

Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

A.



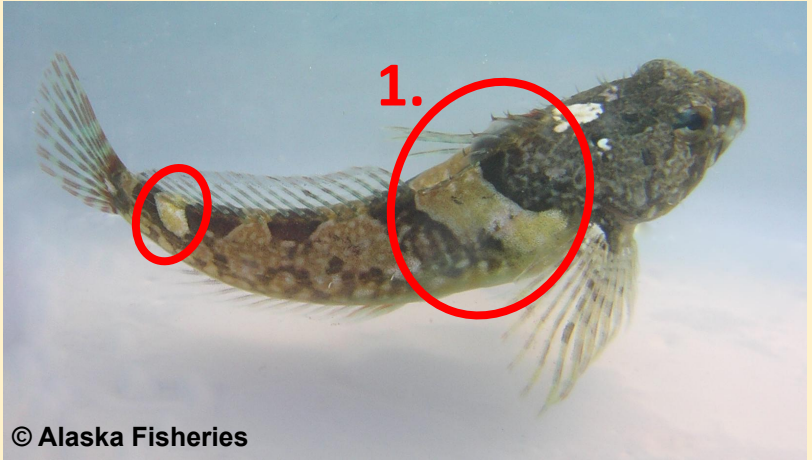
B.



Correct Answer: B

Tidepool sculpin (OLMA)

A. **X**



Staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

B. **✓**



A few features in this photo distinguish the staghorn sculpin (LEAR) from the tidepool sculpin (OLMA).

1. The tidepool sculpin has a clear white saddle patch behind its pectoral fins, and another near the tail.
2. Staghorn sculpin have large, lobe-shaped pectoral fins with wide, concentric, black bands, while the tidepool sculpin has smaller, more translucent pectoral fins that are more triangular in shape.

Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

A.



B.



Correct Answer: A

Staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

A.



Prickly sculpin (COAS)

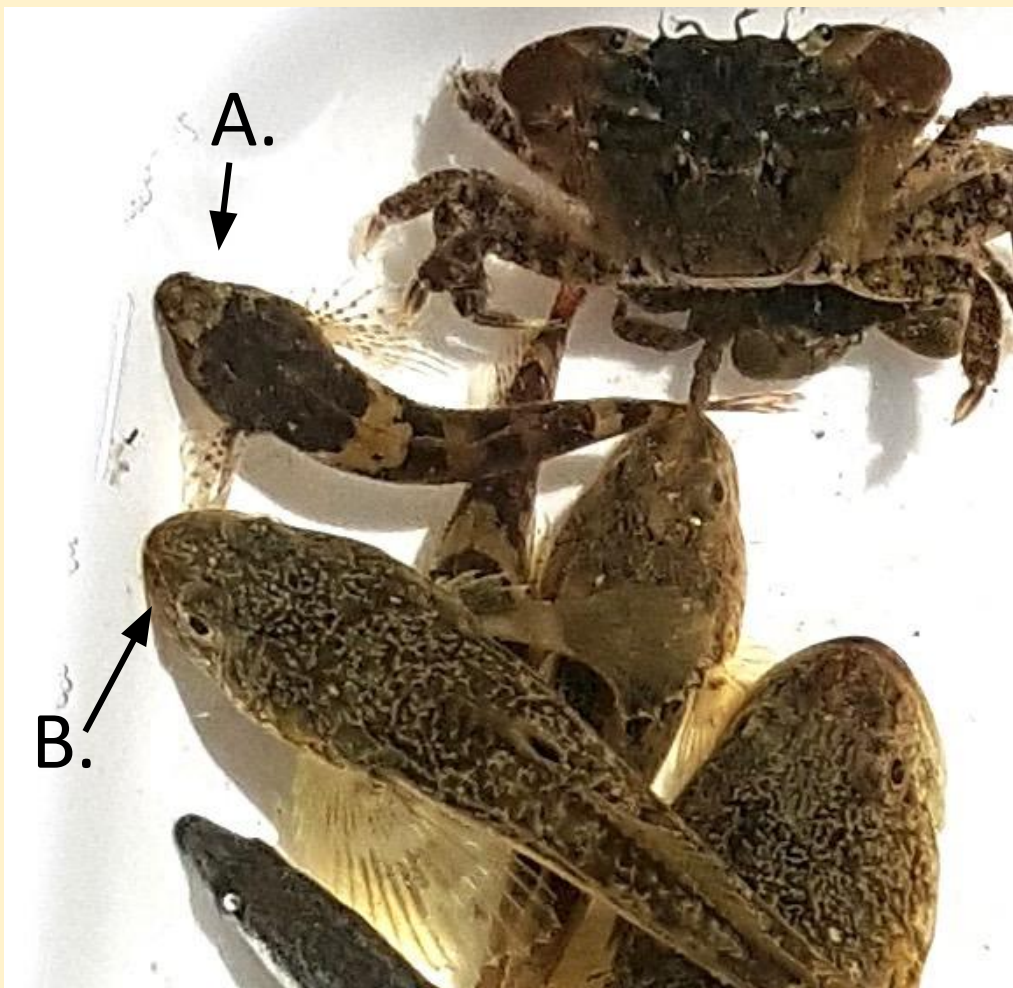
B.



