

Sunda pangolin carcass at Upper Thomson Road

Subject: Sunda pangolin, *Manis javanica* (Mammalia: Pholidota: Manidae).

Subject identified by: Contributors.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Upper Thomson Road near Casuarina Road junction; 12 January 2010; 0130 hrs.

Habitat: Six-lane metalled road through suburban parkland and secondary forest.

Observer: Gary S. H. Chua.

Observation: A fresh carcass was found lying on its left side in the middle of the road. At about 60 cm in total length, this individual appears to be a juvenile. It seemed to have sustained injuries to its hindquarters which probably caused severe internal bleeding (see accompanying photograph).

Remarks: The dead pangolin was most likely hit by a motor vehicle when it was crossing the road. Sunda pangolins frequent forest, scrub and rural habitats. Although locally widespread, they are seldom seen. Pangolins suffer from habitat loss and their meat is in high demand. Due to their wandering nature and clumsy gait, they are prone to becoming roadkill when crossing highways. The Sunda pangolin is regarded as 'critically endangered' in Singapore (Lim et al., 2008: 191).

Reference: Lim, K. K. P., R. Subaraj, S. H. Yeo, N. Lim, D. Lane & B. Y. H. Lee, 2008. Mammals. In: Davison, G. W. H., P. K. L. Ng & H. C. Ho. *The Singapore Red Data Book. Threatened Plants & Animals of Singapore*. Nature Society (Singapore). pp. 190-207.



Photograph by Gary S. H. Chua

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