



Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand

REPORT

SPINY LOBSTER REFUGIA REPORT FOR Q4 2020

Prepared by

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Environment



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Report on the Spiny Lobster Refugia Report for Q4 2020

Spiny Lobster Refugia Report for Q4 2020 For the duration from October 2020 to December 2020, there was only one research activity carried out for the development of the spiny lobster refugia in East Johor, Peninsular Malaysia. A spiny lobster larvae study was conducted in the coastal waters (less than 5 nautical miles from the shoreline) along East Johor coastline. This study was funded through the national developmental grants P21-30701011-22501-040 and P21-30701011-23300-069. The sampling was carried out onboard a chartered fishing vessel from 15 – 22 November 2020. Sampling was conducted using a larvae net with 500 μ m mesh size and by following sub-surface horizontal towing method. Samples collected were preserved in 10% formalin and brought back to the FRI Kg. Acheh laboratory for analysis. A total of 30 samples were collected from the study. The flow rate of seawater into the larvae net during sampling was recorded for water volume and larvae density calculation. These samples will be sorted and identified for phyllosoma by a trained laboratory technician using a stereomicroscope. Currently the lab samples analysis is still ongoing and is estimated to be completed by early next year (February 2021).



Figure 1: Sampling station locations for the spiny lobster larvae study. A total of 30 samples were collected from the study. The green box is the proposed lobster refugia site near Pulau Aur while the white box is the additional refugia site extension for the protection of juvenile spiny lobsters



Figure 2: Sampling was conducted using a larvae net with 500 μ m mesh size and a flowmeter installed to measure the flow rate of the seawater into the net



Figure 3: The sampling was carried out onboard a chartered fishing vessel from 15 – 22 November 2020



Figure 4: Samples collected were preserved in 10% formalin and brought back to the FRI Kg.

Acheh laboratory for analysis