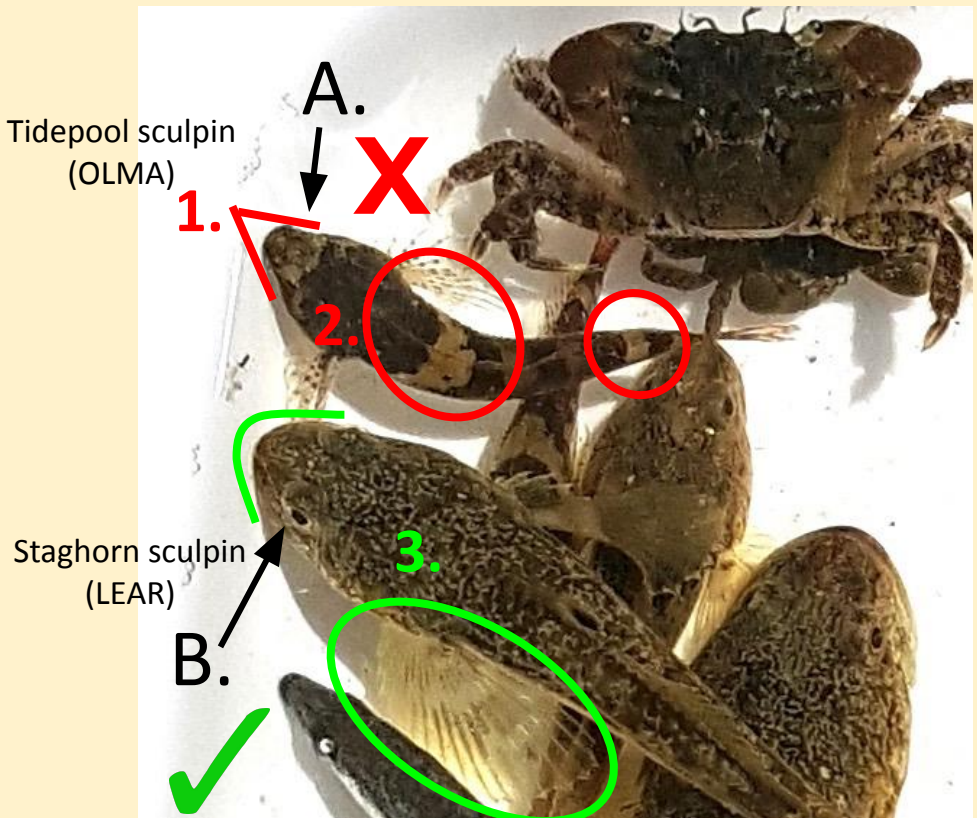
These photos show how the opercular spines of the staghorn sculpin (LEAR) help distinguish it from the prickly sculpin (COAS).

1. Staghorn sculpin have forked, antler-like spines in front of their gill covers (operculum), while the prickly sculpin has simple (without forked points) spines along the edge of the gill cover.

Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)



Correct Answer: B



A few features in this photo distinguish the staghorn sculpin (LEAR) from the tidepool sculpin (OLMA).

1. The overall head shape of the tidepool sculpin is more sharply tapered and pointier than that of the staghorn.
2. A distinct white saddle patch is visible just behind the pectoral fins on the tidepool, and a second one near the tail is as well. Black saddle patches appear on both species, but the white is more characteristic of the tidepool.
3. The larger lobe-shaped pectoral fins of the staghorn have wide concentric black bands (only faintly visible here). The more triangular pectoral fins of the tidepool sculpin are mostly colorless except for the rays.

Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

A.



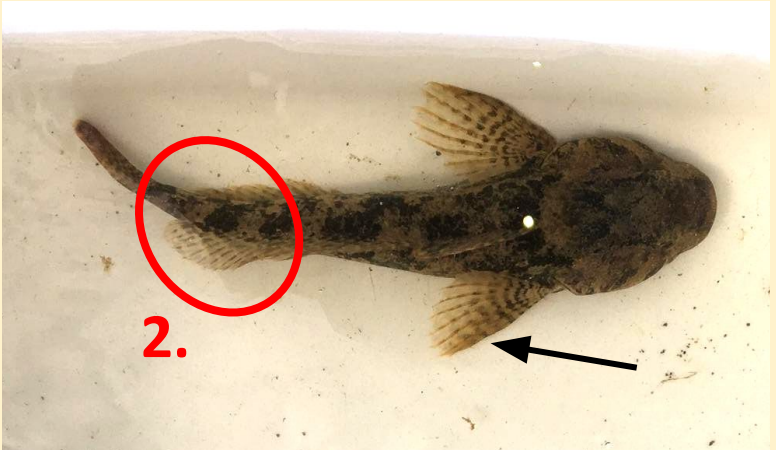
B.



Correct Answer: B

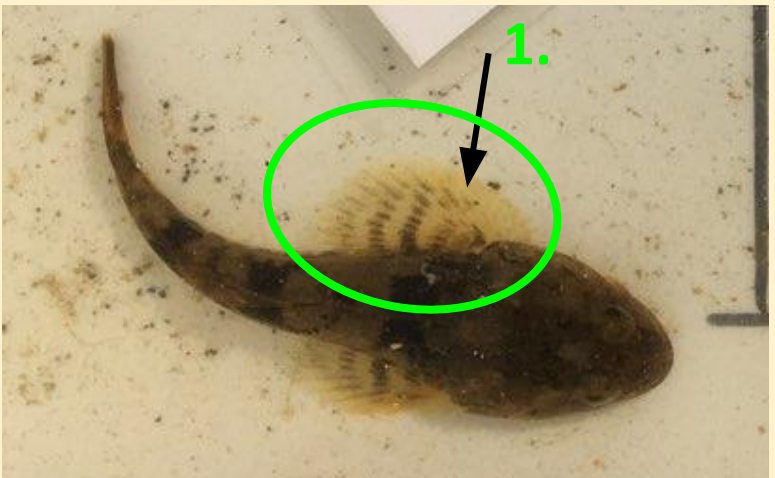
Prickly sculpin (COAS)

A. **X**



Staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

B. **✓**



Though they both have large heads, a few features distinguish the staghorn sculpin (LEAR) from the prickly sculpin (COAS).

1. The pectoral fins of the staghorn sculpin have clearly-separated, wide, concentric black bands, while on the prickly, the rays of the pectoral fins (stronger structures radiating out) are dark across their entire length and bands are narrow.
2. Prickly sculpins often have a dorsal fin that is larger and more noticeable than that of the staghorn.

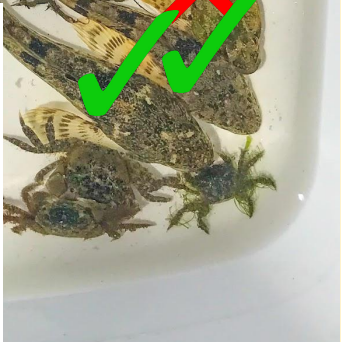
How many staghorn sculpins total? (LEAR)



How many staghorn sculpins total? (LEAR)



This bin has a total of 8 LEAR with 4 OLMA (tidepool sculpins) interspersed throughout. On the OLMA, notice the relatively pointy nose, distinct and consistent white saddle patches, especially near the tail and just behind the pectoral fins. The pectoral fins of OLMA are also narrower, without wide concentric black rings, and the rays are more prominent than those of LEAR.

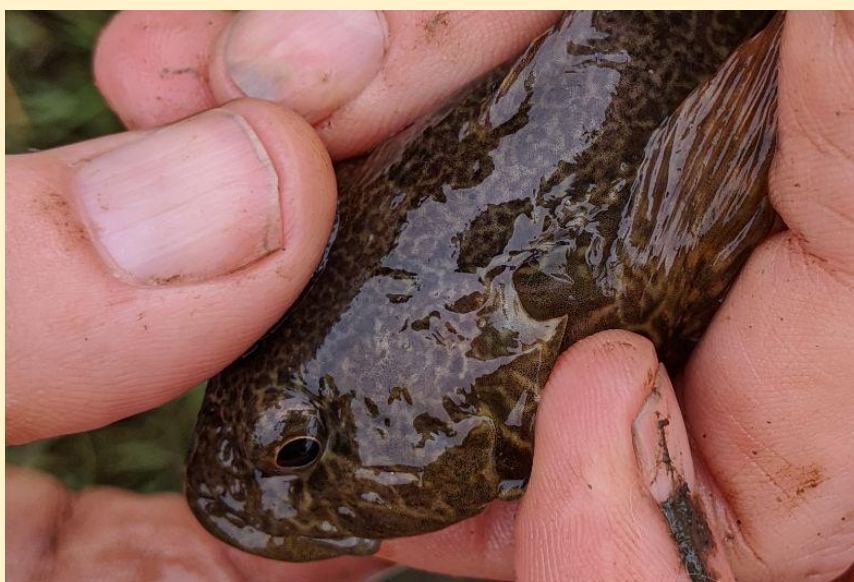


Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

A.



B.



Correct Answer: A

Staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

A. ✓



Prickly sculpin (COAS)

