

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

Editors

SIMBA CHAN (Editor-in-chief)

MIKE CROSBY, SAMSON SO, WANG DEZHI, FION CHEUNG and HUA FANGYUAN

Principal compilers and data contributors

Prof. Zhang Zhengwang (Beijing Normal University), Prof. Chang Jiachuan (Northeast Forestry University), the late Prof. Zhao Zhengjie (Forestry Institute of Jilin Province), Prof. Xing Lianlian (University of Nei Menggu), Prof. Ma Ming (Ecological and Geographical Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xinjiang), Prof. Lu Xin (Wuhan University), Prof. Liu Naifa (Lanzhou University), Prof. Yu Zhiwei (China West Normal University), Prof. Yang Lan (Kunming Institute for Zoology), Prof. Wang Qishan (Anhui University), Prof. Ding Changqing (Beijing Forestry University), Prof. Ding Ping (Zhejiang University), the late Prof. Gao Yuren (South China Institute for Endangered Animals), Prof. Zhou Fang (Guangxi University), Prof. Hu Hongxing (Wuhan University), Prof. Chen Shuihua (Zhejiang Natural History Museum), Tsering (Tibet University), Prof. Ma Zhijun (Fudan University), Prof. Guo Yumin (Capital Normal University), Dai Nianhua (Institute of Sciences, Jiangxi), Prof. Han Lianxian (Southwest Forestry University), Yang Xiaojun (Kunming Institute for Zoology), Prof. Wang Zijiang (Kunming Ornithological Association), Prof. Li Zhumei (Institute of Biology, Guizhou), Ma Chaohong (Management Office of Yellow River Wetland National Nature Reserve, Henan), Shen You (Chengdu Bird Watching Society), Wei Qian (Chengdu Bird Watching Society), Zhang Yu (Wild Bird Society of Jiangsu), Kang Hongli (Wild Bird Society of Shanghai).

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Wellbrook Court, Girton Road, Cambridge, CB3 0NA, United Kingdom

Tel: +44 1223 277318 Fax: +44 1223 277200

Email: birdlife@birdlife.org.uk Internet: www.birdlife.net

BirdLife International Asia Division

TM Suidobashi Bldg., 4F, Misaki-cho 2-14-6, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0061, Japan

Tel: +81 3 5213 0461 Fax: +81 3 5213 0462

Email: info@birdlife-asia.org

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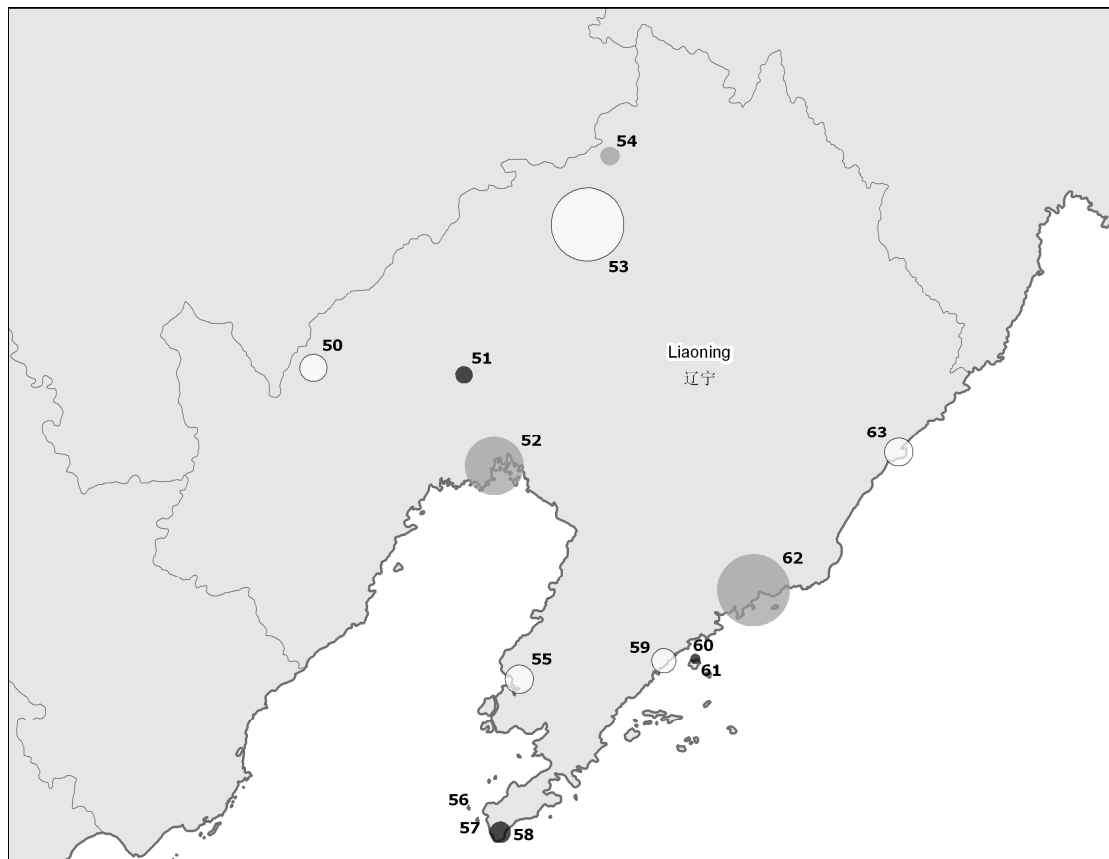
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Email nhbs@nhbs.co.uk Internet: www.nhbs.com/services/birdlife.html

