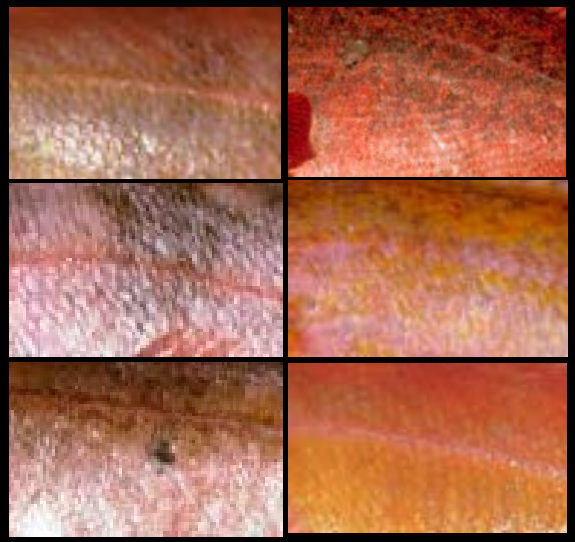
Rockfish Lecture

3-week Observer Training

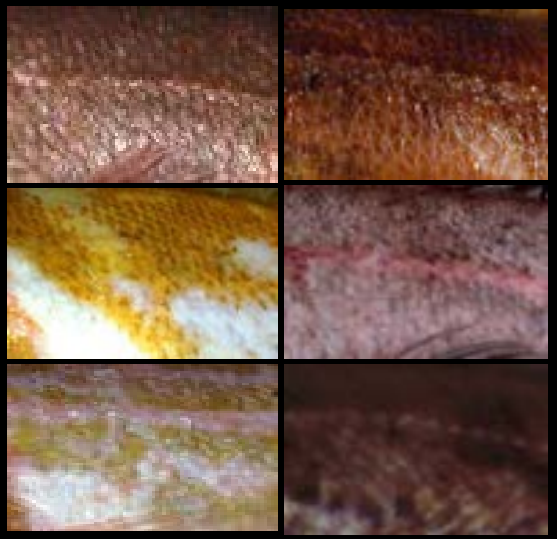
Step 1: Color Category

Red

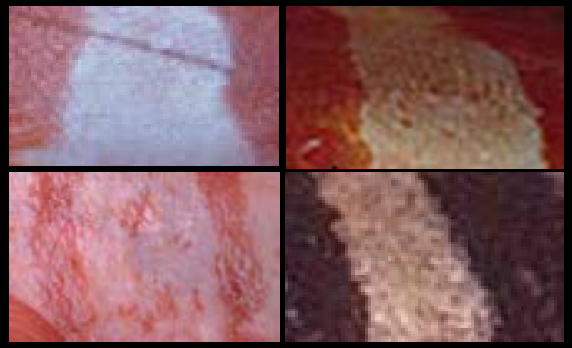


Black

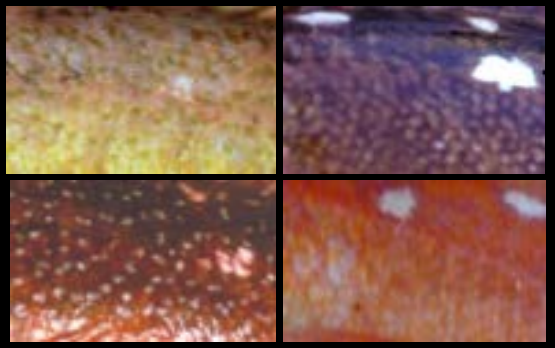
(neither) Red/ (nor) Black



Banded



White spotted red

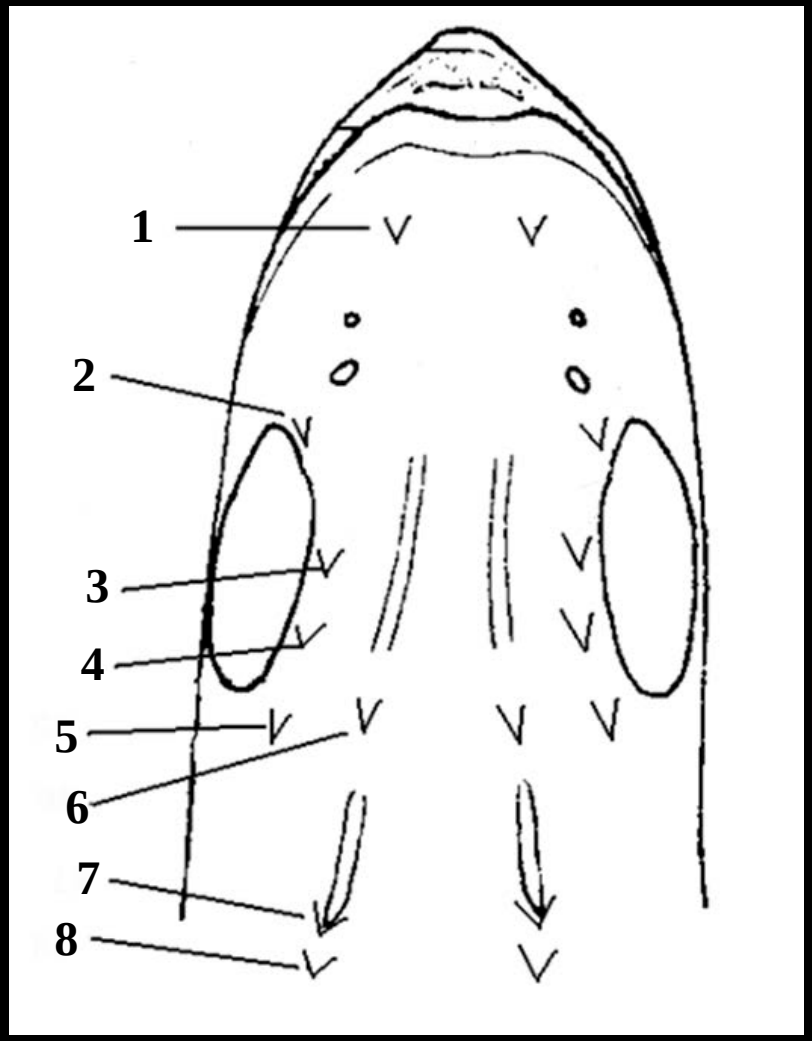


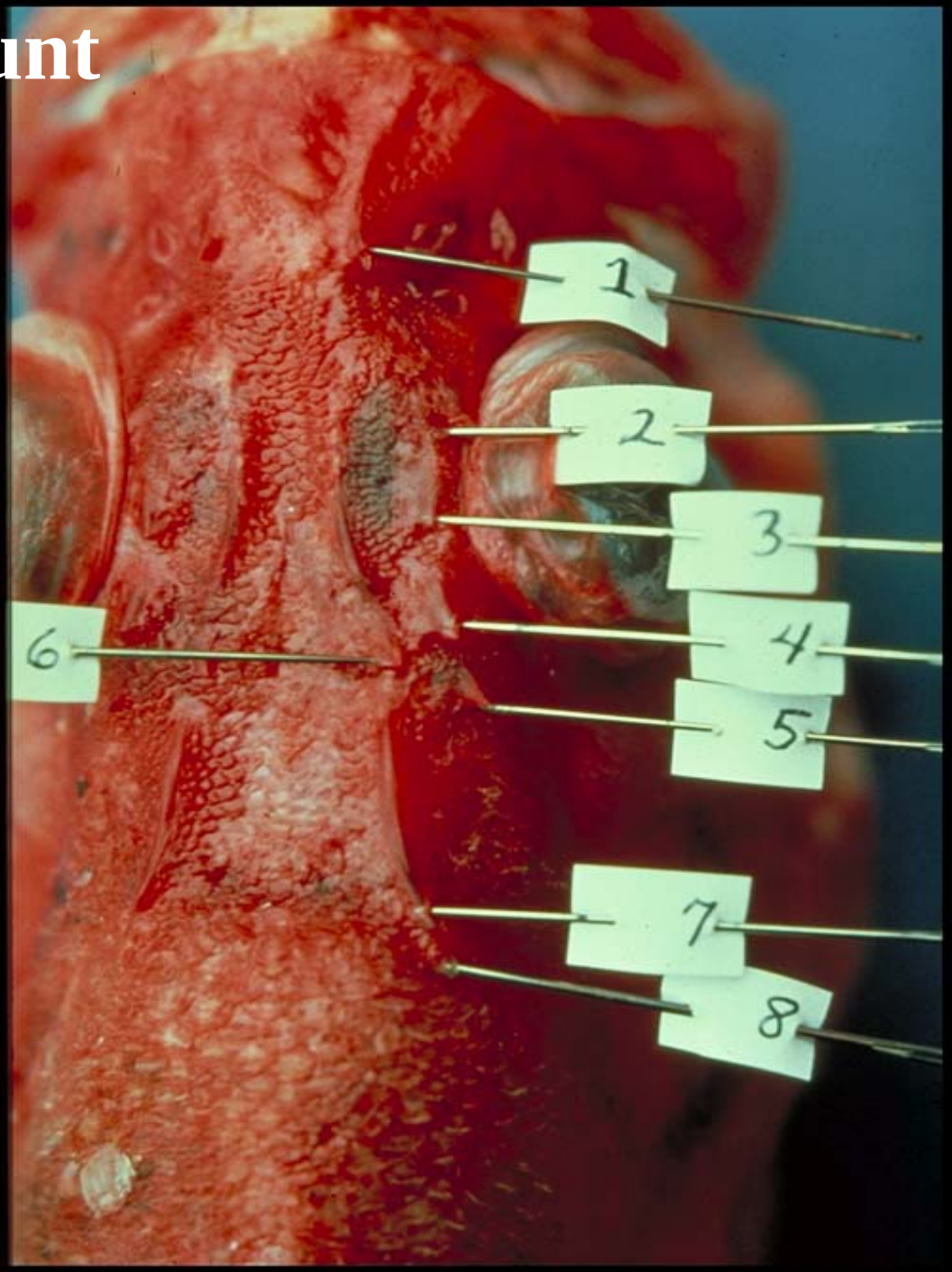
Step 2: Head Spine Strength

Weak

Strong

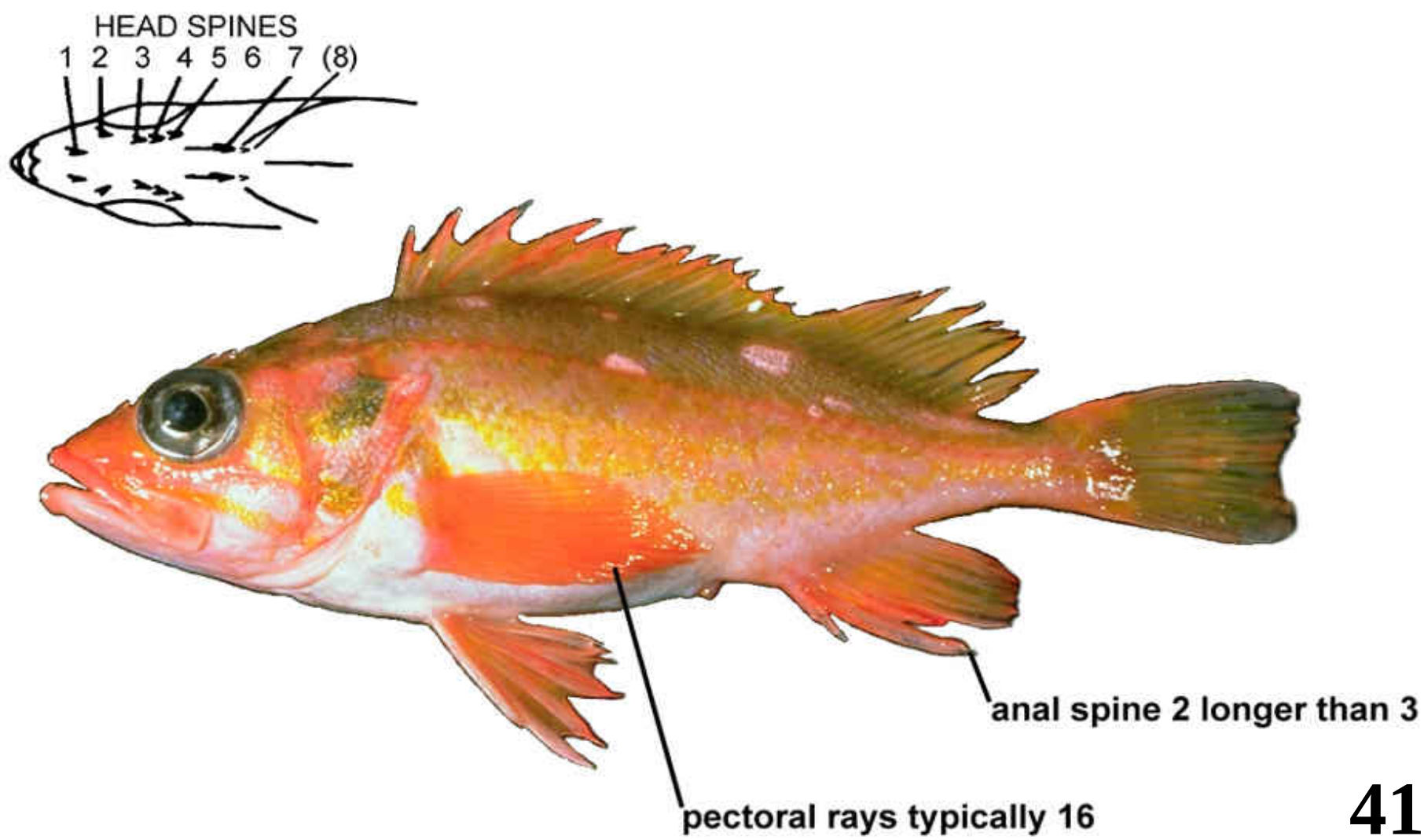
Step 3: Head Spine Count





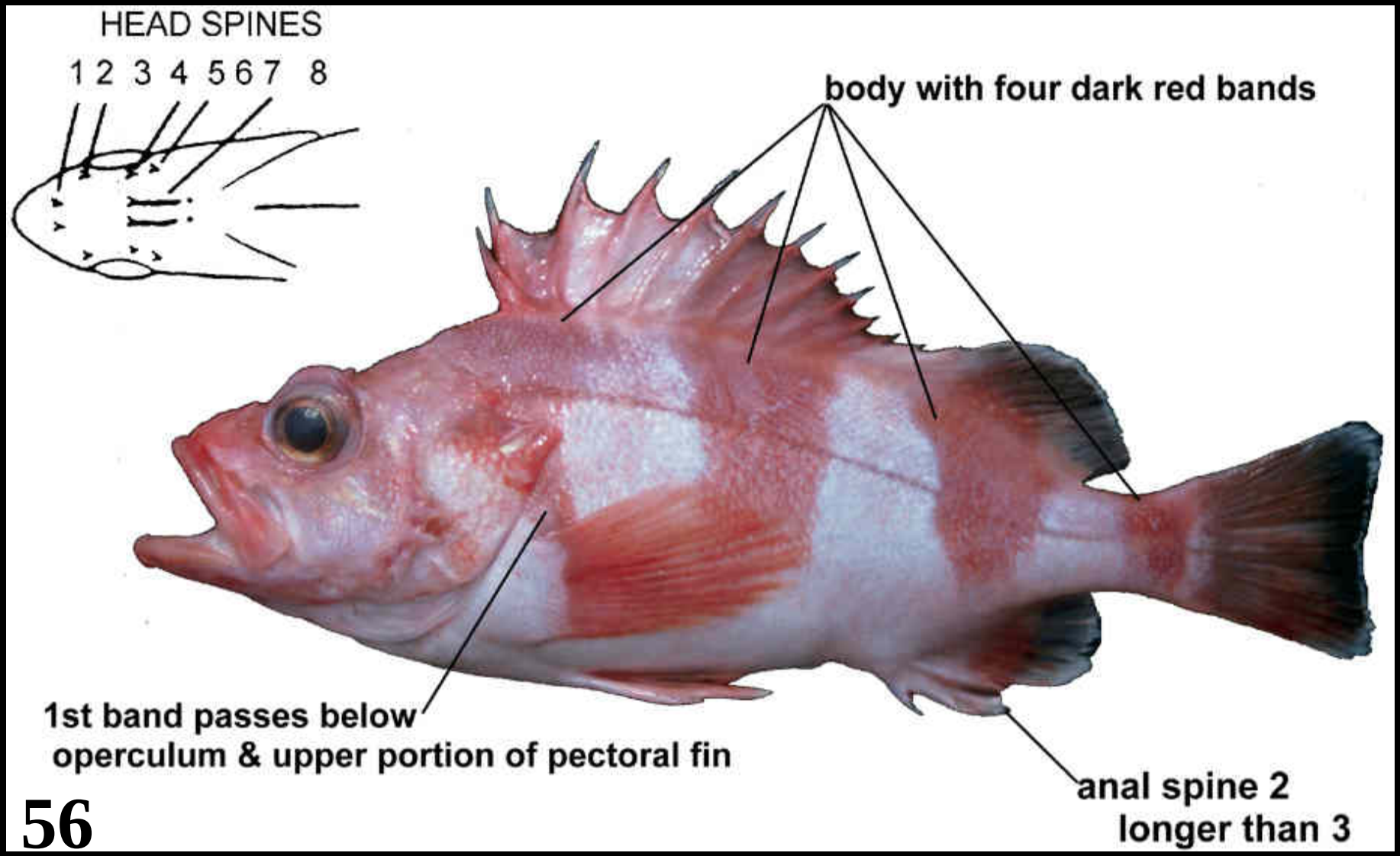
1. Banded & Spotted Category
2. Red Category
3. Black Category
4. Red/Black Category
5. Others

