



**Proposal for a Site of Special Scientific Interest and
Support for Country Park Designation on Po Toi Island**



The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

First Edition May 2012
1st Revision October 2012

Executive Summary

Proposal for a Site of Special Scientific Interest and Support for Country Park Designation on Po Toi Island

1. The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS), founded in 1957, is an approved Charitable Institution of Public Character. It is the leading authority on bird research and conservation in Hong Kong. HKBWS has collected, reviewed and published records on birds for more than half a century, providing essential information for conservation of habitats and scientific research.
2. HKBWS appreciates the extension of planning control to Po Toi Island and supports the general planning intention of the Draft Po Toi Islands Development Permission Area (DPA) Plan.
3. This document affirms the high ecological value and special scientific interest outlined in the Explanatory Statement of the DPA, and requests the Town Planning Board to zone a “Site of Special Scientific Interest” on Po Toi Island, and the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Country and Marine Parks Board and Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to designate Po Toi Islands as Country Park (or Special Area) according to the suggestion of the South West New Territories Development Strategy Review (SWNT DSR) in 2001.
4. Po Toi Island is the southern-most outlying island in Hong Kong. Owing to its special geographical location, the lack of disturbance and quality of habitats on the island, Po Toi is a crucial refuelling stop for migratory birds that is of international importance and of special scientific value for the study of bird migration in Hong Kong and the East Asian Flyway.
5. Over 310 species of birds have been recorded on Po Toi Island and its nearby waters, which is about 60% of the total number of Hong Kong. This includes many rare and globally threatened species.
6. Research data shows that Tai Wan, Wan Tsai (near the pier) and Ngong Chong of Po Toi are of high ecological value as they provide essential habitats for migratory birds and many of them are of conservation importance. Special attention should be paid to these areas as they are in proximity to the existing inhabited areas.
7. This area also supports a natural population of the endemic and endangered Romer’s Tree Frog (*Liuixalus romeri*), Burmese Python (*Python molurus bivittatus*) and a variety of

butterfly species.

8. The waters around Po Toi are of conservation importance. Finless Porpoises (*Neophocaena phocaenoides*) frequent waters in the area. Waglan Island has a breeding colony of terns. The unspoilt natural setting contributes to the landscape and ecological value of the area.
9. Po Toi is a popular location for holiday visitors. Recreational activities such as hiking, fishing, bird-watching and wildlife photography are attracting large and growing numbers of visitors to the island. There are also special cultural activities on Po Toi, which include Chinese Opera and dragon-boat racing during Festival (太平清醮) and sea-weed collecting. The designation of Country Park would benefit local residents as well as visitors, by provision of infrastructure and utilities for the island.
10. Recent unauthorized activities have damaged the landscape and ecological value of the area. Full Protection of Po Toi is needed to protect its scientific and conservation value from incompatible developments. The designation of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) would provide essential protection as developments as designated projects would require an environmental permit.
11. The introduction of planning control alone would not be able to fully protect the environment of Po Toi and other islands. The designation of Country Park is the best method in order to manage the activities on the island. Members and the Country and Marine Parks Board and Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department are therefore request to designate Po Toi Islands as Country Park.
12. The conservation of the landscape and ecological value of Po Toi Islands is supported by Green Groups, visitors and also many residents.
13. The above proposal is an important step towards the targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity and is in line with the Chief Executive's Policy Platform for environment protection and conservation.

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APPENDIX I List of birds species recorded on Po Toi and their Conservation statuses

1.2 Literature review

AFCD commissioned HKBWS to produce a ‘Preliminary Study of Bird Migration on Po Toi Island – Spring 2007’⁵ and this report has been published. The study has continued every year in spring and autumn up to date and provides a wealth of data on migrant birds on Po Toi.

HKBWS has also commenced a study of bird migration on Po Toi Island which started in January 2006 and is still continuing. In the period 2006-2011, the researcher has spent a total of 684 days on Po Toi, 65% of which were in the key migration seasons of March to May and September to November.

Other publications such as the following have been reviewed:

- The Hong Kong Bird Reports by the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society;
- The Avifauna of Hong Kong by Carey et. al. (2001)⁶

1.3 Results

1.3.1 Habitat Diversity on Po Toi

Habitats on Po Toi Island were recorded by on-site observation and aerial photographs. They are listed in Table. 1.1

Table 1.1 Habitats on Po Toi Island

Habitat	Location	Description
Grassland/Shrubland Mosaic	Covering most of the island	Largely natural Grassland and Shrubland. Succession maybe limited by climate (windy), water availability and hillfires.
Secondary Forest	Southwest proportion of the island, found behind Tai Wan, Wan Tsai, around Po Toi School and Mo’s Old House.	Largely natural Secondary Forest with large <i>Fung Shui</i> Trees such as <i>Ficus microcarpa</i> and fruit trees such as <i>Dimocarpus longan</i> .

⁵ Anon, 2007, Preliminary Study on Bird Migration on Po Toi Island (Spring 2007). Report by the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government.

⁶ G.J. Carey, M.L. Chalmers, D.A. Diskin, P.R. Kennerley, P.J. Leader, M.R. Leven, R.W. Lewthwaite, M.S. Melville, M. Turnbull, L. Young, 2001, The Avifauna of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Bird Watching Society.

Abandoned Farmland	Patches are found at the south of Wan Tsai.	Seasonally wet abandoned farmland, which may have been used for rice cultivation in the past. Affected by recent vegetation clearance and construction of concrete slabs.
Orchard/Active Farmland	Small patches are found at Wan Tsai.	Small sized farmland and orchard comprising of mostly banana trees.
Permanent Stream	One is identified behind Tai Wan.	Natural, permanent stream connecting to the sea.
Seasonal Streams	Scattered over valleys of the island such as at Wan Tsai and Lau Shui Hang.	Seasonal streams surrounded by secondary forest/shrubland.
Rocky shores	Along most coastlines of the island.	Natural and exposed Rocky shore with limited vegetation.
Sandy Shore	One is found at Tai Wan.	Sheltered sandy shore nearby developed areas.
Coastal Lagoon / intertidal wetland	One is found at Tai Wan.	Shallow (<0.5m) lagoon Served by permanent stream and affected by tidal water. Mangroves are found on the southward side.
Developed area	A recognized village at Tai Wan. Houses are found along the coast from Tai Wan up to the Tin Hau Temple. Scattered houses are found near the pier at Wan Tsai.	Developed area with houses, mostly 1-2 storeys. Some demolished houses are overgrown with vegetation, including large trees of particular ecological significance.

1.3.2 Avifauna

More than 310 species has been recorded on Po Toi. Evaluation of their conservation importance has been carried out according to the following lists which are adopted in Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO):

- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red Data List;
- The China Red Data Book;
- List of Protected Animals in People's Republic of China;
- Fellowes *et al.* (2002). Wild animals to watch: terrestrial and freshwater fauna of

conservation concern in Hong Kong.

The following lists have also been included as additional assessments of their conservation importance:

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) appendices I and II
- The Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) appendices I and II

At least 139 species are considered as having conservation importance according to the assessment methods adopted under EIAO. If the CITES appendices and CMS appendices are also considered, 171 species of birds species recorded on Po Toi are of conservation importance. The list of birds recorded on Po Toi and their conservation statuses can be found in APPENDIX I.

Detailed information on avifauna is highlighted in Section 3 of this paper.

1.3.3 Amphibians and Reptiles

The diversity of amphibians and reptiles are subject to detailed surveys and literature reviews.

At least two species of conservation importance, Romer's Tree Frog (*Liuixalus romeri*) and Burmese Python (*Python molurus bivittatus*) are observed regularly on the island. The locations of the two species observed by HKBWS are indicated in Figure. 1.2. Habitat improvement measures have been carried out by the AFCD to improve the breeding success of Romer's Tree Frog. More information of the distribution of this species on the island may be provided by AFCD and other non-government organisations.

Po Toi is especially important for Romer's Tree Frog as this species is endemic to Hong Kong and occurs naturally on Po Toi, Lamma, and formerly on Chek Lap Kok (before its habitat was destroyed to make way for Hong Kong International Airport. While this species has been successfully translocated into a number of sites in Hong Kong it is essential to main the health of the population where it naturally occurs.

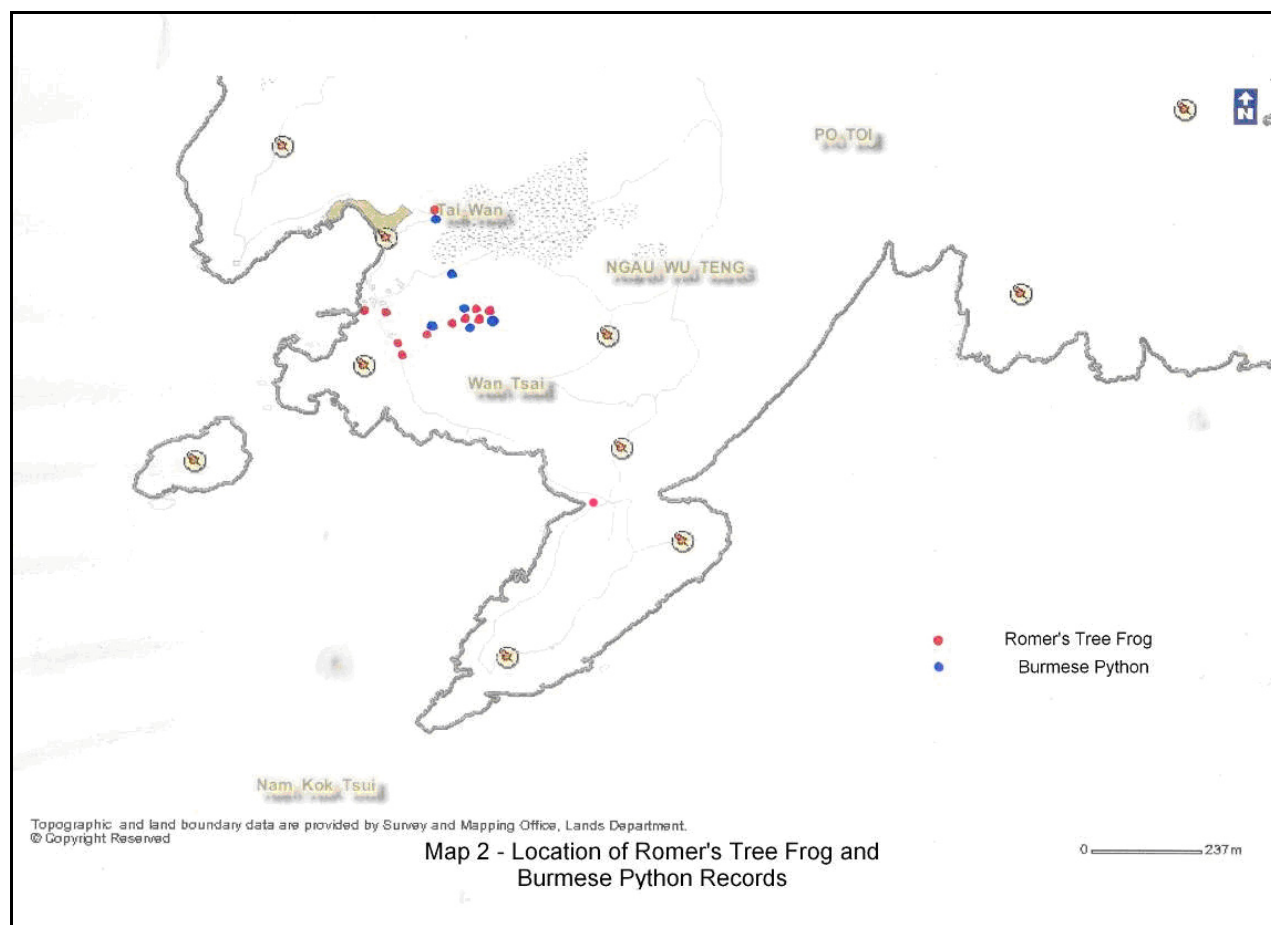


Figure 1.2 Location of Romer's Tree Frog (*Liuixalus romeri*) and Burmese Python (*Python molurus bivittatus*) observed by HKBWS.

1.3.4 Mammals

The diversity of mammals is subject to detailed surveys and literature reviews. Two mammal species are noted by the HKBWS, namely Wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) and Musk Shrew (*Suncus murinus*).

1.3.5 Insects

The diversity of insects is subject to detailed surveys and literature reviews. Red Lacewing (*Cethosia biblis*), a rare butterfly species in Hong Kong, is regularly observed on Po Toi.

1.4 Conclusion

Assessments using different criteria conclude that Po Toi has a high ecological value. This is due to the diversity of habitats found on the island together with its special geographical location. Many species of conservation interest including the endangered Romer's Tree Frog which is endemic to Hong Kong and threatened avifauna such as Swinhoe's Egret, Japanese Yellow Bunting, etc. are regular visitors to Po Toi. Po Toi is therefore a globally important site for biodiversity conservation.

Landscape changes, unfavourable change of land use and loss of habitats would impose significant impact on the island. These should be strictly controlled and planned with regard to maintaining the conservation value of Po Toi.

Management of important habitats would be beneficial in terms of maintaining and improving habitat quality, as well as preventing unfavourable activities (e.g. illegal collection and vegetation removal).

2. Po Toi's scientific value and conservation with special regard to migratory birds

Po Toi Island is the prime site in Hong Kong for observing migratory land birds and seabirds – the equivalent of what Mai Po is for waterbirds and shore birds and Tai Po Kau for forest birds. However, this has only become known since easier access started in 2005. Po Toi Island had no statutory protection in the Hong Kong planning system until the Town Planning Board gazetted the Draft Po Toi Islands Development Permission Area Plan on 2 March 2012.

The reason why Po Toi is a magnet for migratory birds lies in its location as an island in the far south-east corner of Hong Kong out into the South China Sea, together with the favourable habitat for migrant birds to rest and refuel created around the old centres of population on the island.

2.1 Migratory Land Birds

Twice each year many millions of landbirds migrate between the tropical areas of east Asia below latitude 20°N (Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Borneo and the Philippines), where they winter, and the northern areas above latitude 35°N (Japan, Korea, north and northeast China and Far East Russia), where they breed, in spring moving north and in autumn moving south. Their main migration routes in spring and autumn are shown in Figure 2.1 and 2.2 respectively.

