

## **Man fined \$2,600 for releasing pet stingrays into reservoir**

**26 September 2017:** In June 2017, PUB and AVA received public feedback and a video that showed a man releasing three Motoro stingrays into Lower Seletar Reservoir. Investigations identified the offender to be 48-year old Larry Tan Chin Guan.

2 Larry Tan Chin Guan was convicted today in Court and fined \$600 under the Public Utilities (Reservoirs, Catchment Areas and Waterway) Regulations. He was also sentenced and fined \$2,000 for pet abandonment under AVA's Animals and Birds Act.

### **Illegal to release animals into reservoirs and waterways**

3 It is an offence to release any animal including fish into reservoirs and waterways in Singapore. Doing so may affect the ecology of the reservoir. Those caught doing so are liable to prosecution under the Public Utilities (Reservoirs, Catchment Areas and Waterway) Regulations, and may be fined up to \$3,000.

### **Pet abandonment**

4 AVA reminds the public that it is irresponsible and cruel to abandon pets. Pet owners who are unable to look after their pet anymore should find a suitable home for their pet. AVA takes a stern view on pet abandonment. We investigate all feedback on pet abandonment and will take enforcement action, where necessary. Under AVA's Animals and Birds Act, individuals who abandon their pets are liable to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and/or 12 months' jail for first convictions.

5 Members of the public should call the PUB hotline at 1800-2255-782 (1800-CALL-PUB) if they spot any person releasing animals or things into reservoirs and waterways, or call AVA via the 24-hour hotline, 1800-476-1600, or via AVA's website for any cases of animal abandonment or cruelty. It would be helpful to furnish the date, time and location,

along with photos and/or videos. Anglers can also call PUB if they catch any stingrays when fishing at the reservoirs instead of releasing them back into the reservoirs.

\*\*\*end\*\*\*

### **About PUB**

PUB is a statutory board under the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources. It is the national water agency, and manages Singapore's water supply, water catchment and used water in an integrated way.

PUB has ensured a diversified and sustainable supply of water for Singapore with the Four National Taps (local catchment water, imported water, NEWater, desalinated water).

PUB calls on everyone to play a part in conserving water, in keeping our waterways clean, and in caring for Singapore's precious water resources. If we all do our little bit, there will be enough water for all our needs – for commerce and industry, for living, for life.

### **Find out more about us**

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Visit our website at [www.pub.gov.sg](http://www.pub.gov.sg)

### **About Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA)**

The Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) is responsible for ensuring a resilient supply of safe food, safeguarding the health and welfare of animals, safeguarding the health of plants and facilitating agri-trade.

AVA has regulatory measures in place to safeguard animal welfare and health standards, and actively promotes public education on responsible pet ownership and adoption. AVA's comprehensive animal and plant health system also prevents the introduction of exotic animal and plant diseases into Singapore.

AVA is constantly on the lookout for new and potential food sources, through our push for source diversification in collaboration with the food industry. Simultaneously, AVA continues to help raise local agricultural productivity to enhance Singapore's food supply.

Food safety is a shared responsibility, and we have integrated food safety programmes which incorporate risk management, and leverage on industry engagement and public outreach.

We also facilitate agri-trade through our inspection, testing and certification services.

For more information on AVA, please visit [www.ava.gov.sg](http://www.ava.gov.sg) and [www.facebook.com/avasg](https://www.facebook.com/avasg)