Contract Ref.: AFCD/SQ/43/15/C

Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site Waterbird Monitoring Programme 2015 - 16

Egretry Counts in Hong Kong, with particular reference to the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site

Summer 2016 Report

Submitted by
The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

to Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department,
Hong Kong SAR Government

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Contract Ref.: AFCD/SQ/43/15/C
Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site Waterbird Monitoring Programme 2015-16

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SUMMER 2016 REPORT

Summary

In the 2016 breeding season (April to July), a total of 620 nests of five ardeid species, i.e. the Great Egret (*Ardea alba*), Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*), Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), Chinese Pond Heron (*Ardeola bacchus*) and Eastern Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus coromandus*), were recorded in ten egretries (hereinafter referred to as 'colonies') in the Deep Bay area. The number of nests in this area accounted for 49.7% of the total number of nests in Hong Kong. The Chinese Pond Heron was the dominant species in the Deep Bay area, accounting for 73.0% of the total number of nests in this area. A total of 1,248 nests of the five species in 23 colonies were recorded in Hong Kong in 2016. The Chinese Pond Heron (32.6%) was the dominant species in Hong Kong, while the Eastern Cattle Egret (3.4%) was the least abundant one. Compared with the 2015 records (802 nests in the Deep Bay area and 1,418 nests in Hong Kong), there was a 22.7% and 12.0% decrease in the number of nests recorded in the Deep Bay area and Hong Kong, respectively. The decreases may be due to the natural fluctuation of the number of breeding ardeids as the peak number of nests in recent years was recorded in 2015. The number of nests recorded in 2016 was the second highest in recent years.

1 INTRODUCTION

Following the establishment of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site, a long-term Waterbird Monitoring Programme has been carried out since 1998. The programme is coordinated by the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS) with support from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) of the Hong Kong SAR Government. Under the Waterbird Monitoring Programme, egretry counts are conducted with an aim to record the population of tree-nesting ardeids, in terms of the number of nests in the Deep Bay area and elsewhere in Hong Kong. This report presents the results of the egretry count between April and July 2016. A review of the nesting ardeids in Hong Kong between the 1950s and 1990s can be found in Young and Cha (1995), while the trends and their relationship with weather was documented in Wong and Young (2006).

2 METHODS

Active and abandoned colonies identified in the past three years (2013 – 2015) were surveyed once per month between April and July 2016 (Table 1, Figure 1, Appendix 1). A nesting colony of egrets and herons is defined as an area in which more than one pair of these birds are recorded building nests, laying eggs and raising young. Active nests, determined by the presence of incubating

adults or chicks, were counted directly from vantage points along the edge of a colony with the use of 10x binoculars or by naked eye, depending on the proximity of the surveyor to the colony. In cases where the nests were hidden in vegetation which made the counting difficult, their numbers were estimated. In this connection, landing locations were marked on a sketch and repeated landings around the same location were considered as a nest. This methodology was adopted for the colonies on Little Green Island, A Chau, Sha Chau and Ma Wan, where most of the nests were hidden in vegetation. The highest count of the number of nests of a particular species recorded during the survey period was taken as the number of nests of that species of the egretry. In addition to the number of nests, the nesting substratum was examined in most of the colonies that were accessible. Nomenclature of egrets and herons follows the annotated checklist of birds of Hong Kong (Hong Kong Bird Watching Society, 2016).

Both existing colonies and new nesting sites, if any, were monitored. In the past years, new nesting sites were identified by personal observations of the surveyors or through information provided by birdwatchers, the general public or the AFCD. A nesting site would be considered as a new nesting colony if it was more than 500 m away from an existing colony, since the lowest foraging range of a colony is usually about 500 m (L. C. Wong, unpublished data). Combining breeding birds in locations within 500 m could avoid having to define too many small nesting sites in the same area.