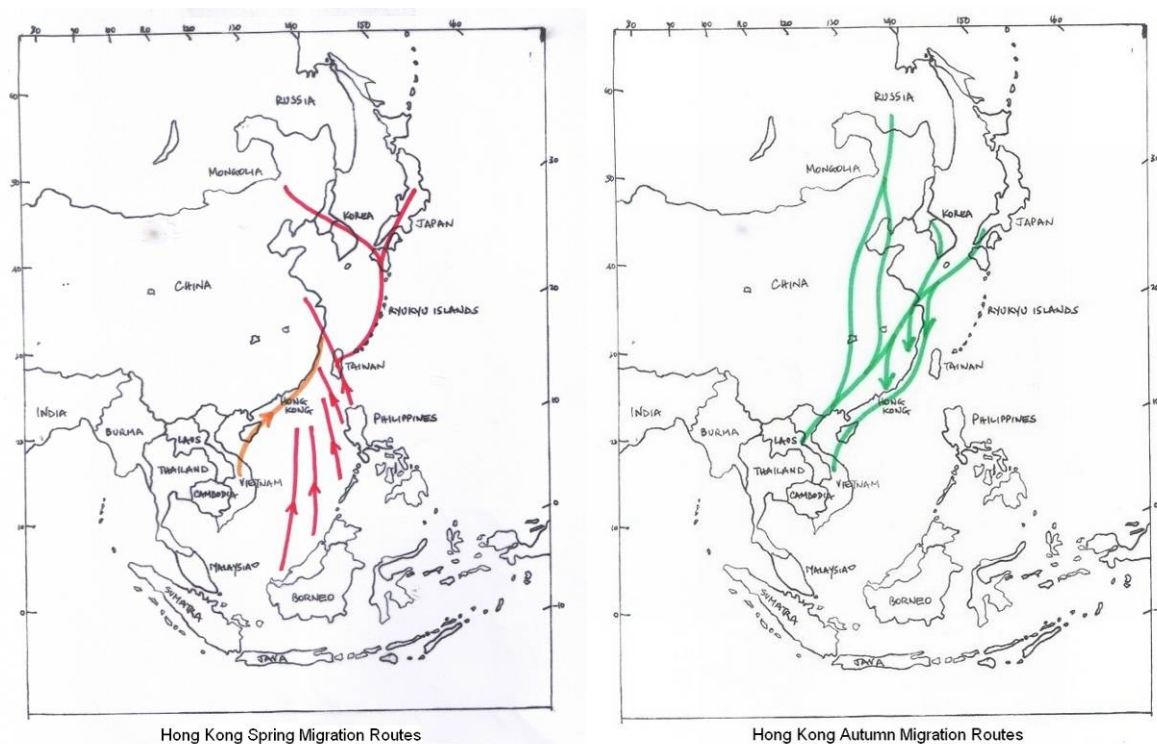


Figure 2.1 (Right) & 2.2 (Left) Landbirds Migration in spring and autumn in south China coastal areas.

Land birds migrate in spring from the south either around the coast or across the South China Sea and in autumn from the north around the coast. Po Toi lies directly on their migration routes as shown in Figure 2.3 and 2.4.

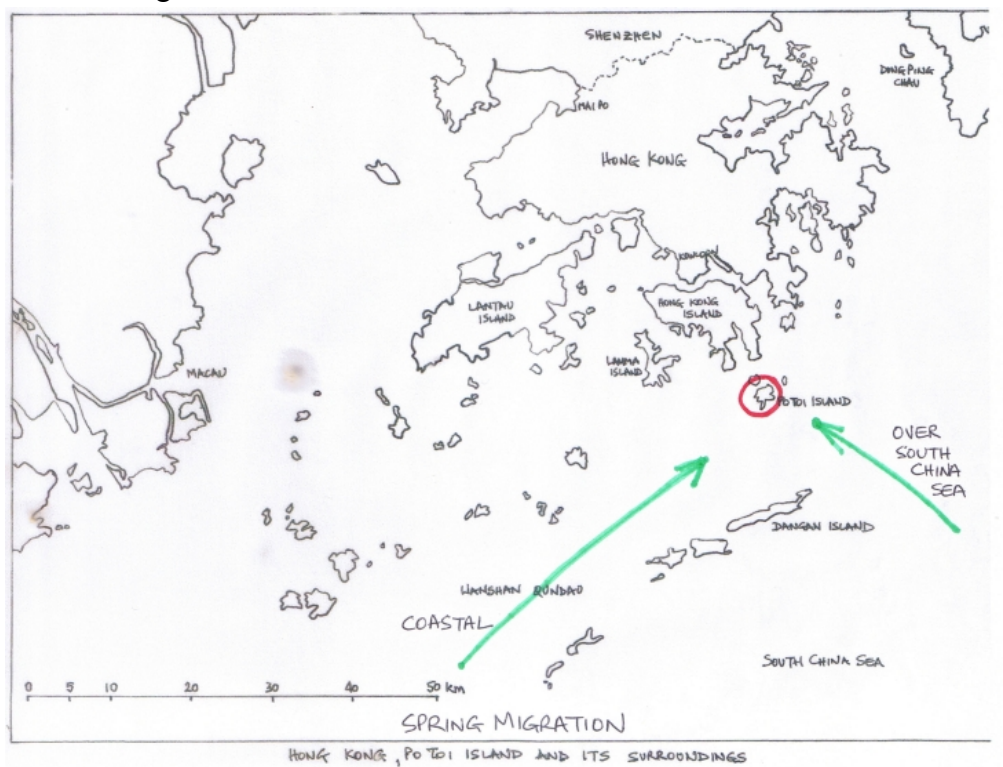


Figure 2.3 Spring migration route through the area of Po Toi

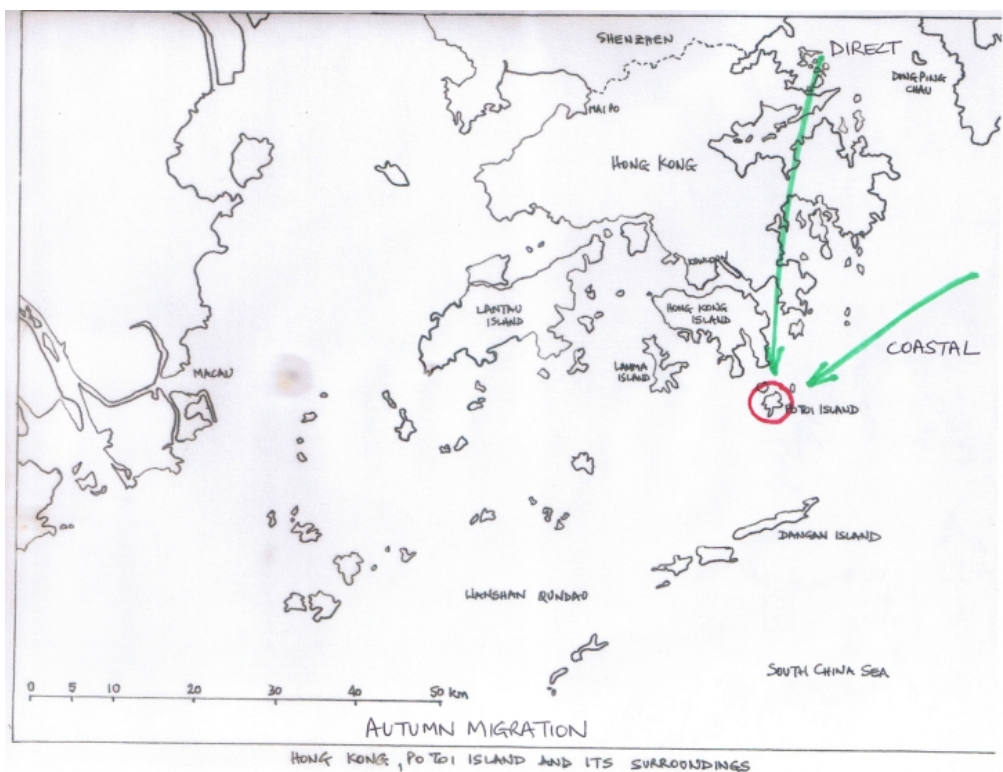


Figure 2.4 Autumn migration routes through the area of Po Toi

2.2 Migratory Seabirds

The southern-most point of Po Toi, Nam Kok Tsui, is the best location in Hong Kong to see migrating seabirds.

Tens of thousands of seabirds migrate through the South China Sea from wintering grounds in the tropics to breeding grounds off East China, Korea and Japan, in spring moving north and in autumn returning south. Their migration routes in the South China Sea and the Pearl River Delta region are shown in Figure 2.5 and Figure 2.6.

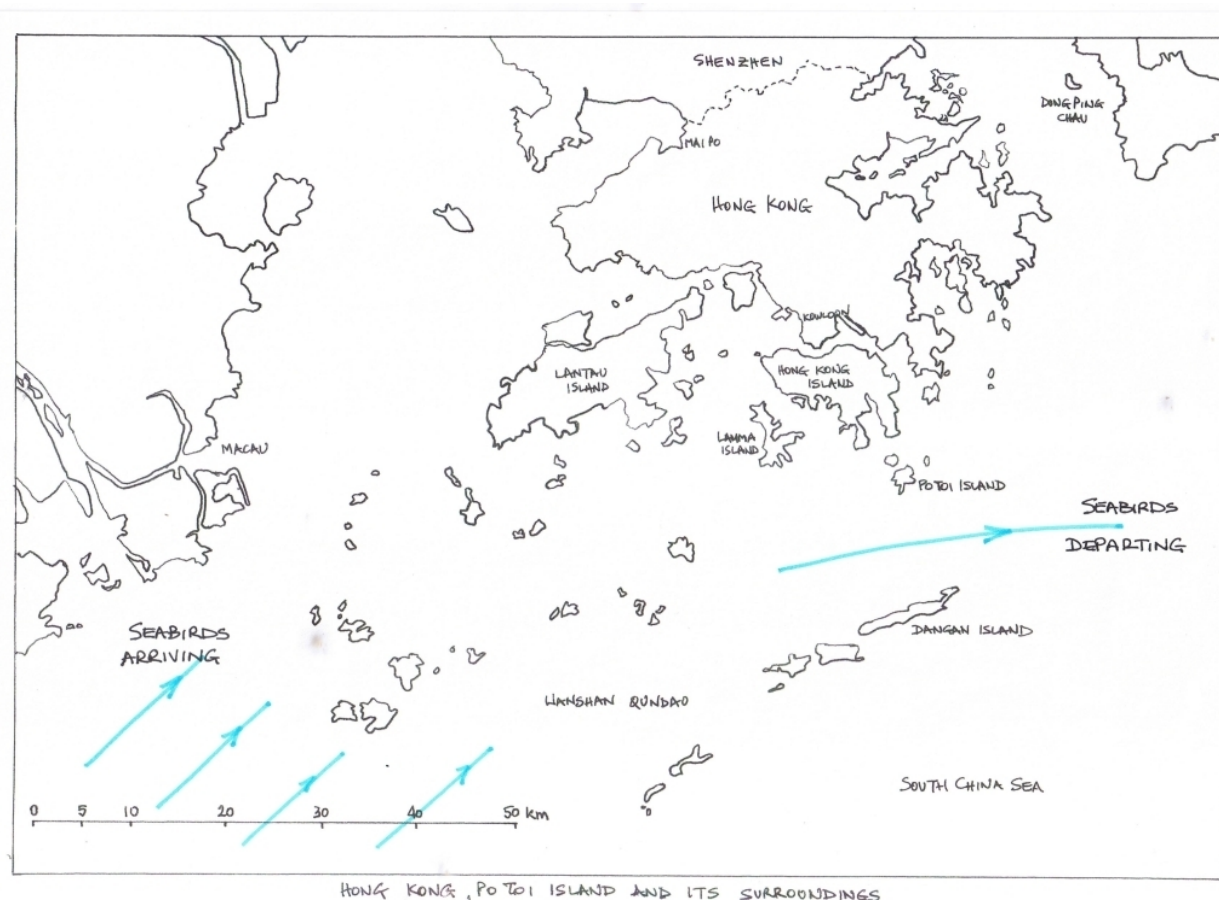


Figure 2.5 Seabird Migration in the South China Sea and Pearl River Delta



Figure 2.6 Seabird Migration in the South China Sea and Pearl River Delta

Seabird migration in the Hong Kong area occurs mainly in spring from March to May and in autumn in September. Three species of terns breed on off-shore islands of Hong Kong including the nearby Waglan Island.

2.3 Bird species diversity on Po Toi

As at 15 October 2012, About 311 species have been observed on Po Toi, which is about 60% of the current Hong Kong List total of 513. This is a remarkable total for such a small location.

2.3.1 Rare species in Hong Kong recorded at Po Toi







At least 12 Hong Kong First Records of bird species (Table. 2.1 and 2.2) have been recorded on Po Toi and surrounding waters since 2005, more than any other single location in Hong Kong including Mai Po. There is a potential Hong Kong first record in May 2012. In addition, many more Hong Kong rarities (Table. 2.3 and 2.4) has been recorded at Po Toi.

Table 2.1 Hong Kong First Records and potential first records recorded from or near Po Toi since 2005

Date	Species	Remarks	Photo (Table 2.2)
17 April 2005	Japanese Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax capillatus</i>)	The second HK record was subsequently seen on Po Toi on 4 January 2007.	1
10 March 2006	Orange-breasted Green Pigeon (<i>Treron bicinctus</i>)	Hainan endemic subspecies <i>domvillii</i> , the first authenticated record of this Class II protected species in China for 30 years.	2
18 May 2006	Ruddy Kingfisher (<i>Halcyon coromanda</i>)		---
4 April 2007	Common Cuckoo (<i>Cuculus canorus</i>)		3
4 April 2007	Red-breasted Flycatcher (<i>Ficedula parva</i>)		4
5 May 2007	Japanese Murrelet (<i>Synthliboramphus wumizusume</i>)	recorded off-shore from Po Toi.	5
11 December 2007	Hodgson's Redstart (<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>)		6
19 March 2008	Masked Booby (<i>Sula dactylatra</i>)		7
4 May 2008	White-tailed Tropicbird (<i>Phaethon lepturus</i>)	recorded offshore from Po Toi	8

Date	Species	Remarks	Photo (Table 2.2)
19 October 2008	Zappey's Flycatcher (<i>Cyanoptila cumatilis</i>)	New Species recently split from Blue-and-white Flycatcher (<i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i>) ⁷	9
19 November 2009	Red-throated Thrush (<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>)	the 500th species on the HK List	10
24 March 2012	Brown-backed Needletail (<i>Hirundapus giganteus</i>)	1 st record of Hong Kong and probably 1 st for China	- - -

Table 2.2 Photos of Hong Kong First Records recorded from or near Po Toi since 2005

 <p>1. Japanese Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax capillatus</i>)</p>	 <p>2. Orange-breasted Green Pigeon (<i>Treron bicinctus</i>)</p>	 <p>3. Common Cuckoo (<i>Cuculus canorus</i>)</p>
 <p>4. Red-breasted Flycatcher (<i>Ficedula parva</i>)</p>	 <p>5. Japanese Murrelet (<i>Synthliboramphus wumizusume</i>)</p>	 <p>6. Hodgson's Redstart (<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>)</p>

⁷ Leader, P.J. & Carey, G.J. 2012. Zappey's Flycatcher *Cyanoptila cumatilis*, a forgotten Chinese breeding endemic. Forktail 28 (2012), pp. 121-128





 <p>7. Masked Booby (<i>Sula dactylatra</i>)</p>	 <p>8. White-tailed Tropicbird (<i>Phaethon lepturus</i>)</p>	 <p>9. Zappey's Flycatcher (<i>Cyanoptila cumatilis</i>)</p>
 <p>10. Red-throated Thrush (<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>)</p>		




