

Manthey's chorus frog at Venus Loop

Subjects: Manthey's chorus frog, *Microhyla mantheyi* (Amphibia: Anura: Microhylidae).

Subjects identified by: Contributors.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Upper Thompson, Venus Loop; 24 April 2015; around 2150 hrs.

Habitat: Edge of secondary forest, among leaf litter on the ground.

Observers: Contributors.

Observation: An example of about 2 cm snout-vent length was observed calling on the surface of a fallen leaf next to a puddle of water on the forest floor (see accompanying picture). The call resembles a slow, monotonous rattle. Several other individuals were seen and heard in the surroundings. A video recording of the calling frog can be viewed (and the call heard) at <http://youtu.be/aOoumdrAJRA>.

Remarks: The Manthey's chorus frog, unlike its three congeners in Singapore (i.e., *Microhyla heymonsi*, *M. butleri* and the introduced *M. fissipes*), seems to be confined to forest habitats. It is locally known only from the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves, and is regarded as 'rare' (Baker & Lim, 2012: 66, 159). It has been regarded as 'critically endangered' in Singapore (Lim, 2008: 264), but this appears to be exaggerated.

References:

- Baker, N. & K. K. P. Lim, 2012. *Wild Animals of Singapore. A Photographic Guide to Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Freshwater Fishes*. Updated edition. Draco Publishing and Distribution Pte. Ltd. And Nature Society (Singapore). 180 pp.
- Lim, K. K. P., 2008. Checklists of threatened species. Fishes, amphibians and reptiles. In: Davison, G. W. H., P. K. L. Ng & H. C. Ho (eds.). *The Singapore Red Data Book. Threatened Plants & Animals of Singapore*. Second edition. The Nature Society (Singapore). p. 263-266.



Still image of calling frog captured from video by Law Ing Sind

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