

***Naso lituratus* (Forster 1801)**
Orangespine Unicornfish

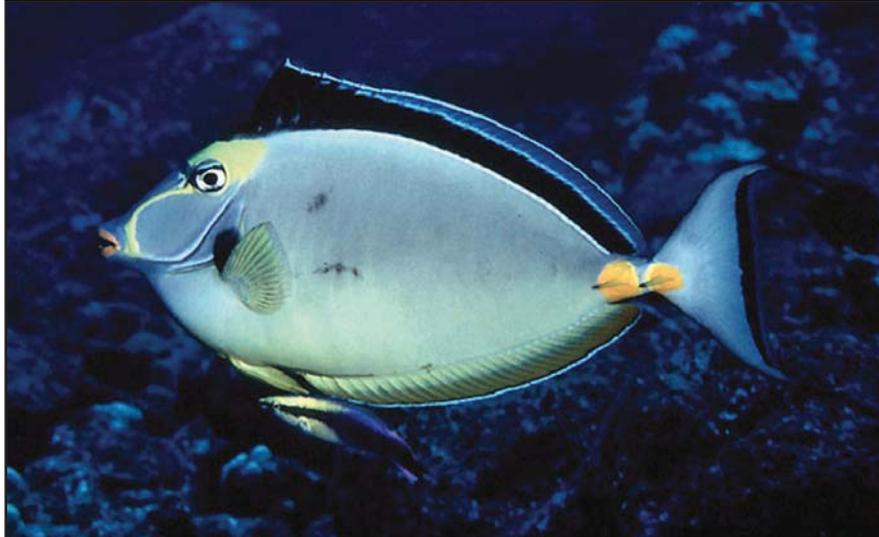


Photo by J. Randall, Bishop Museum

Identification: Greyish-brown in color with black dorsal fin having blue line at base. Dorsal and anal fins exhibit a light blue/whitish banding towards their tips. Anal fin mostly orange. Curved yellow band from mouth to eye and orange lips. Caudal fin of adult males can have trailing filaments from corners. Grows to about 46 cm TL. Also known as the Masked Unicornfish. Dorsal fin VI (28-31), anal fin II (29-31), pectoral fin (17-18). From Randall (2001).

Similar Species: No Atlantic surgeonfish has an orange spot at the base of the tail. Whitespotted Filefish (*Cantherhines macrocerus*) have orange recurved spines, however, they also have a stout first dorsal spine and orange to brown body color.

Native Range: The Orangespine Unicornfish is distributed in the Indo-Pacific from the Red Sea and East Africa to Hawai'i, Pitcairn Islands – southwest Japan to Great Barrier Reef and New Caledonia. From Allen et al. (2003).

Ecology: The Orangespine Unicornfish can be found as solitary or in aggregations (Allen et al. 2003) in both lagoonal and outer reef waters (Randall 2005). The species feeds on leafy brown algae including *Sargassum* and *Dictyota* (Myers 1999).

Nonindigenous Occurrences: The species was observed off Boca Raton in 2000 and 2001. It was also seen at Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary, Georgia, in 2006.



Acanthuridae (surgeonfishes, tangs, unicornfishes)