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FRDC acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of land, sea and sky, recognising their deep, enduring connection to these places.



**FRDC
Fish
Names
Standard**

Australian Fish Names Standard Update 2/2025

South American Flathead & Giant Ruby Snapper

Public consultation regarding an application to change the Standard Name of *Percophis brasiliensis* from South American Flathead to South American Duckbill saw an unprecedented volume of public feedback, both for and against the change. This change was considered by the Fish Names Committee (FNC) at their March meeting. The FNC voted to change the name, but an appeal was subsequently lodged, and this matter is ongoing.

At the same meeting, the FNC approved the name Giant Ruby Snapper for *Etelis boweni*, and this name will be added to the Standard.

New Standard names proposed

New Standard Names are required for hundreds of species that have been recorded, or described as new, from Australian waters over recent years. These will be processed in batches, with the first batch of 109 names currently available for public comment. Among this list are some creative names such as Tricky Threadsail, Blue Bastard and Captain Parrotfish. Even the Maugean Skate, yet to officially go through the Standard Names process, is on the list.

[Click to submit your comments](#)

Group names - singular endings

The Fish Names Committee (FNC) recently proposed that the endings of group names (i.e., names that cover more than one species) be changed from plural to singular. Whilst the plural endings were optional in some cases, the FNC agreed that the complexity of the existing system hindered its usefulness. If the change is agreed to, then the names will be presented as singular but can be displayed/presented by users as singular or plural. There are 186 group names on the Standard. One example would be the name KING SNAPPERS would become KING SNAPPER for *Pristipomoides* spp. Note that group names are listed in ALL CAPS on the Standard.

The FNC is seeking public feedback on this proposal, which can be submitted as part of the current public consultation round ([link above](#)).

New Logo

The Australian Fish Names Standard (as you may have already noticed!), along with the Aquatic Plant Names Standard, has been rebranded with a new logo and new colour palette.



Fish Names Committee Meetings

The next FNC meeting (number 47) will be held in Brisbane on July 30th, 2025. Applications to amend the Standard should be forwarded to the Project Manager, Gus Yearsley, or fnc@frdc.com.au by July 9th, 2025. Details on how to apply are [available here](#). These applications will be considered at the next meeting.

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.

Gus Dannoun

Chair, Fish Names Committee

[Australian Fish Names Standard \(AS 5300\)](#)

fnc@frdc.com.au

[Australian Fish Names Webpage](#)

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