Sebastes helvomaculatus



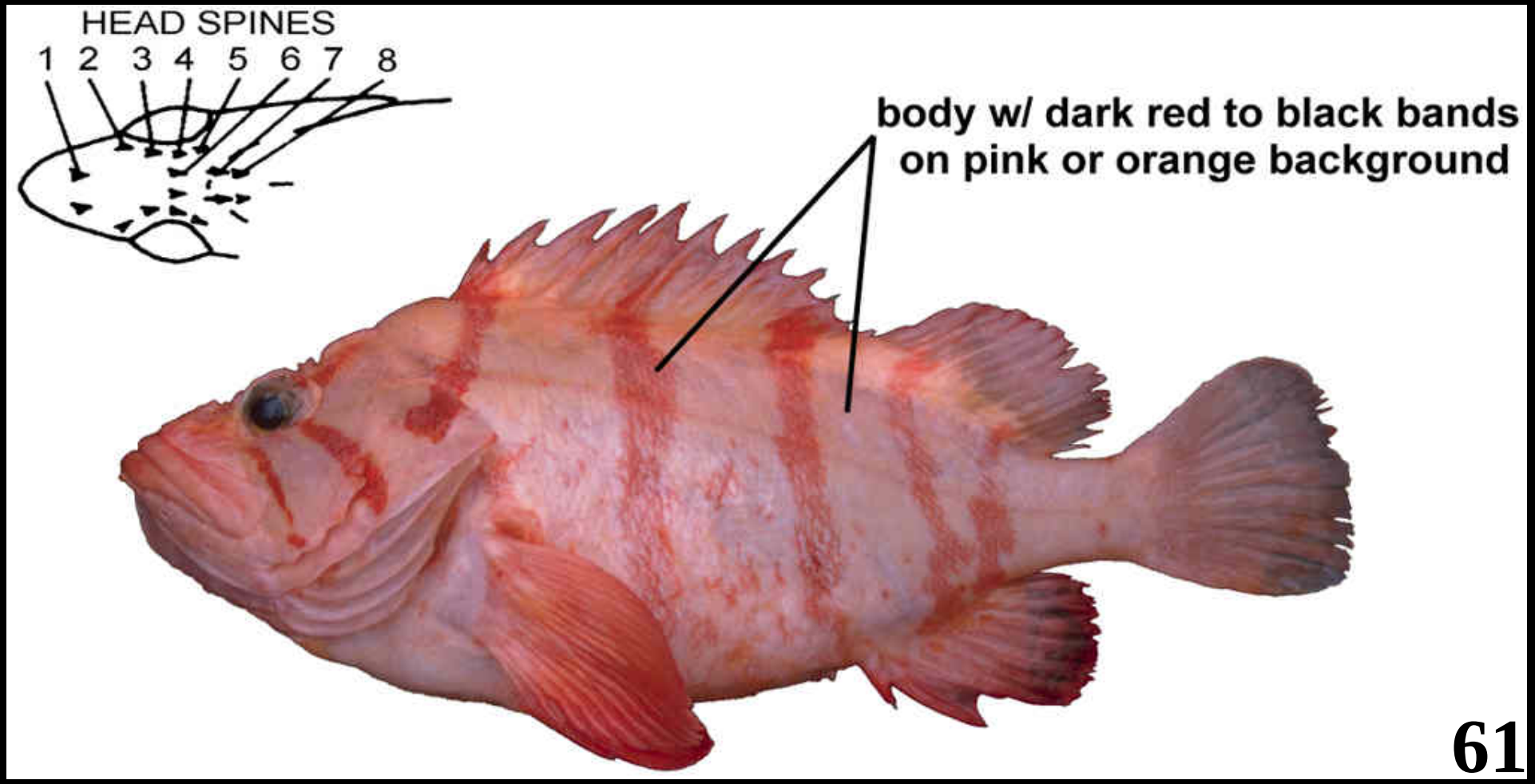
Rosethorn rockfish

Sebastes babcocki



Redbanded rockfish

Sebastes nigrocinctus



Tiger rockfish

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

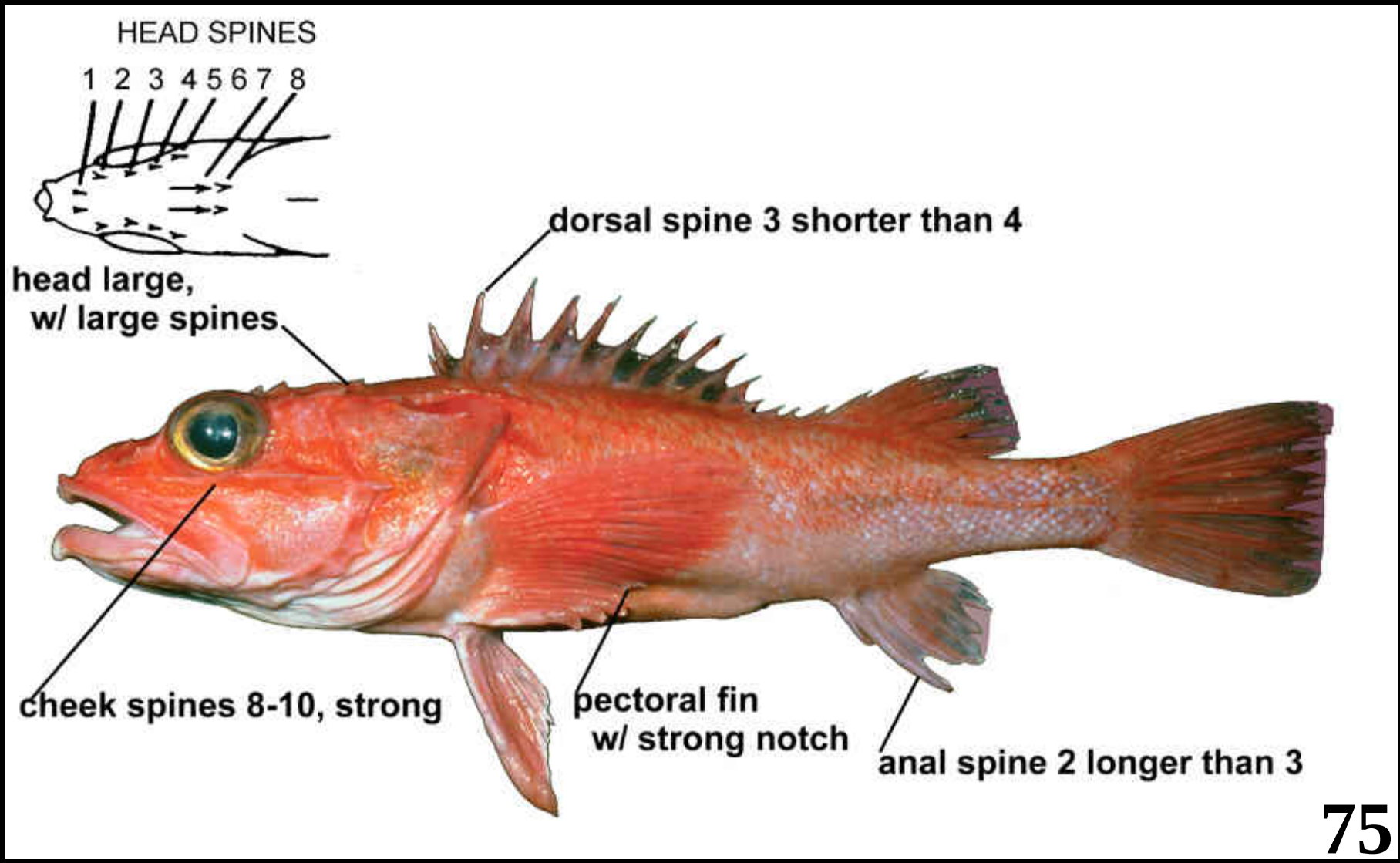
1. **Cheek Spines Present – Thornyheads**
2. **(Splitnose)**
3. **H-O Markings Present**
4. **“Big & Beefy” Group**
5. **POP Group**

Black Category

Red/Black Category

Others

Sebastolobus alascanus



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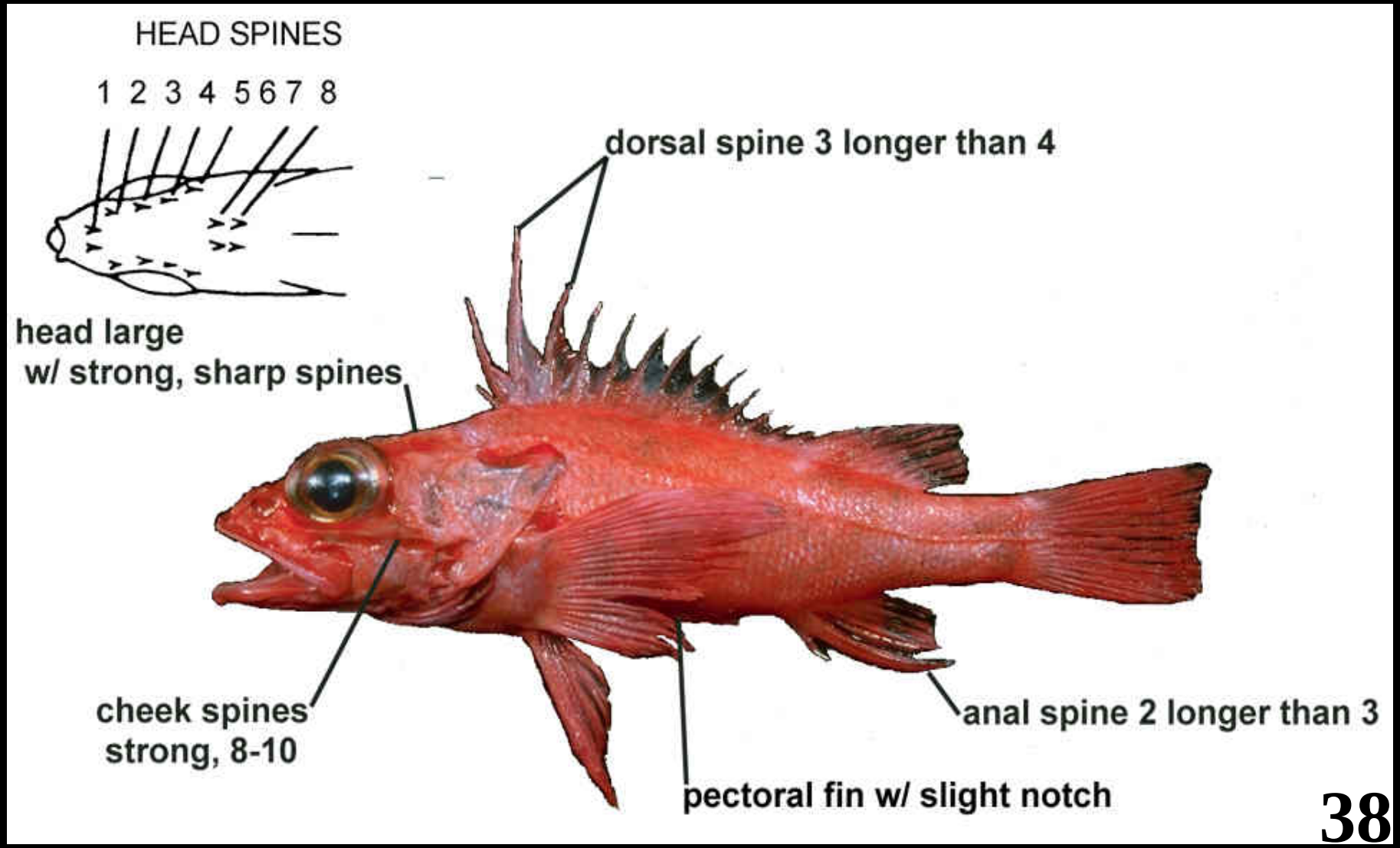
Shortspine thornyhead

