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1. INTRODUCTION

Background

- 1.1 For the construction of West Island Line (WIL), it was estimated that approximately 1,100 kg of explosive would be used at the peak period and delivered daily to various work fronts. A magazine site is therefore proposed to store the explosive
- 1.2 This proposed underground magazine site has a flat platform by Victoria Road, where the portals of the access tunnels to the magazine storage chambers are located. Deep inside the access tunnels, there are eight magazine storage chambers and a detonator store.

Objectives

1.3 This section presents the result of the assessment of potential ecological impacts resulting from the proposed underground magazine. Desktop literature review of existing information and ecological field surveys were undertaken to establish the ecological baseline information and evaluate the ecological importance of habitats or flora / fauna species found within 500m of the proposed works areas. The potential impacts arising from the proposed works was identified and assessed, and mitigation measures were recommended if necessary.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

- 2.1 Guidelines, standards, documents and HKSAR Government ordinances and regulations listed in the following sections were referred to during the course of the study.
- 2.2 The Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208) provides for the designation and management of country parks and special areas. Country parks are designated for the purpose of nature conservation, countryside recreation and outdoor education. Special Areas are created mainly for the purpose of nature conservation.
- 2.3 The *Forests and Countryside Ordinance* (Cap. 96) prohibits felling, cutting, burning or destroying of trees and growing plants in forests and plantations on Government land. Related subsidiary Regulations prohibit the selling or possession of listed restricted and protected plant species. The list of protected species in Hong Kong which comes under the Forestry Regulations was last amended on 11 June 1993 under the *Forestry (Amendment) Regulation 1993* made under *Section 3* of the *Forests and Countryside Ordinance*.
- 2.4 Under the *Wild Animals Protection Ordinance* (Cap. 170), designated wild animals are protected from being hunted, whilst their nests and eggs are protected from injury, destruction and removal. All birds and most mammals, including marine cetaceans, are protected under this Ordinance. The Second Schedule of the Ordinance, which lists all the animals protected was last revised in June 1992.
- 2.5 The *Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance* (Cap. 586) provides protection for certain plant and animal species through controlling or prohibiting trade in the species.
- 2.6 The amended *Town Planning Ordinance* (Cap. 131) provides for the designation of coastal protection areas, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Conservation Area, Country Park, Green Belt or other specified uses that promote conservation or protection of the environment. The authority responsible for administering the Town Planning Ordinance is the Town Planning Board.
- 2.7 Chapter 10 of the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG) covers planning considerations relevant to conservation. This chapter details the principles of conservation, the conservation of natural landscape and habitats, historic buildings, archaeological sites and other antiquities. The appendices list the legislation and administrative controls for conservation, other conservation related measures in Hong Kong and government

departments involved in conservation.

- 2.8 Annex 16 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance Technical Memorandum (EIAO TM) sets out the general approach and methodology for assessment of ecological impacts arising from a project or proposal, to allow a complete and objective identification, prediction and evaluation of the potential ecological impacts. Annex 8 recommends the criteria that can be used for evaluating habitat and ecological impact.
- 2.9 EIAO Guidance Note No. 6/2002 clarifies the requirements of ecological assessments under the EIAO. EIAO Guidance Note No. 7/2002 provides general guidelines for conducting ecological baseline surveys in order to fulfill requirements stipulated in the EIAO TM. EIAO Guidance Note No. 11/2004 introduces general methodologies for conducting marine ecological baseline surveys.
- 2.10 List of Wild Animals Under State Protection details Category I and Category II protected animal species under Mainland Chinese Legislation.
- 2.11 List of Wild Plants Under State Protection details Category I and Category II protected plant species under Mainland Chinese Legislation.
- 2.12 The *China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals* states the taxonomic, conservation status and distribution information of the endangered animal species in mainland China. The book also includes detailed descriptions on habitat, behavior, abundance and threats to survival of the species concerned.
- 2.13 The China Plant Red Data Book: Rare and Endangered Plants states the taxonomic, conservation status and distribution information of the endangered flora species in mainland China.
- 2.14 The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species provides taxonomic, conservation status and distribution information on taxa that have been evaluated using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria. This system is designed to determine the relative risk of extinction, and the main purpose of the IUCN Red List is to catalogue and highlight those taxa that are facing a higher risk of global extinction. The IUCN Red List also includes information on taxa that are either close to meeting the threatened thresholds or that would be threatened were it not for an ongoing taxon-specific conservation programme.

3. ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Scope of Ecological Assessment

3.1 Available existing literature documenting the ecological information in and within 500 vicinity of proposed works area (hereafter called as 'study area') was reviewed. Terrestrial ecological surveys in the study area were conducted from February to April 2007. The surveys comprised the followings:

Habitat Survey

- 3.2 A Habitat survey was undertaken to determine the types, size and locations of habitats in the study area. The habitat surveys were conducted via a desktop review of the latest available aerial photographs and other relevant maps/plans available, followed by field checks carried out from February to April 2007 throughout the ecological survey. Representative photographs of habitat types in the study area were taken.
- 3.3 A vegetation survey was conducted by direct observation to record species present and relative abundance of species in different habitat types in representative parts of the study area. The position of any plant species of conservation interest was recorded.
- 3.4 The habitat/vegetation surveys of the study area focused mainly on areas that would be directly

impacted by the proposed works, and also on other nearby areas of potential ecological importance in the study area.

Avifauna Survey

3.5 Avifaunal surveys of the study area were undertaken, with species present and relative abundance of species in different habitat types recorded. The surveys comprised general walk-transects of the study area, with particular attention paid to areas within and adjacent to proposed works sites, and also habitats likely to support high densities, or species of conservation interest. Birds were recorded visually and aurally. The location of bird species of conservation interest were recorded, along with any notable behavior (e.g. breeding, breeding behavior such as nesting and presence of recently fledged juveniles, roosting, feeding activities). Avifaunal surveys were undertaken monthly from February to April 2007, and night time surveys were conducted in March 2007.

Herpetofauna & Mammal Survey

- 3.6 A herpetofauna/mammal survey of the study area was conducted. The survey recorded species present and relative abundance of species. Amphibians were searched for by direct observation, searching potential microhabitats, searching for tadpoles in aquatic habitats and listening for calling animals. Reptiles were searched for by direct observation, searching potential microhabitats, and searching for signs of animals (e.g., snake-skins). Mammals (including bats) were searched for by direct observation, searching potential microhabitats, listening for calling animals, and searching for signs of animals (e.g., burrows and faeces). The locations of any herpetofaunal and mammal species of conservation interest were recorded.
- 3.7 The herpetofauna/mammal surveys were conducted monthly in the wet season (April 2007) at the study area, including a day time and a night time survey.

Terrestrial Insect Survey

3.8 Species present and relative species abundance of adult butterflies and odonates were recorded by direct observation in the study area. The location of any species of conservation interest was recorded. Terrestrial insect surveys were conducted monthly from February to April 2007.

Impact Assessment

3.9 Potential ecological impacts arising from the Project were assessed following *EIAO TM Annex* 16 guidelines and the impacts evaluated based on criteria in *EIAO TM Annex* 8.

