
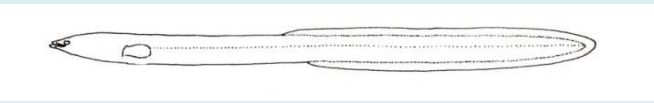
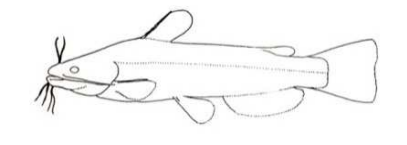
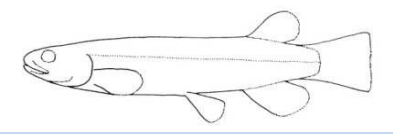
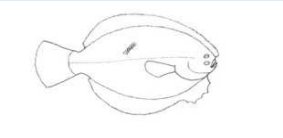
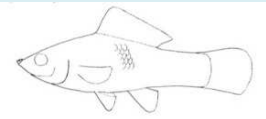

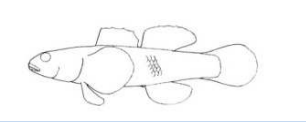
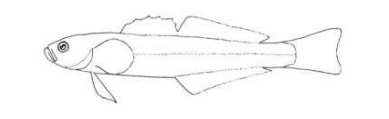
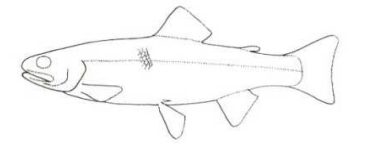
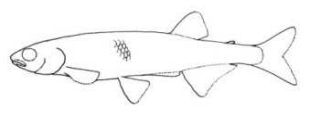
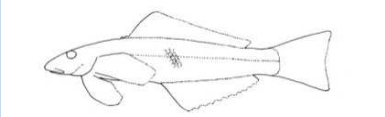
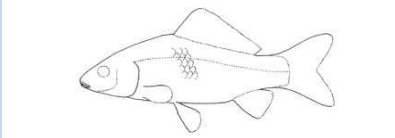
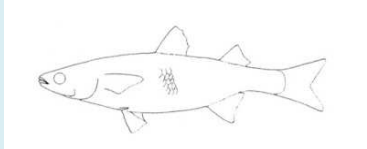
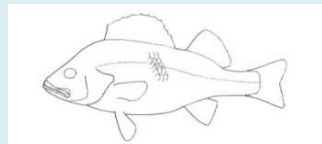


TAXONOMIC KEY TO FRESHWATER FISH FAMILIES IN NEW ZEALAND

No.	Characteristic	Next	Line drawings (copy write R.M. McDowall)
1	Scales absent or embedded Scales present	go to 2 go to 5	
2	Seven gill openings on each side of head One gill opening on each side of head	Lamprey (Geotriidae) go to 3	
3	Fish long and thin (snake-shaped) Fish not long and thin	Eels (Anguillidae) go to 4	
4	Barbels present around mouth No barbels	Catfish (Ictaluridae)* Whitebait and mudfish (Galaxiidae)	 
5	Fish flat and plate-shaped Fish not flattened	Flounder (Pleuronectidae) go to 6	
6	Tail rounded Tail not rounded	go to 7 go to 9	
7	One dorsal fin Two dorsal fins Three dorsal fins	Live bearers (Poeciliidae)* go to 8 Estuarine triplefin (Tripterygiidae)	 
8	Gap present between dorsal fins No gap present between dorsal fins	Bullies (Eleotridae) Dart Goby (Microdesmidae)	 
9	Adipose fin present Adipose fin absent	go to item 10 go to item 11	
10	Lateral line present Lateral line absent	Trout and salmon (Salmonidae)* Smelt (Retropinnidae)	 
11	One dorsal fin More than one dorsal fin	go to 12 go to 13	
12	Head slightly flattened with a dark band between the eyes Head not flattened	Torrentfish (Pinguipedidae) Carp (Cyprinidae)*	 
13	First dorsal fin with 4 spines First dorsal fin with more than 4 spines	Mullet (Mugilidae) Perch (Percidae)*	 

* indicates the the families of introduced species.