

## Biodiversity Record: A Sunda pig-tailed macaque at Tengeh Reservoir

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**Subject:** Sunda pig-tailed macaque, *Macaca nemestrina* (Mammalia: Primates: Cercopithecidae).

**Subject identified by:** Hong Yao Lim.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Pasir Laba, Tengeh Reservoir; 4 June 2020; 1109 hrs.

**Observation:** A single, apparently young example was observed walking on the reservoir's dyke (Fig. 1).

**Remarks:** The Sunda pig-tailed macaque is a globally vulnerable species not known to be native to Singapore, even though it occurs naturally in Peninsular Malaysia on the opposite bank of the Johor Strait (Ang et al., 2020a). Individuals occasionally seen in Singapore were considered to be escaped captives (Ridley, 1895; Chasen, 1924), given that this species is often used as a working animal for harvesting coconuts or kept as a pet across Southeast Asia. In Singapore, singletons have been reported as recently as 2015 (Corlett & Lucas, 1995; Hio, 2015).



Fig. 1. Sunda pig-tailed macaque walking on the Tengeh Reservoir dyke. (Photograph by: Hong Yao Lim).

It is likely that the featured individual is of captive origin. There is also the possibility that this was a wild individual from Malaysia that had wandered across the Second Link bridge at Tuas. It may even have swum across the Johor Strait, as Ang et al. (2020b) similarly hypothesised for the dusky langurs that showed up in Singapore in August 2019.

The subsequent whereabouts of this monkey are not known as further observation of its activities was not possible.

### Literature cited:

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