



## Blackline prickleback

**Field ID:** Long, slender body; one dark line on back at base of dorsal fin and two dark broken lines below; black stripe from tip of snout to eye. Maximum length 700 mm TL.

**Life stage:** Only juveniles captured.  
Size range 34-165 mm TL, mean TL = 62 mm (n = 32).

**Habitat:** Sand

**Comments:** Only captured in Nushagak Bay (Bristol Bay).

**Similar to:** Snake prickleback (p. 100)

**References:** Mecklenburg et al. 2002 (p. 761); Johnson et al. 2012 (p. 149)

### Distribution:

Region	Known	Abundance & location of beach seined fish
Arctic		
Bristol Bay	✓	
Aleutians	✓	
Southcentral		
PWS		
Southeast	✓	

PRICKLEBACKS

**Blackline prickleback**

*Stichaeidae - Acantholumpenus mackayi*



Juveniles (165 & 105 mm TL)



Juvenile (105 mm TL): black stripe from tip of snout to eye; 3 body stripes



Juvenile (76 mm TL)



YOY (45 mm TL): snout stripe & body stripes evident even in young fish