3. RESULTS and DISCUSSION

3.1 Breeding population in the 2016 breeding season

A total of 1,248 nests were recorded in 23 colonies in Hong Kong (Table 1, Figure 1, Appendix 2). All colonies active in 2015 were found to be active in 2016. No new colonies were found. Highlights of the present breeding season are as follows:

- The colony at Mai Po Village was the largest in Hong Kong, with 202 nests, about 16.2% of the total number of nests in Hong Kong.
- Abandoned colonies at Tam Kon Chau, Pak Nai and Ngau Hom Sha were visited but no breeding activities were recorded.
- Apart from the bamboo cluster used in previous years, the Lam Tsuen 2 colony extended to a nearby tree, *Celtis sinensis*. In addition, dieback of part of the bamboo cluster was observed.
- Nesting birds did not use a *Celtis sinensis* tree which was used for nesting in the past at the Ha Che colony this year. The concerned tree appeared to be unhealthy.
- At the Sha Kiu village colony, the southern part was abandoned and the western part reduced in size.
- The Tung Shing Lane colony extended to a few trees to the east.
- As photographers were observed inside the Tai Po Market colony in 2015, AFCD had stepped up patrols and installed signs to remind the public not

to disturb breeding birds and the Highways Department had locked the maintenance access. Nevertheless, photographers were seen taking photos along a maintenance access of a slope inside the colony on 8 and 9 May (3 persons) and 19 May (2 persons). No adult ardeids were observed returning to their nests when photographers were present. Some areas around the locations where the photographers were seen were abandoned by the birds in May, while the rest of the area was still used by breeding ardeids. The boundary of the Tai Po Market colony was different between April and May. In May, it shifted westward and extended to three trees adjacent to Kwong Fuk Road, while some nesting areas in April along a maintenance access were abandoned.

The largest colony in Hong Kong was the Mai Po Village colony (202 nests, 16.2% of total number of nests recorded in Hong Kong), which supported the highest number of nests of Chinese Pond Heron (130 nests, 31.9% of the total number of nests of this species) and Little Egret (72 nests, 18.3% of the total number of Little Egret nests) in Hong Kong. The second largest colony was the Tai Po Market colony (151 nests, 12.1% of the total number of nests in Hong Kong), which supported the highest number of nests of Black-crowned Night Heron (58 nests, 31.5% of the total number of nests of this species in Hong Kong). The third largest colony was the Mai Po Lung Village colony (84 nests, 6.7% of the total number of nests in Hong Kong). The lowest number of nests was recorded at the San Sang San Tsuen colony (5 nests, 0.4% of the total number of nests in Hong Kong). The Ho Sheung Heung colony supported the highest number of nests of Eastern Cattle Egret (27 nests, 62.8% of the total number of nests of this species). The highest number of nests of Great Egret was found at the A Chau colony (67 nests, 30.3% of the total number of nests of this species).

Table 1. Number of nests at surveyed colonies in Hong Kong in 2016.

	Great Egret	Little Egret	Black-crowned Night Heron	Chinese Pond Heron	Eastern Cattle Egret	Total	%	Rank
Deep Bay area								
1. Mai Po Village		72		130		202	16.2	1
2. Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve	54	11	9		5	79	6.3	6
3. Mai Po Lung Village		16		68		84	6.7	3
4. Tung Shing Lane		20		41		61	4.9	10
5. Ngau Hom Shek		2		9		11	0.9	20
6. Tsim Bei Tsui	46	2	18		3	69	5.5	8
7. Pak Nai 2		9		2		11	0.9	20
8. Shenzhen Bay Bridge		13		5		18	1.4	18

	Great Egret	Little Egret	Black-crowned Night Heron	Chinese Pond Heron	Eastern Cattle Egret	Total	%	Rank
9. Sha Kiu Village		39		41		80	6.4	5
10.San Sang San Tsuen		4		1		5	0.4	23
Elsewhere in the New Territories								
11.Ho Sheung Heung		18		12	27	57	4.6	11
12.Man Kam To Road		8		33		41	3.3	12
13.Ping Che				7		7	0.6	22
14.A Chau*	67	2	14			83	6.7	4
15.Tai Tong (Pak Sha Tsuen)		12		13	5	30	2.4	13
16.Ha Che		2		21		23	1.8	16
17.Lam Tsuen 2				17		17	1.4	19
18.Tai Po Market	22	68	58		3	151	12.1	2
19.Tuen Mun		30				30	2.4	13
20.Penfold Park	22	24	23	7		76	6.1	7
21.Sha Chau*	2	12	14			28	2.2	15
22.Ma Wan*	2	20	40			62	5.0	9
Hong Kong Island								
23.Little Green Island*	6	9	8			23	1.8	16
Total	221	393	184	407	43	1,248	**100.0**	
%	17.7	31.5	14.7	32.6	3.4	**100.0**		

Note: * Some nests at A Chau, Sha Chau, Ma Wan and Little Green Island were located in dense vegetation and might have been overlooked. The number of nests might have been underestimated.

