

Elongate surgeonfish off Pulau Satumu

Subject: Elongate or yellow-mask surgeonfish, *Acanthurus mata* (Teleostei: Acanthuridae).

Subject identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait off Pulau Satumu; 26 April 2016; at around 1930 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Fringing coral reef with silty substrate, at about 6 m depth.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: One individual of approximately 25 cm total length was observed hiding under an overhanging coral (see accompanying picture). It is presumed to be exhibiting its night time colouration.

Remarks: *Acanthurus mata* has recently been photographed off Sisters Islands (Low, 2015). However, it was difficult to see clearly the diagnostic features from the poorly defined images of fish rapidly swimming in turbid water. The picture herein featured offers a much clearer view of the side of a fish, which confirms the occurrence of *Acanthurus mata* in Singapore waters.

References:

- Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume III*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. pp. 857-1292.
- Low, J. K. Y., 2015. Elongate surgeonfish in the Singapore Strait. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2015: 156-157.



Photograph by Jeffrey K. Y. Low

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