



JOB No.: TCS00694/13

**AGREEMENT NO. CE 45/2008 (CE)
LIANTANG/HEUNG YUEN WAI
BOUNDARY CONTROL POINT AND ASSOCIATED WORKS**

**ECOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT FOR THE
WOODLAND COMPENSATION AREA
(JULY TO AUGUST 2020)**

**PREPARED FOR
CIVIL ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT (CEDD)**

Date	Reference No.	Prepared By	Certified By
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Version	Date	Remarks
1	11 September 2020	First Submission
2	16 September 2020	Amended according to the IEC's comment on 14 Sep 2020



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Our ref: 7076192/L26435/AW/MCC/rw

17 September 2020

AECOM
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By Email & Post

Attention: Mr Owen NG

Dear Sir

**Agreement No. CE 45/2008 (CE)
Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point and Associated Works
Independent Environmental Checker – Investigation
Bimonthly Ecological Monitoring Report for Woodland Compensation Area
(Stage 2 Enhancement Planting) (No. 6) – July 2020 to August 2020**

With reference to the Bimonthly Ecological Monitoring Report for Woodland Compensation Area (Stage 2 Enhancement Planting) No. 6 for July 2020 to August 2020 (Version 2) certified by the ET Leader and received by IEC on 17 September 2020, please note that we have no adverse comments on the captioned submission. We herewith verify the captioned submission in accordance with Section 8.3.2.2 of the EM&A Manual.

Thank you for your attention and please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on tel. 3995-8120 or by email to antony.wong@smec.com; or our Mr Arthur CHIU on tel. 3995-8144 or by email to arthur.chiu@smec.com.

Yours faithfully

Antony WONG
Independent Environmental Checker

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

- 1.1.1 The “Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point and Associated Works Project” (hereinafter referred to as “the Project”) comprises a new Boundary Control Point (BCP) proposed at Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai (LT/HYW), its connecting road and other associated works; and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report (Register No.:AEIAR-161/2011) of the Project has identified that ~6.2ha of secondary woodlands will be directly lost due to the construction of the portals of tunnels and some sections of the connecting road. Subsequently, creation of a 18.6 ha compensatory woodland at Cheung Shan has been recommended in the EIA report to avoid residual ecological impacts from the Project.
- 1.1.2 Under the Environmental Permit (EP-404/2011/D), an updated Woodland Compensation Plan (WCP) detailed with the planting strategy and the subsequent maintenance and monitoring requirements of the compensatory woodland has been submitted and approved by the Authority in the 4th Quarter of 2015, and a revision of the updated WCP (i.e., WCP Revision 2) has been approved by EPD in 2017.
- 1.1.3 The woodland compensation include an initial planting phase and enhancement planting phase over a 6 years period on the grassland and shrubland at Cheung Shan, i.e., the “Woodland Compensatory Area” (WCA) as shown in the **Drawing No. 60212563/SK7037 of the WCP** and included here as **Appendix A**; and the planting works fall within the work scope of Contract No. CV/2013/08 Liantang/ Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point Site Formation and Infrastructure Works - Contract 6.
- 1.1.4 In accordance with the EM&A’s requirements and the monitoring schedule stated in the approved WCP (ver. 2) of the Project, as well as the latest status of the planting work that have been undertaken with the WCA, the Stage 2 enhancement planting (Phase 1) work has already covered all the monitoring quadrats in August 2019, as such this submission presents the findings of the 6th bi-monthly vegetation monitoring of the enhancement planting phase and covers the Reporting Period from **July 2020** to **Aug 2020**, so as to address the monitoring frequency specified in S.7.2 of the approved WCP.
- 1.1.5 Furthermore, since the vegetation monitoring is continuous from those undertaken for the initial planting phase, as such the monitoring has also covered those species previously planted, and if necessary the evaluation of their survival rate will take into account the increased in density or coverage of woody plants and hence changes in micro-climate of the monitoring quadrats (such as the decreased light exposure from the canopy of young trees or other woody plant, or increased competition for light, space and nutrient from the increased density of woody vegetation).

2. MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

2.1 MONITORING PROGRAM OF THE INITIAL AND ENHANCEMENT PLANTING PHASES

2.1.1 According to the Section 6.5 of the WCP (ver. 2), the frequency of the monitoring is proposed to be bi-monthly during the first year of the initial planting and enhancement planting phase and should be reduced to quarterly from the second year.

2.1.2 Change of monitoring frequency if needed will be advised by the Project Ecologist of the ET and approved by Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) before implementation.

2.2 MONITORING METHODOLOGY

2.2.1 An inspection walk monitoring by means of “transect route” and “direct observation” has been undertaken within the WCP as such to provide an overview and observe the general condition of the WCA; After due considerations of the latest planting arrangement within the WCA, the potential trampling damage to the planted seedlings, as well as the limitations in visibility, site access and safety concern when undertaking the monitoring among the steep hillslope, the transect routes has been selected to cover all representative areas where planting has been undertaken within the WCA as far as practicable.

2.2.2 The transect routes are illustrated in **Appendix C**, and the following observations have been made during the inspection walk:

- Weather condition during the time of monitoring
- The general condition of the WCA, including any signs of anthropogenic or natural disturbance/events (such as landslide, lightning strikes, wildlife damage) that has affected the health condition of the planted seedlings, or regeneration or invasive of grassy or self-seeded weedy plants that would or have affected the establishment of the planted vegetation
- The general health condition of each planted species graded in “Good”, “Fair” or “Poor” with the following criteria:
 - i) Phenology – signs of any abnormality in the phenology of the species (such as abnormal flowering/fruitletting/ leaf shedding)
 - ii) Foliage – colour, size and general appearance, signs and severity of insect and fungal infection
 - iii) Branches – presence and extent of die-back, and signs and severity of insect and fungal infection
 - iv) Stem/Trunk - signs and severity of cavities or internal/external decay; signs and severity of insect infection and mechanical damage

2.2.3 Since the monitoring approach adopted for the transect inspection, i.e., “*direct observations*”, would not yield any quantitative information, the survival rate (%) of the planted seedling will be evaluated from the results collected from the quadrat sampling as detailed in next section.

2.3 QUADRAT SAMPLING

2.3.1 A sampling approach has been proposed in the WCP to monitor the survival rate of the planted seedlings by the use of nine 20mx20m quadrats which are to be evenly located within the planted area of the WCA. Based on the as-built planting plan provided by the contractor (see **Appendix B**), as well as the local topography of the planted area within the WCA, the practicality in accessing, placing and monitoring nine 20m x 20m fixed quadrats within the planted area of the WCA has been extensively reviewed, 2 of the monitoring quadrats are fixed on the ridgeline of Cheung Shan and 7 of them are located on the north-facing slope of the WCA (see **Appendix C**).

