

WATERBIRD MONITORING PROGRAMME AT THE MAI PO INNER DEEP BAY RAMSAR SITE

Programme 2004/05

Summer Count

May 2004

Summary Report – May 2004

Y.T. Yu¹

The May 2004 waterbird count took place on 16th and the coverage of Ramsar site and Deep Bay area including Futian was completely covered.

A total of 3,133 waterbirds were counted in the Deep Bay area, of which 2,302 (73%) were recorded in the Ramsar site. Waders and ardeids comprised the largest two groups of birds in this count, 1,657 (53%) and 1,344 (43%) birds were counted respectively. Compare to the count in April, this relatively low count was caused by departure of some passage waders. There are also signal of summer visitors e.g. Yellow Bitterns and Striated Herons. In addition, two globally threatened species were recorded in the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site area: three Swinhoe's Egrets *Egretta eulophotes* and one single Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Eurymorhynchus pygmeus*.

A comparison with previous years' counts and the average for the month is provided in Table 1. It shows the number of waterbird in Deep Bay and Ramsar site of this count were lower than the average.

Table 1. March waterbird counts 2000-2004.

March	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Average	Std. Dev.
Deep Bay area	2,206	3,201	8,028	3,925	3,133	4,078	2,040
Ramsar Site	1,862	2,238	7,000	3,153	2,302	3,332	1,893

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THE HONG KONG BIRD WATCHING SOCIETY LTD

Appendix 1

Counts of Waterbirds in May 2004

SPECIES	SRA	SRB	DBA	DBB	DBC	DBD	DBE	DBF (TBT)	NW/ LFS	TKC	LC	TSW	MPST	ST	MPNR	Ramsar ponds	Ramsar intertidal areas	Ramsar Site	DEEP BAY AREA	Shuen Wan	Starling Inlet
Little Grebe	23	6						29		1	0	0	3	10	12	21	0	33	84		
Great Crested Grebe															0		0		0		
Great Cormorant	0	0						0		0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2		
Grey Heron	0	0						0		0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2		2
Great Egret	27	22	173	32			3	26	22	5	9	4	23	11	71	56	40	167	428	12	136
Intermediate Egret	1	0						0		0	0	0	0	9	11	0	0	11	21		2
Little Egret	22	13	170	50			1	30	4	41	18	20	17	10	44	82	60	186	440	41	50
Swinhoe's Egret				3											0			0	3		1
Cattle Egret	0	37						74		7	19	16	9	14	1	121	0	122	177	98	45
Chinese Pond Heron	14	11	51	1			1	16	7	21	11	9	13	18	10	58	3	71	183	8	2
Striated Heron	0	0	2	1				0		0	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	4	7		
B-c Night Heron	3	3	20					14	1	0	1	0	2	0	21	16	1	38	65	1	136
Yellow Bittern	0	0	1					0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	
Black-faced Spoonbill															17			17	17		
Chinese Spotbill															2			2	2		
Burmese Spotbill															2			2	2		
White-breasted Waterhen	1	6	6					4		1	0	1	5	0	8	9	1	18	32		2
Common Moorhen	1	0	4	2				0		0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	2	10		
Black-winged Stilt			15												69			69	84		
Pied Avocet				56											0		56	56	56		
Pacific Golden Plover															1			1	1		
Grey Plover															9			9	9		
Little Ringed Plover	2	0	1					0		2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5		2
Kentish Plover															2			2	2		
Lesser Sand Plover															33			33	33		
Greater Sand Plover															89			89	89		
Black-tailed Godwit				10											0		10	10	10		
Bar-tailed Godwit															1			1	1		
Whimbrel				12											3		12	15	15		
Eurasian Curlew															9			9	9		
Far Eastern Curlew															3			3	3		
Spotted Redshank															52			52	52		
Common Redshank															195			195	195		
Marsh Sandpiper															3			3	3		
Common Greenshank															120			120	120		
Green Sandpiper	1	0						0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		
Wood Sandpiper	0	0						0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Terek Sandpiper															225			225	225		

Counts of Waterbirds in May 2004

SPECIES	SRA	SRB	DBA	DBB	DBC	DBD	DBE	DBF (TBT)	NW / LFS	TKC	LC	TSW	MPST	ST	MPNR	Ramsar ponds	Ramsar intertidal areas	Ramsar Site	DEEP BAY AREA	Shuen Wan	Starling Inlet
Common Sandpiper	3	0	5					3		0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	12	1	1
Grey-tailed Tattler				7											0		7	7	7	2	9
Ruddy Turnstone															10			10	10		
Red-necked Phalarope				1											0		1	1	1		
Red Knot															7			7	7		
Great Knot															18			18	18		
Sanderling				5											2		5	7	7		
Red-necked Stint															584			584	584		
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper															48			48	48		
Curlew Sandpiper															35			35	35		
Spoon-billed Sandpiper															1			1	1		
Broad-billed Sandpiper				4											10		4	14	14		
Total	98	98	448	184	0	0	5	196	34	78	58	52	72	77	1733	366	203	2302	3133	164	388
	Deep Bay Area	%	Ramsar Site	%	SW	SI															
Cormorants	2	0.06	1	0.04	0	0															
Ardeids etc	1344	42.90	617	26.80	161	374															
Ducks, grebes, pelicans	88	2.81	37	1.61	0	0															
Rails, Coot etc	42	1.34	20	0.87	0	2															
Waders	1657	52.89	1627	70.68	3	12															
Gulls and terns	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0															
TOTAL	3133		2302		164	388															
Date of count: 16 May 2004																					
n/c = site not counted High tide measured at TBT:																					
# indicates count consists of or includes a count made up to one week either side of the count date																					
% = count made at evening roost																					
Wetland-dependant species																					
Species	SRA	SRB	DBA	DBB	DBC	DBD	DBE	DBF (TBT)	NW / LFS	TKC	LC	TSW	MPST	ST	MPNR	Ramsar ponds	Ramsar intertidal areas	Ramsar Site	DEEP BAY AREA	Shuen Wan	Starling Inlet
Osprey				1											1			1	2		
Black Kite	0	1	1					2		0	1	0	0	0	2	2	2	6	7		
Pied Kingfisher	1	3	7					0		1	1	3	0	2	5	6	0	11	23	1	3
Common Kingfisher	1	3	6				1	3		1	0	1	2	4	1	7	0	8	23	1	2
White-throated Kingfisher	0	2						1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3		
Collared Crow	0	0	1					15		0	20	2	0	0	0	37	0	37	38	3	