

**COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD**

**Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report  
(1.8.2021 – 31.12.2021)**

**Purpose**

This paper aims to provide members a general overview on management and protection work conducted by the Country and Marine Parks Authority during the period between 1.8.2021 and 31.12.2021. It provides various figures and information for facilitating members to understand and offer advice to the Authority regarding the management of country and marine parks.

**A. Country Parks & Special Areas**

**1. Country Parks Management**

**1.1 Management Services**

Routine maintenance of all recreational facilities within county parks and special areas was carried out regularly for public enjoyment. Major country parks facilities provided and amount of refuse collected are shown below for reference.

**Major facilities provided for public enjoyment**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Total no. as at 31.12.2021</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Total no. as at 31.12.2021</b>
Barbecue Site	157	Shelter	289
Picnic Site	154	Refreshment Kiosk	9
Camp Site	41	Public Toilet	91
Morning Walker Garden	19	Portable Toilet	121

**Amount of refuse collected (metric tonnes)**

<b>Aug., 2021</b>	<b>Sept., 2021</b>	<b>Oct., 2021</b>	<b>Nov., 2021</b>	<b>Dec., 2021</b>	<b>Total</b>
119 (154)	125 (138)	137 (165)	148 (167)	177 (167)	706 (791)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 1.2 Fire Protection

The 2021-2022 fire season commenced on 18.9.2021. Detailed figures during the reporting period are summarized below:

Month	No. of fires inside or threatening country park		Area affected (Ha)		No. of trees affected	
		( )		( )		( )
<b>Aug., 2021</b>	0	( 0 )	0	( 0 )	0	( 0 )
<b>Sept 2021</b>	1	( 0 )	3.2	( 0 )	31	( 0 )
<b>Oct., 2021</b>	1	( 6 )	0.2	(350.3)	18	(608)
<b>Nov., 2021</b>	6	( 2 )	16.0	( 0.2 )	189	( 9 )
<b>Dec. 2021</b>	4	( 4 )	11.9	( 22.5 )	84	(145)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>( 12 )</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>(373.0)</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>( 762 )</b>

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 1.3 Permitted Events

During the reporting period, 186 permits were given under Reg. 11 of the Country Parks and Special Areas Regulations to hold events in country parks. In light of the situation of the COVID-19 in Hong Kong, some of the permitted events were cancelled/postponed. The monthly breakdown of permitted events during the reporting period is provided below:

Month	Sporting competition	Location filming	Other events
<b>Aug., 2021</b>	9 (0)	41 (0)	5 (1)
<b>Sep., 2021</b>	5 (4)	32 (0)	5 (1)
<b>Oct., 2021</b>	5 (7)	26 (0)	0 (4)
<b>Nov., 2021</b>	4 (15)	22 (0)	2 (2)
<b>Dec., 2021</b>	4 (6)	22 (0)	4 (4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>27 (32)</b>	<b>143 (0)</b>	<b>16 (12)</b>

( ) denotes figures of events cancelled/postponed during the reporting period.

## 1.4 Control of Development

A total of 167 development proposals were handled during the reporting period. This includes 31 new proposals and 136 proposals carried forward from the last reporting period. Most of the proposals were related to minor works concerning slope works and electricity supply. The breakdown of all proposals is provided below:

District	No. of Case	Electric Supply	Telephone Supply	Water Supply	Road/Path Improvement	Slope Works	Others*	No Objection	Being Processed	Withdrawn / Cancelled
Central	38	10	4	2	1	21	0	1	35	2
Hong Kong	20	3	0	0	0	17	0	4	16	0
Lantau	33	1	3	2	1	26	0	16	17	0
North	10	0	0	1	3	3	3	4	6	0
Sai Kung	47	6	8	3	11	9	10	8	36	3
West	19	0	0	0	1	18	0	3	14	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>7</b>

Remarks: \* Other proposals mainly include installation of mobile radio station/solar system, small house development, erection of agricultural structures and provision/improvement of public utilities and facilities.

## 2. Visitor Services / Education

### 2.1 Visitor Statistics

In the reporting period, a total of 5,764,000 persons visited the country parks and special areas. The monthly breakdown is provided below:

Aug., 2021	Sep., 2021	Oct., 2021	Nov., 2021	Dec., 2021	Total
762,000 (682,000)	827,000 (698,000)	971,000 (1,154,000)	1,541,000 (1,273,000)	1,663,000 (1,362,000)	5,764,000 (5,169,000)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 2.2 Visitor Centres

The country park school and public education programmes at visitor / education centres remain suspended. The monthly visitor statistics of the Country Park Visitor Centres and Education Centres are summarised below:

Country Park Visitor Centre / Education Centre	No. of Visitors				
	Aug., 2021	Sep., 2021	Oct., 2021	Nov., 2021	Dec., 2021
Lions Nature Education Centre	17,936	15,512	15,728	30,472	41,656
Clear Water Bay Country Park Visitor Centre	380	383	437	284	325
Sai Kung Country Park Visitor Centre	3,161	4,965	4,479	4,667	4,413
Shing Mun Country Park Visitor Centre	545	492	718	567	633
Tai Mo Shan Country Park Visitor Centre	6,088	7,257	7,413	12,829	7,372
Ngong Ping Nature Centre*	0	0	0	28	1,428
Woodside Biodiversity Education Centre	1,175	1,352	3,370	4,087	4,389
Aberdeen Tree Centre	184	95	369	279	330
Volcano Discovery Centre	11,206	6,505	6,345	7,599	8,584
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,675</b>	<b>36,561</b>	<b>38,859</b>	<b>60,812</b>	<b>69,130</b>

Remarks: \* Due to renovation work, Ngong Ping Nature Centre was temporarily closed from 2 December 2020 to 29 November 2021, and reopened on 30 November 2021.

