

COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD

Proposal to Designate Country Park Enclaves of Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the Site near Nam Shan as Part of Country Parks

1. Purpose

This paper aims to report to Members on the progress of the proposed designation of country park enclaves of Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan as part of country parks.

2. Background

2.1 At the 54th Country and Marine Parks Board (the Board) meeting held on 24 February 2014, the Country and Marine Parks Authority (the Authority) presented to the Board the proposal to designate three country park enclaves as part of the country parks, namely Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan. These three enclaves have been assessed to be suitable for incorporation into country parks in accordance with the full set of principles and criteria for designating country parks which was endorsed by the Board in 2011. Most members supported the designation proposal.

2.2 In light of the comments gathered from the Board, the Authority proceeded to consult relevant stakeholders, District Councils and Rural Committees. In this connection, the Authority had liaised with the Security Bureau and the non-government organization which was granted a short term tenancy for the construction and operation of a drug treatment and rehabilitation centre in Sai Lau Kong. Members were updated of the progress at the CMPB meetings of 13 June and 9 Octo 2014. Meanwhile, the Authority had conducted a supplementary survey to examine the mammal diversity at Sai Lau Kong. This paper summarizes the progress achieved so far and sets out the way forward of the designation proposal.

3. Mammal survey by camera traps at Sai Lau Kong

3.1 The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department conducted a camera trap survey to record the mammal species at Sai Lau Kong to enhance our understanding on the biodiversity of the site. Three digital cameras equipped with infrared triggers had been installed in different locations at Sai Lau Kong for 185 days

from 15 September 2014 to 19 March 2015, covering the woodland in both the enclave and the adjacent country park area as shown in **Annex 1**.

3.2 Apart from domestic dog and ox, the survey showed that the enclave and the adjacent country park areas were used by at least four native mammal species which all have a wide distribution in Hong Kong, namely East Asian porcupine, Eurasian wild pig, leopard cat and red muntjac. These supplementary findings support the previous assessment of the area as having moderate ecological value. The survey results are presented in the following table:

Mammal species recorded	SLK01*	SLK02	SLK03
Domestic dog (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	Y	-	-
Domestic ox (<i>Bos taurus</i>)	Y	-	-
East Asian porcupine (<i>Hystrix brachyura</i>)	Y	Y	Y
Eurasian wild pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)	Y	Y	Y
Leopard cat (<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>)	-	Y	Y
Red muntjac (<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>)	Y	Y	Y

Y: recorded; -: not recorded

*: the camera trap at SLK01 was not working from 29 September to 11 November 2014.

4. Proposed drug treatment and rehabilitation centre at Sai Lau Kong

4.1 In February 2014, the District Lands Office/North granted a short term tenancy (STT, see **Annex 2**) to Dacars (得基輔康會), a non-government organization to construct and operate a non-profit making drug treatment and rehabilitation centre (the treatment centre) in Sai Lau Kong. The STT is within the enclave proposed for inclusion into Plover Cove Country Park. Since then, the Authority has maintained contact with the Security Bureau which subsidized the treatment centre project.

4.2 The STT covers some 2,300 m² and comprises the ex-Sai Lau Kong Primary School (西流江小學) which was abandoned in 1992 and the adjacent Government land. The structures to be erected are limited to one storey and below 5m in height under the STT. According to the Security Bureau, Dacars will award the tender for the technical feasibility study for the treatment centre project in late May 2015 which is scheduled to be completed in August 2015. The Authority will closely monitor the progress of this project and provide inputs when necessary.

5. Consultation with Stakeholders, Rural Committees and District Councils

5.1 In addition to the Security Bureau and Dacars, the Authority had maintained dialogues with the residents of Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan. They did

not have substantial comments on the respective proposals to incorporate Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan into the country parks during our field visits.

5.2 The Authority planned to meet the concerned Rural Committees (RC) after their re-election in March 2015. For the enclaves of Fan Kei Tok and Sai Lau Kong, the Authority consulted the Sha Tau Kok RC in April 2015. While the representatives of the Sha Tau Kok RC and the villagers of Sai Lau Kong expressed no concern on the enclave of Fan Kei Tok, they queried whether the incorporation of the enclave of Sai Lau Kong into the country park might affect the construction of the treatment centre, which is fully supported by the villagers. The Authority relayed the concerns of the RC and the villagers to the Security Bureau which subsequently confirmed that there is no conflict between the designation proposal and the treatment centre project. In any case, the latter has to comply with all relevant legislations and requirements as far as the construction and operation are concerned.

5.3 The Authority has also scheduled to meet the Lantau South Rural Committee in late May and the relevant District Councils within the coming months.

