

Country and Marine Parks Board
Summary Report of the Country Parks Committee

1. Purpose

1.1 To inform members on issues discussed at the Country Parks Committee (CPC) meeting held on 12 April 2012. Major issues discussed at the meeting are summarised below.

2. Proposed Designation of the Country Park Enclaves of Kam Shan and Yuen Tun as Part of Country Parks

2.1 Members were briefed on the proposal to incorporate the country park enclave of Kam Shan into the Kam Shan Country Park (KSCP) and the enclave of Yuen Tun into the Tai Lam Country Park (TLCP).

2.2 A member enquired about the time-table for proposed designation of the two enclaves. Members were informed that the Country and Marine Parks Authority (the Authority) would consult relevant District Councils (DCs) on the proposed designation. With endorsement of the CPC and in consultation with DCs, the Authority might seek the direction of the Chief Executive in Council (CEC) for replacement of the approved map of the KSCP and the TLCP by the new draft map. The Authority would prepare a new draft map of the KSCP and the TLCP with a view to incorporating the enclave and submit the two draft maps to the Country and Marine Parks Board (CMPB) for consideration. The new draft maps would be gazetted for public inspection for a period of 60 days. The CMPB would meet for the hearing of the objections lodged during the inspection period. After the objection hearing, the Authority shall submit the draft maps together with a schedule of objections and representations to the CEC for approval. It was estimated that at least nine months to one year were required to complete the statutory procedures of the proposed designation.

2.3 A member suggested that the Heung Yee Kuk (HYK) and relevant rural

committees should be consulted on the proposed designation. Other members remarked that the HYK and the rural committees might express their opinions during District Council consultation or the public inspection period of the new draft maps.

3. Opening of the Tin Fu Tsai North Section Mountain Bike Trail in Tai Lam Country Park

3.1 Members were briefed on the opening of Tin Fu Tsai North Section Mountain Bike Trail and the future development of mountain bike trails in Tai Lam Country Park.

3.2 Members enquired about the safety of mountain bike trail (MBT) users. Members were informed that AFCD promoted the user safety by communicating periodically with local mountain bike groups, disseminating the Code of Mountain Biking, conducting publicity events and popularizing user etiquette to all MBT users. To enhance public safety, AFCD would consider separation of hikers and bikers on different trails wherever possible and develop new MBTs only in Tai Lam Country Park and Lantau South Country Park.

4. Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report on Country Parks

4.1 The Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report on Country Parks for the period from 1 November 2011 to 29 February 2012 was presented at the meeting.

5. Presentation

5.1 This paper is prepared for members' information.