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Important Bird Areas in Liaoning Province



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

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



Hundreds of thousands of shorebirds and other waterbirds migrate through the Yalü Jiang Estuary (CN062), a wetland on the border of mainland China and North Korea. (PHOTO: BAI QINGQUAN)

IBA CODE: CN050

NAME: Longtan Reservoir

CRITERIA: A1

AREA: About 28,000 ha

COORDINATES: 41°50'N 120°27'E

ALTITUDE: 300-500 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Unprotected

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in Beipiao City, western Liaoning, bordering Tangfang Nanshan to the east, Qianjingzi to the west, Longtan to the north and Zhuangtouying to the south. The IBA is a narrow and long site which extends from north to south, and includes Longtan Reservoir, Longtan channel and the Gudong He river.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Platalea minor* (EN, two birds found mixed with a flock of Eurasian Spoonbills in March 1991 and again in April 1993), *Aythya baeri* (VU, 36 birds recorded from mid-March to early April 1992, 12 birds recorded in early November 1992)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: Mammals include Common Hedgehog, Wolf, Red Fox, Raccoon Dog, Polecat, Siberian Weasel, Common Badger, Leopard Cat and Roe Deer. Amphibians include tree frogs and soft-shelled turtles.

IBA CODE: CN051

NAME: Yiwulü Shan Nature Reserve

CRITERIA: A1 A3 A4i

AREA: 11,459 ha

COORDINATES: 41°36'N 121°40'E

ALTITUDE: 200-800 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a provincial-level nature reserve in 1981, and upgraded to a national nature reserve in 1988.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in Jinzhou City, western Liaoning. The IBA lies at the end of the Yin Shan mountain range and is a popular tourist destination. It is hot and rainy in summer but cold and dry in winter. The main habitat is forest, and there is also scrub, rivers and streams. The largest numbers of birds occur during the migration seasons.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Otis tarda* (VU, reported as a migrant in 1990)

BIOMES: AS03: North-east Asian temperate forest

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Ciconia nigra* (breeding, maximum count 11 birds)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: Mammal populations have declined in recent years, and now there are only occasional records of smaller species such as hares, badgers, Siberian Weasel and Raccoon Dogs.



Yiwulü Shan (CN051) means 'green mountain' in the Manchu language, and the IBA is a national nature reserve and a famous scenic area in Liaoning. (PHOTO: BAI QINGQUAN)

IBA CODE: CN052

NAME: Shuangtai (Shuangtaizi) Estuary and Inner Gulf of Liaodong

CRITERIA: A1 A4i,A4iii

AREA: About 130,000 ha

COORDINATES: 41°0'N 121°45'E

ALTITUDE: 0-4 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Shuangtaizi Hekou Nature Reserve was established at the provincial level in 1985, and upgraded to a national nature reserve (80,000 ha) in 1988. It became part of the North-East Asian Shorebird Network in 1996 and the North-East Asian Crane Site Network in 2002. The Shuangtai Estuary (128,000 ha) was designated as a 'Wetland of International Importance' (or Ramsar site) under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in 2004.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located on the coast of Panjin and Jinzhou cities. The IBA extends from the Xiaoling He estuary in the west to the Daling He and Shuangtai He estuaries and the reedbeds of the Liao He estuary in the east. There are extensive tidal flats and reedbeds, but these are threatened by oil drilling in the Liaohe oilfield.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Grus leucogeranus* (CR), *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Anser cygnoides* (EN), *Grus japonensis* (EN, the southernmost breeding ground of this species), *Egretta eulophotes* (VU), *Aythya baeri* (VU), *Grus vipio* (VU), *Larus saundersi* (VU, the largest breeding population of this species), *Megalurus pryori* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Ciconia boyciana*, *Anser cygnoides*, *Anser fabalis*, *Tadorna ferruginea*, *Tadorna tadorna*, *Grus leucogeranus*, *Grus japonensis*, *Pluvialis squatarola*, *Charadrius alexandrinus*, *Limosa limosa*, *Limosa lapponica*, *Numenius phaeopus*, *Numenius arquata*, *Numenius madagascariensis*, *Xenus cinereus*, *Calidris tenuirostris*, *Calidris canutus*, *Calidris alpina*, *Haematopus ostralegus*, *Larus saundersi*

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: Harbour Seals occur annually in the estuarine areas in mid-March, with a maximum count of about 180 animals.

