

Holothurians of Kosrae (Federated States of Micronesia) and Majuro (Marshall Islands)

F. Michonneau, S. Kim, and A. M. Kerr. (FM) *Division of Malacology, Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, FL 32611-7800, USA*; (SK, AMK) *Marine Laboratory, University of Guam, Mangilao, GU 96923, USA*.

In spring 2008, we investigated the sea cucumber faunas of the Micronesian islands of Kosrae (Federated States of Micronesia) and Majuro (Republic of the Marshall Islands). In Kosrae, we collected 34 species of holothurians (31 Aspidochirotida, 3 Apodida, 1 Dendrochirotida) in 13 days of survey; nine are new records and four are potentially undescribed species (one belonging to the genus *Actinopyga*, one to the genus *Bohadschia*, one to the genus *Labidodemas* and two to the genus *Holothuria*). Kosrae is now known to host no less than 35 species of sea cucumbers. We also sampled the Majuro atoll for 6 days and collected 27 species (20 Aspidochirotida, 6 Apodida, 1 Dendrochirotida). Seven of them seem to be new records for the Marshall Islands. Among them, we may have found *Euapta tahitiensis* which is currently known only from the type specimen. The species richnesses reported here may be underestimated given that molecular analyses may reveal new cryptic species among the collected specimens in both islands.