

Biodiversity Record: Chinese stripe-necked turtle at Lower Seletar

Luqmanul Hakim bin Othman & Chen Xuanhe*

Email: xuanhezen@gmail.com (*corresponding author)

Recommended citation. Luqmanul Hakim O & Chen X (2024) Biodiversity Record: Chinese stripe-necked turtle at Lower Seletar. Nature in Singapore, 17: e2024068. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2024-0068

Subject: Chinese stripe-necked turtle, *Mauremys sinensis* (Reptilia: Testudines: Geoemydidae).

Subject identified by: Luqmanul Hakim Bin Othman and Chen Xuanhe.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Lower Seletar area, Sungei Chik Abu (draining into Lower Seletar Reservoir); 21 April 2024; around 1238 hrs.

Habitat: Freshwater swamp in secondary woodland, adjacent to an open-country stream (Sungei Chik Abu).

Observers: Luqmanul Hakim Bin Othman and Chen Xuanhe.

Observations: A female example of about 30 cm carapace length (Fig. 1) was observed out of the water.

Remarks: The Chinese stripe-necked turtle, native to south-eastern China, Hainan, Taiwan and Vietnam, is an introduced species in Singapore. Individuals have been recorded at East Coast Park, Bedok Reservoir, MacRitchie Reservoir, Upper Seletar Reservoir, Singapore Botanic Gardens and the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (see Figueroa et al., 2023). The species is regarded as ‘critically endangered’ in its native range (Li et al., 2021).



Fig. 1. Latero-frontal view of the subject in-situ. (Photograph by: Chen Xuanhe)

Literature cited:

- Figueroa A, Low MEY & Lim KKP (2023) Singapore’s herpetofauna: updated and annotated checklist, history, conservation, and distribution. Zootaxa, 5287: 1–378.
- Li P, Rao D-Q & Wang L (2021) “*Mauremys sinensis*”. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. 2021: e.T15026A547319. doi:10.2305/IUCN.UK.2021-2.RLTS.T15026A547319.en (Accessed 8 July 2024)