

Brown-banded bamboo shark off Pulau Satumu

Subject: Brown-banded bamboo shark, *Chiloscyllium punctatum* (Chondrichthyes: Orectolobiformes: Hemiscylliidae).

Subject identified by: Kelvin K. P. Lim.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, off Pulau Satumu; 6 April 2015; around 2100 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Coral reef, at depth of between 2 and 5 m.

Observer: Karenne Tun.

Observation: An example of at least 120 cm total length was observed swimming off the substrate (see accompanying picture).

Remarks: The brown-banded bamboo shark is one of five species of *Chiloscyllium* known from the waters around Singapore. The other four are: *Chiloscyllium griseum* (grey bamboo shark), *Chiloscyllium indicum* (slender bamboo shark), *Chiloscyllium plagiosum* (white-spotted bamboo shark), and *Chiloscyllium hasseltii* (Indonesian bamboo shark) (Fowler, 1938: 6-7 as *Hemiscyllium griseum*, *Chiloscyllium hasseltii*, *Hemiscyllium indicum*, *Hemiscyllium plagiosum* and *Hemiscyllium punctatum*). *Chiloscyllium punctatum* is distinguished from its congeners in having dorsal fins with concave posterior margins, and no lateral ridges on the body. Although the adults are plain grey on the dorsum, the juveniles have dark transverse bands without black edges (Last et al., 2010: 54).

References:

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

Last, P. R., W. T. White, J. N. Caira, Dharmadi, Fahmi, K. Jensen, A. P. K. Lim, B. M. Manjaji-Matsumoto, G. J. P. Naylor, J. J. Pogonoski, J. D. Stevens & G. K. Yearsley, 2010. *Sharks and Rays of Borneo*. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Australia. v + 298 pp.



Photograph by Karenne Tun

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