

# PICKHANDLE BARRACUDA

*Sphyraena jello*  
Cuvier, 1829



## CLASSIFICATION

**Class:** Actinopteri  
**Order:** Carangaria/Misc  
**Family:** Sphyraenidae

No recognized subspecies



NOT LISTED

VERY RARE



## NOT LISTED

**Identification:** Maximum body length up to 1.50 m for a weight of 11.5 kg. Very slender and cylindrical body. Elongated head with huge mouth and big eyes. Coloration silvery with dark vertical bands on flanks. Fins yellow.

**Range:** Indian Ocean and west Pacific Ocean from Red Sea to South Africa east to New Caledonia and Vanuatu. Also reported from Tonga.

**Habitat :** Occurs around seaward reefs and near current-swept lagoons, to 60 m.

**Behavior:** Juveniles form schools but adults are solitary. Diurnal species, feeds mostly on fishes but also takes squids.

**Status in the wild:** Apparently common in the wild. True status and range hard to assess because of the confusion with other related species.

**In captivity:** This species is extremely rare in captivity and is currently absent from European and American collections. Known with certainty from a single Asian aquarium. Never bred.