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First report of the herpetofauna of Pulau Sibul, Johor, West Malaysia

The Seribuat Archipelago is composed of approximately 32 islands located in the southern portion of the South China Sea, off the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia. Only nine of these islands have had their herpetofauna documented: Pulau Tioman (Day, 1990; Grismer et al., 2002; Hien et al., 2001; Hendrickson, 1966a; 1966b; Lim and Lim, 1999), Pulau Aur (Escobar et al., 2003a; Grismer et al., 2000), Pulau Besar (Wood et al., in prep), Pulau Dayang (Wood et al., 2003), Pulau Tulai (Grismer et al., 2001; Grismer et al., 2002; Hendrickson, 1966a;

1966b), Pulau Pemanggil (Youmans et al., 2002), Pulau Seribuat and Pulau Sembilang (Wood et al., 2003) and Pulau Tinggi (Escobar et al., 2003b).

Pulau Sibul (104° 45'E; 02° 13'N) is 6 x 1 km wide hour-glass shaped island, located 12 km off the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia. It is composed of lowland coastal vegetation and mangrove swamps in its central section and lowland forest on both ends. The southern end reaches an elevation of 151 m, which gives way to an extensive alluvial beach to the west dominated by coconut palms and smaller beach vegetation.

Collections were made along a cross-island trail through the centre of the island from the west coast to the east coast from 1400-0100 h on 23 July 2003. Collections were also made on 1 September 2003 from 1100-1700 h near Telok Busong along the beach on the central western side and the adjacent mangrove swamps as well as around Kampung Duku along the beach to the cross island trail between 2000-0100 h. Liver tissue was taken from representative specimens and preserved in 100% ethanol. Specimens were preserved using 10% formalin and stored in 70% ethanol. Specimens collected and observed are listed below and deposited in the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Kepong, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and the La Sierra University Herpetological Collection (LSUHC) of the Department of Biology, La Sierra University, Riverside, California. Photographic vouchers are deposited in the La Sierra University Photographic Collection (LSUPC).

ANURA (FROGS)

Microhyla borneensis (Parker, 1928).— Individuals were heard calling during the evening of 1 Sep. from a flat area where water from an intensive afternoon down pour had formed a small pond. Three individuals were observed within 0.5 m of the pond. Voucher specimen FRIM 0726.

Polypedates leucomystax (Graenhorst, 1829).— Many individuals were observed on small trees, on low-lying vegetation, and on the forest floor. Individuals were observed between

2000 and 2400 h. Voucher specimen FRIM 0718.

Fejervarya cancrivora (Gravenhorst, 1829).— One specimen was collected at approximately 2300 h in a mangrove swamp sitting near a brackish puddle. Voucher specimen FRIM 0717 and 0730.

SQUAMATA (LIZARDS)

Aphaniotis fusca (Peters, 1864).— Several individuals were observed on variously sized trees and small shrubs between 1400 and 1700 h. Individuals were observed sleeping on small leaves and branches at night. Voucher specimen FRIM 0711.

Bronchocela cristatella (Kuhl, 1820).— Three individuals were observed and two were collected. Both were 1-3 m above the ground on small trees with an approximate diameter of 0.3 m. Voucher specimen FRIM 0723.

Draco melanopogon (Boulenger, 1887).— Several males and females were observed 2-6 m above the ground on trees ranging from 0.2 to 0.5 m in diameter between 1400 and 1600 h. Voucher specimen FRIM 0712.

Cnemaspis kendallii (Gray, 1845).— Two individuals were observed approximately 1-2 m above the ground on medium sized trees 0.2-0.5 m in diameter. Voucher specimen FRIM 0713.

Cyrtodactylus sp.— One specimen was observed on a large tree with rocks at its base on the edge of a mangrove swamp between 2300 and 2400 h. Another was approximately 1.5 m above the ground. This undescribed species was previously reported from Pulau Seribu and Pulau Sembilang (Wood et al. 2003) and its description is in process (Youmans in prep). Voucher specimen FRIM 0724.

Gehyra mutilata (Wiegmann, 1834).— One individual was collected from a medium sized tree with an approximate diameter of 0.5 m and was approximately 2-3 m above the forest floor. It was observed facing head down. Voucher specimen FRIM 0729.

Gekko monarchus (Duméril & Bibron 1836).— One individual was collected near the beach on a dead tree 1-3 m above the ground be-

neath a piece of exfoliating bark. Voucher specimen FRIM 0728.

Hemidactylus frenatus (Duméril & Bibron 1836).— Many individuals were observed on buildings and beneath debris near the beach. Voucher specimen FRIM 0714.

Hemiphyllodactylus typus (Bleeker, 1860).— One specimen was observed on a wooden hand-rail of a bridge approximately 1 m above the base of the bridge. The bridge crosses through a mangrove swamp. Voucher specimen FRIM 05797.

