

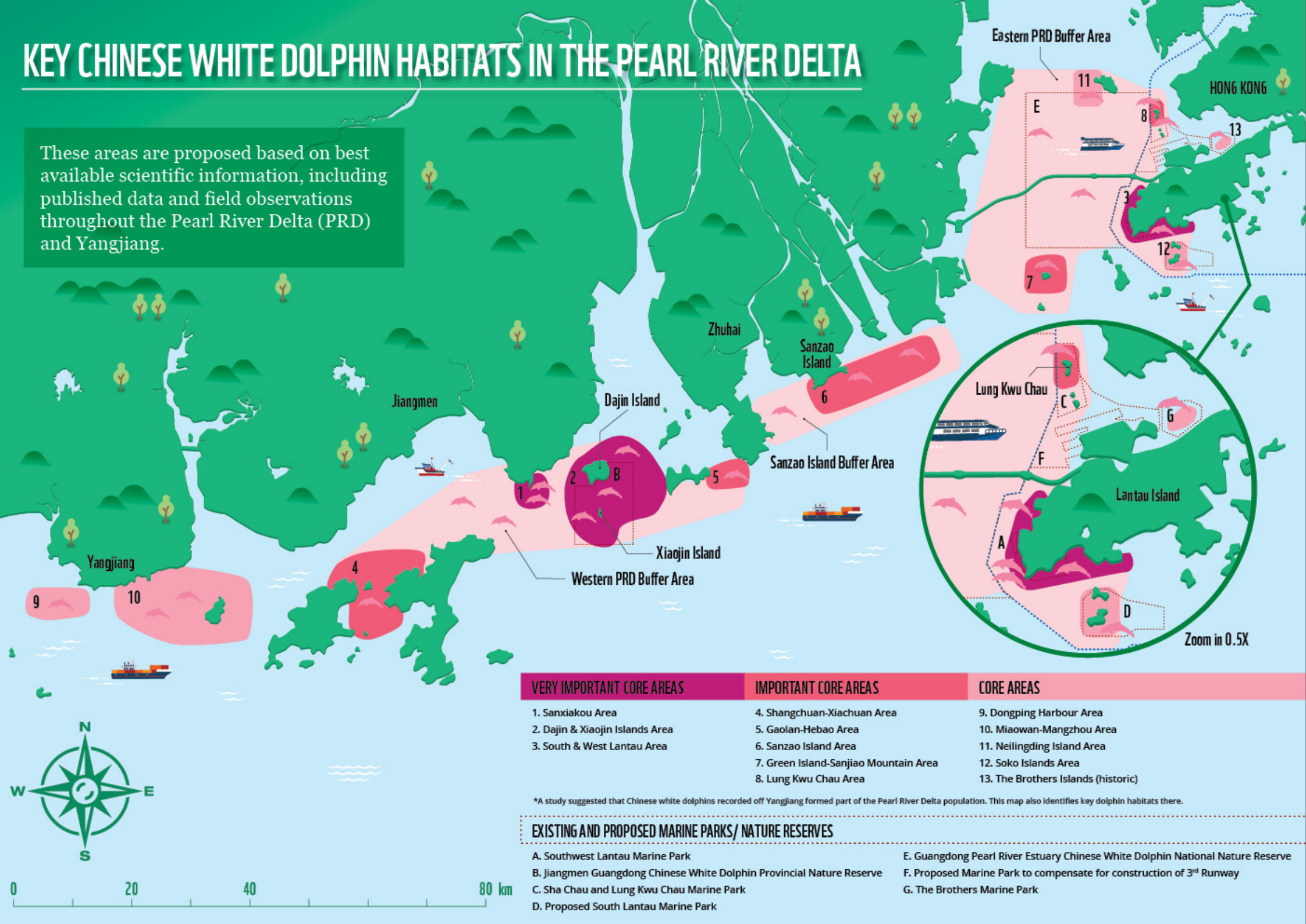


HONG KONG

ABOUT LIFE
JUNE 2020

KEY CHINESE WHITE DOLPHIN HABITATS IN THE PEARL RIVER DELTA

These areas are proposed based on best available scientific information, including published data and field observations throughout the Pearl River Delta (PRD) and Yangjiang.



CHAIRMAN & CEO MESSAGE



In these unprecedented times solidarity is essential to urgently transform our relationship with nature. Here at WWF we care for our world and we know you do too. We would like to thank each of you for your ongoing support. Together we can care for each other as our thoughts are with friends and family and living simpler, more sustainable lives.