Regarding the number of nests recorded, Chinese Pond Heron was the most abundant (407 nests, 32.6% of the total number of nests) and the second most widespread species (15 out of 23 colonies). The Little Egret was the second most abundant (393 nest, 31.5%) and most widespread species (21 colonies). The Eastern Cattle Egret was the least abundant (43 nests, 3.4%) and most restricted species (5 colonies).

3.2 Colonies in the Deep Bay area

A total of 620 nests of five ardeid species were recorded in ten colonies within the Deep Bay area in the 2016 breeding season (Table 2). This was the second highest number recorded since the present monitoring was commenced in 1998. The number of nests in the Deep Bay area accounted for 49.7% of the total number of nests in Hong Kong. The Deep Bay colonies supported the majority

of breeding Great Egrets, Little Egrets and Chinese Pond Herons, in terms of the number of nests. The Chinese Pond Heron was the dominant species, accounted for 47.9% of the total number of nests in the Deep Bay area.

Table 2. Relative importance of the Deep Bay colonies compared to the other colonies in Hong Kong in 2016. (Colonies in the Deep Bay area include Mai Po Village, Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve, Mai Po Lung Village, Tsim Bei Tsui, Tung Shing Lane, Ngau Hom Shek, Pak Nai 2, Shenzhen Bay Bridge, Sha Kiu Village and San Sang San Tsuen)

Species	No. of nests in Deep Bay	No. of nests in Hong Kong	Deep Bay nests as % of all nests in Hong Kong
Great Egret	100	221	45.2%
Little Egret	188	393	47.8%
Black-crowned Night Heron	27	184	14.7%
Chinese Pond Heron	297	407	73.0%
Eastern Cattle Egret	8	43	18.6%
Total	620	1,248	49.7%

A summary of the number of nests of the five ardeid species recorded in the Deep Bay area in the last decade (i.e. from 2007 to 2016) is shown in Table 3. For the second consecutive year, all five ardeid species bred in the Deep Bay area. The number of nests of Chinese Pond Heron reached a new height, with two nests more than last year. For the other species, though the numbers of nests decreased from the peak counts in 2015, the numbers recorded were the second/third highest during the last decade.

Table 3. Number of nests recorded in the Deep Bay area from 2007 to 2016.

	Great Egret	Little Egret	Black-crowned Night Heron	Chinese Pond Heron	Eastern Cattle Egret	Total no. of nests in Deep Bay
2007		119		152	4	275
2008		96		137	1	234
2009		95		212	1	308
2010		85		163		248
2011		133		154		287
2012		97		176		273
2013		91		168		259
2014	1	190		227		418
2015	163	260	72	295	12	802
2016	100	188	27	297	8	620

3.3 Comparison of the number of nests with records of the previous year

When compared with the results in 2015, all species had a less number of nests in Hong Kong in 2016 (Table 4). The Chinese Pond Herons showed a slight decrease (0.5%) while the Great Egret had the greatest percentage decrease (21.9%). The reason for the decline in the number of nests is not well understood. Nevertheless, the numbers of nests of all species in 2016, except Eastern Cattle Egret, were the second highest records in the last decade. As the peak count of nests was recorded in 2015 since the monitoring was commenced, it is likely that the decline is due to natural fluctuation.

Table 4. Comparison of the number of nests in Hong Kong in 2015 and 2016.

	2015	2016	Percentage change (%)
Great Egret	283	221	-21.9
Little Egret	458	393	-14.2
Black-crowned Night Heron	214	184	-14.0
Chinese Pond Heron	409	407	-0.5
Eastern Cattle Egret	54	43	-20.4
Sub-total in Deep Bay	802	620	-22.7
Total in Hong Kong	1,418	1,248	-12.0

Regarding individual colonies, there were 11 colonies with more nests recorded in 2016 than in 2015. Meanwhile, 12 colonies had fewer nests recorded in 2016 than in 2015 (Table 5). A sharp decrease was noted in the Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve colony (decease in 61.3%). The reason of this decrease is not known but human disturbance is not likely to be a factor as the trees where the ardeids nested were intact.

Table 5. Comparison of the number of nests of individual colonies in 2015 and 2016.

