

Parablennius thysanius ? and P. thysanius comparison

This Parablennius was possibly misidentified in iNaturalist as P. thysanius. Here are some reasons why this animal is likely a P. intermedius.

1. Its horns are more straightforward than the tasseled horns of P. Thysanius.

2. It has dark cheeks with a thin line above at the level of its eye.

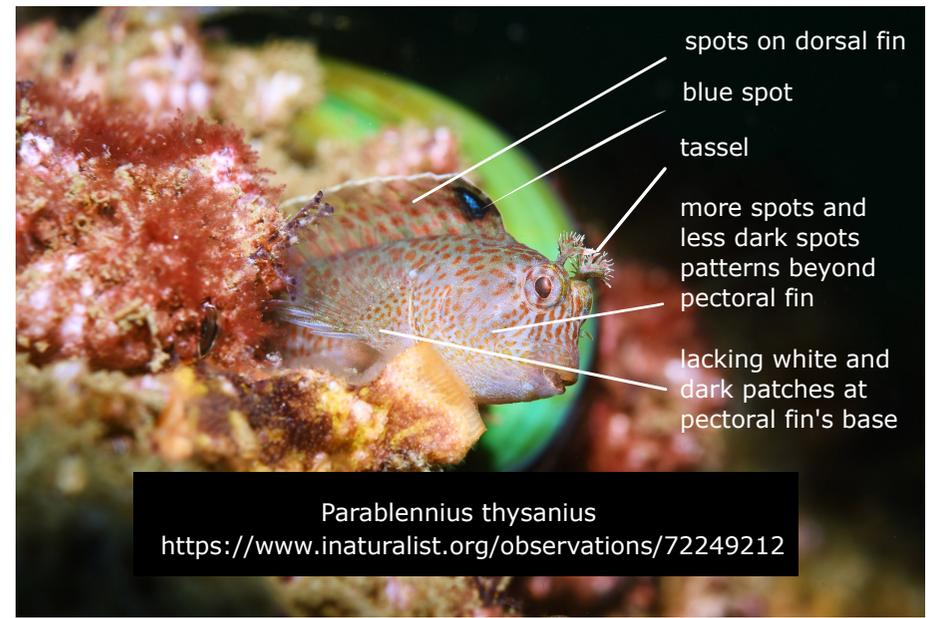
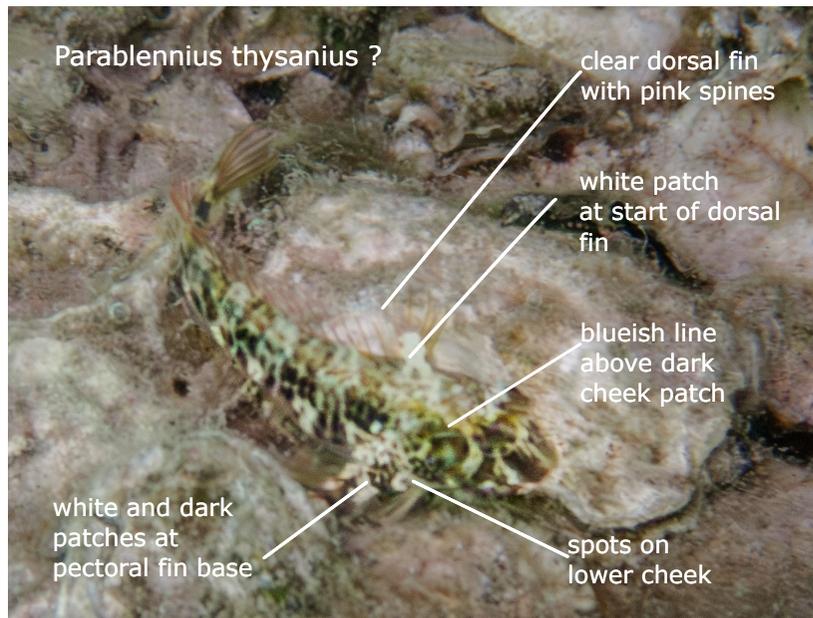
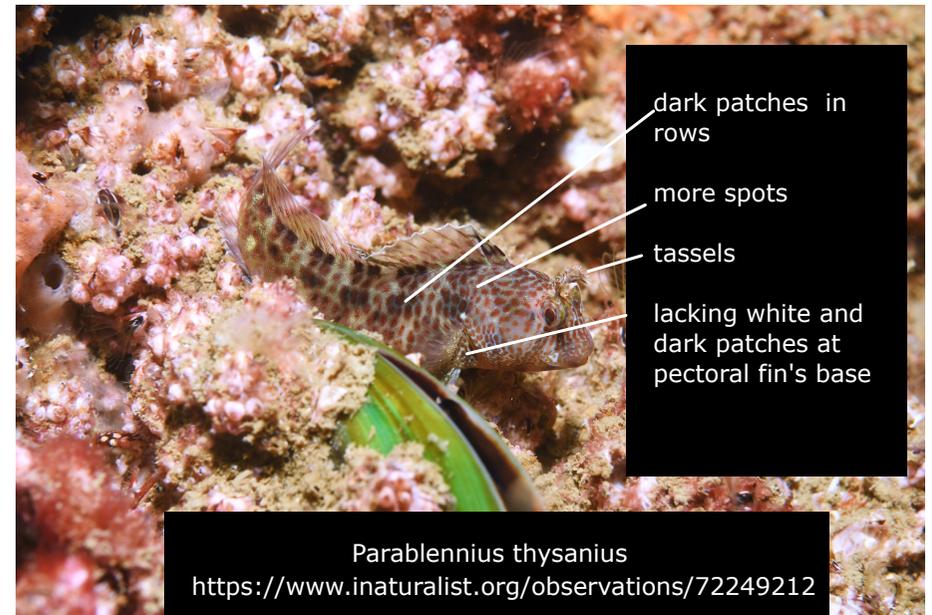
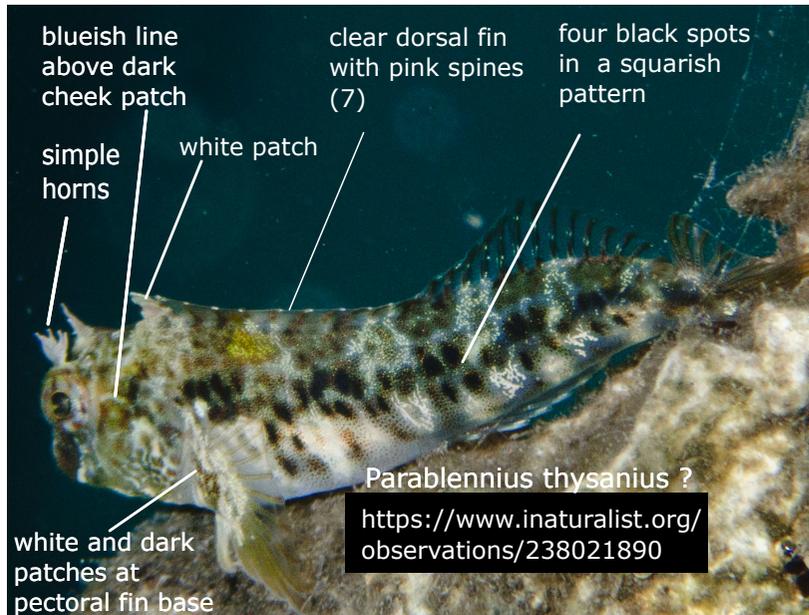
3. Its body markings differ from P.thysanius, with more distinct dark spots organized into squares or clover shapes. P. thysanius has more spots continuing from its head past the pectoral fins.

