

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

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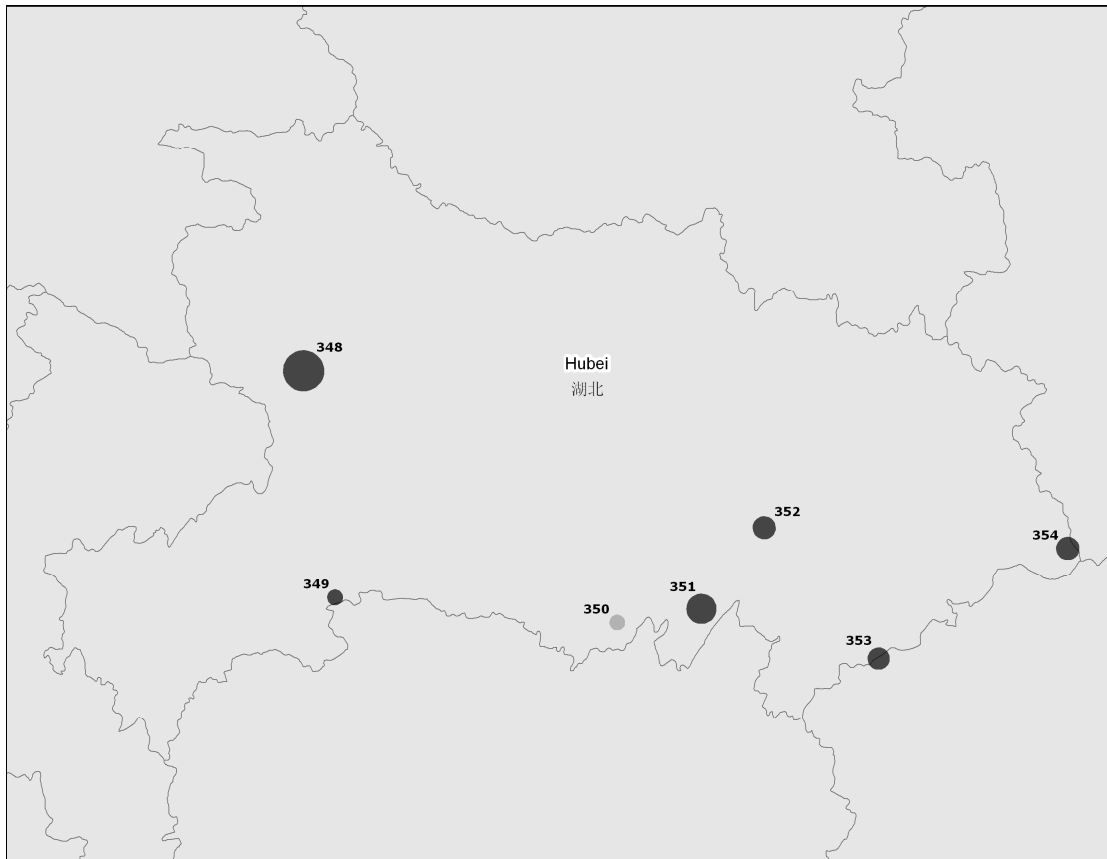
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Important Bird Areas in Hubei Province



IBAs are represented on the map as circles proportional to their areas.

Key: ● = Protected; ● = Partially protected; ○ = Unprotected.



There used to be many lakes on the Jiangnan Plain in Hubei, but the total lake area has declined greatly as a result of conversion to agricultural land, with the area of Hong Hu (CN351) reduced by almost half within 50 years. (PHOTO: LI YUNFEI)

IBA CODE: CN348

NAME: Shennongjia Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A1 A2 A3

AREA: About 70,467 ha

COORDINATES: 31°36'N 110°27'E

ALTITUDE: 398-3,105 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a national nature reserve in 1995. Shennongjia was designated in 1990 as a 'Biosphere Reserve' under UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Shennongjia Nature Reserve was designated for the protection of the subtropical forest ecosystem, and more than 30 nationally-protected animals including *Rhinopithecus roxellana*.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Gorsachius magnificus* (EN), *Syrnaticus reevesii* (VU)

ENDEMIC BIRD AREAS: 141: South-east Chinese mountains

BIOMES: AS07: Sino-Himalayan temperate forest; AS08: Sino-Himalayan subtropical forest

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: Nationally protected animals include *Rhinopithecus roxellana*, *Selenarctos thibetanus*, *Moschus berezowskii* and *Macaca mulatta*.

