



# Hong Kong Wetland Park, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Hong Kong SAR Government

## Report on World Wetlands Day 2011 Hong Kong Celebration Programmes

- 1 2011 marks the year of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "Ramsar Convention" as well as the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the designation of "Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site". Hong Kong Wetland Park (HKWP) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has organized a series of educational and promotional activities to match with Ramsar Convention's "Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)" initiatives to promote the sustainable use of wetland resources.
- 2 The theme of the programmes organized in connection with World Wetlands Day 2011 was "Wetlands and Forests" with the slogan "Forest for Water and Wetlands (樹林 – 緊緊我們的水源與濕地)". A Bird Watching Festival was organized from November 2010 till February 2011 to wrap up the bundle of events with over 11,000 participants.
- 3 The events of the Bird Watching Festival 2010 were categorized into three different kinds of activities including:
  - Public Participation
  - Environmental Studies
  - Interactive Wetlands

### **Public Participation**

- Kick-off Ceremony for "Bird Watching Festival 2010"
- "Birds and Wetlands" Funfair
- Seminar on "Bird and Wetland Conservation in Hong Kong"
- Public Lectures
- Quiz on "Black-faced Spoonbill"
- "Bird Watching Festival" Treasure Hunt Game
- Bird Watching Guided Tours
- DIY Workshops
- "The World of Birds and Wetlands" Paper Tole Pictures Collection
- Birds and Wetlands Art Gallery

## Environmental Studies

- "My Bird and Wetlands Snap Shot" Photo Collection Activity
- "Postcard to Our Wetlands" Collection
- Wetland Classroom: Bird Watching
- The 11th Inter-school Bird Race

## Interactive Wetlands

- The 5th Storytelling Competition "Hug the Wetlands and Forests"
- Bird Musical
- World Wetlands Day 2011 Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony

- 4 The following are the government departments, NGOs and other organizations which have collaborated with HKWP during the festival.



Yuen Long District  
School Development  
Section, Education  
Bureau



Yuen Long District  
Office



School of Biological  
Science, The  
University of Hong  
Kong



Section of Marine  
Ecology and  
Biotechnology, Division  
of Life Science, Hong  
Kong University of  
Science and Technology



College of International  
Education, Hong Kong  
Baptist University



HK Discovery  
Limited



HKTraveler.com  
Limited



The Hongkong and  
Shanghai Banking  
Corporation Limited



MTR Corporation  
Limited



Hong Kong Bird  
Watching Society



World Wide Fund For  
Nature Hong Kong



The Conservancy  
Association



Tai Po Environmental  
Association



Hong Kong Council of  
Early Childhood  
Education & Services



Hong Kong Dolphin  
Conservation Society



Hong Kong Origami  
Society



Yuen Long Town Hall  
Evergreen  
Photographic Club



Eco-Institute



YouYun: Education  
Workshop for Teachers  
on Mangrove Ecology



Queen Elizabeth  
School Old Students'  
Association Secondary  
School



CUHK FAA Thomas  
Cheung Secondary  
School



Y.L.P.M.S. Alumni  
Association Ying Yip  
Primary School



Christian Alliance S Y  
Yeh Memorial  
Primary School



The Hong Kong  
Management Association  
K S Lo College



Beijing  
Bird Watching Society



Chengdu  
Bird Watching Society



Fujian  
Birdwatching Society



Jiangsu  
Wild Bird Society



Wuhan  
Bird Watching Society



Zhejiang  
Wildbird Society



Xiamen  
Bird Watching Society



Shanghai  
Wild Bird Society



Kunming  
Birds Conservation  
Association



Shenzhen  
Bird Watching Society

## 5 Details of the Bird Watching Festival 2010 Programmes

### 5.1 Public Participation

#### 5.1.1 Kick-off Ceremony for "Bird Watching Festival 2010" and Birds and Wetlands Funfair

The Kick-off Ceremony for "Bird Watching Festival 2010" was organised on 6 November 2010 together with the "Birds and Wetlands Funfair". The Funfair raised the awareness of bird and wetland conservation among the general public, teachers and students of Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Wetland Park (HKWP) invited local green groups, schools, community organisations, bird watching societies of Hong Kong and Mainland China, and partners of HKWP to participate in the event. The Funfair included exhibition, game booths, performances and workshops.