Sebastolobus altivelis



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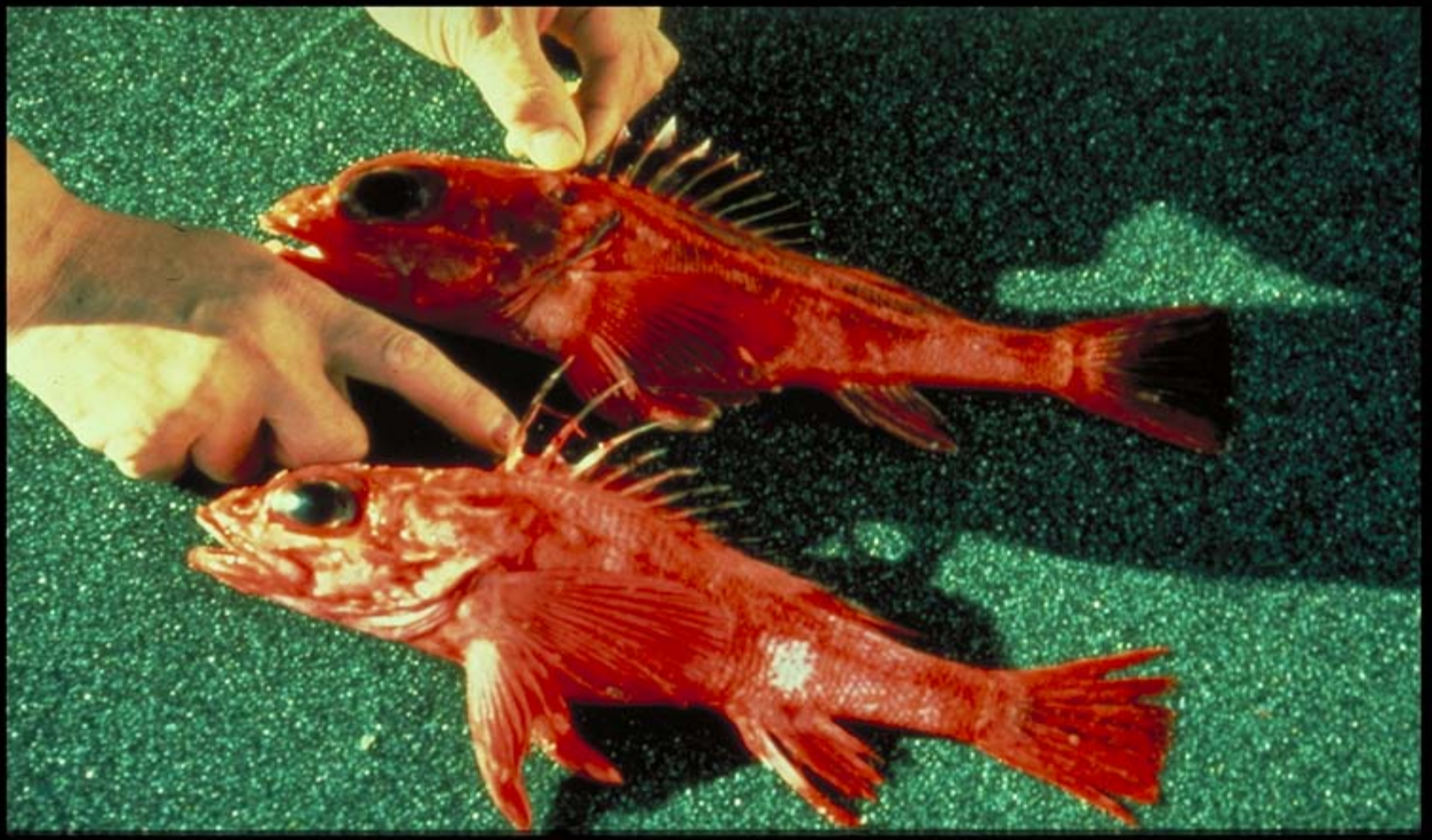
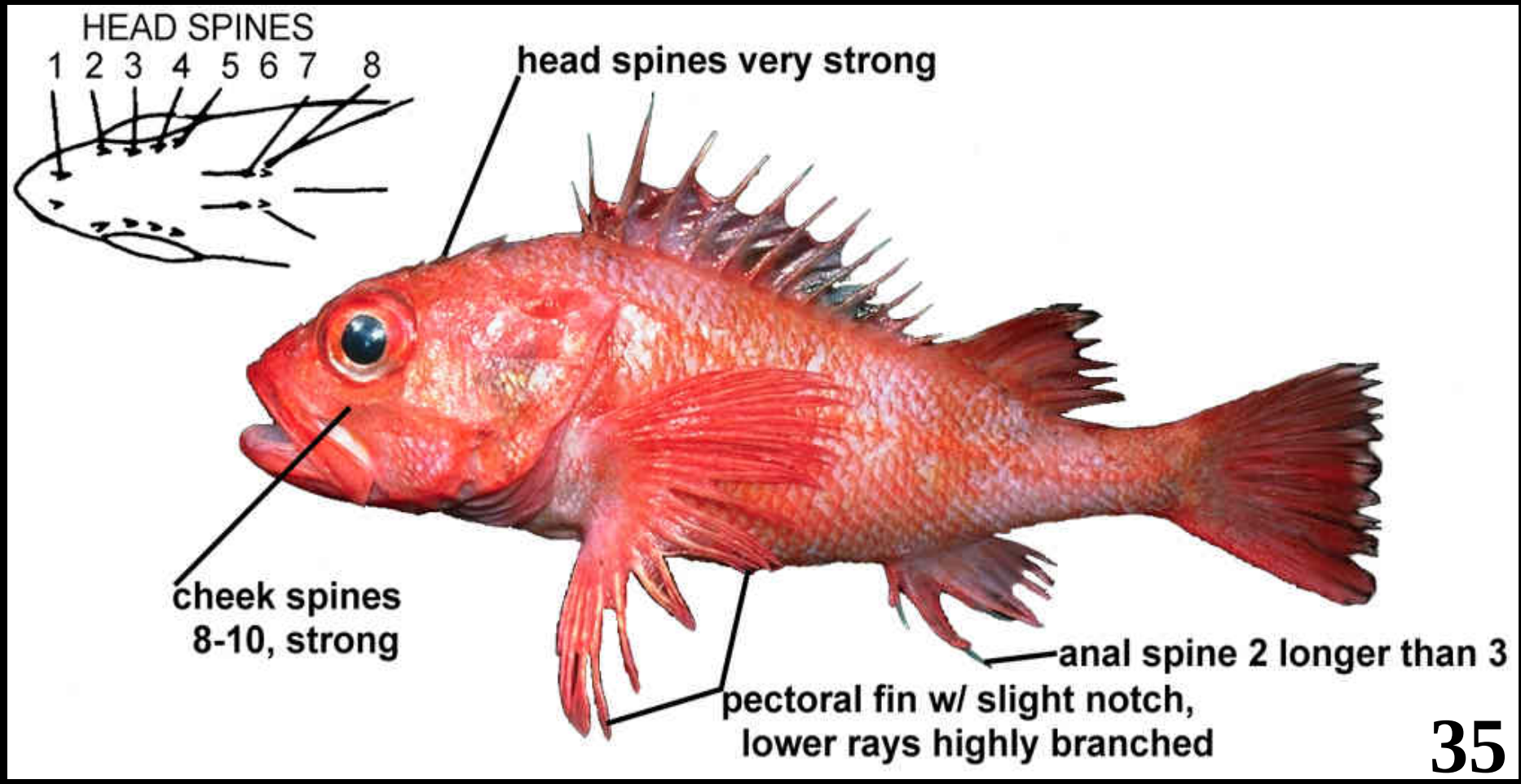
Longspine thornyhead

S. alascanus (Shortspine)



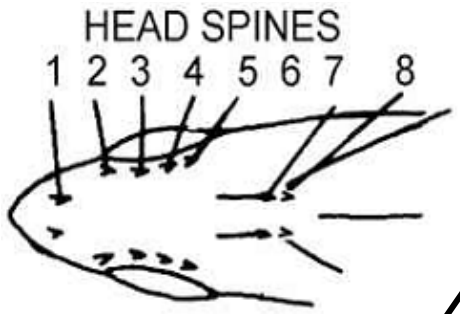
S. altivelis (Longspine)

Sebastolobus macrochir



Broadbanded thornyhead

Adelosebastes latens



head spines very strong

cheek spines 1-2, weak

lower pectoral rays fleshy, free at tips

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Aleutian scorpionfish

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

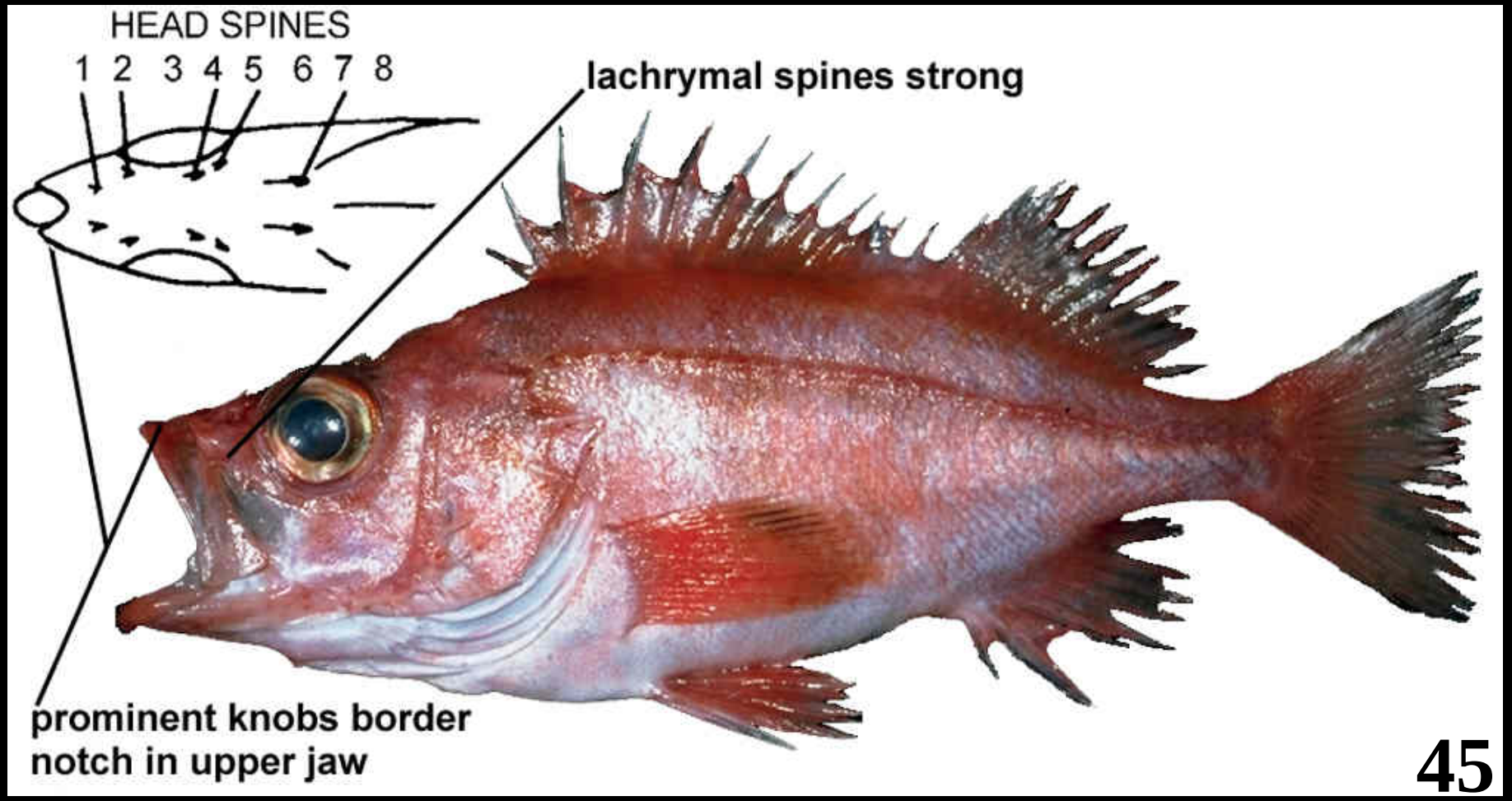
1. **Cheek Spines Present – Thornyheads**
2. **(Splitnose)**
3. **H-O Markings Present**
4. **“Big & Beefy” Group**
5. **POP Group**

Black Category

Red/Black Category

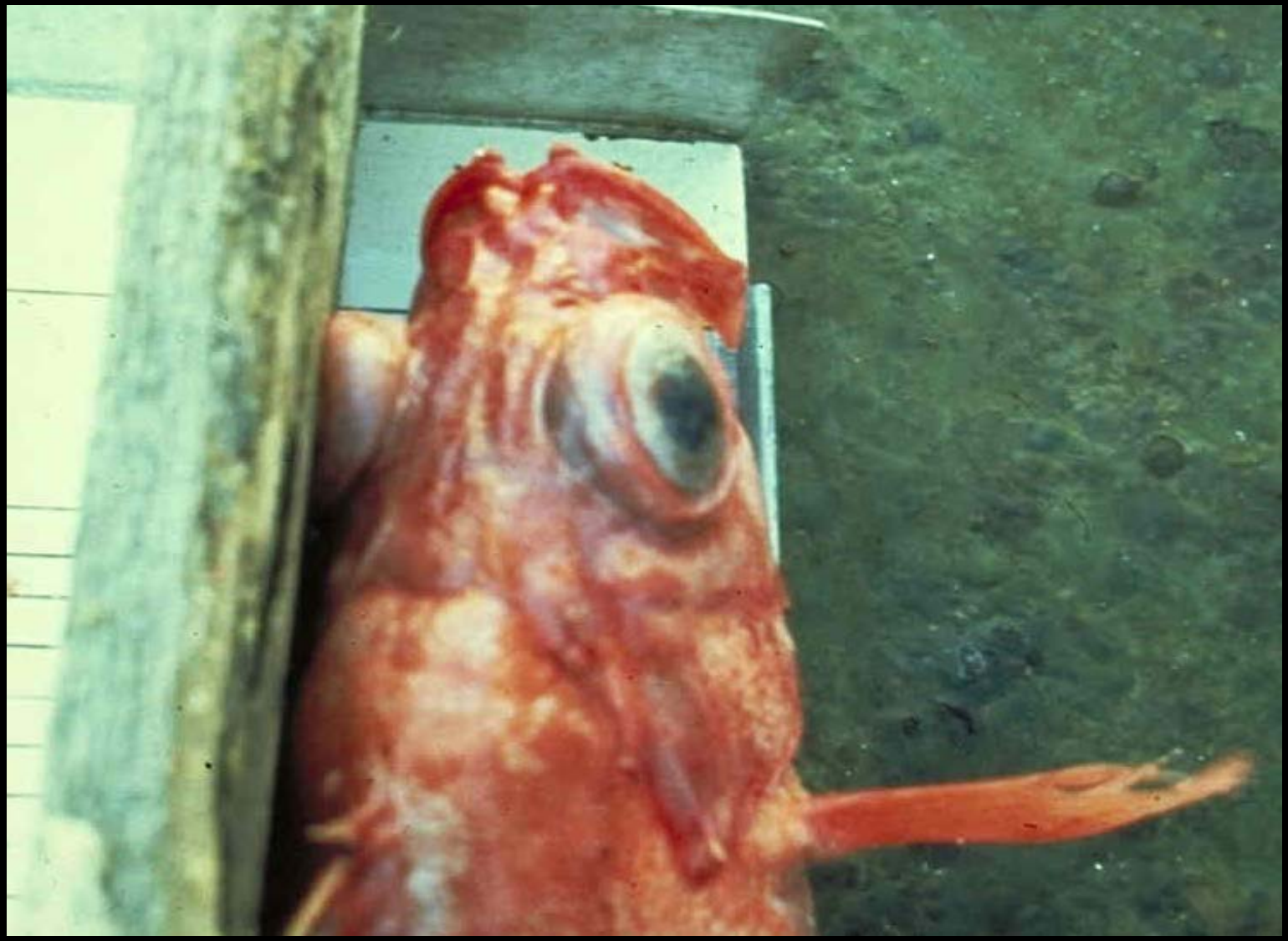
Others

Sebastes diploproa



Splitnose rockfish

Sebastes diploproa



Splitnose rockfish

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

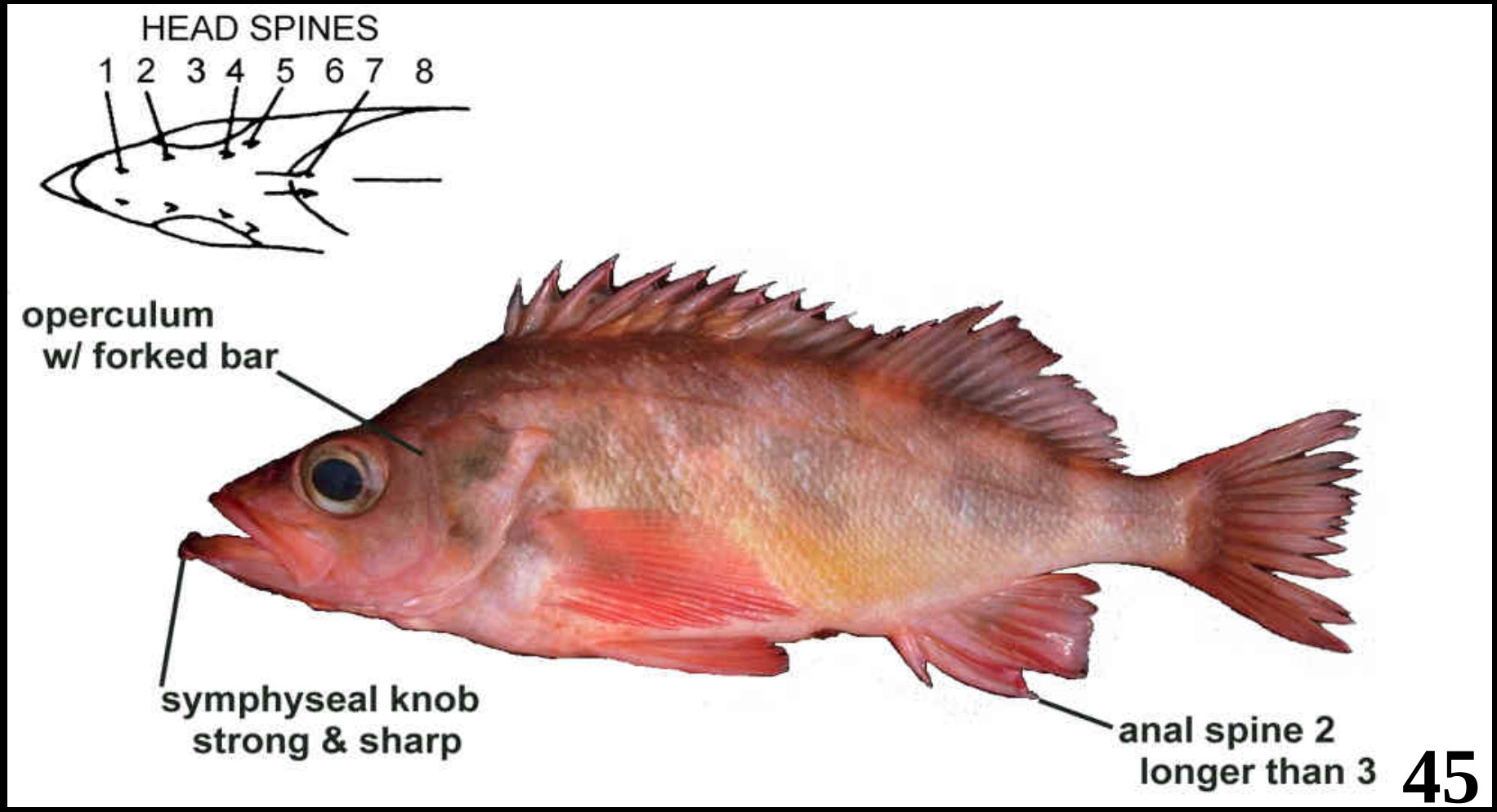
1. **Cheek Spines Present – Thornyheads**
2. **(Splitnose)**
3. **H-O Markings Present**
4. **“Big & Beefy” Group**
5. **POP Group**

