

## COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD

### Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report (1.11.2018 – 31.3.2019)

#### 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 1.11.2018 – 31.3.2019. 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

Item	Total no. as at 31.3.2019	Item	Total no. as at 31.3.2019
Barbecue Site	163	Shelter	292
Picnic Site	154	Refreshment Kiosk	8
Camp Site	41	Public Toilet	100
Morning Walker Garden	20	Portable Toilet	121

Amount of refuse collected ( metric tonnes)

Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb., 2019	Mar., 2019	Total
312 (338)	341 (394)	258 (278)	243 (233)	204 (245)	1,358 (1,488)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 1.2 Fire Protection

The 2018-2019 fire season started on 22.9.2018. Detailed figures are summarised below:-

Month	No. of fires inside or threatening country park		Area affected (Ha)		No. of trees affected	
		( )		( )		( )
Nov., 2018	0	(1)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Dec., 2018	1	(5)	0.01	(2.51)	0	(27)
Jan., 2019	1	(1)	94	(16)	0	(0)
Feb., 2019	1	(1)	0.06	(1.50)	0	(0)
Mar., 2019	0	(2)	0	(14.20)	0	(180)
Total	3	(10)	94.07	(34.21)	0	(207)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 1.3 Permitted Events

In the reporting period, permissions were given under Reg. 11 of the Country Parks and Special Areas Regulation to hold 455 events in country parks. Most of these events were related to sport competition, location filming and raising funds for charity.

## 1.4 Control of Development

A total of 56 development proposals were received. There was no objection to 19 of them, the other 36 were being processed and one were cancelled. Most of these were related to minor works concerning electricity supply and slope works.

## 2. Visitor Services / Education

### 2.1 Visitor Statistics

In the reporting period, a total of 5,588,000 persons visited the country parks and special areas. The monthly breakdown is as below for reference.

Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb., 2019	Mar., 2019	Total
1,182,000 (1,252,000)	1,244,000 (1,464,000)	1,108,000 (1,198,000)	1,056,000 (1,050,000)	998,000 (1,107,000)	5,588,000 (6,071,000)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

## 2.2 Visitor Centres

In the reporting period, a total of 6,520 persons joined the guided tours organised by the Country Park Visitor Centres and Education Centres. Besides, 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				
	Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb., 2019	Mar., 2019
Lions Nature Education Centre	46,184	58,144	36,728	25,352	44,832
Sai Kung Country Park Visitor Centre	4,937	6,371	4,812	3,070	4,285
Shing Mun Country Park Visitor Centre	14,483	15,555	12,353	12,338	10,171
Tai Mo Shan Country Park Visitor Centre	6,306	8,283	8,165	7,399	7,178
Ngong Ping Nature Centre	2,846	3,554	2,642	3,273	2,068
Woodside Biodiversity Education Centre	4,504	5,653	5,360	5,426	3,868
Aberdeen Tree Centre	675	977	689	763	566
Volcano Discovery Centre	10,653	11,366	8,380	9,472	8,184
Total	90,588	109,903	79,129	67,093	81,152

## 2.3 Country Park Volunteer Scheme

The Country Park Volunteer Scheme has been commenced since March 2010. Detailed figures of the Country Park Volunteer Scheme in the reporting period are summarised below:-

Country Park Volunteer Scheme	Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb, 2019	Mar., 2019
No. of volunteers/trainees	800	714	725	659	659
Total volunteer service hours	3,431.5	4,843.5	3,155	3,027	4,238

## 2.4 School Visit Programme

School visit programme was launched again in 2018-19 school year to convey nature conservation message to students. Detailed figures of the programme in the reporting period are summarised below:-

School Visit Programme	No. of Participants
Kindergartens	6,782
Primary Schools	4,050
Secondary Schools	1,007