### 5.1.2 Seminar on "Bird and Wetland Conservation in Hong Kong" and Public Lectures

This year is the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the designation of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site. The site has a shallow bay with extensive intertidal mudflats backed by mangal, tidal shrimp ponds (*gei wais*), fishponds and reedbeds and is particularly important to migratory waterbirds as a refueling station as well as a wintering site. According to the bird monitoring data of Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site, there were a total of 70,000 to 80,000 migratory waterbirds using the area during winter in recent years, including some globally threatened species such as Black-faced Spoonbill, Baikal Teal, Falcated Teal, Spoonbill Sandpiper, Eurasian Curlew and Saunders's Gull.

With the concerted efforts of the Government of HKSAR and local NGOs over the years, the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site has been properly protected and managed. It becomes one of the most important projects of nature conservation work in Hong Kong.

HKWP organised the "Seminar on Bird and Wetland Conservation in Hong Kong" on 6 November 2010. The seminar facilitated experience sharing by experts in bird and wetland conservation, and by those who are keen on promoting eco-education. The seminar provided an opportunity for learning and knowledge sharing.

Two public lecture series were organized to educate the general public on relevant topics:

Public Lecture Series 1: Experience Sharing in Wetland Conservation and Education

Public Lecture Series 2: Bird Conservation and Education in China

**香港鳥類與濕地保育研討會**  
Seminar on "Bird and Wetland Conservation in Hong Kong"

8-11-2010 (星期日)  
11:00-17:30  
香港湿地公园: 濕地公園  
Theme: Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site

香港湿地公园是香港唯一的国际级湿地，也是香港唯一的国际级自然保护区。研讨会将邀请多位专家，分享他们在湿地保育及教育方面的经验。研讨会旨在提高公众对湿地保育的认识，并鼓励大家参与湿地保育工作。

11:00-11:20 注册  
11:20-11:30 开幕礼  
11:30-12:00 午餐  
12:00-12:30 专题演讲  
12:30-13:00 茶点  
13:00-13:30 专题演讲  
13:30-14:00 茶点  
14:00-14:30 专题演讲  
14:30-15:00 茶点  
15:00-15:30 专题演讲  
15:30-16:00 茶点  
16:00-16:30 专题演讲  
16:30-17:00 茶点  
17:00-17:30 闭幕礼

**公眾講座 Public Lecture ①**  
濕地保育與教育經驗分享  
Experience Sharing in Wetland Conservation and Education  
2010-11-7 (星期日)  
香港湿地公园: 資源中心  
Resource Centre, Hong Kong Wetland Park  
(粵語/Chinese)

時間 Time 主題 Theme  
11:00-11:20 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的保育工作  
11:20-11:30 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的教育工作  
11:30-12:00 午餐  
12:00-12:30 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的保育工作  
12:30-13:00 茶点  
13:00-13:30 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的教育工作  
13:30-14:00 茶点  
14:00-14:30 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的保育工作  
14:30-15:00 茶点  
15:00-15:30 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的教育工作  
15:30-16:00 茶点  
16:00-16:30 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的保育工作  
16:30-17:00 茶点  
17:00-17:30 闭幕礼

**公眾講座 Public Lecture ②**  
鳥類保育與教育經驗分享  
Bird Conservation and Education Experience Sharing  
2010-11-7 (星期日)  
香港湿地公园: 資源中心  
Resource Centre, Hong Kong Wetland Park  
(粵語/Chinese)

時間 Time 主題 Theme  
11:00-11:20 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的保育工作  
11:20-11:30 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的教育工作  
11:30-12:00 午餐  
12:00-12:30 專題演講: 香港湿地公园的保育工作  
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16:30-17:00 茶点  
17:00-17:30 闭幕礼





### 5.1.3 Quiz on "Black-faced Spoonbill"

Hong Kong is one of the wintering sites for birds including the globally endangered Black-faced Spoonbill. Black-faced Spoonbills were recorded every year at the Hong Kong Wetland Park, and their arrival marks the start of the bird watching season. By organising the quiz, the park hopes to raise public awareness of the importance of protecting birds and wetlands.