6. Way forward

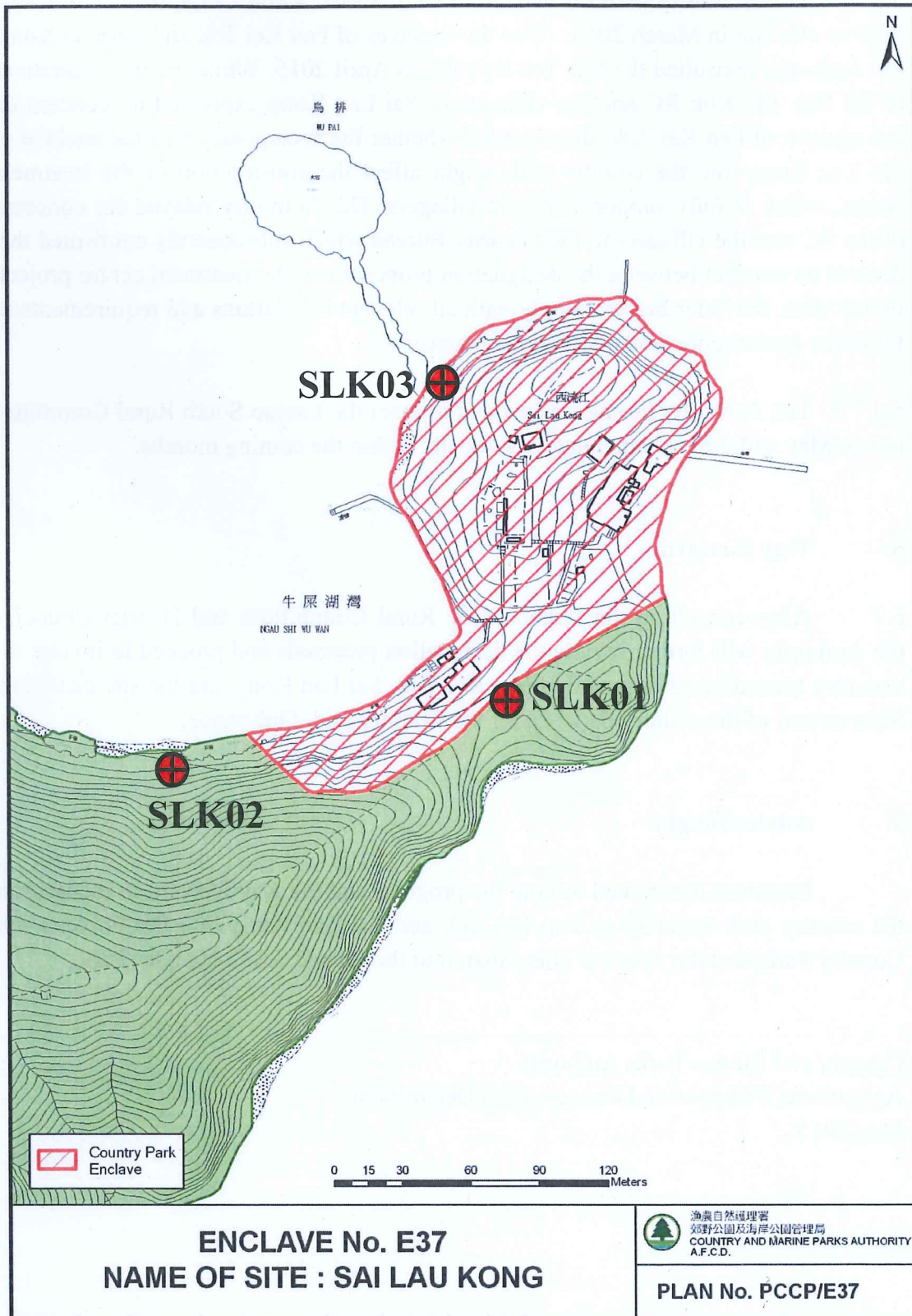
6.1 After consulting the stakeholders, Rural Committees and District Councils, the Authority will further review the designation proposals and proceed to invoke the statutory procedure of designating Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan as part of the country parks under the Country Park Ordinance.

7. Advice sought

Members are invited to note the progress and the way forward to incorporate the country park enclaves of Fan Kei Tok and Sai Lau Kong into the Plover Cove Country Park, and the site near Nam Shan into the Lantau South Country Park.

Country and Marine Parks Authority
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
May 2015

The Locations of Camera Traps for Mammal Survey at Sai Lau Kong



The Government Land Licences and Short Term Tenancy in Sai Lau Kong

