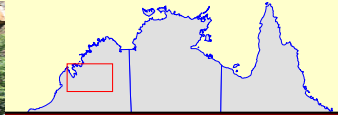


# Fishes of the Fitzroy River, Western Australia, and their Ngarinyin names

*"Nyadaga wurlan binda ngaala dalij nginyingari burralngun nyadaga wurlan nyadaga Ngarinyin barra barra nginyingari binda ngaala"*  
 These animals, whose names I have called, who I have talked about in our language Ngarinyin, belong to the freshwater...Pansy Nulgit



Mulirr / Yawarlngari jirri



Lesser Salmon Catfish

Gamangurri nyindi



Bony Bream

Aru mindi



Indian Short-finned Eel

Ganangad jirri



Toothless Catfish



Black Catfish

Manambur mindi



False-spine Catfish

23 freshwater species (i.e. those that breed in freshwater) are found in the Fitzroy River. A number of these species are restricted to the Kimberley.

Walaman jirri



Hyrtl's Tandan

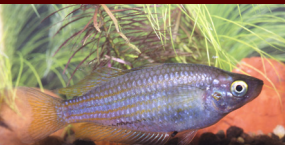


Rendahl's catfish

Biyira / Garnburu mindi



Freshwater Longtom



Giljirrimbi jirri

Western Rainbowfish



Giljirringgi jirri

Prince Regent Hardyhead



Wotaman jirri

Northwest Glassfish



Wolaman jirri

Fitzroy Glassfish



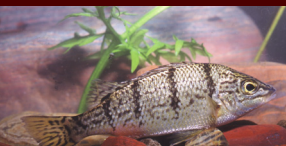
Damari

Mouth Almighty



Nalawarr / Morla morla jirri

Kimberley Archerfish



Birlimdirr

Barred Grunter



Emana / Wanggarri nyindi

Greenway's Grunter



Emana jirri amalarr

Nyimbulgunde jirri - ('blubber-lips') omarr

Black Bream (or Jenkin's Grunter)



Wonggarri nyindi

Spangled Perch



Mangena

Barnett River Gudgeon



Nyagurlman

Kimberley Mogurnda



Nyagurlman

Giant Gudgeon

Ngagulnun



Flathead Goby

A number of marine/estuarine species migrate large distances into the freshwaters of the Fitzroy River, where they use the river as a nursery and/or feeding ground. The Freshwater Sawfish and Dwarf Sawfish are listed as Critically Endangered (IUCN). The Critically Endangered Northern River Shark has also been found near the river mouth.



Bull Shark



Tarpon or Ox-eye Herring



Whipfin Silver-biddy



Freshwater Sawfish



Bulurrgari

Greenback Mullet



Spotted Scat



Dwarf Sawfish



Bulurrgari

Diamond Mullet



Striped Butterfish



Freshwater Whipray



Deyo / Alanggun jongarri jirri

Barramundi



Merauke Toadfish



Northern River Shark

Ngarinyin is a traditional language spoken in the upper reaches of the Fitzroy/Ham Rivers and King Edward Rivers along the Gibb River Rd. Language names of the fish were provided by Ngarinyin elders during field trips between 2001 and 2006 through a joint project by the Kimberley Land Council, Kimberley Language Resource Centre, Murdoch University's Centre for Fish & Fisheries Research and the communities in the Fitzroy River, and during a Murdoch University and KLRC project on the King Edward River. Fish names may vary amongst speakers. Some Ngarinyin fish names are given with noun classes (jirri - masculine, nyindi - feminine, mindi - m-class). These projects were funded by the Natural Heritage Trust and Land & Water Australia, respectively. The poster production was funded by the Recreational Fishing Community Grants Programme. Contact the Department of Fisheries WA regarding fishing regulations in the river.

Language provided by: Pansy Nulgit, Dicky Tataya (dec.), Nugget Gurdurr, Mabel King (dec.), Yoonne White (some fish names recorded by linguist Thomas Saunders)

Photographs by: David Morgan, Mark Allen, Simon Visser & Dean Thorburn (Murdoch University)

