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No. 5 - Tai Tam Harbour (Inner Bay)

The Site

The Site is located on the southern coast of Hong Kong Island and comprises a well protected, deeply out, dog-leg shaped inlet some 3 km in total length and some 500 metres wide at its mouth. The inner bay is surrounded on all sides by steep hills. The area is about 16 hectares.

Date of Designation

24 October 1975

Special Scientific Interest

The ecological importance of the inner bay of Tai Tam Harbour can be summarised as follows:-

- (i) It possesses a diversity of habitats and concomitant plant and animal communities within a small area. Habitats found at the Site include mangrove, intertidal mudflat, sandy shore, sheltered sand flat, natural water course, grassland and shrubland.
- (ii) It is the only such habitat on Hong Kong Island, where a large piece of mudflat with mangrove stand can be found.

Degree of Hazard

Recreational developments such as yachtsman and canoe clubs constitute potential hazards to the environment of the Bay.

<u>Protection Measures</u>

Departments concerned with planning and development should be made aware of the importance of the Site so that due consideration of the Site will be given when planning and development in or near the Site is proposed. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department should be closely consulted on any development proposals which may affect directly or indirectly the Site.

References

Morton B.S. 1974. Tai Tam Bay, Hong Kong - its significance and possible potential as a Nature Education and Recreation Centre (unpublished paper)

Tam, F.Y. and Wong, Y.S. 1997. *Ecological Study on Mangrove Stands in Hong Kong*. City University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.