

COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD

Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report (1.4.2011 – 31.8.2011)

**A. Country Parks & Special Areas**

**I. CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

	Progress	Anticipated Completion Date
(1) Reconstruction of Rain Shelters in Country Parks for 2010 to 2011	Works completed on 14 April 2011.	-
(2) Provision of Sewage Treatment Facilities for Toilet in Chung Pui, Pat Sin Leng Country Park	Works commenced on 14 April 2011.	December 2011.
(3) Reconstruction of Needle Hill Section at Shing Mun Forest Track	Works completed on 21 April 2011.	-
(4) Reconstruction of Rain Shelters in Country Parks for 2011 to 2012	Tenders returned on 6 July 2011. The returned tender prices were greater than the approved limited for each project under block vote Subhead 610.	-

II. RECREATION FACILITIES AND SERVICES

(1) Management Services

Refuse collected (tonnes)

Year	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Total
2010	289	285	216	213	227	1,230
2011	346	289	233	239	246	1,353

Path maintained/upgraded 546 Km

No. of trees planted 728,900 No.

No. of trees produced in the nursery 696,900 No.

No. of trees tended 433,600 No.

(2) Provision of Facilities

Item	Total at 31.8.2011	Item	Total at 31.8.2011
Barbecue Site	178	Fitness Equipment	122
Picnic Site	167	Refreshment Kiosk	8
Camp Site	39	Flushing Toilet	51
Morning Walker Garden	24	No. of Portable Toilet	111
Information Board	356	Warden Post	17
Shelters	288	Visitor Centre/ Education Centre	8
Play Equipment	15		

(3) Fire Protection

The 2010-2011 fire season completed on 1.5.2011:

Month	No. of fires inside or threatening country park		Area affected (Ha)		No. of trees affected	
		( )		( )		( )
Apr., 11	6	(0)	45.50	(0)	2,480	(0)
May, 11	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Jun., 11	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Jul., 11	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Aug., 11	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
Total	6	(0)	45.50	(0)	2,480	(0)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

III. VISITOR STATISTICS

During the report period there was no change of visitor number compared with the corresponding period of last year. The monthly breakdown is as below:

Year	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Total
2010	1,209,000	1,203,000	971,000	1,040,000	953,000	5,376,000
2011	1,230,000	1,110,000	926,000	1,080,000	1,030,000	5,376,000
% change	+1.74%	-7.73%	-4.63%	+3.85%	+8.08%	0%

#### IV. LAW ENFORCEMENT

A total of 318 prosecution cases had been handled in connection with the Country Parks Ordinance, Forests and Countryside Ordinance and Wild Animals Protection Ordinance. The number of prosecutions is summarized below

Nature of offence	No. of cases *
Littering	130 <sup>#</sup>
Camping in non-designated site	11
Illegal entry of bicycle	93
Illegal entry of vehicle	59
Damaging and cutting plant	9
Spitting	2 <sup>#</sup>
Illegal use of fire	6
Illegal displaying banner	1
Illegal digging of soil	2
Illegal feeding of monkey	2
Illegal hawking	1
Illegal business activity (filming)	1
Illegal holding public meeting	1
Total	318

Remarks: \* No. of cases denotes the number of persons being prosecuted during the reporting period. Total fines for the period is \$274,600, which also includes the fines partly collected from cases carried forward from previous reporting periods and partly from current period. There are no unsuccessful prosecution cases in the reporting period.

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

V. ORGANIZED EVENTS

In the report period, 193 permits were given under Reg. 11 of the Country Parks and Special Areas Regulation to organized events (mainly sporting activities) in country parks.

Apr., 11	May, 11	Jun., 11	Jul., 11	Aug., 11	Total
47	53	40	24	29	193

VI. CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT

A total of 78 development proposals were received. There was no objection to 42 of them, the other 33 were being processed and 3 were cancelled. Most of these were related to minor works concerning electric supply and slope works.