	2015	2016	% change		2015	2016	% change
Mai Po Village	236	202	-14	Man Kam To Road	31	41	+32
Mai Po Marshes NR	204	79	-61	Ping Che	6	7	+17
Mai Po Lung Village	73	84	+15	A Chau	66	83	+26
Tung Shing Lane	77	61	-21	Tai Tong (Pak Sha Tsuen)	34	30	-12
Ngau Hom Shek	8	11	+38	Ha Che	24	23	-4
Tsim Bei Tsui	57	69	+21	Lam Tsuen 2	24	17	-29
Pak Nai 2	7	11	+57	Tai Po Market	152	151	-1
Shenzhen Bay Bridge	30	18	-40	Tuen Mun	21	30	+43
Sha Kiu Village	106	80	-25	Penfold Park	64	76	+19
San Sang San Tsuen	4	5	+25	Little Green Island	30	23	-23

	2015	2016	% change		2015	2016	% change
Ho Sheung Heung	74	57	-23	Sha Chau	42	28	-33
				Ma Wan	48	62	+29

3.4 Nesting substrates

Bamboo was the main nesting substrate for egrets and herons nesting in the north and northwest New Territories. It was used in 13 out of the 23 colonies (Table 5). The mangrove species, *Kandelia obovata*, was the main nesting substrate of the colonies at Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve and Tsim Bei Tsui in Deep Bay. Birds at the Penfold Park colony built their nests on Banyan trees (*Ficus microcarpa*). The exotic tree *Acacia auriculiformis* was used as nesting substrate by ardeids in the Tuen Mun colony. Most nests in Mai Po Village were built on Chinese Hackberry (*Celtis sinensis*) and Banyan Tree (*Ficus microcarpa*). The majority of nests in the A Chau colony were built on mangrove (*Kandelia obovata*) and Cuban Bast (*Hibiscus tiliaceus*).

Table 6. Plant species utilized by ardeids as nesting substrates in 2016.

Site	Site	Bamboo	Tree species	Remarks
1	Mai Po Village	+	*Albizia lebbeck* *Aleurites moluccana* *Celtis sinensis* *Ficus microcarpa* *Melia azedarach*	
2	Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve		*Kandelia obovata*	
3	Mai Po Lung Village	+	*Ficus microcarpa* *Litchi chinensis* *Dimocarpus longan*	
4	Tung Shing Lane	+	*Litchi chinensis* *Dimocarpus longan* *Celtis sinensis*	
5	Ngau Hom Shek	+		
6	Tsim Bei Tsui		*Kandelia obovata*	
7	Pak Nai 2	+		
8	Shenzhen Bay Bridge	+		
9	Sha Kiu Village	+	*Celtis sinensis*	
10	San Sang San Tsuen	+		
11	Ho Sheung Heung	+		
12	Man Kam To Road	+	*Celtis sinensis* *Callistemon viminalis*	

Site	Site	Bamboo	Tree species	Remarks
			Ficus microcarpa *Senna siamea*	
13	Ping Che	+		
14	A Chau		*Hibiscus tiliaceus* *Kandelia obovata*	
15	Tai Tong (Pak Sha Tsuen)	+		
16	Ha Che		*Ficus microcarpa*	
17	Lam Tsuen 2	+	*Celtis sinensis*	
18	Tai Po Market		*Ficus variegata* *Macaranga tanarius* *Celtis siensis* *Mangifera indica*	
19	Tuen Mun		*Acacia auriculiformis*	
20	Penfold Park		*Ficus microcarpa*	
21	Sha Chau			No observation was made
22	Ma Wan			No observation was made
23	Little Green Island			No observation was made

3.5 Training workshop for ardeid nesting colony monitoring

A training workshop was conducted during the breeding season on 24 April 2016. A total of 18 participants joined the workshop and the practical sessions on nests counting in the Tung Shing Lane and Mai Po Village colonies (Figure 5).

4. CONCLUSION

In 2016, a total of 1,248 nests of five ardeid species in 23 colonies were recorded in Hong Kong, including 620 nests of five species in ten colonies in the Deep Bay area. All colonies that were active in 2015 remained active in 2016. Compared with the results in 2015, the number of nests in Deep Bay area and Hong Kong overall decreased by 22.7% and 12.0%, respectively. The reason for the decline in 2016 is not understood but it could be a natural fluctuation as the

peak number of nests was recorded in 2015 since the monitoring was commenced in 1998.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site Waterbird Monitoring Programme

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Figures

The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Figure 1. Location of egretries in Hong Kong in 2016

(The enclosed area is the Deep Bay Area)

