

Introduction on the China Mainland IBA inventory

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With an area of 9.6 million square kilometres, China is almost as big as Europe. On the eastern side, almost all birds breed in eastern Russia and Mongolia have to migrate through or winter in China. On the western side, the steppe and mountains are the large strongholds of many species found in inland Asia, for example, Black-necked Crane and Saker Falcon. In the southwest, mountains of the eastern Himalayas interlock with the subtropical forests of South East Asia, resulting in an area of high diversity and endemism and relict species. Conservation of Asia's bird species cannot be achieved without China.

We now all understand that the most important and effective way to protect species is to conserve the places they dependent upon. However, selection of sites and prioritization on resources investment is far from easy. The Important Bird Area (IBA) Programme of BirdLife International provided a set of scientific and objective criteria and a list of sites of conservation importance judged against these criteria. Of course, people would quickly point out that the main interest of BirdLife and BirdLife partners is birds, which may be seen as biased. However, since the beginning of the IBA Programme BirdLife has not pretended the IBA would include all important sites. We are working at our best knowledge to use birds as indicators of biodiversity at various sites. In fact, from the experience of the last 20 years this has been very effective. The joint programme that BirdLife International works with Conservation International and other organisations, the Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), revealed most of the KBAs are also identified by the IBA criteria. For instance, more than 90% of the KBAs in the Philippines are identified by the IBA programme. This makes IBA not just a universal indicator but also a popular one, as there are far more birdwatchers who can contribute data than people who are interested in other wildlife taxa.

The BirdLife IBA programme has successfully been acknowledged by the Europe Union as a tool to identify sites for the Special Protected Areas ('Bird Directive'). Since the publication of the first European IBA inventory (1989), regional inventories in the Middle East (1994), a second edition for Europe (2000), and Africa (2001) have been published. The Asian inventory was published and launched at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Bangkok in 2004. Regional IBA inventories are in preparation and planned for the Americas and Oceania, and national IBA directories have been published for almost 70 countries.

Compilation of IBA in China started in 1998. The workshop in Changhua, Taiwan had invited scores of birdwatchers representing birdwatching organizations all over Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Mazu to identify sites qualified to be listed in the IBA

前言



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中国国土面积约九百六十万平方公里，差不多相当于与整个欧洲。中国东部的平原丘陵是几乎所有在俄罗斯东部和蒙古境内繁殖的鸟类迁徙的必经之地或者越冬地；西部因为有广袤的草原和山岭生境，是很多内陆鸟类（如黑颈鹤、猎隼）的主要分布区；西南地区承接喜马拉雅山系余脉，并有相当面积的亚热带森林生境，是举世闻名的特有生物、子遗生物宝库。因此中国在亚洲鸟类的保护工作中，有着不可替代的重要位置。

保护物种最重要的是保护它们的栖息地，这是近年来保护生物界的共识。这个目标看似简单，其实并不容易实现，因为保护什么地方、如何妥善使用资源，都有千头万绪的问题需要解决。国际鸟盟(BirdLife International)于上世纪80年代提出的重点鸟区(Important Bird Area,简称IBA)计划，旨在为欧洲各国提供一个科学客观的保护区选定标准，用以确定和列出具有重要保护价值的地点。诚然，国际鸟盟及其成员团体关注的物种对象主要是鸟类，以此单一类群替代所有的生物多样性并不妥当，而且难免有所偏差。因此重点鸟区计划自提出之始，国际鸟盟即开宗明义地说明这个计划难以涵盖所有的重要地点，我们只是尽一己之力，从鸟类的角度衡量评估，提出值得保护的地点。值得注意的是，过去近二十年的经验证明，用鸟类作评定指标是一种非常准确有效的做法：国际鸟盟与保护国际（Conservation International）一起研究确定的“关键生物多样性地点”(Key Biodiversity Area,简称KBA)中，很大一部分都是重点鸟区，或是与重点鸟区有不同程度的重叠。例如菲律宾的关键生物多样性地点中，百分之九十以上也同时是重点鸟区。重点鸟区除了是一个有广泛代表性的指标，同时也是一个吸引公众参与保护工作的理想品牌，因为相比于其它生物类群而言，鸟类往往能引起更多的关注和热爱。