- 2.3.2 Information collected within each sampling unit include:
- General condition of the sampling quadrat especially those factors that would or have found affected the survival rate of the planted vegetation, including biological or environmental factors (such as inter-specific competition as well as signs of stress from water, heat, or pest and disease, etc)
 - The total number of established seedlings for each planted tree and shrub species
 - Health condition of each planted species graded in “Good”, “Fair” or “Poor” with the following criteria:
 - i) Phenology – signs of any abnormality in the phenology of the species (such as abnormal flowering/fruitletting/ leaf shedding)
 - ii) Foliage – colour, size and general appearance, signs and severity of insect and fungal infection
 - iii) Branches – presence and extent of die-back, and signs and severity of insect and fungal infection
 - iv) Stem/Trunk - signs and severity of cavities or internal/external decay; signs and severity of insect infection and mechanical damage

2.3.3 The survival rate of the planted species during the initial planting phase and enhancement planting phase will be evaluated against the latest updated referenced baseline as shown in the **Table 3** below, if needed the implementation of the measures as detailed in the “Trigger and Action Levels” specified in the **Table 3** of the WCP would be recommended (included here as **Table 1** below).

Table 1 Trigger and Action Levels for Monitoring and Action Plan

Parameters	Trigger and Action Level	Action Plan
General Health Condition of planted species (i.e. good/fair/poor; based on parameters e.g. wilting, insect attack, disease, fungal infection, browsing damage)	Trigger Level: % of individual plant species in poor health condition >20%	- the ET should inform Contractor and IEC immediately; - identify the causes(s) of the exceedance; - advise Contractor the necessity of replanting
	Action Level: % of individual plant species in poor health condition >30%	- the ET should inform Contractor and IEC immediately; - identify the cause(s) of the exceedance; - advise remedial action and work out solution including change of species in re-planting, re-soiling of the target areas; and seek acceptance from AFCD; - once the remedial action has been accepted by AFCD, the Contractor should implement the remedial action.
Survival of Planted Species (i.e. dead)	Trigger Level: Survival rate of individual plant species <80%	- the ET should inform Contractor and IEC immediately; - identify the causes(s) of the exceedance; - advise Contractor the necessity of replanting.

	Action Level: Survival rate of individual plant species <70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ET should inform Contractor and IEC immediately; - identify the cause(s) of the exceedance; - advise remedial action and work out solution including change of species in re-planting, re-soiling of the target areas; and seek acceptance from AFCD; - once the remedial action has been accepted by AFCD, the Contractor should implement the remedial action.
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2.3.4 Since most of the planted native species are also naturally grown within the WCA and it would be infeasible and impracticable to differentiate whether the individual plant encountered along the transect or within the quadrat is planted, natural recruited, or regenerated after the pre-planting clearance of the site; and hence all established individuals of the planted species found within the sampling unit has been counted during the monitoring.

2.3.5 The WCA monitoring was undertaken by the Environmental Team (ET) and under the supervision of the Qualified Ecologist of the ET, and the Qualified Ecologist has also undertaken a joint transect inspection with representative of the IEC in the reporting.

2.4 REPORTING

Bi-monthly Woodland Compensation Monitoring Reports

2.4.1 The results and findings of the bi-monthly (i.e., once every two months) monitoring including the landscape inspection during the first year of the initial planting phase and the first year of the enhancement planting phase will be recorded in a bi-monthly woodland compensation monitoring reports prepared and submitted by the ET Leader within 10 working days from the end of each reporting month. The details to be included in the report will follow the Section 7.3 of the WCP.

Quarterly Woodland Compensation Monitoring Reports

2.4.2 Starting from the second year of the initial planting phase and the enhancement planting phase, the frequency of the monitoring is reduced to quarterly basis, the results and findings of the quarterly monitoring as well as the landscape inspection after the first year of the initial planting phase and the first year of the enhancement planting phase shall be recorded in the quarterly woodland compensation monitoring reports prepared and submitted by the ET Leader within 10 working days from the end of each reporting month. The details to be included in the report will follow the Section 7.3 of the WCP.

3. RESULTS

3.1 TRANSECT INSPECTION

3.1.1 The transect inspection was carried out on 24th August 2020 with the ecological specialist of the IEC, an overview of the site condition is presented in *Appendix D*. According to the information provided by the Main Contractor, planting work within the WCA that covers the Stage 1 of the Phase 2 enhancement planting as well as the replacement planting of the initial planting work, was completed in the 2nd half of August 2019 (see *Appendix E* for the as-built record of the planting work), as such the transect inspection have covered all the species planted for the initial and enhancement planting phase and the following presents the observations made along the transect route:

- The transect inspection was undertaken on a sunny day, and according to Hong Kong Observatory, whilst July and Aug 2020 are hotter than normal, July 2020 is drier with 33% less rainfall when compared to the normal figure, and the accumulated rainfall recorded in the first eight months of the year was about 19 percent below the normal figure for the same period.
- Signs of anthropogenic or wildlife disturbance within the WCA were relatively sparse along the transect route on the hillslope. However, vigorous growth of the ground cover (especially the fern *Dicranopteris pedata*) was noted on the hillslope of Cheung Shan, and some of the planted seedlings were found shaded by the fond of the fern or other herbaceous plants.
- The overall health condition of those species planted for the initial planting phase was generally fair, and the native species *Schima superba* and *Gordonia axillaris*, as well as the exotic *Acacia mangium*, were found in good condition.
- For those species planted for the enhancement planting phase, except no sighting was made for the deciduous tree species *Celtis sinensis*, the other 12 tree species were mostly occasionally encountered* along the transect and generally appeared in fair condition; whereas the shrubs *Melicope pteleifolia*, *Psychotria asiatica* and *Ilex asprella* appeared to well established and generally in good condition (*note: whereabouts exactly the seedlings of each of the planted species were planted within the WCA was unknown to the Environmental Team, and their locations could beyond the coverage of the visual inspection along the transect).

3.1.2 The general health condition of the species planted in the initial planting phase, based on the observations made along the transect, is tabulated in the following table.