IBA CODE: CN349

NAME: Houhe Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A1 A2 A3

AREA: 10,340 ha

COORDINATES: 30°6'N 110°34'E

ALTITUDE: 422-2,252 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a national nature reserve (10,340 ha) in 1999.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in south-west Hubei Province, the IBA is part of the Yangtze River catchment. The river flows through the reserve from east to west.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Gorsachius magnificus* (EN), *Syrnaticus reevesii* (VU)

ENDEMIC BIRD AREAS: 141: South-east Chinese mountains

BIOMES: AS07: Sino-Himalayan temperate forest; AS08: Sino-Himalayan subtropical forest

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: Nationally protected plants include *Ginkgo biloba*. Animals include *Panthera tigris amoyensis*, *Neofelis nebulosa*, *Panthera pardus*, *Viverra zibetha* and *Viverricula indica*.

IBA CODE: CN350

NAME: Tian'ezhou

CRITERIA: A1 A4iii

AREA: About 10,000 ha

COORDINATES: 29°47'N 112°39'E

ALTITUDE: 20 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: The IBA is partially protected in Changjiang Tian'ezhou Baiji River Dolphin National Nature Reserve (2,000 ha) which was established in 1990, and Shishou Milu National Nature Reserve (1,567 ha) which was established in 1991.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This IBA is an oxbow lake wetland in the old Yangtze River channel, which has been designated as a nature reserve for the reintroduction of the Milu (Pere David's Deer) *Elaphurus davidianus* and the Yangtze River Dolphin (Baiji) *Lipotes vexillifer*.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Ciconia boyciana* (EN)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: One of the two reintroduction sites of *Elaphurus davidianus* in China.

IBA CODE: CN351

NAME: Hong Hu Wetland Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A1

AREA: 37,088 ha

COORDINATES: 29°49'N 113°17'E

ALTITUDE: 20 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a city-level nature reserve in 1995, and subsequently upgraded to a provincial-level nature reserve (37,088 ha).

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Hong Hu is a large shallow lake in the lower Yangtze River basin. The lake was artificially separated from the Yangtze River in 1958, at which time its area was 76,000 ha, but reclamation has reduced the lake to 46.7% of its former area.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Anser cygnoides* (EN), *Anas formosa* (VU)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN352

NAME: Chen Hu Wetland Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A1 A4i

AREA: 21,918 ha

COORDINATES: 30°18'N 113°49'E

ALTITUDE: Approximately 20 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a city-level nature reserve in 1995.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Chen Hu lake is located in the middle reaches of the Yangtze River, 48 km from Wuhan City. It is a typical Yangtze basin lake which buffers flood waters.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Pelecanus crispus* (VU, occasionally seen on migration), *Anser erythropus* (VU), *Anas formosa* (VU), *Aythya baeri* (VU), *Grus vipio* (VU), *Grus monacha* (VU, 127 birds in 1995), *Otis tarda* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Ciconia nigra*, *Ciconia boyciana*, *Platalea leucorodia*, *Grus monacha*

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN353

NAME: Jiugong Shan Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A1 A2 A3

AREA: 20,105 ha

COORDINATES: 29°22'N 114°33'E

ALTITUDE: 200-1,658 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a provincial-level nature reserve in 1988, and upgraded to a national nature reserve in 2003.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in the north-eastern part of Hubei Province.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Syrnaticus ellioti* (VU), *Syrnaticus reevesii* (VU), *Coturnicops exquisitus* (VU), *Pitta nympha* (VU), *Rhinomyias brunneata* (VU)

ENDEMIC BIRD AREAS: 141: South-east Chinese mountains

BIOMES: AS08: Sino-Himalayan subtropical forest

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: Nationally protected plants include *Ginkgo biloba*. Animals include *Neofelis nebulosa*, *Viverra zibetha* and *Manis pentadactyla*.

IBA CODE: CN354

NAME: Longgan Hu Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A1 A4i

AREA: 22,322 ha

COORDINATES: 29°55'N 116°3'E

ALTITUDE: Approximately 20 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a county-level nature reserve in 1994, and upgraded to a provincial-level nature reserve in 2001.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Longgan Hu is located in the middle reaches of the Yangtze River, in eastern Hubei Province adjacent to Anhui Province. Massive reclamation projects in 1957 and 1978 reduced the original lake area by 24,660 ha or 65%.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Grus leucogeranus* (CR), *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Anser cygnoides* (EN), *Anser erythropus* (VU), *Anas formosa* (VU), *Aythya baeri* (VU), *Grus vipio* (VU), *Grus monacha* (VU), *Otis tarda* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Grus monacha* (numbers around 200-420, has declined in recent years)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.