

## **Blacktip reef sharks at Semakau Landfill**

**Subjects:** Blacktip reef shark, *Carcharhinus melanopterus* (Elasmobranchi: Carcharhinidae).

**Subjects identified by:** Contributor.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Straits, reef flat around Semakau Landfill; 29 May 2010; between 0520 and 0550 hrs.

**Habitat:** Marine, coral reef.

**Observers:** Contributor and others.

**Observation:** Three freshly dead examples of around 1 m total length were found during early morning low tide, tangled in gill nets set over a reef flat (Fig. 1-3).

**Remarks:** In Singapore, the blacktip reef shark has been recorded around Semakau Landfill (Ng, 2012: 29, 146). This species does not exceed 2 m in total length, and is distributed in shallow waters on and around coral reefs throughout the tropical Indian Ocean and western Pacific. It has even invaded the eastern Mediterranean Sea via the Suez Canal (Compagno et al., 2005: 302).

### **References:**

- Compagno, L., M. Dando & S. Fowler, 2005. *A Field Guide to the Sharks of the World*. Harper Collins Publishers Ltd., London. 368 pp.  
Ng, M. F. C., 2012. *Habitats in Harmony: The Story of Semakau Landfill*. Second edition. National Environment Agency, Singapore. 157 pp.



Fig. 1. Shark number 1.

Photograph by Ron K. H. Yeo



Fig. 2. Shark number 2.



Fig. 3. Shark number 3, removed from net.

Photographs by Ron K. H. Yeo

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