



REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

# GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

## ACTS SUPPLEMENT

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The following Act was passed by Parliament on 7 February 2017 and assented to by the President on 13 March 2017:—

### REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

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**No. 9 of 2017.**

I assent.

TONY TAN KENG YAM,

*President.*

*13 March 2017.*



An Act to amend the Parks and Trees Act (Chapter 216 of the 2006 Revised Edition) and to make related amendments to the National Parks Board Act (Chapter 198A of the 2012 Revised Edition).

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

**Short title and commencement**

1. This Act is the Parks and Trees (Amendment) Act 2017 and comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by notification in the *Gazette*.

**Amendment of section 2**

2. Section 2 of the Parks and Trees Act (called in this Act the principal Act) is amended —

(a) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “heritage road green buffer”, the following definition:

“ “marine park” means any area of the sea or seabed that is set aside for conservation of marine organisms and is designated in Part III of the Schedule;”;

(b) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “park ranger”, the following definition:

“ “planning permission” has the same meaning as in the Planning Act;”;

(c) by inserting, immediately after the words “public park,” in paragraph (a) of the definition of “public park”, the words “marine park,”;

(d) by inserting, immediately after the word “Board” in paragraph (b) of the definition of “public park”, the words “or by any management body designated under section 6A”;

(e) by deleting the definition of “tree” and substituting the following definition:

“ “tree” includes a single-stemmed palm and any part of a tree or single-stemmed palm (including its seedling, sapling or re-shoot);”;  
and

(f) by deleting the word “where” in paragraph (b) of the definition of “vacant land” and substituting the word “which”.

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**Amendment of section 4****3. Section 4 of the principal Act is amended —**

- (a) by deleting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsection:

“(3) The Commissioner may appoint any of the following persons to be an authorised officer for the purpose of assisting the Commissioner in administering and carrying out the provisions of this Act or any other written law:

- (a) a public officer;
- (b) an employee of the Board;
- (c) an auxiliary police officer appointed under the Police Force Act (Cap. 235).”; and

- (b) by deleting subsections (5) and (6) and substituting the following subsections:

“(5) The Commissioner may appoint any of the following persons to be a park ranger who may exercise the powers conferred on a park ranger under sections 41 and 42 within the national park, nature reserve or public park and in the circumstances specified in the Commissioner’s authorisation for the park ranger under subsection (6):

- (a) a public officer;
- (b) an employee of the Board;
- (c) an employee of a management body designated under section 6A;
- (d) a person who holds a security officer’s licence under the Private Security Industry Act (Cap. 250A).

(6) The Commissioner must issue to each park ranger an authorisation specifying where, or the circumstances in which, the park ranger may exercise the powers conferred on a park ranger under sections 41 and 42.

(7) The powers conferred on a park ranger under sections 41 and 42 must be exercised only to the extent of the authorisation under subsection (6).

(8) The Commissioner may, for any reason that appears to the Commissioner to be sufficient, at any time revoke a person's appointment as an authorised officer or a park ranger.

(9) A person who is appointed as an authorised officer under subsection (3) or a park ranger under subsection (5) does not, by virtue only of the appointment, become an employee or agent of the Board.”.

#### **New section 6A**

4. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 6, the following section:

##### **“Management body**

**6A.** The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, designate, for the purposes of this Act, any body to be a management body for any State land, land belonging to the Board or any other land that is managed as a public park on behalf of the Government or the Board, as the case may be.”.

#### **Amendment of section 9**

5. Section 9 of the principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsection:

“(3) A person must not, except with the approval of the Commissioner granted under section 12 and in accordance with the terms and conditions of such approval —

- (a) bring or release into, or abandon any animal in, or cause any animal to be brought or released into, or abandoned in a nature reserve;
- (b) release or abandon or cause any animal to be released or abandoned into any river, stream, canal or watercourse outside a nature reserve that the person knows, or ought reasonably to know, flows into or through the nature reserve; or
- (c) permit any animal belonging to or under the charge of the person to stray into a nature reserve.”.

#### **Amendment of heading to Part IV**

6. Part IV of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “PROTECTION AND” in the Part heading.

#### **Amendment of Division 1 heading of Part IV**

7. Part IV of the principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after the words “*Tree conservation areas*” in the heading of Division 1, the words “*and vacant lands*”.

#### **Amendment of section 14**

8. Section 14 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “shall be measured half a metre from the ground” in subsection (4) and substituting the words “must be measured in the prescribed manner”; and
- (b) by deleting the words “measured half a metre from the ground” in subsection (5).

#### **Amendment of section 20**

9. Section 20 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting subsection (1) and substituting the following subsection:

“(1) An application for an approval to carry out or cause the carrying out of any activity mentioned in section 14(1), 18(1) or 19(1) must be —