

Guiding animals to new homes

A 30ha secondary forest in Lentor is being cleared to make way for private homes. But the authorities have adopted a new strategy to safeguard the wildlife living there. The Urban Redevelopment Authority has implemented a two-phase wildlife shepherding plan to guide animals to nearby green spaces by clearing vegetation in a systematic way.

Stages of site clearance

Stage 1: From north and east sectors of the development moving towards the south.

Stage 2: From south-west sector moving towards the north.

PREPARATORY WORKS

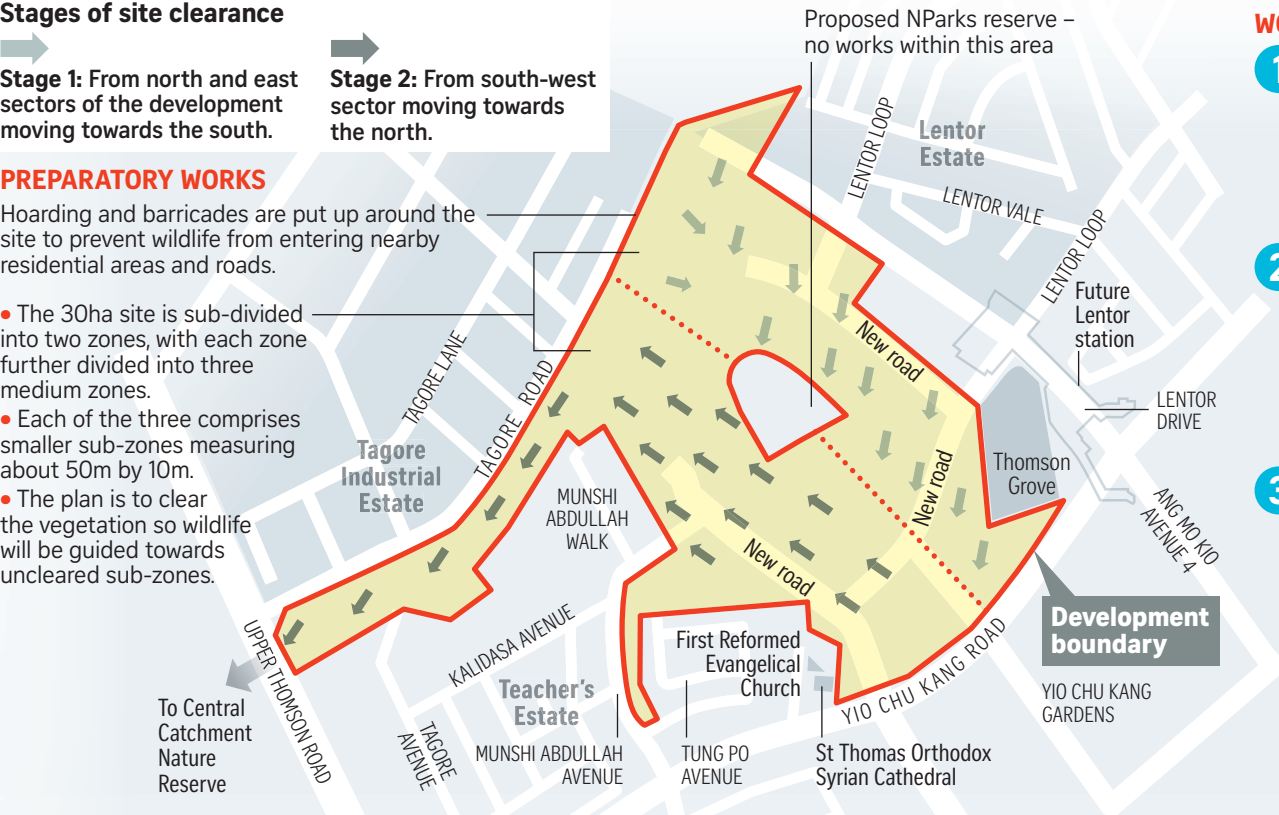
Hoarding and barricades are put up around the site to prevent wildlife from entering nearby residential areas and roads.

- The 30ha site is sub-divided into two zones, with each zone further divided into three medium zones.
- Each of the three comprises smaller sub-zones measuring about 50m by 10m.
- The plan is to clear the vegetation so wildlife will be guided towards uncleared sub-zones.

Proposed NParks reserve – no works within this area

WORK IN THE SUB-ZONES

- Before land clearance starts in a sub-zone, a trained wildlife expert conducts a thorough search to find wildlife.
 - If any creatures are found, in burrows or in nests on trees, the experts will relocate them.
- After ensuring that there is no wildlife of significance in the sub-zone, the contractor will clear small shrubs and vegetation within the area.
 - Further inspections will be done mid-way through this process.
- Repeat for next sub-zone.
 - Temporary hoarding and barricades installed around completed sub-zones to prevent wildlife from uncleared areas from re-entering.



ANIMALS FOUND SO FAR



Source: URA

TEXT: AUDREY TAN PHOTOS: WILDLIFE RESERVES SINGAPORE, URA STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS