[illegible], and is also known as the red triggerfish. This fish gets its name from the distinct mechanism in its spine. Essentially, the triggerfish locks in a certain within the coral reef when threatened and uses a part of its dorsal spine to trigger its primary spine into an upright pose. This acts as a physical 'lock' for the fish, ensuring it remains small, safe crevice concealed from predators. This explains one version of the species's name, the reef triggerfish. Hawaiian name is an allusion to both the fish's usual tendency to snort and its nocturnal behaviour. In the name Humuhumunukunukuapua'a, "humuhumu" means to "fit together like blocks" in reference to the mosaic-like arrangement of colours on its body. The phrase "nukunukuapua'a" translates to "snout like a pig", perhaps a description of the fish's pursed mouth structure. Within its mouth, the fish's teeth are crowded together and are covered in powerful jaw muscles to scrape algae off of rocky coral. The reef triggerfish also feeds on crustaceans and benthic invertebrates, such as [illegible], urchins, and snails, due to both its crushing jaws of molars at the back bottom of [illegible] teeth.

Besides its fascinating name, Humuhumunukunukuapua'a is altogether a unique specimen with quite a few special biological traits. Its most [illegible] characteristic, which enable it to change color as a chameleon would. During periods of submissive behavior, such as when threatened, the fish takes on a dull coloration as a way of blending in with its surroundings. When in a healthy and [illegible] danger, the fish takes on a brighter color, with hues of yellow-orange and brown-yellow and [illegible] of bright red and blue. The fish also [illegible] to change color in order to attract a mate or display aggression (or lack thereof). Aside from the ability to color-change, like a chameleon, the reef triggerfish can also move its eyes independently. The reef triggerfish's dorsal fin has a wide, trapezoidal shape that allows it to quickly accelerate in small increments. These attributes equip the fish to constantly scan large reefs for predators and escape to safety.

Categorized as a "Least Risk" species in terms of the IUCN conservation status, Humuhumunukunukuapua'a faces little threat from humans. Although early Hawaiians ate it at times and even dried it out to be used as cooking fat, it is not commonly eaten in the modern day. It is highly valuable as aquariums due to its natural hardiness and adaptability, and is likely preserved for its aesthetic appeal. Despite its durability in terms of environmental conditions