## 2.3 Country Park Volunteer Scheme

The Country Park Volunteer Scheme commenced in March 2010. In light of the developments of the COVID-19 epidemic, volunteer services were suspended during the reporting period. The number of volunteers and trainees was maintained at 759 persons.

## 2.4 School Visit Programme

School visit programme was launched again in 2020-21 school year to convey nature conservation message to students. To facilitate the special class arrangements schools, an online programme was introduced from April 2021. The number of participants in the reporting period is summarised below:

<b>School Visit Programme</b>	<b>No. of Participants</b>
Kindergartens	2,523
Primary Schools	1,828
Secondary Schools	127

## 2.5 Other Education Activities

Details of the education activities organised in the reporting period are summarised below:

<b>Name of the Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>No. of Participants</b>
“Take Your Litter Home” roving exhibitions	Aug - Dec 2021	46,104
Country parks fixed point interpretation	Aug - Dec 2021	13,775
Geopark roving exhibitions	Aug - Dec 2021	13,144
“Excursion with Paintbrush” drawing competition, art jamming class and online workshop	Sep - Dec 2021	1,420

## 2.6 Assistance

Assistance was offered to the public on:

<b>Nature</b>	<b>Aug., 2021</b>	<b>Sep., 2021</b>	<b>Oct., 2021</b>	<b>Nov., 2021</b>	<b>Dec., 2021</b>
First aid	2	5	1	8	5
Handicapped persons	0	0	0	0	0
Return of lost properties	5	0	3	6	2

## 2.7 Free Distribution of Publicity Materials

Nature	Aug., 2021	Sep., 2021	Oct., 2021	Nov., 2021	Dec., 2021
Pamphlets	1,262	1,253	1,856	1,681	1,566
Posters	20	42	62	35	42
Booklets	293	326	211	361	375

## 3. Law Enforcement

A total of 609 enforcement actions were taken in connection with the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap.208), Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap.96), Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap.170) and Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap.599G). A breakdown of offences is summarised below:

Nature of offence	No. of cases
Illegal entry of bicycle	89
Illegal entry of vehicle	85
Illegal possession of hunting/trapping appliance	5
Illegal possession of cooking stove	12
Illegal use of fire	40
Damaging and cutting of plant	20
Illegal digging of soil	4
Illegal constructing/erecting of building/hut/shelter	3
Illegal camping	149
Littering	2 <sup>△</sup> + 19 <sup>#</sup>
Entry of campsites/barbecue sites that have been closed	103
Participating in prohibited group gathering	9 <sup>##</sup>
Illegal feeding of monkey	69
<b>Total</b>	<b>609</b>

Remarks: # Fixed Penalty Notice @\$1,500.

## Fixed Penalty Notice @\$5,000.

△ Summons.

## B. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve

### 1. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve Management

#### 1.1 Facilities

As at 31.12.2021, the following facilities had been installed in Marine Parks and Marine Reserve:

Facilities	Total no. as at 31.12.2021	Facilities	Total no. as at 31.12.2021
Warning Sign	124	Boundary Marker Post	48
Information Sign Board	55	Marine Buoy	228

#### 1.2 Litter

During the report period, the amount of litter collected in Marine Parks and Marine Reserve is as follows:

Marine Park/ Marine Reserve	Amount of litter collected (tonnes)					
	Aug., 2021	Sep., 2021	Oct., 2021	Nov., 2021	Dec., 2021	Total
Hoi Ha Wan	1.22 (6.92)	0.98 (5.89)	0.54 (8.44)	0.73 (5.80)	0.67 (5.87)	4.14 (32.92)
Yan Chau Tong	0.64 (3.74)	0.70 (3.10)	0.87 (5.88)	0.92 (3.34)	1.02 (3.39)	4.15 (19.45)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	0.92 (4.68)	0.72 (5.61)	0.68 (8.49)	0.77 (5.50)	0.82 (6.51)	3.91 (30.79)
Tung Ping Chau	2.54 (6.33)	2.12 (6.13)	2.18 (5.62)	2.14 (5.59)	2.17 (6.07)	11.15 (29.74)
Cape D'Aguilar	0.55 (1.61)	0.56 (1.14)	0.36 (1.86)	0.29 (0.59)	0.22 (0.85)	1.98 (6.05)
The Brothers	1.22 (0.68)	1.04 (0.36)	1.09 (0.33)	1.13 (0.32)	0.58 (0.78)	5.06 (2.47)
Southwest Lantau*	0.52 (-)	0.70 (1.39)	0.52 (0.97)	0.54 (2.43)	0.63 (1.06)	2.91 (5.85)
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.61</b> <b>(23.96)</b>	<b>6.82</b> <b>(23.62)</b>	<b>6.24</b> <b>(31.59)</b>	<b>6.52</b> <b>(23.57)</b>	<b>6.11</b> <b>(24.53)</b>	<b>33.3</b> <b>(127.27)</b>

Remarks:

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

\* Designated with effect from 1 April 2020. Cleansing services in Apr to Aug 2020 were continued to be provided by Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. Cleansing services from Sep 2020 onwards were arranged by AFCD.

