



BERBERA MARITIME AND FISHERIES ACADEMY

MARINE FISHES - TELEOST (BONY FISHES) OF SOMALILAND

Introduction

The Somaliland coast lies north of the equator, between latitude 10°N and latitude 11°N and between longitude 43.15°E and longitude 49°E in the Gulf of Aden. It stretches 850km with an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) area of approximately 70,000 sq.km. It is arid and hot most of the time, while precipitation is less than 50mm annually. Water Temperature is 21° in January & 37° in October. Two monsoon winds are experienced annually. South West monsoon blows June to September, while North –east blows October to March.

There are major settlements of fishing communities along the coast of Somaliland. Starting from west, they are: Loyado, Tokoshi, Zeila, Iughaya, Elsheik, Bulahar, Geri, Berbera, Elgerdi, Karin, Shal'o, His, Mait, Laskorey, Elayo. Somaliland marine resources are rich in both bottom and mid-water fish.

Fisheries is an economic activity that involves harvesting fish or any aquatic organism from the wild (Capture Fisheries) or raising them in confinement (Culture Fisheries/Aquaculture). Fish are generally categorized as Fin-fish and Shellfish (crustaceans, mollusk, and echinoderms). Fin-fish are cold-blooded aquatic vertebrates that have gills, fins with rays, and scales covering the body while Shellfish are cold-blooded aquatic invertebrates that have gills, various types of locomotory organs, and a shell/exoskeleton covering the body. There are four groups that collectively make up the fin-fishes. The extant fishes include the jaw-less fishes (Agnatha), the cartilaginous fishes (Chondrichthyes), the ray-finned fishes (Actinopterygii), and a small portion of the lobe-finned fishes (Sarcopterygii). The ray-finned fishes are by far the most species, accounting for more than 30,000 species, the cartilaginous fishes include about 1,200 species, and the jaw-less fishes include fewer than 100 species. This list represents only the ray-finned fishes (Actinopterygii), especially

the teleost group. This list of the teleost fishes of Somaliland marine water includes 44 species in 17 families, and 9 orders.

This volume will be the first of a series of volumes that authors will try to publish soon, this series of volumes will be included all groups of marine fin-fishes (jaw-less fishes, cartilaginous fishes, ray-finned fishes (Actinopterygii), and lobe-finned fishes, and shellfish (crustaceans, mollusk, and echinoderms) that are available in Somaliland marine water.

It was not possible for authors to travel to all coastal areas and sample fish in the field also it was not possible to compile a complete checklist therefore this document should be viewed as a tentative list of species that are often found in Somaliland. The authors expect many records will be discovered from Somaliland coastal areas and will be published in the coming editions.

Editors

Mohamud Ahmed Abdullahi (BMFA)

Shafici Hussein Musse (MoL&FD and BMFA)

Zamia Mohamed Abdi (BMFA)

Eid Saleban Ahmed (BMFA)

BERBERA MARITIME AND FISHERIES ACADEMY

MARINE FISHES - TELEOST (BONY FISHES) OF SOMALILAND

ORDER: SCOMBRIFORMES

Family: Scombridae

Family: Scombridae



Scientific name: *Thunnus alalunga* (Bonnaterre, 1788)

Scientific name: *Thunnus obesus* (Lowe, 1839)

English name: Albacore tuna

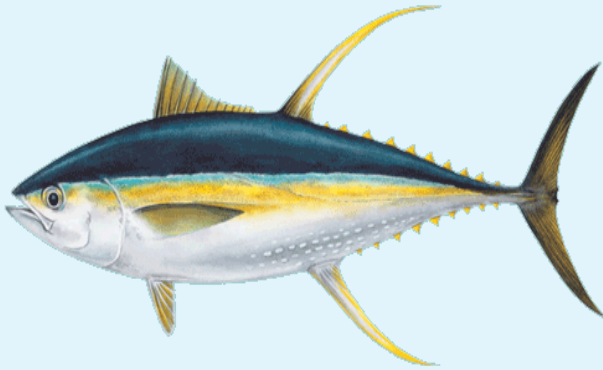
English name: Bigeye tuna

Somali name: Saynuub

Somali name: Tebad

Family: Scombridae

Family: Scombridae



Scientific name: *Thunnus albacares* Bonnaterre, 1788

Scientific name: *Auxis rochei* (Risso, 1810)

