i>Phanerodon furcatus</i>	R
Longjaw mudsucker	<i>Gillichthys mirabilis</i>	C
Yellowfin goby	<i>Acanthogobius flavimanus</i>	A
Checkspot goby	<i>Ilypnus gilberti</i>	R
Shadow goby	<i>Quietula y-cauda</i>	C
Pacific mackerel	<i>Scomber japonicus</i>	R
California tonguefish	<i>Symphurus atricauda</i>	R
California halibut	<i>Paralichthys californicus</i>	C
Hornyhead turbot	<i>Pleuronichthys verticalis</i>	R
C-O turbot	<i>Pleuronichthys coneosus</i>	R
Diamond turbot	<i>Hypsopsetta guttulata</i>	C
Spotted turbot	<i>Pleuronichthys ritteri</i>	R

Freshwater Tolerant Bony Fish of Upper Newport Bay

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Abundance in UNB</u>
Mosquitofish	<i>Gambusia affinis</i>	C
Common Tilapia	<i>Tilapia mossambicus</i>	C
Black bullhead	<i>Ameiurus mela</i>	R
Green sunfish	<i>Lepomis cyanellus</i>	R
Bluegill	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	R
Red shiner	<i>Cyprinella perallidus</i>	R
Fathead minnow	<i>Pimephales notatus</i>	R
Goldfish	<i>Carassius auratus auratus</i>	R
Arrow goby	<i>Clevelandia ios</i>	C

Sharks and Rays of Upper Newport Bay

Gray smoothhound shark	<i>Mustelus californicus</i>	A
Brown smoothhound shark	<i>Mustelus henlei</i>	R
Leopard shark	<i>Triakis semifasciata</i>	R
Thornback	<i>Platyrhinoidis triserata</i>	A
Shovelnose guitarfish	<i>Rhinobatos productus</i>	R
Round stingray	<i>Urolophus halleri</i>	R
Diamond stingray	<i>Dasyatis brevis</i>	C
California Butterfly stingray	<i>Gymnura marmorata</i>	R
Bat ray	<i>Myliobatus californica</i>	C

A = Abundant

C = Common

R =Rare