

Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site

1. General Information

1.1. Location and boundaries

The site is situated in the Northwest New Territories. It includes a large number of fish ponds around the Ramsar Site at Lut Chau, Lin Barn Tsuen and Ma Tso Lung areas.

1.2. Site description

1.2.1. Land status / tenure

- Government land = 413.9 ha
- Private land = 597.7 ha

1.2.2. Existing land use

The site mainly consists of fish ponds. Fish ponds are the predominant land coverage in the Deep Bay area. Many of the fish ponds are under commercial production though the intensity of management has decreased in recent years.

1.2.3. Existing statutory coverage

The site falls within the Wetland Conservation Area on a number of Outline Zoning Plans and Development Permission Area Plan (S/TSW/12; S/YL-LFS/7; S/YL-MP/6; S/YL-NSW/8; S/YL-PS/13; S/YL-ST/8; S/YL/20; DPA/NE-MTL/1). Any development within the Wetland Conservation Area would need to follow the Town Planning Board Guidelines TPB. No. 12B for Application for Developments within Deep Bay Area under Section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance.

2. Evaluation

Assessment Criteria (Weighting)	Comments	Score	Weighted score
1. Naturalness (15%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The major habitat type of this site is fish pond. Although fish ponds are man-made habitats and intensively modified by human, it maintains certain characteristics of natural wetland that attract lots of waterbirds and other wildlife. 	1	0.15
2. Habitat diversity (15%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This site comprises one major habitat type, i.e. fish pond. 	1	0.15
3. Non-recreatability (10%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The fish ponds are considered easy to be recreated. 	1	0.10
4. Species diversity & richness (30%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports moderate diversity (20% < diversity ≤ 50%) of birds – 166 species (36%). 	2	0.60
5. Species rarity / endemism (30%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the extremely rare Black-faced Spoonbill <i>Platalea minor</i>. 	3	0.90
		Total:	1.90