

Biodiversity Record: A sighting of the gliding frog, *Rhacophorus nigropalmatus*, in Singapore

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Subject: Wallace's gliding frog, *Rhacophorus nigropalmatus* (Amphibia: Anura: Rhacophoridae).

Subject identified by: Emmanuel Goh.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Rail Corridor opposite Beauty World Shopping Centre; 26 December 2025; around 2133 hrs.

Habitat: Edge of secondary forest.

Observers: Artus Sim, Kuah Leon, Amanda Chai, and Ain Nurul Iman Bte Azman.

Observation: A Wallace's gliding frog was sighted near the trail of Rail Corridor (Fig. 1). It was perched on a branch around 3 m above the ground at the side of a small stream. It was relatively large, about 10 cm in snout-vent length, has bright green back, white and yellow underside, and black and yellow webbing between its fingers and toes.

Remarks: This is the first record of the Wallace's gliding frog in Singapore. Even though it occurs across the Causeway in Johor, Malaysia (Lim & Leong, 2016), there was no record of this large and distinctive species having been present in Singapore (see Figueroa et al., 2023; Inger et al., 2017).

As such, the subject is likely to have been artificially introduced. It could be an illegally acquired pet that was either deliberately released or accidentally escaped from captivity.



Fig. 1. In-situ ventro-lateral view of subject. (Photograph by: Artus Sim).

Literature cited:

- Figueroa A, Low MEY, Lim KKP (2023) Singapore's herpetofauna: updated and annotated checklist, history, conservation, and distribution. Zootaxa, 5287(1): 1–378.
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- Lim KKP & Leong TM (2016) Wallace's gliding frog *Rhacophorus nigropalmatus* at Pantí Forest Reserve, Johor, Peninsular Malaysia. Southeast Asia Vertebrate Records, 2016: 2.