English name: Yellow fin tuna

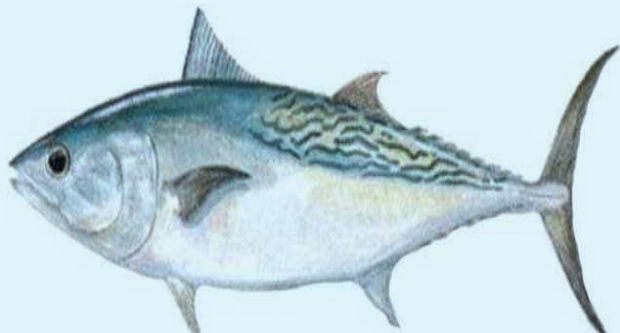
English name: Bullet tuna

Somali name: Tabad

Somali name: Shirwo Yaryar

Family: Scombridae

Family: Scombridae



Scientific name: *Auxis thazard* (Lacepède, 1800)

Scientific name: *Euthynnus affinis* (Cantor, 1849)

English name: Frigate tuna

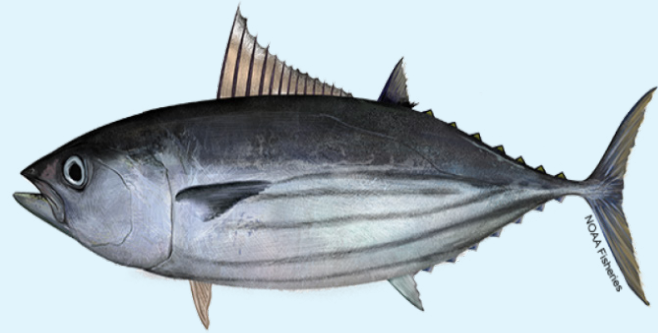
English name: Kawakawa

Somali name: Shirwo

Somali name: Shirwo

Family: Scombridae

Family: Scombridae



Scientific name: *Thunnus tonggol* (Bleeker, 1851)

Scientific name: *Katsuwonus pelamis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

English name: Long tail tuna

English name: Skipjack tuna

Somali name: Seynuub

Somali name: Dabagucun

Family: Scombridae



Family: Scombridae



Scientific name: *Scomberomorus guttatus* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)

English name: Indo-Pacific king mackerel (kingfish)

Somali Name: Deerag

Scientific name: *Scomberomorus commerson* (Lacépède, 1800)

English name: Narrow-barred striped mackerel

Somali name: Deerag

Family: Scombridae

Family: Scombridae



Scientific name: *Scomberomorus guttatus* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)

Scientific name: *Acanthocybium solandri* ([Cuvier](#) in Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1832)

English name: Somali spotted seerfish mackerel

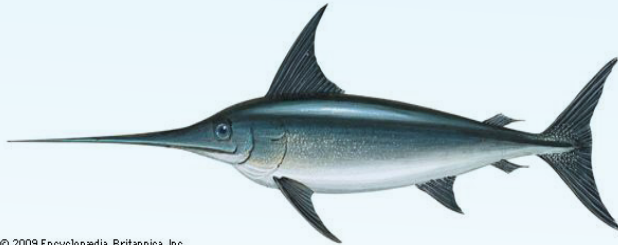
English name: Wahoo

Somali: Deerag

Somali name: Deereg baxraawi

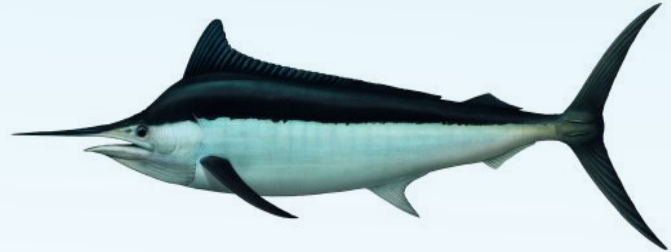
ORDER: ISTIOPHORIFORMES

Family: Xiphiidae



© 2009 Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Family: Istiophoridae



Scientific name: *Xiphias gladius* (Linnaeus, 1758)

English name: Swordfish

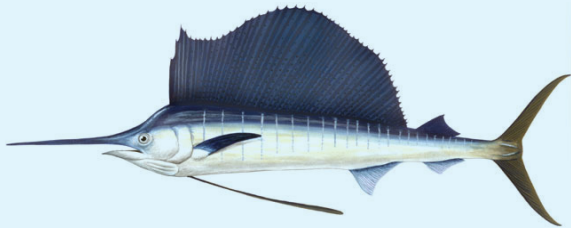
Somali name: Faras/Cambarshe

Scientific name: *Istiompax indica* (G. Cuvier, 1832)

