

COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD

Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report (1.12.2010 – 31.3.2011)

**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 commenced on 17 September 2010.	April 2011.
(2) Reconstruction of Tai Lam Forest Track for Tsing Lung Tau and Tai Tong Sections (Phase II)	Works completed on 9 December 2010.	-
(3) Provision of Sewage Treatment Facilities for Toilet in Chung Pui, Pat Sin Leng Country Park	Works commenced on 14 April 2011.	December 2011.
(4) Reconstruction of Needle Hill Section at Shing Mun Forest Track	Works commenced on 24 January 2011.	23 April 2011.

## II. RECREATION FACILITIES AND SERVICES

### (1) Management Services

Refuse collected (tonnes)

Year	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Total
2009 - 2010	362	328	272	270	1,232
2010 - 2011	344	306	295	269	1,214

Path maintained/upgraded 197 Km

No. of trees planted 10,300 No.

No. of trees produced in the nursery 12,300 No.

No. of trees tended 132,000 No.

### (2) Provision of Facilities

Item	Constructed/ Replaced Since 1.12.2010	Total at 31.3.2011	Item	Constructed/ Replaced Since 1.12.2010	Total at 31.3.2011
Barbecue Site	-	184	Fitness Equipment	-	108
Picnic Site	-	164	Animated Features	-	56
Camp Site	-	38	Interpretative Signs	-21	1,350
Morning Walker Garden	-	25	Refreshment Kiosk	-	8
Information Board	-14	360	Flushing Toilet	-	49
Signs & Notices	-20	4,670	Warden Post	-	17
Shelters	-	284	Visitor Centre/ Education Centre	-	8
Play Equipment	-	54			

(3) Fire Protection

The 2010-2011 fire seasons commenced on 18.9.2010 :

Month	No. of fires inside or threatening country park		Area affected (Ha)		No. of trees affected	
		( )		( )		( )
Dec., 10	10	(2)	555.20	(5.25)	16,010	(300)
Jan., 11	5	(2)	24.50	(2.50)	610	(150)
Feb., 11	11	(0)	219.70	(0)	1,135	(0)
Mar., 11	9	(3)	46.70	(10)	8,560	(0)
Total	35	(7)	846.10	(17.75)	26,315	(450)

( ) denotes figures of same month last year.

III. VISITOR STATISTICS

During the report period there was an overall increase of 2.23 % of visitor number compared with the corresponding period of last year. The monthly breakdown is as below:

Year	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Total
2009 - 2010	1,215,000	1,116,000	1,059,000	1,092,000	4,482,000
2010 - 2011	1,247,000	1,146,000	1,111,000	1,078,000	4,582,000
% change	+2.63%	+2.69%	+4.91%	-1.28%	+2.23%

In 2010 the number of visitors to each country park is given below:

Visitor Data Jan - Dec 2010

Region	Country Parks/ Special Area*	No. of Visitors												Sub-total
		1/2010	2/2010	3/2010	4/2010	5/2010	6/2010	7/2010	8/2010	9/2010	10/2010	11/2010	12/2010	
Hong Kong	Aberdeen	89,400	67,800	77,400	76,500	72,600	68,000	53,700	65,900	53,300	91,700	96,000	103,800	916,100
	Tai Tam	36,000	26,400	31,200	35,400	33,300	31,900	28,400	34,000	34,200	49,800	66,300	63,700	470,600
	Lung Fu Shan	23,500	21,400	22,200	23,000	23,200	22,000	21,400	22,700	21,600	23,400	23,400	22,500	270,300
	Quarry Bay	69,200	62,100	67,600	65,500	65,400	64,400	66,000	67,100	64,200	71,200	67,100	60,500	790,300
	Pokfulam	18,900	16,600	16,600	19,600	19,000	17,900	17,000	17,400	18,400	19,700	19,800	18,700	219,600
	Sub-total	237,000	194,300	215,000	220,000	213,500	204,200	186,500	207,100	191,700	255,800	272,600	269,200	2,666,900
Lantau	Lantau (N&S)	141,300	191,500	157,800	206,900	212,300	167,700	276,700	216,600	152,600	183,200	178,500	192,200	2,277,300
	Sub-total	141,300	191,500	157,800	206,900	212,300	167,700	276,700	216,600	152,600	183,200	178,500	192,200	2,277,300
West	Tai Mo Shan	24,300	17,200	19,000	19,000	23,300	11,400	21,900	15,900	14,900	26,800	25,200	24,900	243,800
	Tai Lam	28,100	12,700	16,700	8,500	16,300	17,500	11,800	12,300	13,100	27,400	40,500	28,300	233,200
	Sub-total	52,400	29,900	35,700	27,500	39,600	28,900	33,700	28,200	28,000	54,200	65,700	53,200	477,000
North	Plover Cove	272,200	258,200	241,300	276,700	279,900	236,200	238,200	220,000	223,300	236,300	242,600	291,400	3,016,300
	Pat Sin Leng	34,100	32,500	33,300	37,700	33,300	27,400	27,400	27,000	27,300	30,800	33,800	35,000	379,600
	Tai Po Kau	6,700	5,300	5,800	6,800	7,000	5,100	5,200	4,900	5,800	6,300	5,700	7,700	72,300
	Lam Tsuen	300	200	200	200	100	600	400	200	300	700	400	200	3,800
	Sub-total	313,300	296,200	280,600	321,400	320,300	269,300	271,200	252,100	256,700	274,100	282,500	334,300	3,472,000
Central	Shing Mun	54,200	42,000	42,700	51,000	49,100	32,100	33,900	32,300	35,000	59,100	47,800	60,300	539,500
	Kam Shan	8,300	8,100	8,000	7,900	8,300	7,400	6,800	7,600	6,400	10,500	9,500	10,900	99,700
	Lion Rock	11,900	10,500	10,400	12,000	12,600	10,000	8,900	9,400	9,600	15,100	14,000	15,100	139,500
	Ma On Shan	42,400	38,800	41,000	38,600	38,100	34,200	28,500	32,400	31,900	35,800	46,100	42,300	450,100
	Sub-total	116,800	99,400	102,100	109,500	108,100	83,700	78,100	81,700	82,900	120,500	117,400	128,600	1,228,800
Sai Kung	Sai Kung (E&W)	164,300	178,700	204,500	223,300	216,600	153,400	148,600	117,800	128,600	174,000	189,000	189,500	2,088,300
	Sub-total	164,300	178,700	204,500	223,300	216,600	153,400	148,600	117,800	128,600	174,000	189,000	189,500	2,088,300
LNEC	Tsui Hang*	31,000	22,700	43,100	44,300	44,800	30,000	22,700	25,500	18,900	47,200	72,100	40,900	443,200
	Clear Water Bay	59,800	45,900	53,300	55,900	48,100	34,000	22,900	23,600	26,000	32,500	56,200	39,100	497,300
	Sub-total	90,800	68,600	96,400	100,200	92,900	64,000	45,600	49,100	44,900	79,700	128,300	80,000	940,500
Total		1,115,900	1,058,600	1,092,100	1,208,800	1,203,300	971,200	1,040,400	952,600	885,400	1,141,500	1,234,000	1,247,000	13,150,800

#### IV. LAW ENFORCEMENT

A total of 259 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	1 <sup>△</sup> +106 <sup>#</sup>
Camping in non-designated site	11
Illegal entry of bicycle	78
Illegal entry of vehicle	41
Damaging and cutting plant	4
Illegal possession of hunting appliance	3
Illegal use of fire	4
Illegal displaying banner	2
Illegal digging of soil	1
Illegal constructing of building or shelter	2
Illegal feeding of monkey	5
Illegal business activity (filming)	1
Total	259

Remarks: \*No. of cases denotes the number of persons being prosecuted during the reporting period. Total fines for the period is \$247,895, 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.

