

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW GENUS OF PARAPERCID
FISHES FROM CHILE

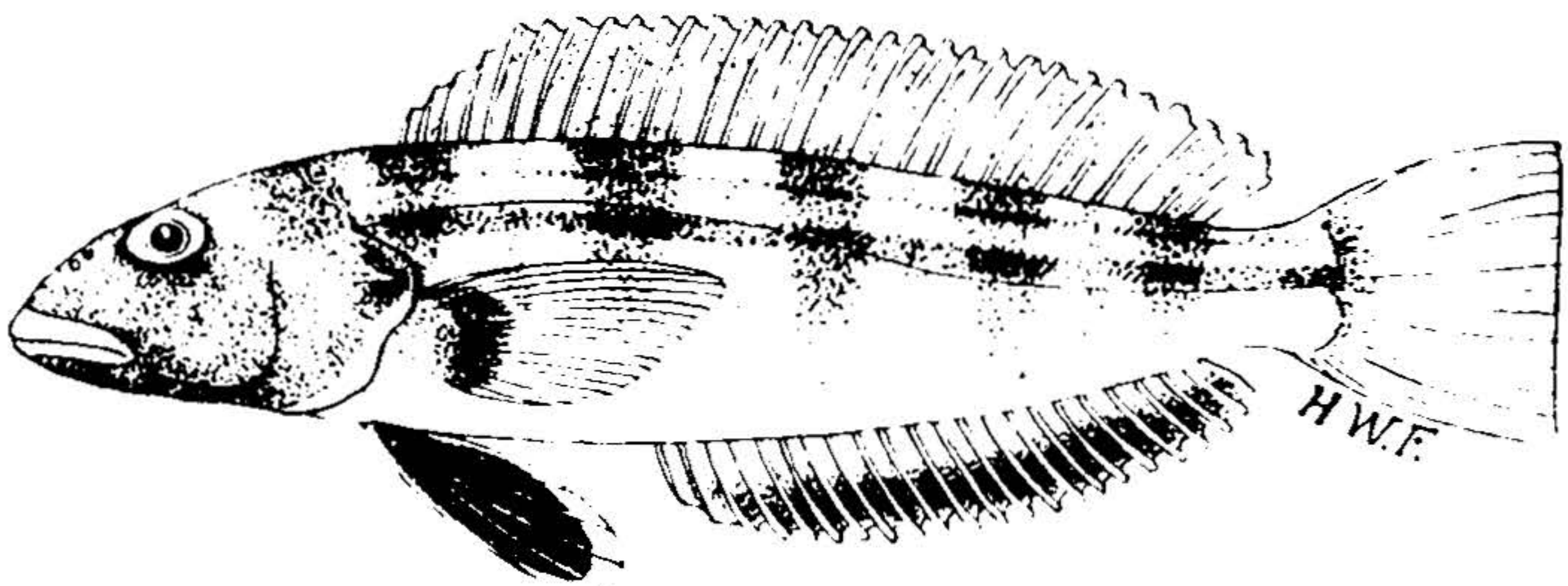
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PORTERIDIA new genus.

Type.—*Parapercis chilensis* Norman.



Body elongately ovoid in contour, well compressed, with greatest depth in middle of trunk. Head rather large, compressed. Snout conic, oblique, with tip in front forming well below level of eye. Eye elevated, anterior or within

front half of head. Maxillary inclined, not or quite reaching eye. Teeth finely villiform, in bands in jaws. Palate toothless. Interorbital subequal with eye, depressed. Opercle with 2 strong spines, lower little larger and more posterior. Lower gillrakers 9 short points. Head and body almost entirely scaled, small scales covering all muzzle except lips, even mandible and branchiostegal region. Dorsal and anal scaleless. Other fins all more or less scaly over basal portions, together with inner or front surfaces of ventrals and the ends of these fins expanded and adipose-like. Scales in lateral line small, its course axial and not concurrent with dorsal profile of back. Dorsal fins continuous, not notched, with 4 spines graduated up in front with the last longest though shorter than first ray, rays 28 or 29. Anal with 2 flexible spines in front, followed by 21 rays. Caudal truncate. Pectoral long, less than head. Ventral little shorter than pectoral. Slightly in advance of pectoral.