Black Category

Red/Black Category

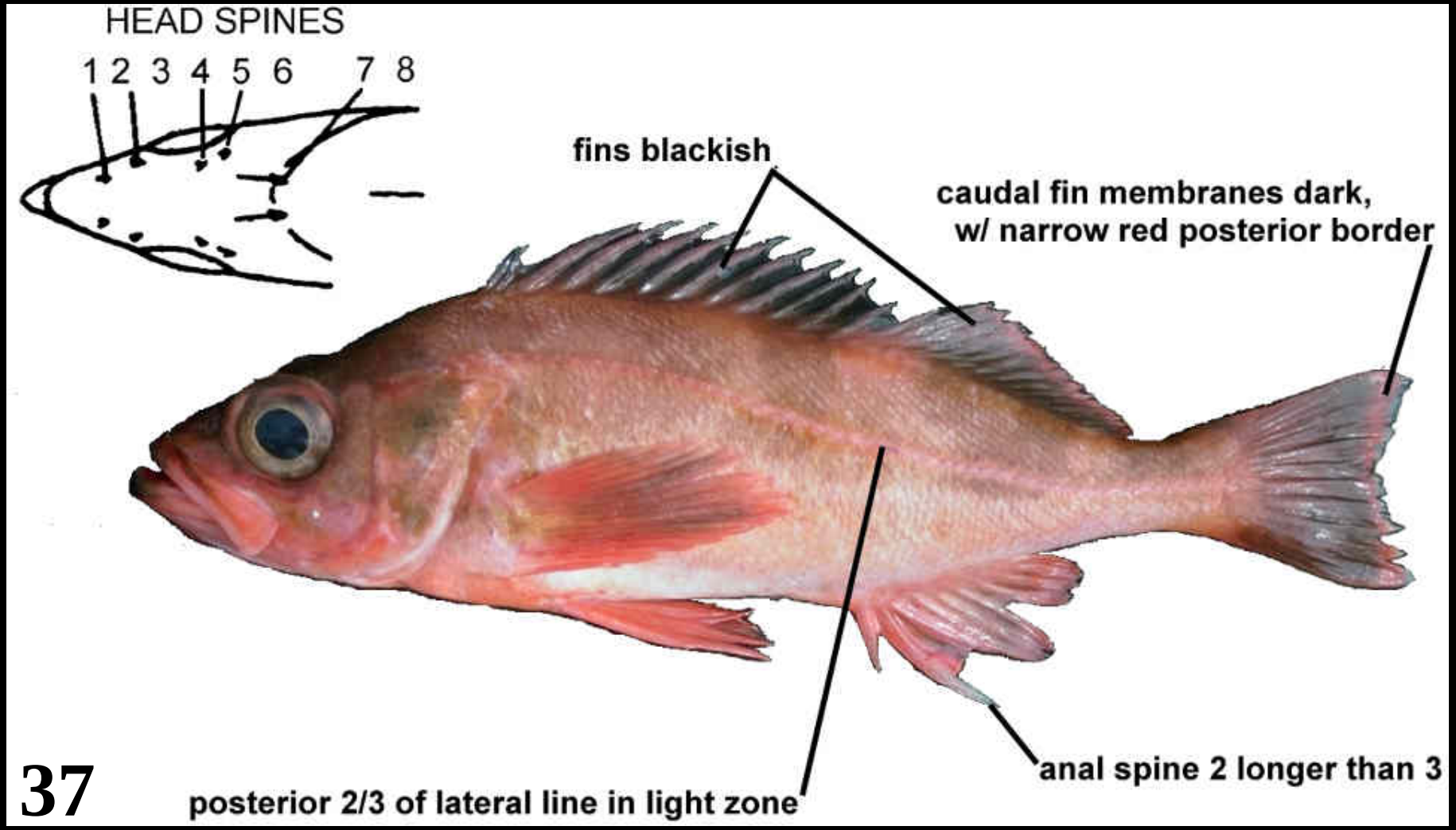
Others

Sebastes zacentrus



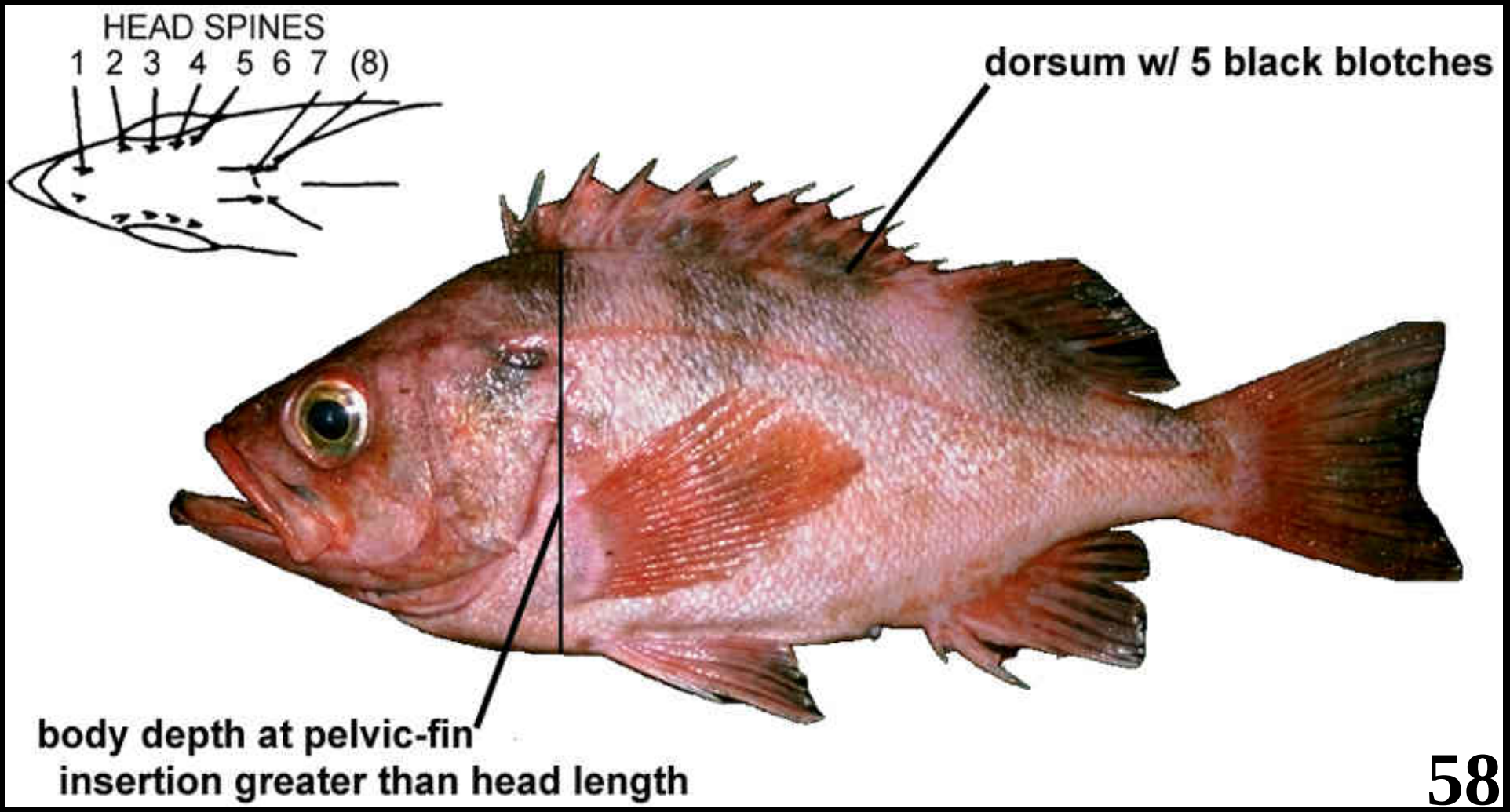
Sharpchin rockfish

Sebastes variegatus

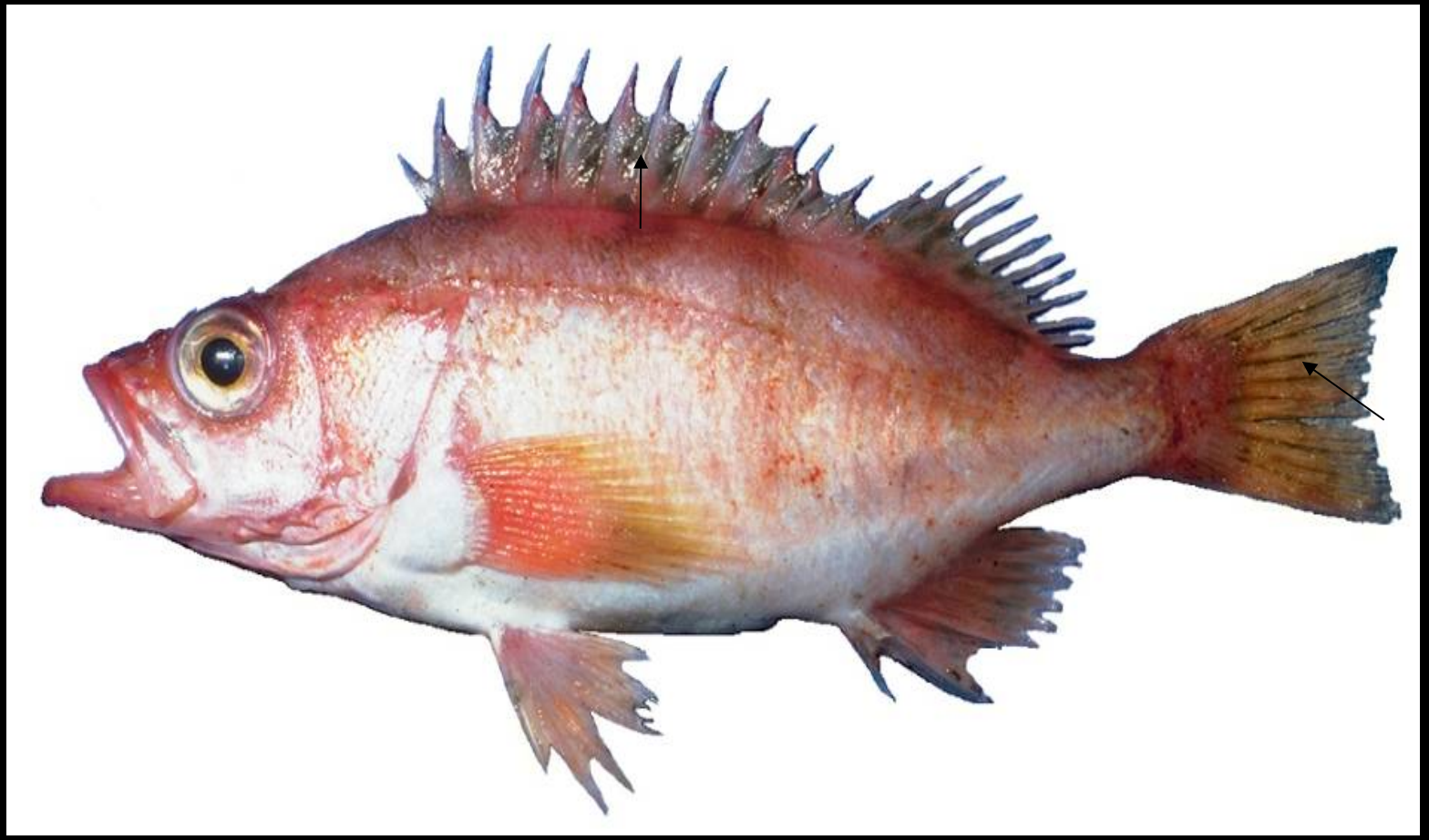


Harlequin rockfish

Sebastes crameri



Darkblotched rockfish



Stripetail RF (*S. saxicola*)*

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

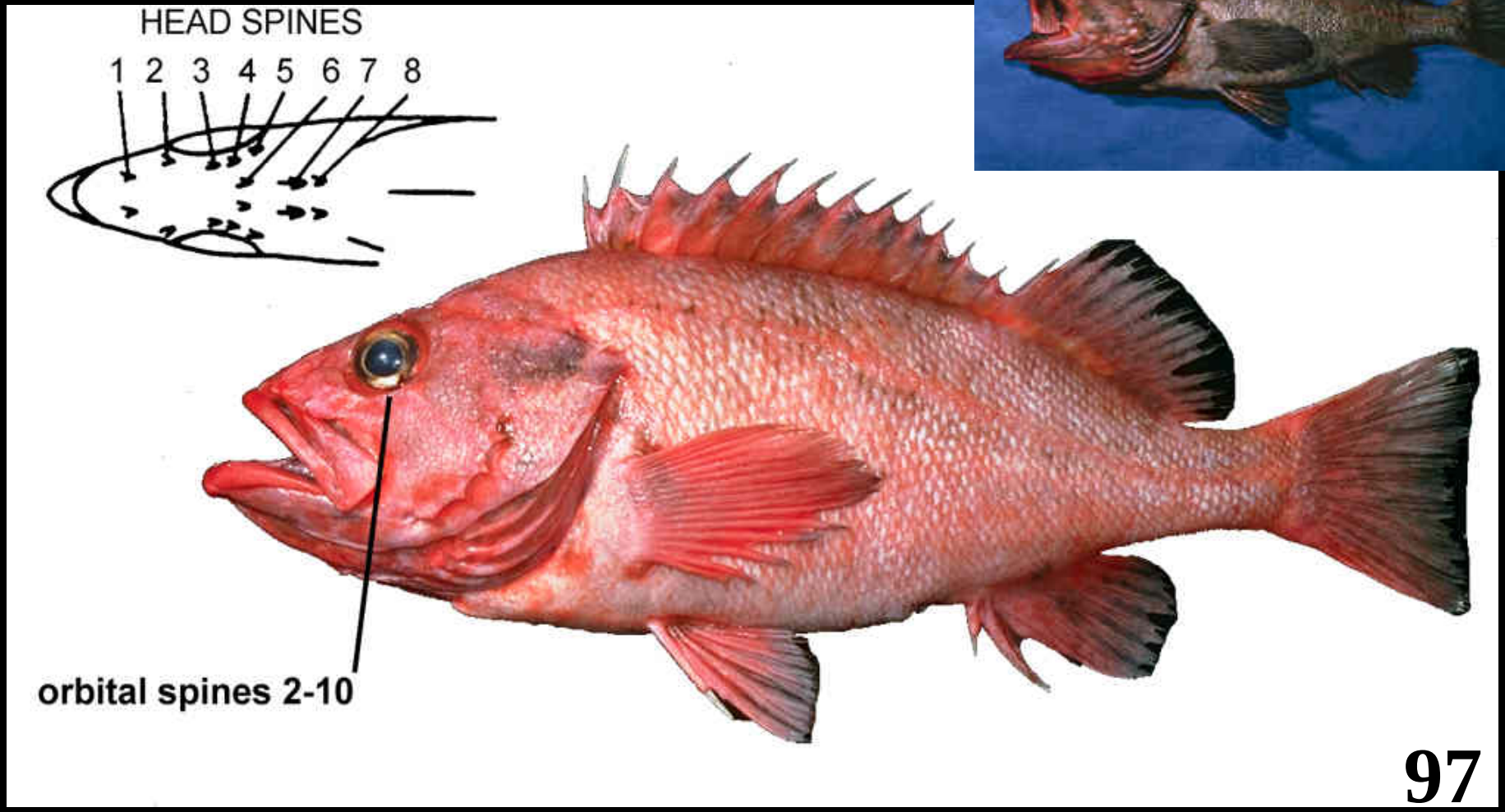
1. **Cheek Spines Present – Thornyheads**
2. **(Splitnose)**
3. **H-O Markings Present**
4. **“Big & Beefy” Group**
5. **POP Group**