4. This animal's pectoral fin base is mottled with white and black patches.

5. Its dorsal fins are transparent with seven spines and a white patch at the start. P. Thysanius has a blue on black patch at the start of its dorsal fin.

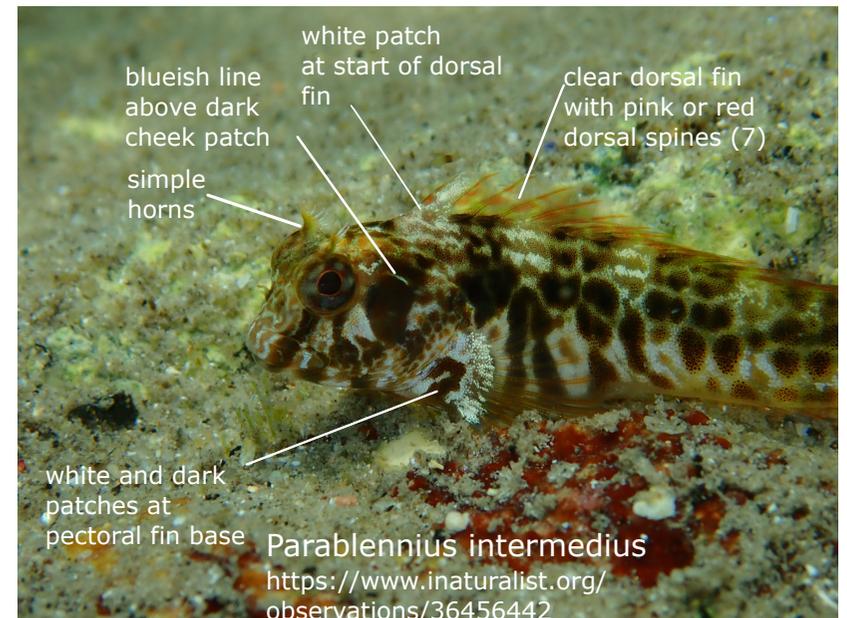
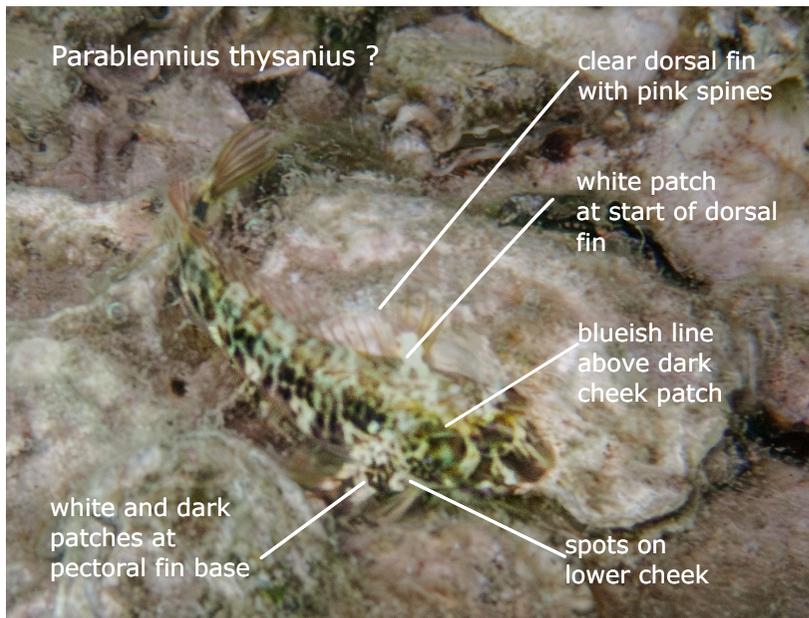
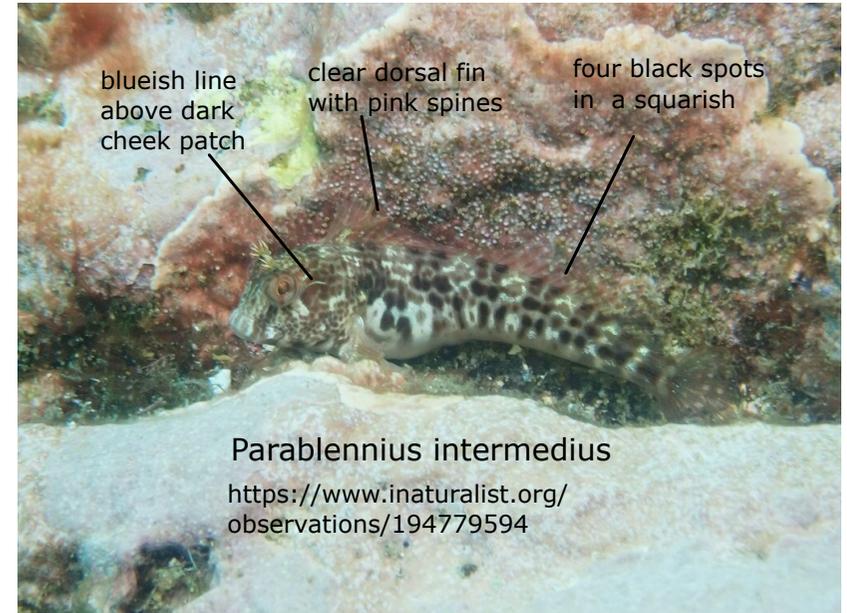
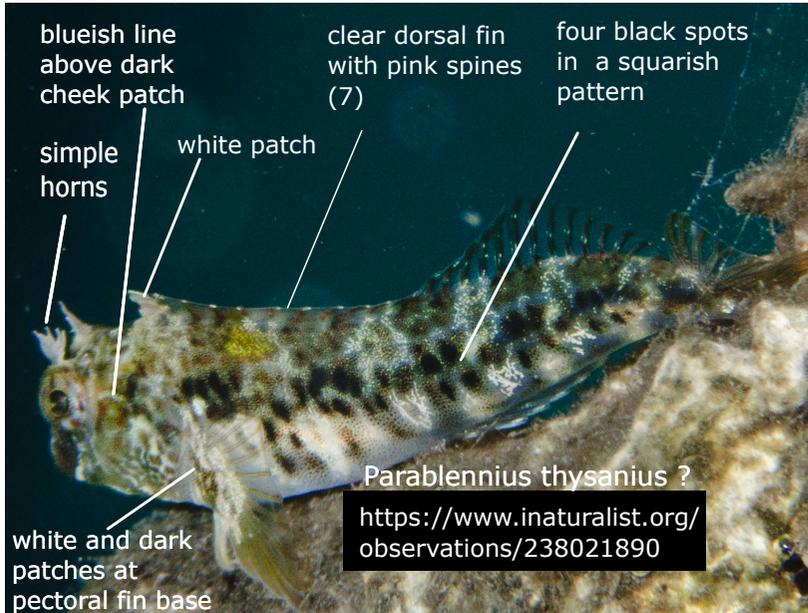
5. Its dorsal fins are transparent with seven spines and a white patch at the start. P. Thysanius has a blue on black patch at the start of its dorsal fin.