### 5.1.4 "Bird Watching Festival" Treasure Hunt Game

Visitors could take a Treasure Map and collect stamps around the park and complete a bird picture. Followed by collecting one etching stamp from one of the 9 locations in the Wetland Reserve Area and answering two questions, visitors can drop the Treasure Map into the collection box to join the lucky draw and win a complimentary copy of "A Photographic Guide to the Birds of Hong Kong".



### 5.1.5 Bird Watching Guided Tours

Winter is the best bird watching season since there are many migratory birds spending their winter in Hong Kong. From November 2010, the park organized different types of bird watching tours, including "Know More about Birds" and "Bird Watching Guided Tour". Wetland Interpreters and volunteers took visitors for bird watching and introduced bird identification techniques. To facilitate visitors in bird watching, the park installed telescopes at bird hides and provided binoculars rental services at the souvenir shop.



### 5.1.6 *DIY Workshops*

A series of DIY workshops were organized during the 'Bird Watching Festival 2010' with the theme related to birds. These workshops aimed to raise visitors' interest and enrich their knowledge of birds.



### 5.1.7 *"The World of Birds and Wetlands" Paper Tole Pictures Collection*

Hong Kong Wetland Park and Hong Kong Origami Society jointly organized "The World of Birds and Wetlands" Paper Tole Pictures Collection. The activity encouraged the public to share the important message of bird and wetland conservation. Participants used innovative ways to show the beautiful features of birds which they have observed.



### 5.1.8 *Birds and Wetlands Art Gallery*

The exhibition showcased the artworks collected from the "The World of Birds and Wetlands" Paper Tole Pictures Collection and "My Birds and Wetlands Snap Shot" Photo Collection Activity.



## 5.2 Environmental Studies

### 5.2.1 *My Birds and Wetlands Snap Shot" Photo Collection Activity*

Visitor could get a souvenir by submitting digital photos of birds taken in Hong Kong Wetland Park on the day they visited. 10 "Photos of the Week" were selected every week, and "Photos of the Month" have been exhibited in the park.



### 5.2.2 *Postcard to Our Wetlands" Collection*

From 6 November 2010 till 28 February 2011, visitors could submit their "feeling towards the wetlands". The Park selected 10 best entries for each week, and posted them at the website as well as in the Park. Winners of the best entries of each week were awarded a gift.



### 5.2.3 *Wetland Classroom: Bird Watching*

The activity offers chances for beginners to learn about bird watching, as well as to take the first step to observe the nature.





### 5.2.4 The 11th Inter-school Bird Race

The 11<sup>th</sup> Inter-school Bird Race was jointly organised by Hong Kong Wetland Park, Hong Kong Bird Watching Society, School of Biological Sciences, the University of Hong Kong, and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. It aimed to promote bird watching activity in schools and enhance students' skills in ecological surveys. The Bird Race also facilitated students' team building capacity, as well as enriched their "Other Learning Experiences (OLE)" outside classroom.

The race was comprised of 3 stages, including: bird identification training and bird race (Stage 1); field survey and tour planning (Stage 2); and implementation of guided tour (Stage 3).



## 5.3 Interactive Wetland

### 5.3.1 The 5th Storytelling Competition "Hug the Wetlands and Forests"

It is the fifth year of this activity and the competition is one of the Park's annual events. Held on 15 January 2011, students from 26 teams received thunderous applause from the audiences and successfully conveyed wetland conservation messages.



### 5.3.2 *Birds Musical: Dancing Wings over the Water*

The musical: "Dancing Wings over the Water" was on show during the Chinese New Year period and attracted over thousands of visitors. It is a romantic love story about a pair of Black-faced Spoonbills with beautiful music and wonderful dancing.



### 5.3.3 *World Wetlands Day 2011 Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony*

On 29 January 2011, the Park hosted the "World Wetlands Day 2011 Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony". The ceremony echoed the global theme "Wetlands and Forests", with the slogan "Forests for water and wetlands", as well as celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of signing the Convention. In the ceremony, the park awarded prizes to the winners of "Bird Watching Festival 2010" activities and volunteers who have contributed to the park for the past year.



6. More information for the Bird Watching Festival 2010 can be found in <http://www.wetlandpark.com/wwd2011/en/index.html>