

Banded file snake at Sembawang beach

Subject: Banded file snake, *Acrochordus granulatus* (Reptilia: Serpentes: Acrochordidae).

Subject identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, beach at Sembawang Park by the Johor Strait; 1 February 2015; around 1850 hrs.

Habitat: Estuarine sandy beach.

Observer: Contributor and others.

Observation: A live example of about 50 cm total length was found on the beach during rising tide. It is illustrated in the accompanying picture.

Remarks: In the waters off Sembawang, the banded file snake has been observed from a kelong off Yishun (Anonymous, 1988: 50 as *Chersydrus granulatus*). It is also known from freshwater in the Lower Seletar Reservoir (Ng, 2011). Further east in the Johor Straits, examples have been recorded from Pasir Ris (Law, 2014). The featured example may have been stranded on the beach when the tide receded.

References:

- Anonymous, 1988. Recent reports. *The Pangolin. A quarterly bulletin on Singapore vertebrates*. Malayan Nature Society (Singapore Branch). 1 (3): 47-53.
- Law I. S., 2014. Banded file snakes at Pasir Ris mangroves. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 211.
- Ng T. H., 2011. A record of the banded file snake, *Acrochordus granulatus* (Reptilia: Squamata: Acrochordidae) in a freshwater habitat in Singapore. *Nature in Singapore*. 4: 91-93.



Photograph by David Groenewoud

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