A survey carried out in March showed that 94% of Hong Kongers support the closure of wildlife markets. Our wildlife conservation team is currently working to identify a list of high-risk markets across Asia, including those known to sell species that harbour diseases that have jumped to human populations.

Across the Pearl River Delta, our oceans conservation team is working to implement an emergency action plan for Chinese white dolphins. On the opposite page you can see the key dolphin zones that have been proposed to mitigate human threats on dolphins and give the population a chance to stabilize and recover. We continue our work to transform Hong Kong into Asia's

most sustainable city by returning our oceans to good health, transitioning towards zero carbon, minimising the space we use, eliminating waste, and reimagining success for Hong Kong to become a sustainable city.

Our visitor centres across Hong Kong remain at the frontline of our work to engage our supporters. From the rich underwater life of Hoi Ha, to the wetland wonders of Mai Po, and the cultural heritage of Island House, we have a range of eco-visits and nature adventures for visitors of all ages. Our centres are evolving with enhanced exhibition and interactive learning areas to cater for students, members of the public and citizen scientists. We look forward to welcoming you to our centres sometime soon.

together possible™

Edward M. Ho
Chairman, Executive Council
of WWF-Hong Kong

Peter Cornthwaite
Chief Executive Officer,
WWF-Hong Kong

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ABOUT LIFE

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OUR PLANET: OUR BUSINESS

This year we are calling on Hong Kong's business leaders to work with us to reimagine success and set a new course for our planet. New Deal for Nature and People aims to protect and restore nature by 2030, safeguarding at least 30% of natural spaces and sustainably managing the rest. The message at the core of *Our Planet: Our Business* engagement work is that biodiversity loss is as grave a threat to the future of our planet as the looming climate crisis.

Business as usual is no longer possible. Our economic development is driving a phenomenal increase in the demand for energy, land and water that is fundamentally changing the Earth's operating system. Nature, underpinned by biodiversity, provides a wealth of services which form the building blocks of modern society. We are losing biodiversity as a rate seen only during mass extinctions.

So what can businesses do? WWF has identified five key goals that businesses can strive towards:

- Adopting clean, renewable technologies to achieve zero carbon emissions;
- Looking at land management to minimize the space we use;
- Returning our oceans to good health with sustainable fishing and protection of threatened species;
- Eliminating waste as much as possible by transitioning towards a circular economy, and;
- Fundamentally rethinking the way we define business success.

Later this year world leaders will review our progress on Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Business as usual is no longer an option. With the aid of environmental finance, clean energy, green buildings and a more sustainable approach to food and other commodities, we can work with city's business leaders to realise our vision of transforming Hong Kong into Asia's most sustainable city.

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Thank you for joining us to protect threatened wildlife species!

BE OUR GUEST



“Mai Po brings together groups to tackle the threats to biodiversity and learn about the issues surrounding the protection of Deep Bay wetlands and the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. With the arrival of summer, we launch our Night Safari, allowing visitors to catch a glimpse of the reserve’s nocturnal inhabitants; and *Gei Wai* Harvesting, providing insight into ‘wise use’ of wetlands.”

Ricky Cheng

*Centre Manager, Mai Po
WWF-Hong Kong*



“The Long Ping visitor centre, near Long Ping MTR exit B2, serves as a meeting point for visitors that have booked a tour to Mai Po and are using our shuttle bus service to and from the reserve. At Long Ping you can also discover green living tips and check out a selection of our best eco products.”

Gordon Mackenzie

*Operations Manager
WWF-Hong Kong*



local biodiversity of Ting Kok and Tolo Harbour.”

Matthew Wu

*Assistant Centre Manager, Island House
WWF-Hong Kong*



“At our oceans sustainability centre at Hoi Ha Wan you can learn about the pressing environmental issues threatening our seas, such as marine litter and microplastics, or discover the hidden world of plankton. Our glass-bottomed boat provides an up-close look at the city’s rich at the area’s biodiversity, featuring more than 60 coral species and 120 species of fish.”

Pia Ricca

*Centre Coordinator, Hoi Ha Wan
WWF-Hong Kong*



“Our sustainable lifestyle hub in Central, located adjacent to the Central Peak Tram station, is at the forefront of our work to engage Hong Kong on the challenges our community faces, and provide practical advice for sustainable living. We have an carefully curated selection of sustainable living products designed to help everyone change the way they eat, live, play, read and dress.”

