Gold-ringed cat snake at Lower Peirce forest


Subject identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, Lower Peirce forest at edge of Lower Peirce Reservoir; 11 November 2015; 1920 hrs.

Habitat: Mature secondary forest, at edge of freshwater lake.

Observers: Contributor with Tomokazu Kawashima.

Observation: An adult example of about 1.6 m total length was seen moving from the water’s edge into the water. It proceeded to swim at the surface of the water in a lateral undulating motion with its head slightly raised (see attached picture), obliquely away from the shore.

Remarks: The gold-ringed cat snake is listed as nationally Vulnerable (Lim., 2008: 264) in Singapore. Although regarded as mostly arboreal, Baker & Lim (2012) noted that this widespread but rare species is ‘often encountered in pools and streams’.

References:


Photograph by Marcus A. H. Chua

Contributor: Marcus A. H. Chua
Contact address: marcuschua@nus.edu.sg