







Pacific Northwest Young of Year Rockfish ID

Fishinar 8/11/2015, Janna Nichols – Instructor
 Questions? Feel free to contact me at janna@REEF.org
 All photos by Janna Nichols unless otherwise indicated

YOY Rockfish with Dorsal Spot

	<p>Canary Rockfish Stout body shape. Black, distinct dorsal spot. Look for the dark Y or V shape on the body, that extends onto the dorsal. Left part of Y is the dorsal spot. White hole in the center. Sometimes the start of the white lateral line is present. Yellow lines from eyes. Hangs out near the bottom, close to boulders.</p>
	<p>Black Rockfish Elongate body shape Black dorsal spot pretty distinct Overall brown coloration Fins clear White splotches below dorsal</p>
	<p>Yellowtail Rockfish Elongate body shape White splotches below dorsal fin Black dorsal spot pretty distinct Look for yellow tints to tail and pectoral fins Some speckling can be present Very thin lateral line</p>
	<p>Deacon Rockfish (used to be called Blue Rockfish) Elongate body shape Black dorsal spot pretty distinct, but may not be present always Reddish orange spots all over. Fins are a bluish-gray color</p>

YOY Rockfish without a Dorsal Spot



Copper Rockfish
Stout body shape



Quillback Rockfish
Stout body shape
Dark patches that extend onto dorsal fin
Light speckles all over body
Fins can be clearish but darken as they get older
Distinct light patch near front of spiny dorsal



Brown Rockfish
Stout body shape
Yellow-orange eye
White ocellated spots under dorsal and along dorsal
Brown spot on gill cover



Puget Sound Rockfish
Longer body shape.
Dark eye
Fairly uniform brown
Very thin visible lateral line
You can see scales if you look closely

YOY Rockfish that look really different – lots of color!



Vermilion Rockfish
Stout body shape
When they're really young, the tail is clear. Red and silver-gray mottled, with dark edges to their fins.



China Rockfish

Stout body shape.
Yellow orange base color, with some dark markings.

Photo by Rhoda Green



Tiger Rockfish

Stout body shape.
Whitish-cream base color, with unmistakable red bars, which are much thinner in juveniles. Extremely secretive.

Photo by Jeff Christiansen



Yelloweye Rockfish

Dark red (sometimes almost black) to red in color, white stripes and white edges to its fins. Usually found in cracks and crevices, deeper than 70 feet.