Carvina Tsang

*Senior Visitor Experience Officer, Central Sustainability Hub
WWF-Hong Kong*



WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK?

The Coronavirus outbreak has highlighted the grave threat posed by the eating of wild meat and the wildlife trade to humans. If we do not stop poaching and do not stop the wildlife trade now, nature will fight back.

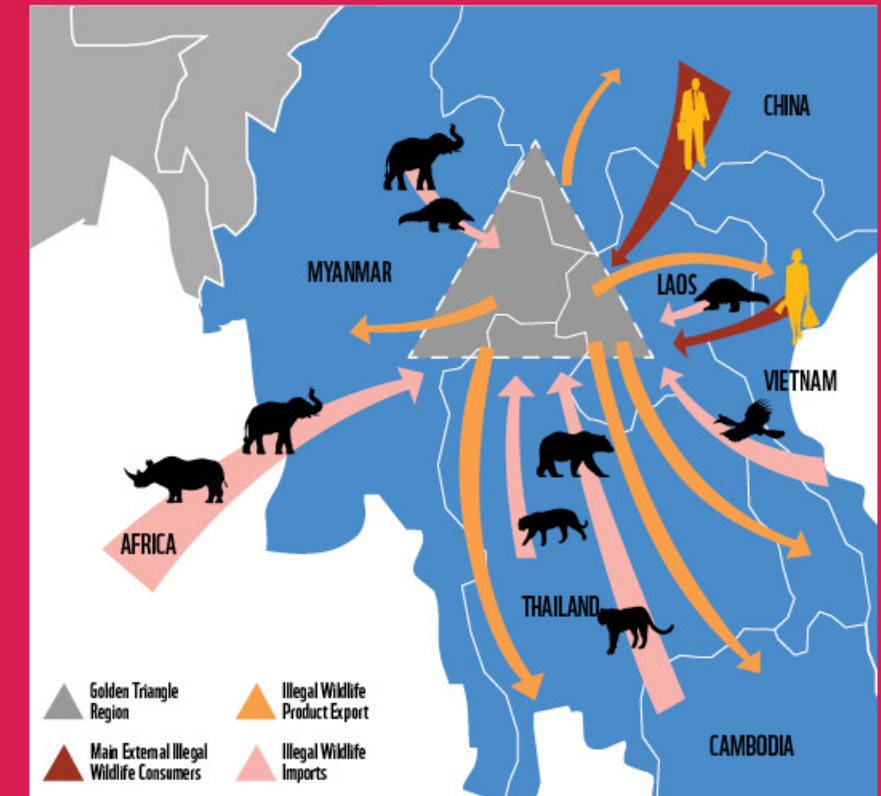
Economists predicted that the Coronavirus outbreak will lead to an economic loss many times higher than the 2003 SARS outbreak. Mitigation measures, which include closing legal and illegal wildlife markets, can save billions of dollars over the next 100 years globally.

The Golden Triangle: Ground Zero for Wildlife Trade

Scientists believe that COVID-19 was transmitted to humans from wildlife, most likely through some interaction at a wildlife market. Historically, global pandemics have originated when diseases jump from animals to people. Nearly 75% of all new, emerging, or re-emerging diseases affecting humans at the beginning of 21st century have originated in animals, including SARS and MERS.

As COVID-19 went viral, China's top legislature, the National People's Congress, decided to ban the eating of wild animals and crack down on the illegal wildlife trade on 24 February. While this is a critical step to end the illegal wildlife trade and reduce the risk of future zoonotic pandemics, action in one country is simply not enough. Countries in Southeast Asia, where wildlife trade and eating of bushmeat are prevalent, should follow suit to safeguard people's lives and health. Meanwhile, Hong Kong has a unique position to combat illegal wildlife trade by disrupting the smuggling routes and financial networks.

In the heart of mainland Southeast Asia lies the "Golden Triangle" region where Thailand, Myanmar, China and Laos meet. This "Golden Triangle", along with the surrounding Greater Mekong, is a source, transit route and destination for many of the world's most valuable and threatened wildlife species. Here, casino-resorts, hotels, markets and restaurants openly trade animals as exotic pets, selling jewels and ornaments made from endangered animal parts such as ivory and rhino horn. Even in remote areas, wildlife products can be bought, and animals served as delicacies in restaurants.



As people in Greater Mekong and China become wealthier, the demand for wildlife species and products has accelerated. This is further aggravated by inadequate laws in the region, poor regulation of markets and retail outlets, as well as the proliferation of wildlife cybercrime.