Table 2.3 Rare species and subspecies in Hong Kong recorded on Po Toi

Species	Remarks	Photo (Table 2.4)
Red-throated Loon (<i>Gavia stellata</i>)	third HK record in 2008	1
Short-tailed Sheawater (<i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i>)	recorded annually in spring in small numbers following the discovery of its passage through HK waters off Po Toi in 2006.	2
Brown Booby (<i>Sula leucogaster</i>)	four records since 2006	3
Japanese Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax capillatus</i>)	second HK record in 2007 following the first also on Po Toi in 1999	4

Species	Remarks	Photo (Table 2.4)
Malayan Night Heron (<i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>)	four records since 2007	5
Button-quail sp. (<i>Turnix</i> sp.)	four records since 2006	- - -
Black-legged Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>)	three records since 2006	6
Asian Lesser Cuckoo (<i>Cuculus poliocephalus</i>)	third and fourth HK records, the first since 1997	7
Drongo Cuckoo (<i>Surniculus lugubris</i>)	two further records in 2007 and 2011 after the first on Po Toi in 1999	8
Blue-throated Bee-eater (<i>Merops viridis</i>)	a HK fourth record in 2006	9
Fairy Pitta (<i>Pitta nympha</i>)	four records, one in each year since 2008	10
Blue-winged Pitta (<i>Pitta moluccensis</i>)	second and third HK records in May 2008 and 2009	11
Rosy Pipit (<i>Anthus roseatus</i>)	second HK record in 2011	12
Tiger Shrike (<i>Lanius tigrinus</i>)	first HK record since 1996 in 2006, another in 2009	13
Black Redstart (<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>)	second HK record in 2011, the first for 16 years	14
White-throated Rock Thrush (<i>Monticola gularis</i>)	one in 2010	15
Chinese Thrush (<i>Turdus mupinensis</i>)	second HK record in 2006	16
Hume's Leaf Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>)	one in 2009	- - -
Sulphur-breasted Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus ricketti</i>)	second HK record in 2006	- - -
Bianchi's Warbler (<i>Seicercus valentini</i>)	third and fourth HK records in 2007 (over-wintering into 2008) and 2009	17
White-spectacled Warbler (<i>Seicercus affinis</i>)	one in 2009 and 2010	18
Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher	sixth HK record in 2009	19

Species	Remarks	Photo (Table 2.4)
<i>(Rhinomyias brunneatus)</i>		
Narcissus Flycatcher <i>owstoni</i> <i>(Ficedula narcissina owstoni)</i>	second HK record in 2006	20
Green-backed Flycatcher <i>(Ficedula elisae)</i>	third and fifth HK records in 2005 and 2009	21
Red-breasted Flycatcher <i>(Ficedula parva)</i>	annual records since the first HK record on Po Toi in 2007	22
Zaprey's Flycatcher <i>(Cyanoptila cumatilis)</i>	first HK record in 2008	23
Small Niltava <i>(Niltava macgrigoriae)</i>	seventh HK record in 2009	24
Yellow-browed Bunting <i>(Emberiza chrysophrys)</i>	annual records since 2006	25
Rustic Bunting <i>(Emberiza rustica)</i>	seventh and ninth HK records in 2010	26
Yellow-throated Bunting <i>(Emberiza elegans)</i>	third HK record in 2009, up to eight birds together in autumn with four the following spring 2010	27
Black-headed Bunting <i>(Emberiza melanocephala)</i>	three records since 2005	28
Brambling <i>(Fringilla montifringilla)</i>	annual records since 2006	29
Eurasian Siskin <i>(Carduelis spinus)</i>	annual records since 2006	30
Chestnut-cheeked Starling <i>(Sturnus philippensis)</i>	annual records since 2006	31

Table 2.4 Photos of Rare species in Hong Kong recored on Po Toi

		
<p>1. Red-throated Loon <i>(Gavia stellata)</i></p>	<p>2. Short-tailed Sheawater <i>(Puffinus tenuirostris)</i></p>	<p>3. Brown Booby <i>(Sula leucogaster)</i></p>



4. Japanese Cormorant
(*Phalacrocorax capillatus*)



5. Malayan Night Heron
(*Gorsachius melanolophus*)



6. Black-legged Kittiwake
(*Rissa tridactyla*)



7. Asian Lesser Cuckoo
(*Cuculus poliocephalus*)



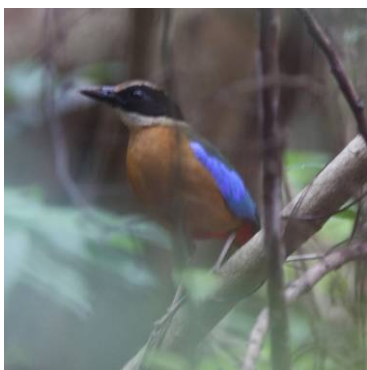
8. Drongo Cuckoo
(*Surniculus lugubris*)



9. Blue-throated Bee-eater
(*Merops viridis*)















10. Fairy Pitta
(*Pitta nympha*)










11. Blue-winged Pitta
(*Pitta moluccensis*)



12. Rosy Pipit
(*Anthus roseatus*)

 <p>13. Tiger Shrike (<i>Lanius tigrinus</i>)</p>	 <p>14. Black Redstart (<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>)</p>	 <p>15. White-throated Rock Thrush (<i>Monticola gularis</i>)</p>
 <p>16. Chinese Thrush (<i>Turdus mupinensis</i>)</p>	 <p>17. Bianchi's Warbler (<i>Seicercus valentini</i>)</p>	 <p>18. White-spectacled Warbler (<i>Seicercus affinis</i>)</p>
 <p>19. Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher (<i>Rhinomyias brunneatus</i>)</p>	 <p>20. Narcissus Flycatcher <i>owstoni</i> (<i>Ficedula narcissina owstoni</i>)</p>	 <p>21. Green-backed Flycatcher (<i>Ficedula elisae</i>)</p>
 <p>22. Red-breasted Flycatcher (<i>Ficedula parva</i>)</p>	 <p>23. Zappey's Flycatcher (<i>Cyanoptila cumatilis</i>)</p>	 <p>24. Small Niltava (<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>)</p>

 <p>25. Yellow-browed Bunting (<i>Emberiza chrysophrys</i>)</p>	 <p>26. Rustic Bunting (<i>Emberiza rustica</i>)</p>	 <p>27. Yellow-throated Bunting (<i>Emberiza elegans</i>)</p>
 <p>28. Black-headed Bunting (<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>)</p>	 <p>29. Brambling (<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>)</p>	 <p>30. Eurasian Siskin (<i>Carduelis spinus</i>)</p>
 <p>31. Chestnut-cheeked Starling (<i>Sturnus philippensis</i>)</p>		


2.3.2 Species of Conservation Importance

At least 139 species recorded on Po Toi are considered to have conservation importance (Section 1.2). Some species listed in IUCN Red List as Vulnerable (Swinhoe's Egret, Fairy Pitta, Brown-chested Jungle-flycatcher, Yellow-breasted Bunting and Japanese Yellow Bunting) and Near-threatened (Japanese Quail, Japanese Paradise Flycatcher) are regularly recorded on Po Toi (Table 2.5 and 2.6), indicating that Po Toi is an internationally important habitat for threatened migratory birds.


Table 2.5 Globally threatened species recorded at Po Toi

Species	IUCN Red List Status	Remarks	Photo (Table 2.6)
Swinhoe's Egret (<i>Egretta eulophotes</i>)	VU	almost annual spring passage migrant, records in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2011	1
Greater Spotted Eagle (<i>Aquila clanga</i>)	VU	Records of birds on migration in 2007 and 2009	- - -
Eastern Curlew (<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>)	VU	Records of birds on migration in 2007 and 2008	- - -
Great Knot (<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>)	VU	Records of birds on migration annually from 2007 to 2011	- - -
Fairy Pitta (<i>Pitta nympha</i>)	VU	almost annual spring and autumn passage migrant, records in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012	2
Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher (<i>Rhinomyias brunneatus</i>)	VU	four records since 2006	3
Japanese Yellow Bunting (<i>Emberiza sulphurata</i>)	VU	annual spring passage migrant. The first ever autumn records for HK occurred in 2007 with up to four birds, one of which had been ringed in Honshu, Japan, 34 days previously	4
Yellow-breasted Bunting (<i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>)	VU	almost annual passage migrant, records in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011 and 2012	5
Japanese Quail (<i>Coturnix japonica</i>)	NT	annual autumn passage migrant with one pair wintering on the south peninsular in winter 2009-10	- - -
Eurasian Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)	NT	records of birds on migration annually from 2007 to 2011	- - -
Japanese Paradise Flycatcher (<i>Terpsiphone atrocaudata</i>)	NT	annual spring and autumn passage migrant	6

Table 2.6 Photos of Globally threatened species recorded on Po Toi

		
1. Swinhoe's Egret (<i>Egretta eulophotes</i>)	2. Fairy Pitta (<i>Pitta nympha</i>)	3. Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher (<i>Rhinomyias brunneatus</i>)

	
4. Japanese Yellow Bunting (<i>Emberiza sulphurata</i>)	5. Yellow-breasted Bunting (<i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>)

		
6. Japanese Paradise Flycatcher (<i>Terpsiphone atrocaudata</i>)		

The locations of Hong Kong first records, rare species and threatened species are marked on Figure 2.7.

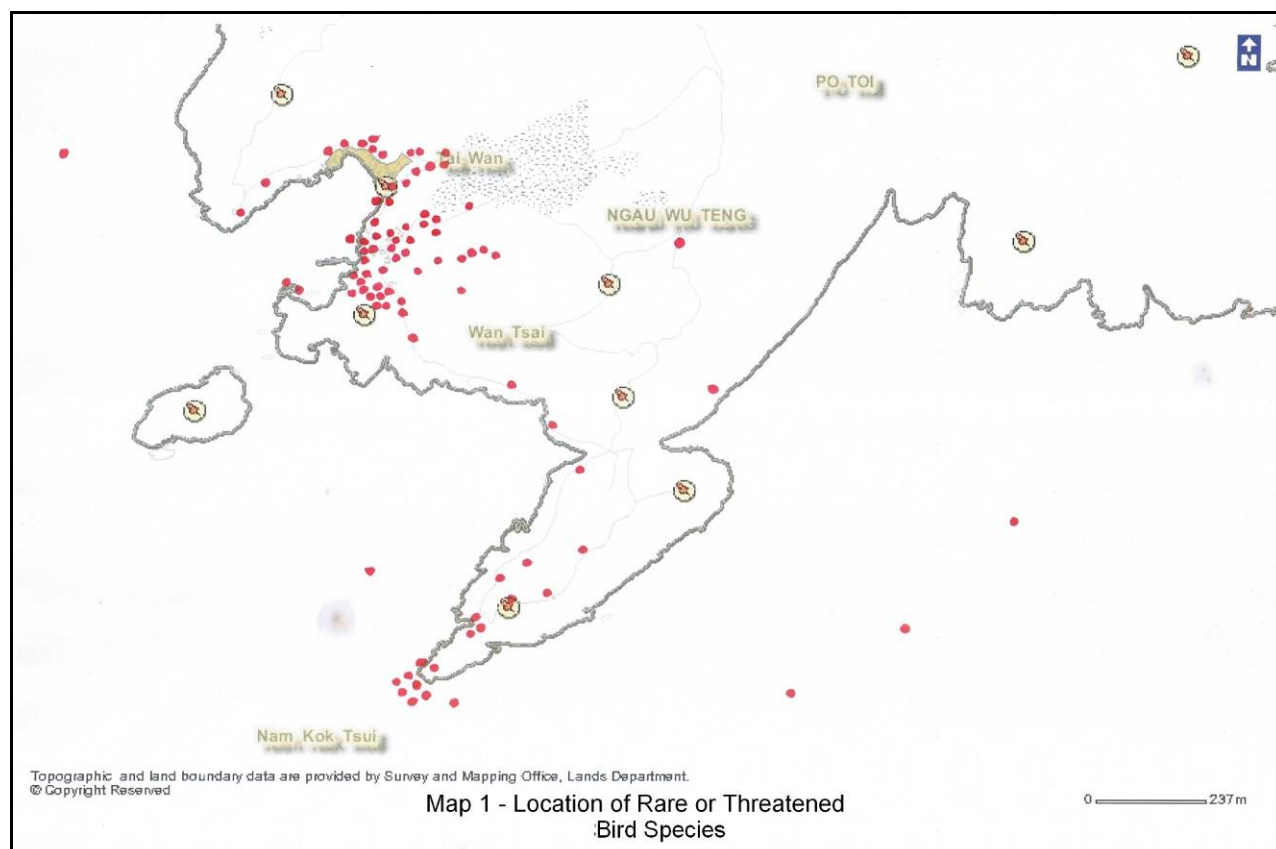


Figure.2.7 Location of rare or threatened bird species.

2.3.3 Seasonality of Species Diversity

The number of land bird and seabird species seen in each week of the year over the period 2006 to 2011 is shown in Figure 2.8 and 2.9. This shows that high diversity of up to 100 species could be observed in a single week, and this may have some implications for management on the island.