This genus is proposed for the Chilean representative of the heretofore comprehensive *Parapercis* and may be distinguished chiefly as follows: the continuous dorsal with the last (fourth) spine longest; small scales in the lateral line, with all of the head and body and most of the fins scaly; increased lower gill-rakers; terminally expanded adipose rays of the ventral fins; dorsal and anal fins height greatly less than body depth; maxillary reaching till opposite front of eye; upper pectoral rays longest; truncate caudal; and the combined barred and banded color pattern, besides other color details.

Named for Dr. Carlos E. Porter, the distinguished Chilean naturalist.

PORTERIDIA CHILENSIS (Norman)

Parapercis chilensis Norman, Discovery Report, vol. 16, 1937, p. 62, fig. 28 (type locality, lat. 38° 22'S., long. 73° 41' W. Mocha Island, Chile, in 58 meters).

Depth $4\frac{1}{8}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$; head $3\frac{1}{8}$ to $3\frac{1}{5}$, width $1\frac{4}{5}$ to 2. Snout $3\frac{1}{5}$ to $3\frac{1}{3}$ in head; eye $4\frac{3}{5}$ to $4\frac{4}{5}$, $1\frac{2}{5}$ to $1\frac{3}{7}$ in snout, subequal with interorbital; maxillary reaches opposite front eye edge length $3\frac{2}{5}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ in head; mouth little inclined from horizontal, closed jaws equal or lower little shorter; lips fleshy; teeth in bands in jaws, of 6 to 8 transversely in front of jaws, and outer distinct series of enlarged teeth in each; interorbital $4\frac{3}{5}$ to 5 in head, low, depressed medially. Gill

opening lateral, extends opposite hind eye edge. Gillrakers 4 + 9, short points, $\frac{1}{2}$ of gill filaments.

Scales 69 to 70 + 5 in lateral line; 10 above to front dorsal base, 20 below to anal origin; 20 to 24 rows on cheek below eye. Caudal scaly over greater portion, only hind border narrowly naked. Basal $\frac{2}{3}$ of pectoral scaled. On head scales very small on muzzle, top under portions. On body scales rather large on back and sides, smaller on all of under surfaces.

D. *IV*, 28 or 29, fourth spine 5 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ in head, fifth ray $2\frac{3}{4}$ to $2\frac{4}{5}$; A. *II*, 21, fifth ray $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{3}{5}$; depth of caudal peduncle $4\frac{1}{8}$ to $4\frac{1}{4}$; caudal $1\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{4}{5}$, truncate behind, slightly concave as retracted; pectoral $1\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$, rays *II*, 17; ventral *I*, 5, length $1\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Color in alcohol dark brown above, and though this color predominates on under surface of head else where body below pale or light brown. On side 5 darker to blackish ill-defined transverse bands, narrowed below, and with paler transverse band in each pale interspace. Very distinct blackish brown longitudinal band extends along and close below lateral line at first to cross on tail and thence along close above lateral line to caudal base. Above and parallel another less distinct one along back. Lips pale brownish to whitish, in contrast with rest of muzzle. Iris dark gray, border of eyeball in socket dull blackish. Dorsals dark gray terminally, pale basally, and dark transverse bands on body also reflected basally. Anal largely pale to whitish, with each membrane broadly over outre $\frac{2}{3}$ at least blackish brown, leaving fin rays pale; not only base of fin but also narrow edge whitish. Caudal blackish brown, lower edge pale brown to whitish, also some paler medial suffusions. Pectoral pale orange buff subbasally, with blackish brown basal blotch and fin grayish terminally. Ventral largely blackish brown on outer surfaces, bordered whitish all around and terminally broadly so; inner scaly faces and expansion pale gray to whitish.

Two, 247 to 249 mm. Chile, 1932. D. S. Bullock.

Comparison of the drawing by Tenison as published by Norman, shows the muzzle, chin, apparently the branchiostegal region, ventral and anal fins scaleless; the 2 anal spines close together and close before the first anal ray; the ventral rays not expanded; coloration different, with the transverse dark bands inclined and no longitudinal dark bands. These details are all at variance with my specimens.