Table 2 Health condition of the established seedlings noted during the transect inspection

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Health Condition#		
		Good	Fair	Poor
<i>Acacia confusa</i>	I		√	
<i>Acacia mangium</i>	I	√		
<i>Castanopsis fissa</i>	I		√	
<i>Litsea glutinosa</i>	I		√	
<i>Mallotus paniculatus</i>	I		√	
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> *	I		√	
<i>Sapium discolor</i> *	I		√^	
<i>Schima superba</i>	I ⁽⁵⁾ & E	√		
<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i>	E			√^
<i>Alangium chinense</i>	E			√^
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	E		√^	
<i>Aquilaria sinensis</i>	E		√	
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	E			√^
<i>Celtis sinensis</i> **	E	n/a	n/a	n/a

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Health Condition#		
		Good	Fair	Poor
<i>Ficus hispida</i>	E		√	
<i>Cinnamomum parthenoxylon</i>	E		√^	
<i>Garcinia oblongifolia</i>	E			√^
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	E		√	
<i>Schefflera heptaphylla</i>	E			√^
<i>Sterculia lanceolata</i>	E			√
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i> *	I ⁽¹⁾ & E		√	
<i>Gordonia axillaris</i>	I ⁽²⁾ & E	√		
<i>Melastoma candidum</i>	I		√	
<i>Melastoma sanguineum</i>	I	√		
<i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i>	I		√	
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	I	√		
<i>Ficus hirta</i>	E		√	
<i>Ilex asprella</i>	I ⁽³⁾ & E	√		
<i>Melicope pteleifolia</i>	E		√	
<i>Psychotria asiatica</i>	I ⁽⁴⁾ & E	√		

Note:

It is impracticable and sometimes unfeasible to differentiate self-seeded seedlings or wild population from those planted under the WCP, the health condition was evaluated as a whole for each of the species regardless their possible origin during the transect walk.

^ only occasionally encountered along transect route

* Deciduous species

** not observed along the transect

(1) Planted as substitution for *Litsea glutinosa* during replacement replanting in Aug 2019

(2) Include newly planted individuals as substitution for *Melastoma candidum* during replacement replanting in Aug 2019

(3) Planted as substitution for *Melastoma sanguineum* during replacement replanting in Aug 2019

(4) Planted as substitution for *Rhaphiolepis indica* during replacement replanting in Aug 2019

(5) Also planted as substitution for *Sapium discolor* in the Initial Planting Phase

3.2 QUADRAT SAMPLING

3.2.1 The nine 20m x 20m sampling quadrats have been placed within the planted area of the WCA, and at area where the majority of the seedlings were planted and considered suitable for long term monitoring; in which 2 of them were located on the ridgeline and the rest are located on the north-facing slope of Cheung Shan (see **Appendix C**). The quadrat monitoring was conducted on 24th and 25th August 2020, and the weather was dry and sunny on both days. **Appendix D** illustrates the condition of the quadrats during the time of monitoring.

3.2.2 With respect to the latest status of the planting works undertaken and completed within the monitoring quadrats, the baseline reference for evaluating survival rate has already been updated in previous report by making reference to the as-built record of planting works in Aug 2019, and shown in the Table 3 below for reference.

Table 3 Latest Baseline Quantity Referenced for Evaluating Survival Rate of the Species Planted for Initial and Enhancement Planting Phase

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Baseline Reference (BR) ^	Qty. Presented in Jun '19 Report	Planted Qty. in Aug '19 (Replacement Planting/ Enhancement Planting)	Updated Baseline Reference (BR)	Note
<i>Acacia confusa</i>	I	113	89	0	113	A
<i>Acacia mangium</i>	I	193	161	0	193	A
<i>Castanopsis fissa</i>	I	39	43	0	39	A

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Baseline Reference (BR) ^	Qty. Presented in Jun '19 Report	Planted Qty. in Aug '19 (Replacement Planting/ Enhancement Planting)	Updated Baseline Reference (BR)	Note
<i>Litsea glutinosa</i>	I	79	40	0	40	B
<i>Mallotus paniculatus</i>	I	80	162 [#]	0	80	A
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	I	64	34	30	64	F
<i>Sapium discolor</i>	I	39	13	0	13	B
<i>Schima superba</i>	I ⁽⁵⁾ & E	82	108 [#]	120	202	C
<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i>	E	n/a	n/a	20	20	E
<i>Alangium chinense</i>	E	n/a	n/a	20	20	E
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	E	n/a	n/a	20	20	E
<i>Aquilaria sinensis</i>	E	n/a	n/a	35	35	E
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	E	n/a	n/a	20	20	E
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	E	n/a	n/a	20	20	E
<i>Ficus hispida</i>	E	n/a	n/a	20	20	E
<i>Cinnamomum parthenoxylon</i>	E	n/a	n/a	20	20	E
<i>Garcinia oblongifolia</i>	E	n/a	n/a	35	35	E
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	E	n/a	n/a	35	35	E
<i>Schefflera heptaphylla</i>	E	n/a	n/a	45	45	E
<i>Sterculia lanceolata</i>	E	n/a	n/a	40	40	E
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	I ⁽¹⁾ & E	n/a	n/a	60	60	D
<i>Gordonia axillaris</i>	I ⁽²⁾ & E	148	213 [#]	300	448	C
<i>Melastoma candidum</i>	I	352	136	0	136	B
<i>Melastoma sanguineum</i>	I	313	216	0	216	B
<i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i>	I	438	276	0	276	B
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	I	824	443	0	443	G
<i>Ficus hirta</i>	E	n/a	n/a	200	200	E
<i>Ilex asprella</i>	I ⁽³⁾ & E	n/a	n/a	250	250	D
<i>Melicope pteleifolia</i>	E	n/a	n/a	30	30	E
<i>Psychotria asiatica</i>	I ⁽⁴⁾ & E	n/a	n/a	300	300	D

^ updated in Sep 2017 in accordance with the “as-built” planting plan for the initial planting phase as well as the monitoring findings between Aug 2017 and Nov 2017

include self-seeded plants, and the extra qty. recorded would not be added into the reference baseline for the *Mallotus paniculatus*, *Schima superba* and *Gordonia axillaris*

(1) Planted as substitution for *Litsea glutinosa* during replacement replanting in Aug 2019

(2) Include newly planted individuals as substitution for *Melastoma candidum* during replacement replanting in Aug 2019

(3) Planted as substitution for *Melastoma sanguineum* during replacement replanting in Aug 2019

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Baseline Reference (BR) ^	Qty. Presented in Jun '19 Report	Planted Qty. in Aug '19 (Replacement Planting/ Enhancement Planting)	Updated Baseline Reference (BR)	Note
<p>(4) Planted as substitution for <i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i> during replacement replanting in Aug 2019</p> <p>(5) Also planted as substitution for <i>Sapium discolor</i> in the Initial Planting Phase</p> <p>A Not involved in the replanting/enhancement planting work, no change in BR</p> <p>B Substituted by other species during replanting, BR updated to qty. recorded in Jun '19 Report</p> <p>C Planted as substitution for other species and enhancement planting, BR updated to include qty. planted in Aug '19</p> <p>D Planted for enhancement planting and as substitution for species used in initial planting phase, BR referred to qty. planted in Aug '19</p> <p>E Planted for enhancement planting work, BR referred to qty. planted in Aug '19</p> <p>F Replanted, no change in BR</p> <p>G Replanted completed outside the monitoring quadrats(see Appendix E), BR updated to qty. recorded in Jun '19 Report</p>						

3.2.3 The monitoring result of the reporting period and the survival rate of the species planted are shown in **Table 4** and **Table 5** below.