4. BASELINE CONDITION

Site of Conservation Interest

- 4.1 Areas located to the south and east of the proposed underground magazine site are zoned as Green Belt (GB) under the Kennedy Town & Mount Davis Outline Zoning Plan (S/H1/14). This zone includes the sloping area in Mount Davis where difficult topography and steep hillsides prevent it from intensive urban development or recreational uses. It forms a visually and aesthetically pleasant background to the area.
- 4.2 Under the Mid-Levels West Outline Zoning Plan (S/H11/13), Lung Fu Shan Country Park is approximately 1.4 km away from the boundary of the proposed works area, which is outside the study area of the current Project.

Habitat Type and Vegetation

4.3 A habitat map of the study area is given in **Figure A1**. Representative photographs of habitats are given in **Annex 3.1**. Photographs of species of conservation importance are illustrated in **Annex 3.2**. Flora species recorded from the study area are listed in **Annex 3.3**. A summary of the overall coverage of habitat types within the study area is shown in **Table 3.1**. The more detailed description of habitats and vegetation communities in the study area is given in the following sections.

Table 3.1 Coverage of Different Habitat Types within the Study Area

Habitat Type	Area (ha)
Woodland	20.50
Developed Area	19.92
Tall Shrubland	8.86
Low Shrubland	8.84
Drainage Channel	0.19 (approximately 960 m long)
Total	58.31

Woodland / Tall Shrubland

- 4.4 Vegetation in these areas is dominated by trees ranged from 4-10 m in height and was of moderate diversity. The species composition of these two habitats is similar and would therefore be discussed collectively under this section. Woodland habitat was recorded from Mount Davis above the Victoria Road, while patches of tall shrublands were recorded from the areas near the coast and on the upper Mount Davis. The proposed works area is situated in a tall shrubland which is established from an abandoned squatter area covered with rubbles and demolished materials.
- 4.5 There were totally 86 species of flora recorded in these two habitats. Typically recorded plant species including tree species *Macaranga tanarius*, *Mallotus paniculatus*, *Bridelia tomentosa*, *Sterculia lanceolata*, *Broussonetia papyrifera*, *Celtis sinensis*, *Leucaena leucocephala*, *Machilus* spp., shrub species *Lantana camara*, *Ligustrum sinense*, *Maesa perlarius*, and climber species *Bauhinia glauca*, and *Tetracera asiatica*. Most of these plant species are common and widespread in Hong Kong.
- The tall shrubland habitat within the study area was found to support three plant species of conservation interest. Hong Kong Pavetta (*Pavetta hongkongensis*, 香港大沙葉) is listed under Forestry Regulation of Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96). The locally common Silver-back Artocarpus (*Artocarpus hypargyreus*, 白桂木) is not listed under any local or mainland legislation, but is classified as vulnerable in the IUCN Red Data List (IUCN, 2006). Silver-back Artocarpus is also recorded in China Plant Red Data Book and Illustrations of Rare & Endangered Plants in Guangdong Province (Hu, 2003).
- 4.7 A colony of a locally rare fern, *Phymatodes scolopendria* (瘤蕨), was recorded from rock crevices at the margin of the tall shrubland habitat. The distribution of this species in Hong Kong is highly restricted and was previously recorded from a few localities in Hong Kong including Mount Davis, Chek Chau, Round Island, Clear Water Bay, etc. (Corlett et. al., 2000; Lee et. al., 2003). The locations of the above floral species of conservation interest are indicated in **Figure A1** and **A2**.

Low Shrubland

4.8 The upper slopes of Mount Davis, along with adjacent ridges and hilltops, are found to be more exposed habitats. Vegetation growing in these areas was relatively low in diversity with height generally not more than 3 m. Totally 40 floral species were recorded within the low shrubland. Typically recorded species from this habitat included shrub species such as Schefflera heptaphylla, Bridelia tomentosa, Celtis sinensis, Ilex pubescens, Itea chinensis,

Lantana camara, Litsea cubeba, and climbers Berchemia racemosa, Cansjera rheedii, Embelia laeta.

Drainage Channel

4.9 Approximately three sizeable water channels were recorded from the study area on the upper slope along Victoria Road. They are probably modified from natural seasonal hill streams originated from Mount Davis to form concrete cascaded channels. Water quality was found to be fair, however, no fish fauna was observed during the surveys and that might possibly be due to steep gradient and rapid flow rate of the channel.

Developed Area

4.10 Developed areas recorded in the study area included roads, man-made slopes, residential, and educational buildings. A total of 109 plant species were found in developed area. Trees and shrubs commonly found on man-made slope above Victoria Road included *Lantana camara, Macaranga tanarius, Melastoma candidum, Mikania micrantha, Parthenocissus himalayana*. Other vegetations in this habitat included common roadside trees/shrubs *Aleurites moluccana, Casuarina spp., Eucalyptus* spp., and amenity plants *Allaman*da neriifolia, *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis, Araucaria heterophylla, Bauhinia blakeana, Bombax ceiba* and occasional ruderal weeds (e.g., *Ageratum conyzoides, Bidens* spp. and *Lantana camara*).

Fauna

4.11 Terrestrial fauna recorded in the study area during the surveys are listed in **Annex 3.4**.

Avifauna

- 4.12 Field surveys conducted under this project recorded 19 avifaunal species in the study area. The commonly recorded species reflected the mix of habitat types in the study area, with disturbed habitats such as developed areas/engineered slopes supporting typical urban species such as Red-whiskered Bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*), Chinese Bulbul (*Pycnonotus sinensis*), Magpie Robin (*Copsychus saularis*) and Japanese White-eye (*Zosterops japonicus*). Three of the recorded species are considered of conservation interest. Details on their distribution and conservation status are described in below sections:
- 4.13 Little Egrets (*Egretta garzetta*, 小白鷺) were recorded foraging and flying along the rocky coastline east of Sulphur Channel in April 2007. Little Egrets are locally very common, and the large, secure population in Hong Kong is considered of regional significance by Fellowes *et al.* (2002).
- 4.14 Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*, 黑鳶) was recorded at flight in the study area throughout the survey period. Although locally very common, Black Kites are considered of conservation importance in Hong Kong due to the restricted number of nesting and roosting sites (Fellowes *et al.*, 2002), with the current breeding population believed to be about 30 pairs. They are also a Category II protected species under Mainland Chinese Legislation.
- 4.15 One individual of Greater Coucal (*Centropus sinensis*, 褐翅鴉鵑) was heard calling from the tall shrubland habitats in March and April 2007. Greater Coucal is relatively common and widespread residents in Hong Kong, and are not considered of conservation interest by Fellowes et al. (2002). All Coucal species are, however, Category II protected species in Mainland China, where they are thought to be under threat from over-hunting (Zheng and Wang, 1998).

Herpetofauna

4.16 Two species of amphibian were identified from developed area in the study area during the surveys in April 2007. All of which are common and widespread in Hong Kong, including Asiatic Painted Frog (*Kaloula pulchra pulchra*) and Brown Tree Frog (*Polypedates megacephalus*). None of the recorded species are considered of conservation importance.