VII. EDUCATION/VISITOR SERVICES

(1) No. of Visits to Visitor Centres

A total of 204,697 persons visited the Country Park Visitor Centres at Sai Kung, Aberdeen, Shing Mun, Clear Water Bay, Tai Mo Shan and Plover Cove; 196,526 persons visited Lions Nature Education Centre and 38,794 persons visited Ngong Ping Nature Centre.

(2) Video Shows of Country Parks

A total of 12,217 video shows on country parks and nature conservation were given, reaching an audience of 59,863. Besides, the "Songs of Nature" were played at various Visitor Centres to promote the voted Best Scenic Sites of Hong Kong.

(3) Guided Tour

A total of 1,818 participants from 45 organizations joined the guided tour at Lions Nature Education Centre; 1,553 participants from 136 groups joined the guided walk at Ngong Ping Nature Centre.

(4) Fixed Point Guided Tour

A total of 6,395 participants from 524 organizations joined the Fixed Point Guided Tour at Lions Nature Education Centre.

(5) Country Park Volunteer Scheme

Starting from March 2010 to August 2011, a total of 443 volunteers completed Country Park Volunteer Training. After 1 - 4 days training, the volunteers will assist the organization of various nature conservation and education activities of the country parks.

(6) School Visit Programme 10/11

A school visit programme was launched from November 2010 to June 2011 to convey nature conservation and geoconservation message to students. From April 2011 to June 2011, a total of 2,548 students from 33 kindergartens participated.

(7) Hiking and Planting Day

The department organized "Hiking and Planting Day" at Nei Lak Shan of Lantau North Country Park, Luk Chau Shan of Ma On Shan Country Park and Yeung Ka Tsuen of Tai Lam Country Park on 10, 17 April 2011 and 1 May 2011 respectively. A total of 6,880 people participated and planted 6,200 native tree seedlings in the event.

(8) Enquiries

Enquiries concerning Country Parks were received and handled. Details are listed below:

Nature	Apr., 11	May, 11	Jun., 11	Jul., 11	Aug., 11	Total
Information on public transport	4,632	4,561	4,290	5,388	4,729	23,600
Information on hiking routes	3,774	3,673	3,195	4,223	3,411	18,276
Location of recreation facilities	2,250	2,211	2,083	2,306	2,097	10,947
Location of utility facilities	2,200	1,678	1,560	1,851	1,730	9,019
Location of scenic places and similar information	2,493	2,599	2,558	2,723	1,967	12,340
Organized activities	1,806	1,429	1,535	1,784	1,288	7,842
Others *	5,242	5,509	4,657	4,563	3,586	23,557
Total	22,397	21,660	19,878	22,838	18,808	105,581

\* Mainly related to Pak Tam Chung barrier permit, coach permit, country parks publications, fishing licence, wild animals, marine parks, cycling permits, ordinances and regulations, dog vaccination.

(9) Advice

Advice was given to 219,968 visitors in the Country Parks as follows:

Nature	Apr., 11	May, 11	Jun., 11	Jul., 11	Aug., 11	Total
Littering	54,515	47,713	32,874	43,161	41,436	219,699
Polluting water course	4	5	6	0	0	15
Illegal cycling	9	9	11	0	0	29
Illegal entry of vehicle	11	11	11	0	0	33
Others	46	39	37	38	32	192
Total	54,585	47,777	32,939	43,199	41,468	219,968

(10) Assistance

Assistance was offered to the public on:

Nature	Apr., 11	May, 11	Jun., 11	Jul., 11	Aug., 11	Total
First aid	7	9	6	9	6	37
Handicapped persons	1,080	1,289	1,252	1,251	874	5,746
Search and rescue	3	4	4	6	1	18
Return of lost properties	4	5	5	3	2	19
Total	1,094	1,307	1,267	1,269	883	5,820

