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Diversity and Community Composition of Fishes in the Pusu River (Gombak, Malaysia)

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Abstract

The Pusu River has been receiving increased pollution loads because of a significant amount of land-clearing activities for development projects. A total of 113 numbers of fishes belonging to six species under six families were recorded from Pusu River throughout the study period (November 2014-March 2015). The most dominant species were *Barbonymus schwanenfeldii* (38.9%) followed by *Oreochromis mossambica* (36.28%) under families Cyprinidae and Cichlidae, respectively. Similarly, the species *Hypostomus plecostomus* (10.62%), *Channa striatus* (6.19%), *Notopterus notopterus* (4.42%), *Pristolepis fasciata* (3.54%) under the family Loricariidae, Channidae, Notopteridae, and Pristolepididae were constituted of the total fish catch, respectively. A greater abundance (56.64%) of fish community was observed at station 3 compared to the other stations. This is a deeper pool area located near the rainforest area with less turbid water compared to the other stations. Second highest abundance (14.16%) was observed at station 2, while station 6 has shown the lowest abundance (2.65%). Overall Shannon diversity value ($H' = 1.399$) indicates that Sg. Pusu, Gombak, is not highly diverse with the tropical fish species. The study suggests that a long-term continuous monitoring of water quality and fish diversity is needed to study for sustainable development of fishes in this fascinating tropical river (Sg.) Pusu.

Keywords

Author Keywords: Diversity; fish community; river Pusu; water quality

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