

Seahorses



Weedy seadragon, *Phyllopteryx taeniolatus*,
photo courtesy of Bill Boyle.

There are some 34 species of seahorses and seadragons in southern Australian waters, including the leafy seadragon and weedy seadragon. Seahorses have long been used as dried specimens for the tourist trade and Chinese medicine. They are vulnerable to over-exploitation because they are easily caught and only produce small numbers of offspring.