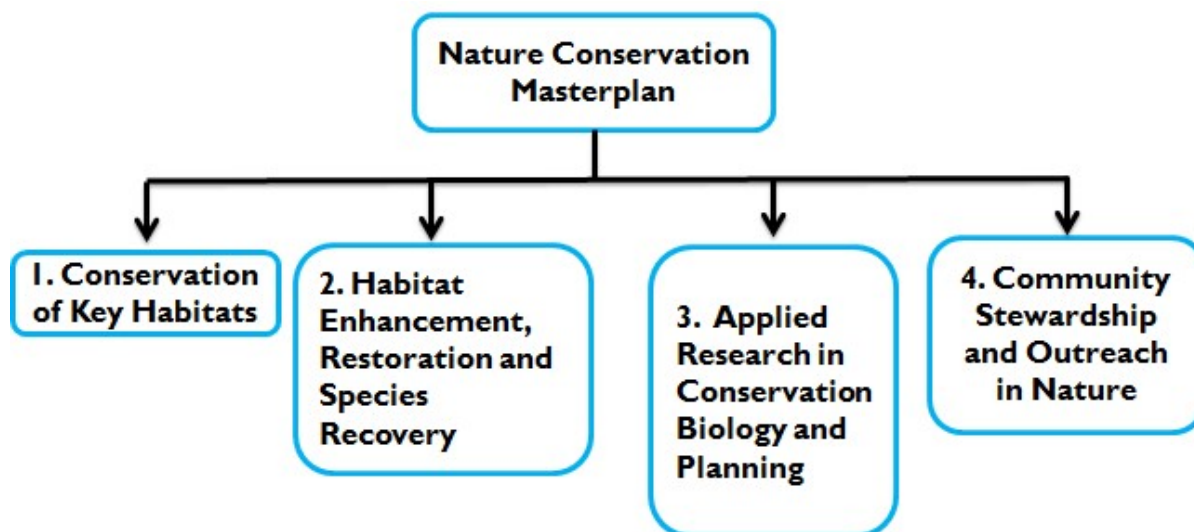


## Nature Conservation Masterplan (NCMP)



The Nature Conservation Masterplan (NCMP) sets out the course of Singapore's biodiversity conservation plans for the next five years. This holistic masterplan systematically consolidates, coordinates, strengthens and intensifies NParks' biodiversity conservation efforts by integrating various programmes and projects. Implementing the NCMP will help us achieve our City in a Garden vision, including the key aims of enriching biodiversity in our urban environment, and engaging and inspiring communities to co-create a greener Singapore.

The NCMP comprises these thrusts:

- Conservation of Key Habitats

Conservation of key habitats involves the safeguarding and strengthening of Singapore's core biodiversity areas\*, securing and enhancing buffer areas\*, enhancing and managing additional nodes of greenery throughout the nation, developing ecological connections\* and integrating nature with the urban landscape.

\*(Examples of core biodiversity areas: our four Nature Reserves

Examples of buffer areas: the recently announced Nature Parks

Examples of developing ecological connections: Nature Ways and the Park Connector Network)

It will also involve enhancing and managing green areas in Singapore, like Jurong Lake Gardens and the Punggol area. Streetscape greenery, rooftop and vertical greenery, as well as community gardens also enhance ecological connectivity, which is important as it facilitates the movement of biodiversity and exchange of genetic material, leading to healthier populations.

- Habitat Enhancement, Restoration, and Species Recovery

This will initially focus on habitat enhancement and restoration in core areas, buffers, other greenery nodes and ecological connections as well as species recovery efforts.

Species recovery will focus on species that are endemic, native, rare or critically endangered. Species such as the Singapore Freshwater Crab (*Johora singaporensis*); *Hanguana rubinea* and *Hanguana triangulata*; the Singapore Ginger; the local wild population of the Sealing Wax Palm and our orchids are accorded priority because they are critically endangered and native to Singapore.

Habitat enhancement and restoration will benefit the conservation of rare native species and increase the native biodiversity of some of our disturbed areas. For example, enrichment planting at disturbed forest patches in the Central Catchment Nature Reserve has provided a more conducive environment for the Raffles' Banded Langur (*Presbytis femoralis femoralis*) to thrive.

- Applied Research in Conservation Biology and Planning

This component of the masterplan includes comprehensive surveys and long term monitoring of ecosystems and species. Examples include the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve survey, monitoring of coral spawning, and NParks' ongoing bird ringing efforts.

Research capabilities will be strengthened through:

- (a) The use of technology to collect and analyse data, such as the SGBioAtlas app, databases like BIOME, and data analytic tools like Geographic Information System (GIS); and
- (b) The application of ecological modelling with platforms like agent or individual based models to facilitate science-based decision-making.

The management of human-wildlife interaction will focus on increasing the positive aspects and addressing the negative impacts that may arise with species common in urban areas (e.g. long-tailed macaques and wild boars).

- Community Stewardship and Outreach in Nature

As part of its national strategy to conserve Singapore's natural heritage, NParks had developed the Community in Nature (CIN) initiative, which aims to synergise and coordinate all NParks' nature-related events, activities, and programmes to better reach out to the community, encouraging them to bond over and with nature. Plans for community stewardship to build public interest and involvement in biodiversity conservation will target families, schools, volunteers, conservation groups and the general public.



For families, this involves encouraging families to experience nature and learn more about our biodiversity through programmes like the Families for Nature initiative where nature appreciation is promoted as a healthy, social activity for the family to bond over.

For schools, this involves instilling a love for nature in students through incorporating biodiversity aspects into the school curricula, and greening of school premises through programs like Greening Schools for Biodiversity, Community in Nature and Community in Bloom programmes.

For volunteers and conservation groups, this involves bringing together a national network of people who are passionate about conservation, and equipping them with relevant knowledge and resources in their conservation efforts.

For the general public, this involves spreading the message on the importance of conserving our natural heritage, and instilling a love for nature in everyone. Examples are the nationwide BioBlitz, Butterfly Watch and Bird Watch, which come under the NParks-Community in Nature Biodiversity Watch programme.