Black Category

Red/Black Category

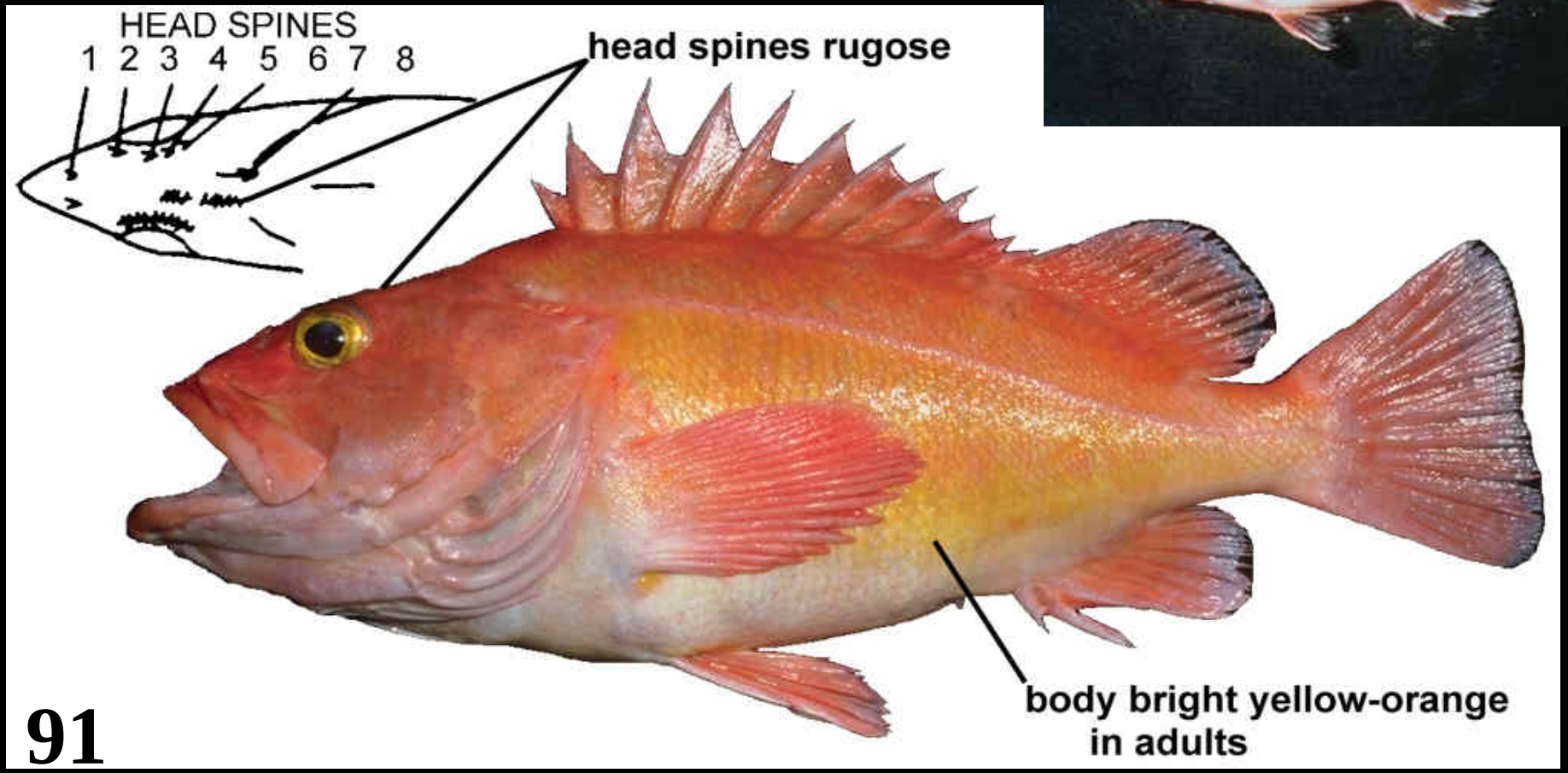
Others

Sebastes aleutianus



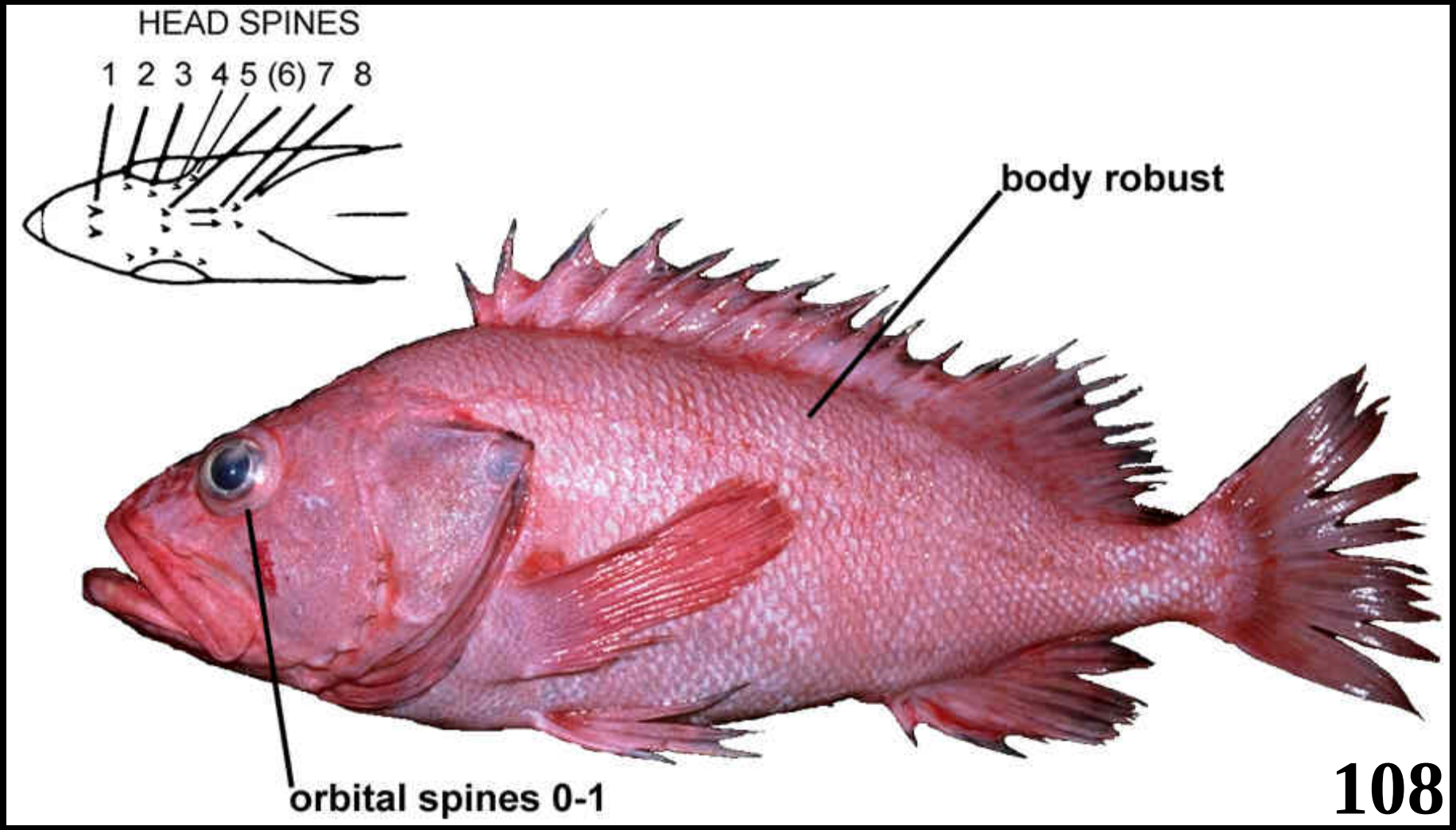
Rougheye rockfish

Sebastes ruberrimus



Yelloweye rockfish

Sebastes borealis



Shortraker rockfish

S. borealis

S. aleutianus

Shortraker

Rougheye

Canary Rockfish

Vermillion Rockfish

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

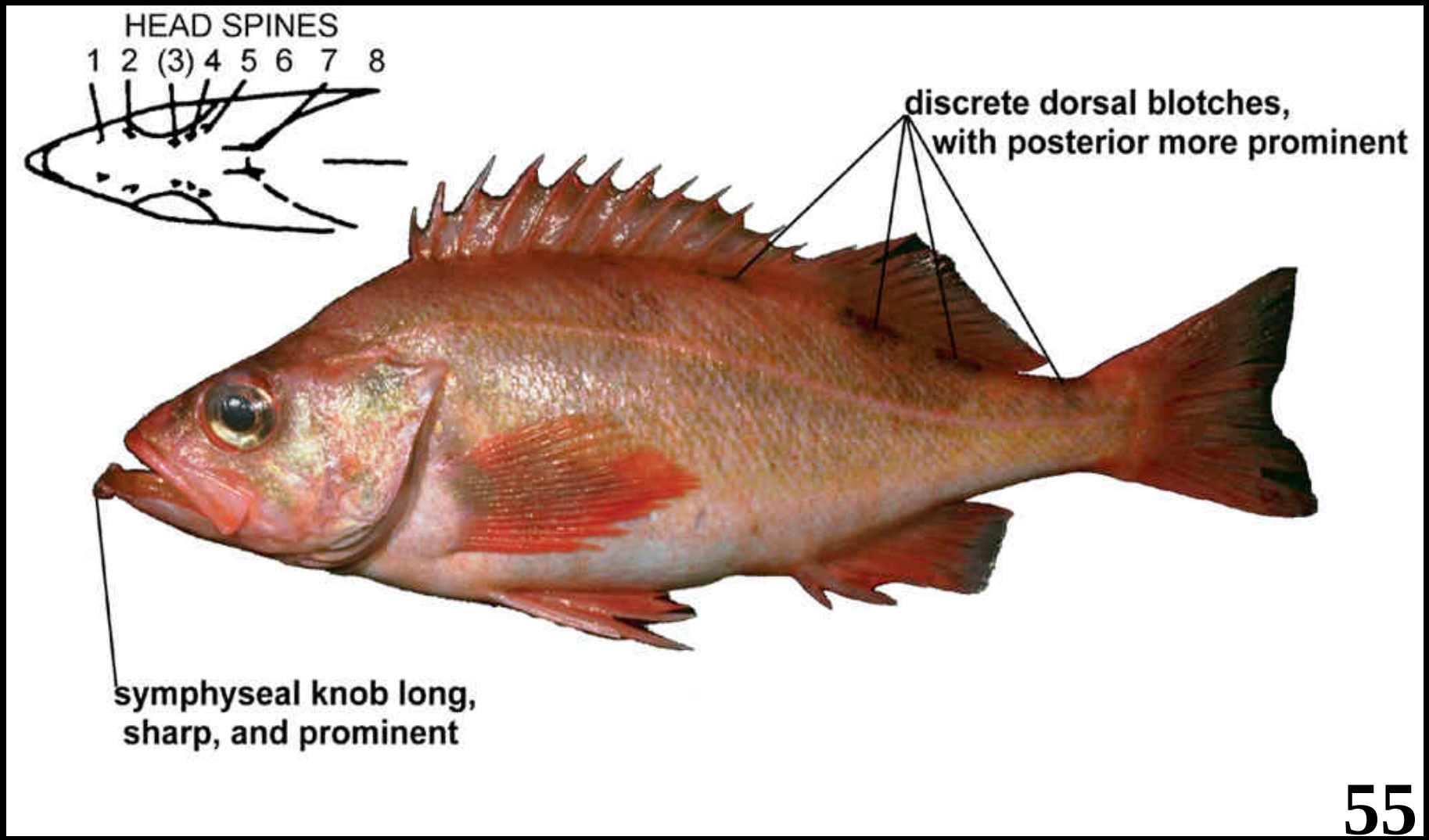
1. **Cheek Spines Present – Thornyheads**
2. **(Splitnose)**
3. **H-O Markings Present**
4. **“Big & Beefy” Group**
5. **POP Group**

Black Category

Red/Black Category

Others

Sebastes alutus



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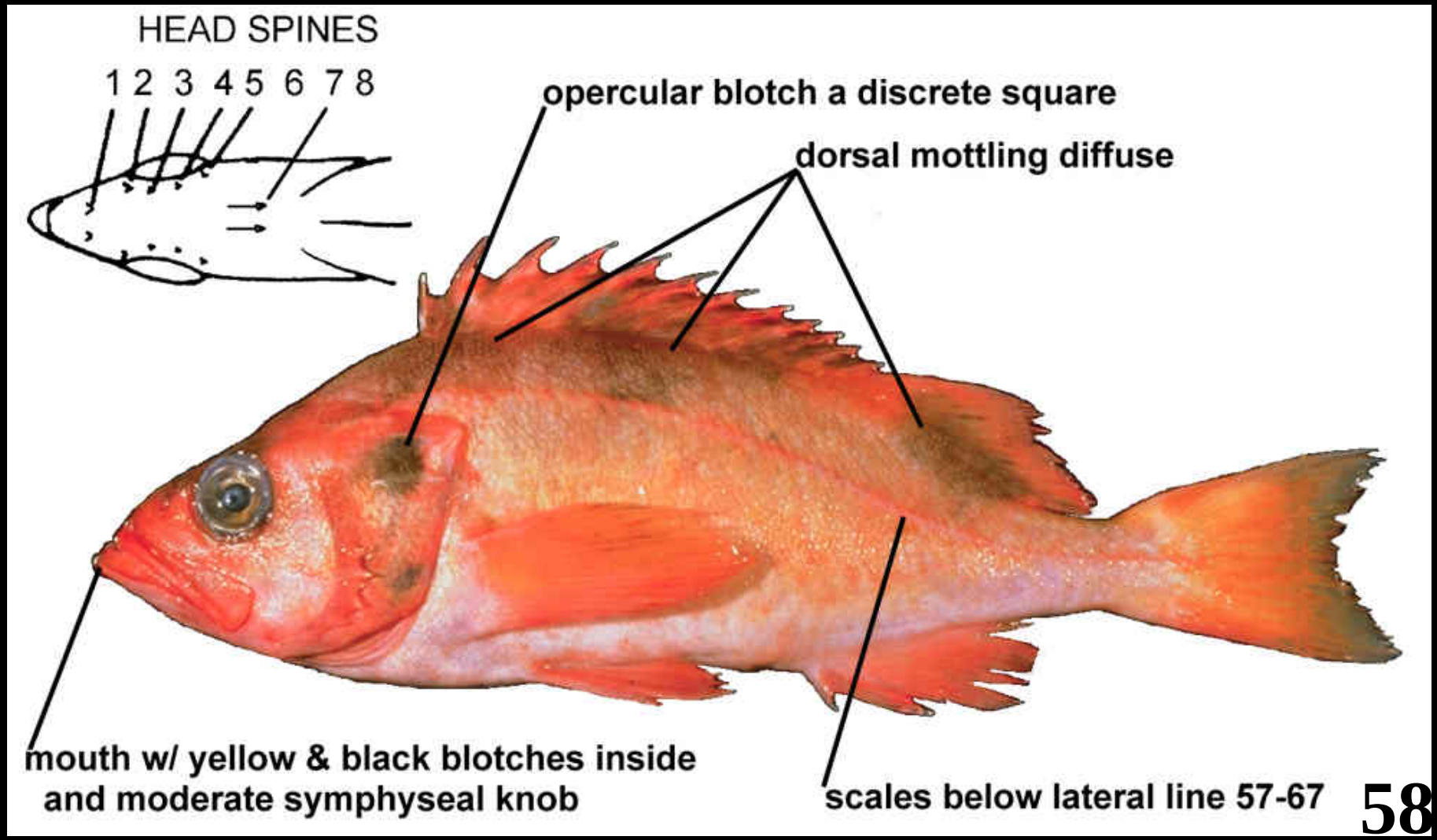
Pacific ocean perch

