

HUMAN IMPACTS ON COHAI WEEF FISH FEEDING
ACTIVITIES

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HUMAN IMPACTS ON CORAL REEF FISH FEEDING ACTIVITIES

By

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABBREVIATION

MPA Marine Protected Area

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ABSTRACT

Fish feeding is one of the major activities in Marine Park of Redang Island. Bread is the major food used by tourist to feed the fish. Major type of fish attracted was damsels (Pomacentridae). Objectives of this study were to look at the impact of artificial food on coral reef fishes by analyzing fish behavior and gut content, comparison were made on two types of fishes; *Abudefduf saxatilis* (Sergeant Major) and *Abudefduf sexfasciatus* (Scissortail Damsel) from Marine Park of Redang Island and Bidong Island. Fish behavior and gut content analysis on fishes in the Marine Park and Bidong Island, will provide information on the behavior and biological impact on fishes that feed on artificial and natural food in these two different locations. By using an Observation Checklist, fishes from the Marine Park of Redang Island where fish feeding activity occurred showed that they were aggressive and not disturbed by human presence in water. Fishes were more attracted to tourists when they enter the water with bread. They did not go back to their natural habitat after being fed. But, the opposite situation was in Bidong Island where less fish feeding activity occurred. Targeted and non targeted fishes were very cunning and tame. Some of them being fed will go back to their natural habitat after feeding activity. Observation and gut content analysis of the targeted fishes in Marine Park of Redang Island showed that the majority of fishes consume artificial food fed by tourists. In Bidong Island, targeted fishes only consumed natural.

ABSTRAK

Aktiviti pemberian makanan kepada ikan-ikan terumbu karang merupakan aktiviti popular di Taman Laut, Pulau Redang. Roti merupakan bahan makanan utama digunakan oleh para pelancong untuk diberi kepada ikan. Jenis ikan yang sangat tertarik dengan aktiviti ini adalah daripada famili Pomacentridae. Tujuan utama kajian ini dijalankan adalah untuk menentukan kesan-kesan daripada makanan buatan kepada ikan-ikan terumbu karang melalui analisis ke atas sifat dan kandungan makanan dalam perut dua jenis ikan iaitu *Abudefduf saxatilis* (Sergeant Major) dan *Abudefduf sexfasciatus* (Scissortail Damsel) yang didapati dari Pulau Bidong dan Taman Laut, Pulau Redang. Kajian ke atas pemberian makanan terhadap spesis ikan terbabit akan memberi maklumat mengenai kesan daripada aktiviti ini yang memberi pendedahan kepada para pelancong terhadap aktiviti pemberian makanan. Pemerhatian dengan menggunakan Senarai Semak Pemerhatian mendapati ikan-ikan di Taman Laut, Pulau Redang sangat agresif dan tidak takut dengan kehadiran manusia. Ikan-ikan tersebut sangat tertarik kepada kehadiran manusia terutamanya dengan pemberian roti. Ikan-ikan tersebut juga tidak pulang ke habitat asal mereka selepas diberi makanan malah mereka masih berkeliaran di kawasan di mana aktiviti pemberian roti berlaku. Manakala, di Pulau Bidong pula spesis ikan yang sama tidak tertarik kepada aktiviti tersebut. Mereka akan takut dengan kehadiran manusia. Pemerhatian ke atas kandungan makanan dalam perut ikan dari Taman Laut, Pulau Redang menunjukkan sebahagian besar makanannya terdiri daripada roti manakala ikan dari Pulau Bidong pula hanya memakan makanan semulajadi.