(11) Free Distribution of Publicity Materials

Nature	Apr., 11	May, 11	Jun., 11	Jul., 11	Aug., 11	Total
Pamphlets	10,135	8,729	10,155	11,652	10,481	51,152
Posters	137	138	110	85	87	557
Bookmarks	181	164	178	122	106	751
Transportation/Scenic Cards	86	38	55	45	35	259
Booklets	4,227	3,278	4,078	3,008	2,221	16,812
Others	1,179	107	71	63	57	1,477
Total	15,945	12,454	14,647	14,975	12,987	71,008

## B. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve

### 1. FACILITIES

As at 31.8.2011, the following facilities had been installed in marine parks and marine reserve:

Facilities	Constructed/replaced between 1.4.2011 – 31.8.2011	Total nos. at 31.8.2011
Warning/information sign	46 (replaced)	142
Park sign	1 (repaired)	23
Interpretative sign	15 (replaced)	17
Boundary marker buoy	-	14
Boundary post	-	17
Marker buoy	8 (repaired)	37
Mooring buoy for divers	3 (repaired)	14
Sign post	-	10
Information board	1 (repaired)	7
Litter bin	-	19
Way mark	-	5
Buoy for Mechanized Vessel Restricted Zone	40 (repaired)	78
Banners	-	2
Buoy for Inboard Vessel Prohibited Zone	-	4

### 2. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ADVICE

2.1 During the report period, a total of 1,396 advices; 302 verbal warnings and 3 warning letters were given to fishermen and visitors and 26 prosecutions were taken against offenders in marine parks and marine reserve.

2.2 A total of 18 prosecution cases charged under the Marine Parks Ordinance were heard in Magistracies and all defendants pleaded guilty:

Nature of offence	Nos. of cases	Fines (HK\$)
Pleasure fishing	13	6,100
Littering	2	3,000
Collection of Marine Organisms	3	1,500
Total	18	10,600



### 3. LITTER COLLECTION

During the report period, the amount of litter collected in marine parks and marine reserve is as follows:

Marine Park / Marine Reserve	Nos. of tonnage (1.4.2011 – 31.8.2011)	
	Hoi Ha Wan	21
Yan Chau Tong	25	(25)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	31	(31)
Tung Ping Chau *	61	(55)
Cape D'Aguiar	10	(1)
Total	148	(132)

( ) denotes figures of same period last year

\* Starting from May 2010, 2 more days per week were assigned for cleaning in Tung Ping Chau

### 4. FISHING PERMITS

Number of fishing permits renewed during the report period:

Marine Park	Nos. of renewal	Total nos. of valid permits (as at 31.8.2011)
Hoi Ha Wan (HHW)	2	10
Yan Chau Tong (YCT)	4	14
HHW & YCT	42	62
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	14	91
Tung Ping Chau (TPC)	21	46
TPC & HHW	2	4
TPC & YCT	2	4
TPC & HHW & YCT	122	168
Total	209	399

Starting from 1 May 2005, the general validity period of renewed fishing permit is 2 years.

### 5. MONITORING

#### 5.1 Water Quality Monitoring

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology was commissioned to carry out water quality monitoring in marine parks and marine reserve in 2011-12. The results are generally good and in compliance with the Water Quality Objectives. A summary result of water quality statistics of 2004 – June 2011 has been uploaded onto the AFCD's homepage ([http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/country/cou\\_vis/cou\\_vis\\_mar/cou\\_vis\\_mar\\_mon/cou\\_vis\\_mar\\_mon\\_wat.html](http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/country/cou_vis/cou_vis_mar/cou_vis_mar_mon/cou_vis_mar_mon_wat.html)).

## 5.2 Fishing Survey

5.2.1 Fishing survey at Cape D' Aguilar Marine Reserve continued. The objective is to investigate the long-term enhancement effect of the marine reserve on fisheries resources. The recent result showed that the Catch-per-unit-effort and the diversity of fish remain stable inside the marine reserve and is higher than surrounding waters.

5.2.2 Quarterly fishing surveys at Hoi Ha Wan, Yan Chau Tong and Tung Ping Chau Marine Parks have been carried out to monitor the fisheries stocks in the 3 marine parks. The Catch-per-unit-effort and the diversity of fish inside the marine park are general better than outside the marine parks area.