Table 4 The number of seedling recorded for each species within the sampling quadrats

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Quantity* and General Health Condition ^of the Seedling Recorded in Each Sampling Quadrat									Total Qty.
		R1	R2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	
Tree											
<i>Acacia confuse</i> #	I	16	9	6	4	15	7	5	5	16	83
<i>Acacia mangium</i> #	I	20	20	17	14	18	0	9	12	18	128
<i>Castanopsis fissa</i>	I	4	3	1	3	5	4	5	3	4	32
<i>Litsea glutinosa</i>	I	5	3	3	4	6	3	5	4	3	36
<i>Mallotus paniculatus</i>	I	34	16	15	15	31	12	21	18	22	184
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	I	4	5	4	3	6	4	9	1	6	42
<i>Sapium discolor</i>	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
<i>Schima superba</i>	I & E	24	32	14	31	12	77	10	6	11	217
<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i>	E	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	5
<i>Alangium chinense</i>	E	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	4
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	E	2	1	4	4	2	1	1	0	1	16
<i>Aquilaria sinensis</i>	E	2	2	8	1	1	1	2	1	2	20
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	E	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	6
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Ficus hispida</i>	E	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	5
<i>Cinnamomum parthenoxylon</i>	E	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	4
<i>Garcinia oblongifolia</i>	E	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	7
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	E	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	5
<i>Schefflera heptaphylla</i>	E	1	1	1	1	1	4	2	1	0	12
<i>Sterculia lanceolata</i>	E	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	8
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	I & E	3	0	1	2	2	6	2	3	1	20

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Quantity* and General Health Condition ^of the Seedling Recorded in Each Sampling Quadrat									Total Qty.
		R1	R2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	
	<i>Sub-Total</i>	120	94	79	88	104	122	79	60	89	835
Shrub											
<i>Gordonia axillaris</i>	I & E	20	38	38	46	55	26	19	19	38	299
<i>Melastoma candidum</i>	I	5	8	24	23	14	9	5	8	11	107
<i>Melastoma sanguineum</i>	I	7	31	17	23	40	15	14	12	18	177
<i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i>	I	35	29	24	19	27	20	25	20	26	225
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	I	43	84	35	31	68	21	28	33	45	388
<i>Ficus hirta</i>	E	3	3	8	15	10	8	10	11	10	78
<i>Ilex asprella</i>	I & E	0	7	7	9	9	9	17	20	30	108
<i>Melicope pteleifolia</i>	E	3	3	0	2	2	3	0	2	2	17
<i>Psychotria asiatica</i>	I & E	8	10	15	10	8	7	17	15	10	100
	Sub-Total	124	213	168	178	233	118	135	140	190	1499

Notes: ^ General health condition of the species noted within the monitoring quadrats, and the rating may be different from those determined under the transect inspection and presented in Table 2:

- Good - No. in normal font type (e.g., “99”)
- Fair - No. in Italic font (e.g., “99”)
- Poor - No. in italic & underlined (e.g., “99”)

* the quantity include all individuals of the planted species within the quadrat regardless whether their origin

it is assumed that thinning has been undertaken during the enhancement planting work

Table 5 Survival Rate of the Species Planted within the WCA

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Reference Baseline ^	Total Qty.# Recorded in Quadrat Monitoring (Aug’20)	Survival Rate * (%)	Changed in Survival Rate (%) when compared with Previous Monitoring
<i>Tree</i>					
<i>Acacia confusa</i>	I	113	83	73.5	0.0
<i>Acacia mangium</i>	I	193	128	66.3	-5.7
<i>Castanopsis fissa</i>	I	39	32	82.1	-17.9
<i>Litsea glutinosa</i>	I	40	36	90.0	-10.0
<i>Mallotus paniculatus</i>	I	80	184	100.0	0.0
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	I	64	42	65.6	-17.2
<i>Sapium discolor</i>	I	13	1	7.7	-7.7
<i>Schima superba</i>	I & E	202	217	100	0.0
<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i>	E	20	5	25.0	-15.0
<i>Alangium chinense</i>	E	20	4	20.0	-20.0
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	E	20	16	80.0	-10.0
<i>Aquilaria sinensis</i>	E	35	20	57.1	0.0
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	E	20	6	30.0	-10.0
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	E	20	0	0.0	0.0
<i>Ficus hispida</i>	E	20	5	25.0	-5.0
<i>Cinnamomum</i>	E	20	4	20.0	-5.0

Species	Planting Phase (I – Initial/ E - Enhancement)	Reference Baseline ^	Total Qty.# Recorded in Quadrat Monitoring (Aug'20)	Survival Rate * (%)	Changed in Survival Rate (%) when compared with Previous Monitoring
<i>parthenoxylon</i>					
<i>Garcinia oblongifolia</i>	E	35	7	20.0	-14.3
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	E	35	5	14.3	-8.6
<i>Schefflera heptaphylla</i>	E	45	12	26.7	-28.9
<i>Sterculia lanceolata</i>	E	40	8	20.0	-22.5
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	I & E	60	20	33.3	-46.7
Shrub					
<i>Gordonia axillaris</i>	I & E	448	299	66.7	-7.4
<i>Melastoma candidum</i>	I	136	107	78.7	-5.9
<i>Melastoma sanguineum</i>	I	216	177	81.9	-4.2
<i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i>	I	276	225	81.5	-1.8
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	I	443	388	87.6	-2.7
<i>Ficus hirta</i>	E	200	78	39.0	-9.5
<i>Ilex asprella</i>	I & E	250	108	43.2	-9.2
<i>Melicope pteleifolia</i>	E	30	17	56.7	0.0
<i>Psychotria asiatica</i>	I & E	300	100	33.3	-4.4

^ see Table 3

refer to Table 4

* no. in bold denotes the survival rate of this species reach the trigger level, whereas no. in bold and italic denote the survival rate of this species reach the action level (see Table 1)

