

Directory of Important Bird Areas in China (Mainland): Key Sites for Conservation

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Information on Important Bird Areas in China was compiled with the support of the World Bank using consultant trust funds from the Government of Japan. Surveys of IBAs in western China were funded by Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (Japan) and the Sekisui Chemical Co. Ltd. (Japan). An IBA Workshop in Fuzhou was funded by the Darwin Initiative of the UK Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The Tolkien Trust, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust and the BirdLife Asia Bird Fund provided additional support for the inventory compilation. The World Bank's Sustainable Development Office in Beijing provided significant financial support for the publication of the inventory.



SEKISUI



RECOMMENDED CITATION: BirdLife International (2009) *Directory of Important Bird Areas in China (Mainland): Key Sites for Conservation*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International (English language edition).

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ISBN 978-0-946888-70-2

First published 2009 by BirdLife International

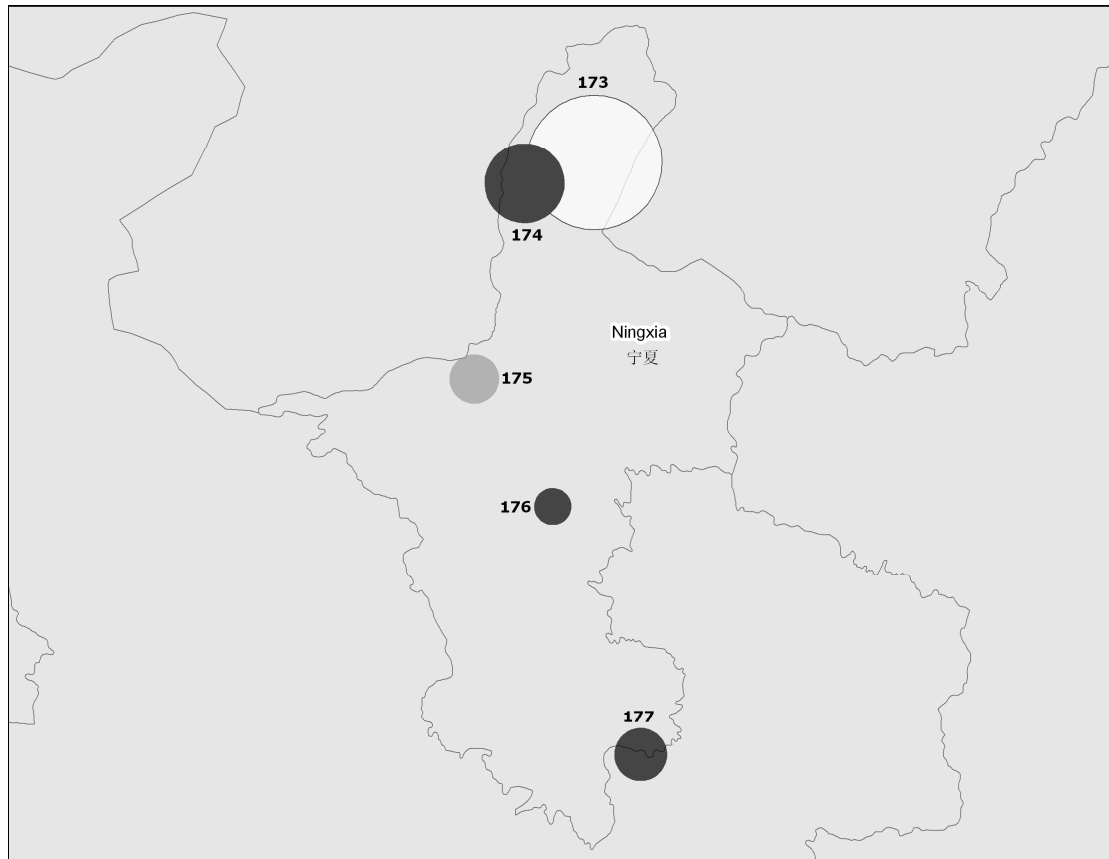
The *Directory of Important Bird Areas in China (Mainland): Key Sites for Conservation* (BirdLife International 2009) was published in Chinese with an English summary, and is available from the Natural History Book Service Ltd, 2–3 Wills Road, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5XN, UK. Tel: +44 1803 865913 Fax: +44 1803 865280

Email nhbs@nhbs.co.uk Internet: www.nhbs.com/services/birdlife.html

The English language versions of the Important Bird Area accounts are available to download from the Internet (www.chinabirdnet.org).