Some figures can show how persistent the problem has been. A report published by TRAFFIC this February, *Southeast Asia: At the heart of wildlife trade*, analyzed thousands of successful seizures in Southeast Asia in recent decades. The study identified the most traded groups of terrestrial animals and found that more than 960,000kg of pangolin scales were seized in Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam from 2017 to 2019, estimated to be taken from over 200,000 slaughtered pangolins. Huge amounts of ivory, pig-nosed turtles and songbirds were also seized among other animals. While these numbers are remarkably high, they comprised only seizures and are the tip of the iceberg. It also highlights the magnitude of illegal wildlife trade in Southeast Asia, which is supported by organized criminal networks and aggravated by pervasive corruption and ineffective laws.

Unregulated wildlife trade not only endangers wildlife populations but threatens the health of human and domestic animals due to a lack of veterinary controls. Many animals such as bats and civets carry a range of pathogens, which have the potential to mutate and infect humans by jumping the species barrier in places where humans have close contact with infected animals. Wildlife markets are fertile environments for this kind of mutation and infection. Movements of infected people, aided by rapidly growing transportation and tourism activities, can turn local outbreaks into pandemics.

Hong Kong should play a crucial role in combating illegal wildlife trafficking. Due to its proximity to mainland China and a free-trade policy, the city has become a global hub for illegal wildlife trade, with 2019 a year of record seizures. Though an unfortunate accolade, it gives Hong Kong a strategic position to disrupt the transportation routes and financial hub of the trade. The government

should work with financial institutions and invoke the Anti-Money Laundering (AML) law to prosecute buyers and syndicates in the wider criminal network. Moreover, the government should significantly elevate resources to enhance law enforcement, prosecution and investigations. Specifically, resources and funds should be allocated to improve intelligence exchange, invest in forensics evidence gathering technologies to identify endangered species efficiently, and to operationalize the Inter-departmental Task Force on Wildlife Crime through inter-agency joint operations.

The coronavirus outbreak is a wake-up call that it's time to permanently end the sale of wildlife, especially in open markets. Climate change, encroachment on wildlife sanctuaries, unsustainable consumption of bush meat and the wildlife trade, both legal and illegal, all contribute to pandemics. It's time to strike a new deal for people and nature.



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TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE

The illegal and unsustainable wildlife trade for Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is also an issue of concern, leading to the ongoing depletion of a variety of animals and plants, including wild ginseng, pangolin, tigers, rhinoceros, musk deer, and saiga antelope.

Some of the trade in these and other wild species is legal, but poaching persists and is a major threat to many medicinal plant and animal species. A precautionary approach is needed to ensure that appropriate safeguards are put in place and enforced so that these species can sustain populations throughout their range and maintain their key ecological roles.

WWF urges the government to take a precautionary approach to impacts on wild species, introduce best practices for TCM sourcing, and carry out research on substitution ingredients for those deriving from threatened species.

To further reduce demand for the use of threatened species, any species listed under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance should not be eligible for medical insurance reimbursement. TCM students and practitioners should take the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species into account, and prescribe TCM derived only from non-threatened species and sustainable sources.

The government must act now to stop the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife parts for use in TCM that is cause major declines in species populations in the wild.



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SUSTAINABLE SHUI HAU

The ECF Sustainable Shui Hau project aims to preserve the high ecological value of the area, to lower the human disturbance from ecotourism, and to encourage the long-term sustainable use of coastal resources.

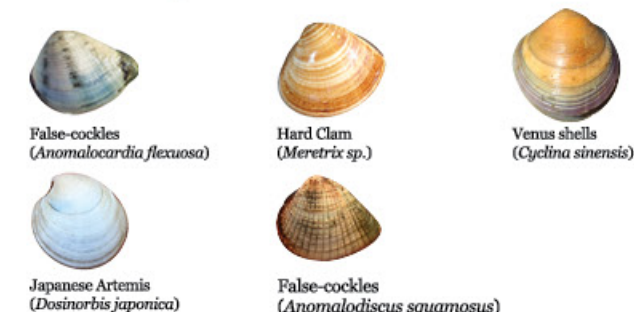
The Shui Hau mudflats are one of the few remaining habitats in Hong Kong for the endangered horseshoe crab, and is an important spawning and nursey ground. Their numbers are decreasing and more protection is needed to help them cope with increasing threats.

In 2018-2019, a total of 19 surveys with 450 citizen scientists were conducted, covering transect and walk-through surveys, as well as public questionnaires. The transect surveys recorded the species, population and size of clams up to 15cm deep in the mud. Walk-through surveys recorded the size and location of sighted horseshoe crabs. And the questionnaires collected data on patterns of clamming behaviour.



Results of ecological surveys

Common clam species in Shui Hau



Average numbers of clams and visitors in Shui Hau (May to September)



- Clamming activities are common in summer. Survey results showed that when the number of visitors increases, the number of clams declines.
- May had the highest number of visitors, an average of 120 people per weekend day. The number of clams in Shui Hau declined after June and recovered in September after summer holidays.

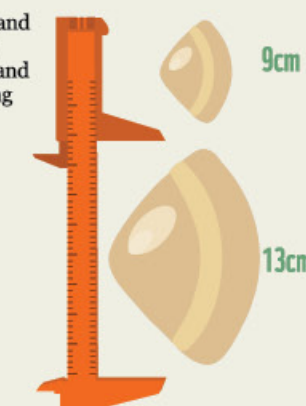
Change in Clam Community

Clam density is approximately 31 clams/sq. metre. For every 30 false cockles found, only 1 hard clam was found.



False cockles : Hard Clam
30:1

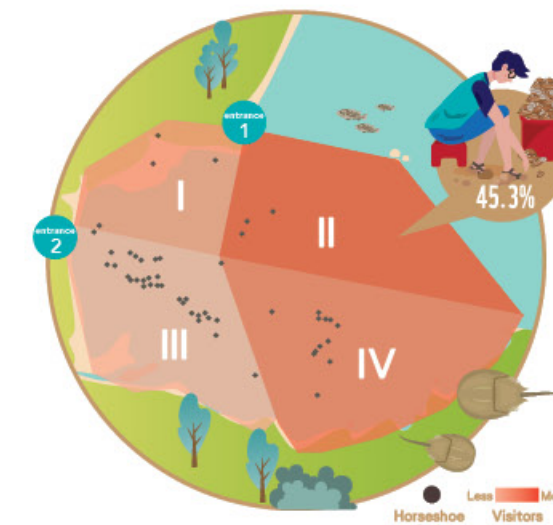
Based on ecological surveys and interviews with villagers, we observe that the population and sizes of hard clams are getting smaller over the years.



The largest hard clams kept by villager vs the largest shell found during the ecological survey.

Horseshoe crab distribution vs intensive clamming zone

Integrating findings from the ecological survey and clam digger questionnaires, helps us to understand where there is an overlap between the range for horseshoe crabs and intensive clamming zone.



Horseshoe crabs are mainly distributed in region III and IV while clam digging activities are mainly located in region II (45.3%). These distributions reveal that hotspot for clam digging and active region of horseshoe crab slightly overlapped.

Access points to the Shui Hau sandflats are located in region I and III. When visitors pass by the active area for horseshoe crabs in region III, although only there for a short period of time, there is still disturbance to horseshoe crabs.

MICROPLASTIC FIGHTERS

Microplastics smaller than 5mm in length can be found in all parts of the world's oceans, posing a persistent threat to marine wildlife and human health. Science workshops and citizen science activities, sponsored by ECF and ECC, were launched for students across Hong Kong, to raise awareness of this issue. Activities took place at our Hoi Ha Wan oceans sustainability centre, on campus and in the community.



microplastics in daily personal care products, as well as conducting microplastics surveys in their own communities. In this way, they discover the environmental impact of small daily actions and learn how to break the cycle."

Tom Chan

Senior Learning Officer, Public Visits Hoi Ha Wan
WWF-Hong Kong



everyone does the same, we can tackle the issue at its root."

Lam Chun Yeung

Form 4 Student
Kwun Tong Maryknoll College



are so excited when they can learn something new outdoors!"

Wong Sze Ho

Biology teacher
Kwun Tong Maryknoll College



"The scientific experiments we conducted, such as testing seawater visibility and salinity, were very interesting. During the programme, I went to Hung Hom pier to collect seawater data, and discovered just how bad our water pollution is. In addition to microplastics, I can also see plastic bags and litter floating everywhere. I learned that there are different kinds of microplastics in our oceans, such as fibres, pellets, and irregular fragments. I will change my daily habits from now on, following the

"4R" principle: Reduce, Reuse, Recover, and Recycle."