4.17 Three species of reptile including Bowring's Gecko (*Hemidactylus bowringii*), Four-clawed Gecko (*Gehyra mutilata*), Long-tailed Skink (*Mabuya longicaduata*) were recorded from developed area and shrubland habitats in the study area during the surveys (March and April 2007), all of which are common and widespread native species. None of the recorded species are considered of conservation importance.

Mammals

4.18 One species of mammal (Pallas's Squirrel, *Callosciurus erythraeus styani*, 赤腹松鼠) was recorded from tall shrubland habitats in the study area in February and March 2007 surveys. Pallas's Squirrel is common and widespread in Hong Kong, and is protected under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170), and therefore considered of conservation importance.

Terrestrial invertebrates

4.19 Eleven species of butterfly including *Papilio polytes*, *Papilio helenus*, *Faunis enumeus* and *Delias pasithoe* were recorded from developed area, tall shrubland, and low shrubland habitats of the study area throughout the surveys. These species are locally common and none of the recorded species are considered of conservation importance. No odonata species were recorded during the surveys.

Ecological Value

4.20 In accordance with the *EIAO TM Annex 8* criteria, the ecological importance of recorded habitats has been evaluated in **Tables 4.1 – 4.2** below.

Table 4.1 Ecological Value of Woodland / Tall Shrubland and Low Shrubland in the Study Area

Criteria	Woodland / Tall Shrubland	Low Shrubland
		Habitat is largely natural but secondary in nature.
Size	Areas of woodland and tall shrubland habitat within study area are approximately 20.5 and 8.86 ha respectively.	Area of this habitat within study area is approximately 8.84 ha.
Diversity	Moderate	Low
Rarity	Three plant species of conservation interest (<i>Artocarpus hypargyreus</i> , <i>Phymatodes scolopendria</i> and <i>Pavetta hongkongensis</i>) were recorded in tall shrubland habitat. One faunal species of conservation interest (<i>Callosciurus erythraeus styani</i>) was recorded in tall shrubland habitat.	No species of conservation interest was recorded in this habitat during the surveys.
Recreatability	Secondary woodland and tall shrubland have moderate recreatability, although it would take several decades to become mature.	Low shrubland has moderate recreatability, although it would take several decades to mature.

Criteria	Woodland / Tall Shrubland	Low Shrubland
Fragmentation	The habitats are not fragmented on the Mount Davis.	Habitat is not fragmented.
	Scattered and isolated habitats near the shore are fragmented from the Mount Davis by the Victoria Road and developed areas.	
Ecological	Habitats are not structurally or	Habitat is not structurally or
linkage	functionally linked to any high	functionally linked to any high
	ecological value resources.	ecological value resources.
Potential value	Moderate	Moderate
Nursery / breeding	No record of significant nursery or breeding ground was found in the	No record of significant nursery or breeding ground was found in the
ground	survey.	survey.
Age	More than twenty years	More than ten years
Abundance/	Low	Low
Richness of		
Wildlife		
Ecological value	Moderate	Low to moderate

Table 4.2 Ecological Value of Drainage Channel and Developed Area in the Study Area

Criteria	Drainage Channel	Developed Area
Naturalness	Created habitat.	Created habitat.
Size	Area of this habitat within study area	Area of this habitat within study
	is approximately 0.19 ha (960 m).	area is approximately 19.92 ha.
Diversity	Very low	Moderate
Rarity	No species of conservation interest	No species of conservation interest
	was recorded in this habitat during	was recorded in this habitat during
	the surveys.	the surveys.
Re-creatability	Easily re-creatable	Easily re-creatable
Fragmentation	Not fragmented	Moderately fragmented
Ecological	Habitat is not structurally or	Habitat is not structurally or
linkage	functionally linked to any high	functionally linked to any high
	ecological value resources.	ecological value resources.
Potential value	Very low	Very low
Nursery /	No record of significant nursery or	No record of significant nursery or
breeding	breeding ground was found in the	breeding ground was found in the
ground	survey.	survey.
Age	N/A	N/A
Abundance/	Very Low	Low
Richness of		
Wildlife		
Ecological value	Very low	Low

- 4.21 Although subject to disturbance in the past, woodland and tall shrubland habitats in the study area have moderately diverse species composition, and support 3 floral and 1 faunal species of conservation interest. As such woodland and tall shrubland habitat is considered of moderate ecological value.
- 4.22 The species composition in low shrubland is less diverse, however, it forms parts of the potential habitats for wild fauna due to its close proximity to the surrounding tall shubland and woodland habitats. Low shrubland in the study area is therefore considered to have a low to moderate ecological value.

- 4.23 Drainage channels in the study area are highly modified habitats supporting low diversity of plants and animals and are considered of very low ecological value.
- 4.24 Although moderately diverse plant species are recorded in the developed area which has been highly modified and disturbed within the study area, most of these plants are widely found in other areas of Hong Kong. Developed area is therefore considered of low ecological value.
- 4.25 In accordance with the *EIAO TM Annex 8* criteria, the species of conservation interest are evaluated in **Tables 4.3** and **4.4** below.

Table 4.3 Evaluation of Floral Species of Conservation Interest Recorded Within the Study Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Form	Protection Status	Rarity ^[3]	Distribution in Hong Kong ^[3]
Silver-back Artocarpus	Artocarpus hypargyreus	Tree	Vulnerable ^[1] CPRDB ^[4]	Common	Widely distributed
Hong Kong Pavetta	Pavetta hongkongensis	Shrub	Listed in Cap 96 ^[2]	Common	Widely distributed
-	Phymatodes scolopendria	Herb	-	Rare	Restricted

Note:

- [1] IUCN (2006)
- [2] Listed under Forestry Regulation (under Forests and Countryside Ordinance Cap. 96)
- [3] Corlett et al. (2000)
- [4] Listed under the China Plant Red Data Book: Rare and Endangered Plants

Table 4.4 Evaluation of Faunal Species of Conservation Interest Recorded Within Study Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status ^[1]	Protection Status ^[2]	Distribution			
Avifauna	Avifauna						
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	PRC (RC)	Listed in Cap 170 ^[3]	Locally common and widespread.			
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	(RC)	Listed in Cap 170 ^[3] and Cap 586 ^[4] ; Category II ^[5] .	Locally common and widespread but with restricted roosting and breeding sites.			
Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis	-	Listed in Cap 170 ^[3] ; Category II ^[5] . Vulnerable ^[6]	Locally common and widespread.			
Mammals	Mammals						
Pallas's Squirrel Note:	Callosciurus erythraeus	-	Listed under Cap 170 ^[3] .	Common and widespread.			