This document is an output of the World Bank study ‘Strengthening the Safeguard of Important Areas of Natural Habitat in North-East Asia’, financed by consultant trust funds from the government of Japan. The findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed herein are those of the editors and do not necessarily reflect the view of the World Bank or the governments they represent. The editors take full responsibility for the accuracy of the data included in this work. The boundaries, colours, denominations, and other information shown on any map in this work do not imply any judgement on the part of the World Bank or BirdLife International concerning the legal status of any territory or endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries.

Important Bird Areas in Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region



Qingtongxia Reservoir (CN175) is a rich wetland in the upper Yellow River valley. (PHOTO: FU JIE)

IBA CODE: CN173

NAME: Yinchuan plain

CRITERIA: A1 A3

AREA: About 448,000 ha

COORDINATES: 38°41'N 106°27'E

ALTITUDE: 1,050-1,310 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Unprotected

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in northern Ningxia, with the Yellow River flowing along the eastern border of the site. The climate in the IBA is temperate and arid. It is one of the main agricultural areas in Ningxia with some industrial development.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Anser cygnoides* (EN), *Mergus squamatus* (EN), *Otis tarda* (VU, large flocks of more than 100 birds could be found in agricultural lands in the 1960s, has become rare since the 1970s), *Aythya baeri* (VU, dozens of birds were reported in 1990)

BIOMES: AS04: Eurasian steppe and desert

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN174

NAME: Helan Shan Nature Reserve (Ningxia)

CRITERIA: A1 A3

AREA: 157,000 ha

COORDINATES: 38°35'N 106°0'E

ALTITUDE: 1,400-3,556 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a national nature reserve in 1988.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in north-western Ningxia. The IBA has a temperate arid to semi-arid climate, and the main habitats are grassland and coniferous forest.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Otis tarda* (VU)

BIOMES: AS04: Eurasian steppe and desert; AS07: Sino-Himalayan temperate forest

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN175

NAME: Qingtongxia reservoir and Yellow River wetlands in Zhongning and Zhongwei

CRITERIA: A1 A4i,A4iii

AREA: About 60,000 ha

COORDINATES: 37°36'N 105°40'E

ALTITUDE: 1,100-1,300 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: The IBA is partially protected in the city-level Qingtongxia Nature Reserve (3,600 ha), which was established in 1984, and Shapotou National Nature Reserve (13,400 ha), which was established in 1994.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in western Ningxia, the IBA extends from Qingtongxia Reservoir along the Yellow River to Mengjiawan in Zhongwei County. It includes the river channel and associated wetlands, and the adjacent deserts. A survey conducted at Zhongwei Shapotou from December 1998-April 1999 found that more than 20,000 waterbirds migrated through the area.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Anser cygnoides* (EN, about 2,000 birds mixed with other geese in April 1986), *Mergus squamatus* (EN), *Anas formosa* (VU), *Aythya baeri* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Anser cygnoides*

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN176

NAME: Luoshan Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A3

AREA: 33,710 ha

COORDINATES: 36°57'N 106°9'E

ALTITUDE: 1,650-2,169 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a county-level nature reserve in 1982, and upgraded to a national nature reserve in 2002.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: An oasis in the mountains of central Ningxia. The main vegetation types are montane grassland and temperate coniferous forest.

BIOMES: AS04: Eurasian steppe and desert; AS07: Sino-Himalayan temperate forest

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN177

NAME: Liupan Shan Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A1 A3

AREA: About 67,300 ha

COORDINATES: 35°42'N 106°40'E

ALTITUDE: 1,700-2,954 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a national nature reserve (67,300 ha) in 1988.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in southernmost Ningxia, on the border of Gansu Province. The IBA is between the Wei He and Jing Shui watersheds and is the source of the Jing He river. It has a moist temperate climate and the main habitat is montane grassland, and there are also areas of montane broadleaf deciduous forest and agricultural land.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Aythya baeri* (VU), *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* (VU)

BIOMES: AS07: Sino-Himalayan temperate forest

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.