国际鸟盟的欧洲重点鸟区计划取得了极大的成功，并被欧盟列为保护区的正式选定标准之一（"鸟类指引"）。鸟盟于1994年出版了中东地区重点鸟区名录，2000年再版欧洲重点鸟

区名录于2004年在曼谷举办的国际自然保护联盟（IUCN）大会上宣布出版。目前美洲与大洋洲地区重点鸟区名录正在编写中。

中国重点鸟区名录的编写工作始于1998年。当年夏天，我们在台湾彰化邀请了数十位来自台湾各县市的野鸟学会成员讨论台澎金马地区重点鸟区编写计划，最后经过反复论证选定了53个地点；同年12月，我们邀请了十多位大陆的鸟类学者共同编写讨论大陆的重点鸟区所在；2000—2002年，我们在西部地区开展了一些野外调查，进而在2004年暂定确认大陆重点鸟区445个。该初稿刊于2004年出版的“亚洲的重点鸟区名录”书中。

尽管我们的编写工作咨询了多位专家的意见，也花费了数年时间收集各类资料，但因为中国地域极广，相关的鸟类学知识和资料亦零散难全，初稿能列出的仅仅是较为突出的部分地点而已。近年来随着年轻一代鸟类学家、林业工作者和观鸟者等群体阵容的不断壮大，以及随互联网发展资讯交流的日益便捷，我们对中国鸟类及其重要地点的认识迅速提高，旧的重点鸟区名录已经显得远远不足。有见及此，国际鸟盟在2006年得到世界银行的支持，于2006—2007年邀请中国各地的观鸟团体和观鸟者等多方团体和个人为重点鸟区项目提供资料，籍以更新中国重点鸟区的资料，并以中文刊行这本中国大陆的重点鸟区名录。

这本重点鸟区名录远远不是定论，并且难免有缺漏甚至是错误，但这也可能是以目前的资源，我们所能做的最好的一本名录。谨望以此抛砖引玉，向更多国人介绍推广重点鸟区的概念，活跃将来的讨论，推动更多更全的资料积累。因此，这本名录不是终点，而是起点。

以后的重点鸟区工作，我们期望邀请更多专家参与讨论和编写；为了更集中地讨论和收集详细资料，我们也计划按省级区划进行编写，待各省区列出各自的重点鸟区名录之后再汇总产生全国性的名录。我们希望以后中国重点鸟区工作能像欧洲重点鸟区一样，不仅能列出需要保护的地点，也可以有效地导入监测制度，积极提高民众的保护意识，同时促进中国的保护工作者和管理人员与邻近国家地区有更多的交流合作。

在编写中国大陆重点鸟区名录过程中，我们得到了下列人士的协助和提点，借此谨对他们表示诚挚的谢意。除了扉页列出的主要编写及资料提供人士之外，以下各位也为编写工作提供了不少宝贵的意见（其中包括在2007年3月30日至4月1日在福州举行的中国重点鸟区会议的各位鸟会代表）：白清泉、蔡静亚、蔡志扬、曹垒、陈苍松、陈志鸿、董江天、董磊、董路、

inventory. A total of 53 sites have been identified and confirmed. In December 1998, the first IBA workshop in China mainland invited about 12 ornithologists to discuss potential IBAs in China mainland. Additional field surveys were conducted in western China from 2000 to 2002. When the inventory of Asia was published in 2004, a total of 445 IBAs had been identified in China mainland, plus two in Hong Kong and one in Macao.

Although we had spent some years in collecting IBA information in China, there are lots of gaps of knowledge as China is so big a country. In recent year, as more and more people interested in birds, and information flow speeded up thanks to the use of the Internet, we have acquired a lot more new information on distribution of species and previously unknown sites. The old inventory may have missed some recently discovered important sites. In 2006, with the funds available from the World Bank Safeguarding Important Area of Natural Habitat Programme, BirdLife organized workshops and consultation on revising the IBA inventory of China in 2006 and 2007. The revised China mainland inventory is published in Chinese for the first time.

Despite all the efforts devoted and care taken in updating the inventory, this edition is still far from being a complete inventory of all possible IBA in China, and some data may still have to be revised and improved. However, we believe this is the best we can get with resources available at present. We want to have it published to promote an understanding and interest in IBA amongst amateurs and researchers alike, and have a wider involvement of contributors to the programme. Then we will have a more comprehensive and detailed inventory on important sites to be protected in China. The IBA inventory we published now marks a beginning, but not the conclusion, of the IBA development in China.