Note:

- [1] RC Regional Concern (Habitat loss/damage in Hong Kong would pose significant threat to regional survival); PGC Potential Global Concern (Large, secure populations in Hong Kong are of global significance). Letters in parentheses indicate that assessment of status is based on restrictedness of breeding and/or roosting sites rather than general occurrence. Refer to Fellowes *et al.* (2002) for further explanation of status.
- [2] Information taken from various sources including Karsen *et al.* (1998), Carey *et al.* (2001), and Fellows *et al.* (2002),
- [3] Protected under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance Cap.170
- [4] Listed under Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586)
- [5] List of Wild Animals under State Protection
- [6] Listed under the China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals

5. POTENTIAL ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS

- 5.1 Habitats falling within the footprint of two proposed portal entrances, existing access path to be widened as well as the new access ramp to be built would be directly and permanently impacted.
- 5.2 The site formation works and construction of new access ramp would be confined within a tall shrubland habitat, while the excavation of the two tunnel portals would be conducted on a man-made retaining wall structure located under the existing access path. The proposed access path to be widened would largely be built on the existing access path and minor slope cutting would be required on the existing woodland habitat located to the north side of the access path.
- Plant species of conservation importance directly affected by the proposed works would include two individuals of the locally common Hong Kong Pavetta (*Pavetta hongkongensis*) located in the tall shrubland habitat of the study area. They are situated within the footprint of the proposed tunnel portal and access entrance. A summary of the potential direct ecological impact to the identified habitats and species of conservation interest is presented in **Table 5.1**.

Table 5.1 Summary of Potential Direct Ecological Impacts to the Identified Habitats and Species of Conservation Interest

and Species of Conservation Ecological Resources	Potential Direct Ecological Impact
Habitats	<u> </u>
Woodland	A small area (0.02 ha) of woodland habitat would be affected by minor slope cutting works associated with the widening of access path.
	Vegetation including mature trees and understorey within the access widening area would be affected.
Tall Shrubland	Most part of the proposed works related to the underground magazine, including the car park, turning zone for emergency services as well as the access ramp, would be conducted within the tall shrubland habitat. The associated works would also include site formation, slope works and establishment of security fence.
	Removal of vegetation (0.21 ha) would be required during site formation works.
Low Shrubland	No direct impact is expected due to the proposed works.
Developed Area	The proposed main entrance and access path widening works would be conducted partly within the footprint of the existing access path. Ecological impact to this man-made habitat would be limited.
Drainage Channel	No direct impact is expected due to the proposed works.
Species of Conservation Int	erest
Hong Kong Pavetta (Pavetta hongkongensis,	Recorded from tall shrubland habitat.
香港大沙葉)	Two shrubs identified within the proposed works site would be affected. One of them is located in the area between the portals and the other is to the north of the proposed main entrance.
Silver-back Artocarpus (Artocarpus hypargyreus,	Recorded from tall shrubland habitat.
白桂木)	Two individuals of Silver-back Artocarpus are located to the southern boundary of the proposed works area. No direct impact is expected due to the proposed works.
Phymatodes scolopendria (瘤蕨)	Recorded from the margin of tall shrubland habitat near the shore.

Ecological Resources	Potential Direct Ecological Impact		
	No direct impact is expected due to the proposed works.		
Little Egret (Egretta	Recorded near the coast of Sulphur Channel and at flight over		
garzetta, 小白鷺)	the marine area.		
	No direct impact is expected due to the proposed works.		
Black Kite (<i>Milvus</i>	Recorded at flight over woodland and tall shrubland.		
migrans, 黑鳶)			
	No direct impact is expected due to the proposed works.		
Greater Coucal	Calls recorded from tall shrubland habitat.		
(Centropus sinensis, 褐翅			
鴉鵑)	No direct impact is expected due to the proposed works.		
Pallas's Squirrel	Recorded from woodland habitat.		
(Callosciurus erythraeus,			
赤腹松鼠)	No direct impact is expected due to the proposed works.		

- 5.4 Indirect impacts on the habitats and associated fauna could be resulted from the increase in human disturbance during the construction phase including the surface run-off, dust, noise, and general increase in human activity from the construction site. These impacts are considered relatively minor, as construction phase disturbance impacts would be temporary and generally short-lived in nature. The wildlife potentially displaced or disturbed by the proposed works would be able to utilize nearby less disturbed habitats during the construction phase.
- 5.5 Improvement in access and operation of magazine may lead to an increase in the human population of the area, which would increase disturbance levels. Due to the semi-urban nature and existing high levels of disturbance from traffic of Victoria Road, operation phase disturbance is expected to have limited ecological impact.

6. MITIGATION MEASURES

- 6.1 Impacts to the tall shrubland and woodland habitats would result from site clearance, site formation and excavation for the construction works for the underground magazine site. Wherever possible, proposed works have been designed to avoid or minimise direct impacts to natural habitats in the study area.
- Planting of vegetation would be provided to compensate for the unavoidable loss of woodland (0.02 ha) and tall shrubland (0.21 ha) habitats affected by the proposed magazine site. Given the limited area available on site, a total area of 0.19 ha of native trees and shrubs would be planted to compensate for the loss in woodland and tall shrubland habitats on-site within the magazine site area after the decommissioning of the facility. In general, the compensatory planting would make use of native plant species with flowers/fruits attractive to wildlife. With this mitigation no unacceptable residual impact is anticipated. The proposed compensatory planting would enhance the biodiversity of the area in the long run.
- 6.3 The two individuals of Hong Kong Pavetta (*Pavetta hongkongensis*) located within the footprint of the proposed tunnel portal and access entrance would be transplanted to a suitable nearby tall shrubland or woodland habitats prior to the construction phase. Transplantation would be supervised by a suitably qualified ecologist/horticulturalist.
- Tree preservation would also be taken into account in the Project and trees located within the works area would be preserved as far as practicable. If tree felling is unavoidable, feasibility of tree transplantation and compensatory planting should be explored. Details of tree preservation are discussed in Landscape and Visual Assessment Section.
- 6.5 All the existing trees and species of conservation importance (i.e. the two identified Silver-back Artocarpus, *Artocarpus hypargyreus*) located near the proposed works site would be fenced off and the trunk would be protected with hessian sacking as far as possible.
- 6.6 To minimize the noise disturbance to the wildlife near the works area during the construction

phase, noise control measures including the use of quiet excavation methods, quiet construction plant and temporary noise barriers would be implemented as appropriate.

- 6.7 Standard good site practice measures should be implemented throughout the construction phase. The measures should include:
 - Placement of equipment or stockpile in designated works areas and access routes selected on existing disturbed land to minimise disturbance to natural habitats.
 - Construction activities should be restricted to work areas that would be clearly demarcated.
 The work areas should be reinstated after completion of the works.
 - Waste skips should be provided to collect general refuse and construction wastes. The wastes would be disposed of timely and properly off-site.
 - General drainage arrangements should include sediment and oil traps to collect and control construction site run-off.
 - Open burning on works sites is illegal, and should be strictly prohibited.

7. EVALUATION OF RESIDUAL IMPACTS

7.1 With the proposed mitigation measures in place above, no adverse residual impact resulting from the construction of proposed underground magazine site is expected.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND AUDIT

- 8.1 The implementation of all the mitigation measures should be subject to regular monitoring and audit.
- 8.2 The transplantation of flora species of conservation interest affected by the proposed work would be monitored regularly for health and growing condition. Monitoring of transplanted individuals should cover 4 months and be conducted twice a month at the first 2 months and then once a month for the remaining months. This exercise should be conducted by suitably qualified botanist/ecologist with at least 5 years relevant experience appointed by the project Proponent.

9. CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 The ecological surveys on terrestrial ecological resources undertaken in this study identified five habitat types within the Assessment Area comprising woodland, tall shrubland, low shrubland developed area and drainage channel. The woodland and tall shrubland are considered to have moderate ecological value, while all other habitats are of low-moderate to very low value.
- 9.2 Three species of flora and four species of fauna of conservation interest were identified within the assessment area close to works areas.
- 9.3 Potential ecological impacts resulting from the proposed underground magazine site during both construction and operation were identified and evaluated. Key impacts included the direct loss of woodland and tall shrubland within the works area, and direct impact on one flora species of conservation interest, Hong Kong Pavetta (*Pavetta hongkongensis*). Compensatory planting of 0.19 ha of trees and transplantation of the flora species of conservation interest were recommended. Other indirect impacts arising from the proposed underground magazine site would be minor and temporary, and could be minimized through implementation of proper mitigation measures.

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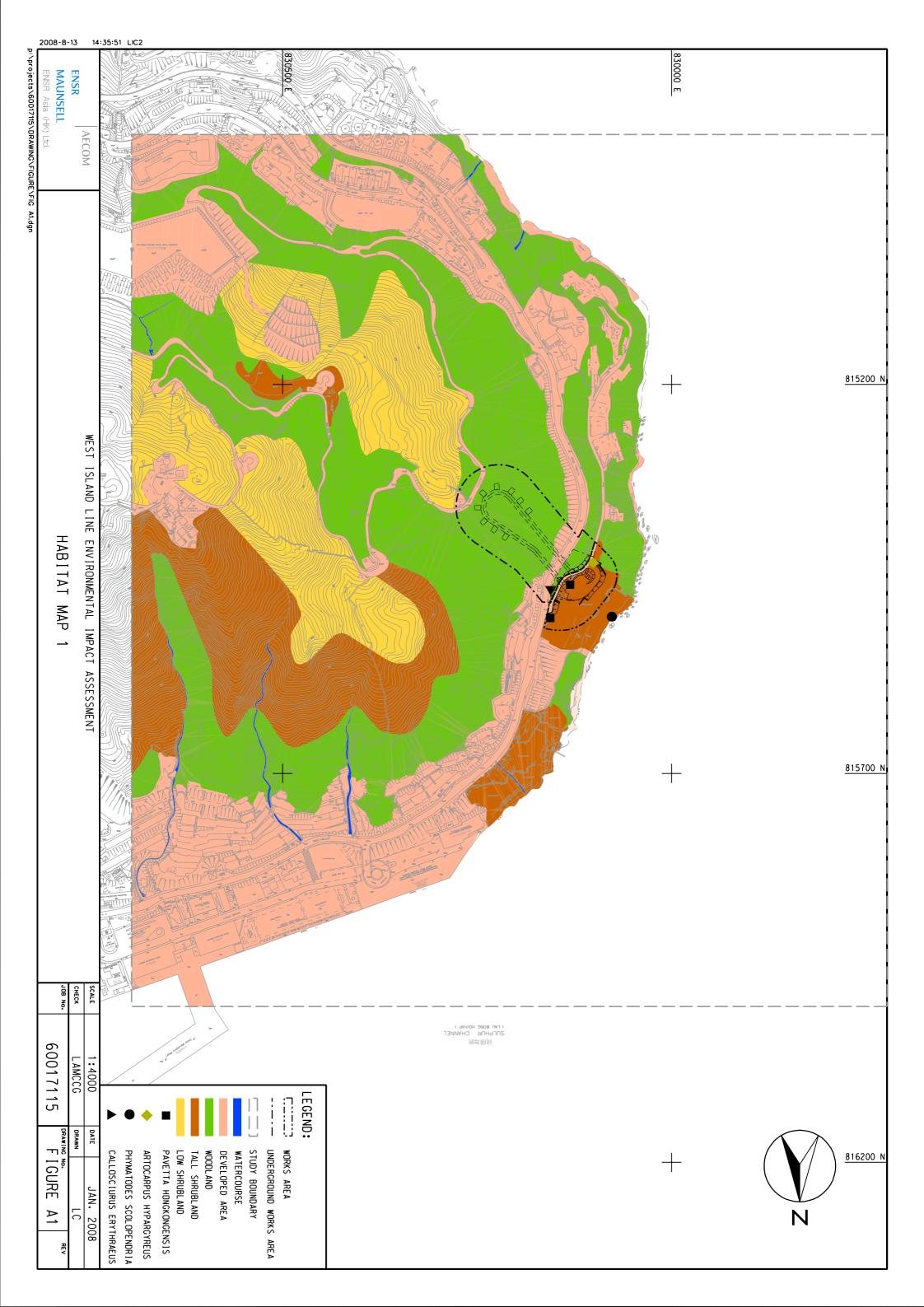
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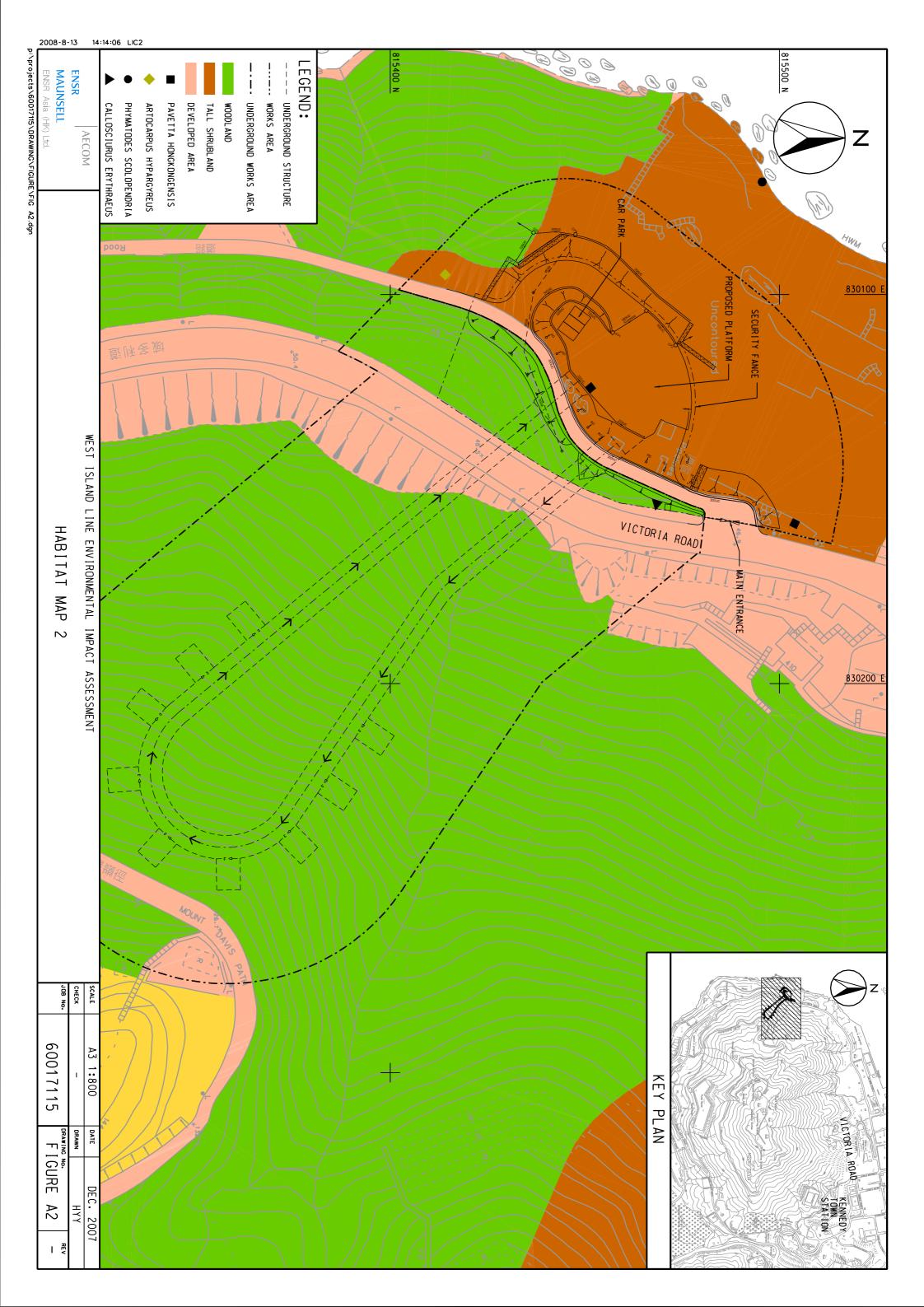
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Woodland (on Mount Davis; uphill of Victoria Road)



