**SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE LEGENDS**

**Supplementary Figure 1.** Museum specimens**:** a)*Stomateus griseus* MNHN-IC-A-5479, 157 mm SL (stuffed), Pondichéry, Tamil Nadu, India; *Parastromateus niger* MNHN-IC-A-5512, 171 mm SL (stuffed), Pondichéry, Tamil Nadu, India; *Pampus argenteus* GB.31.145.1.1, 157.2 mm SL, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India; *Pampus griseus* GB. 31.145.1.8, 136.1 mm SL, West Bengal, India.

**Supplementary Figure 2.** BI tree of genus *Pampus candidus* and *P. griseus* based on partial Cyt *b* gene (Sun et al., 2012a). Support values on branches indicate Bayesian Posterior Probability (BPP) values. Sequences from this study are highlighted in red. Sequence codes are given as accession numbers followed by countries (Thai, Myan, Ind, China, and Pak represents Thailand, Myanmar, India, China, and Pakistan respectively) and the seas (BOB, SCS, and AS represent the Bay of Bengal, South China Sea, and Arabian Sea respectively).

**Supplementary Figure 3.** BI tree of genus *Pampus candidus* and *P. griseus* based on partial ATPase 8/6 gene (Supplementary Table 4). Support values on branches indicate Bayesian Posterior Probability (BPP) values. Hap indicates haplotypes. Sequences from this study are highlighted in red.

**Supplementary Figure 4.** BI tree of genus *Pampus* based on COI gene (Supplementary Table 3). Support values on branches indicate Bayesian Posterior Probability (BPP) values. Internal branch values are not represented in the figure.

**Supplementary Figure 5.** Phylograms from previous studies (A. Divya et al. 2017; B. Li et al. 2019a; C1 & C2. Yin et al. 2019) indicating exact species designations (highlighted) based on results from our study incorporating latest revisions.

**Supplementary Figure 6.** Result of the multi-locus GMYC species delimitation using an ultra-metric concatenated gene tree from BEAST. Red clusters and black lines indicate putative species calculated by the model.

**Supplementary Figure 7.** Line drawing of sagittal otolith of seven species of *Pampus* in theIndo-western Pacific Oceans drawn from Zhang et al. (2017) and the present study: a) *Pampus argenteus*; b) *P. chinensis*; c) *P. minor*; d) *P. punctatissimus*; e) *P. cinereus*; f) *P. griseus*; g) *P. candidus*

**Supplementary Figure 8.** Gill rakers of seven species of *Pampus* in theIndo-western Pacific Oceans drawn from Yin et al. (2019) and the present study: a) *Pampus argenteus*; b) *P. chinensis*; c) *P. minor*; d) *P. punctatissimus*; e) *P. cinereus*; f) *P. griseus*; g) *P. candidus*

**Supplementary Figure 9.** Ventral groove (arrow indicated) of seven species of *Pampus* in theIndo-western Pacific Oceans drawn from Yin et al. (2019) and the present study: a, b) *Pampus argenteus*; c) *P. chinensis*; d *P. minor*; e) *P. punctatissimus*; f) *P. cinereus*; g) *P. griseus*; h) *P. candidus*

**Supplementary Figure 10.** Line drawing of seven species of *Pampus* in theIndo-western Pacific Oceans drawn from Yin et al. (2019) and the present study: a) *Pampus argenteus* (CL1944-2); b) *P. chinensis*; c) *P. minor* (CL1345-2); d) *P. punctatissimus* (CL1943-5); e) *P. cinereus* (CL1287-2); f) *P. griseus*; g) *P. candidus*

**Supplementary Figure 11.** X radiograph of seven species of *Pampus* in theIndo-western Pacific Oceans taken from Yin et al. (2019) and present study: a) *Pampus argenteus* (CL1944-2); b) *P. minor* (CL1306-10); c) *P. punctatissimus* (CL1843-4); d) *P. cinereus* (CL1286-3); e) *P. chinensis*; f) *P. griseus*; g) *P. candidus*

**Supplementary Figure 12.** Ring seine and shore seine catches of *Pampus griseus* along Odisha coast, India

**Supplementary Figure 13.** Russell’s Sudi Sandawah (a) and Tella Sandawa (b) from Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh