

**COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD**

**Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report  
(1.10.2022 – 31.12.2022)**

**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 1.10.2022 and 31.12.2022. 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 31.12.2022</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Total no. as at 31.12.2022</b>
Barbecue Site	157	Shelter	289
Picnic Site	154	Refreshment Kiosk & Cafeteria	9
Camp Site	41	Public Toilet	91
Morning Walker Garden	19	Portable Toilet	121

### Amount of refuse collected (metric tonnes)

Oct., 2022	Nov., 2022	Dec., 2022	Total
161 (137)	228 (148)	287 (177)	676 (462)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 1.2 Fire Protection

The 2022-2023 fire season commenced on 3.9.2022. 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	
Oct., 2022	5	( 1 )	51.7	( 0.2 )	107	( 18 )
Nov., 2022	1	( 6 )	12.0	( 16.0 )	226	( 189 )
Dec., 2022	2	( 4 )	20.6	( 11.9 )	80	( 84 )
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>( 11 )</b>	<b>84.3</b>	<b>( 28.1 )</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>( 291 )</b>

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 1.3 Permitted Events

During the reporting period, 120 permits were given under Reg. 11 of the Country Parks and Special Areas Regulations to hold events in country parks. The monthly breakdown of permitted events during the reporting period is provided below:

Month	Sporting competition	Location filming	Other events
Oct., 2022	13	30	7
Nov., 2022	8	24	1
Dec., 2022	11	25	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>9</b>

## 1.4 Control of Development

A total of 144 development proposals were handled during the reporting period. This includes 15 new proposals and 129 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	29	6	2	2	0	18	1	3	25	1
Hong Kong	29	0	0	1	0	28	0	7	22	0
Lantau	15	3	4	0	1	7	0	1	14	0
North	11	2	0	0	0	6	3	1	10	0
Sai Kung	38	8	3	2	10	4	11	6	32	0
West	22	0	0	0	0	22	0	11	11	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>1</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 3,443,000 persons visited the country parks and special areas. The monthly breakdown is provided below:

Oct., 2022	Nov., 2022*	Dec., 2022	Total
1,004,000 (971,000)	1,120,000 (1,541,000)	1,319,000 (1,663,000)	3,443,000 (4,175,000)

Remarks:

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

\*All country park barbecue sites and campsites were reopened starting from 3 and 17 November respectively.

## 2.2 Visitor Centres

The country park school and public education programmes at visitor / education centres were gradually resumed from 24.11.2022. The monthly visitor statistics of the Country Park Visitor / Education Centres are summarised below:

Country Park Visitor Centre / Education Centre	No. of Visitors		
	Oct, 2022	Nov., 2022	Nov., 2022
Lions Nature Education Centre	37,960	56,936	48,360
Clear Water Bay Country Park Visitor Centre	596	324	535
Sai Kung Country Park Visitor Centre	3,214	2,729	2,973
Shing Mun Country Park Visitor Centre *	0	0	0
Tai Mo Shan Country Park Visitor Centre	813	940	1,203
Ngong Ping Nature Centre	676	525	1,067
Woodside Biodiversity Education Centre	3,319	2,621	4,421
Aberdeen Tree Centre	313	187	379
Volcano Discovery Centre	7,484	5,553	6,971
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,375</b>	<b>69,815</b>	<b>65,909</b>

Remarks: \*The centre was temporarily closed for renovation works

## 2.3 Country Park Volunteer Scheme

The Country Park Volunteer Scheme commenced in March 2010. Volunteer services were gradually resumed starting from 27.08.2022. Detailed figures of the Country Park Volunteer Scheme in the reporting period are summarised below:

Country Park Volunteer Scheme	Oct., 2022	Nov., 2022	Dec., 2022
No. of volunteers/trainees	760	760	760
Total volunteer service hours	1,066	1,595	2,032

## 2.4 School Visit Programme

School visit programme was launched again in 2022-23 school year to convey nature conservation message to students. The number of participants in the reporting period is summarised below:

<b>School Visit Programme</b>	<b>No. of Participants</b>
Kindergartens	3,371
Primary Schools	2,805
Secondary Schools	643

## 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” and “Clean Country Parks, You Have a Share” Photo Exhibition	Oct – Dec 2022	24,251
Country Parks Fixed Point Interpretation	Oct – Dec 2022	14,246
Hong Kong Hiking Challenge	Oct – Dec 2022	11,600

## 2.6 Assistance

Assistance was offered to the public on:

<b>Nature</b>	<b>Oct., 2022</b>	<b>Nov., 2022</b>	<b>Dec., 2022</b>
First aid	6	6	8
Handicapped persons	0	0	0
Return of lost properties	4	7	5

## 2.7 Free Distribution of Publicity Materials

Nature	Oct., 2022	Nov., 2022	Dec., 2022
Pamphlets	694	1,376	844
Posters	25	37	51
Booklets	86	206	146

## 3. Law Enforcement

A total of 210 enforcement actions were taken in connection with the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208), Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96) and Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap.170). A breakdown of offences is summarised below:

Nature of offence	No. of cases
Illegal entry of bicycle	44
Illegal entry of vehicle	34
Illegal possession of cooking stove	4
Illegal use of fire	16
Damaging / cutting of plant	10
Illegal camping	98
Vandalism of country park facility	1
Littering	3 <sup>#</sup>
Illegal feeding of monkey	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>219</b>

Remarks: <sup>#</sup> Fixed Penalty Notice @\$1,500.

