

No. 70 – Deep Water Bay Valley

The Site

The Site is situated at the valley to the south of Deep Water Bay Road facing southwest with about 4.2 hectares in size. It is densely covered by natural woodland with streams flowing into the Deep Water Bay.

Date of Designation

18 February 2008

Special Scientific Interest

The Site harbours the largest surviving population of a rare shrub *Aristolochia thwaitesii* Hook. f. (海邊馬兜鈴, Seaside Dutchman's Pipe) in Hong Kong. The Site is believed to be the type locality of *A. thwaitesii*, which was first collected on Hong Kong Island in 1856 when it was considered new to science.

Apart from A. thwaitesii, other plant species of conservation values, including Camellia hongkongensis (香港茶), Artabotrys hongkongensis (香港鷹爪花), Artocarpus hypargyreus (白桂木) and Selenodesmium siamense (華南長筒蕨) are also present at the Site.

Degree of Hazard

The existing population of *A. thwaitesii* at the Site is not subject to immediate threat. However, as the species is vulnerable to development impact, any development proposal within and in the vicinity of the Site may pose threats to the population in the valley.

Protection Measures

Departments concerned with planning and development of the Site 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 that may affect directly or indirectly the site.