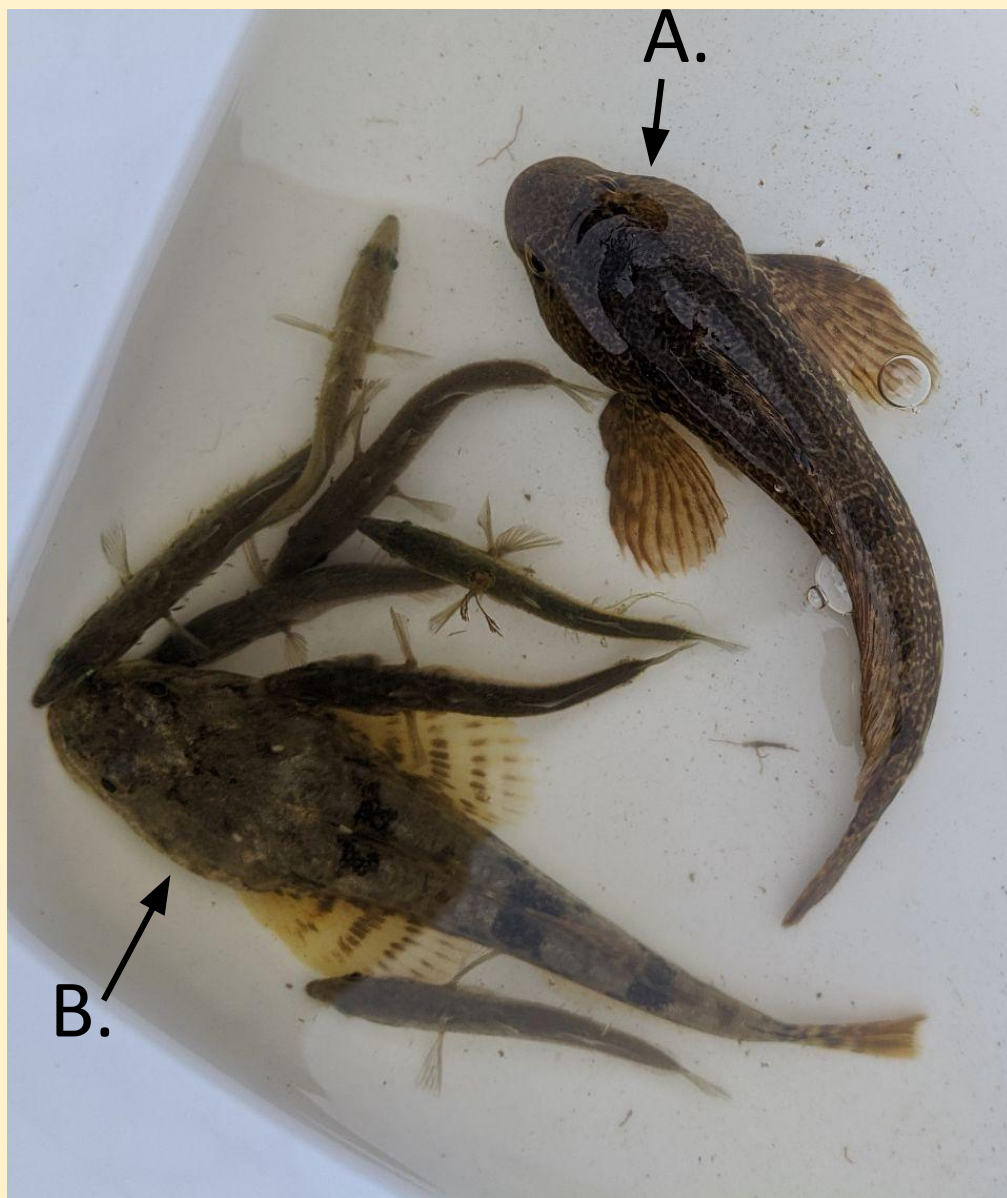
B. ✗



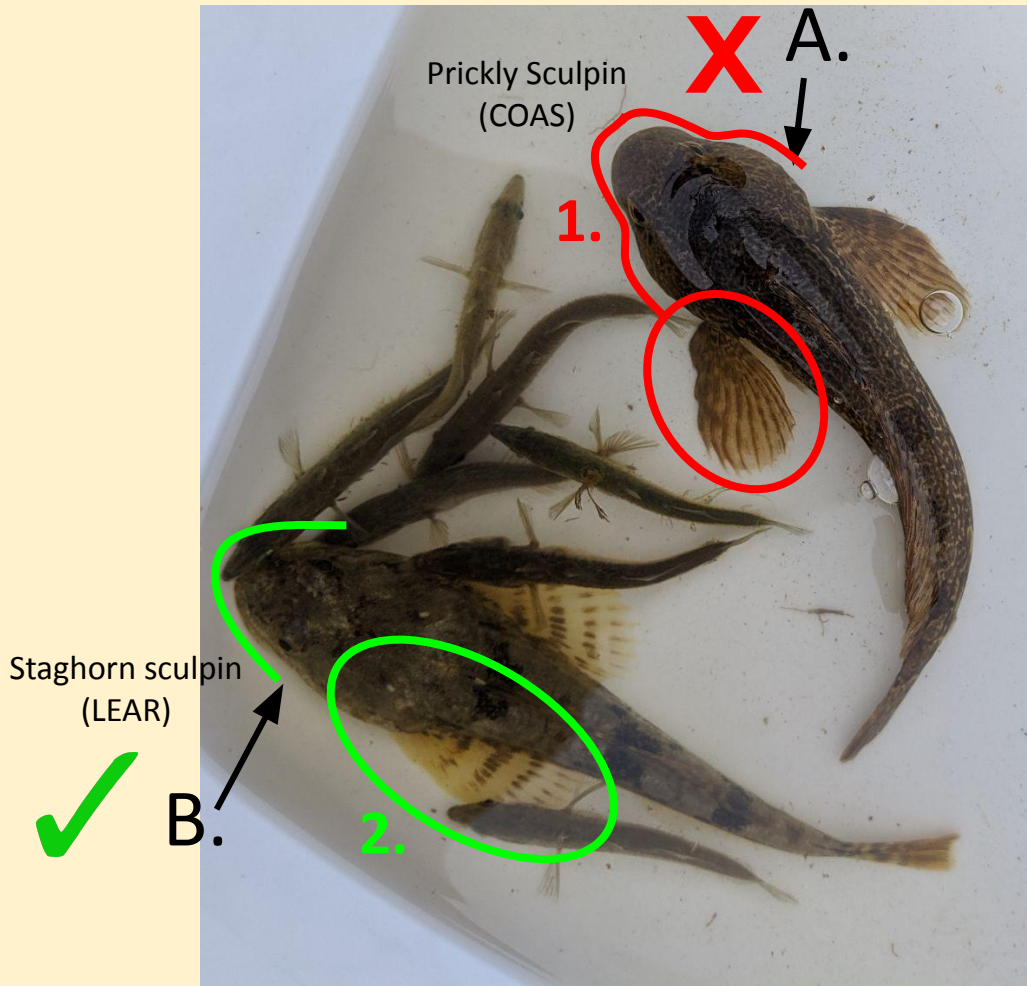
These photos show how the opercular spines of the staghorn sculpin (LEAR) help distinguish it from the prickly sculpin (COAS).