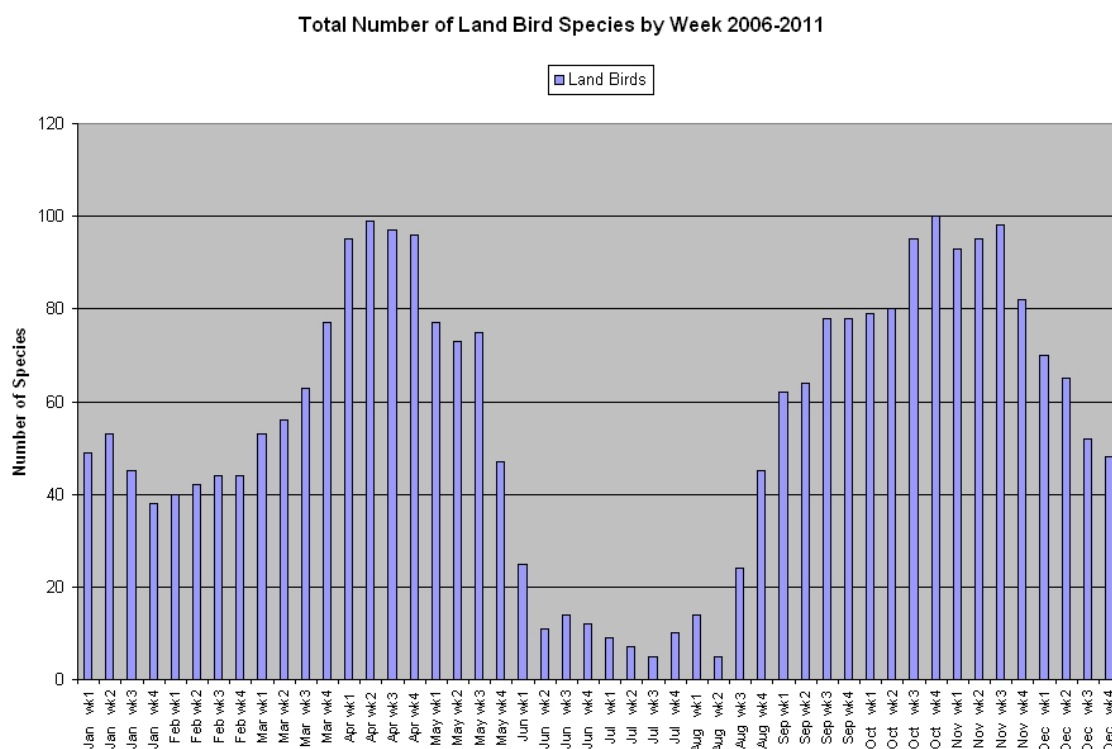


Figure 2.8. The Number of Species of Land Bird seen in each week over the period 2006 to 2011

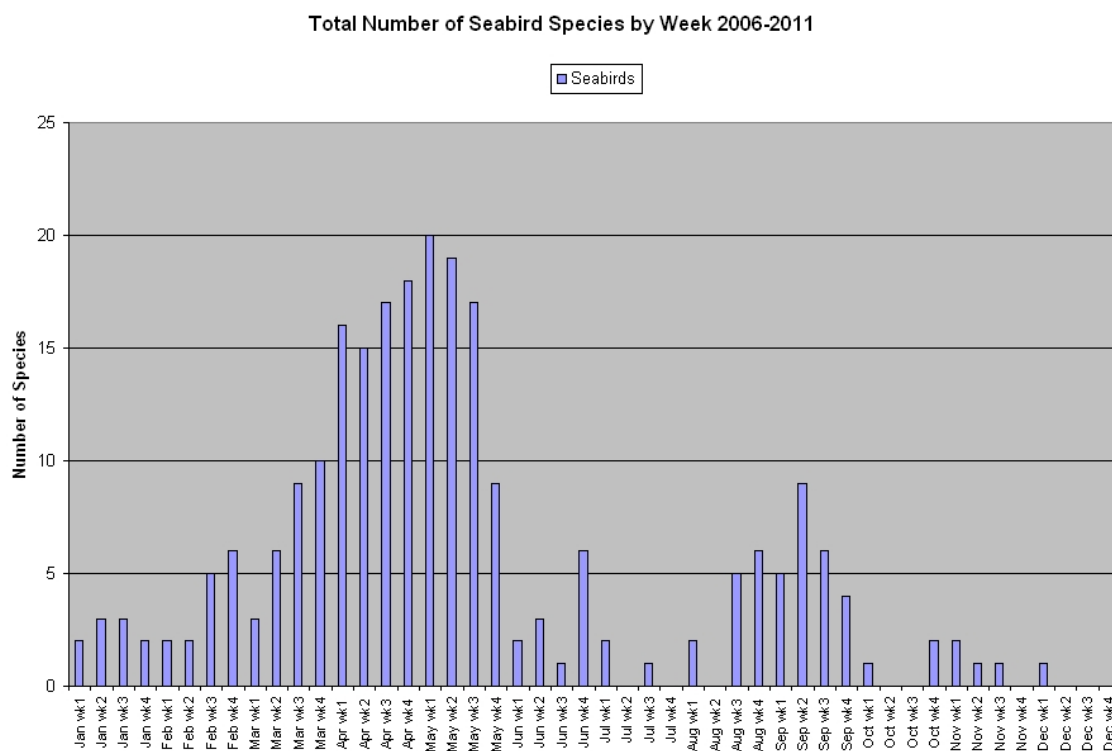


Figure 2.9. The Number of species of Seabird seen in each week over the period 2006 to 2011

2.4 Migrant ‘Falls’

Weather has a serious effect on migrating birds, particularly when land birds flying over the sea encounter adverse winds and rain. This happens every year in spring when cold fronts or depressions pass through Hong Kong from the northeast and meet land birds migrating over the South China Sea from The Philippines and North Borneo (see Figure 1). These birds are nearing the end of a 36 hour overseas flight and many are desperate to find land. This results in very large numbers of birds suddenly appearing on the coast, in particular Po Toi because of its location. These are called ‘falls’ in ornithology. Typhoons can have a similar effect in both spring and autumn.

In these circumstances, migrants are desperate to reach land and Po Toi is a haven. Many do not reach land and fall into the sea. These occur every year and sometimes create HK record numbers of individual species. Po Toi is a spectacular haven for migrant birds on these occasions, and record numbers of many migrant species have been recorded there over the last few years.





The records of Migrant “Falls” are listed in Table. 2.7 and 2.8.

Table 2.7 Records of migrant “falls” on Po Toi

Date	Descriptions	Photo (Table 2.4)
15 th and 16 th April 2006	a total of over 1,000 Chinese Sparrowhawks (<i>Accipiter soloensis</i>) were seen over Po Toi, including 780 on 16 th , a HK record day total	1
24 th April 2006	a single flock of over 50 Common Sandpipers (<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>) was in the harbour, a HK record day total	2
25 th April 2006	83 Brown Shrikes (<i>Lanius cristatus</i>), a HK record, with individual birds all over the southern area and some recovered from the sea in a HKBWS boat trip.	3,4
17 th May 2006	during the passage of Typhoon Chanchu, over 80 Streaked Shearwaters (<i>Calonectris leucomelas</i>), easily a HK record total, were amongst many seabirds feeding in waters around Po Toi (5)	5
27 th March 2007	939 Red-necked Phalaropes (<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>) passed the south point in a continuous two-hour movement	
1 st and 2 nd April 2008	142 Grey-faced Buzzards (<i>Butastur indicus</i>) passed through Po Toi including 98 on 2 nd (6 and 7)	6,7
1 st and 2 nd April 2008 – 21 st May	in a major fall of small bitterns, 44 Yellow Bitterns (<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>), 29 Schrenck’s Bitterns (<i>Ixobrychus eurhythmus</i>)	8,9

Date	Descriptions	Photo (Table 2.4)
2008	including a unprecedented flock of 22, 2 Cinnamon Bittern (<i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>), 8 Black Bitterns (<i>Ixobrychus flavicollis</i>), 7 Striated Herons (<i>Butorides striata</i>) and a Malayan Night Heron (<i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>) and a record count of 89 Brown Shrikes (<i>Lanius cristatus</i>) were all present on the island in a single day	
9 th September 2010	430 Aleutian Terns (<i>Sterna aleutica</i>) passed the south point following TS Lion Rock, around 5% of the world population of this species (10)	10
10 th November 2011	at least 16 Blue-and-white Flycatchers (<i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i>) were on the Island following TD Banyan.	11

Table 2.8 Photos of Records of migrant “falls” on Po Toi

 <p>1.</p>	 <p>2.</p>
 <p>3.</p>	 <p>4.</p>



5.



6



7



8.



9.



10



11

2.5 Scientific value and international importance of Po Toi in migratory birds

Owing to the diversity of habitats together with its geographical location, Po Toi is therefore a crucial refuelling stop for a remarkable diversity of migratory birds. This consists of rare species in Hong Kong as well as internationally threatened species. There is no other offshore island in Hong Kong that attracts such a diversity of migratory birds.

For example, Po Toi is the location of the Hong Kong first record of the newly recognized species Zappey's Flycatcher (*Cyanoptila cumatilis*) which is formerly a subspecies of the Blue-and-white Flycatcher (*Cyanoptila cyanomelana*). The record on Po Toi sparked the interest of ornithologists to study the species in depth, and contributed to the discovery of the species⁸.

2.5.1 Migration of Internationally threatened species

Po Toi is a prime and unique location for studying bird migration. Study of migratory birds provides information on aspects including migratory route, timing, habitat preference, etc. For example, a ringed Japanese Yellow Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*) photographed on Po Toi Island (Figure 2.10) revealed that it has flown over 3000 km from Japan to Hong Kong over a period of 34 days (Figure 2.11). This provides crucial information for this internationally threatened species, which is listed in the IUCN as “Vulnerable”.



Figure 2.10 a ringed Japanese Yellow Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*) photographed on Po Toi Island

⁸ Paul Leader pers. comm..

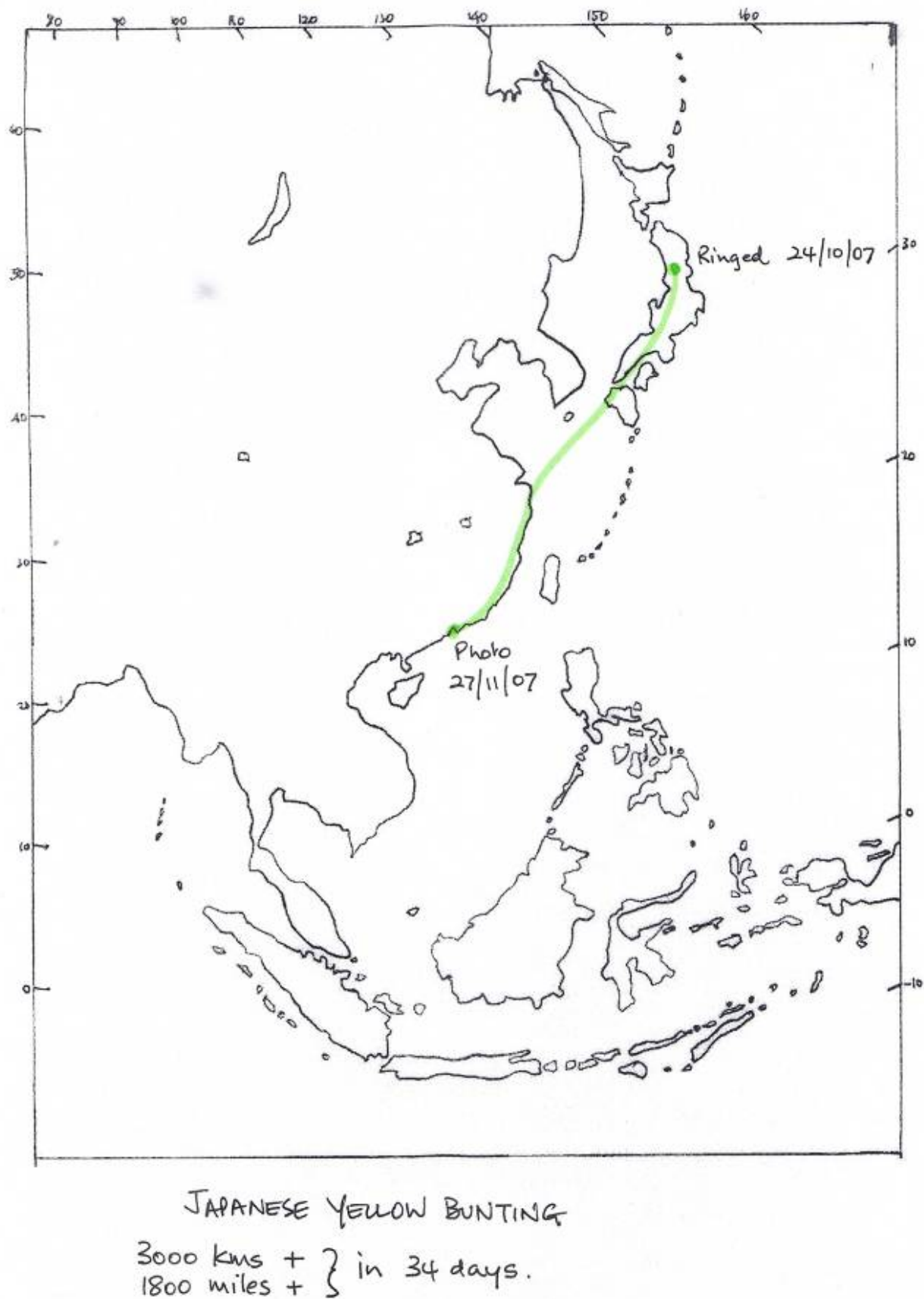


Figure 2.11 Possible migration route of the ringed Japanese Yellow Bunting

2.5.2 International importance in migratory bird study

In countries such as United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and USA, bird observatories would be set up at sites (e.g. Portland Bill, Fair Isle, Isle of May, Lundy Island, Calf of Man, and Spurn Point) which are important for migratory birds or at prime migration points⁹. A bird observatory is a centre for studying bird migration and bird populations. Bird Ringing and long-term monitoring would be carried out to provide important scientific information. Some of these sites in the UK such as Sanda Island, Bardsey Island and Lundy Island are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Po Toi is an important site for migratory birds similar to the above examples, and it would have permanent bird observatories providing equipments and facilities for bird ringing and research.

The Convention of Migratory Species (CMS) Secretariat suggested that consideration on migratory species should be incorporated into the Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity¹⁰. Enhanced monitoring and research and establishment of Protected Areas have been suggested as useful measures¹¹. Many of the species recorded on Po Toi has been listed as Appendix I or II under CMS (refer to APPENDIX I), meaning that they are in danger of extinction or having unfavourable conservation status, and that enhanced conservation of the species and their habitats are needed¹². Po Toi also holds a number of IUCN threatened species on their migration (refer to Table 2.5). Therefore, Po Toi is of international importance in conservation on migratory birds.

⁹ <http://www.birdobsCouncil.org.uk/>

¹⁰ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/NBSAP-guidelines-CMS.pdf>

¹¹ CMS Secretariat, 2011, Guidelines on the Integration of Migratory Species into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPS).

http://www.cms.int/bodies/COP/cop10/docs_and_inf_docs/doc_27_guidelines_nbsap_e.pdf

¹² http://www.cms.int/documents/appendix/cms_app1_2.htm

2.6 Habitats for migratory birds on Po Toi and need of protection

Birds on migration require places where they can rest and feed to recover and prepare for their onward flight. Po Toi provides a variety of habitats for different species of birds.

The main areas for land bird migrants are the *Fung Shui* and old fruiting trees around Tai Wan village (Figure 2.12), the old school, the pier (Figure 2.13) and out towards the south peninsular and Mo's Old House which provide excellent feeding habitat with insects and fruit for small land birds. It should be noted that the important foraging habitats including several large trees are in proximity to the village and Tai Wan, and is overlapping with scattered houses and old building plots in Wan Tsai. (Figures 2.14 and 2.15).



Figure 2.12 Tai Wan Village



Figure 2.13 The pier



Figure 2.14 and 2.15 Abandoned Houses overgrown with vegetation and with mature trees in proximity to houses



The lagoon behind the restaurant (Figure 2.16) is the primary location for small bitterns and other waterbirds.



Figure 2.16 Lagoon providing habitats for bitterns and waterbirds, fed by a permanent stream

However, most birds arrive on the south peninsular (Ngong Chong) (Figure 2.17) where they often make their first stop, subsequently moving through the scrubland between there and the central area (Figure 2.18) where they find the best feeding areas. These areas need to be protected to preserve the ecological linkage between the landing point and the feeding area near Tai Wan and Wan Tsai. Besides, Shrubland is an important habitat for migratory land birds as they provide food source to them according to a research by Leven (2000)¹³. It may provide feeding habitats for a high diversity of migrant passerines such as flycatchers and warblers which may not be detected by direct observation.



Figure 2.17 Ngong Chong



Figure 2.18 Scrubland between Ngong Chong and Wan Tsai

The scrubland area between the south peninsular and the central area has been very badly affected by the recent clearance activity, as these before and after photos of the valley bottom (Table 2.9).

