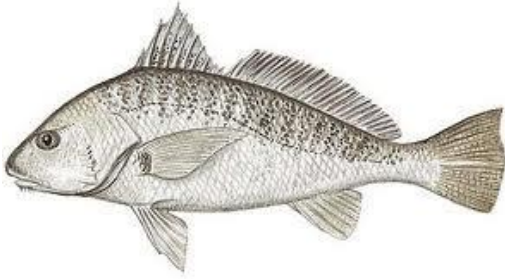
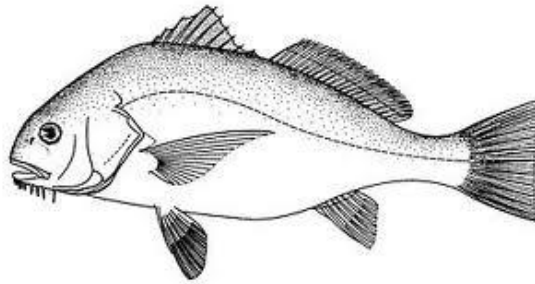


Local Oceanic Life



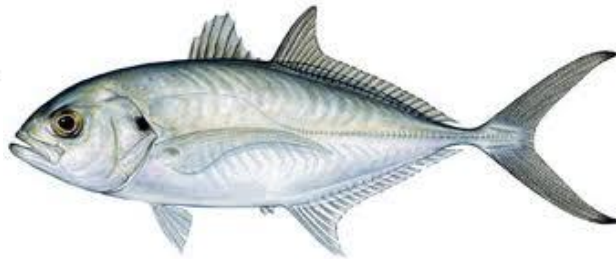
Atlantic Croaker



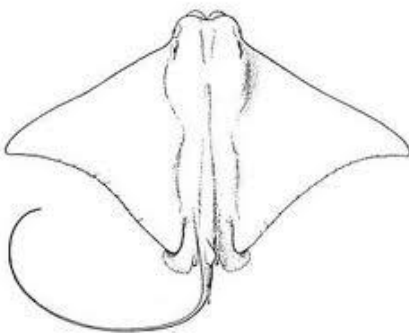
Black Drum



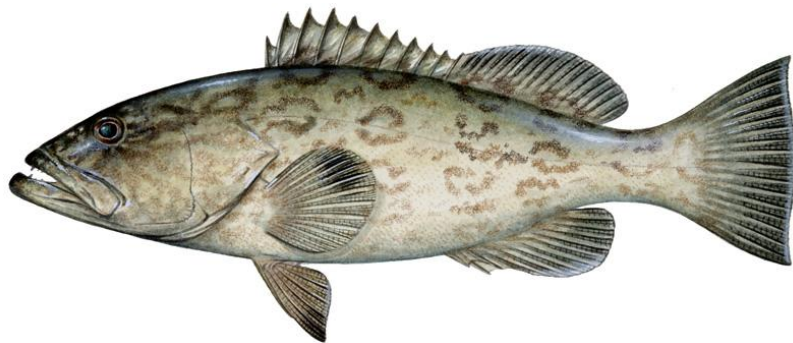
Black Seabass



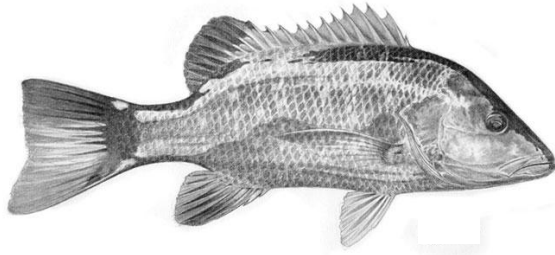
Blue Runner



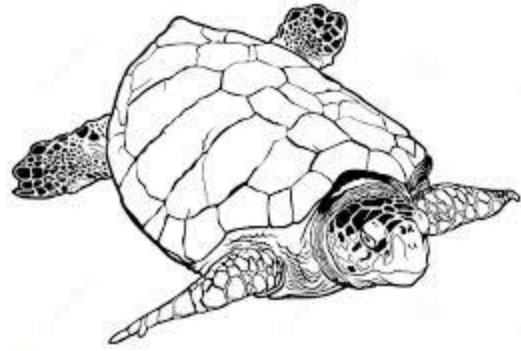
Cownose Ray



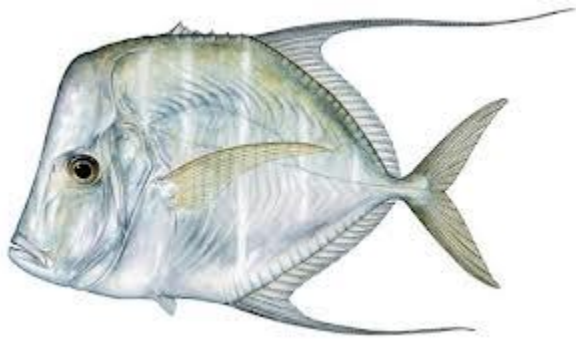
Gag Grouper



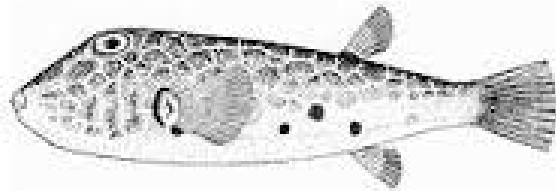
Grey Snapper



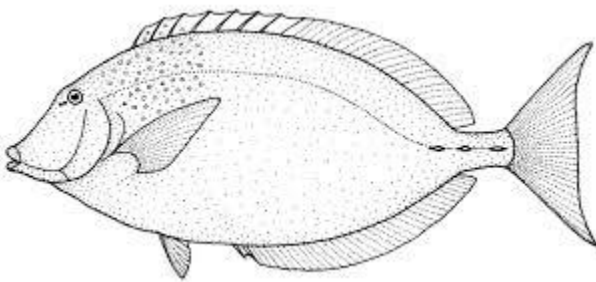
Loggerhead Sea Turtle



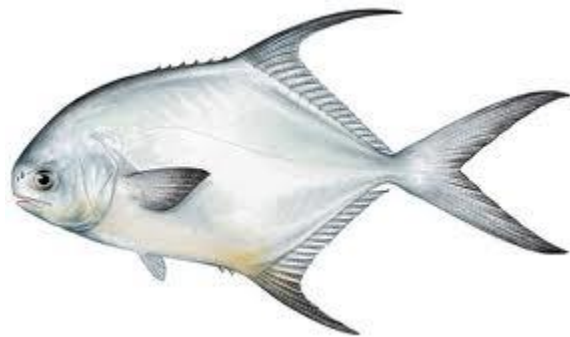
Lookdown



Northern Puffer



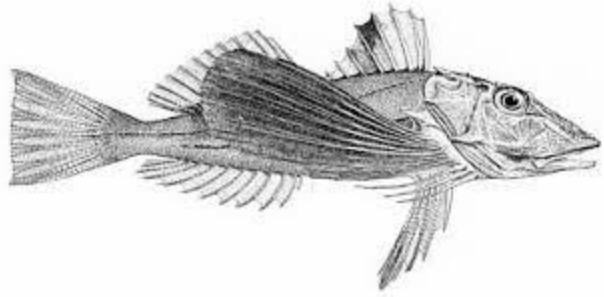
Ocean Surgeon



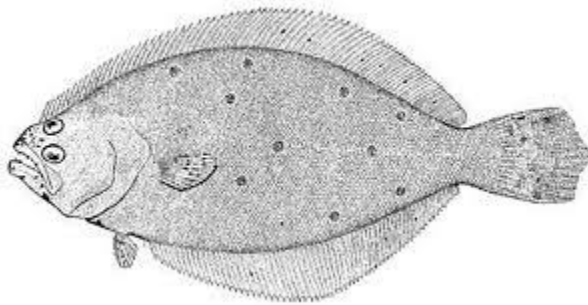
Permit



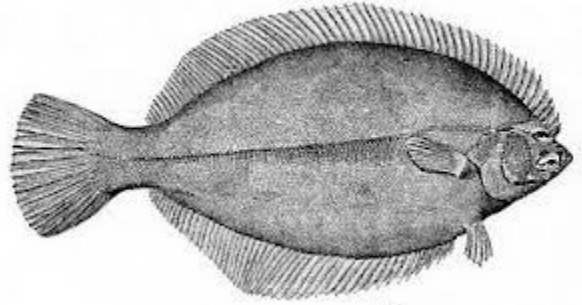
Porkfish



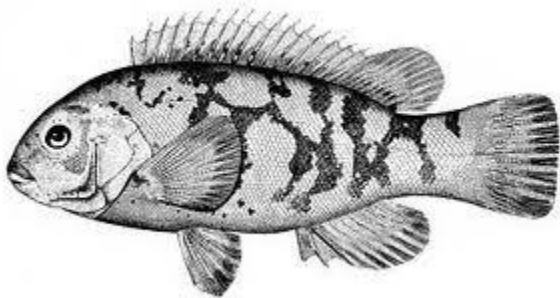
Sea Robin



Summer Flounder



Winter Flounder



Tautog



Blue Striped Grunt

Habitat

A habitat is an area where an animal makes it home because of conditions it needs to survive. In ocean habitats these conditions include the sea floor, water temperature, the amount of salt in the water, the availability of light as well as the availability of food and the presence of predators. Predators are other animals that are a threat.

Ocean Habitats

Rocks/Reefs: Some animals prefer to make their homes around rocks. Examples are the Gag Grouper, Ocean Surgeon, Black Sea Bass, Porkfish

Coastal: Some marine animals don't like to stray far from the coast. Examples of these animals are Cownose Rays, Black Drums, Lookdown, Loggerhead Sea Turtle, Blue Runner, Tautog, Summer Flounder, Winter Flounder, Porkfish, Northern Puffer

Brackish waters: Brackish waters a less salty area where rivers meet the open sea. Examples of animals living here are Atlantic Croaker, Lookdown, Permit, Northern Puffer

Seagrass beds: These areas are underground meadow of long grasses. Examples residents are Blue Striped Grunts

Hard sandy bottom area: This is exactly what it sounds like, an area of flat sands on the bottom of the ocean. Examples of animals living here are Sea Robin

Ecosystem

An ecosystem is a community of living things along with the nonliving things of their environment (things like air, water and rocks), working together as a whole.

The Gulf Stream

The Gulf Stream is a large underwater river that brings warm water up the coast from Florida to New Jersey. Because of the Gulf Stream our local oceans warm making it possible for different sea animals to survive.

