Photis brevipes Shoemaker, 1942
Corophiidae

SCAMIT Code: Hyp 45, SCCWRP 57
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Voucher by: Jimmy D. Laughlin

Synonymy:

Literature:

Diagnostic characters:
• Male gnathopod 2 article 7 stout with the inner edge bearing a large bump and distially a single serration or notch on the inner edge which in young males is a spine, later fused in adults (Fig. 1).

Variability:
Juvenile males will have an underdeveloped bump on article 7 of gnathopod 2.

Figure 1. (after Barnard 1962).
Related species and character differences:

*P. brevipes* adult males are most closely related to *P. californica*. Article 7 of gnathopod 2 is more slender in *P. californica* than in *P. brevipes* and the small bump on the inner edge of juvenile males of both species decreases in *P. californica* and increases in size in *P. brevipes*. The adults of *P. brevipes* (8mm) are much larger than adults of *P. californica* (4-5mm) (Barnard, 1962). In *P. californica* the hind tooth of the palm on gnathopod 2 starts to gape in terminal adult so that if the dactyl lacks the inner bump the specimen may be identified as *P. californica*, even though it may have the size of a young *P. brevipes* (Barnard, 1962).

Depth range:

0-183m.

Distribution:

Coos Bay Oregon to Bahia Magdalena, Baja California.

Ecology:

This species shows a strong affinity for *Diopatra*, *Listriolobus*, *Nothria* and *Amphiodia* communities with an average density of 34 individuals per square meter and up to 232 individuals per square meter (Barnard, 1962).

Comments:

The females of the genus *Photis* are at the present time indistinguishable. We have decided to leave all females and juveniles with the *Photis sp.* designation until this problem can be resolved.