Sebastes reedi



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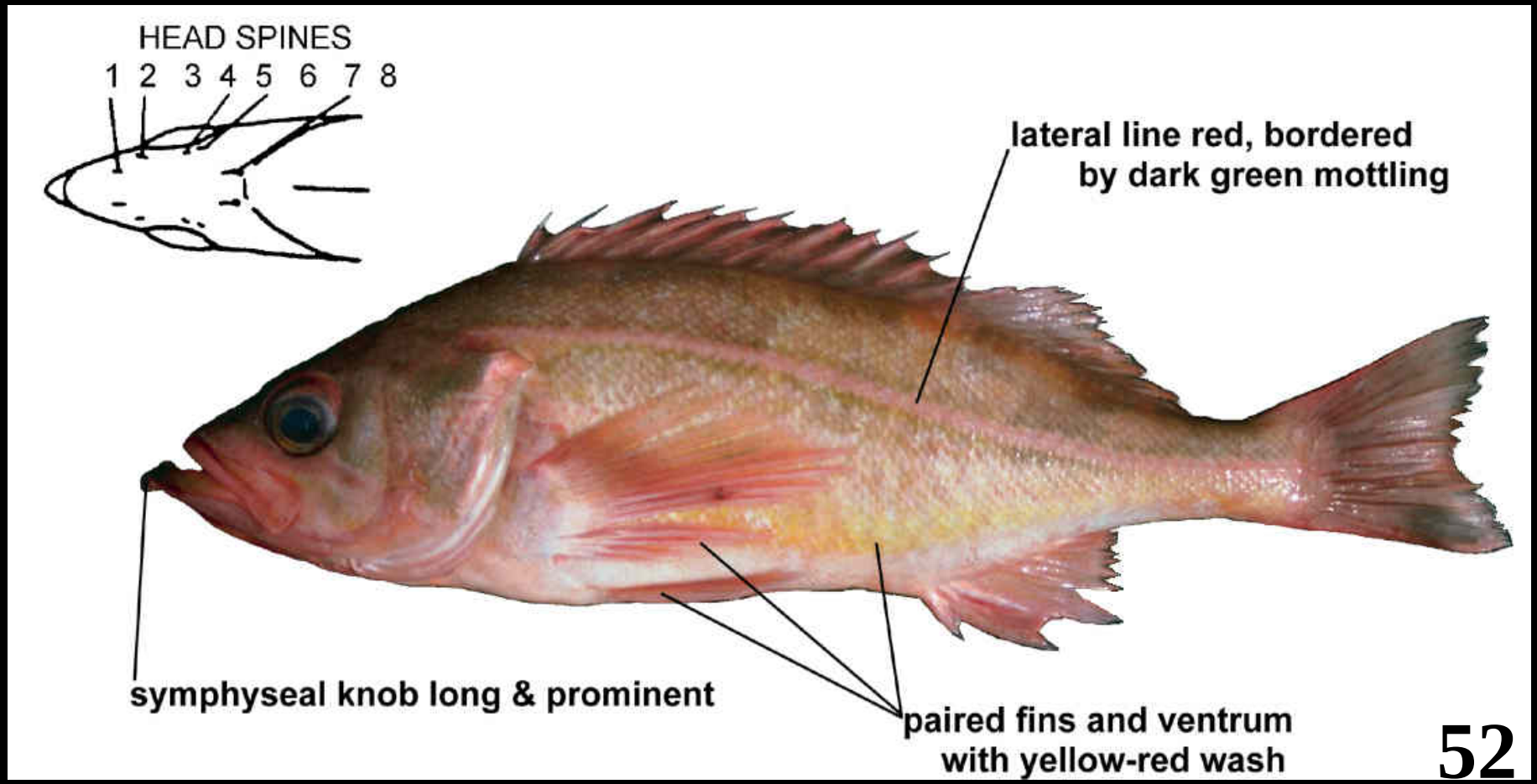
Yellowmouth rockfish

S. reedi *S. alutus*

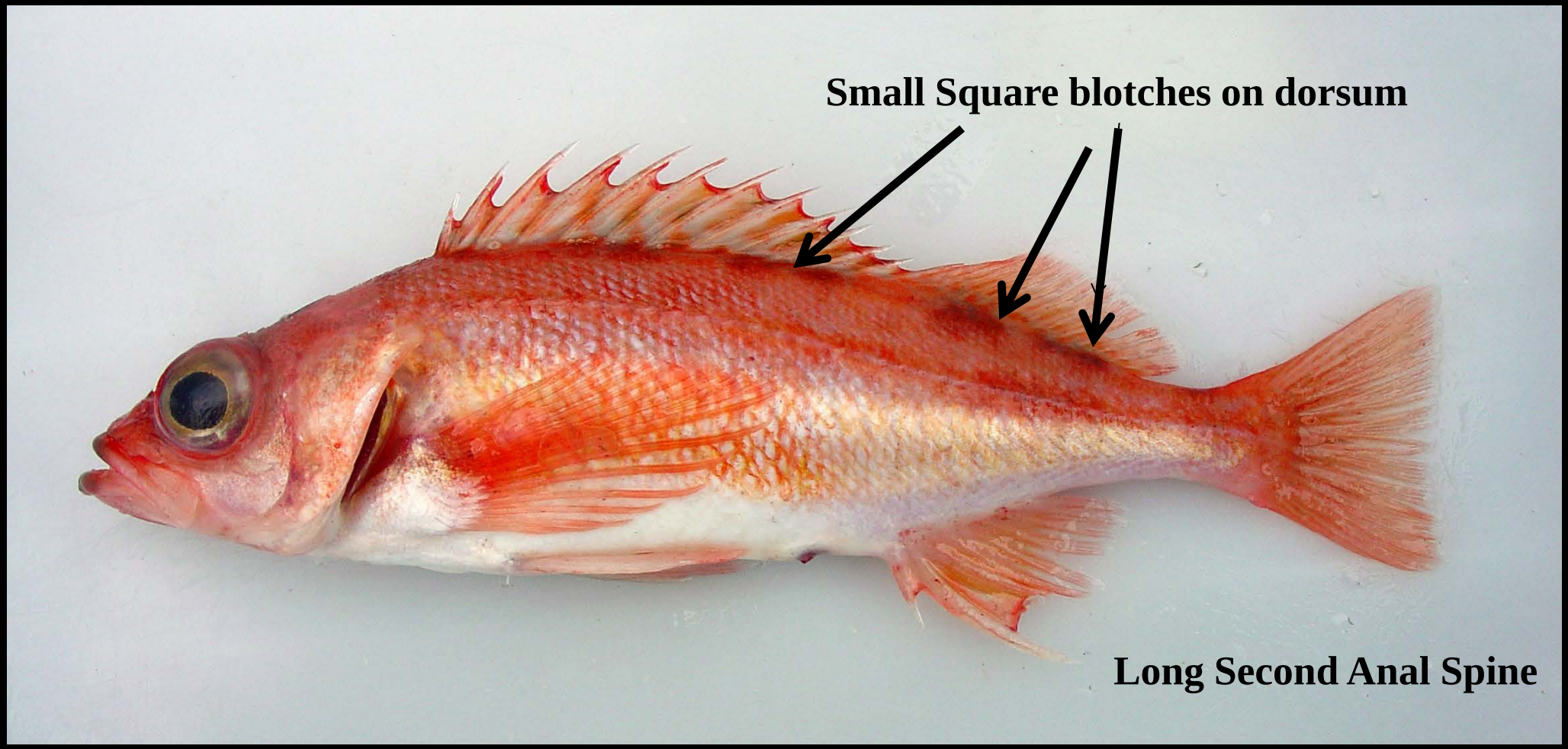
Yellowmouth POP

Sebastes proriger



Redstripe rockfish

Sebastes wilsoni



Pygmy rockfish

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

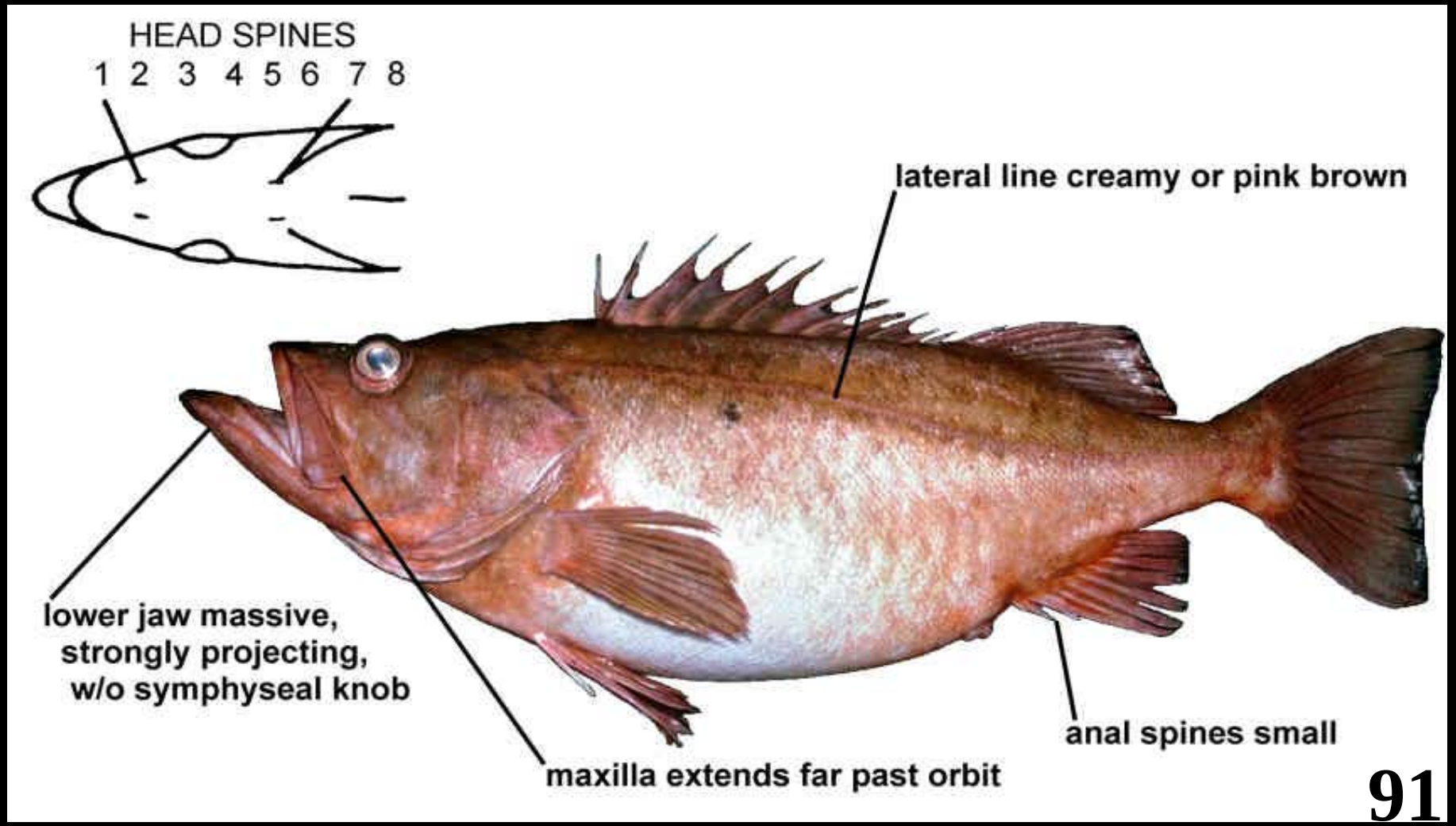
1. **Cheek Spines Present – Thornyheads**
2. **(Splitnose)**
3. **H-O Markings Present**
4. **“Big & Beefy” Group**
5. **POP Group**

Black Category

Red/Black Category

Others

Sebastes paucispinis



Boccacio

Darkblotched

Yelloweye

Harlequin

Pacific ocean perch

Redstripe

Rougheye

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

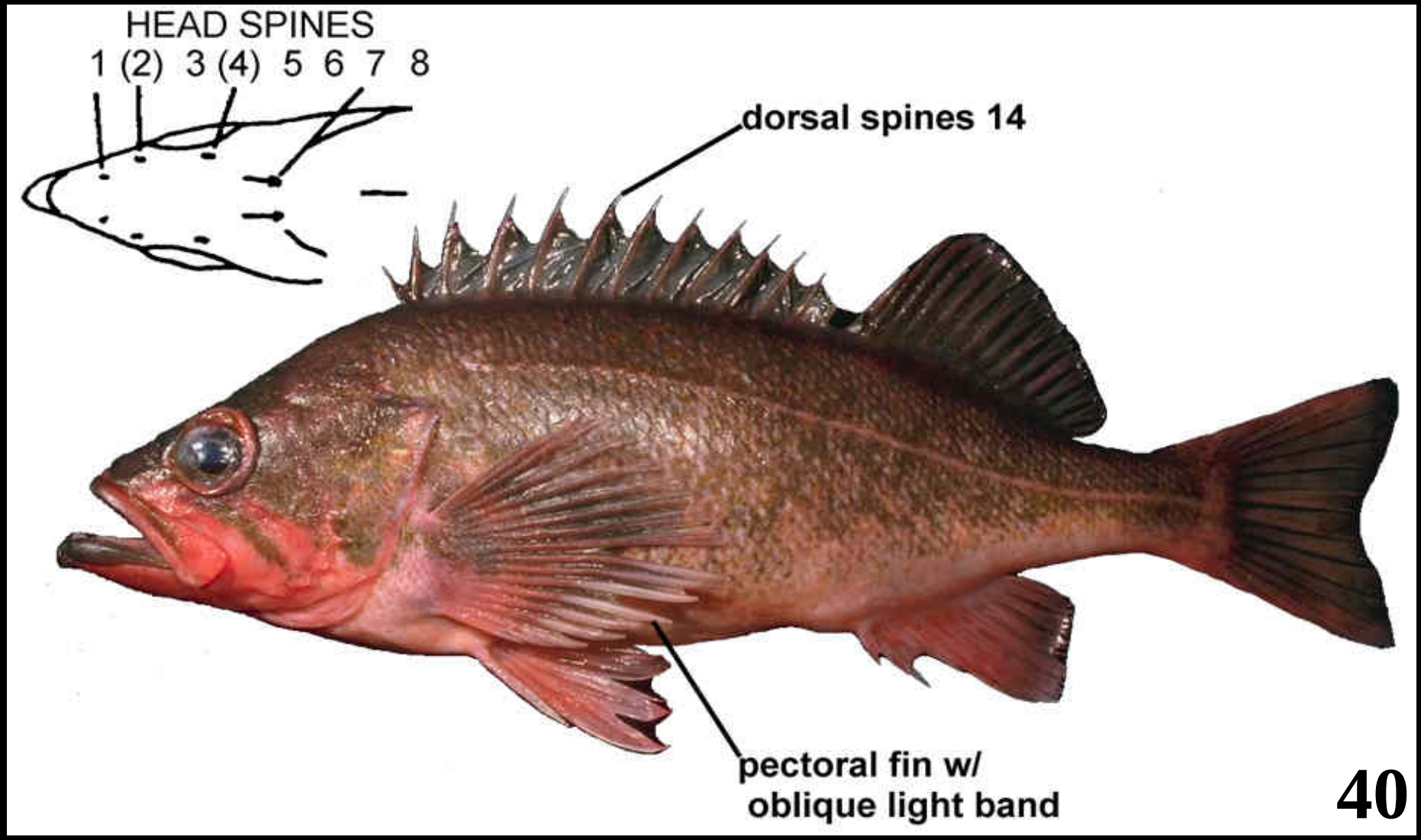
Black Category

Red/Black Category

1. **Non-White Peritoneum (light gray-jet black)**
2. **White/Whitish Peritoneum**

