

Banjo Ray

Trygonorrhina fasciata



Banjo Ray, *Trygonorrhina fasciata*, Photo by Bill Boyle

Banjo rays are in a group known as guitarfishes and in appearance lie somewhere between a shark and a skate, with distinctive banding on their upper bodies. They have long tails and a disc-shaped head, hence the name, banjo ray. They are often seen sheltering in seagrasses or lying on sandy seafloors. They grow to just over a metre and feed on crustaceans and molluscs on the seafloor and are often found in very shallow water, venturing down to depths of 50 m. Females lay golden egg capsules each containing three embryos.