3.2.4 Based on the recorded data and observations made within the sampled quadrats and the data presented in **Tables 4** and **5**, the following provides a brief account of the findings from the quadrat monitoring:

- Health condition: Generally speaking, the health condition of the seedlings planted for the initial or enhancement phase within the quadrats was found either in fair or good condition.
- Survival Rate: Among the 30 species planted, except the *Celtis sinensis* where it has not been recorded within the quadrat since April 2020, as well as other 5 species where no change in their survival rate were recorded (*Acacia confusa*, *Mallotus paniculatus* and *Aquilaria sinensis*, *Schima superba* and *Melicope pteleifolia*), the survival rate for the rest of the planted species was recorded with a decrease of 2.7% (*Rhodomyrtus tomentosa*) to 46.7% (*Liquidamber formosana*) when compared with the previous monitoring period.
- As a whole, a total of 20 species were recorded with a survival rate below 70% and met the action level, including the trees *Acacia mangium* (66.3%), *Phyllanthus emblica* (65.6%), *Sapium discolor* (7.7%), *Bridelia tomentosa* (25%), *Alangium chinense* (20.0%), *Aquilaria sinensis* (57.1%), *Bischofia javanica* (30.0%), *Celtis sinensis* (0%), *Ficus hispida* (25.0%), *Cinnamomum parthenoxylon* (20%), *Garcinia oblongifolia* (20.0%), *Reevesia thyrsoidea* (14.3%), *Schefflera heptaphylla* (26.7%), *Sterculia lanceolata* (20.0%) and *Liquidamber formosana* (33.3%), as well as the shrubs *Gordonia axillaris* (66.7%), *Ficus hirta* (39.0%), *Ilex asprella* (43.2%), *Melicope pteleifolia*

(56.7%) and *Psychotria asiatica* (33.3%).

- Another 2 species were recorded with a survival rate ranged from 70% to 80% and met the trigger level, including the trees *Acacia confusa* (73.5%) and the shrub *Melastoma candidum* (78.7%).
- The poor survival rate of all of the 17 species planted for the enhancement planting phase, as well as the *Gordonia axillaris* which was planted as substitute of the *Melastoma candidum* during the replacement work of the initial planting phase, may due to the poor vigor of the planted seedlings or poor recovery of the seedlings from the transplanting shock, especially under the unusual drier weather in Hong Kong since the seedlings was planted in Sep '19 as well as the growing season in 2020.
- Nonetheless, regardless whether the poor survival rate of those species recorded with survival rate <70% is related to unusual drier weather condition in the past 12 months or the seedlings were out-competed by other self-established or planted woody plants, the updated replanting arrangements as detailed in Table 6 and 7 below are recommended, in which *Schima superba* has been recommended to substitute *Sapium discolor*.. However, the necessity for replanting the *Gordonia axillaris*, which is one of the plant species well-established of the planting program, will be further reviewed from future monitoring.
- On the other hand, action for both *Acacia sp.* would not be unnecessary as they were planned for thinning in the planting program, and the necessity for taking any remedial actions for *Melastoma candidum* will also be further reviewed in the future monitoring.
- The Contractor would be responsible for implementing action of replanting and other remedial measures agreed by AFCD. All of the replanting works should make reference and conform to the Section 5 “Planting Management” of the approved Woodland Compensation Plan (WCP), in particularly it should be undertaken within the planting season and in suitable planting area based on their habitat/micro-habitat requirements, and should not be shaded from adjacent plants to avoid competition for light and other resources.
- On the other hand, where pre-planting site preparation work such as clearance of herbaceous plants (in particularly the fern *Dicranopteris pedata*) is required to facilitate the replanting work, it should be completed prior the delivery of seedlings on-site as such to expedite the planting work and facilitate their recovery from the planting shocks and establishment; and the site preparation work should be undertaken with care to avoid any damage caused to the exiting woody plants.
- Finally, with respect to the timing of this reporting and the replanting program, it is recommended to carry out the replanting work at the onset of next growing season, i.e., March 2021 as such to safeguard and increase the chance of recovery of the planted seedlings from the transplanting shock, and hence the survival rate of the planted seedlings.

Table 6 Recommended Replanting Quantity for Species Recorded with Survival Rate <70%

Species	Survival Rate % (Aug. 2020)	Reference Quantity ^	Qty. to be Replanted
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	65.6	2350	808
<i>Sapium discolor</i>	7.7	783	723 (to be substituted by <i>Schima superba</i>)
<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i>	25.0	163	122
<i>Alangium chinense</i>	20.0	327	262

<i>Aquilaria sinensis</i>	57.1	327	140
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	30.0	163	114
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	0.0	163	163
<i>Ficus hispida</i>	25.0	163	122
<i>Cinnamomum parthenoxylon</i>	20.0	163	130
<i>Garcinia oblongifolia</i>	20.0	327	262
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	14.3	327	280
<i>Schefflera heptaphylla</i>	26.7	327	240
<i>Sterculia lanceolata</i>	20.0	327	262
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	33.3	1323	882
<i>Ficus hirta</i>	39.0	2451	1495
<i>Ilex asprella</i>	43.2	7174	4075
<i>Melicope pteleifolia</i>	56.7	490	212
<i>Psychotria asiatica</i>	33.3	8088	5392

^ Except *Sapium discolor* where the reference qty. would be the qty. planted for the initial planting phase minus those that has been substituted during the replacement planting in 2019 (i.e., 2350-1567=783), the reference quantity of the others refer to the qty. planted during the enhancement planting work at Aug 2019

Table 7 Recommended Replanting Quantity for Each of the Quadrat to Restore the Reference Baseline in the Monitoring Program

Species	Qty. to be Replanted#	Quantity *								
		R1	R2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	22	2	3	0	2	2	1	4	4	4
<i>Schima superba</i> [^]	11	2	2	0	0	1	0	2	2	2
<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i>	15	3	3	1	3	0	1	2	2	0
<i>Alangium chinense</i>	16	3	4	1	0	1	2	1	1	3
<i>Aquilaria sinensis</i>	15	2	2	0	0	2	1	2	2	4
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	14	3	2	0	1	2	2	1	1	2
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	20	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
<i>Ficus hispida</i>	15	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	2
<i>Cinnamomum parthenoxylon</i>	16	3	2	2	0	0	2	2	3	2
<i>Garcinia oblongifolia</i>	28	3	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	5
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	30	3	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	3
<i>Schefflera heptaphylla</i>	33	5	5	2	2	3	5	3	3	5
<i>Sterculia lanceolata</i>	32	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	6
<i>Ficus hirta</i>	122	20	20	10	12	10	20	10	10	10
<i>Ilex asprella</i>	142	20	20	10	20	15	17	20	10	10
<i>Melicope pteleifolia</i>	13	2	2	3	1	1	0	3	1	0
<i>Psychotria asiatica</i>	200	32	30	20	20	20	20	18	20	20

