

**MENACE OR MARVEL? MACAQUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT IN AN URBAN LANDSCAPE**

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Singapore is home to some 1400 long-tailed macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) and it is one of the most conspicuous mammals seen in our highly urbanized landscape with a human population nearing 5 million. Both locals and tourists are enthralled at seeing and experiencing monkeys up close when visiting the parks and nature reserves, and it is a constant challenge to prevent physical contact and human–monkey conflicts at this interface. This presentation will review how macaque populations and the associated conflicts with humans are managed through a combination of conservation management techniques, proper trash disposal, and public outreach programs undertaken by National Parks Board (Singapore). In addition, information arising from long-term sero-surveillance of the macaques is also crucial in understanding the pathogens and parasites carried by them, and that allows for an effective conservation communication strategy to be crafted.

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