

# AWC Count Result Conducted in January 2017



# AWC(Asian waterbird count) 13 Jan 2017 Sejinkat (6 counters)



# Sejjinkat Ash pond Results

- 6 Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*
- 25 Little Egret *E.garzetta*
- 2 Great Egret *E. alba*
- 23 Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*
- 10 Little Ringed Plover *C.dubius*
- 30 Black-tailed Godwitt *Limosa limosa*
- 300 Bar-tailed Godwitt *L. lapponica*
- 35 Whimbrel *N.phaeopus*
- 400 Eurasian Curlew *N.arquata*
- 500 Far Eastern Curlew *N. madagascariensis*
- 10 Marsh Sandpiper *T.stagnatills*
- 20 Greenshank *T. nebularia*
- 2 Wood Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*
- 6 Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
- 600 Unidentified shorebirds
- **ADDITIONAL SPECIES**
- 1 Common Kingfisher



# AWC(Asian waterbird count)14Jan Buntal Bay (4 Counters)



# Bako Buntal Bay Results

- 43 Chinese (Swinhoe's Egret *E. eulophotes*)
- 1 Great Egret *E. alba*
- 416 Grey Plover *P. Squatarola*
- 200 Kentish Plover *C. alexandrinus*
- 2 Malaysian Plover *C. peronil*
- 1500 Mongolian Plover *C. mongolus*
- 2500 Greater Sand Plover *C. leschenaultii*
- 80 Bar-tailed Godwit *L. lapponica*
- 20 Whimbrel *N. phaeopus*
- 2 Eurasian Curlew *N. arquata*
- 30 Far Eastern Curlew *N. madagascariensis*
- 3 Redshanks *Tringa erythropus*
- 9 Greenshank *T. nebularia*
- 1500 Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*
- 10 Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
- 7 Grey-tailed (Grey-rumped) Tattler *Heteroscelus brevipes*
- 60 Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
- 100 Red Knot *Calidris canutus*
- 300 Red-necked (Rufous-necked) Stint *C. ruficollis*
- 100 Curlew Sandpiper *C. ferruginea*
- 2000 Unidentified shorebirds
- 400 Unidentified terns

# Site: Old Bintulu Airport Grassfield Counted on 14 January 2017(1 counter)

- 10 Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*
- 2 Intermediate Egret *E.eulophotes*
- 1 Great Egret *E.Alba*
- 5 Little Ringed Plover *C dubios*
- 1 Wood Sandpiper *T. ochropus*
- 2 Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

## **ADDITIONAL SPECIES**

- 2 Brahminy Kite

# Site: Tanjung Batu-Kidurong Mud Lagoon-Counted on 14 January 2017(1 counter)

- 4 Kentish Plover *C. alexandrinus*
- 2 Mongolian Plover *C. mongolus*
- 1 Greenshank *T. nebularia*
- 2 Common sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
- 500 Wandering Whistling Duck ( Lesser Tree Duck) *D. javanica*

## **ADDITIONAL SPECIES**

- 1 Oriental Honey Buzzard
- 2 Brahminy Kite
- 1 Common kingfisher



## CHALLENGES (1)

- Only 1 or 2 members can ID waterbirds
- Difficulties in getting to the sites.
- Sarawak has a long coastline, 350 miles
- Places like Lawas, Pulau Bruit, Pulau Patok are not easily accessible
- So counts are restricted to 1 or 2 sites
- Some volunteers may only take photos, but cannot count.
- Counters may be reluctant to continue due to time, costs.



## CHALLENGES (2)

- So far, there was only one waterbird workshop in Kuching Branch, by Dave Bakewell
- No follow-ups on training, so no interest to continue.
- During Sarawak Waterbird Survey, MNS Kuching Branch tried unsuccessfully to engage Sarawak Forestry Corporation's staff.
- However, awareness campaigns were successfully carried out in coastal schools and coastal villages.

## SUGGESTIONS

- Recruit experienced counters from Peninsular Malaysia to assist in Sarawak
- Involve local communities who live along the coastal villages.
- Conduct Train The Trainer workshops (include Miri & Kuching)
- Treat AWC as an special long-term project, rather than count randomly once a year.
- There is already data available during the Sarawak Waterbird Survey which can be followed up.
- Need to plan ahead annually logistics – boats, 4 x 4.
- Purchase equipment (telescope, binoculars)
- Reward nominal sums of money for meals, petrol, time.

