

# Parasites of western Australian salmon (*Arripis truttaceus*)



**Name:** Anisakid nematodes including *Anisakis* sp., *Contracaecum* sp. and *Hysterothylacium* sp.  
**Microhabitat:** digestive tract, body cavity and connective tissue  
**Appearance:** Long, thin, white worms ~2cm long that flick and wriggle - or are curled up in cysts  
**Pathology:** Unknown  
**Curiosity:** *Anisakis* spp. may cause serious medical complications in humans if it is eaten alive – this can be avoided by freezing fillets for 24h



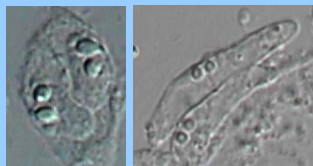
**Name:** *Caligus bonito*, *C. pelamydis*, *C. punctatus*, copepods commonly called 'sea-lice'  
**Microhabitat:** Live on the surface of the fish including the skin and gills  
**Appearance:** Females with elongate paired eggs strings ~5mm long  
**Pathology:** See separate poster for crustacean parasites of Australian salmon  
**Curiosity:** Sea-lice are capable swimmers and move rapidly along the body mucus of their host



**Name:** *Kahawaia truttae*, flatworm parasites commonly called 'gill fluke'  
**Microhabitat:** Live on the gills and feed on blood  
**Appearance:** Brown, thick worms that attach to the gills with microscopic clamps ~8mm  
**Pathology:** Unknown  
**Curiosity:** This is first record of this parasite from this host species!



**Name:** *Callitretrarhynchus gracilis*, commonly called a cestode or tape worm  
**Microhabitat:** Live in the body cavity, congregate near the end of the intestine  
**Appearance:** White, tear-dropped shaped cysts  
**Pathology:** Unknown  
**Curiosity:** Pop the cysts to find the parasite larva inside with four spined tentacles



**Name:** *Ceratomyxa* spp. are microscopic myxosporeans  
**Microhabitat:** Live in the gall bladder  
**Appearance:** Microscopic parasites with distinct polar capsules  
**Pathology:** unknown  
**Curiosity:** *Ceratomyxa* spp. found in salmon are sometimes shaped like boomerangs

## Further contact:

Sarah Catalano  
Marine Parasitology Laboratory  
School of Earth & Environmental Sciences  
DX 650 418 Darling Building  
The University of Adelaide  
Adelaide SA 5005  
P: +61 4 8303 7006  
F: +61 4 8303 4364  
E: sarah.catalano@student.adaelaide.edu.au

## A research initiative supported by:

The University of Adelaide  
James Cook University  
Australian Biological Resources Study  
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation

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Prepared by Sarah Catalano 2009  
Updated June 2010  
Updated October 2010