**Raw Data:** These data are presence/absence of 50 fish species at each of 18 sites on relatively deep offshore patch reefs (~50 m depth) on the South Coast of NSW, Australia.

Data was collected when sampling soft sediments in 2013 as part of: Fetterplace, L.C. (2017). “The ecology of temperate soft sediment fishes: Implications for fisheries management and marine protected area design. Doctor of Philosophy thesis, University of Wollongong” in collaboration with the department of primary industries New South Wales.

Non-target habitat (patch reefs) were sampled unintentionally on a number of occasions either because the patch reefs were uncharted or because we drifted while deploying the baited under water video stations (BRUVS) used to take these samples. Sampling sites are located between Jervis Bay and Bawley Point on the South Coast of NSW, Australia.

The aim of analysing these videos was to create a species list for these previously unsampled reef and as such the species list was compiled using all of the available time on video samples. Therefore, sample times vary depending on how soon each BRUV was able to be retrieved and sample times range from 38 to 70 minutes.

Detailed BRUVS methodology can be found in the above reference and an outline of the patch reef sampling can be found in Fetterplace, L. C., Turnbull, J. W., Knott, N. A. and Hardy, N., A. (2018). “The devil in the deep: expanding the known habitat of a rare and protected fish”. European Journal of Ecology. <https://doi.org/10.2478/eje-2018-0003>

*Site Details CSV File Column Headings:*

Site

There are 18 sites in this data set. Labelled S1–S18

Site Name

Site names are related to closet landmark and only relevant to initial project

Site Depth

46.5–55 metres

Sample length

Sample lengths are in minutes

Lat & Long

Latitude and longitudes are in decimal degrees and have been truncated and are accurate to within 1 kilometre

**Extended Table 1:** Species list with species habitat association, percentage of reef (n=18, Fetterplace et al. 2017) and sand (n=56, Fetterplace 2017) BRUVS samples that each species was recorded on and maximum depth recorded if greater than listed in the literature. Species that were recorded > 10 m deeper than in the literature are highlighted in bold. Five of the most commonly used references for fish identification and fish biological information on the southeastern NSW (Australia), were consulted and the listed depth range from each included. A condensed depth range, based on the shallowest and deepest depth listed for each species in any of the references, was then compiled.

References:

Fetterplace, L. C., Turnbull, J. W., Knott, N. A. and Hardy, N., A. (2018). The devil in the deep: expanding the known habitat of a rare and protected fish. European Journal of Ecology. <https://doi.org/10.2478/eje-2018-0003>

Fetterplace, L.C. (2017). “The ecology of temperate soft sediment fishes: Implications for fisheries management and marine protected area design". Doctor of Philosophy thesis, University of Wollongong.