

WRASSE ASS BASS

Liopropoma fasciatum

Bussing, 1980



CLASSIFICATION

Class: Actinopteri

Order: Perciformes

Family: Serranidae

No recognized subspecies



NOT LISTED

VERY RARE



LEAST CONCERN

Identification: One of the largest species of its genus, growing to 17 cm. Elongated head with pointy snout. Coloration bright red, getting darker on upper flanks and tail. Three bright yellow broken horizontal lines from head to tail. Long red fins.

Range: The species occurs in the eastern Pacific Ocean, from southern California and Baja California to Peru, including Galapagos Islands.

Habitat: Deep walls and rocky reefs, from 24 to 250 meters deep.

Behavior: The species is solitary, territorial and very secretive, rarely venturing out in the open. Feeds mostly on small crustaceans and fishes. Oviparous.

Status in the wild: The species has a wide range and occurs in deep waters where it can be locally common. No alarming declines noted so far.

In captivity: This species is highly sought after for its amazing coloration but remains very rare in captivity. It has been known from collections in Japan and US but in very small numbers. Absent elsewhere at this time and never bred under human care.