Lepidodactylus lugubris (Duméril & Bibron 1836).— One gravid female was collected on a palm leaf 1 m above the ground at approximately 2230 h. A second individual was observed between two boards on a bridge near the mangroves. Voucher specimen FRIM 0732.

Ptychozoon lionotum (Annandale, 1905).— Three individuals were observed one at night and two during the day. All were found on small trees 1-2 m above the ground. Voucher specimen FRIM 0727.

Dasia olivacea (Gray, 1839).— Many individuals were seen on medium to large sized trees. Most were seen basking head down and others were climbing upwards. Voucher specimen FRIM 0722.

Emoia atrocostata (Lesson, 1830).— Individuals were observed and collected in the intertidal zones where mangrove trees and volcanic rocks were present. Voucher specimen FRIM 0720.

Eutropis multifasciata (Kuhl, 1820).— One large individual was observed active in the leaf litter near the side of the cross-island trail during the day. Another was observed in the forest floor on a hillside along the trail. Voucher specimen FRIM 0721.

Lygosoma bowringii (Günther, 1864).— Two individuals were observed beneath old coconuts and debris in sandy areas. Voucher specimen FRIM 0715.

Sphenomorphus sp.— One specimen was collected beneath a rotting log in a dark moist area near the side of the cross-island trail at approximately 1530 h. This represents an undescribed species whose description is in progress (Grismer, in prep). Voucher specimen FRIM 0716.

Varanus salvator (Laurenti, 1768).— Individuals were observed in mangrove trees, in the intertidal zones, and in or around small vegetation. Voucher specimen LSUPC 7806.

SQUAMATA (SNAKES)

Boiga dendrophila (Boie, 1827).— An individual observed during the day was approximately 3 m above the ground coiled around a small tree branch. Another was observed at night crossing the trail and another was observed crawling near brackish water on the floor of the mangrove swamp. Voucher specimen FRIM 0719.

Dryocalamus subannulatus (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854).— One juvenile was observed at night crawling on the handrail of a bridge crossing a mangrove swamp. A second was observed at approximately 2030 h, approximately 2 m up in small coastal vegetation. Voucher specimen FRIM 0733.

Ramphotyphlops braminus (Daudin, 1803).— One individual was collected beneath a log in the sand at approximately 1200 h. Upon capture it attempted to burrow in the sand. Voucher specimen FRIM 0725.

This report is considered preliminary because only a limited portion of the island was surveyed; the cross-island trail, the beaches near the Cabanas at Sibu Resort on the northeast side of the island southeast of Telok Berduri, the southwest side of the island along the coast and the mangroves near Kampung Duku and Telok Busong. We expect *Acanthosaura armata*, *Draco sumatranus*, *Cosymbotus craspedotus*, *Cosymbotus platyurus*, *Ahaetulla prasina*, *Cerberus rynchops*, *Chrysopelea paradisi*, *Dendrelaphis caudolineatus* and *Dendrelaphis pictus* to be present as well. These species were not seen but are expected owing to the similarity of habitat and their presence on the nearby islands Besar (Wood et al., 2004), Seribuat and Sembilang (Wood et al., 2003b). Additional fieldwork is planned to better understand the relationships of the island's herpetofauna.

We are most grateful to Sahir bin Othman of the Department of Wildlife, Jabatan Perlindungan Hidupan Liar dan Taman Negara (PERHILTITAN) for permission to conduct

fieldwork in the Seribuat Archipelago. Collections were made under an Environmental Planning Unit (EPU) permit number 1012 issued to L. Lee Grismer. This research was conducted as part of a field biology course Biology 487G: Tropical Field Biology taught at La Sierra University Riverside, California, USA.

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Trionychid turtle miscellany

Some information included in a long-time, ongoing account of trionychid turtles (not including natural history information), initially instigated by a publishing contract in the now-defunct *Das Tierreich* series via Heinz Wermuth in the 1960s, is deemed best disposed of separately. This information deals with various kinds of issues, including the rectification of some errors, stemming from previously published accounts. The capsules below involve two museum codes for specimen repository, the traditional BMNH (The Natural History Museum, London) and MNHN (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris).

1. Errata: Illustrations in Wermuth and Mertens (1961, reprint 1996; hereafter as W&M). The influential book of W&M contains three mislabeled illustrations of trionychid skulls. Their illustrations of *Cyclanorbis elegans* and *C. senegalensis* are copies of those in Loveridge and Williams (1957), but the skull legends for Figs 181e and 182d in W&M are reversed; their skull drawings of *C. elegans* (p. 250, Fig. 181e) represent *C. senegalensis*, and those of *C. senegalensis* (p. 252, Fig. 182d) rep-