Staghorn sculpin have forked, antler-like spines in front of their gill covers (operculum), while the prickly sculpin has simple (without forked points) spines along the edge of the gill cover.

Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)



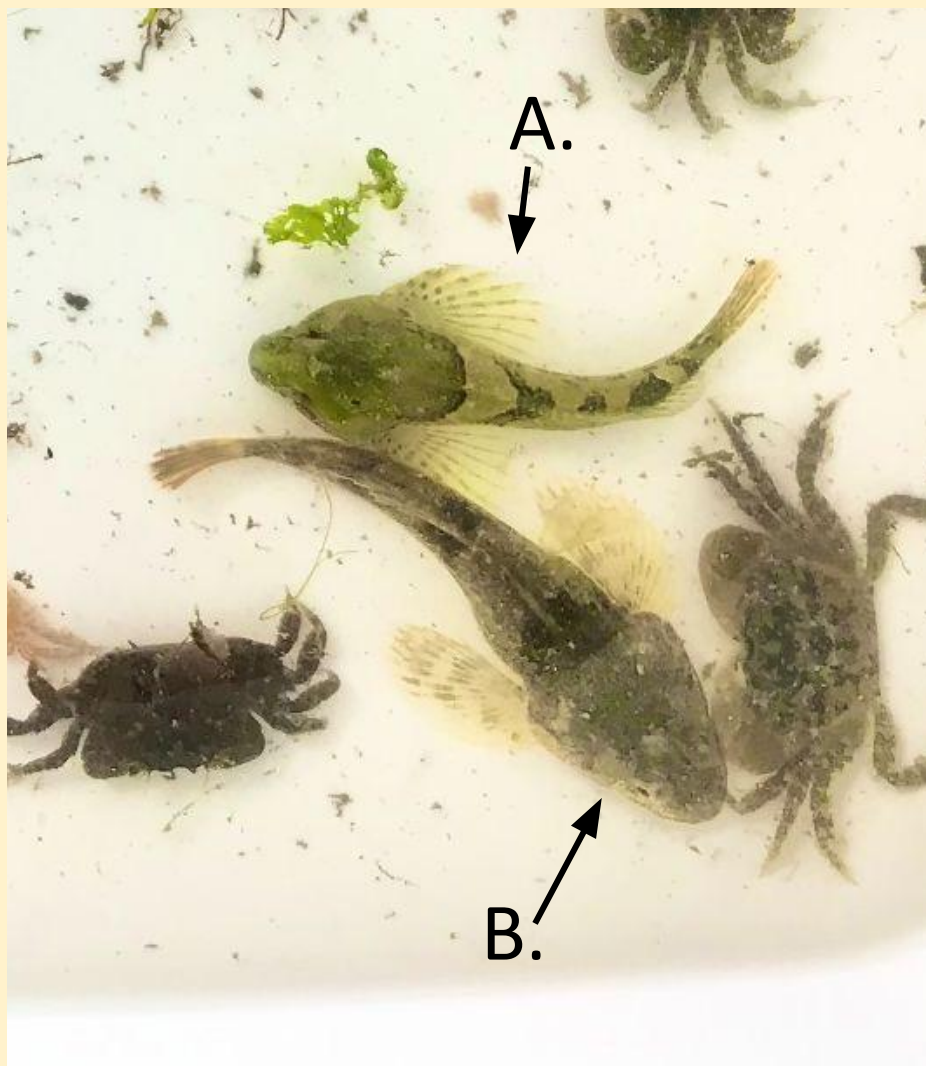
Correct Answer: B



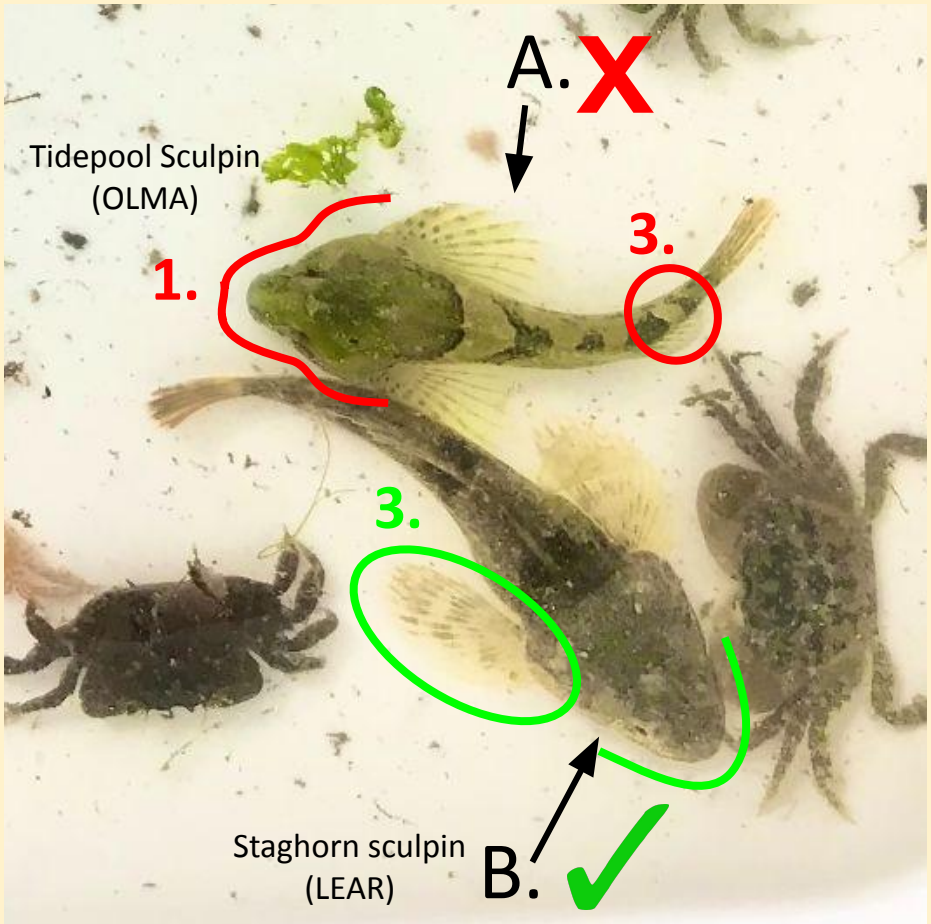
Amidst a flurry of smaller fish, these two bull-heads can be distinguished from each other by pectoral fins and head shape:

1. From above, the head of the prickly sculpin pinches in around the eyes, while that of the staghorn has a smooth, continuous outline
2. The pectoral fins of staghorn sculpins are longer relative to their width, more oval or “lobe shaped” compared to the more circular pectoral fins of pricklies. The wide concentric black bands on these fins also reveal the staghorn.

Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)



Correct Answer: B



A few features in this photo distinguish the staghorn sculpin (LEAR) from the tidepool sculpin (OLMA).

1. The overall head shape of the tidepool sculpin is more sharply tapered and pointier than that of the staghorn.
2. A distinct white saddle patch is visible just behind the pectoral fins on the tidepool, and a second one near the tail is as well. Black saddle patches appear on both species, but the white is more characteristic of the tidepool.
3. The more oval, lobe-shaped pectoral fins of the staghorn have wide concentric black bands (still faintly visible here).

Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)

A.



B.



Correct Answer: A

Staghorn sculpins (LEAR)

A.



Tidepool sculpins (OLMA)

B. **X**



Seeing several individuals together of the same species can help show differences between species versus the variation within a species.

1. OLMA has a more pinched head shape with large eyes.
2. OLMA has clearly defined white saddle patches, particularly at the tail and just behind the pectoral fins.
3. LEAR has wide, separated, concentric black bands on the pectoral fins, which are sometimes only faintly visible

Pick the staghorn sculpin (LEAR)



A.

B.

Correct Answer: A



A. ✓
Staghorn sculpin
(LEAR)

X B.
Tidepool sculpin
(OLMA)

Differences can be harder to spot at small size, but a few features distinguish the staghorn sculpin (LEAR) from the tidepool sculpin (OLMA).

1. The pectoral fins of the staghorn sculpin have clearly-separated, wide, concentric black bands, while on the prickly, the rays of the pectoral fins (stronger structures radiating out) are dark across their entire length and bands are narrow.
2. Tidepool sculpins have a pointier head, pinched at the eyes.