



ANNEX A - PROPOSED WEST NEW TERRITORIES (WENT) LANDFILL EXTENSIONS (NIM WAN, TUEN MUN)

Strategic Environmental Assessment Findings for WENT Landfill Extensions

Ecological

1. A protected species, Pitcher Plant, *Nepenthes mirabilis*, has been identified in the valley of Tsang Kok Stream inside the WENT A extension site which could be lost due to the landfill development. Nonetheless, this plant species is not unique in Hong Kong and the need for significant mitigation measures is not envisaged.
2. There are no protected areas within 500 metres of the extension sites and the majority of the sites are grassland/man-made lagoons of low or no ecological value. However, there is a small area of mixed shrub-land and immature native woodland within the WENT B extension site that may be worth conserving. Nonetheless, the woodland, which has developed from tall scrub habitat, is not old enough to support a diverse and stable vegetation community. Furthermore, the proximity of the woodland to human activities at the existing WENT Landfill makes it most unlikely to attract sensitive birds or other wildlife. The WENT B extension will also cover part of the Tsang Tsui Ash Lagoon, which is the habitat of two bird species. The ecological value of the site and its mitigation measures will be fully investigated and defined in the EIA Study.
3. As vegetation clearance would be necessary for the proposed landfill extensions, re-vegetation as compensation may be required using suitable native species at appropriate locations. The re-vegetation programme will be formulated in the EIA stage.

Cultural Heritage

4. The WENT B extension site covers the Tsang Tsui Archaeological Site (TTAS) in which archaeological relics of late Neolithic period (2500-1500 BC) were unearthed. An archaeological investigation conducted under the Study has revealed that except for the existing TTAS, it is unlikely that any further archaeological remains would be found within the site.
5. The SEA has investigated the opportunities to revise the boundary of the extension sites to avoid the TTAS, but they are not considered practicable. It has also explored the options of preservation in-situ by burial beneath the landfill and ex-situ preservation by removal to minimize the impacts on the TTAS. Opportunities to maximize the preservation of archaeological features of the TTAS would be pursued during the EIA stage.