

## Banded tripefin at Pulau Pawai

**Subject:** Banded triplefin, *Enneapterygius fasciatus* (Teleostei: Tripterygiidae).

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

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Strait, off south-western Pulau Pawai; 29 November 2014; 1530 hrs.

**Habitat:** Marine, fringing coral reef, under coral overhang near reef crest, at about 6 m depth.

**Observer:** Contributor.

**Observation:** An example, estimated to be about 4 cm in total length, was photographed on the overhang near a pair of Janss' pipefish (see Tan, 2014). In the accompanying picture, the subject is in an upsidedown position at the upper left corner. Its tail is not within the frame, and its head is pointing to the right.

**Remarks:** The subject is tentatively identified as *Enneapterygius fasciatus*. This species is widespread throughout the Indo-west Pacific (Allen & Erdmann, 2012) and has been recorded from Singapore waters (Wang & Lim, 2011) where it appears to be uncommon, probably due to its small size and cryptic habits.

### References:

Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume I*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. pp. 1-424.

Wang L. K. & K. K. P. Lim, 2011. Triplefins. In: Ng, P. K. L., R. T. Corlett & H. T. W. Tan (eds.). *Singapore Biodiversity. An Encyclopedia of the Natural Environment and Sustainable Development*. Editions Didier Millet & the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore. p. 489.

Tan H. H., 2014. Janss' pipefish at Pulau Pawai. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 336.



Photograph by Tan Heok Hui

**Note:** This is a contribution of the Singapore **Comprehensive Marine Biodiversity Survey** conducted by the National University of Singapore's Tropical Marine Science Institute, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum and the National Parks Board.

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