qty. from the difference between those shown in col.3 and 4 of Table 5

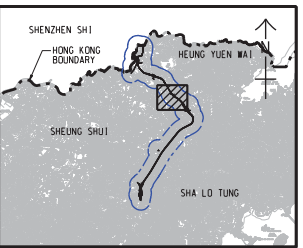
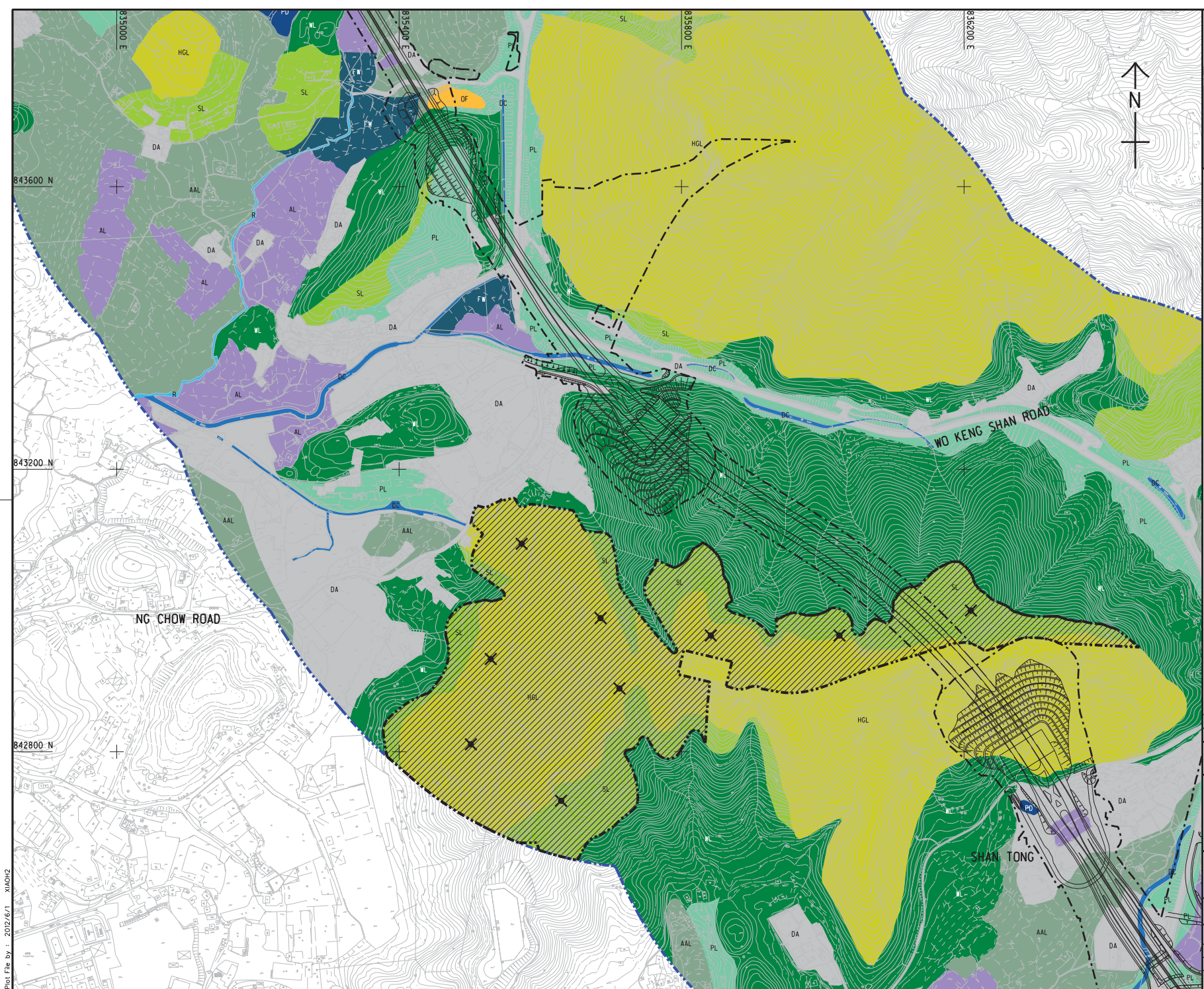
*Since the number of each plant species planted in each quadrat has not been made available for reference, the recommended quantity for each species in each quadrat is allocated by making reference to the updated baseline reference for quadrat monitoring as shown in Table 3, quantity of the respective species recorded in each quadrat in Sep 2019, i.e., the data collected after the completion of the planting work at Aug 2019 and current monitoring, as well as the observed plant density and site condition of each of the quadrat,

[^]to be planted as substitute of *Sapium discolor*

-End-

Appendix A

Drawing No. 60212563/SK7037 of the Woodland Compensation Plan



KEY PLAN
SCALE 1 : 150000

LEGEND:

- 500m ASSESSMENT AREA
- TENTATIVE WORKS AREA
- TUNNEL SECTION**
- WL WOODLAND
- SL SHRUBLAND
- PL PLANTATION
- FW FRESHWATER WETLAND [NET AGRICULTURAL AND (ACTIVE/ABANDONED)]
- AL ACTIVE AGRICULTURAL LAND
- AAL ABANDONED AGRICULTURAL LAND
- HGL HILLSIDE GRASSLAND
- PD POND
- DC DRAINAGE CHANNEL
- R WATERCOURSE
- OF OPEN FIELD
- DA DEVELOPED AREA
- EXTENT OF WOODLAND COMPENSATION PLANTING AREA
- X TENTATIVE WOODLAND MONITORING QUADRAT (THE EXACT LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED BY THE ENGINEER ON SITE)

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

CEDD 土木工程拓展署
Civil Engineering and
Development Department

LIANTANG/HEUNG YUEN WAI BOUNDARY CONTROL POINT AND ASSOCIATED WORKS (SITE FORMATION AND INFRASTRUCTURES) DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