Tall Shrubland (located within the proposed works area)

AECOM
ENSR
MAUNSELL
ENSR Asia (HK) Ltd

West Island Line Environmental Impact Assessment

Representative Photographs of Habitats Recorded within the Study Area

SCALE	N.T.S.	DATE	APR 2007		
CHECK	JLAM	DRAWN	GLAN	Л	
JOB NO.		DRAWING No. Annex 3.1		Rev	
	60017115			-	



Developed Area (built-up area along Victoria Road)



Developed Area (engineered slope along Victoria Road)

AECOM
ENSR
MAUNSELL
ENSR Asia (HK) Ltd

West Island Line Environmental Impact Assessment

Representative Photographs of Habitats Recorded within the Study Area

SCALE	N.T.S.	DATE	APR 20	007
CHECK	JLAM	DRAWN	GLAN	Λ
JOB NO.		DRAWIN	IG No.	Rev
	60017115	Annex 3.1		-



Low Shrubland (on Mount Davis)



Drainage Channel (at the west of Bayanihan Kennedy Town Centre)

ENSR
MAUNSELL
ENSR Asia (HK) Ltd

West Island Line Environmental Impact Assessment

Representative Photographs of Habitats Recorded within the Study Area

SCALE	N.T.S.	DATE	APR 2007		
CHECK	JLAM	DRAWN	GLAM		
JOB NO.		DRAWIN	IG No.	Rev	
	60017115	Annex 3.1		-	



Hong Kong Pavetta (Pavetta hongkongensis, 香港大沙葉) (Plant 1 located near portals)

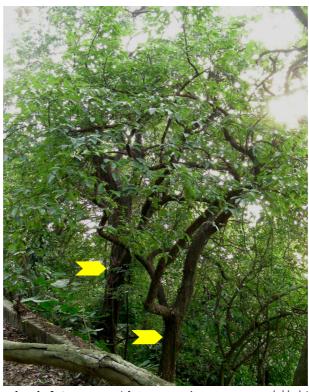


Close Up View of Plant 1

AEC		SCALE	N.T.S.	DATE	APR 20	007
ENSR	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	CHECK	JLAM	DRAWN	GLAN	Л
MAUNSELL	Photographs of Species of Conservation Interest	JOB NO.	60017115	DRAWIN	G No.	Rev
ENSR Asia (HK) Ltd	Recorded within the Study Area		00017113		Annex 3.2	-



Hong Kong Pavetta (Pavetta hongkongensis, 香港大沙葉) (Plant 2 located near main entrance)



Silver-back Artocarpus (Artocarpus hypargyreus, 白桂木)

AECOM		SCALE	N.T.S.	DATE	APR 20	007
ENSR	•	CHECK	JLAM	DRAWN	GLAN	M
MAUNSELL	Photographs of Species of Conservation Interest	JOB NO.	60017115	DRAWIN	G No.	Rev
ENSR Asia (HK) Ltd	Recorded within the Study Area		60017113		Annex 3.2	-



A Colony of *Phymatodes scolopendria* (瘤蕨)



Close Up View of *Phymatodes scolopendria* (瘤蕨)

AECON	West Island Line Environmental Impact Assessment	SCALE	N.T.S.	DATE	APR 20	007
ENSR	·	CHECK		DRAWN	GLAN	J
MAUNSELL	Photographs of Species of Conservation Interest	JOB NO.	60017115	DRAWIN	IG No.	Rev
ENSR Asia (HK) Ltd	Recorded within the Study Area		60017115		Annex 3.2	-



Pallas's Squirrel (Callosciurus erythraeus, 赤腹松鼠)

	AECOM
ENSR	l
MAUNSELL	
ENSR Asia (HK) Ltd

West Island	I ine	Environmental	Impact	Assessment
W Cot Iolana	LIIIC	Liiviioiiiiciitai	impaci	/ 1330331110111