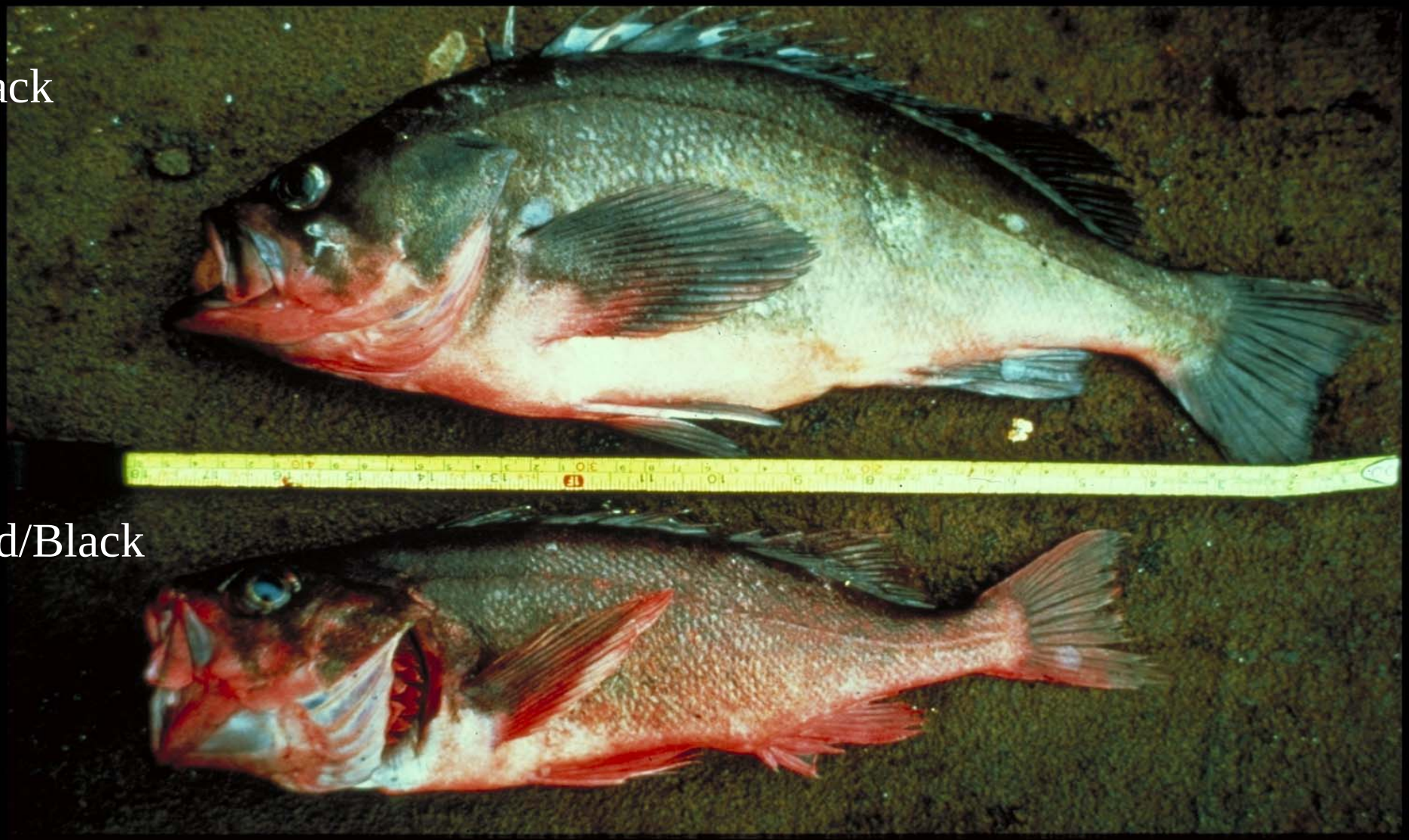
Others

Sebastes polyspinis



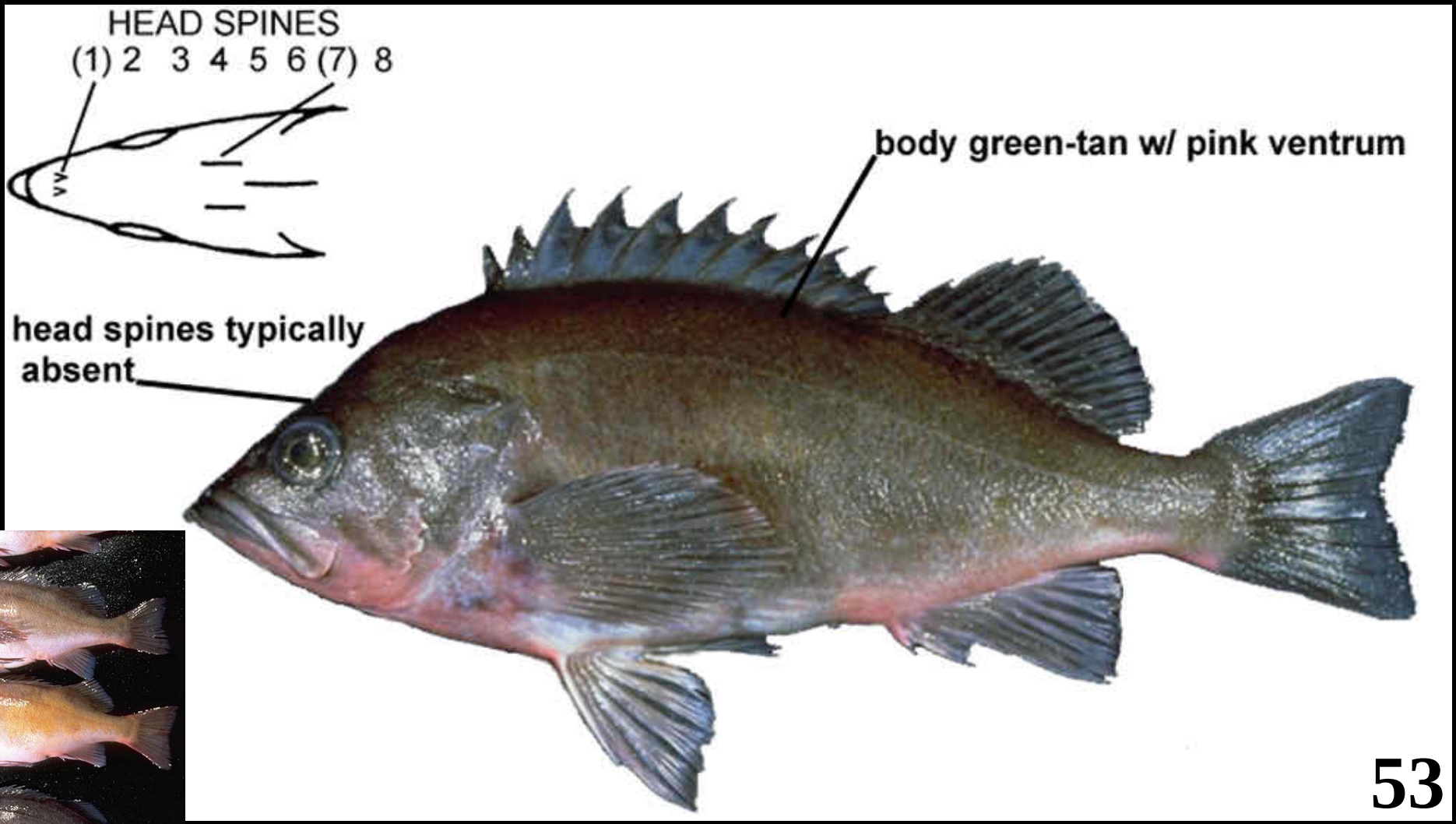
Northern rockfish

Sebastes variabilis (Dusky)



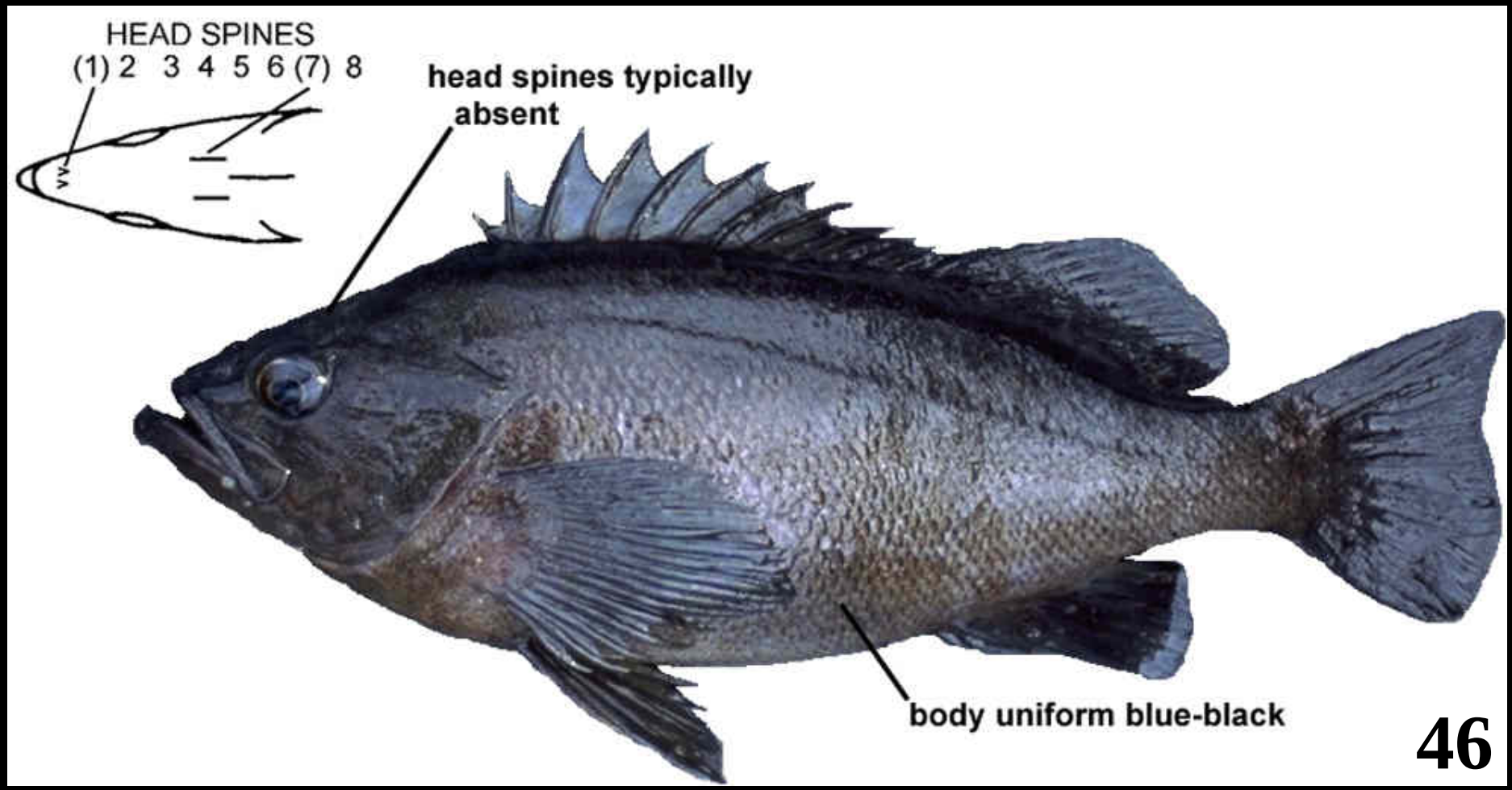
Sebastes polyspinis (Northern)

