

## Biodiversity Record: A reticulated python at Thomson Nature Park

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**Subject:** Reticulated python, *Malayopython reticulatus* (Reptilia: Squamata: Pythonidae).

**Subject identified by:** Serene H. Y. See.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Thomson Nature Park; 9 January 2021; 1630 hrs.

**Habitat:** Culvert of a concretised drain flowing through secondary forest.

**Observer:** Serene H. Y. See.



Fig. 1. The rear section of the snake as viewed from above the culvert. (Photograph by: Serene H. Y. See).

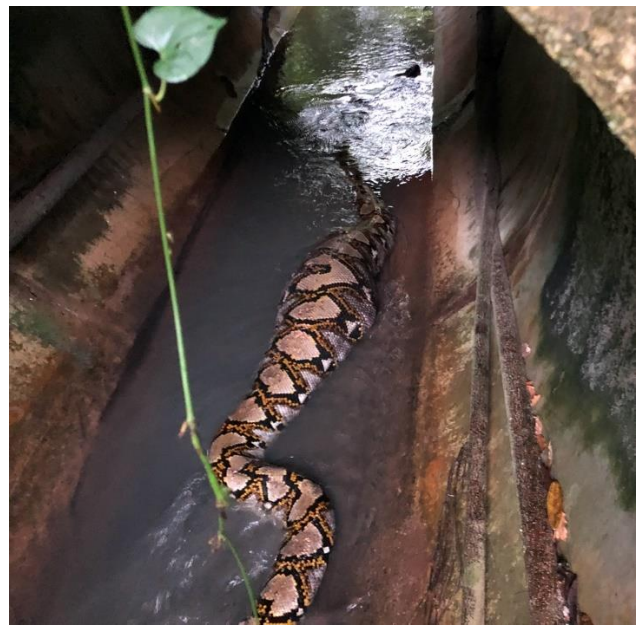


Fig. 2. Subject with a large bulge in its mid-section. (Photograph by: Serene H. Y. See).

**Observation:** A reticulated python estimated to be around 4 m in total length was observed partially submerged and stretched out in the drain, with most of its body within the culvert (Figs. 1, 2). The snake was found to have a large bulge in its mid-section, which appeared to take up about 1/5 of its total length (Fig. 2).

**Remarks:** The featured snake, a common species in Singapore (Baker & Lim, 2012: 91), appeared to have fed recently and could have been resting in the culvert. Judging from the rather large size of the food item in this relatively large snake, as well as the apparent preference of reticulated pythons for mammals and birds (see Baker & Lim, 2012: 91), the prey could have been a monkey, mousedeer or juvenile wild pig due to their presence at Thomson Nature Park (personal observations).

### Literature cited:

Baker N & Lim KKP (2012) Wild Animals of Singapore. A Photographic Guide to Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Freshwater Fishes. Updated Edition. Draco Publishing and Distribution Pte. Ltd., Singapore, 180 pp.