<sup>△</sup> Summons.

#### V. ORGANIZED EVENTS

In the report period, 210 permits were given under Reg. 11 of the Country Parks and Special Areas Regulation to organized events (mainly sporting activities) in country parks.

Dec., 10	Jan., 11	Feb., 11	Mar., 11	Total
48	74	36	52	210

## VI. CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT

A total of 46 development proposals were received. There was no objection to 23 of them, the other 23 were being processed. 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 211,151 persons visited the Country Park Visitor Centres at Sai Kung, Aberdeen, Shing Mun, Clear Water Bay, Tai Mo Shan and Plover Cove; 166,224 persons visited Lions Nature Education Centre and 32,953 persons visited Ngong Ping Nature Centre.

### (2) Video Shows of Country Parks

A total of 7,170 video shows on country parks and nature conservation were given, reaching an audience of 33,832. 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 1,339 participants from 36 organizations joined the guided tour at Lions Nature Education Centre; 1,134 participants from 137 groups joined the guided walk at Ngong Ping Nature Centre.

### (4) Fixed Point Guided Tour

A total of 10,372 participants from 1,304 organizations joined the Fixed Point Guided Tour at Lions Nature Education Centre. A total of 135 participants from 11 organizations joined the High Island Fixed Point Guided Tour.

### (5) Country Park Volunteer Scheme

Starting from March 2010 to March 2011, a total of 202 volunteers joined Country Park Volunteer Training. After 4-day trainings, the volunteers will assist the organization of various nature conservation and education activities of the country parks. The fifth batch of training will be arranged in May 2011.

### (6) Geopark Festival

To promote geo-conservation, the department held a series of activities, including a kick-off ceremony, funfair, paper-cutting roadshows and workshops, photo contests and workshops, and a vote for the best geo-tour route during the "Geopark Festival" since 30 October 2010. A total of 90,000 people participated in "Geopark Festival" at the end of March 2011.

### (7) Great Outdoors Hong Kong

A total of 6,455 people participated in the "Great Outdoors Hong Kong!" hiking activities organized by the department and Hong Kong Tourism Board.

(8) 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 December 2010 to March 2011, a total of 2,983 students from 38 kindergartens participated.

(9) Country Parks Reporters Competition

The department organized an inter-school contest called “Country Parks Reporters Competition” in March 2011. A total of 223 students from 20 schools participated.

(10) Country Parks Orienteering Programme

In March 2011, the department organized the “Country Parks Orienteering” programme for students to experience orienteering and to learn about the country parks. A total of 317 students from 8 schools participated.

(11) Hong Kong Tree Planting Day

A total of 1,945 participants planted 10,100 trees in Tai Lam Country Park in the “Hong Kong Tree Planting Day” on 26 March 2011 for better environment.

(12) Enquiries

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

Nature	Dec., 10	Jan., 11	Feb., 11	Mar., 11	Total
Information on public transport	3,946	3,490	3,153	3,693	14,282
Information on hiking routes	3,986	3,541	2,534	2,880	12,941
Location of recreation facilities	1,922	1,852	1,303	1,825	6,902
Location of utility facilities	1,900	1,831	1,334	1,892	6,957
Location of scenic places and similar information	1,598	1,617	1,417	3,048	7,680
Organized activities	1,311	1,426	1,412	1,660	5,809
Others *	4,730	5,809	4,751	5,602	20,892
Total	19,393	19,566	15,904	20,600	75,463

\* 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.