Wong King Ho

Form 4 Student
Kwun Tong Maryknoll College

! CHINESE WHITE DOLPHIN EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

The Pearl River Delta is home to what is likely the world's largest population of Chinese white dolphin (*Sousa chinensis*), but it is also one of the world's most densely populated and industrialized coastal regions.

The delta's dolphin population, comprising approximately 2,000 individuals, is declining at about 3% annually under severe human disturbance. Alarming, local dolphin abundance in Hong Kong has dropped by over 80% in the past 15 years. Scientific research suggests that, on the current trajectory, the population will go locally extinct unless we act quickly.

The trajectory of loss is dire and immediate action is needed to secure a future for Chinese white dolphins. A group of concerned dolphin specialists in the delta, including government representatives, academics and conservationists, has therefore recommended an emergency action plan that gives the best chance to save the dolphins.

A set of core and buffer areas covering key dolphin habitats has been proposed (see inside front cover) with six key management practices to mitigate human threats to dolphins.

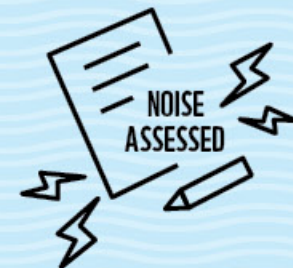
DROP of OVER 80%
in Hong Kong waters
in the past 15 years



Learn more about the emergency action plan



1 Prohibit construction and other coastal development



2 Assess and regulate underwater noise



3 Strictly regulate vessel numbers, speeds and routes



4 Strengthen patrol and enforcement mechanisms



5 Transition to sustainable fisheries



6 Minimize pollution and plastic waste

REJECT RECLAMATION

Hong Kong's Chinese white dolphins face pressure from marine infrastructure projects and coastal development. Facing pervasive human-driven threats, dolphin numbers in local waters have plummeted over 80% in the past 15 years with the lowest number of calves spotted in 2018/19 since 2003, implying an ongoing decline in reproduction.

Waters off Lung Kwu Tan are one of the few remaining Chinese white dolphin habitats in Hong Kong. The proposed reclamation area is close to the Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park, which is designated for dolphin conservation. The proposed reclamation will disturb key dolphin habitat in the marine park, and reduce food supply for dolphins. As there will be more construction vessels operating along the major Urmston Road shipping lane – which is already frequented by seagoing vessels, river trade vessels and high-speed ferries – proposed reclamation works will increase the risk of ship strikes and underwater noise pollution.

The proposal underscores the government's lack of a planning mechanism to provide strategic direction for utilising marine resources. WWF urges the government to immediately implement a planning exercise for proper usage of our sea, in line with the processes occurring in the rest of the Greater Bay Area. This should involve a three-year baseline assessment of coastal and marine environments to better define areas that need conservation protection and those appropriate for development use.

Our sea should be carefully managed to conserve biodiversity and protect fisheries. WWF objects to reclamation projects in Hong Kong waters. Putting rocks in the ocean is not a good way to treat out planet.

Lung Kwu Tan reclamation



Lung Kwu Tan

New Territories

SCIENCE-BASED MANAGEMENT

A study of bird life in Mai Po's largest reedbed has revealed that wet reedbeds support a higher abundance of wetland-dependant bird species than dry reedbeds, during the southward migration through Hong Kong. The study was undertaken as part of the science-based wetland management of Mai Po Nature Reserve that has made it a global leader in the field.

Some birds species were two or three times more abundant in wet than dry reedbeds, which were found to be important for species of conservation concern like the threatened Manchurian reed warbler (see photo), which by some estimates has a smaller global population than the black-faced spoonbill.

"If we look at the relative abundance of this really critical species within the wet and dry reedbed, this was the species that showed the biggest preference for the wet reedbed," says study co-author Paul Leader. "By managing even a small part of Mai Po for this species, we can increase the carrying capacity and potentially have a positive impact on its global population."

Since the study's completion, the reserve's only remaining dry reedbed has been lowered by over 40cm to create a new wet reedbed under deeper water. Similar studies will be used to identify threats outside of the reserve to species like the threatened collared crow.

"What happens around Mai Po will affect the [crow] population that uses it as a roosting site. For example, development can affect their feeding sites and if they lose these, the population can decline" says Eric Wikramanayake, Director of Wildlife and Wetlands for WWF-Hong Kong. "So we need to find out where they're foraging and what's happening to those kinds of habitat."