P. Thysanius, Tassled Blenny, has been documented in Hawaii, while P. intermedius, Horned Blenny has not.

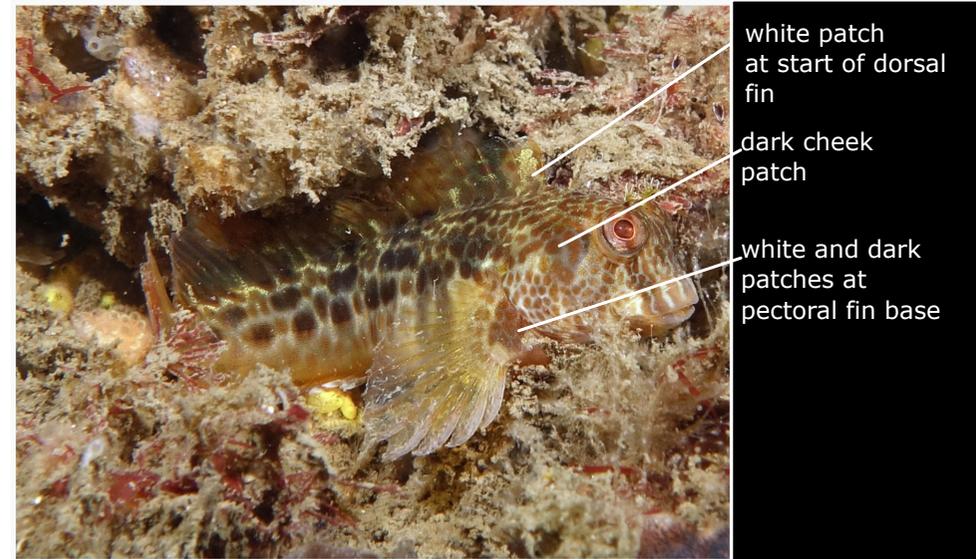
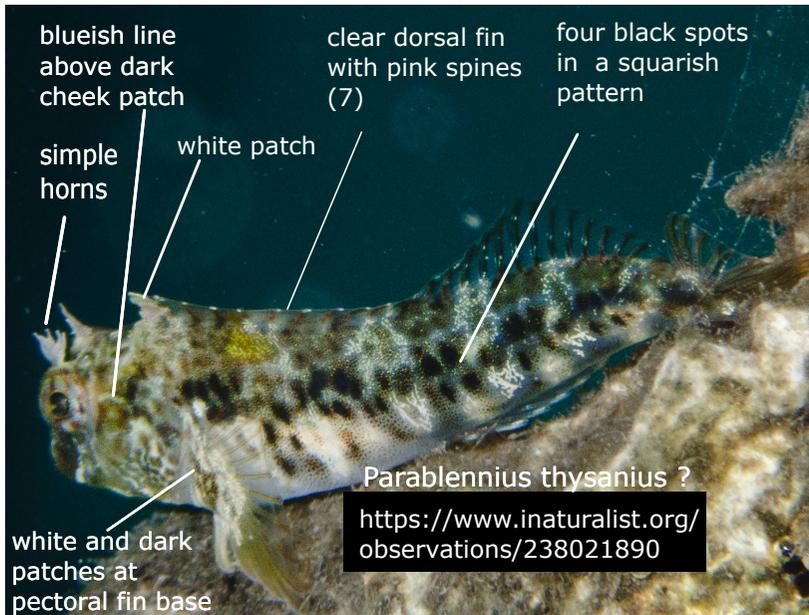