## B. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve

### 1. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve Management

#### 1.1 Facilities

As at 31.12.2022, the following facilities had been installed in Marine Parks and Marine Reserve:

Facilities	Total no. as at 31.12.2022	Facilities	Total no. as at 31.12.2022
Warning Sign	146	Boundary Marker Post	63
Information Sign Board	57	Marine Buoy	232

#### 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)			
	Oct., 2022	Nov., 2022	Dec., 2022	Total
Hoi Ha Wan	0.66 (0.54)	0.52 (0.73)	0.46 (0.67)	1.64 (1.94)
Yan Chau Tong	0.79 (0.87)	0.88 (0.92)	0.85 (1.02)	2.52 (2.81)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	1.82 (0.68)	1.65 (0.77)	1.83 (0.82)	5.3 (2.27)
Tung Ping Chau	1.54 (2.18)	1.89 (2.14)	2.01 (2.17)	5.44 (6.49)
Cape D'Aguiar	0.40 (0.36)	0.55 (0.29)	0.31 (0.22)	1.26 (0.87)
The Brothers	1.15 (1.09)	1.24 (1.13)	1.07 (0.58)	3.46 (2.8)
Southwest Lantau	1.21 (0.52)	1.17 (0.54)	0.22 (0.63)	2.60 (1.69)
South Lantau*	0.58 (--)	0.67 (--)	0.70 (--)	1.95 (--)
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.06</b> <b>(6.24)</b>	<b>8.57</b> <b>(6.52)</b>	<b>7.45</b> <b>(6.11)</b>	<b>24.17</b> <b>(18.87)</b>

Remarks:

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

\*Designated with effect from 30 June 2022.

## 2. Visitor Services / Education

### 2.1 Visitor Statistics

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

<b>Marine Park</b>	<b>Oct., 2022</b>	<b>Nov., 2022</b>	<b>Dec., 2022</b>	<b>Total</b>
Hoi Ha Wan	5,005 (6,575)	1,512 (4,227)	797 (2,828)	7,314 (13,630)
Yan Chau Tong	2,626 (1,594)	1,603 (2,078)	1,765 (2,123)	5,994 (5,795)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	156 (318)	371 (120)	185 (362)	712 (800)
Tung Ping Chau	2,631 (2,306)	2,431 (3,353)	1,766 (2,470)	6,828 (8,129)
Cape D'Aguilar Marine Reserve and nearby areas	6,928 (10,839)	5,057 (19,411)	6,538 (20,845)	18,523 (51,095)
The Brothers	119 (23)	120 (16)	109 (91)	348 (130)
Southwest Lantau	229 (86)	282 (214)	299 (488)	810 (788)
South Lantau*	21 (--)	66 (--)	57 (--)	144 (--)
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,715 (21,741)</b>	<b>11,442 (29,419)</b>	<b>11,516 (29,207)</b>	<b>40,673 (80,367)</b>

Remarks:

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

\* Designated with effect from 30.06.2022.



## 2.2 Visitor Centre

Guided eco-tours for public and schools at the visitor center were suspended during most of the reporting period due to the epidemic. The guided tours resumed on 17.12.2022. The monthly visitor statistics of the HHVC is summarised below:

	No. of Visitors		
	Oct., 2022	Nov., 2022	Dec., 2022
Hoi Ha Visitor Centre	1,088	911	869

## 2.3 Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme

The Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme has been commenced since August 2005. Up to 31.12.2022, there are a total of 625 Marine Parks Ambassadors. Ambassador activities were suspended due to the epidemics during the reporting period.

## 2.4 Education Programmes and Publicity

All field studies and guided eco-tours for schools were suspended while school talks were delivered in either physical or online format subject to the decision of the schools. Details of education activities organised in the reporting period are summarised below:

Activity	Total No. of Participants in the reporting period
School Educational Seminar	1,490

## 2.5 Enquiries

During the report period, a total of 172 enquiries was received and resolved. Details are listed below:

Nature	Oct., 2022	Nov., 2022	Dec., 2022	Total
General information	32	27	24	83
Visitor Centre and Education	36	35	18	89
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>172</b>

## 2.6 Free Distribution of Publicity Materials

Items	Oct., 2022	Nov., 2022	Dec., 2022
Leaflets	1,137	1,215	1,695
Others	387	475	450

## 3. Enforcement

The taskforce on sea enforcement work related to the Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476) and Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) was established to enhance synergistic effect. During the report period, there were 3 successful prosecutions on illegal fishing activities related to Cap. 171. In addition, 3 cases of illegal collection of marine life were successfully prosecuted under Cap. 476 while a total of 145 advices and 7 verbal warnings were given, and 2 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  
January 2023**