Photographs of Species of Conservation Interest
Recorded within the Study Area

	SCALE	N.T.S.	DATE	APR 20	007
	CHECK	JLAM	DRAWN	GLAN	Л
st	JOB NO.		DRAWIN	IG No.	Rev
•		60017115		Annex 3.2	_

Plant Species	Growth Form	Status	Tall Shrub / Woodland	Low Shrubland	Developed Area
Achyranthes aspera	herb	common	xx	_ III M N I M I M	
Adiantum capillus-veneris	herb	common	х		
Ageratum conyzoides	herb	exotic, common			xx
Albizia lebbeck	tree	common			х
Aleurites moluccana	tree	common	xx		xx
Aglaonema modestum	perennial herb	exotic, cultivated	xx		
Allamanda neriifolia	shrub	common			xx
Alocasia odora	perennial herb	common	xx		XXXX
Amaranthus viridis	herb	common	AA .		XX
Aporusa dioca	tree	common	XX	xx	**
Araucaria heterophylla	tree	introduced,	^^	^^	xx
Araucana neteropriyila	1166	common			^^
Ardisia crenata	shrub	common	х		
	tree	common,	xx		
Artocarpus hypargyreus	liee	Recorded in China Plant Red Data Book and Illustration of Rare & endangered plant in Guangdong Province	XX		
Asparagus cochinchinensis	climber	common		х	
Asparagus densiflorus cv. Sprengeri	climbing herb	exotic		^	xx
Axonopus compressus	herb	cultivated, common			х
Bambusa sp.	bamboo	common	xx		xx
Bauhinia blakeana	tree	common			xx
Bauhinia championi	woody climber	common	xx		
Bauhinia glauca	climber	common	xxx		х
Bauhinia spp.	tree	common			xx
Bauhinia variegans	tree	common	xxx	<u> </u>	
Berchemia racemosa (Berchemia	climbing shrub	common	xx	xx	
floribunda)					
Bidens alba	herb	common			xxx
Bidens bipinnata	herb	common			Х
Bidens pilosa	herb	exotic, common			х
Bombax ceiba	tree	common	х		xx
Borreria spp.	herb	common			XX
Bougainvillea spectabilis	climbing shrub	exotic, cultivated	х		XXX
Breynia fruticosa	shrub	very common		х	XX
Bridelia tomentosa	tree	common	xxx	xx	xx
Broussonetia papyrifera	tree	common	xxx		xx
Calamus tetradactylus	climbing palm	common	xx	xx	
Callicarpa kochiana	shrub	common	xx		xx
Callicarpa nudiflora	shrub	common	xx		xx
Cansjera rheedii	climbing shrub	common		х	х
Carica papaya	tree	exotic, common		 	xx
Carmona microphylla	shrub	exotic, common		1	x
Caryota ochlandra	shrub	common		†	xx
Cassytha filiformis	climber	very common		†	x
Casuarina spp.	tree	exotic, common		 	xxx
Celastrus monospermus	climber: vine	common	xx	 	
Celtis sinensis	tree	very common	XXX	xx	XXX
Chrysalidocarpus lutescens	tree	very common	XX	^^	^^^
Cinnamomum camphora				vv	-
•	tree	very common	XX	XX	
Citrus grandia	large tree	common widely planted	XX	 	V
Citrus grandis	tree	widely planted	Х	 	X
Citrus reticulata	tree	common	<u> </u>	 	х
Clausena lansium	tree	common	xx		

Plant Species	Growth Form	Status	Tall Shrub / Woodland	Low Shrubland	Developed Area
Cocculus orbiculatus	climber: vine	common	xx	X	X
Cyclea spp.	climber: vine	common			xx
Cyclosorus dentatus	herb	restricted	х		
Cyperus alternifolius subsp.	herb	exotic, restricted,	x		х
flabelliformis	11010	cultivated and	^		l^
		naturalized			
Daemonorops margaritae	climbing palm	very common	х		
Dalbergia hancei	climber	common	xx		xx
Desmodium heterocarpon	herb	very common			х
Desmos chinensis	woody climber	common	xx		
Dieffenbachia picta	shrub	widely planted	х		
Dimocarpus longan (Euphoria	tree	common and	xx		xx
longan)		widely planted, wild			
		plant under State			
		protection			
		(category II)			
Diploclisia glaucescens	woody vine	common	х		
Dracaena spp.	shrub	exotic	XX		
Eleusine indica	herb	exotic, common			xx
Embelia laeta	climber	very common		xx	xx
Embelia ribes	climber	common	xx		1
Emilia sonchifolia	herb	exotic, common			xx
Eriobotrya japonica	tree	cultivated	х		
Eucalyptus spp.	tree	introduced,			xx
сър.		common			
Euphorbia hirta	herb	exotic, common			xx
Euphorbia thymifolia	herb	common			xx
Ficus elastica	tree	introduced,			х
		common			
Ficus hirta	shrub	common	xx		х
Ficus hispida	tree	common	xx	xx	XX
Ficus microcarpa	tree	common	XX		XX
Ficus pumila	climber	very common	xx		XX
Ficus rumphii	tree	common			Х
Ficus superba	tree	common	х		XX
Ficus variegata	shrub	common	XX		xx
Ficus virens	tree	common	XX		XX
Gardenia jasminoides var.	shrub	exotic			х
fortuniana					
Glochidion eriocarpum	shrub	common		Х	
Gnetum luofuense	vine	common	XX	Х	
Gordonia axillaris	shrub	common		Х	
Hedyotis corymbosa	herb	very common			х
Hibiscus rosa-sinensis	shrub	exotic, common			xxx
Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides		· ·			
llex pubescens	herb shrub	common very common	1	XX	XX
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	climber		vv	^^	1
Ipomoea cairica Ipomoea triloba	climber: twining herb	exotic, common common	XX	+	xx
Itea chinensis	shrub or small tree				^^
		common		XX	l v
Kyllinga monocephala	herb	common	vvv		X
Lantana camara Lepidagathis incurva	shrub herb	exotic, common common	XXX	XX	XXX
			vvv	-	1
Leucaena leucocephala	tree	introduced, common	XXX		XXX
Ligustrum sinense	tree	common	XXX	xx	xxx
Litsea cubeba	tree	common	^^^	XX	^^^
Litsea glutinosa	shrub	very common	XX	XX	xx
Litsea monopetala	tree	restricted	XX	X	700
Livistona chinensis	tree	cultivated	^^	^	xx
Lonicera macrantha	climber: vine	common	1	х	
Lophatherum gracile	herb	common	XX	<u> </u>	
Lygodium japonicum	climber	very common	XX		
-, godiam japomodin	Omnibor	vory common	100		<u> </u>

Plant Species	Growth Form	Status	Tall Shrub / Woodland	Low Shrubland	Developed Area
Macaranga tanarius	tree	very common	xxxx	xx	XXXX
Machilus spp.	tree	-	xxx		
Maesa perlarius	climber: vine	common	xxx		
Mallotus paniculatus	tree	very common	xxx	xx	х
Mallotus repandus	climbing shrub	common	xx		х
Malvastrum coromandelianum	subshrub	common			xx
Mangifera indica	tree	introduced.	х		
agoraa.oa		common			
Melastoma candidum	herb	common			xx
Melia azedarach	tree	introduced,			XX
		common			
Michelia alba	tree	widely planted			Х
Microcos paniculatus	tree	common	XX		Х
Mikania micrantha	climber	exotic, common	XXX	Х	XXX
Millettia spp.	climber	-			XX
Mimosa pudica	herb	exotic, common			XX
Morinda parvifolia	climbing shrub	common		XX	1
Morus alba	tree	introduced,	х		x
Murraya paniculata	shrub	exotic, common	х	х	
Musa paradisiaca	shrub	exotic, common	XX	 ^	XX
•			**		
Nephrolepis auriculata Oxalis corniculata	herb perennial herb	very common	 		XX
	1	common			XX
Paederia scandens	climber: vine	common	XX	XX	XXX
Parthenocissus himalayana	climber	common	XX		XX
Passiflora foetida	climber	exotic, common			Х
Pavetta hongkongensis	tree or shrub	common, Plant	Х		
		scheduled Forestry Regulation of			
		Forests and			
		Countryside			
		Ordinance (Cap			
		96)			
Phyllanthus emblica	shrub	very common		xx	
Phyllanthus reticulatus	climber	very common	xx		xx
Phyllodium pulchellum	shrub	common		х	
Phymatodes scolopendria	herb	rare	xx		
Pilea microphylla	herb	very common			xx
Plumbago zeylanica	herb	restricted	х		
Plumerai rubra var. acutifolia	tree	introduced,			xx
		common			
Pogonatherum crinitum	perennial herb	common			Х
Psidium guajava	tree	common			Х
Psychotria asiatica	shrub	common	xx		
Pteris ensiformis	herb	common	xx		
Pteris multifida	herb	common	х		
Pteris vittata	herb	very common	х		х
Punica granatum	shrub	cultivated	1		х
Pyrrosia adnascens	herb	common	XX		1
Ravenala madagascariensis	tree	cultivated	 		х
Rhaphiolepis indica	shrub	common			xx
Rhus succedanea	tree	very common	 	xx	1
Rhynchelytrum repen	herb	very common	†		xx
Roystonea regia	tree	widely planted	 		x
Rubus reflexus	climber	very common	 	xx	
Sageretia thea	shrub	very common	 	XX	1
Sapium sebiferum	tree	common	х	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	x
Schefflera arboricola	shrub	exotic, planted	^		XX
Schefflera heptaphylla (Schefflera		·	VV	VVV	<u> ^^</u>
octophylla)	tree	very common	XX	XXX	
Scolopia saeva	tree	common	Х		1
occiopia odova	1	00.11111011	l.,		1

