

## BLUESTRIPE SNAPPER

*Lutjanus kasmira*

Hawaiian name: ta'ape

### Physical Traits

**Size:** up to 15 inches, but usually smaller

**Life Span:** unknown

**Habitat:** Commonly found in the Indo-Pacific

**Status:** Least concern



Large schools of these snappers are found commonly around wrecks and dive sites around Hawaii, especially in areas where fishes have been hand fed. These snappers are yellow with four blue bars running the length of the fish and are not shy around divers.

These snappers were introduced to Hawaii from the Marquesas in the 1950s for commercial reasons, and have since been relatively unsuccessful in island fish markets.

About 100 species of snappers are known worldwide. They vary in length from about 10 inches to 3 feet. The larger snappers are usually solitary while the smaller species typically school by day, and disperse at night to feed on small fishes and crustaceans. Hawaii has thirteen snappers, out of which only 4 are seen commonly by snorkelers and divers.

Hoover, John P. Hawaii's Fishes: A Guide for Snorkelers Divers and Aquarists. Honolulu: HI. 1993.