Now, as WWF-Hong Kong takes on the leadership role in WWF's Asian Flyway Initiative, it will be able to do so with wetland managers across the East Asian-Australasian Flyway and Central Asian Flyway to provide training and advice, and empower greater co-operation between all regions to identify important sites for migratory birds.



@ Paul Leader

@ Paul Leader

ENRICH PEOPLE'S LIVES ENRICH YOUR LIVES 點滴奉獻 豐富人生

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在明確的目標和承諾下，捷成決心通過企業社會責任（CSR）計劃，將經濟、社會和環境考量納入組織的戰略和運作中。集團的主要目標是提供優質的產品和服務給客戶，保持業務的增長，以及改善環境和社區的福祉。人力是捷成最重要的資產，因此集團特別關注員工的道德行為、價值觀念和生活質量。捷成認為企業社會責任是雙贏的解決方案，除了有助於環境和社會的發展，還是可持續增長的關鍵。



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TRANSITION TO A LOW-CARBON CITY

Electricity generation contributes nearly 70% of Hong Kong's carbon emissions. And 90% of that electricity use comes from buildings. If we want to transform Hong Kong to a sustainable and low-carbon city, we must reduce unnecessary energy use.

Corporates play an important role in reducing carbon emissions. WWF's Low-carbon Office Operation (LOOP) programme engages forward thinking business leaders to reduce greenhouse gas generated from office operations by changing staff behaviour, adopting managerial and technological best practices, and a sustainability labelling scheme. Over the past 10 years, carbon emissions per staff of LOOP companies has significantly dropped by nearly 20%.

Corporate environmental strategists should not overlook the latest opportunities enabled by new technology, especially the Internet of Things (IoT). According to the latest LOOP annual scorecard, companies using IoT devices can save energy use by up to 30%.

"IoT devices often come with an app with a reminder function, making it easier for employees to switch off appliances. Automation helps prevent wastage when someone forgets to switch off the lights, and maximises efficiency," Nik Sam, WWF's Assistant Manager of Corporate and Community Sustainability, explained.

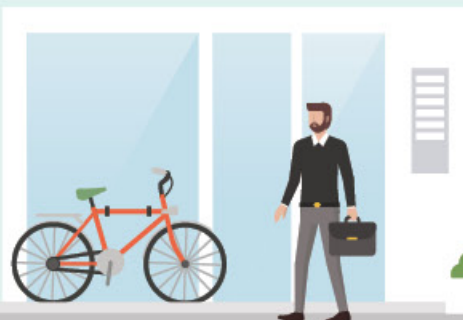
He added, "Not only can IoT drive behavioural change, the machine learning function can minimize energy usage costs efficiently by continuously collecting data to learn users' habit and adjust operations accordingly."

PER STAFF CARBON EMISSIONS OF LOOP COMPANIES FROM 2010 TO 2019
-19.3%

For more information on LOOP, please contact us at loop@wwf.org.hk.