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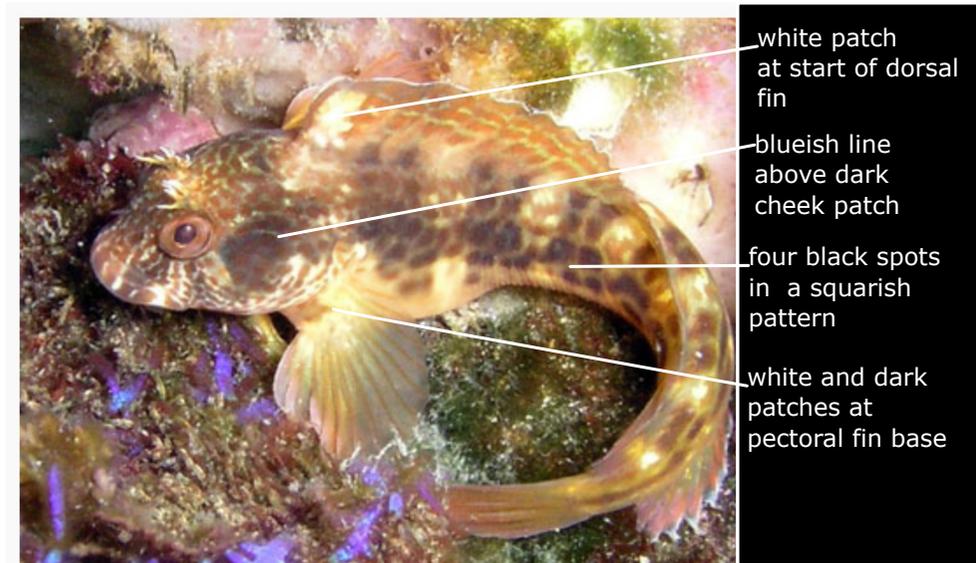
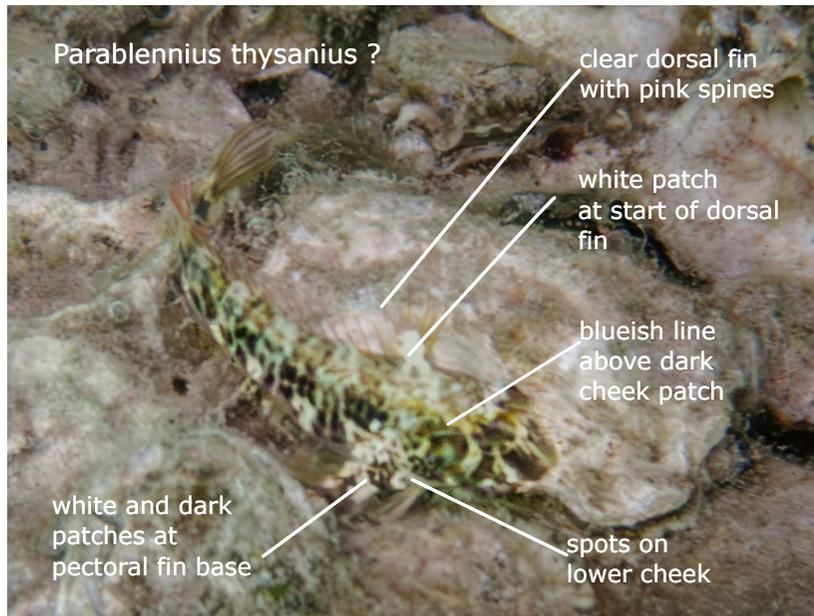
These comparisons are based on my observation of an animal in Hawaii. I have two fair-quality photos of the animal's left side and a poor-quality photo of the animal looking from the top side down. I used the observations from research-grade representations of Prablennius thysanius and intermedius from the iNaturalist community. I have so little knowledge in general about fish and very little of these fishes as presented. This exercise is for fun.