English name: black marlin

Somali name: Khurin

Family: Istiophoridae

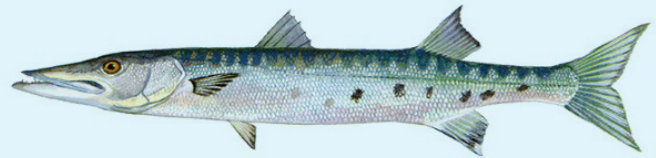


Scientific name: *Istiophorus platypterus* (Shaw, 1792)

English name: Indo-Pacific sailfish

Somali name: Faras

Family: Sphyraenidae



Scientific name: *Esox sphyraena* Linnaeus, 1758

English name: Barracuda

Somali name: Caqaam

ORDER: CARANGIFORMES

Family: Carangidae



Scientific name: *Caranx ignobilis* (Forsskål, 1775)

English name: Giant trevally

Somali name: Quruun/qaram

Family: Carangidae



Scientific name: *Caranx sexfasciatus* Quoy & Gaimard, 1825

English name: Bigeye trevally

Somali name: Xoodaar

Family: Carangidae

Family: Carangidae



Scientific name: *Caranx hippos* (Linnaeus, 1766)

Scientific name: *Gnathanodon speciosus* (Forsskål, 1775)

English name: Crevalle jacks

English name: Golden trevally

Somali name: (Xanfuush)

Somali name: Bakaasi

Family: Carangidae



Family: Carangidae



Scientific name: *Carangoides fulvoguttatus*
(Forsskål, 1775)

English name: Yellow spotted trevally

Somali name: Dooraab

Scientific name: *Scomberoides commersonnianus*
(Lacépède, 1801)

English name: Tallang queen fish

Somali name: Xilfi/Dooraab

Family: Rachycentridae



Family: Coryphaenidae



Scientific name: *Rachycentron canadum* (Linnaeus, 1766)

English name: Cobia

Somali name: Sakhlad

Scientific name: *Coryphaena hippurus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

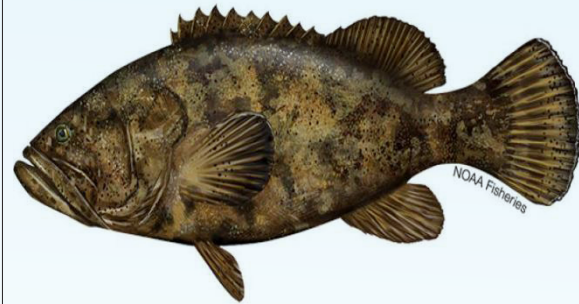
English name: Mahi-mahi

Somali name: Sucbaan

ORDER: PERCIFORMES

Family: Serranidae

Family: Serranidae



Scientific name: *Epinephelus coioides* (Hamilton, 1822)

Scientific name: *Epinephelus itajara* (Lichtenstein, 1822)

English name: Orange spotted grouper

English name: Golaith fish

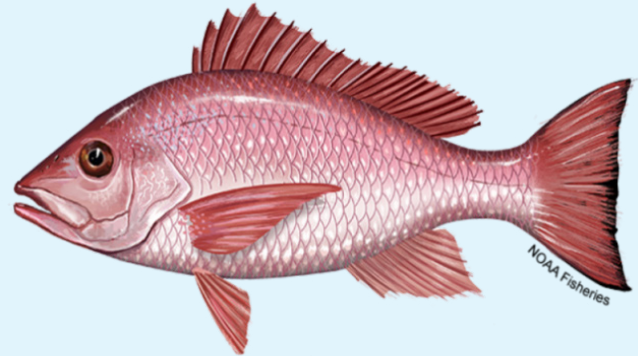
Somali name: Suman

Somali name: Gushar

Family: Serranidae



Family: Lutjanidae



Scientific name: *Epinephelus morio* (Valenciennes, 1828)

English name: Red grouper

Somali name: Karbaje

Scientific name: *Lutjanus campechanus* (Poey, 1860)

English name: Red snapper

Somali name: Case

Family: Lutjanidae



Scientific name: *Epinephelus morio* (Valenciennes, 1828)

English name: Mangrove snapper

Family: Lutjanidae



Scientific name: *Lutjanus campechanus* (Poey, 1860)

English name: Bohar snapper

Somali name: Siifan

Somali name: Bohaar

Family: Haemulidae

Family: Haemulidae



Scientific name: *Haemulon plumierii* (Lacépède, 1801)

Scientific name: *Haemulon flavolineatum* (Desmarest, 1823)

English name: White grunt

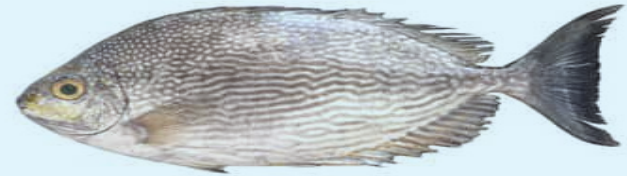
English name: Painted grunt

Somali name: Bayle

Somali name: Qardabo

Family: Haemulidae

Family: Siganidae



shutterstock.com · 495600457

Scientific name: *Pomadasys argenteus* (Forsk.)