## 2. Visitor Services / Education

### 2.1 Visitor Statistics

During the report period, the number of visitors is as follows:

<b>Marine Park</b>	<b>Aug., 2021</b>	<b>Sep., 2021</b>	<b>Oct., 2021</b>	<b>Nov., 2021</b>	<b>Dec., 2021</b>	<b>Total</b>
Hoi Ha Wan	12,160 (4,061)	8,890 (4,918)	6,575 (6,428)	4,227 (3,767)	2,828 (1,348)	34,680 (20,522)
Yan Chau Tong	937 (170)	1,102 (385)	1,594 (415)	2,078 (723)	2,123 (727)	7,834 (2,420)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	189 (191)	87 (112)	318 (47)	120 (74)	362 (35)	1,076 (459)
Tung Ping Chau	2,875 (2,367)	2,688 (1,758)	2,306 (2,347)	3,353 (5,921)	2,470 (1,802)	13,692 (14,195)
Cape D'Aguilar Marine Reserve and nearby areas	2,269 (3,356)	2,760 (3,038)	10,839 (22,422)	19,411 (14,677)	20,845 (17,408)	56,124 (60,901)
The Brothers	25 (40)	9 (22)	23 (12)	16 (39)	91 (37)	164 (150)
Southwest Lantau	99 (16)	201 (58)	86 (502)	214 (224)	488 (190)	1,088 (990)
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,554 (10,201)</b>	<b>15,737 (10,291)</b>	<b>21,741 (32,173)</b>	<b>29,419 (25,425)</b>	<b>29,207 (21,547)</b>	<b>114,658 (99,637)</b>

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

### 2.2 Visitor Centre

The first marine park visitor centre, Hoi Ha Visitor Centre (HHVC), officially opened on 8 Jun 2021. In light of the situation of the COVID-19 in Hong Kong, the public guided eco-tours organised by the HHVC have been suspended. The monthly visitor statistics of the HHVC is summarized below:

	<b>No. of Visitors</b>				
	<b>Aug., 2021</b>	<b>Sep., 2021</b>	<b>Oct., 2021</b>	<b>Nov., 2021</b>	<b>Dec., 2021</b>
Hoi Ha Visitor Centre	1,058	1,241	1,510	1,526	1,468



### 2.3 Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme

The Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme has been commenced since August 2005. In light of the development of the COVID-19 epidemic, ambassador activities were suspended during the reporting period. Up to 31 Dec 2021, there are a total of 625 Marine Parks Ambassadors. During the report period, 11 ambassadors had participated in the 'Hoi Ha Festival' kick-off ceremony and coastal clean-up.

### 2.4 Education Programmes and Publicity

In light of the COVID-19 epidemic, all field studies and guided eco-tours for schools were suspended while school talks were changed to online format if there was any application. No application for online school talks was received during the reporting period. Details of other education activities organised in the reporting period are summarised below:

<b>Name of the Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>No. of Participants</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Hoi Ha Festival	18, 19, 25-27 Dec 2021	759	All activities were arranged in compliance with the related anti-epidemic measures

### 2.5 Enquiries

During the report period, a total of 412 enquiries was received and resolved. Details are listed below:

<b>Nature</b>	<b>Aug., 2021</b>	<b>Sep, 2021</b>	<b>Oct., 2021</b>	<b>Nov., 2021</b>	<b>Dec., 2021</b>	<b>Total</b>
General information	23	21	17	24	18	103
Visitor Centre and Education	67	57	53	63	69	309
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>412</b>

## 2.6 Free Distribution of Publicity Materials

Items	Aug., 2021	Sep, 2021	Oct., 2021	Nov., 2021	Dec., 2021
Leaflets	1,541	1,745	1,531	1,789	2,033

## 3. Law Enforcement

A taskforce on sea enforcement work related to the Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476) and Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) is established to enhance synergistic effect. During the report period, 2 illegal fishing incidents in Hong Kong waters involving 5 mainland fishermen were successfully prosecuted while an advisory letter was issued to a local fishing vessel owner. In addition, a total of 369 advices, one written warning and 11 verbal warnings were given in marine parks and marine reserve, and 5 suspected offense cases were under investigation.

### C. Advice Sought

Members are invited to comment on the management and protection work conducted by the Country and Marine Parks Authority in country and marine parks.

**Country and Marine Parks Authority  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  
February 2022**