(13) Advice

Advice was given to 165,408 visitors in the Country Parks as follows:

Nature	Dec., 10	Jan., 11	Feb., 11	Mar., 11	Total
Littering	50,528	42,287	33,793	38,562	165,170
Polluting water course	3	4	4	6	17
Illegal cycling	26	11	2	9	48
Illegal entry of vehicle	14	9	8	2	33
Others	44	42	27	27	140
Total	50,615	42,353	33,834	38,606	165,408

(14) Assistance

Assistance was offered to the public on:

Nature	Dec., 10	Jan., 11	Feb., 11	Mar., 11	Total
First aid	11	10	5	6	32
Handicapped persons	2,450	2,800	2,402	1,252	8,904
Search and rescue	5	3	5	4	17
Return of lost properties	2	5	6	5	18
Total	2,468	2,818	2,418	1,267	8,971

(15) Free Distribution of Publicity Materials

Nature	Dec., 10	Jan., 11	Feb., 11	Mar., 11	Total
Pamphlets	10,731	9,680	7,986	10,155	38,552
Posters	77	74	36	110	297
Bookmarks	504	185	142	178	1,009
Transportation/Scenic Cards	62	56	0	55	173
Booklets	2,799	2,961	2,743	4,078	12,581
Others	400	84	0	71	555
Total	14,573	13,040	10,907	14,647	53,167



## B. Marine Parks and Marine Reserve

### 1. FACILITIES

As at 31.3.2011, the following facilities had been installed in marine parks and marine reserve:

Facilities	Constructed/replaced between 1.12.2010 – 31.3.2011	Total nos. at 31.3.2011
Warning/information sign	16 (replaced)	128
Park sign	1 (replaced)	21
Interpretative sign	37 (replaced)	51
Boundary marker buoy	-	14
Boundary post	-	17
Marker buoy	2 (replaced)	38
Mooring buoy for divers	1 (replaced)	32
Sign post	-	21
Information board	2 (repaired)	6
Litter bin	-	21
Way mark	4 (replaced)	10
Buoy for Mechanized Vessel Restricted Zone	30 (repaired)	205
Banners	1 (replaced)	2
Buoy for Inboard Vessel Prohibited Zone	-	4

### 2. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ADVICE

2.1 During the report period, a total of 720 advices; 158 verbal warnings and 1 warning letter were given to fishermen and visitors and 8 prosecutions were taken against offenders in marine parks and marine reserve.

2.2 A total of 21 prosecution cases in connection with the Marine Parks Ordinance were heard at the magistrate courts and all defendants had pleaded guilty:

Nature of offence	Nos. of cases	Fines (HK\$)
Pleasure fishing	14	8,050
Littering	2	3,000
Collecting marine lives	2	1,300
Anchoring	1	1,500
Mainland fishermen illegal fishing	2	400
Total	21	14,250

### 3. LITTER COLLECTION

2.3 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 (1.12.2010 – 31.3.2011)	
	Hoi Ha Wan	15
Yan Chau Tong	19	(20)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	25	(25)
Tung Ping Chau*	48	(28)
Cape D'Aguilar	7	(3)
Total	114	(92)

( ) 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

2.4 Number of fishing permits renewed during the report period:

Marine Park	Nos. of renewal	Total nos. of valid permits (as at 31.3.2011)
Hoi Ha Wan (HHW)	0	10
Yan Chau Tong (YCT)	1	14
HHW & YCT	4	66
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	4	97
Tung Ping Chau (TPC)	2	47
TPC & HHW	0	5
TPC & YCT	0	4
TPC & HHW & YCT	5	181
Total	16	424

Starting from 1 May 2005, the 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 2010-11. The results are generally good and in compliance with the Water Quality Objectives. A summary of water quality monitoring from 2004 – March 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 had been carried out to monitor the levels of fish stocks in the three marine parks. The Catch-per-unit-effort and the diversity of fish inside the marine parks are generally better than the area immediately outside.

