

Surabaya 09.06.2021

Dear Dr., Miftahul Ilmi,

I am pleased to submit our manuscript entitled **“Shallow-water sponges from a high-sedimentation estuarine bay (Brunei, Northwest Borneo, Southeast Asia)”** by **Edwin Setiawan, David Relex and David John Marshall** for consideration as a *Journal of Tropical Biodiversity and Biotechnology* research article.

In this manuscript, we show the diversity of shallow water sponges in an extreme condition from Brunei Darussalam. Likewise, this is a first record on the Porifera from this region.

We believe that our paper is appropriate for publication by *Journal of Tropical Biodiversity and Biotechnology* because is **linking to the journal's aims & scope which is descriptive study of species and community diversity relate to ecological and conservation studies.**

This manuscript has not been published before and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. We have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Edwin Setiawan', written over a light blue grid background.

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Declaration of Originality

I hereby confirm that I am the author of the written manuscript here enclosed and that I have compiled it in my own words.

Title of manuscript (in block letters):

Shallow-water sponges from a high-sedimentation estuarine bay (Brunei, Northwest Borneo, Southeast Asia)

With my signature I confirm that:

- I have not committed any of the forms of plagiarism.
- I have documented all methods, data and processes truthfully.
- I have not manipulated any data.
- I have mentioned all persons who were significant facilitators of the work.

I am aware that the work may be screened electronically for plagiarism.

Place, date
Surabaya, 09.06.2021

Author name(s) (in block letters)

EDWIN SETIAWAN

DAVID RELEX

DAVID JOHN MARSHALL

Signature(s)

Acc. 08.06.2021

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Note: fill and scan this form and upload along with the manuscript file during submission.