PROPOSED WOODLAND COMPENSATION AREA

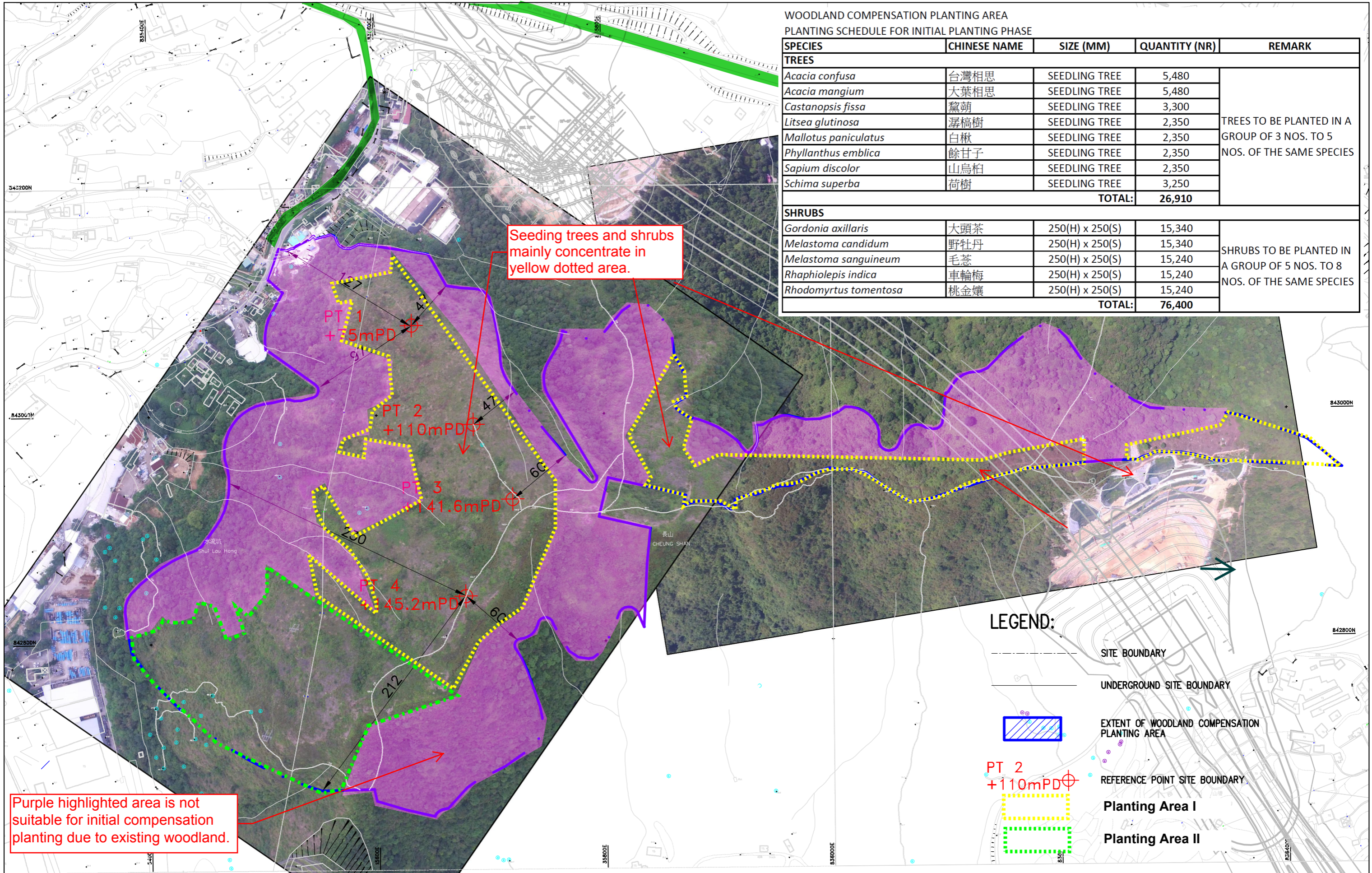
DRGNO.
圖紙編號

DESIGNED BY DW: KW	CONTRACT NO. SMBR	P. DCR. APPROVED AREA
DRAWN BY YJP	STATUS REV	
SCALE AS 1 : 2500		
DRAWING AND INSTRUMENTED METRES		

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Appendix B

As-built Planting Schedule for Initial Planting Phase



WOODLAND COMPENSATION PLANTING AREA
PLANTING SCHEDULE FOR INITIAL PLANTING PHASE

SPECIES	CHINESE NAME	SIZE (MM)	QUANTITY (NR)	REMARK
TREES				
<i>Acacia confusa</i>	台灣相思	SEEDLING TREE	5,480	TREES TO BE PLANTED IN A GROUP OF 3 NOS. TO 5 NOS. OF THE SAME SPECIES
<i>Acacia mangium</i>	大葉相思	SEEDLING TREE	5,480	
<i>Castanopsis fissa</i>	蠟菊	SEEDLING TREE	3,300	
<i>Litsea glutinosa</i>	潺槁樹	SEEDLING TREE	2,350	
<i>Mallotus paniculatus</i>	白楸	SEEDLING TREE	2,350	
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	餘甘子	SEEDLING TREE	2,350	
<i>Sapium discolor</i>	山烏柏	SEEDLING TREE	2,350	
<i>Schima superba</i>	荷樹	SEEDLING TREE	3,250	
			TOTAL:	26,910
SHRUBS				
<i>Gordonia axillaris</i>	大頭茶	250(H) x 250(S)	15,340	SHRUBS TO BE PLANTED IN A GROUP OF 5 NOS. TO 8 NOS. OF THE SAME SPECIES
<i>Melastoma candidum</i>	野牡丹	250(H) x 250(S)	15,340	
<i>Melastoma sanguineum</i>	毛蕊	250(H) x 250(S)	15,240	
<i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i>	車輪梅	250(H) x 250(S)	15,240	
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	桃金娘	250(H) x 250(S)	15,240	
			TOTAL:	76,400

Purple highlighted area is not suitable for initial compensation planting due to existing woodland.

Seeding trees and shrubs mainly concentrate in yellow dotted area.