Read our Long-term Decarbonization Strategy

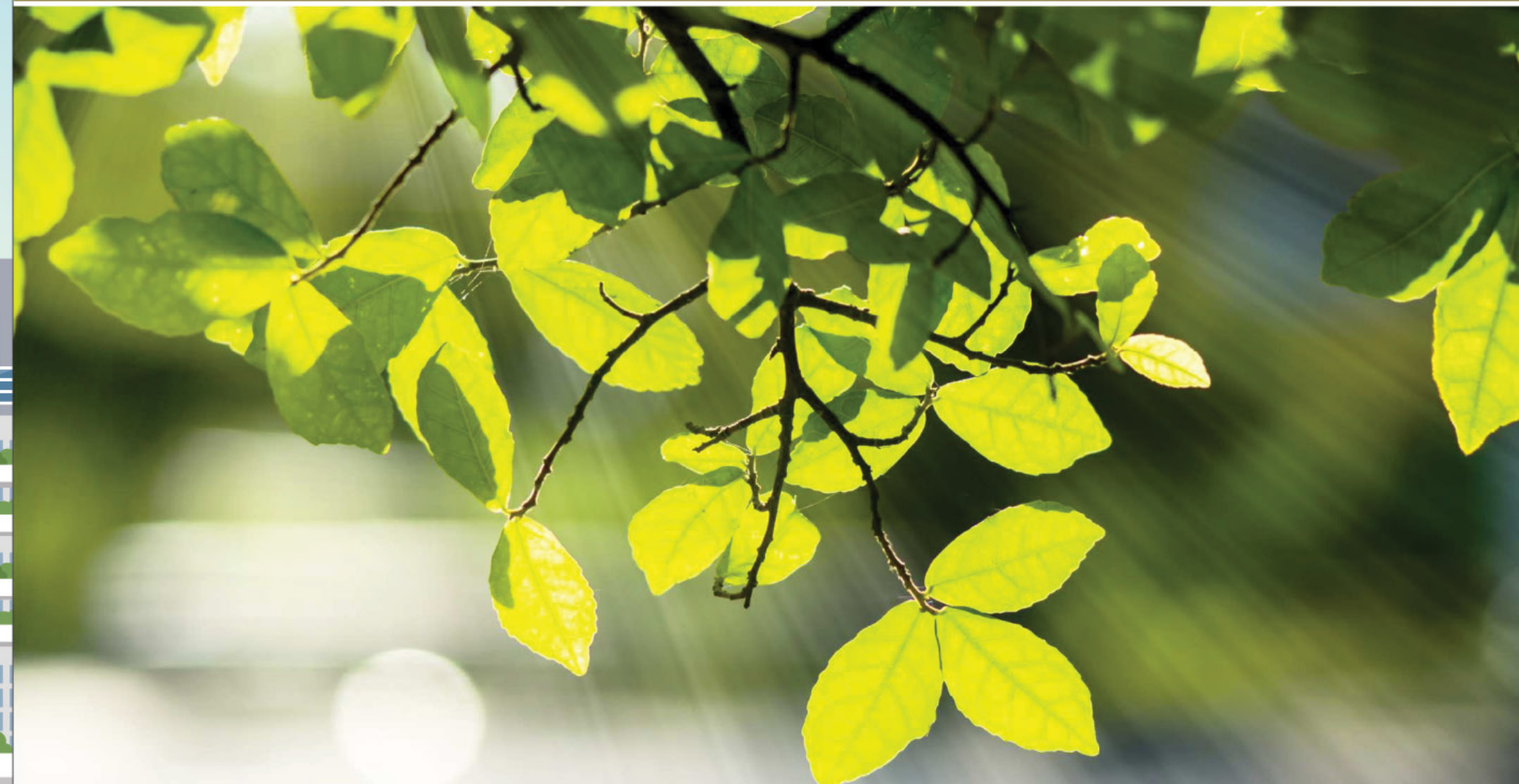


THE MARI-CHA GROUP

Continues to support WWF-Hong Kong in its work to protect and improve the environment for a sustainable future.



A member of Search Investment Group



OUR CENTRES



Our Visitor Centres are now open with small group activities. We have enhanced our health precautions and adjusted opening hours to welcome your family and friends mid-week and weekends at Mai Po, Hoi Ha Wan and Island House with easy booking online!



GET INVOLVED!

WWF-Hong Kong hosts an array of supporter events for the public, schools and corporate members at our three centres.

KEY EVENTS

Check out the upcoming supporter engagement activities at our centres, which take place with small groups in the outdoors.

Open for bookings



CONNECT2NATURE ACADEMY

Runs till Aug 2020



NIGHT SAFARI

Runs till Aug 2020



GEI WAI HARVESTING

Runs till Aug 2020



ISLAND HOUSE FESTIVAL

27-28 Jun / 3-4 Oct / 5-6 Dec 2020



HOI HA WAN FESTIVAL

18-19 July / 14-15 Nov 2020



CENTRAL SUSTAINABLE LIVING HUB

15-16 Aug / 12-13 Sep 2020



WALK FOR NATURE

7-8 November 2020



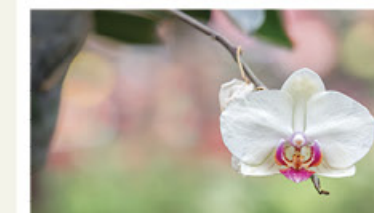
RUN FOR WILD

9-10 Jan 2021



ORCHID GARDEN @ ISLAND HOUSE

April-June 2021



CHINESE WHITE DOLPHIN

Alarming, local dolphin abundance in Hong Kong has dropped by over 80% in the past 15 years. The time for action is now.



CORPORATE

Corporate members can join eco-guided visits and activities or use our centres for conservation volunteering, upcycling and eco-guided activities, shoreline clean-ups, and sustainability workshops.



Book now



The Chinese white dolphin of the Pearl River
is a unique and shared heritage of Hong Kong,
Macau and Guangdong. It would be a global
tragedy to lose this iconic creature from the
future of the Greater Bay Area.



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world for people and wildlife
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