

No. 46 - Inner Deep Bay

The Site

The Inner Deep Bay area is situated in the North Western part of the New Territories and bordered by the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone to the North. The Bay is dissected by the boundary of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the portion of the Bay covered by the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is about 1,036 ha. The major habitat types inside the Site include an extensive intertidal mudflat of esturarine nature and a bay with shallow water.

Date of Designation

18 March 1986

Special Scientific Interest

The shallow waters and mudflat provide an abundant food supply and feeding and resting grounds for some 50,000 waterbirds of about 300 species every winter. Over 20 of them are considered globally threatened, including about one fifth of the global population of Black-faced Spoonbill Platalea minor (黑臉琵鷺).

The mudflat and shallow waters also support a wide variety of organisms which are of economic values, e.g. mangrove crabs Scylla paramamosian (鋸綠青蟹) and shrimps Metapenaeus (新對蝦屬) and scientific importance (e.g. it is the type locality of the Sesarmine Crab Perisesarma maipoensis (米埔近相手蟹) which occurs nowhere else in the world).

Degree of Hazard

Development projects in North West New Terrritories may pose threats to the site either directly through dredging; or indirectly by the discharge of pollutants into the Bay.

Protection Measures

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.