Order ORECTOLOBIFORMES

Blind Sharks

Family BRACHAELURIDAE

Applegate 1974

Brachaelurus

Ogilby 1907

*brachys* (Gr. βραχύς), short, referring to short and stout body;
*aelurus*, from *ailouros* (Gr. αἰλουρος), cat, i.e., a short catshark

*Brachaelurus colcloughi* Ogilby 1908 in honor of Ogilby’s friend John Colclough, Amateur Fisherman’s Association of Queensland, who collected many specimens for Ogilby

Brachaelurus waddi (Bloch & Schneider 1801) name given on a painting (now lost) by British ornithologist John Latham (1740–1837), from which it was described; meaning unknown, possibly based on *waddi* or *waddy*, an Australian aboriginal name for a war club and a species of tree (*Acacia peuce*) endemic to central Australia


2 Blind Sharks are not blind; they were given this name because they retract their eyeballs and shut their lower eyelids when brought to the surface.