

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

Programme 2004/05

Summer Count

September 2004

Summary Report –September 2004

Y.T. Yu¹

The September Waterbird Count was conducted on the 12th. Coverage of the Ramsar Site and the whole Deep Bay area were incomplete. Areas of Deep Bay C, D, E and from Lau Fau Shan to Nim Wan were not surveyed. On the contrary, the count in Futian National Nature Reserve at Shenzhen was complete.

A total of 4,916 waterbirds were counted, of which 3,470 (71%) were recorded in the Ramsar Site. The largest group comprised of waders at 2,511 (51%) and the second largest was ardeids counted at 2,269 (46%). The number of waterbird in this month similar to that in August, species composition has some observable changes - an increase in number of migrant waders and the decrease in ardeids. This indicates that more waders arrived while some ardeids left Deep Bay area during the course of September.

Table 1 shows the comparison of the count with that of the previous year's counts and the average for the month. It indicates the waterbird number in Deep Bay area is slightly higher than the average figure, while the number in the Ramsar Site is marginally lower.

Table 1. September waterbird counts 1999-2004.

June	1999	2000	2001	2003	2004	Average*	Std. Dev.*
Deep Bay area	3,499	5,689	4,566	5,032	4,916	4,834	755
Ramsar Site	2,944	3,580	3,087	3,001	3,450	3,470	653

* Figures of average and the SD are calculated from the count since 1998 to the latest count.

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Counts of Waterbirds in September 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	17	7						27		3	0	2	4	27	11	20	0	31	98		4
Great Cormorant	0	0						0		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1		
Grey Heron	1	0	5					6		2	0	1	8	0	19	10	2	31	42		
Great Egret	16	12	314	126				171		10	6	6	4	2	68	126	188	382	735	3	98
Intermediate Egret	3	2						0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5		4
Little Egret	14	39	599	25				182		25	18	67	28	19	84	196	94	374	1100	11	70
Cattle Egret	3	2						1		0	5	36	6	6	19	48	0	67	78	22	9
Chinese Pond Heron	10	32	52					18		30	9	19	24	30	20	83	2	105	244	6	6
Striated Heron	0	0	1	1				0		0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	5		
B-c Night Heron	1	1	9					16		3	0	3	3	0	11	21	0	32	47	2	4
Yellow Bittern	1	1	1					3		0	0	0	1	4	1	3	0	4	12		3
Black-faced Spoonbill															1			1	1		
Common Teal	0	0						0		0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1		
Burmese Spotbill															5			5	5		
Northern Shoveler				1											0		1	1	1		
White-breasted Waterhen	6	0						5		1	0	1	0	5	4	6	0	10	22		1
Watercock								1							0	1		1	1		
Common Moorhen	0	1	2					0		3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	6		
Black-winged Stilt								38					2			89	38	1	128	129	
Pacific Golden Plover															42			42	42		
Grey Plover															10			10	10		
Little Ringed Plover	0	0						18		0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	18	18		
Lesser Sand Plover															6			6	6		
Black-tailed Godwit															128			128	128		
Whimbrel				8											4		8	12	12		
Eurasian Curlew															40			40	40		
Spotted Redshank															8			8	8		
Common Redshank			1					25							330	25		355	356		1
Marsh Sandpiper								17							345	17		362	362		
Common Greenshank			1												1127			1127	1128		
Green Sandpiper	3	2						2		0	0	8	0	1	0	5	0	5	16		1
Wood Sandpiper	6	1	67					26		1	0	0	0	0	7	21	6	34	108		
Common Sandpiper	4	7	3					30		0	1	14	1	3	15	42	2	59	78	1	3
Common Snipe			1					3							0	2		2	4		
Asian Dowitcher															7			7	7		
Red Knot															5			5	5		
Great Knot															6			6	6		
Red-necked Stint				12				6							0	6	12	18	18		

Counts of Waterbirds in September 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
Long-toed Stint			5												0			0	5		
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper															1			1	1		
Curlew Sandpiper															24			24	24		
Gull-billed Tern				1											0		1	1	1		
Total	85	107	1061	174	0	0	0	595	0	78	39	159	79	98	2441	691	318	3450	4916	45	204
	Deep Bay Area	%	Ramsar Site	%	SW	SI															
Cormorants	1	0.02	0	0.00	0	0															
Ardeids etc	2269	46.16	1000	28.99	44	194															
Ducks, grebes, pelicans	105	2.14	38	1.10	0	4															
Rails, Coot etc	29	0.59	14	0.41	0	1															
Waders	2511	51.08	2397	69.48	1	5															
Gulls and terns	1	0.02	1	0.03	0	0															
TOTAL	4916		3450		45	204															
Date of count: 12 Sep 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											0			0	1		
Black Kite	0	0						1		0	3	2	5	1	2	11	1	14	14	3	
Peregrine Falcon															0			0	0	1	
Pied Kingfisher	0	1	1					4		0	1	0	0	0	4	3	2	9	11		1
Common Kingfisher	6	8	2					13		2	2	8	3	10	4	25	0	29	58	1	4
White-throated Kingfisher	1	2	6					7		1	1	2	1	4	5	9	0	14	30	1	4
Black-capped Kingfisher	0	0						0		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1		
Red-billed Starling	0	0						1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		
Collared Crow	0	0						0		0	5	5	0	1	0	8	0	8	11		