

Humpback grouper off Pulau Satumu

Subject: Humpback grouper, *Cromileptes altivelis* (Teleostei: Serranidae).

Subject identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, off Pulau Satumu; 21 September 2013; at around 1330 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Coral reef at about 6 m depth.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: One example of about 30 cm total length was observed swimming above the substrate. The accompanying picture shows a dorso-lateral view of the fish with the anterior part of its head blocked.

Remarks: The adult humpback grouper featured here is densely covered with numerous small brown and blackish spots instead of the considerably fewer large spots on a 12 cm juvenile seen recently at Chek Jawa (Toh, 2015). The humpback grouper reaches a maximum known size of 71 cm total length. It seems to be naturally uncommon over most of its range, and is sought after for the live reef food fish trade, as well as the aquarium trade (Craig et al., 2011: 62-63).

References:

- Craig, M. T., Y. J. S. de Mitcheson & P. C. Heemstra, 2011. *Groupers of the World. A Field and Market Guide*. NISC (Pty) Ltd, Grahamstown, South Africa. xix + 356 pp.
Toh C. H., 2015. Humpback grouper at Chek Jawa. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2015: 101.



Photograph by Toh Chay Hoon

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