

**Taxonomic Status of the Sandperch *Percis caudimaculatum*  
and Validity of *Parapercis ommatura*  
(Actinopterygii: Perciformes: Pinguipedidae)**

**Hisashi Imamura<sup>1</sup> and Tetsuo Yoshino<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> *The Hokkaido University Museum, 3-1-1 Minato-cho, Hakodate, Hokkaido, 041-8611 Japan*  
*E-mail: imamura@museum.hokudai.ac.jp*

<sup>2</sup> *Department of Marine Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of the Ryukyus, 1 Senbaru,*  
*Nishihara, Okinawa, 903-0213 Japan*  
*E-mail: b985005@sci.u-ryukyu.ac.jp*

(Received 18 August 2006; Accepted 8 February 2007)

There are no significant morphological differences between the four syntypes of the pinguipedid sandperch *Percis caudimaculatum* Haly, 1875 and the holotype of *Parapercis ommatura* Jordan and Snyder, 1902. The former nominal taxon is thus a subjective senior synonym of the latter, but it is also a junior homonym of *Percis caudimaculata* Rüppell, 1838, and thus invalid. In addition, Rüppell's taxon, now assigned to the genus *Parapercis*, has been recognized as a junior synonym of *Parapercis hexophthalma* (Cuvier in Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1829). *Parapercis ommatura*, being the first available junior synonym of *Parapercis caudimaculata* (Haly, 1875), becomes the valid name for the species.

**Key Words:** Actinopterygii, Perciformes, Pinguipedidae, *Parapercis ommatura*, synonym, homonym, nomenclature.

### **Introduction**

The pinguipedid fish *Percis caudimaculatum* Haly, 1875 was briefly described from four specimens collected from northern China without illustrations (Haly 1875). De Beaufort and Chapman (1951) placed it in the synonymy of *Parapercis hexophthalma* (Cuvier in Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1829) without explanation, and they were followed by Cantwell (1964). Our detailed examination of the four syntypes of *Percis caudimaculatum* has revealed that it is not conspecific with *Parapercis hexophthalma*, but is a senior synonym of *Parapercis ommatura* Jordan and Snyder, 1902 (*q. v.*). The latter is known from southern Japan, Korea, northern China, and the South China Sea (e.g., Cantwell 1964; Shimada 2002). The purpose of this study is to show the basis for the synonymy of *Percis caudimaculatum* and *Parapercis ommatura* and the nomenclatural validity of the latter name.