Plant Species	Growth Form	Status	Tall Shrub /	Low	Developed
Scoparia dulcis	herb	exotic, common	Woodland	Shrubland	Area
•					^^
Smilax china	climbing shrub	very common		XX	
Smilax corbularia	climbing shrub	Common		Х	
Solanum nigrum	herb	exotic, common	xx		xx
Solanum torvum	shrub	exotic, common			Х
Solena amplexicaulis	climber	very common			х
Sonchus oleraceus	herb	very common			х
Stachytarpheta jamaicensis	herb	exotic, common			xx
Sterculia lanceolata	shrub	very common	XXX	XX	XX
Syngonium podophyllum	climber	exotic, common	XX		xxx
Syzygium jambos	tree	introduced,	XX		Х
		common			
Tetracera asiatica	climber	very common	XXX		
Thunbergia alata	herbaceous vine	restricted,		х	
		cultivated or			
		naturalised			
Urceola rosea	woody vine	common	xx		
Vitex quinata	tree	common			xx
Wedelia trilobata	herb	introduced,			xxx
		common			
Youngia japonica	herb	very common			XXX
Zanthoxylum scandens	climbing shrub	common		xx	

Appendix 3.4 - Fauna Recorded Within the Study Area

Avifauna

Common Name*	Scientific Name	Distribution in Hong Kong	Level of Concern ¹	Protection Status in China ²	China Red Data Book	IUCN Red List	Woodland	Tall Shrubland	Low Shrubland	Developed Area	Rocky shore/Sea
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	Common	PRC (RC)	-	-	-					+
Black Kite**	Milvus migrans	Common	(RC)	Class II	-	-	+	+++			
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus	Abundant	-	-	-	-				+	
Spotted Dove	Streptopelia chinensis	Abundant	-	-	-	-		+		+	
Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis	Common	-	Class II	Vulnerable	-		++			
Little Swift	Apus affinis	Abundant	-	-	-	-	+++				
Red-whiskered Bulbul	Pycnonotus jocosus	Abundant	-	-	-	-		+++			
Chinese Bulbul	Pycnonotus sinensis	Abundant	-	-	-	-		+	++		
Oriental Magpie Robin	Copsychus saularis	Abundant	-	-	-	-		++		+	
Violet Whistling Thrush	Myophonus caeruleus	Common	-	-	-	-		+		+	
Blue Whistling Thrush	Myophonus caeruleus	Common	-	-	-	-		+	+		
Grey-backed Thrush	Turdus hortulorum	Common	-	-	-	-		+			
Yellow-browed Warbler	Phylloscopus inornatus	Common	-	-	-	-		+			
Common Tailorbird	Orthotomus sutorius	Common	-	-	-	-		+			
Black-throated Laughingthrush	Garrulax chinensis	Common	-	-	-	-	+				
Masked Laughingthrush	Garrulax perspicillatus	Abundant	-	-	-	-		+++			
Great Tit	Parus major	Common	-	-	-	-		+			
Japanese White-eye	Zosterops japonica	Abundant	-	-	-	-		+++			
Jungle Crow	Corvus macrorhynchus	Common	-	-	-	-		+			

Note:

- 1. Fellowes et al. (2002); RC=Regional Concern; LC=Local Concern; PRC=Potential Regional Concern.
- Letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.
- 2. List of Wild Animals Under State Protection (promulgated by State Forestry Administration and Ministry of Agriculture on 14 January, 1989). [國家重點保護野生動物名錄(1989年1月14日林業局及農業部發佈施行)]
- * All wild birds are protected under the Wild Animal Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170)
- **Protected under Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586)
- *** Relative Abundance: "+" = Rare, "++" = Uncommon, "+++" = Common, "++++" = Abundant

Annex 3.4 - Fauna Recorded Within the Study Area

Butterfly

Common Name Scientific Name		Distribution in Hong Kong	Protection Status in Hong Kong	Tall Shrubland	Low Shrubland	Developed Area
Papilionidae						
Common Mormon	Papilio polytes	Common	-	++		
Red Helen	Papilio helenus	Common	-	++		+
Common Bluebottle	Graphium sarpedon	Common	-	+		
Spangle	Papilio protenor	Common	-	+		
Pieridae						
Red-base Jezebel	Delias pasithoe	Common	-	+++		+
Lemon Emigrant	Catopsilia pomona pomona	Common	-	+		
Nymphalidae						
Great Eggfly	Hypolimnas bolina	Common	-	+		
Sailer	Neptis sp.*	-	-	+		
Angled Castor	Ariadne ariadne	Common	-	+		
Satyridae						
Dark Evening Brown	Melanitis phedima	Common	-	+		
Amathusiidae						
Large Faun	Faunis enumeus	Common	-	+	+	

Note

Herpetofauna

Common Name	Scientific Name	Distribution in Hong Kong	Protection Status in Hong Kong	Tall Shrubland	Developed Area
Reptile					
Bowring's Gecko	Hemidactylus bowringii	Common	-	++	+
Four-clawed Gecko	Gehyra mutilata	Widely but thinly	-	+	+
Long-tailed Skink	Mabuya longicaduata	Common	-		+
Amphibian					
Asiatic Painted Frog	Kaloula pulchra pulchra	Common	-		+
Brown Tree Frog	Polypedates megacephalus	Common	-		+

Mammal

Common Name	Scientific Name	Distribution in Hong Kong	Protection Status in Hong Kong	Tall Shrubland
Pallas's Squirrel	Callosciurus erythraeus**	Common	Cap. 170	+

^{*} Identified up to genus level only. Among the 6 speceis of Neptis sp. recorded in Hong Kong,

² of which are common, 2 are rare and the rest lack status information.

Notes: **Protected under Wild Animal Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170)

*** Relative Abundance (apply to all tables): "+" = Rare, "++" = Uncommon, "+++" = Common, "++++" = Abundant