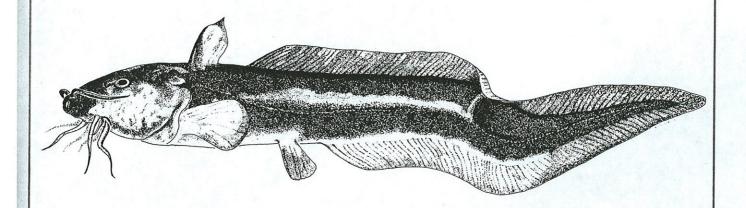
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# Cobbler (Cnidoglanis macrocephalus)



Drawing by K. Browning

The Cobbler or Estuary Catfish as it is sometimes known is common in southern Western Australian coastal waters and estuaries and also occurs in South Australia and New South Wales. The Cobbler is a bottom feeder usually foraging at night and living in caves, holes and ledges during the day.

The colour consists of various shades of brown, yellow and black giving a mottled appearance and the fish can reach one metre in length.

It is an important commercial species in Western Australia and it is also a popular catch with recreational fishermen. The fish is carniverous and eats small crustaceans, worms and mulluscs.

The flesh is soft, white and good eating.

The fish has spines on its back and sides near the head which are toxic and they can inflict a painful wound if the fish is not handled with care.

Western Australian Commercial Fish Species Illustration No. 13.



## FINS

Vol. 17 No. 3 September 1984

The Fishing Industry
News Service (FINS) is
issued by direction of the
Hon. H. D. Evans B.A.
M.L.A.
Minister for Fisheries
and Wildlife.

Director: B. K. Bowen, B.Sc.

FINS is published six times each year by the:

Extension and Publicity Office,

Department of Fisheries and Wildlife,

108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth,

Western Australia

for the betterment and development of fishery education and practice in Western Australia, and to serve as a medium of communication with all those actively engaged in the fishing industry.

All correspondence to be addressed to the Editor and article for publication forwarded one month prior to date of publication.

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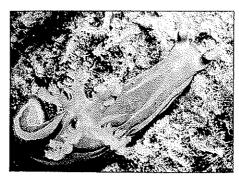
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#### IMPORTANT FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE

Ministerial Policy Guidelines for Entry into WA Fishing Fleet, see page 5.

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#### **COVER PHOTO**

A colourful nudibranch Nembrotha lineolata photographed at the Woody Island in the Abrolhos Group. This species has also been found in the vicinity of the Dampier Archipelago. (Photo P. Howden).