The ETYFish Project © Christopher Scharpf

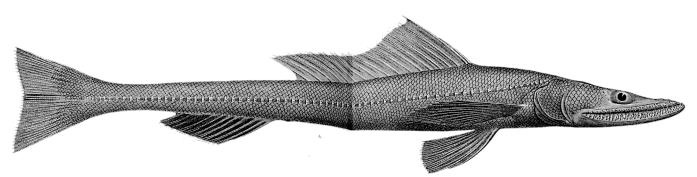
Updated 31 March 2025 COMMENTS

## Order AULOPIFORMES

Deepsea Lizardfishes

## Family **BATHYSAURIDAE**

Fowler 1944



First-published image of Bathysaurus ferox. Illustration by Pierre Jacques Smit. From: Günther, A. 1887. Report on the deep-sea fishes collected by H. M. S. Challenger during the years 1873-76. Report on the Scientific Results of the Voyage of H. M. S. Challenger 22 (57): I–Ixv + 1–268, PIs. 1–66. [Vertical band across middle of body is the page gutter of the printed volume.]

## Bathysaurus Günther 1878

bathýs (Gr. βαθύς), deep, referring to deep-sea habitat of both species (up to 4361 m in *B. mollis*); saurus, from saúra (Gr. σαύρα), lizard, but here likely referring to its similar body shape to the synodontid genus Saurus (=Saurida)

Bathysaurus ferox Günther 1878 Latin for fierce or ferocious, probably referring to its enormous mouth, filled with multiple series of long, needle-like teeth

Bathysaurus mollis Günther 1878 Latin for soft, probably referring to its adipose fin, which B. ferox lacks