1	Mai Po Village	2	Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve	3	Mai Po Lung Village
4	Tung Shing Lane	5	Ngau Hom Shek	6	Tsim Bei Tsui
7	Pak Nai 2 (Tin Hau Temple)	8	Shenzhen Bay Bridge	9	Sha Kiu Village
10	San Sang San Tsuen	11	Ho Sheung Heung	12	Man Kam To Road
13	Ping Che	14	A Chau	15	Tai Tong (Pak Sha Tsuen)
16	Ha Che	17	Lam Tsuen 2	18	Tai Po Market
19	Tuen Mun	20	Penfold Park	21	Sha Chau
22	Ma Wan	23	Little Green Island		

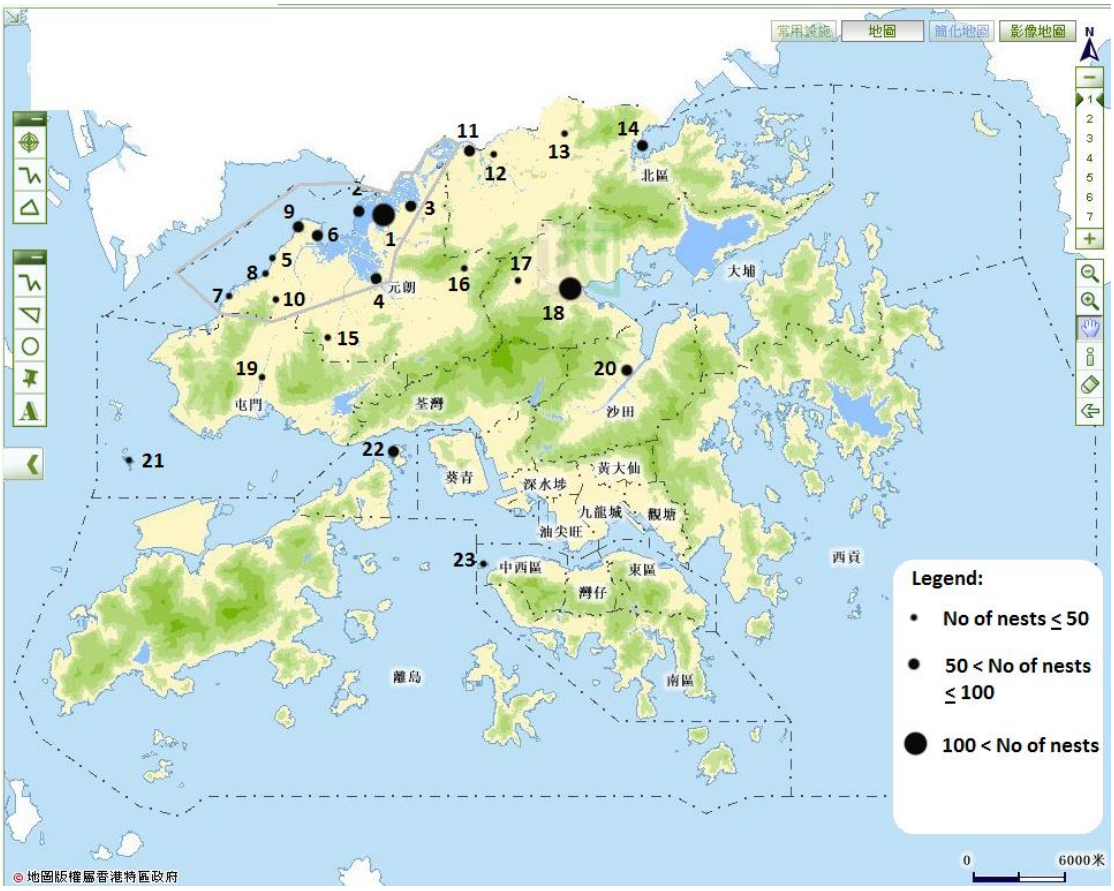
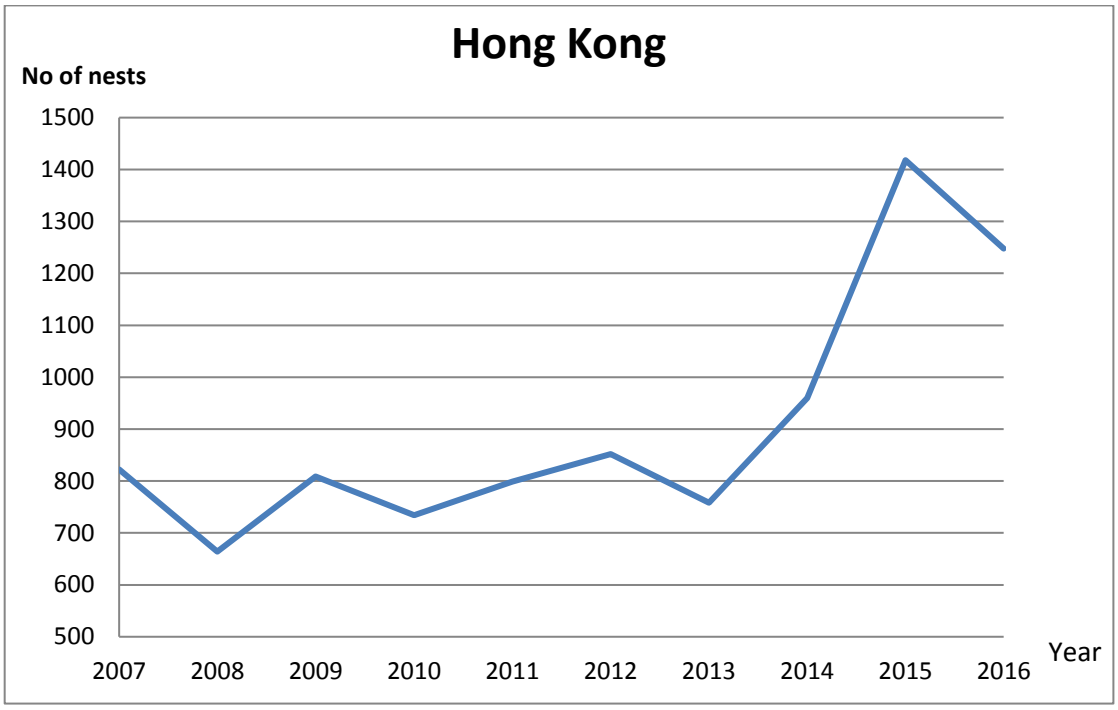
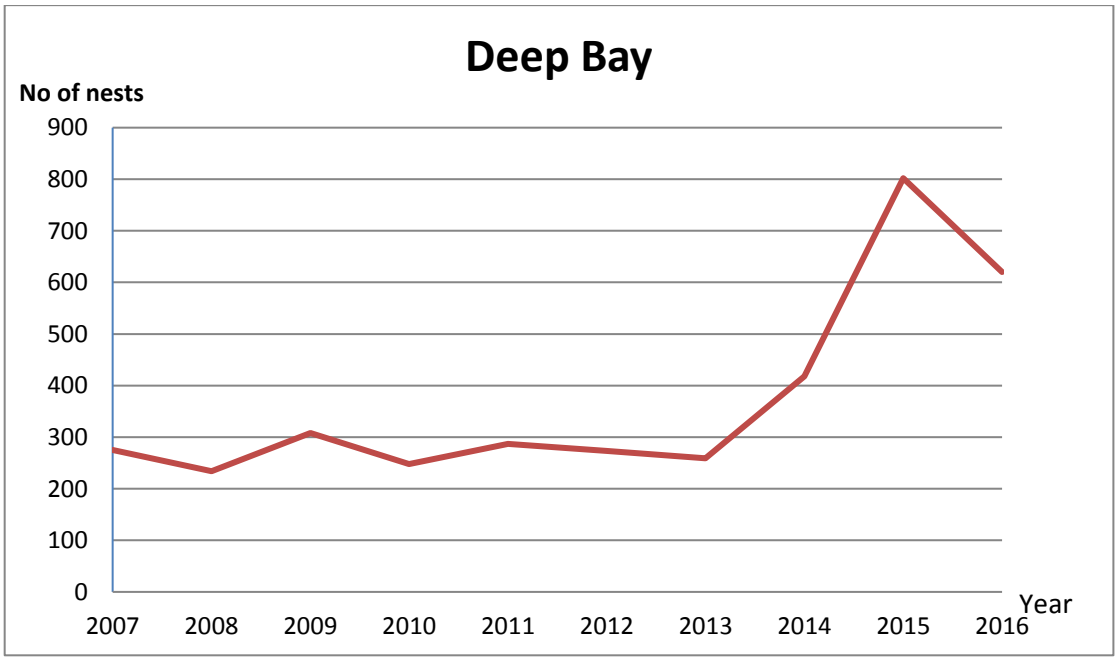


Figure 2. Ten-year summary of the total number of ardeid nests in Hong Kong with reference to the number of nests in the Deep Bay area from 2007 to 2016.