## 2.5 Other Education Activities

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

Name of the Activity	Date	No. of Participants	Remarks
"Take Your Litter Home" & "Let's Go Plastic Free" promotional activities	November 2018 to March 2019	39,180	Including exhibitions, game booths, school competition, teacher's workshop and other promotion activities
Excursion with Experts	11 November 2018 & 22 December 2018	36	
"Red Leaves Festival" at Tai Lam Country Park	2 December 2018 to 6 January 2019 (Sundays & Public Holidays)	13,196	Including fixed point interpretation, photo exhibition and game booth
Countryside Adventure	November 2018 to March 2019	1,395	
"Orienteering: into the Country Parks" Experience Day	2 December 2018	905	
Tai Tong Fun Carnival	22 to 23 December 2018	7,441	
"Enjoy the Countryside · Hong Kong Country Parks" Roving Exhibition	28 February to 3 March 2019 9 to 12 March 2019 23 to 26 March 2019	16,424	
Hikling and Planting Day	17 & 31 March 2019	1,747	

## 2.6 Assistance

Assistance was offered to the public on:-

Nature	Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb, 2019	Mar., 2019
First aid	11	7	8	4	2
Handicapped persons	0	0	0	0	0
Return of lost properties	1	8	0	1	0

## 2.7 Free Distribution of Publicity Materials

Nature	Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb., 2019	Mar., 2019
Pamphlets	4,822	3,527	4,031	2,822	2,784
Posters	31	41	21	3	30
Booklets	798	338	1,227	610	545

## 3. Law Enforcement

A total of 379 enforcement actions were taken in connection with the Country Parks Ordinance, Forests and Countryside Ordinance and Wild Animals Protection Ordinance. A breakdown of offences is summarized below:

Nature of offence	No. of cases *
Illegal entry of bicycle	107
Illegal entry of vehicle	115
Illegal use of fire	2
Damaging and cutting of plant	5
Illegal digging of soil	4
Illegal displaying banner/sign	2
Illegal constructing/erecting of building/hut/shelter	1
Illegal carrying on business activity (filming)	1
Illegal operation of power driven model vehicle/aeroplane	1
Camping outside designated camping site	31
Littering	81 <sup>#</sup> + 0 <sup>△</sup>

Spitting	3 <sup>#</sup> + 0 <sup>△</sup>
Illegal feeding of wild animal	26
Total	379

Remarks:\* No. of cases denotes the number of persons intercepted for an offence during the reporting period.

# Fixed Penalty Notice @\$1,500.

△ Summons.

## B. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve

### 1. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve Management

#### 1.1 Facilities

As at 31.3.2019, the following facilities had been installed in Marine Parks and Marine Reserve:

Facilities	Total no. as at 31.3.2019	Facilities	Total no. as at 31.3.2019
Warning Sign	86	Litter Bin	8
Park Sign	12	Banner	0
Notice Sign (various purposes)	31	Boundary Light Buoy	19
Boundary Post	15	Mechanized Vessel Prohibited Zone Buoy	132
Marker Post (various purposes)	6	Inboard Vessel Prohibited Zone Buoy	4
Way Mark (various purposes)	4	Mooring Buoy	24
Information Board	6	Buoy (various purpose)	71

#### 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)					
	Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb., 2019	Mar., 2019	Total
Hoi Ha Wan	7.98 (7.19)	8.51 (7.54)	6.74 (7.81)	5.1 (5.48)	6.37 (6.07)	34.7 (34.09)
Yan Chau Tong	4.2 (3.46)	4.14 (4.08)	2.84 (3.04)	2.1 (2.60)	3.38 (2.90)	16.66 (16.08)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	5.93 (7.52)	6.4 (7.94)	6.52 (7.02)	4.57 (6.10)	5.75 (5.87)	29.17 (34.45)
Tung Ping Chau	7.1 (7.12)	6.62 (7.06)	6.24 (6.43)	5.68 (5.63)	6.55 (7.35)	32.19 (33.59)
Cape D'Aguilar	1.54 (0.94)	1.06 (0.74)	0.83 (0.61)	0.76 (0.60)	1.53 (0.69)	5.72 (3.58)
The Brothers*	0.32 (--)	0.32 (0.30)	0.34 (0.31)	0.33 (0.47)	0.33 (0.30)	1.64 (1.38)
Total	27.07 (26.23)	27.05 (27.66)	23.51 (25.22)	18.54 (20.88)	23.91 (23.18)	120.08 (123.17)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

\* Recording of cleaning service for The Brothers Marine Park was started at December 2017

