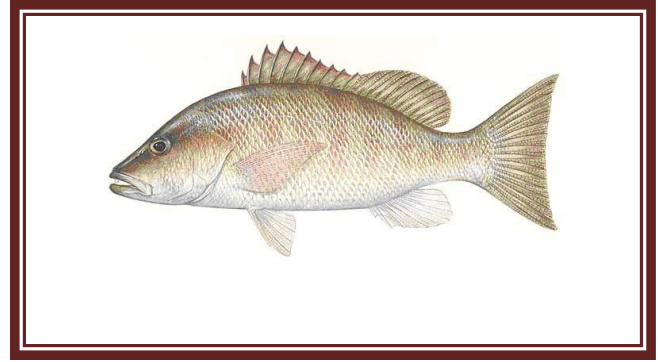


The Pier Aquarium presents the Celebrity Critter of the Week!



www.technologyinnovator.com

Mangrove Snapper

Scientific Name: *Lutjanus griseus*

Description: Color dark brown or gray with reddish or orange spots in rows along the sides; dark horizontal band from snout through eye (young only); two conspicuous canine teeth at front of upper jaw; dorsal fins have dark or reddish borders; no dark spot on side underneath dorsal fin.

Habitat: western Atlantic Ocean from Massachusetts to Bermuda, southward to Brazil including Bermuda, Bahamas, West Indies, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean.

Top 10 Facts:

1. The Mangrove Snapper is also known as the gray snapper, black snapper, mango snapper or caballerote.
2. Many biologists have now confirmed that a 29.5-pound mangrove snapper was speared off of the coast of Louisiana. The Florida record is 16 lbs., 8ozs.
3. The Mangrove Snapper is commonly confused with the cubera snapper.
4. Many specimens caught in Florida, specifically Punta Gorda, are actually misidentified Dogtooth Snapper.
5. Mangrove Snapper inhabit coastal as well as offshore waters and are usually found around coral reefs, rocky areas, within bridge structures, estuaries, mangrove areas and sometimes in lower reaches of rivers.
6. Mangrove Snapper are a common commercial game fish prized for their white meat.
7. Adults of the species tend to remain in the same area for long periods once established and studies have shown little movement for periods of time as great as four years.
8. The gray snapper is one of the smaller snappers, rarely exceeding 18 inches (45 cm) in length and almost always less than 10 pounds.
9. The maximum size and weight of the mangrove snapper is 24 inches and 10 lbs.
10. The estimated maximum age for this snapper is 25 years.

<http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/gallery/Descript/GraySnapper/Graysnapper.html>