


Indicative SSSI boundaries only
 具特殊科學價值地點的界線只屬指示性質



<p>REFERENCE</p>	<p>SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST - LIN MA HANG STREAM</p> <p>SCALE 1 : 5 000</p> <p>METRES 100 0 100 200 METRES</p>	<p>TOWN PLANNING BOARD SECTION PLANNING DEPARTMENT</p> 
<p>EXTRACT PLAN PREPARED ON 3.9.2007 BASED ON SURVEY SHEETS No. 3-NW-10C,D, 3-NW-15A, B, C & D</p>		<p>PLAN No. M/TPB/2007/48</p>

No. 68 – Lin Ma Hang Stream

Site

The site is a second-order tributary of Shenzhen River in the northern part of New Territories within the Frontier Closed Area (FCA). The main course is about 2 km long and 1.5m to 4.0m wide.

Date of Designation

6 July 2007

Special Scientific Interest

It is a typical lowland freshwater stream characterized by slow flowing and shallow channel bordered with riparian vegetations. The stream course is largely natural and its drainage basin is mainly abandoned agricultural land. Similar stream habitats in Hong Kong with such characteristics are becoming rare due to water pollution by human activities and channelization works.

The Lin Ma Hang Stream supports 20 primary freshwater fish species (i.e. fishes that spend their entire life in freshwater) and was reported as the most species-rich site in Hong Kong in terms of primary freshwater fishes. Among these 20 fish species, 15 of them are native to Hong Kong, representing some 50% of all such species, and some are of conservation value. For example, Rasbora sterineri 斯氏波魚 is locally rare and was once thought to have been extinct locally but the species now has a thriving population in the Lin Ma Hang Stream. Rasborinus lineatus 線細鰻 and Mastacembelus armatus 大刺鰻 have very limited record in lowland streams, and Channa asiatica 月鯉 is locally uncommon in the wild.

Degree of Hazard

Activities that will change the water quality and hydrology of the stream, such as pollution, channelisation, culverting or diversion may affect the fish fauna. Developments which alter considerably the existing land use surrounding the stream may affect the stream habitat and associated riparian vegetation.

Protection Measures

The riparian corridor with its vegetation should be preserved as buffer for the stream as far as possible through appropriate land use zoning. Departments concerned with planning and development of the area should be made aware of the importance of the stream, so that due consideration on the conservation of the site will be given when developments in or near the site is proposed. Activities that will affect the water quality and flow of the stream should be avoided. The Agriculture, Fisheries and

Conservation Department should be consulted on development proposals which may directly or indirectly affect the site.

Reference

Chong, D.H. and Dudgeon, D. 1992. Hong Kong Stream Fishes: An Annotated Checklist with Remarks on Conservation Status. Memoirs of the Hong Kong Natural History Society, No. 19, 1992.

Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden. 2004. A Pilot Biodiversity Study of the Eastern Frontier Closed Area and North East New Territories, Hong Kong, June-December 2003. Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden, Hong Kong.

Swedish Museum of Natural History. Ichthyology Search Database, Swedish Museum of Natural History. <http://artedi.nrm.se/nrmfish/search.php>