Parablennius thysanius ? and P. intermedius comparison

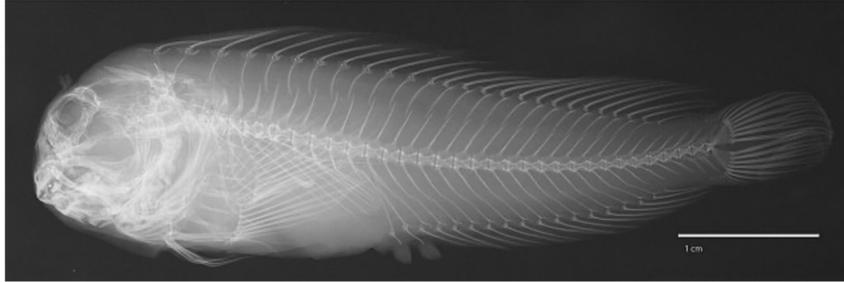


A Horned Blenny, *Parablennius intermedius*, in Chowder Bay, Sydney Harbour, New South Wales, 23 April 2016. Source: John Turnbull / Flickr. License: CC by Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike



A Horned Blenny, *Parablennius intermedius*, at Bass Point, Shellharbour, New South Wales, January 2004. Source: Sascha Schultz / iNaturalist.org. License: CC BY Attribution-NonCommercial

Title: Blennius thysanius USNM 053071 type radiograph lateral view
Creator: Franks, April
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Usage Statement: Not determined
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Parablennius thysanius

Short description Identification keys | Morphology | Morphometrics
Dorsal spines (total): 12; Dorsal soft rays (total): 14 - 15; Anal spines: 2;
Anal soft rays: 16 - 17. (<https://www.fishbase.se/summary/46422>)



Horned Blenny, Parablennius intermedius. Source: Barry Hutchins / Western Australian Museum.
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Parablennius intermedius

Short description Identification keys | Morphology | Morphometrics
Dorsal spines (total): 7; Dorsal soft rays (total): 16 - 17; Anal spines: 2;
Anal soft rays: 18 - 20.
(<https://www.fishbase.se/summary/56925>)

TABLE I
FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTIONS FOR CERTAIN MERISTIC CHARACTERS OF SPECIMENS OF *Parablennius thysanius* FROM VARIOUS LOCALITIES

LOCALITY	TOTAL DORSAL-FIN ELEMENTS			SEGMENTED ANAL-FIN RAYS			CAUDAL VERTEBRAE		
	25	26	27	15	16	17	22	23	24
Oahu, Hawaii	—	10	7	—	15	2	—	17	—
Philippines*	3	17	10	2	22	6	1	20	9
Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka*	—	3	13	—	7	9	—	7	9

* From Bath (1989).

Source: PacificScience(1991) , vol. 45, no. I: 72-75
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