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Appendices

The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Appendix 1. Survey date(s) of nesting colonies and additional sites in 2016.

Colony	Date
Active colonies	
1. Mai Po Village*	16 April, 14 May, 9 June, 17 July
2. Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve*	16 Apr, 14 May, 9 June, 17 July
3. Mai Po Lung Village*	16 April, 14 May, 9 June, 17 July
4. Tung Shing Lane*	17 April, 15 May, 9 June, 3 July
5. Ngau Hom Shek*	17 April, 15 May, 9 June, 3 July
6. Tsim Bei Tsui*	16 April, 14 May, 9 June, 17 July
7. Pak Nai 2*	17 April, 15 May, 9 June, 3 July
8. Shenzhen Bay Bridge*	17 April, 15 May, 9 June, 3 July
9. Sha Kiu Village*	16 April, 14 May, 9 June, 17 July
10. San Sang San Tsuen*	26 April, 15 May, 9 June, 3 July
11. Ho Sheung Heung	16 April, 14 May, 9 June, 17 July
12. Man Kam To Road	16 April, 14 May, 9 June, 17 July
13. Ping Che	17 April, 21 May, 18 June, 9 July
14. A Chau	9 April, 7 and 21 May, 18 June, 9 July
15. Tai Tong (Pak Sha Tsuen)	17 April, 15 May, 9 June, 3 July
16. Ha Che	17 April, 21 May, 18 June, 9 July
17. Lam Tsuen 2	17 April, 21 May, 18 June, 9 July
18. Tai Po Market	17 April, 21 May, 18 June, 9 July
19. Tuen Mun	19 April, 22 May, 21 June, 19 July
20. Penfold Park	17 April, 21 May, 18 June, 9 July
21. Sha Chau	21 April, 20 May, 10 June, 22 July
22. Ma Wan	16 April, 21 May, 18 June, 9 July
23. Little Green Island	30 April, 15 May, 21 June, 23 July
Additional sites	
24. Tam Kon Chau*	16 April
25. Ngau Hom Sha*	17 April, 15 May, 9 June, 3 July
26. Pak Nai *	17 April, 15 May, 9 June, 3 July

* within the Deep Bay area

Appendix 2. Number of nests recorded in each monthly count at the 23 colonies in 2016.

Appendix 2.1. Mai Po Village

	16 April	14 May	9 June	17 July	**Max**
Little Egret	55	**72**	47	45	**72**
Chinese Pond Heron	84	**130**	114	67	**130**
Total	139	202	161	112	**202**

Appendix 2.2. Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve

	16 April	14 May	9 June	17 July	**Max**
Great Egret	47	37	**54**	16	**54**
Little Egret	8	**11**	6	3	**11**
Black-crowned Night Heron		1	**9**	4	**9**
Eastern Cattle Egret		3	**5**	5	**5**
Total	55	52	74	28	**79**

Appendix 2.3. Mai Po Lung Village

	16 April	14 May	9 June	17 July	**Max**
Little Egret	4	10	**16**	9	**16**
Chinese Pond Heron	16	61	**68**	43	**68**
Total	20	71	84	52	**84**

Appendix 2.4. Tung Shing Lane

	17 April	15 May	9 June	3 July	**Max**
Little Egret	18	**20**	16	17	**20**
Chinese Pond Heron	12	36	**41**	18	**41**
Total	30	56	57	35	**61**

Appendix 2.5. Ngau Hom Shek

	17 April	15 May	9 June	3 July	**Max**
Little Egret		**2**	**2**		**2**
Chinese Pond Heron	2	3	**9**	8	**9**
Total	2	5	11	8	**11**

Appendix 2.6. Tsim Bei Tsui

	16 April	14 May	9 June	17 July	**Max**
Great Egret	**46**	43	35	8	**46**
Little Egret	1	**2**	**2**	1	**2**
Black-crowned Night Heron	7	7	**18**	5	**18**
Eastern Cattle Egret	1	**3**			**3**
Total	55	55	55	14	**69**

Appendix 2.7. Pak Nai 2

	17 April	15 May	9 June	3 July	**Max**
Little Egret	**9**	4	4	5	**9**
Chinese Pond Heron			**2**		**2**
Total	9	4	6	5	**11**