¹³ Leven, M.R., 2000, Shrubland birds in Hong Kong : community structure, seasonality and diet. PhD Thesis, The University of Hong Kong.

Table 2.9 Before and after comparison of the affected area

Before	After
	
	
	

Seabird migration is best viewed from the south point of Nam Kok Tsui (Figure 2.19), overlooking the channel between there and the Dangan Islands.



Figure 2.19 Nam Kok Tsui is the best location for the observation of migrating seabirds

Habitats on Po Toi therefore require high level of protection. Habitat fragmentation and vegetation removal would lead to undesirable impacts to the ecological value of the island. The introduction of statutory planning control is therefore necessary. More importantly, the designation of Country Park empowers the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to carry out management of habitats and control unfavourable activities (e.g. illegal collection of animals and vegetation removal).

3. Proposed Site of Special Scientific Interest and Country Park Designation

3.1 Assessment Criteria of conservation value

The following assessment criteria, including those recognized locally and internationally, have been considered in assessment of the ecological value of Po Toi:

- The Ratcliffe (1997) Criteria for assessing nature conservation value (Ratcliffe Criteria)¹⁴, which is the most widely adopted criteria internationally;
- Technical Memorandum for the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap 499) (EIAO Criteria)¹⁵;
- Hong Kong Countryside Foundation Project Assessment Criteria and Form (HKCF Criteria)¹⁶ which is an update of the Ratcliffe Criteria and EIAO TM carried out by the Hong Kong Countryside Foundation in 2011.

3.2 Results

The assessments demonstrates that the conservation value of Po Toi is very high and is unique in Hong Kong, which is in line with the general planning intention of the Draft Po Toi Islands DPA plan. The assessment is shown in Table. 3.1.

¹⁴ Ratcliffe, D.A., 1977, *A Nature Conservation Review*, Cambridge University Press

¹⁵ EIAO-TM, ANNEX 8.

¹⁶ Barretto and Lau (unpublished), 2011, Hong Kong Countryside Foundation Project Assessment Criteria and Form

Table 3.1 Assessment of the conservation value of Po Toi using different criteria

Ratcliffe Criteria	EIAO Criteria	HKCF Criteria		Po Toi Island
Size	Size	Size		369 hectares
Diversity	Diversity Abundance/ Richness of Wildlife	Diversity	Abundance/Richness of species Assemblages Compared to regional data Habitat diversity	Very high diversity (>300 species) and population of avifauna especially during migration season. Consists of migrants of forest, wetland and open area species High diversity compared to regional data High in habitat diversity (2.4.1 of this document)
Naturalness	Naturalness	Naturalness		Largely natural except for small area of developed area.
Rarity	Rarity	Rarity of habitats and species, endemics		Many rare and internationally threatened bird species are found on the island. Natural breeding sites for the endemic and Endangered Romer's Tree Frog. Rare species of butterfly (<i>Cethosia biblis</i>) are regularly observed.
Recorded History	Age	Recorded History	Age	From about 5 years to more than 30 years depends on habitat.
Fragility	Re-creatability	Fragility	Re-creatability	It is nearly impossible to re-create the whole island.
	Nursery/ Breeding Ground		Nursery/Breeding Ground	Breeding ground for Romer's Tree Frog and Rare species of butterfly (<i>Cethosia biblis</i>).

Ratcliffe Criteria	EIAO Criteria	HKCF Criteria		Po Toi Island
Typicalness	- - -	Typicalness (any special combinations)		The habitat diversity and geographical location is unique in Hong Kong.
Position in an ecological / geographical unit	Fragmentation Ecological Linkage	Position in Ecological Unit and Function	Fragmentation Ecological Linkage	Fragmentation is negligible on island. Act as an important ecological linkage of international importance for migratory avifauna, but some taxa groups are isolated from the mainland due to the island geography.
Intrinsic Appeal	- - -	Intrinsic Appeal (landscape, wilderness, heritage)		High as the island and its surrounding is largely natural. Attractive landscape and rock formations are found on the island, and heritages such as rock carvings are found.
Potential Value	Potential Value	Potential Value		High given adequate protection to allow natural succession of forest, and habitat management might be beneficial to migrant birds and Romer's Tree Frog.
	Overall Ecological Value	Overall Ecological Importance		Very High and is unique in Hong Kong

3.3 Justification of the proposed Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

This paper has confirmed that Po Toi has a special scientific interest and is of high conservation value.

According to Hong Kong Planning Standards and guidelines (HKPSG) Chapter 10¹⁷, “SSSIs may be land based or marine sites, which are of special interest because of their flora, fauna, geographical or geological features...Departments concerned with planning and development should be aware of the scientific importance of "SSSIs" and should ensure that due consideration is given to conservation when development at or near these sites is proposed. The AFCD should be consulted for any proposed development at or in the proximity of any SSSI.” Such arrangements in planning would be essential to maintain the “scientific interest and high conservation value”¹⁸ of Po Toi, which is “unique in Hong Kong”¹⁹ as suggested by the Planning Department and confirmed by this paper. There designation of a SSSI is therefore in line with the General Planning Intention of the Draft Po Toi DPA plan.

Under the Environmental Impact Ordinance, some developments may constitute as designated projects and Environmental Permit is required. This would provide essential protection of the sensitive habitats in minimizing environmental impacts of works on or near ecologically sensitive habitats.

AFCD advised that the fundamental principles for SSSI selection were the uniqueness and scientific value of the site in a territory-wide context and its representativeness²⁰. According to the previous assessment and information obtained by the HKBWS, Po Toi is qualified as a SSSI because it has high scientific and conservation value, is internationally important and is unique in Hong Kong.

3.4 The proposed SSSI

The planning intention of SSSI is “to conserve and protect the features of special scientific interest such as rare or particular species of fauna and flora and their habitats, corals, woodlands, marshes or area of geological, ecological or botanical/biological interest which are designated as Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It intends to deter human activities or developments within the

¹⁷ Hong Kong Planning Standards and guidelines (HKPSG) Chapter 10, available from:
http://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/tech_doc/hkpsg/full/ch10/ch10_text.htm

¹⁸ 7.2 of the Explanatory Statement of Draft Po Toi Islands Development Permission Area Plan (DPA/I-PTI/1)

¹⁹ 6.1 of the Explanatory Statement of Draft Po Toi Islands Development Permission Area Plan (DPA/I-PTI/1)

²⁰ Minutes of 912th Meeting of the Town Planning Board held at 9.00 am on 30.5.2008

SSSI. There is a general presumption against development in this zone. No developments are permitted unless they are needed to support the conservation of the features of special scientific interest in the SSSI, to maintain and protect the existing character of the SSSI, or for educational and research purposes.”²¹

The proposed SSSI (Figure 3.1 and 3.2) covers areas where:

- Rare or threatened migrant bird species utilises and forages;
- Landing locations for migrant birds and ecological corridors on the island;
- Breeding sites and sites with high occurrence of Romer’s Tree Frog and Burmese Python;

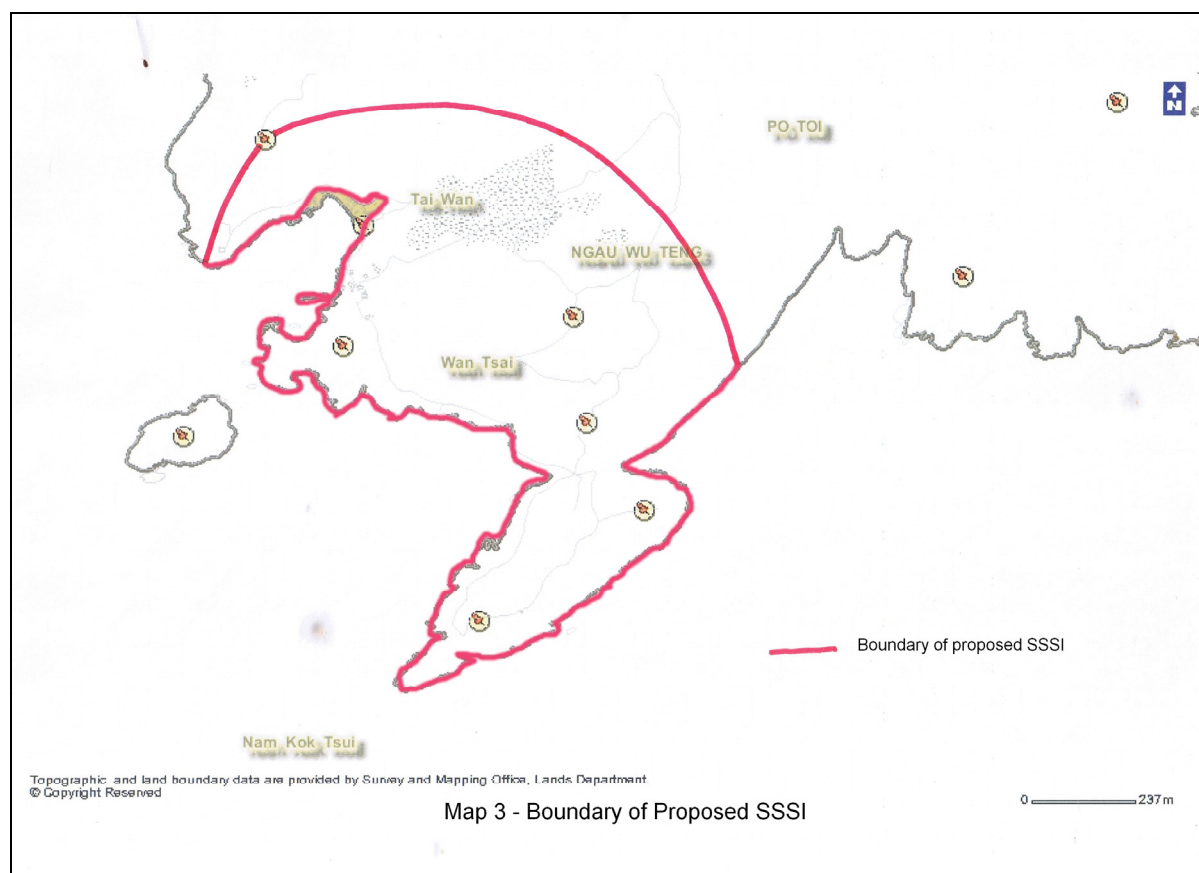


Figure. 3.1 Boundary of Proposed SSSI

²¹ Master Schedule of Notes - Site of Special Scientific Interest, available from:
http://www.info.gov.hk/tpb/en/forms/Schedule_Notes/msn_sssi_e.pdf

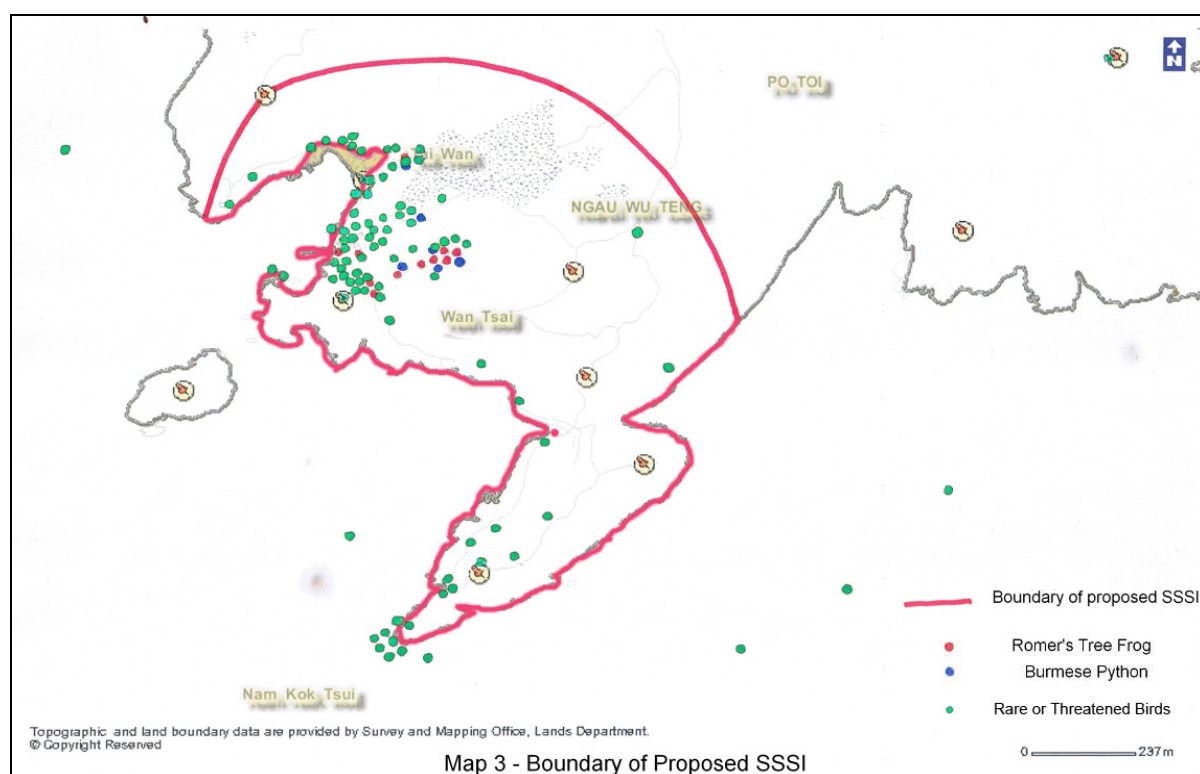


Figure. 3.1 Boundary of Proposed SSSI and Recorded species of conservation interest

Fewer rare or threatened birds are recorded at the southern proportion which is dominated by shrubland. This is probably due to limitations of survey methods, as some migrant passerines could be cryptic and difficult to be detected unless by mist net trapping. Leven (2000) proved that direct observation (point count) is “inadequate to detect the full complement of bird species present in shrubland”²². More study using (e.g. using mist-netting) might be required to assess the utilisation and diversity of migratory birds on the shrubland on Po Toi. Nevertheless, it is proved that the shrubland on Po Toi is providing important linkages for migratory birds and is an indispensable component of the ecosystem. It is also a prime site for studying bird migration. Therefore, it should also be zoned as SSSI.

However, it should be noted that the proposed SSSI may cover some designated burial grounds. Special considerations should be given to accompany the traditional needs of indigenous residents and fishermen based on Po Toi.

²² P.140 of Leven, M.R., 2000, Shrubland birds in Hong Kong : community structure, seasonality and diet. PhD Thesis, The University of Hong Kong.

4. Importance of Po Toi Islands and surrounding waters

4.1 Importance of Po Toi Waters and Marine Ecology

The waters around Po Toi are still relatively unpolluted and support good populations of fish and other wildlife which provide a livelihood and recreational activity for many individuals.

