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## Revision of the fish family Kyphosidae (Teleostei: Perciformes)

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## Abstract

A molecular phylogenetic analysis with complete species sampling of the family Kyphosidae revealed several discrepancies with the current taxonomy. We thus undertook a complete taxonomic revision of all kyphosid genera, *i.e.* *Kyphosus* Lacepède, 1801, and the monotypic *Hermosilla* Jenkins and Evermann, 1889, *Sectator* Jordan and Evermann, 1903 and *Neoscorpis* Smith, 1931. Species delimitation was determined on the basis of congruence between (a) monophyletic groupings in the molecular phylogeny, and (b) clusters of morphological variation in type material. Twelve species are supported and redescribed. Both *Hermosilla* and *Sectator* are considered junior synonyms of *Kyphosus*. *Kyphosus azureus* (Jenkins & Evermann, 1889) and *K. ocyurus* (Jordan & Gilbert, 1882) are redescribed accordingly. We designate a neotype for *Kyphosus cornelii* (Whitley, 1944), as the original material is lost, and new material was collected at the type locality for this study to facilitate comparison with other species of *Kyphosus*. *Kyphosus sandwicensis* (sensu Sauvage, 1880) was found to be a junior synonym of *K. elegans* (Peters, 1869). *Kyphosus incisor* (Cuvier in Cuvier & Valenciennes, 1831) and *K. analogus* (Gill, 1862) are considered junior synonyms of *K. vaigiensis* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1825). *Kyphosus gallveii* (Cunningham, 1910), *K. pacificus* Sakai and Nakabo, 2004 and *K. lutescens* (Jordan & Gilbert, 1882) are all considered junior synonyms of *K. sectatrix* (Linnaeus, 1758). One of the two syntype specimens of *K. sectatrix* was identified as the holotype of *Pimelepterus bosquii* (Lacepède, 1802), and proved to be a specimen of *K. bigibbus* Lacepède, 1801. This specimen is re-assigned as a non-type of *K. bigibbus*. Full re-descriptions of the following valid species are presented: *K. bigibbus*, *K. cinerascens* (Forsskål, 1775), *K. cornelii*, *K. elegans*, *K. hawaiiensis* Sakai and Nakabo, 2004, *K. gladius* Knudsen and Clements, 2013, *K. sydneyanus* (Günther, 1886) and *K. vaigiensis*, together with a key to the family. The distribution of *Kyphosus* species is reconsidered based on our taxonomic revision, indicating that four species (*K. bigibbus*, *K. cinerascens*, *K. sectatrix* and *K. vaigiensis*) occur in both the Atlantic and Indo-Pacific regions.

**Key words:** drummers, Girellidae, *Hermosilla*, Kyphosinae, *Kyphosus*, *Neoscorpis*, Rudderfishes, sea chubs, *Sectator*

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