# BAKO BUNTAL BAY –East Asian-ha) Australasian Flyway

## Network Site (2,800 (1)

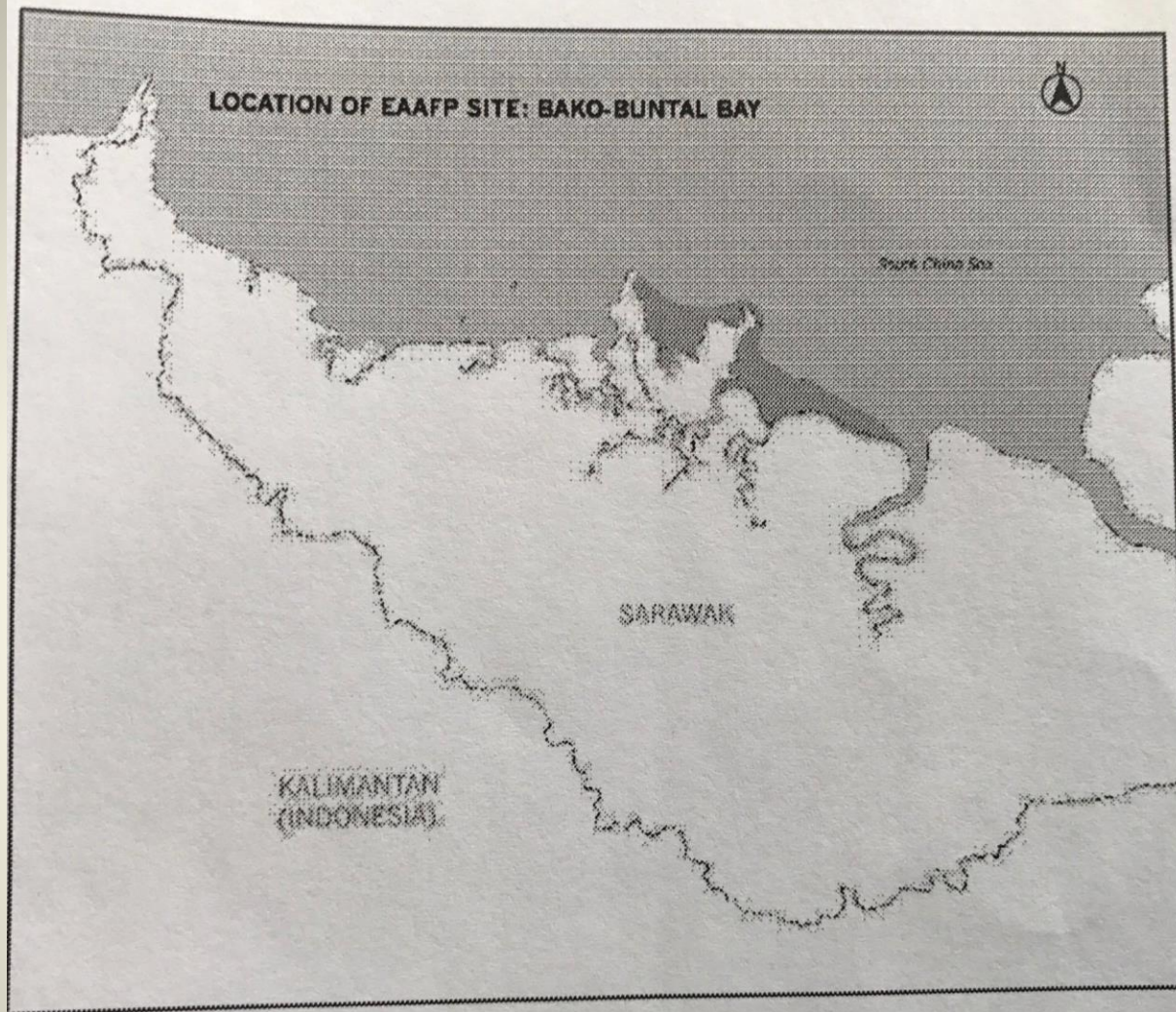
- Sarawak Forestry Corporation has come up with a BBB Sustainable Use Concepts, which engaged MNS Kuching Branch from the beginning:-
- Ecological Character of BBB
  - Waterbirds of BBB (regularly supports 30,000 waterbirds, of 80 species
  - As a wintering site
- Managing BBB for Wintering Birds
- Managing BBB for Wildlife Watching
- Branding Concept for BBB



Map 2 Overview of the Bako Buntal Bay East Asian-Australasian Flyway Network Site







**Map 1 Location of the BBB EAA Flyway Network Site**

## BAKO BUNTAL BAY –East Asian-ha) Australasian Flyway Network Site (2,800 (2)

- In 2011, MNS recorded 35,338 birds in the whole of BBB EAAF Network Site.
- Count represented 50% of all shorebirds counted Sarawak, making BBB the most important site for migratory birds in Sarawak.
- Presently the site has the highest wintering population of waterbirds in the whole of Malaysia.

# Globally Threatened Species

- Christmas Frigatebird (regularly seen)
- Spotted Greenshank (Nordmann's Greenshank) (seen in small numbers)
- Chinese Egret (BBB supports at least 12% of world
- S population wintering in Sarawak, majority at BBB.
- Lesser Adjutant Stork (from Pulau Bruit to BBB)

## Proposed Involvement by MNS with State Planning Unit/ Forestry Department Sarawak/UNIMAS/Local Communities/Other Related Agencies (1)

- Survey active and abandoned aquaculture farms to determine their use by birds during high tides.
- Identify the best site to create a permanent roost site (should be an abandoned ponds)
- Develop a restoration plan for this site.
- Work with farm managers to manage certain ponds for roosting birds (correct water levels is crucial)



## Proposed Involvement by MNS with State Planning Unit/ Forestry Department Sarawak/UNIMAS/Local Communities/Other Related Agencies (2)

- Implement monitoring surveys to collect baseline data for roosting preference by different species
- Assess tree-roost locations for protection of the birds.
- Conduct monthly detailed monitoring surveys for better quality data on the usage of these sites.
- Determine a suitable location to observe a permanent high tide roost.

THANK YOU.



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