Appendix 2.8. Shenzhen Bay Bridge

	17 April	15 May	9 June	3 July	**Max**
Little Egret	7	10	**13**	2	**13**
Chinese Pond Heron	4	3	**5**	2	**5**
Total	11	13	18	4	**18**

Appendix 2.9. Sha Kiu Village

	16 April	14 May	9 June	17 July	**Max**
Little Egret	24	**39**	32	3	**39**
Chinese Pond Heron	4	**41**	22	6	**41**
Total	28	80	54	9	**80**

Appendix 2.10. San Sang San Tsuen

	26 April	15 May	9 June	3 July	**Max**
Little Egret	3	3	**4**	1	**4**
Chinese Pond Heron			**1**	**1**	**1**
Total	3	3	5	2	**5**

Appendix 2.11. Ho Sheung Heung

	16 April	14 May	9 June	17 July	**Max**
Little Egret	14	**18**	13	6	**18**
Chinese Pond Heron	1	**12**	**12**	2	**12**
Eastern Cattle Egret	22	**27**	26	3	**27**
Total	37	57	51	11	**57**

Appendix 2.12. Man Kam To Road

	16 April	14 May	9 June	17 July	**Max**
Little Egret	2	**8**	**8**	**2**	**8**
Chinese Pond Heron	11	30	**33**	19	**33**
Total	13	38	41	21	**41**

Appendix 2.13. Ping Che

	17 April	21 May	18 June	9 July	**Max**
Chinese Pond Heron	4	6	**7**	5	**7**
Total	4	6	7	5	**7**

Appendix 2.14. A Chau

	9 April	7 &21 May	18 June	9 July	**Max**
Great Egret	**67**	54	14	1	**67**
Little Egret		1	**2**	1	**2**
Black-crowned Night Heron	2	**14**	10		**14**
Total	69	69	26	2	**83**

Appendix 2.15. Tai Tong (Pak Sha Tsuen)

	17 April	15 May	9 June	3 July	**Max**
Little Egret	**12**	6			**12**
Chinese Pond Heron	5	6	11	**13**	**13**
Eastern Cattle Egret	**5**	2	4	2	**5**
Total	22	14	15	15	**30**

Appendix 2.16. Ha Che

	17 April	21 May	18 June	9 July	**Max**
Little Egret		1	**2**	1	**2**
Chinese Pond Heron	11	18	20	**21**	**21**
Total	11	19	22	22	**23**

Appendix 2.17. Lam Tsuen 2

	17 April	21 May	18 June	9 July	**Max**
Chinese Pond Heron	5	**17**	13	2	**17**
Total	5	17	13	2	**17**

Appendix 2.18. Tai Po Market

	17 April	21 May	18 June	9 July	**Max**
Great Egret	**22**	17	**22**	10	**22**
Little Egret	61	53	**68**	32	**68**
Black-crowned Night Heron	49	**58**	48	32	**58**
Eastern Cattle Egret		2	**3**	1	**3**
Total	132	130	141	75	**151**

Appendix 2.19. Tuen Mun

	19 April	22 May	21 June	19 July	**Max**
Little Egret	15	18	**30**	5	**30**
Total	15	18	30	5	**30**

Appendix 2.20. Penfold Park

	17 April	21 May	18 June	9 July	**Max**
Great Egret	**22**	17	17	6	**22**
Little Egret	8	16	**24**	5	**24**
Black-crowned Night Heron	8	**23**	17	5	**23**
Chinese Pond Heron	1	3	**7**	4	**7**
Total	39	59	65	20	**76**

Appendix 2.21. Sha Chau

	21 April	20 May	10 June	22 July	**Max**
Great Egret	1	1	**2**		**2**
Little Egret	**12**	10	7		**12**
Black-crowned Night Heron	**14**	1	2		**14**
Total	27	12	11	No Nest	**28**

Appendix 2.22. Ma Wan

	16 April	21 May	18 June	9 July	**Max**
Great Egret	1	**2**	**2**	2	**2**
Little Egret	**20**	**20**	15	10	**20**
Black-crowned Night Heron	30	**40**	5		**40**
Total	51	62	22	12	**62**

Appendix 2.23. Little Green Island

	30 April	15 May	21 June	23 July	**Max**
Great Egret	**6**	**6**		1	**6**
Little Egret	2	6	**9**	3	**9**
Black-crowned Night Heron	2	2	**8**		**8**
Total	10	14	17	4	**23**