## 2. Visitor Services / Education

### 2.1 Visitor Statistics

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

Marine Park	Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb., 2019	Mar., 2019	Total
Hoi Ha Wan	3,126 (2,326)	2,892 (1,820)	2,810 (1,754)	1,426 (1,015)	2,586 (3,294)	12,840 (10,209)
Yan Chau Tong	2,285 (3,835)	1,829 (3,402)	688 (1,786)	1,072 (1,878)	1,444 (2,962)	7,318 (13,863)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	554 (182)	445 (148)	363 (170)	146 (283)	240 (232)	1,748 (1,015)
Tung Ping Chau	1,479 (1,053)	794 (3,246)	1,093 (2,014)	587 (1,656)	2,312 (3,365)	6,265 (11,334)
The Brothers	204 (109)	211 (127)	249 (85)	35 (96)	88 (10)	787 (427)
Total	7,648 (7,505)	6,171 (8,743)	5,203 (5,809)	3,266 (4,928)	6,670 (9,863)	28,958 (36,848)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

### 2.2 Enquiries

During the report period, a total of 100 enquiries was received and answered. Details are listed below:

Nature	Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb., 2019	Mar., 2019	Total
General information	15	9	6	8	5	43
Park facilities	2	2	1	2	0	7
Education activities	5	1	2	2	3	13
Renewal for fishing permit	6	5	3	4	5	23
Ordinance and regulations	0	4	0	5	5	14
Total	28	21	12	21	18	100

All enquiries have been resolved.



### 2.3 Distribution of Educational and Publicity Materials

During the report period, a total of 6,885 educational and publicity materials were distributed to the public. Details are listed below:

Items	Nov., 2018	Dec., 2018	Jan., 2019	Feb., 2019	Mar., 2019	Total
Bookmarks	80	2	0	5	6	93
Leaflets	1,050	450	0	0	0	1,500
Stickers	30	200	130	30	50	440
Folders	30	400	50	30	50	560
Calendar	0	4,000	100	0	30	4,130
Tote bag	0	50	40	48	24	162
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>5,102</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>6,885</b>

### 2.4 Educational and Publicity Activities

During the report period, a total of 24 educational/publicity activities involving 925 participants were organised. Details are listed below:

Items	No.	No. of servicing Ambassador	Total no. of participant
<b>Education Activities</b>			
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park Ecotour	8	-	86
School Guided Tour	7	-	174
School Seminar	5	-	594
Field Study	1	-	25
<b>Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme</b>			
Shui Hau coastal clean-up*	1	7	7
Marine Parks Ambassador training workshop	1	21	21
Yi O tour	1	18	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>925</b>

\* Participated in the Clean Shoreline Event organized by Environmental Protection Department

**2.5** During the report period, our Marine Parks Ambassador participated in the following volunteer services and training programs: Shui Hau coastal clean-up, Yi O tour, and one Marine Parks Ambassador training workshop was organised. A total of 46 ambassadors joined the above activities.

**2.6** Up to 31 March 2019, a total of 141 Marine Parks Ambassadors have completed 20 hours services; 57 Ambassadors have completed 40 hours services; 31 Ambassadors have completed 70 hours services; 22 Ambassadors have completed 100 hours services, 14 Ambassadors have completed 150 hours services and 6 Ambassadors completed 200 hours service. They were awarded with the “Jellyfish Service Badge”, “Nautilus Service Badge”, “Fiddler Crab Service Badge”, “Starfish Service Badge”, “Humphead Wrasse Service Badge” and “Chinese White Dolphin Service Badge” respectively. Until the end of March 2019, the accumulated service hours of marine parks ambassadors are 10,589 hours.

### **3. Law Enforcement**

**3.1** During the report period, a total of 502 advices and 99 verbal warnings were given to fishermen and visitors and 10 prosecutions were taken against offenders in Marine Parks and Marine Reserve. A total of 16 Joint Anti-illegal Fishing Operations with Marine Police were conducted in Marine Parks.

Nature of offence	No. of prosecution	No. of completed hearing	Fines (HK\$)
Pleasure fishing	4	2	1,800
Other	6	5	5,100
Total	10	7	6,900

Remarks : \* The number denotes the cases initiated prosecution proceedings during the reporting period.

\*\* During the report period, the prosecution cases are not necessarily the same as the completed hearing cases.

### **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  
April 2019