We hope in the near future, there will be more people with good knowledge of birds participating in the IBA programme in China. For more detailed and focused data collection, compilation of provincial inventories will be more preferable than another national inventory. When all of the provinces have their own IBA inventories, we will have a complete inventory for China. We also hope the IBA programme in China will have the similar function as the European IBA inventory, not just to list up all sites needed to be protected, but also promote a system of site monitoring and local community involvement in conservation actions. The IBA Programme should also promote information exchange and cooperation between site managers in China and neighbouring countries.

The major contributors to the programme are listed on the title

page of this inventory. In addition, the following people contributed to the compilation of the inventory, including participants to the IBA Workshop held in Fuzhou from 30 March to 1 April 2007: Bai Qingquan, Silvia Choi Ching-ya, Jimmy Choi Chi-yeung, Cao Lei, Chen Cangsong, Chen Zhihong, Dong Jiangtian, Dong Lei, Dong Lu, Dong Wenxiao, Gan Xiaojing, Lei Jinyu, Li Peng, Li Zhaocheng, Leung Va, Liang Wei, Lin Chen, Lin Qingxian, Liu Qiang, Liu Yang, Liu Yuyi, Long Tinglun, Que Pinjia, Shan Kai, Tao Xudong, Wang Changda, Wang Chuanbo, Wang Jian, Wang Ruiqing, Wang Xiaolan, Wen Xianji, Yang Jin, Yu Yat-tung, Yuan Xiao, Fion Cheung Ka-wing, Zhang Liying, Zhang Yu, Zheng Kanghua, Zhou Haixiang, Mark Barter, and Richard Lewthwaithe. The surveys in western China from 2000–2002 were supported and conducted by Ma Ming, Drolma Yangzom, Liu Wulin, Dorge Tsering, Zhang Hong, Wang Chuanbo, Zhang Fang, and Cheng Jun. We also thank those who contributed photographs of IBAs to this inventory, or assisted in finding suitable photographs: Bai Qingquan, Chen Bin, Chen Hui, Chen Liang, Chen Shuihua, Chen Zhihong, Ding Changqing, Ding Hong'an, Dong Jiangtian, Dong Lei, Dong Wenxiao, Feng Limin, Fu Jie, Gan Xiaojing, Gao Chuan, Gou Jun, Gu Changming, Han Lianxian, Han Yongxiang, Hu Shaorong, Hua Fangyuan, Huang Hai, Kang Hongli, Lee Kwok-shing, Li Mingpu, Li Peng, Li Sheng, Li Xin, Li Yunfei, Li Zhongqi, Liu Mingyu, Liu Xuezhong, Liu Yang, Liu Yuyi, Lin Zhi, Ma Chaohong, Carrie Ma Ka-wai, Ma Ming, Shan Kai, Shen You, Samson So Ngai-hung, Tian Suixing, Wang Hengrui, Wang Jiyi, Wang Qishan, Wang Ruiqing, Wang Xiaolan, Wei Qian, Xiao Wen, Yang Jin, Yao Li, Yu Haiyan, Yu Lin, Yu Yat-tung, Zhang Gaofeng, Fion Cheung Ka-wing, Zhang Yong, Zhang Yu, Zhang Kejia, Zheng Yongfu, Zheng Zhuo, Zhong Jia, Zhou Fang, Zhou Lizhi and Zhu Mihui.

Wang Dezhi, the BP Conservation Programme (now Conservation Leadership Programme) Intern at Conservation International Beijing Office checked all IBA information over the KBA database and gave useful comments on revision. Samson So Ngai-hung OF THE HONG KONG BIRD WATCHING SOCIETY extracted information from the Chinese IBA data forms and translated this into English. Fion Cheung Ka-wing, THE CHINA PROGRAMME OFFICER OF BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL, translated the chapter on justification and supported publication of the inventory. Hua Fangyuan, A PHD STUDENT in the USA, translated introductory chapters of the IBA inventory into Chinese and proof-read the entire Chinese text voluntarily. We would like to send our gratitude to this assistant editorial team.

We would also like to thank Prof. Zheng Guangmei who gave advice to our IBA programme from the beginning, Richard Grimmett and Noritaka Ichida for their supervision of the IBA Programme and Anthony Whitten of the World Bank for his support and advice.