Large shoals of fish can regularly be seen off the south-east coast. Finless Porpoise are common in these waters, particularly in spring when they migrate through the area, often in family parties with calves. The harbour at Tai Wan holds fish farms run by the few remaining Po Toi residents. Professional fishermen use the immediate off-shore with boats coming from Po Toi and Aberdeen to catch fish and dive for sea urchins. Po Toi residents continue to collect seaweed to dry and sell to weekend visitors. Recreational fishermen are regular visitors to Po Toi at all seasons and can always be seen around the harbour, on the shoreline down to Nam Kok Tsui or in small boats off the south and east coast.

Finless Porpoise (*Neophocaena phocaenoides*) (Figure 4.1) is regularly seen from the south point feeding in small parties off the south east coast of Po Toi in spring. These parties often include calves. According to the Hong Kong Dolphin Conservation Society, the waters in Po Toi Islands are regularly visited by finless porpoises²³. The Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) recorded in March 2009 (Figure 4.2) could be regularly seen from the west coast of Po Toi during its stay in HK waters.



Figure 4.1 Finless Porposie



Figure 4.2 Humpback Whale

The SWNT DSR in 2001 also identifies the coastal waters of Po Toi Islands as Inshore Water

²³ http://www.hkdc.org/assets/files/whales_dolphins/section2_dandw_cihk_finless_poropoises.pdf

Protection/Recreation Areas. The values of the area in terms of their natural coastal features, coral communities and marine organisms have been recognized. The study also suggests that low-density recreational developments that are properly managed could be considered for the area. The Po Toi Islands are suggested to be “significant areas” in both land and marine conservation as suggested by the Planning Department in 1998²⁴ (Figure. 4.3). Based on information collected in recent years, in particular that of migratory birds, Po Toi should be considered as an “unique” area for conservation.

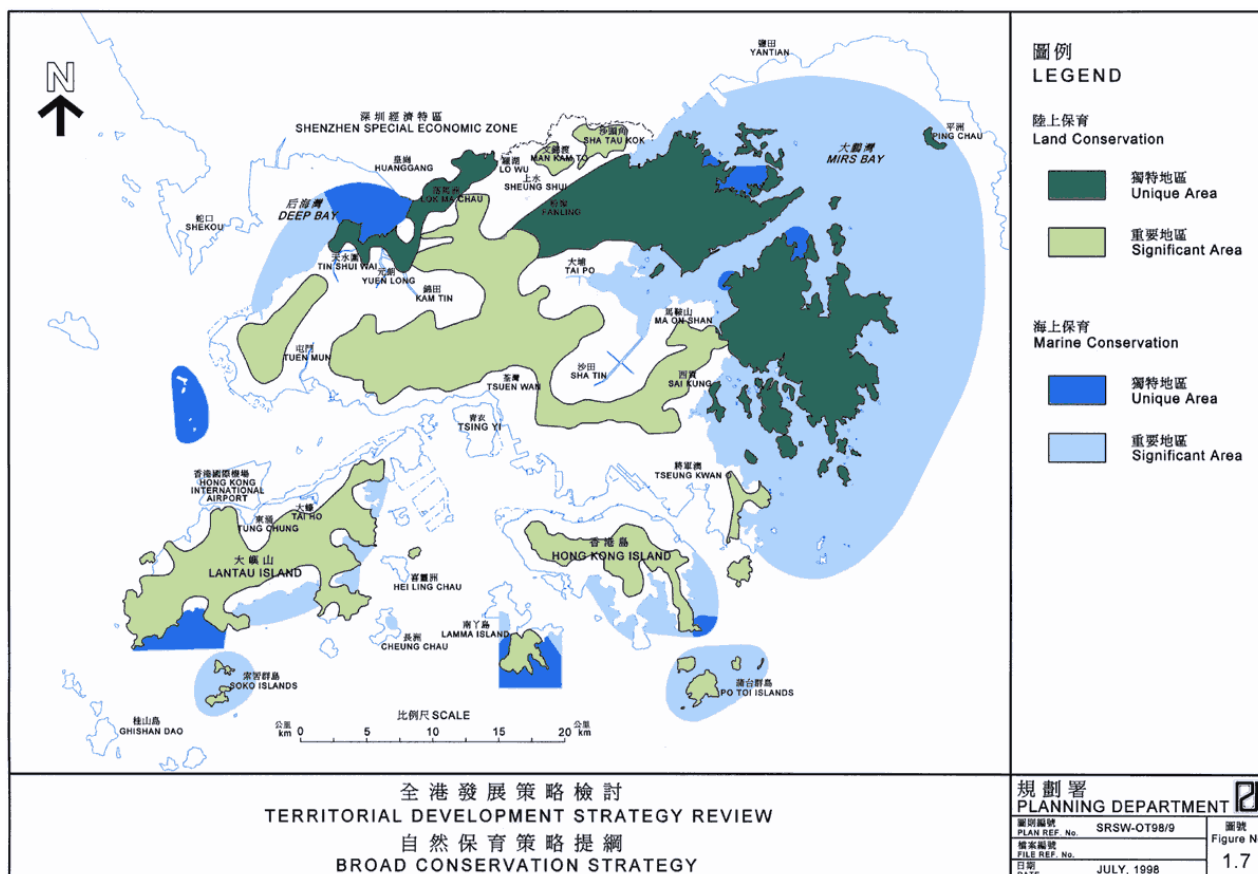


Figure 4.3 Territorial Development Strategy Review – Broad Conservation Strategy, taken from the SWNT DSR. The Po Toi Islands are suggested to be “significant areas” in marine conservation as suggested by the Planning Landscape Unit in 1993.

4.2 Importance of the Po Toi Islands to breeding terns

Breeding colonies of terns are found on Waglan Island and Lo Chau Pak Pai. The healthiness of the surrounding marine ecosystem is crucial to their breeding success, as they largely depend on the surrounding waters for foraging. Breeding terns have foraging range from within 2 km of their

²⁴ Section 1.3 of the SWNT DSR, available from
http://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/p_study/comp_s/swnt/final-report/1introduction.htm

colonies²⁵ to up to 15 km²⁶. Therefore, the waters surrounding the Po Toi islands are important foraging areas for breeding terns. They should be protected and managed using an eco-system approach under the Convention on Biological Diversity²⁷.

4.3 Landscape value of the Po Toi Islands

The Po Toi Islands (Po Toi, Mat Chau, Beaufort Island, Sung Kong and Waglan Island) are of high landscape value as confirmed by the Planning Department (Landscape Value Mapping of Hong Kong) in its study completed in 2005. The overall landscape value of these islands as a whole is an important element of Po Toi's recreational value.

²⁵ http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=800

²⁶ http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=82845

²⁷ <http://www.cbd.int/ecosystem/>

5. Recreation, landscape and heritage value of Po Toi

5.1 Island History and population

Po Toi is a prehistoric site and has a fascinating history over the last 100 years reflecting that of Hong Kong, both pre WWII, during WWII when a Japanese outpost was stationed on the island and post WWII as a fishing village with over 1000 inhabitants declining through the last decades into a largely derelict village with a resident population of about 20²⁸-100 persons²⁹.

5.2 Landscape and Geology

The total area of Po Toi is about 369 hectares. Existing settlements are concentrated in Tai Wan where there a recognized village and scattered houses are found near the Pier at Wan Chai. Secondary Forests with large *Fung Shui* trees are found in Tai Wan and Wan Chai in proximity to existing settlements and around the old Po Toi School. The rest of the island is covered by rocky outcrops, shrubs and grass.

The highest accessible peak on Po Toi is 188 metres and a relatively easy walk from Tai Wan Pier. Spectacular views can be obtained from here on clear days, reaching up to Ma On Shan and Pat Sing Leng in the north, the Lantau Island peaks in the west, the islands of Wanshan Qundao to the south and the South China Sea to the east.

Po Toi is largely granite, and the weathering of the rock has produced several remarkable rock formations which are of great interest to visitors. These include Buddha's Palm Cliff (Figure. 5.1), Monk Rock and Tortoise Rock on the south peninsular and Coffin Rock near Ma's Old House, which could be accessed via a concrete trail.

5.3 Cultural heritage

A Spring Festival (太平清醮) including Chinese Opera and dragon-boat racing in the harbour is held every year in April. This attracts thousands of visitors (Figure. 5.2).

Seaweed is also a famous product from Po Toi. Seaweed is being collected along the shore and is dried under the sun.

²⁸ HKBWS observation

²⁹ 7.3 of the Explanatory Statement of Draft Po Toi Islands Development Permission Area Plan (DPA/I-PTI/1)

The rock carvings on Po Toi are declared monuments which are believed to be more than 3000 years old.



Figure 5.1 Buddha's Palm Cliff, one of several spectacular rock formations on Po Toi



Figure 5.2 the harbour on Festival Day

5.4 Recreational and educational activities

Wildlife photographers and bird watchers are very regular visitors to Po Toi, especially during the peak season for bird migration in spring and autumn. The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society organises outing activities to Po Toi and nearby waters during spring and autumn (Figure 5.3).



Figure 5.3 HKBWS organises bird-watching outings to Po Toi Island

Professional and recreational fishermen use the waters around Po Toi in large numbers.

Po Toi has largely unpolluted air and is far from bright lights at night, making it ideal for star-watchers and amateur astronomers.

Hiking and eco-tour groups, individual or organized, are regular, sometimes in large numbers particularly at weekends from spring to autumn. The Tsui Wah and Yau Ma Tei Ferry Companies operate weekly guided tours through the accessible southern part Po Toi between spring and autumn. Many casual visitors come to Po Toi from spring to autumn and the island can often be quite crowded, particularly at weekends and on festival days such as Ching Ming.

School groups are often seen on organized day trips.

5.5 Transport and utilities

Regular Ferry services are operated by the Tsui Wah Ferry Service on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. Additional boat services may be provided by the company such as during Spring Festival.

The Ming Kee Restaurant and other smaller cafes around the harbour are all popular and local residents sell snacks, drinks, local dried seaweed and other products to the visitors.

A public toilet is available at Tai Wan and portable toilets are provided near the pier at Wan Tsai as well as at Ngong Chong.

Water and electricity supply is limited and not stable in the island. If Country Park is designated, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department would be responsible for provision of recreation and education facilities³⁰. The designation would thus benefit both local residents and visitors, by provision of necessary infrastructures as well as increasing the number of tourists and visitors.

³⁰ http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/country/cou_lea/the_facts.htm

6. Justification for Country Park Designation

6.1 The need of designating Po Toi Islands as Country Park

The introduction of planning control under the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) alone would not be adequate to fully protect the conservation value of Po Toi Islands. Activities that do not constitute a change in land use, such as clearance of vegetation, would not require planning approval from the Town Planning board. The designation of Country Park allows the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to manage the site and control such activities under the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208). This is essential in order to maintain the ecological value of the islands.

The department is also responsible to deploy resources to improve and manage the facilities on Po Toi Islands if they are designated as Country Park. This would benefit both residents and visitors and the environmental impact of provision or maintenance of facilities would be minimized under the supervision of the department. At present, rural small projects are approved by the District Council and co-ordinated by the Home Affairs Department under the District Minor Works (DMW) programme. The department and district councils often have limited knowledge on the protection of the sensitive environment, and concerns have been raised by Green Groups about the damage on environment by these works. For example, a work on Po Toi could be more environmental friendly if the work has avoided wet season which is unfavourable for work (Figure 6.1). These small projects would be more environmentally friendly and carefully planned if they are under the direct supervision of AFCD and the Country and Marine Parks Board.



Figure 6.1 A work carried out by the Home Affairs Department in 2012, which introduced disturbances to the environment and migratory birds.

6.2 Justification of designating Po Toi Islands as Country Park

The South West New Territories Development Strategy Review (SWNT DSR) in 2001 has recommended the designation of Country Park. Po Toi is suitable for the designation of Country Park based on the Principles and Criteria for the Designation of New Country Parks, AFCD (2011)³¹ (Table 6.1):

Table 6.1 Table showing that Po Toi Islands meet the criteria for designation of country parks

Principles and Criteria for the Designation of New Country Parks(AFCD 2011)	Po Toi Islands
I. Intrinsic Criteria	
<p>A. <u>Conservation value</u></p> <p><i>“Areas with features of special biological, geological or historical interest or the presence of representative species or habitats of the territory have high conservation value, thus deserving special care and protection by designating them as country parks”.</i></p>	<p>As listed in table 3.1 of this document, Po Toi Islands supports a high diversity of species of conservation interest which are special and unique in Hong Kong, including internationally threatened species such as Romer’s Tree Frog and migratory birds. The area is therefore high in conservation value and unique in Hong Kong, thus deserve special care and protection.</p>
<p>B. <u>Landscape and aesthetic value</u></p> <p>(a) degree of naturalness</p> <p>(b) scenic quality</p> <p>(c) the integrity, completeness, uniqueness of the topography</p> <p>(d) presence of distinctive, representative features of visual interest</p> <p>(e) effect of urban development and presence of eyesores</p>	<p>(a) Po Toi Islands are largely natural with limited village development on Tai Wan, Po Toi.</p> <p>(b) The scenic quality have been recognized by the Planning Department in a territory-wide landscape mapping study.</p> <p>(c) The Po Toi Islands constitute a complete island landscape.</p> <p>(d) There are many geological features found on Po Toi, including many famous rock formations such as Turtle Rock and Buddha’s Palm.</p> <p>(e) Po Toi Islands is a group of remote islands away from urbanised areas. Apart from the areas</p>

³¹ http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/aboutus/abt_adv/files/common/WP_CMPB_6_2011eng.pdf

Principles and Criteria for the Designation of New Country Parks(AFCD 2011)	Po Toi Islands
	affected by recent suspected unauthorized developments, significant eyesores is absent. The Po Toi Islands therefore have high landscape and aesthetic value.
<p>C. <u>Recreational Potential</u></p> <p><i>"..Usually, areas with potential to provide an optimal range of informal outdoor recreation for the general public are considered suitable as country parks..."</i></p>	Po Toi Island is served by ferry service and is a famous holiday destination for outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, wildlife watching and photography. These existing activities are compatible with the conservation of the biodiversity on the island. The recreational potential of the Po Toi Island is considered high.
II. Demarcation Criteria	
<p>A. <u>Size</u></p> <p>A country park usually comprises an extensive area of land of a continuous nature. Small or fragmented pockets of land not contiguous to existing country parks may not be suitable to be developed as country parks.</p>	The Po Toi Islands covers a total area of 550ha and the Po Toi Island is about 370ha. It is smaller than the average size of a country park (1800ha) but larger than the average of a special area (100ha).
B. <u>Proximity to existing Country Parks</u>	Po Toi Islands is located in the South-east of Hong Kong. The closest country park is the Shek O Country Park which is about 2km from Beaufort Island and 3km from Po Toi.
C. <u>Land status</u>	Most of the land on Po Toi Islands are government land. Patches of private land are found in Tai Wan and Wan Tsai of Po Toi.
D. <u>Land use compatibility</u>	Apart from a small rural village and settlements on Tai Wan and Wan Tsai of Po Toi, the remaining of Po Toi Islands are largely natural and undeveloped. It is considered the land uses are compatible with the Country Park Setting.
III. Protection Measures	
A. <u>Country Park or Special area under the Country Parks Ordinance</u>	Although the Po Toi Islands are largely government land, there are also small areas of private land on Po Toi which are of high ecological value. They form an integral part of the natural environment.