IBA CODE: CN053

NAME: Huanzidong

CRITERIA: A1 A4iii

AREA: About 200,000 ha

COORDINATES: 42°21'N 122°57'E

ALTITUDE: No information.

CONSERVATION STATUS: Unprotected, but in February 2006 a coalition of environmental volunteers from Liaoning launched a campaign to promote the designation of the area as a nature reserve.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The IBA comprises a freshwater reservoir with about 120,000 ha of open shallow water that does not exceed 1-2 m in depth. There are reedbeds in the centre of the reservoir which provide good habitat for waterbirds. It is located in the least developed part of Shenyang and the habitats are still in good condition. However, over-fishing, bird egg collection and hunting are threats to the waterbirds in the area.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Grus leucogeranus* (CR, more than 800 birds in November 2006), *Ciconia boyciana* (EN, 67 birds in November 2006), *Grus japonensis* (EN), *Anser erythropus* (VU), *Anas formosa* (VU), *Grus monacha* (VU, more than 240 birds), *Grus vipio* (VU)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN054

NAME: Wolong Hu (Xi Paozi)

CRITERIA: A1 A4iii

AREA: About 14,400 ha

COORDINATES: 42°44'N 123°16'E

ALTITUDE: 10-50 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as the provincial-level Wolong Hu Nature Reserve (11,200 ha) in 2001.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in Kangping County, north-east Liaoning. The IBA comprises a small freshwater lake and the adjacent reedbeds.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Grus leucogeranus* (CR), *Aythya baeri* (VU)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN055

NAME: Wafangdian Fuzhou Wan

CRITERIA: A1 A4i

AREA: About 30,000 ha

COORDINATES: 39°40'N 121°35'E

ALTITUDE: 0-10 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Unprotected.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in Wafangdian City, central-western Liaoning. The IBA extends from Fuzhou Bay to the marshlands at the Fuzhou He estuary, and contains extensive tidal flats and reedbeds. The lower reaches of the Fuzhou He river do not freeze in winter and this is one of the main wintering grounds for waterbirds in northern China. The natural wetlands in the IBA were much more extensive prior to the 1960s but since then massive reclamation for rice paddies and shrimp ponds has reduced their area.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Anser cygnoides* (EN), *Grus monacha* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Grus grus* (2,000 birds recorded wintering in 1992)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN056

NAME: She Dao Island

CRITERIA: A1 A4i

AREA: 73 ha

COORDINATES: 38°58'N 120°59'E

ALTITUDE: 0-210 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: The IBA is protected within She Dao–Laotieshan National Nature Reserve (total area 178,073 ha), which was established in 1980.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: She Dao is a small island in the Gulf of Bohai, c.7 nautical miles from the mainland, which is located 30 km north-west of Laotieshan. The island is rocky and hilly with c.70% vegetation cover, and it is famous for its population of vipers (She Dao means 'Snake Island').

THREATENED SPECIES: *Egretta eulophotes* (VU, 30 pairs were found in the 1980s), *Aquila clanga* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Larus crassirostris* (tens of thousands of birds estimated in 1999)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: The island supports an estimated population of 18,000 vipers.

IBA CODE: CN057

NAME: Haimao Dao Island

CRITERIA: A1 A4i

AREA: 30 ha

COORDINATES: 38°53'N 121°2'E

ALTITUDE: 0-119 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Unprotected

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Haimao Dao is an uninhabited island located to the west of Lüshun. It is sometimes used for shooting practice by the Chinese Navy, but human disturbance is otherwise very low.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Egretta eulophotes* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Egretta eulophotes* (200-300 breeding pairs estimated in 1999), *Larus crassirostris* (tens of thousands of breeding birds)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN058

NAME: Laotieshan

CRITERIA: A1 A4i

AREA: About 17,000 ha

COORDINATES: 38°46'N 121°11'E

ALTITUDE: 5-456 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: The IBA is protected within She Dao–Laotieshan National Nature Reserve (total area 178,073 ha), which was established in 1980.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located at the southern tip of the Liaodong Peninsula, west of Port Lüshun, Dalian City. The landscape is typical of the Liaodong Peninsular, hilly with a central lowland area surrounded by higher hills. There are villages, salt pans, rivers and reservoirs, and most of the forest in the IBA is forestry plantation or secondary. This is an important stop-over area for migratory birds, which pass through the IBA in millions annually.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Grus japonensis* (EN), *Egretta eulophotes* (VU), *Anas formosa* (VU), *Aythya baeri* (VU), *Haliaeetus pelagicus* (VU), *Aquila clanga* (VU), *Aquila heliaca* (VU), *Grus vipio* (VU), *Otis tarda* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Egretta eulophotes* (about 100 birds occur on spring and autumn migration)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN059

