



FRDC acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and recognises their continuing connection to lands, waters and culture. We pay our respect to Elders past and present.

Australian Fish Names Standard - Update #1/2024

Welcome to the latest Australian Fish Names Standard update.

Fish Names Committee (FNC) Members

The FNC is thrilled to welcome back Jessica McInerney as Seafood Industry Australia's representative on the committee. Jess brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and connections to the FNC.

Two other new appointments have been made recently. Sara Hetzel replaces Kate Birch as the seafood marketing representative, and Derrick Addison replaces Mark Boulter as the Food and Beverage Importers Association appointee. Sincere thanks to Kate and Mark for their contributions!

And we extend a warm welcome to Sara and Derrick, who each bring significant expertise and knowledge to the group. All the FNC members are profiled [here](#).



Sara Hetzel
Expert Member (Seafood Marketing)

FNC Meetings and Applications

The FNC met at the Sydney Fish Market on February 29th for meeting number 44. For the record, FNC meeting number 1 was held in FRDC's Canberra board room way back in June 2001! FNC 44 covered a range of agenda items including new applications, the Standard's scope, the production of new Fact Files, and a discussion of the new Country of Origin Labelling requirements.

The next meeting will be held in Hobart on September 10th 2024, prior to the official opening of [Seafood Directions](#). For consideration at the next meeting, applications to amend the Standard should be forwarded to the Project Manager, Gus Yearsley, at fnc@frdc.com.au by August 23rd 2024. Details on how to apply are available [here](#).

The list of species in the Standard is continually improved with updated scientific names and the correction of typographical errors. Some changes can be made without formal FNC approval (e.g., the updating of a scientific name) but other changes need to be formally assessed and circulated for public consultation. If you notice anything that needs updating or correcting, please contact fnc@frdc.com.au.

Public Consultations for New Applications

Five applications were tabled at FNC 44 to be considered for public consultation. As a result, the following applications are currently open for comment until September 4th, 2024 with the aim to have a final vote on these names at the next FNC meeting (September 10th 2024):

- Application 352: To add Greybanded Grouper as the name for *Hyporthodus griseofasciatus*
- Application 353: To add Bottlenose Wedgefish as the name for *Rhynchobatus australiae*
- Application 354: To add Eyebrow Wedgefish as the name for *Rhynchobatus palpebratus*
- Application 355: To add Giant Manta Ray as the name for *Mobula birostris*
- Application 356: To add Reef Manta Ray as the name for *Mobula alfredi*

Hyphens - Weed Whittings and others

A recent in-house review of the use of hyphens in the Standard uncovered inconsistencies. The Fish Names protocols state that the use of unnecessary hyphens should be avoided, and that a hyphen should be used in a Standard Name where combinations use letter pairing (e.g. Blue-eye, Spot-tail). The Fish Names protocols also give direction on word combinations and the use of hyphens when combined words seem unwieldy.

One example of an inconsistency to be corrected is that the Standard Name for *Haletta semifasciata* is Blue Weed-Whiting, whereas for other *Haletta* species "Weed Whiting" is not hyphenated. [A list of 22 hyphen-related changes](#) is provided for information within the current public consultation round, which closes on September 4th.

New Published Edition

A new edition of the Standard will be published soon. This will incorporate all recent additions and amendments to the standard names. Other information will be updated to reflect changes to various protocols adopted since the last published Standard in 2019.

Gus Dannoun

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