## 5.3 Dolphin Sightings

Off-effort dolphin sighting were conducted during the course of patrol of Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park. It was evident that Chinese White Dolphins utilize the marine parks and the waters around as usual.

## 6. EDUCATION AND VISITOR SERVICES

6.1 During the report period, the number of visitors in marine parks is as follows:

Marine Park	Nos. of Visitors (1.4.2011 – 31.8.2011)	
	Hoi Ha Wan	41,300
Yan Chau Tong	24,900	(18,700)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	6,960	(4,200)
Tung Ping Chau	37,980	(31,900)
Total	111,140	(96,600)

( ) denotes figures of same period last year

6.2 During the period from 1.4.2011 - 31.8.2011, a total of 460 enquiries were received and answered. Details are listed below:

Nature	Nos.
Location of Park	2
Park facilities	88
Education activities	267
Renewal for fishing permit	99
Refuse & unhygiene condition	1
Fishing Activities	1
Others	2
Total	460

6.3 During the report period, a total of 6,707 educational and publicity materials were distributed to the public. Details are listed below:

Items	Nos.
Leaflets	823
Bookmarks	3,775
Field Guides	129
Visitor Code Card	50
Poster	1,705
DVD	14
Booklet	4
Others	207
Total	6,707

6.4 During the report period, a total of 113 educational activities involving 3,035 participants were organized. Details are listed below:

Items	Nos.	Nos. of participant
Marine Based Guided Tours – Exploration of fishermen culture and marine resources in Hong Kong	22	683
Marine Based Guided Tours – Exploration of fishermen culture and marine resources in Hong Kong – Teacher Workshop	1	22
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park Ecotour	40	291
Field Studies	5	89
School Guided Tour	28	758
Coastal Cleanup	2	15
School Seminar	7	910
Public Seminars on Marine Parks and Marine Ecological Resources	5	246
Others	3	21
Total	113	3,035

6.5 During the report period, Marine Parks Ambassadors participated in the following volunteer services: Replantation, Coastal Cleanup at Sham Wan of Lamma Island, Hong Kong Reef Check 2011 Opening Ceremony and Technical Seminar, and Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park Coastal Cleanup. A total of 34 ambassadors joined the above activities.

6.6 A total of 5 public seminars on Marine Parks and Marine Ecological Resources were organized in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre in July 2011 with 246 people attended.

6.7 Marine Parks Division has launched “Marine Based Guided Tours – Exploration of fishermen culture and marine resources in Hong Kong” starting from Oct 2010 to help fishermen develop fisheries related ecotourism business. During the report period, 22 tours were held with 683 participants. A Teacher Workshop was held, with 22 teachers joined.

6.8 Up to 31 August 2011, a total of 81 Marine Parks Ambassadors had completed 20 hours services; 29 Ambassadors had completed 40 hours services; 18 Ambassadors had completed 70 hours services; 11 Ambassadors had completed 100 hours services, 5 Ambassadors had completed 150 hours services and 1 Ambassador 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 August 2011, the accumulated service hours of marine parks ambassadors are 5,498 hours.

**C. Performance Pledges**

**Quarterly Performance Results ending June 2011**

Item	Service/Application	Target turn around time	No. of Applications	No. of Applications Meeting Targets	% of Applications Meeting Targets
	<b><u>Conservation</u></b>				
1	Plant Collection Permit	3 working days	2	2	100%
2	Mai Po Marshes Entry Permit	3 working days	165	165	100%
		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>100%</b>
	<b><u>Country and Marine Parks</u></b>				
3	Pak Tam Chung Barrier Permit	2 working days	265	265	100%
4	Location Filming Permit	3 working days	84	84	100%
5	Organized Event Permit in Country Parks	3 working days	56	56	100%
6	Permit to hold Sports Competition in Marine Parks	4 working days	0	0	N/A
7	Permit to hold Public Event in Marine Parks	4 working days	0	0	N/A
		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>100%</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>100%</b>

Country and Marine Parks Authority  
 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  
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