NAME: Zhuanghe coast

CRITERIA: A1 A4iii

AREA: 22,070 ha

COORDINATES: 39°35'N 122°45'E

ALTITUDE: 0-5 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Unprotected

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located on the east coast of the Liaodong Peninsula between the Biliu He and Dayang He estuaries, with a few smaller river estuaries and salt water lakes or lagoons. The IBA has a complex coastline with wide tidal flats, many bays, reedbeds and salt marshes. It is an important stop-over for migratory waterbirds, but there is high pressure to convert the wetlands for aquaculture.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Platalea minor* (EN)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN060

NAME: Shicheng Dao Island

CRITERIA: A1 A4i

AREA: About 4,000 ha

COORDINATES: 39°33'N 123°0'E

ALTITUDE: 0-50 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: The IBA is protected within the city-level Zhuanghe Shicheng Nature Reserve (13,950 ha), which was established in 2006.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located off the south-eastern coast of the Liaodong Peninsula, near Zhuanghe County.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Egretta eulophotes* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Egretta eulophotes* (300 breeding birds estimated in 1999)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN061

NAME: Xingren Tuo Island

CRITERIA: A1 A4i

AREA: 100 ha

COORDINATES: 39°31'N 123°2'E

ALTITUDE: 0-43 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a non-hunting area for birds in 1999. The IBA is protected within the city-level Zhuanghe Shicheng Nature Reserve (13,950 ha), which was established in 2006.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located c.5 km south-east of Shicheng Dao (CN060), the IBA comprises two small islands, Xingren Tuo and Yuanbao Tuo. Xingren Tuo is uninhabited, but a small aquaculture operation has been developed on Yuanbao Tuo with about 10 workers. Prior to the establishment of the non-hunting area, the collection of bird eggs was a very serious threat.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Platalea minor* (EN, found breeding on the island in 1999), *Egretta eulophotes* (VU, an important breeding site, with 300 breeding birds estimated in 1999)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Egretta eulophotes*

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN062

NAME: Yalu Jiang Estuary

CRITERIA: A1 A4i,A4iii

AREA: About 200,000 ha

COORDINATES: 39°53'N 123°35'E

ALTITUDE: 0-5 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Yalu Jiang Coastal Wetland National Nature Reserve (108,057 ha) was established in 1997.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The Yalu River flows westwards at its estuary. The main habitats in the IBA are reedbeds and tidal flats, with some areas of agricultural land. Many waterbirds, especially shorebirds, occur on migration, when more than 70,000 birds can be counted in one day during the peak.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Grus leucogeranus* (CR), *Ciconia boyciana* (EN), *Platalea minor* (EN), *Tringa guttifer* (EN), *Egretta eulophotes* (VU), *Anser erythropus* (VU), *Anas formosa* (VU), *Grus vipio* (VU), *Grus monacha* (VU), *Larus saundersi* (VU), *Megalurus pryori* (VU)

CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: *Platalea minor*, *Anas formosa*, *Pluvialis squatarola*, *Charadrius mongolus*, *Limosa limosa*, *Limosa lapponica*, *Numenius arquata*, *Numenius madagascariensis*, *Tringa nebularia*, *Tringa guttifer*, *Calidris tenuirostris*, *Calidris alpina*, *Limicola falcinellus*, *Haematopus ostralegus*

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN063

NAME: Shuifeng Reservoir and middle reaches of Yalu Jiang

CRITERIA: A1 A4iii

AREA: About 30,000 ha

COORDINATES: 40°30'N 125°0'E

ALTITUDE: 50-200 m

CONSERVATION STATUS: Unprotected

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The IBA comprises wetlands along the Yalu Jiang river, including a reservoir formed by a dam at Laguxiao, upstream of the confluence of the Changdian He river and the Yalu Jiang. There is extensive open water which does not freeze in winter, and the area is on the border with North Korea so human disturbance is low. Waterbirds winter in the IBA, and local people have reported that Crested Ibis *Nipponia nippon* and Crested Shelduck *Tadorna cristata* were present in the past.

THREATENED SPECIES: *Mergus squamatus* (EN), *Anas formosa* (VU), *Aythya baeri* (VU), *Grus vipio* (VU), *Grus monacha* (VU)

IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: The wetlands support Soft-shelled Turtle and Northern Salamander. Mammals include Red Fox, Raccoon Dog, Asiatic Black Bear and Chinese River Deer.