### 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 are as follows:

Marine Park	Nos. of Visitors (1.12.2010 – 31.3.2011)	
	Hoi Ha Wan	30,900
Yan Chau Tong	21,300	(17,900)
Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau	2,800	(2,900)
Tung Ping Chau	18,500	(17,300)
Total	73,500	(61,400)

( ) denotes figures of same period last year

6.2 During the period from 1.12.2010 – 31.3.2011, a total of 272 enquiries was received and answered. Details are listed below:

Nature	Nos.
Information on public transport	7
Park facilities	40
Education activities	163
Renewal for fishing permit	60
Fishing Activities	2
Total	272

6.3 During the report period, a total of 10,558 educational and publicity materials were distributed to the public. Details are listed below:

Items	Nos.
Leaflets	3,422
Bookmarks	5,233
Field Guides	30
Code cards	225
Posters	1,431
DVD	12
Others	205
Total	10,558

6.4 During the report period, a total of 162 educational activities involving 6,924 participants were organized. Details are listed below:

Items	Nos.	Nos. of participant
Marine Based Guided Tours – Exploration of fishermen culture, marine and geo-resources in Hong Kong	90	2,886
Teachers workshop – Exploration of fishermen culture, marine and geo-resources in Hong Kong	4	84
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park Ecotour	20	174
Field Studies	2	29
School Guided Tour	20	541
Beach Cleanup	1	23
School Lecture	16	1,640
Dolphin Watching	1	58
Mobile Exhibition	1	1,254
Public Seminars on Geo-heritage and Ecology	2	216
Others	5	19
Total	162	6,924

6.5 During the report period, Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme provided voluntary service in the following activities: dolphin-watching activity in Sha Chau & Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park, Reef Check 2010 Closing ceremony at City University of Hong Kong, the 16th Ocean Park Conservation Weekend, and preparation meetings for the Ocean Park Conservation weekend, “Hong Kong Marine Wonders – Paper-cutting Competition” closing ceremony at Hong Kong Central Library, coastal cleanup service at Tung Ping Chau Marine Park, and visit to the marine science laboratory, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. A total of 62 Marine Parks Ambassadors had taken part in these activities.

Marine Parks Division has launched “Marine Based Guided Tour – Exploration of fishermen culture, marine and geo-heritage resources in Hong Kong” for secondary schools starting from Oct 2010. During the report period, 90 guided tours with 2,886 participants were held. Furthermore, 4 teacher workshops on the same topic were held with 84 teachers participated.

6.6 Up to 31 Mar 2011, a total of 78 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, 4 Ambassadors had completed 150 hours services and 1 Ambassador completed 200 hours service. They were respectively awarded with the “Jellyfish Service Badge”, “Nautilus Service Badge”, “Fiddler Crab Service Badge”, “Starfish Service Badge”, “Humphead Wrasse Service Badge” and “Sousa Chinensis Service Badge”. Until the end of March 2011, the accumulated service hours of marine parks ambassadors totalled 5,395 hours.

**C. Performance Pledges**

**I. Quarterly Performance Results ending December 2010**

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	4	4	100%
2	Mai Po Marshes Entry Permit	3 working days	225	225	100%
		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>100%</b>
	<b><u>Country and Marine Parks</u></b>				
3	Pak Tam Chung Barrier Permit	2 working days	345	345	100%
4	Location Filming Permit	3 working days	57	57	100%
5	Organized Event Permit in Country Parks	3 working days	92	92	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>494</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>100%</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>100%</b>

**II. Quarterly Performance Results ending March 2011**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Service/Application</b>	<b>Target turn around time</b>	<b>No. of Applications</b>	<b>No. of Applications Meeting Targets</b>	<b>% of Applications Meeting Targets</b>
	<b><u>Conservation</u></b>				
1	Plant Collection Permit	3 working days	4	4	100%
2	Mai Po Marshes Entry Permit	3 working days	435	435	100%
		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>100%</b>
	<b><u>Country and Marine Parks</u></b>				
3	Pak Tam Chung Barrier Permit	2 working days	321	321	100%
4	Location Filming Permit	3 working days	56	56	100%
5	Organized Event Permit in Country Parks	3 working days	33	33	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>410</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>100%</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>100%</b>

Country and Marine Parks Authority  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  
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