Siganus javus (Linnaeus, 1766)

English name: Silver grunt

English name: Spinefoot

Somali name: Naaqub

Somali name: Saanfid

Family: Lethrinidae

Family: Lethrinidae



Scientific name: *Lethrinus olivaceus* (Valenciennes 1830)

Scientific name: *Lethrinus mahsena* (Forsskål, 1775)

English name: Long face emperor

English name: Mahsena emperor

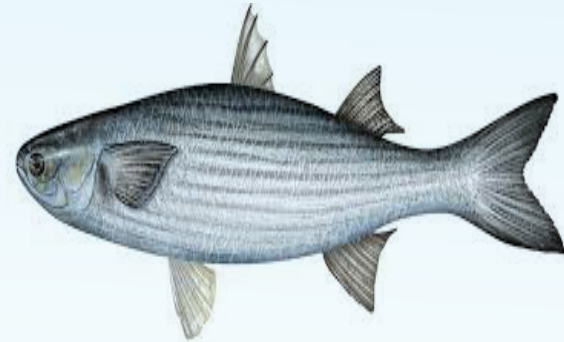
Somali name: Afdheere

Somali name: Gaxash muxsin

ORDER: MUGILIFORMES

Family: Mugilidae

Family: Mugilidae



Scientific name: *Mugil cephalus* Linnaeus, 1758

Scientific name: *Mugil cephalus* Linnaeus, 1758

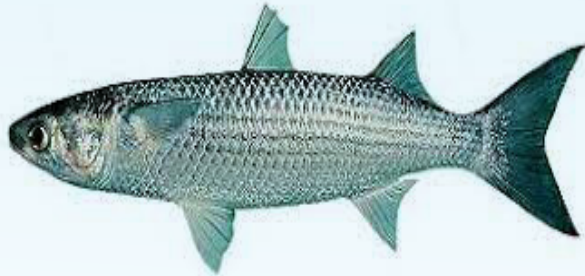
English name: Grey mullet

English name: Stripped mullet

Somali name: Maxwi

Somali name: Gujur

Family: Mugilidae



Family: Mugilidae



Scientific name: *Mugil cephalus* Linnaeus, 1758

English name: Flattened grey mullet

Somali name: cawrad

Scientific name: *Mugil curema* (Valenciennes, 1836)

English name: White grey mullet

Somali name: Sukun

ORDER: SILURIFORMES**Family: Akysidae**Scientific name: *Silurus glanis* Linnaeus, 1758

English name: Cat fish

Somali name: Kumal

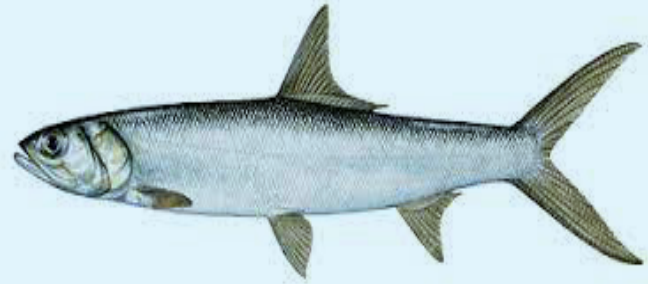
ORDER: GONORYNCHIFORMES**Family: Chanidae**

shutterstock.com - 711038758

Scientific name: *Chanos chanos* (Forsskål, 1775)

English name: Milk fish

Somali name: Abushook

ORDER: LABRIFORMES**ORDER: ELOPIFORMES****Family: Labridae****Family: Elopidae**

Scientific name: *Thalassoma lunare*
([Linnaeus](#), 1758)

Elops saurus Linnaeus, 1766

English name: Wrasse

English name: Lady fish

Somali name: Caruusa

Somali name: Doolool

Editors

Mohamud Ahmed Abdullahi (BMFA)

Shafici Hussein Musse (MoL&FD and BMFA)

Zamia Mohamed Abdi (BMFA)

Eid Saleban Ahmed (BMFA)