Principles and Criteria for the Designation of New Country Parks(AFCD 2011)	Po Toi Islands
	Unfavourable developments would cause habitat loss and off-site disturbances, which would adversely affect the biodiversity and landscape value. In order to protect the integrity of the environment, and that Po Toi serves the purposes of nature conservation, countryside recreation and nature education, it is suggested that the Po Toi Islands should be designated as Country Park.
B. <u>Statutory plans under the Town Planning Ordinance</u>	The Po Toi Islands Development Permission Area Plan serves as an interim measure to control incompatible developments. It is considered that Po Toi Islands meets the criteria of Country Parks and thus should be designated as a Country Park.
Conclusion	The Po Toi Islands meet <u>all of the Intrinsic Criteria</u> and <u>most of the Demarcation Criteria</u> for country park designation.

6.3 Our responsibilities under international conventions

The Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) has been extended to Hong Kong in May 2011. Under the convention, the designation of Po Toi Islands as Country Park is in line with the targets of the convention (Table 6.2) :

Table 6.2 Table showing that designation of Country Park and relevant CBD articles and targets

Article Text / Aichi Biodiversity Targets	<i>Designating Po Toi Islands as Country Park would:</i>
Article 8. In situ Conservation³²	
(a) Establish a system of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity;	Designate natural habitats which supports a rich biodiversity as a protected area and enrich Hong Kong's Country Park Network;
(b) Develop, where necessary, guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity;	Allow active and resourced management measures as a protected area for conservation of biodiversity;

³² <http://www.cbd.int/convention/articles/?a=cbd-08>

Article Text / Aichi Biodiversity Targets	<i>Designating Po Toi Islands as Country Park would:</i>
(c) Regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity whether within or outside protected areas, with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use;	Allow active and resourced management measures as a protected area for conservation of biodiversity;
(d) Promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings;	Allow active and resourced management measures carried out by the authority to conserve internationally important species;
(e) Promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas with a view to furthering protection of these areas;	Regulate developments under the supervision of the Country and Marine Parks Board, and protect the islands from urban developments; Promote sustainable developments such as eco-tourism
(h) Prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species;	Allow management measures to control activities which may introduce exotic species to Po Toi Islands;
(i) Endeavour to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components;	Provide necessary infrastructure or facilities for the sustainable use (recreational use) and regulate compatible activities/land uses on Po Toi;
(k) Develop or maintain necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations;	Protect the sensitive habitats supporting threatened species in terms of statutory protection under Country Park Ordinance;
Article 11. Incentive Measures³³	
Each Contracting Party shall, as far as possible and as appropriate, adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity.	Promote sustainable use of biodiversity resources (e.g. eco-tourism) on the islands which would be beneficial for local residents;
Article 13. Public Education and Awareness³⁴	
(a) Promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the	Promote the conservation of biodiversity, in particular Romer's Tree

³³ <http://www.cbd.int/convention/articles/?a=cbd-11>

³⁴ <http://www.cbd.int/convention/articles/?a=cbd-13>

Article Text / Aichi Biodiversity Targets	<i>Designating Po Toi Islands as Country Park would:</i>
conservation of biological diversity, as well as its propagation through media, and the inclusion of these topics in educational programmes;	Frog, migratory birds and butterflies using educational means, e.g. information boards, nature education walks, guided tours, etc;
Aichi Biodiversity Targets³⁵	
Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.	Control activities such as vegetation clearance under Country Parks Ordinance and offer statutory protection for the islands in order to prevent habitat loss;
Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.	Prevent and control exotic species which may adversely impact native biodiversity on the Island through management plans;
Target 11 By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.	Enhance Hong Kong's protected area network by protecting the Po Toi Islands which is of unique conservation (biodiversity and landscape) value and is internationally important;
Target 12 By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.	Adequately Protect the habitats of threatened species (e.g. Romer's Tree Frog) and allow active management measures to protect these species from extinction.

³⁵ <http://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

6.4 The Chief Executive's election manifesto

The designation of Po Toi Islands as Country Park is in line with Policy Platform of Environment Protection and Conservation of the Chief Executive's election manifesto³⁶:

The Chief Executive's election manifesto on Environment Protection and Conservation	<i>Designating Po Toi Islands as Country Park would:</i>
(a) re-examine our environmental protection policy from the perspective of sustainable development, take effective measures to provide a high quality living environment for the community and build Hong Kong into a modern livable city; (P.67)	Promote sustainable use of our natural resources, improve our living quality through conserving the important habitats and landscape for the enjoyment of Hong Kong People in the future, and is an important step for Hong Kong to become the top city in Asia in terms of Environmental Protection by fulfilling the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
11. Examine the 2004 Nature Conservation Policy in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity and formulate a comprehensive package of nature conservation policies in line with new circumstances. We will also compile an endangered species register and draw up corresponding protective measures; (P. 69)	be an responsibility of Hong Kong under international conventions such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, and would also help to conserve locally or internationally endangered species;
12. We will refine the conservation and development of our country parks, extend coastal parks by phases, and develop other kinds of reserves to expand the ecological capacity of Hong Kong; (P.69)	further develop our Country Park network, promote sustainable development and expand the ecological capacity of Hong Kong;
13. We will take steps to protect outstanding natural scenery as one of our nature conservation objectives, identify places of high scenic value in the territory and adopt appropriate protective measures; (P.69)	Protect the remote islands with is of outstanding natural landscape with the designation of CP is most appropriate and comprehensive protection measure;

³⁶ Leung, C.Y., 2012, Manifesto for the Chief Executive Election 2012: One Heart, One Vision

7. Public and local support

7.1 Public support in statutory consultation progress

During the exhibition period of the Draft Po Toi Islands Development Permission Area Plan, 82 representations and 619 comments supporting the plan were received by the Town Planning Board³⁷, including 12 Green Groups and Concern Groups. Most of these comments are supporting the conservation of biodiversity and landscape of the Po Toi Islands and raised concerns about the suspected unauthorized developments in the area.

7.2 Public support in internet campaigns

Up to 15 October 2012, there are more than 750 “likes” on the “支持蒲台郊野公園 Support Po Toi Country Park” Facebook Page³⁸. Many members of the public showed their concern on the island and shared their views and findings on the facebook page.

7.3 Local Support

A number of Po Toi residents and villagers also supported the conservation of Po Toi’s environment and expressed deep concern on the suspected columbarium development. They have presented their views during the Town Planning Board hearing for the Draft Po Toi Islands Development Permission Area Plan on 28 September 2012, and prepared banners (Figure 6.1) expressing their concern.



Figure 6.1 One of the banners prepared by villagers being put on Po Toi Island

³⁷ Minutes of 1020th Meeting of the Town Planning Board held on 28.9.2012

³⁸ <http://www.facebook.com/SupportPoToi>

8. Conclusion

Po Toi has high conservation value and scientific value which is unique in Hong Kong. Therefore, important habitats for migratory birds, Romer's Tree Frog and rare butterflies should be zoned as "Site of Special Scientific Interest" to reflect their conservation value.

Other areas such as hillside grassland and shrub land on Ngong Chong and the North-eastern part of the island should be protected because they are also important stop-over points for many migratory birds. These also include areas where special rock formations are found, where changes to landscape may have impacts on them.

The proposed SSSI is in line with the general planning intention of the Draft DPA and is essential for the conservation of Po Toi which is internationally important in biodiversity conservation. Village-type development zone should be carefully designated so that they would not have a negative impact on ecologically sensitive areas.

Given the recreational, ecological, cultural and landscape value of the Po Toi Islands, designation of Country Park or Special Area are favourable options for the island. The designation has been suggested by the Planning Department in 2001 and supported by AFCD. This would protect the conservation value of Po Toi Islands and allow biodiversity management in order to conserve and improve Po Toi's ecological value. The designation would benefit residents by the provision of necessary infrastructures as well as attracting more tourists and visitors.

The above proposal is supported by the Government, the general public and many local villagers. It is an important step towards the targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity and is in line with the Chief Executive's Policy Platform for environment protection and conservation.

Published by

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First edition May 2012

1st Revision October 2012

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Special thanks

The HKBWS would like to thank Mr. Ruy Barretto S.C. who provided valuable insights and technical advice on this document, and the following individuals who assisted in the completion of this paper:

Photographers:

Allen Chan, Peter Chan, Cheng Nok Ming, Owen Chiang, H. F. Cheung, Pippen Ho, Eliza Hui, Eling Lee, Aaron and Brenda Lo, C. W. So, Geoff Welch, Ondy Wong and Peter and Michelle Wong.

“Support Po Toi Country Park” logo designed by:

MaoMorning

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No.	English Name	Scientific Name	Chinese Name	IUCN Red List Status	China Red Data Book	CITES	PRC Protected Animal	Convention on Migratory Species	Fellowes <i>et al.</i> (2002)*					
1	Japanese Quail	<i>Coturnix japonica</i>	鸕鶿	Near Threatened					LC					
2	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	白眉鴨											
3	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	綠翅鴨						Appendix II					
4	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	紅胸秋沙鴨						Appendix II					
5	Red-throated Loon	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	紅喉潛鳥						Appendix II					
6	Streaked Shearwater	<i>Calonectris leucomelas</i>	白額鸛											
7	Short-tailed Shearwater	<i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i>	短尾鸛											
8	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	小鸕鶿										LC	
9	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	鳳頭鸕鶿										RC	
10	White-tailed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon lepturus</i>	白尾鸛											
11	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	黑鸛						Endangered	Appendix II	I		Appendix II	RC
12	Yellow Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>	黃葦鶯											LC
13	Von Schrenck's Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus eurhythmus</i>	紫背葦鶯											RC
14	Cinnamon Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>	栗葦鶯											LC
15	Black Bittern	<i>Dupetor flavicollis</i>	黑鶯											LC
16	Malayan Night Heron	<i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>	黑冠鶯						Endangered					
17	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	夜鶯											LC
18	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	綠鶯											LC
19	Chinese Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola bacchus</i>	池鶯											RC
20	Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>	牛背鶯											LC
21	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	蒼鶯											PRC
22	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	草鶯											RC
23	Eastern Great Egret	<i>Ardea modesta</i>	大白鶯											RC
24	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	中白鶯											RC
25	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	小白鶯											RC
26	Pacific Reef Heron	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	岩鶯							Rare		II		LC
27	Swinhoe's Egret	<i>Egretta eulophotes</i>	黃嘴白鶯	Vulnerable	Endangered		II	Appendix I	GC					
28	Lesser Frigatebird	<i>Fregata ariel</i>	白斑軍艦鳥											
29	Masked Booby	<i>Sula dactylatra</i>	藍臉鯉鳥				II							
30	Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	褐鯉鳥		Vulnerable		II							
31	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	普通鸕鶿						PRC					
32	Japanese Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax capillatus</i>	暗綠背鸕鶿		Rare									
33	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	鵟		Rare	Appendix II	II	Appendix II	RC					
34	Black Baza	<i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>	黑冠鵟隼			Appendix II	II	Appendix II						
35	Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	鳳頭蜂鷹		Vulnerable	Appendix II	II	Appendix II	LC					
36	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	黑翅鳶		Vulnerable	Appendix II	II	Appendix II	LC					
37	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	黑鳶			Appendix II	II	Appendix II	RC					
38	White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	白腹海鵟		Indeterminate	Appendix II	II	Appendix II	RC					
39	Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	蛇鵟		Vulnerable	Appendix II	II	Appendix II	LC					
40	Eastern Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus spilonotus</i>	白腹鵞			Appendix II	II	Appendix II	LC					
41	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	鳳頭鷹		Rare	Appendix II	II	Appendix II						
42	Chinese Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter soloensis</i>	赤腹鷹			Appendix II	II	Appendix II						
43	Japanese Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter gularis</i>	日本松雀鷹			Appendix II	II	Appendix II						
44	Besra	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	松雀鷹			Appendix II	II	Appendix II						
45	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	雀鷹			Appendix II	II	Appendix II						
46	Grey-faced Buzzard	<i>Butastur indicus</i>	灰臉鵟鷹		Rare	Appendix II	II	Appendix II						
47	Eastern Buzzard	<i>Buteo japonicus</i>	普通鵟			Appendix II	II	Appendix II						
48	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	烏鵟	Vulnerable	Rare	Appendix II	II	Appendix I	GC					

No.	English Name	Scientific Name	Chinese Name	IUCN Red List Status	China Red Data Book	CITES	PRC Protected Animal	Convention on Migratory Species	Fellowes <i>et al.</i> (2002)*	
49	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>	白腹隼鵟		Rare	Appendix II	II	Appendix II	RC	
50	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	紅隼			Appendix II	II	Appendix II		
51	Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	阿穆爾隼			Appendix II	II	Appendix II		
52	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	燕隼			Appendix II	II	Appendix II		LC
53	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	遊隼			Appendix I	II	Appendix II		LC
54	Slaty-breasted Rail	<i>Gallirallus striatus</i>	灰胸秧雞							RC
55	Brown Crake	<i>Amaurornis akool</i>	紅腳苦惡鳥							LC
56	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	白胸苦惡鳥							
57	Baillon's Crake	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>	小田雞							
58	Ruddy-breasted Crake	<i>Porzana fusca</i>	紅胸田雞							
59	Watercock	<i>Gallixrex cinerea</i>	董雞					RC		
60	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	黑水雞		Indeterminate					
61	Yellow-legged Buttonquail	<i>Turnix tanki</i>	黃腳三趾鶉							
62	Barred Buttonquail	<i>Turnix suscitator</i>	棕三趾鶉							
63	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	黑翅長腳鶼						Appendix II	RC
64	Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>	灰頭麥雞						Appendix II	LC
65	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	太平洋金斑鴉						Appendix II	LC
66	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	灰斑鴉						Appendix II	RC
67	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	金眶鴉						Appendix II	LC
68	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	環頸鴉						Appendix II	RC
69	Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	蒙古沙鴉						Appendix II	LC
70	Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	鐵嘴沙鴉				Appendix II	RC		
71	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>	水雉						LC	
72	Eurasian Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	丘鶉					Appendix II		
73	Pintail Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>	針尾沙錐					Appendix II		
74	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	扇尾沙錐					Appendix II		
75	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	斑尾塍鶉					Appendix II	LC	
76	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	中杓鶉					Appendix II	LC	
77	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	白腰杓鶉			Near Threatened		Appendix II	RC	
78	Eastern Curlew	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	紅腰杓鶉			Vulnerable		Appendix II	LC	
79	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	紅腳鶉					Appendix II	RC	
80	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	澤鶉					Appendix II	RC	
81	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	青腳鶉					Appendix II	RC	
82	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	白腰草鶉					Appendix II		
83	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	林鶉					Appendix II	LC	
84	Grey-tailed Tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	灰尾漂鶉					Appendix II	LC	
85	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	翹嘴鶉					Appendix II	RC	
86	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	磯鶉					Appendix II		
87	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	翻石鶉					Appendix II	LC	
88	Great Knot	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	大濱鶉			Vulnerable		Appendix II	LC	
89	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	紅腹濱鶉					Appendix II	LC	
90	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	三趾濱鶉					Appendix II	LC	
91	Red-necked Stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>	紅頸濱鶉					Appendix II	LC	
92	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	尖尾濱鶉			Appendix II	LC			
93	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	彎嘴濱鶉			Appendix II	RC			
94	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	紅頸瓣蹼鶉							
95	Oriental Pratincole	<i>Glareola maldivarum</i>	普通燕鴉						LC	
96	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	三趾鷗							