Sebastes variabilis



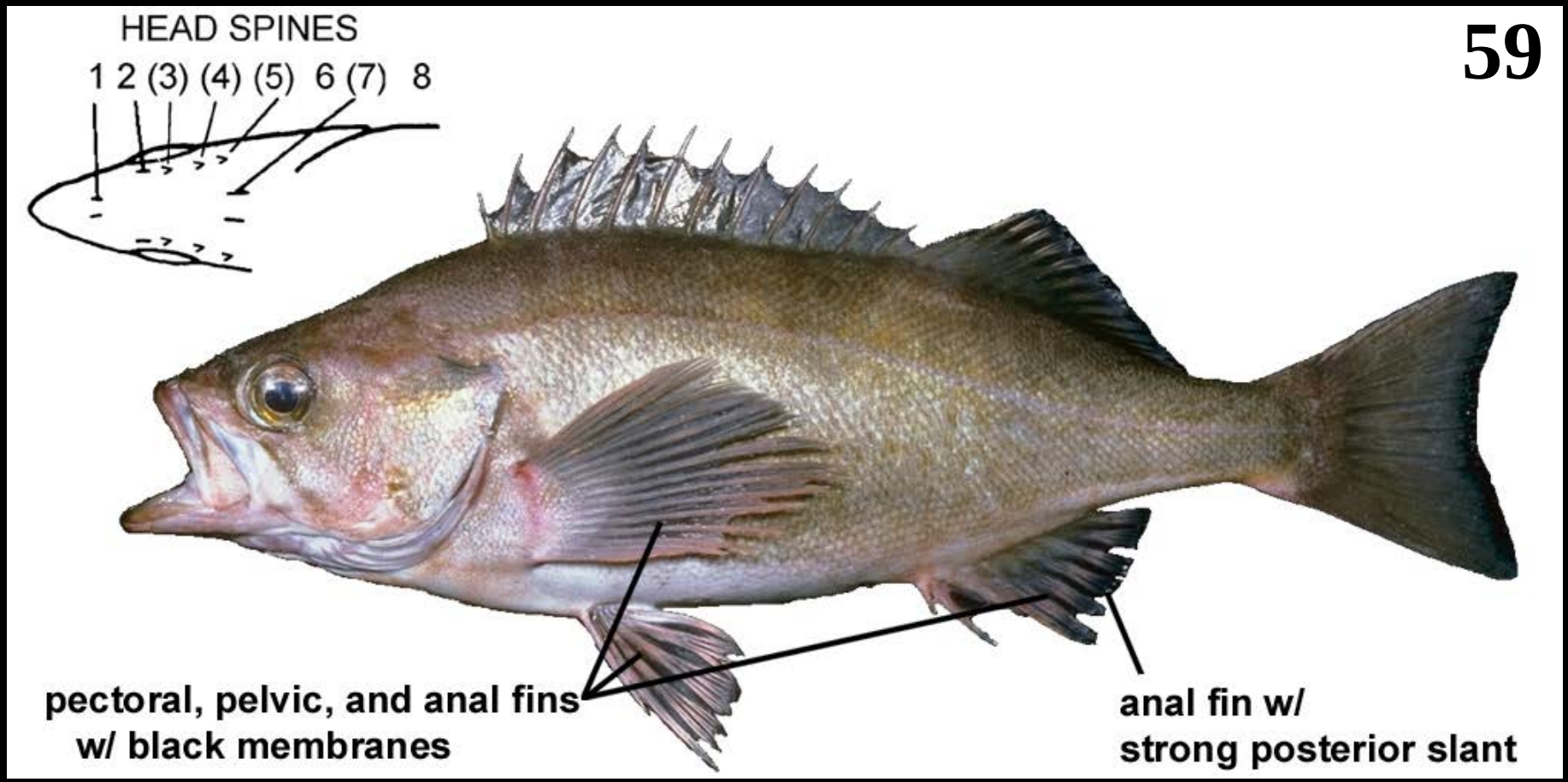
Dusky rockfish

Sebastes ciliatus



Dark rockfish

Sebastes entomelas



Widow rockfish

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

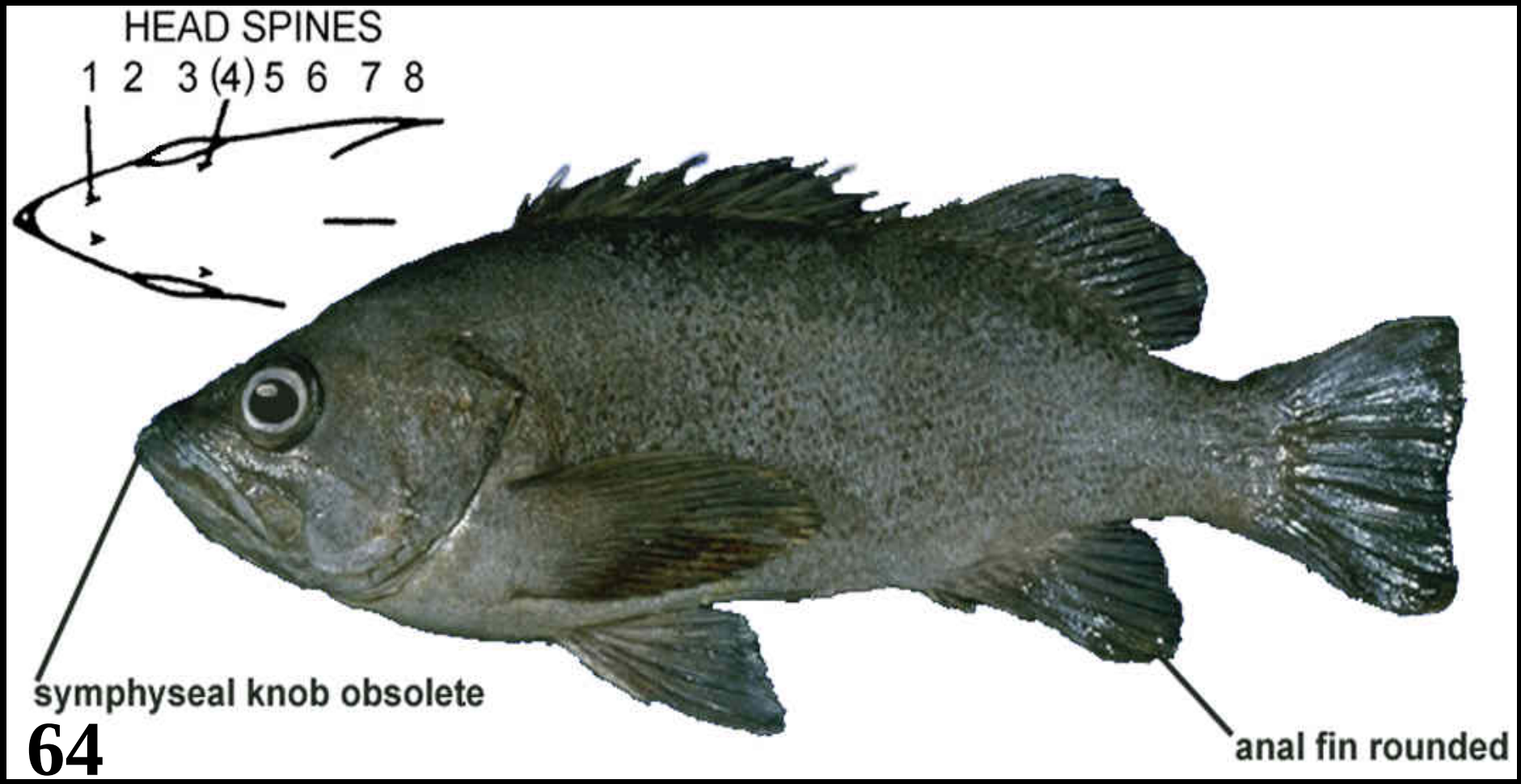
Black Category

Red/Black Category

1. **Non-White Peritoneum**
2. **White/Whitish Peritoneum**

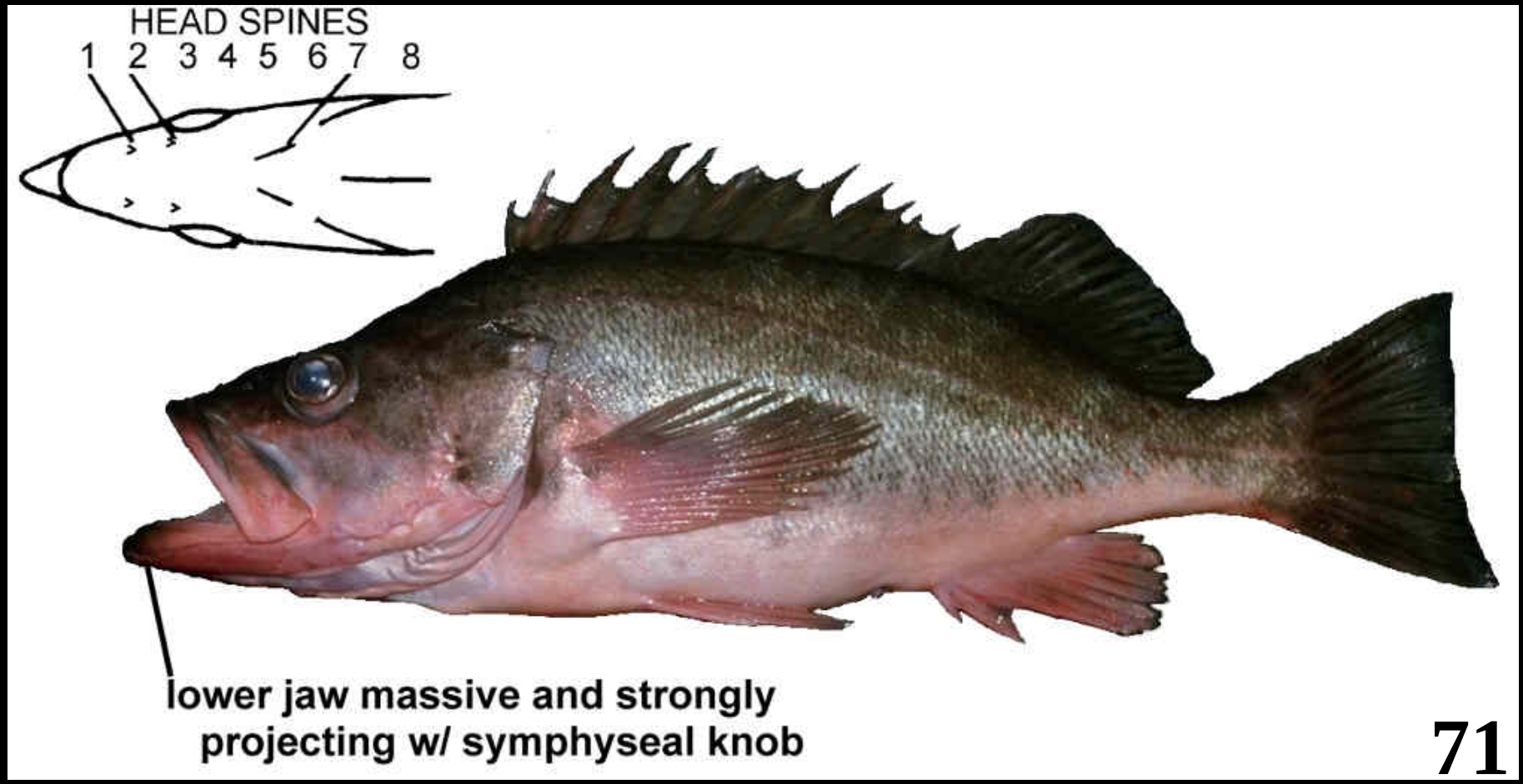
Others

Sebastes melanops



Black rockfish

Sebastes brevispinis

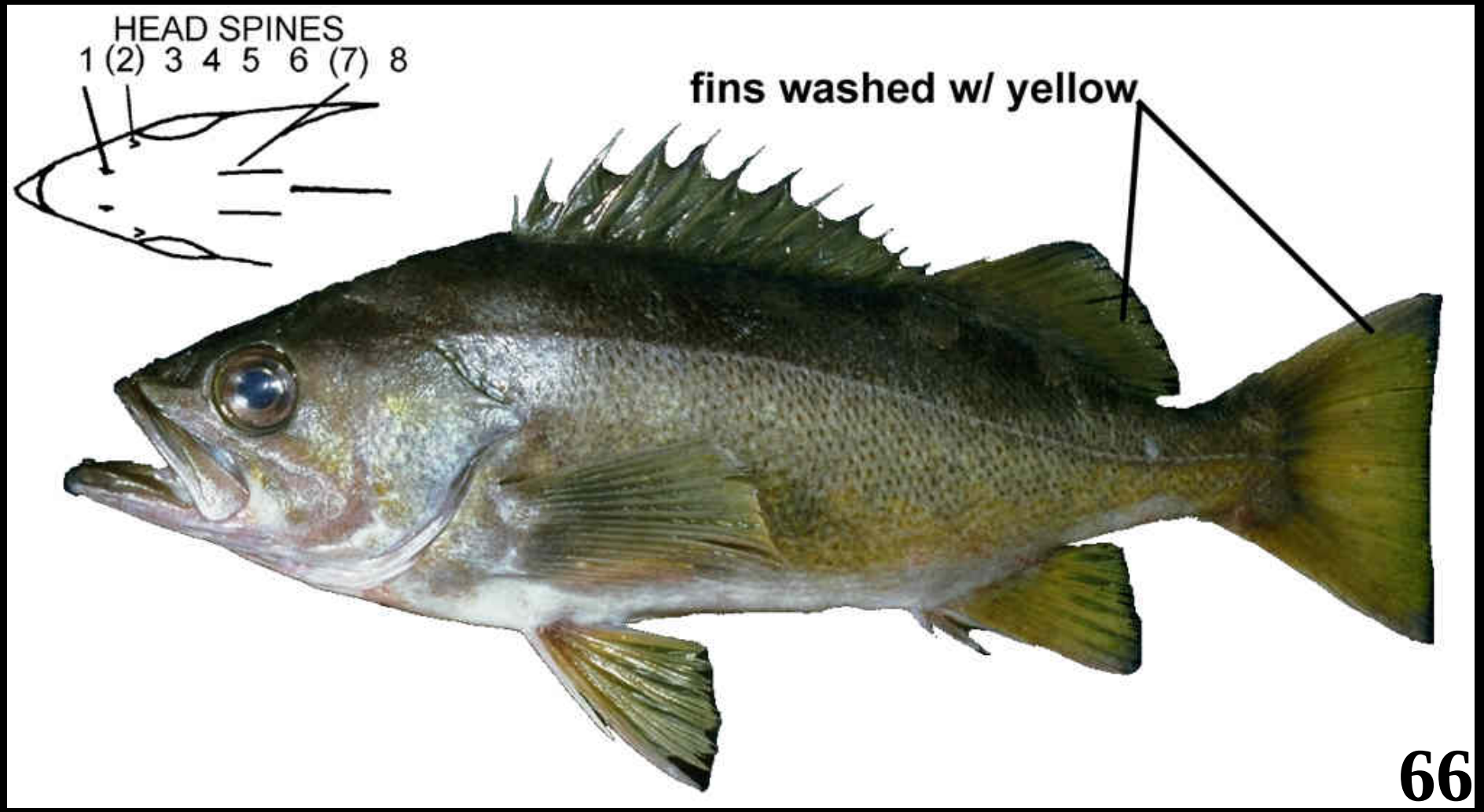


Silvergray rockfish

S. paucispinis (Bocaccio)

S. brevispinis (Silvergray)

Sebastes flavidus



Yellowtail rockfish

Sebastes flavidus

Yellowtail rockfish

Dark

Black

Dusky

Northern

Banded & Spotted Category

Red Category

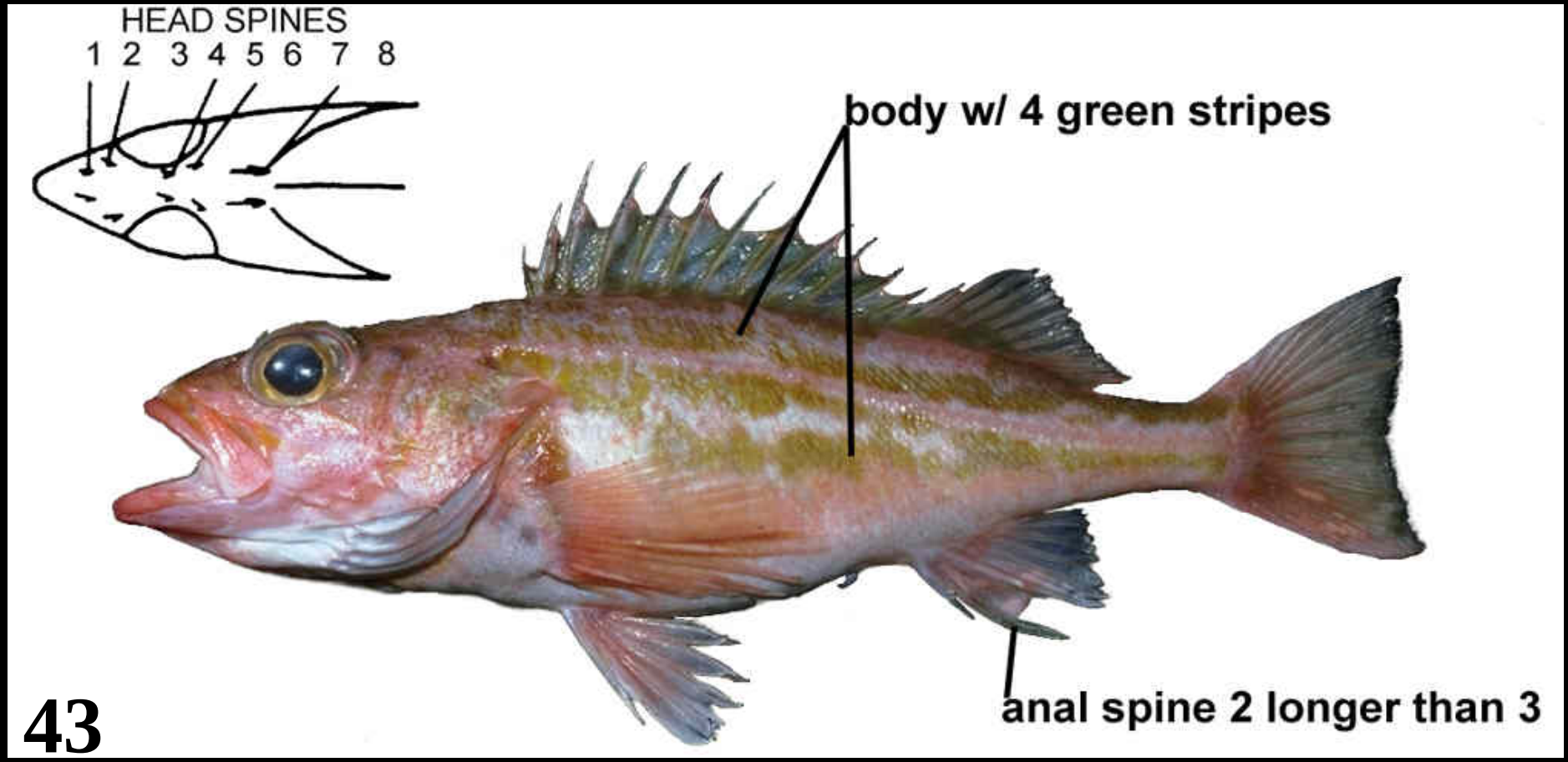
1. **Cheek Spines Present – Thornyheads**
2. **(Splitnose)**
3. **H-O Markings Present**
4. **“Big & Beefy” Group**
5. **POP Group**

Black Category

Red/Black Category

Others

Sebastes elongatus



Greenstriped rockfish

Copper Rockfish

China Rockfish

Quillback Rockfish