LEGEND:

- SITE BOUNDARY
- UNDERGROUND SITE BOUNDARY
- EXTENT OF WOODLAND COMPENSATION PLANTING AREA
- REFERENCE POINT SITE BOUNDARY
- Planting Area I
- Planting Area II

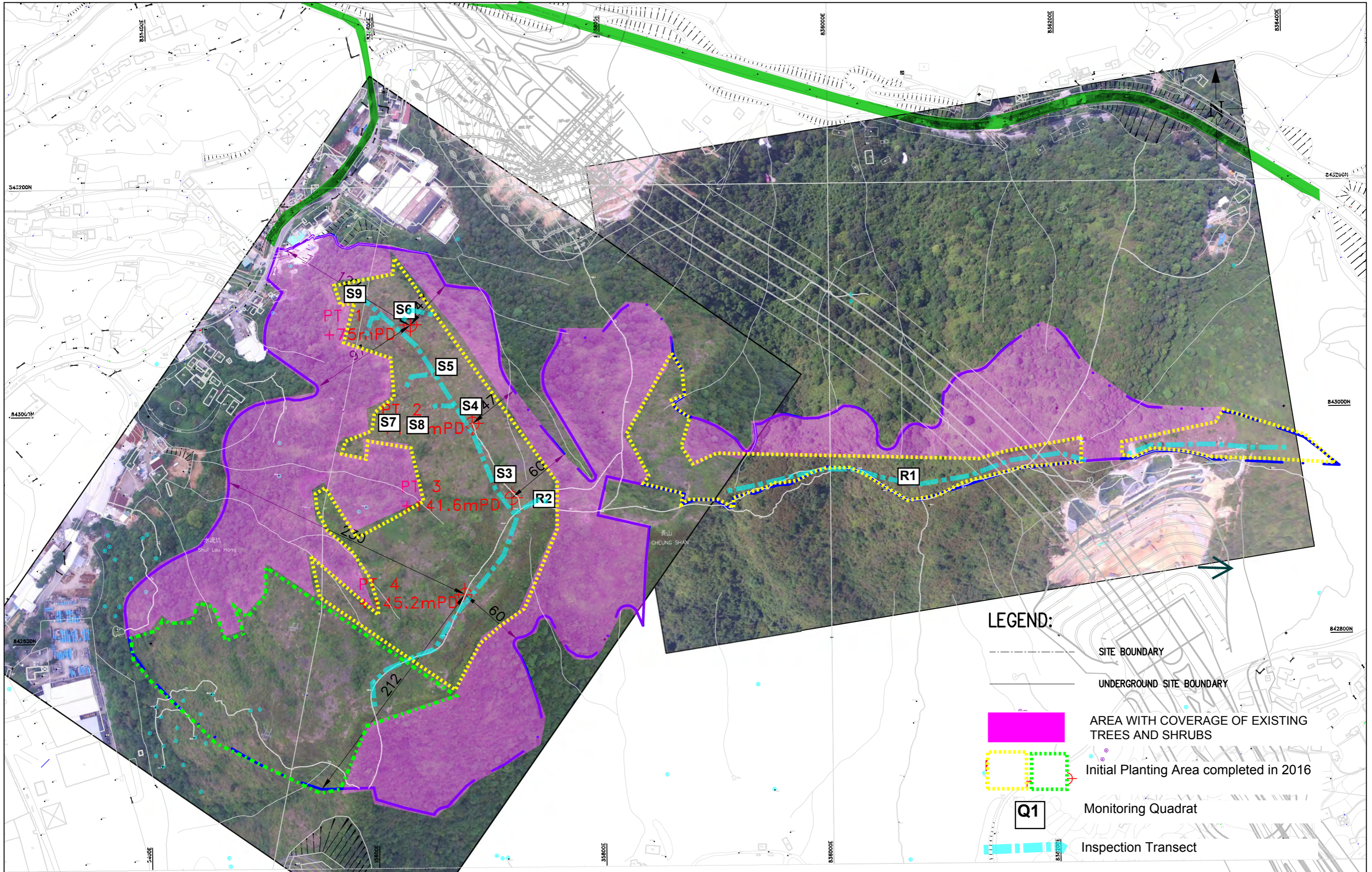
CONTRACT NO. CV/2013/08
LIANTANG/HEUNG YUEN WAI
BOUNDARY CONTROL POINT
SITE FORMATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS
- CONTRACT 6

APPENDIX B - As-built Planting Schedule for Initial Planting Phase

SCALE	1:3000(A3)	SURVEY DATE	8 September 2016
CHECK		DRAWN	K W
JOB NO.		SKETCH NO.	
		REV	-

Appendix C

Transect Routes and Sampling Quadrats of Woodland Compensation Monitoring



LEGEND:

- SITE BOUNDARY
- UNDERGROUND SITE BOUNDARY
- AREA WITH COVERAGE OF EXISTING TREES AND SHRUBS
- Initial Planting Area completed in 2016
- Monitoring Quadrat
- Inspection Transect

APPENDIX C - LOCATION OF THE THE INSPECTION TRANSECTS AND MONITORING QUADRATS, 2016

CONTRACT NO. CV/2013/08
LIANTANG/HEUNG YUEN WAI
BOUNDARY CONTROL POINT
SITE FORMATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS
- CONTRACT 6

SCALE	1:3000(A3)	SURVEY DATE	N/A
CHECK		DRAWN	K W
JOB NO.		SKETCH NO.	WCA_Monitoring Plan-161130
		REV	-

Appendix D

Photographic Records

Photographic Record of the Woodland Compensation Area



1 - Eastern Ridge



2 - Western Ridge



R1



R2



S3



S4



S5



S6

Photographic Record of the Woodland Compensation Area



S7



S8



S9

Appendix E

As-built record of the planting work

As-built record of planting works in WCA (August 2019)

Species		Stage II Enhancement Planting (Phase I) Quantity (nr.)	Replanting for Initial Planting Phase Quantity (nr.)	Total Planted Quantity (nr.)	Total Planted Within 9nr Monitoring Quadrats (nr.)	Total Planted Outside 9nr Monitoring Quadrats (nr.)
<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i>	土密樹	163		163	20	143
<i>Alangium chinese</i>	八角楓	327		327	20	307
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	樟	163		163	20	143
<i>Aquilaria sinensis</i>	土沉香	327		327	35	292
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	秋楓	163		163	20	143
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	朴樹	163		163	20	143
<i>Ficus hispida</i>	對葉榕	163		163	20	143
<i>Cinnamomum parthenoxylon</i>	黃樟	163		163	20	143
<i>Garcinia oblongifolia</i>	嶺南山竹子	327		327	35	292
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	椴羅樹	327		327	35	292
<i>Schefflera heptaphylla</i>	鶴掌柴	327		327	45	282
<i>Sterculia lanceolata</i>	假桐婆	327		327	40	287
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	楓香	163	1160	1323	60	1263
<i>Schinus molle</i>	木荷	164	1567	1731	120	1611
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	餘甘子		1102	1102	30	1072
<i>Ficus hirta</i>	粗葉榕	2451		2451	200	2251
<i>Ilex asprella</i>	梅葉冬青	2451	4723	7174	250	6924
<i>Melicope pteleifolia</i>	蜜葉莢	490		490	30	460
<i>Psychotria asiatica</i>	九節木	2451	5637	8088	300	7788
<i>Polyspora axillaris</i>	大頭茶	1961	9413	11374	300	11074
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	桃金娘		7047	7047	0	7047
TOTAL		13071	30649	43720	1620	42100