No.	English Name	Scientific Name	Chinese Name	IUCN Red List Status	China Red Data Book	CITES	PRC Protected Animal	Convention on Migratory Species	Fellowes <i>et al.</i> (2002)*
97	Black-tailed Gull	<i>Larus crassirostris</i>	黑尾鷗						LC
98	Vega Gull	<i>Larus vegae</i>	織女銀鷗						
99	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	黃腳銀鷗						LC
100	Slaty-backed Gull	<i>Larus schistisagus</i>	灰背鷗						
101	Heuglin's Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	灰氏銀鷗						LC
102	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	鷗嘴噪鷗						
103	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	紅嘴巨鷗						RC
104	Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	大鳳頭燕鷗						
105	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	白額燕鷗					Appendix II	LC
106	Aleutian Tern	<i>Onychoprion aleuticus</i>	白腰燕鷗						
107	Bridled Tern	<i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i>	褐翅燕鷗						LC
108	Sooty Tern	<i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i>	烏燕鷗						
109	Roseate Tern	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	粉紅燕鷗						LC
110	Black-naped Tern	<i>Sterna sumatrana</i>	黑枕燕鷗						LC
111	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	普通燕鷗						
112	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	鬚浮鷗						
113	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	白翅浮鷗						
114	Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	中賊鷗						
115	Parasitic Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	短尾賊鷗						
116	Long-tailed Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	長尾賊鷗						
117	Ancient Murrelet	<i>Synthliboramphus antiquus</i>	扁嘴海雀		Vulnerable				
118	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	山斑鳩						
119	Red Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	火斑鳩						
120	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>	珠頸斑鳩						
121	Common Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	綠翅金鳩		Vulnerable				
122	Orange-breasted Green Pigeon	<i>Treron bicinctus</i>	橙胸綠鳩		Rare		II		
123	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	褐翅鴉鵂		Vulnerable		II		
124	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>	小鴉鵂		Vulnerable		II		
125	Chestnut-winged Cuckoo	<i>Clamator coromandus</i>	紅翅鳳頭鵂						
126	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>	噪鵂						
127	Plaintive Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>	八聲杜鵑						
128	Square-tailed Drongo Cuckoo	<i>Surniculus lugubris</i>	烏鵂						
129	Large Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx sparveroides</i>	大鷹鵂						
130	Northern Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx hyperythrus</i>	北方鷹鵂						
131	Hodgson's Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx nisicolor</i>	霍氏鷹鵂						
132	Lesser Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus poliocephalus</i>	小杜鵑						
133	Indian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	四聲杜鵑						
134	Oriental (Horsfield's) Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus optatus</i>	霍氏[中]杜鵑						
135	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	大杜鵑						
136	Collared Scops Owl	<i>Otus lettia</i>	領角鴞			Appendix II	II		
137	Oriental Scops Owl	<i>Otus sunia</i>	紅角鴞			Appendix II	II		
138	Eurasian Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>	雕鴞		Rare	Appendix II	II		RC
139	Northern Boobook	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>	鷹鴞			Appendix II	II		
140	Grey Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus jotaka</i>	普通夜鷹						LC
141	Savanna Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>	林夜鷹						
142	Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i>	短嘴金絲燕						
143	White-throated Needletail	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	白喉針尾雨燕						
144	Silver-backed Needletail	<i>Hirundapus cochinchinensis</i>	灰喉針尾雨燕				II		

No.	English Name	Scientific Name	Chinese Name	IUCN Red List Status	China Red Data Book	CITES	PRC Protected Animal	Convention on Migratory Species	Fellowes <i>et al.</i> (2002)*
145	Brown-backed Needletail	<i>Hirundapus giganteus</i>	褐背針尾雨燕	Vulnerable	Rare	Appendix II	II		LC
146	Pacific Swift	<i>Apus pacificus</i>	白腰雨燕						
147	House Swift	<i>Apus nipalensis</i>	小白腰雨燕						
148	Oriental Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	三寶鳥						
149	Ruddy Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon coromanda</i>	赤翡翠						
150	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	白胸翡翠						
151	Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>	藍翡翠						
152	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	普通翠鳥						
153	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>	栗喉蜂虎						
154	Blue-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>	藍喉蜂虎						
155	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	戴勝						
156	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	蟻鴛						
157	Fairy Pitta	<i>Pitta nympha</i>	仙八色鸂鶒						
158	Blue-winged Pitta	<i>Pitta moluccensis</i>	藍翅八色鸂鶒						
159	Black-winged Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>	暗灰鶇鶇						
160	Swinhoe's Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cantonensis</i>	小灰山椒鳥						
161	Ashy Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus divaricatus</i>	灰山椒鳥						
162	Grey-chinned Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>	灰喉山椒鳥						
163	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus speciosus</i>	赤紅山椒鳥						
164	Tiger Shrike	<i>Lanius tigrinus</i>	虎紋伯勞						
165	Bull-headed Shrike	<i>Lanius bucephalus</i>	牛頭伯勞						
166	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	紅尾伯勞						
167	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	棕背伯勞						
168	Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	黑枕黃鸝						
169	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	黑卷尾						
170	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	灰卷尾						
171	Hair-crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>	髮冠卷尾						
172	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	黑枕王鶇						
173	Asian Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	壽帶						
174	Japanese Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone atrocaudata</i>	紫壽帶						
175	Red-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>	紅嘴藍鵲						
176	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	喜鵲						
177	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	大嘴烏鴉						
178	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	大山雀						
179	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	雲雀						
180	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>	小雲雀						
181	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	紅耳鶇						
182	Chinese Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus sinensis</i>	白頭鶇						
183	Sooty-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus aurigaster</i>	白喉紅臀鶇						
184	Chestnut Bulbul	<i>Hemixos castanonotus</i>	栗背短腳鶇						
185	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>	黑短腳鶇						
186	Pale Martin	<i>Riparia diluta</i>	淡色沙燕						
187	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	家燕						
188	Asian House Martin	<i>Delichon dasypus</i>	煙腹毛腳燕						
189	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	金腰燕						
190	Asian Stubtail	<i>Urosphena squameiceps</i>	鱗頭樹鶯						
191	Manchurian Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia canturians</i>	日本樹鶯						
192	Brown-flanked Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia fortipes</i>	強腳樹鶯						

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193	Mountain Tailorbird	<i>Phyllergates cucullatus</i>	金頭縫葉鶯						
194	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>	褐柳鶯						
195	Radde's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>	巨嘴柳鶯						
196	Pallas's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>	黃腰柳鶯						
197	Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	黃眉柳鶯						
198	Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	淡眉柳鶯						
199	Arctic Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>	極北柳鶯						
200	Japanese Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus xanthodryas</i>	日本柳鶯						
201	Two-barred Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus</i>	暗綠柳鶯						
202	Pale-legged Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus tenellipes</i>	淡腳柳鶯						
203	Eastern Crowned Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus coronatus</i>	冕柳鶯						
204	Goodson's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus goodsoni</i>	古氏[冠紋]柳鶯						LC
205	Sulphur-breasted Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ricketti</i>	黑眉柳鶯						
206	White-spectacled Warbler	<i>Seicercus affinis</i>	白眶鵯鶯						
207	Bianchi's Warbler	<i>Seicercus valentini</i>	比氏鵯鶯						
208	Alstom's Warbler	<i>Seicercus soror</i>	純色尾鵯鶯						
209	Chestnut-crowned Warbler	<i>Seicercus castaniceps</i>	栗頭鵯鶯						
210	Oriental Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>	東方大葦鶯						
211	Black-browed Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i>	黑眉葦鶯						
212	Russet Bush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus mandelli</i>	高山短翅鶯						
213	Lanceolated Warbler	<i>Locustella lanceolata</i>	矛紋蝗鶯						
214	Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella certhiola</i>	小蝗鶯						LC
215	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	棕扇尾鶯						LC
216	Golden-headed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola exilis</i>	金頭扇尾鶯						LC
217	Yellow-bellied Prinia	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>	黃腹鵯鶯						
218	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	純色鵯鶯						
219	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	長尾縫葉鶯						
220	Pygmy Wren-Babbler	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla</i>	小鱗胸鵯鶯						LC
221	Masked Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax perspicillatus</i>	黑臉噪鵯						
222	Chestnut-flanked White-eye	<i>Zosterops erythroleurus</i>	紅脇繡眼鳥						
223	Japanese White-eye	<i>Zosterops japonicus</i>	暗綠繡眼鳥						
224	Crested Myna	<i>Acridotheres cristatellus</i>	八哥						
225	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	家八哥						
226	Red-billed Starling	<i>Spodiopsar sericeus</i>	絲光椋鳥						GC
227	White-cheeked Starling	<i>Spodiopsar cineraceus</i>	灰椋鳥						PRC
228	Black-collared Starling	<i>Gracupica nigricollis</i>	黑領椋鳥						
229	Daurian Starling	<i>Agropsar sturninus</i>	北椋鳥						LC
230	Chestnut-cheeked Starling	<i>Agropsar philippensis</i>	紫背椋鳥						
231	White-shouldered Starling	<i>Sturnia sinensis</i>	灰背椋鳥						LC
232	Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>	粉紅椋鳥						
233	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	紫翅椋鳥						LC
234	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>	紫嘯鶇						
235	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>	橙頭地鶇						LC
236	White's Thrush	<i>Zoothera aurea</i>	虎斑地鶇						
237	Grey-backed Thrush	<i>Turdus hortulorum</i>	灰背鶇						
238	Japanese Thrush	<i>Turdus cardis</i>	烏灰鶇						
239	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	烏鶇						
240	Eyebrowed Thrush	<i>Turdus obscurus</i>	白眉鶇						

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241	Pale Thrush	<i>Turdus pallidus</i>	白腹鶇	Vulnerable					LC
242	Red-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>	赤頸鶇						
243	Dusky Thrush	<i>Turdus eunomus</i>	斑鶇						
244	Chinese Thrush	<i>Turdus mupinensis</i>	寶興歌鶇						
245	Lesser Shortwing	<i>Brachypteryx leucophrys</i>	白喉短翅鶇					Appendix II	LC
246	Japanese Robin	<i>Erithacus akahige</i>	日本歌鶇					Appendix II	LC
247	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	藍喉歌鶇					Appendix II	
248	Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>	紅喉歌鶇					Appendix II	
249	Siberian Blue Robin	<i>Luscinia cyane</i>	藍歌鶇					Appendix II	LC
250	Rufous-tailed Robin	<i>Luscinia sibilans</i>	紅尾歌鶇					Appendix II	
251	Red-flanked Bluetail	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>	紅脇藍尾鶇					Appendix II	
252	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	鵲鶇					Appendix II	LC
253	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	赭紅尾鶇					Appendix II	
254	Hodgson's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>	黑喉紅尾鶇					Appendix II	
255	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>	北紅尾鶇					Appendix II	LC
256	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosa</i>	紅尾水鶇					Appendix II	
257	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>	黑喉石(即鳥)					Appendix II	
258	Grey Bush Chat	<i>Saxicola ferreus</i>	灰林(即鳥)					Appendix II	LC
259	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	藍磯鶇					Appendix II	
260	White-throated Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola gularis</i>	白喉磯鶇					Appendix II	
261	Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias brunneatus</i>	白喉林鶇					Appendix II	PRC
262	Grey-streaked Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa griseisticta</i>	灰紋鶇					Appendix II	
263	Dark-sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	烏鶇					Appendix II	
264	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	北灰鶇					Appendix II	
265	Brown-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa muttui</i>	褐胸鶇					Appendix II	
266	Ferruginous Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa ferruginea</i>	棕尾褐鶇					Appendix II	
267	Yellow-rumped Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula zanthopygia</i>	白眉姬鶇					Appendix II	
268	Narcissus Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula narcissina</i>	黃眉姬鶇					Appendix II	
269	Green-backed Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula elisae</i>	綠背姬鶇					Appendix II	
270	Mugimaki Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula mugimaki</i>	鶇姬鶇					Appendix II	
271	Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophiate</i>	橙胸姬鶇					Appendix II	
272	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	紅胸姬鶇					Appendix II	
273	Red-throated Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	紅喉姬鶇					Appendix II	
274	Blue-and-white Flycatcher	<i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i>	白腹姬鶇					Appendix II	
275	Zappey's Flycatcher	<i>Cyanoptila cumatilis</i>							
276	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>	銅藍鶇					Appendix II	LC
277	Hainan Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis hainanus</i>	海南藍仙鶇					Appendix II	
278	Small Niltava	<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>	小仙鶇					Appendix II	
279	Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	方尾鶇					Appendix II	
280	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>	紅胸啄花鳥						
281	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>	朱背啄花鳥						
282	Fork-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga christinae</i>	叉尾太陽鳥						
283	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	樹麻雀						
284	White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>	白腰文鳥						
285	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	斑文鳥						
286	Forest Wagtail	<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>	山鵲鶇						
287	Eastern Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla tschutschensis</i>	黃鵲鶇						
288	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	灰鵲鶇						

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289	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	白鵲鴿						
290	Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>	理氏鵲						
291	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	樹鵲						
292	Pechora Pipit	<i>Anthus gustavi</i>	北鵲						LC
293	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>	粉紅胸鵲						
294	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	紅喉鵲						LC
295	Buff-bellied Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	黃腹鵲						LC
296	Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	燕雀						
297	Grey-capped Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis sinica</i>	金翅雀						LC
298	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	黃雀						
299	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	普通朱雀						LC
300	Chinese Grosbeak	<i>Eophona migratoria</i>	黑尾蠟嘴雀						LC
301	Tristram's Bunting	<i>Emberiza tristrami</i>	白眉鵲						
302	Chestnut-eared Bunting	<i>Emberiza fucata</i>	栗耳鵲						LC
303	Little Bunting	<i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	小鵲						
304	Yellow-browed Bunting	<i>Emberiza chrysophrys</i>	黃眉鵲						
305	Rustic Bunting	<i>Emberiza rustica</i>	田鵲						
306	Yellow-throated Bunting	<i>Emberiza elegans</i>	黃喉鵲						
307	Yellow-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza aureola</i>	黃胸鵲	Vulnerable				Appendix I	RC
308	Chestnut Bunting	<i>Emberiza rutila</i>	栗鵲						
309	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	黑頭鵲						
310	Japanese Yellow Bunting	<i>Emberiza sulphurata</i>	硫磺鵲	Vulnerable					GC
311	Black-faced Bunting	<i>Emberiza spodocephala</i>	灰頭鵲						

* Fellow, J. R. et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong. In Hodgkiss, I.J. (ed.). Memoirs of the Hong Kong Natural History Society, No. 19, Hong Kong. pp.123-159.

LC = Local Concern

RC = Regional Concern

PRC = Potential Regional Concern

PGC = Potential Global Concern

GC = Global Concern