



MEDIA RELEASE

*Embargoed till Monday, 20 January 2014, 11a.m.

SPCA Returns to St John's Island for Another Round of its Trap-Neuter-Release Exercise

The Trap-Neuter-Release exercise will help contain the growing stray cat population on St John's Island.

18 JANUARY 2014—The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) returns to St John's Island 18 January to 20 January, 2014 to conduct another Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) exercise.

A team numbering about 24 consisting of SPCA staff, vets and volunteers, and students from Temasek Polytechnic's Veterinary Technology course will return to the island to continue a project which we started in 2010. As with previous exercises, this project will involve trapping as many island cats on Saturday, with the cats having to go without food and water for about ten hours prior to the surgeries slated on Sunday. During the course of Sunday, the cats will come under post-surgery observations. They will then be released on Monday, 20 January 2014 by a small team. The majority of the personnel will return to the mainland by Saturday evening.

During the previous exercise in November 2013, the society successfully neutered over thirty cats.

Ms Corinne Fong, Executive Director of the SPCA said “*During the previous exercise, the SPCA noticed an alarming number of unsterilised cats on the island, which included several purebred cats. We aim to sterilize as many as is humanly possible, given the short window period of one day to trap.”

“The benefits of the TNR exercise go beyond helping to control the feral cat population.”

“Altered male cats are less aggressive, which will reduce injuries from fighting.”

*Please refer to Annex A for Time Schedule of Activities

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About the SPCA

The SPCA is a registered animal welfare charity and our two main objectives are to promote kindness to animals and to prevent cruelty to animals. Relying solely on donations from the public and fundraising, the Society provides various animal welfare services including a 24-hour emergency service, cruelty investigation, education programme for schools and organisations, a sterilisation voucher programme for strays as well as running an animal shelter for abused and abandoned pets and strays. For more information, visit <http://www.sPCA.org.sg>

Annex A

Time Schedule for St John's Island Cat Sterilization Project (18 January 2014 – 20 January 2014)

Day 1: 18 January 2014 (Saturday)

Time	Schedule
0600hrs – 0630hrs	Gather at SPCA to check all logistics stuff.
0700hrs	Set off from SPCA to Marina South Pier.
0730hrs – 0800hrs	Unload logistics from vehicle and load onto boat.
0800hrs – 0830hrs (Chartered Boat) 0900hrs – 0930hrs (Ferry)	Set off from Marina South Pier to St John's Island. (Boat ride estimated time 30 mins)
0900hrs – 0930hrs	Arrive at St John's Island. Move logistics items to respective locations.
1000hrs – 1200hrs	1) Cleaning and setting up of surgery room and cages. 2) Clean up bunks and kitchen.
1200hrs – 1300hrs	Lunch
1330hrs – 1800hrs	Catching / Trapping of cats. Target – 20 Male and 20 Female Cats
1800hrs – 1900hrs	Dinner

Day 2: 19 January 2014 (Sunday)

Time	Schedule
0700hrs – 0800hrs	Breakfast at St John's Island
0745hrs (Mainland)	To board charter boat at Marina South Pier at 0800hrs. (Boat ride estimated time 30 mins)
0830hrs	To meet vets and volunteers at Main Jetty.
0930hrs – 1230hrs	Surgery (3hrs) Target – to sterilize 10 male and 10 female cats.
1230hrs – 1330hrs	Lunch
1400hrs – 1600hrs	Surgery (2hrs) Target – to sterilize 10 male and 5 female cats or 10 female cats
1600hrs – 1630hrs	Prepare to board boat and return to mainland.
1900hrs – 2200hrs	Check on cats at holding area. (Remove food and water) Rest & Relax

Day 3: 20 January 2013 (Monday)

Time	Schedule
0700hrs – 0800hrs	Breakfast
0800hrs – 1100hrs	Feed cats before releasing. Clean up all cages and room before leaving.
1100hrs – 1300hrs	Pack up personal belongings and items to bring back to SPCA. Return bed sheets, pillow casings and rice cooker to Sentosa staff.
1445hrs	Board ferry at St John's Island main jetty and head back to main land.