

Smoky damselfish off Pulau Satumu

Subject: Smoky damselfish, *Pomacentrus littoralis* (Teleostei: Pomacentridae).

Subject identified by: Contributor & Kelvin K. P. Lim.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, off Pulau Satumu; 10 April 2015; around 1840 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Fringing coral reef at about 6 m depth.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: One individual of about 11 cm total length (see accompanying picture) was observed moving about in a restricted area, which appeared to be its territory.

Remarks: The smoky damselfish is one of several species of 'non-descript brown *Pomacentrus*' found in Singapore waters. It is distinguished from the others in having a patch of scales on its suborbital, and a green 'ear' spot (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 618). The other brown *Pomacentrus* known from the sea around Singapore include *Pomacentrus adelus* (obscure damselfish), *Pomacentrus tripunctatus* (threespot damselfish), *Pomacentrus cuneatus* (wedgespot damselfish) and *Pomacentrus bintanensis* (Bintan damselfish) (see Fowler, 1938: 188-190; Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 610-626; Low et al., 1995: 45).

References:

Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume II*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. p. 425-856.

Fowler, H. W., 1938. A list of the fishes known from Malaya. *Fisheries Bulletin*. 1: 1-268.

Low, J. K. Y., 1995. New localities for the wedge-spot damselfish, *Pomacentrus cuneatus* Allen, 1991 (Teleostei: Pomacentridae) in Southeast Asia. *The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology*. 43 (1): 45-50.



Photograph by Jeffrey K. Y. Low

Contributor: Jeffrey K. Y. Low

Contact address: Jeffrey_low@nparks.gov.sg, cat64fish@yahoo.com