

# A-SHOP Rockfish Species Identification Form

Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Cruise: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit: \_\_\_\_\_

Species common name: \_\_\_\_\_ Haul #: \_\_\_\_\_

Fork length: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Take photo! Specimen collected? \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe color and patterns / markings:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Peritoneum color:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Head spine strength:**

weak strong

**Number of orbital spines:** \_\_\_\_

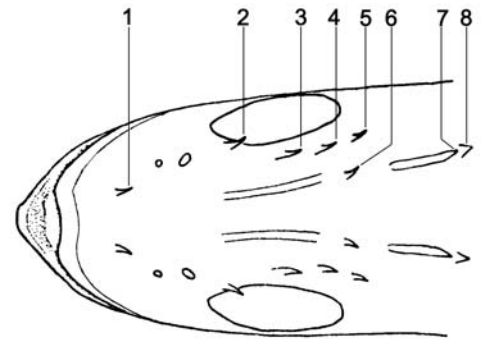
*circle head spines present*

**Compare the second and third anal spine lengths:**

\_\_\_\_ Equal in length

\_\_\_\_ 2nd anal spine extends beyond 3rd

\_\_\_\_ 2nd anal spine falls short of 3rd



**Symphyseal knob?** \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Yes

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe field characteristics used to identify this fish to species:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Similar species:**

**Characteristics that differ from this species:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Distinguishing markings on the body:**

\_\_\_ None

\_\_\_ Dark spots or speckling

\_\_\_ Highlighted lateral line

\_\_\_ Bars above lateral line only

\_\_\_ Bars extending below the lateral line

\_\_\_ Black on branchiostegal membranes

**Opercular markings:**

\_\_\_ None

\_\_\_ Bars radiating from the eye

\_\_\_ Diffuse opercular blotch or smudge

\_\_\_ Distinct opercular blotch

**Anal fin slant (natural swimming position):**

\_\_\_ Perpendicular



\_\_\_ Posterior slant



\_\_\_ Rounded



\_\_\_ Anterior slant



**Draw the characteristics used to identify this species - use checklist:**

- Maxilla size, in relation to orbit
- Symphyseal knob
- Distinguishing markings and color patterns - dorsal and ventral
- Opercular markings
- Anal fin slant and anal spines relative to fin ray length

