



Document 12

Status and management of the EAAFP Flyway Site Network

1. Background and introduction

Some 1,060 important sites have been identified as being internationally important for migratory waterbirds along the EAAF (Jaensch 2013), of which about 152 (14%) have been designated as Flyway Network Sites (FNS) as of 15 February 2023 (<https://www.eaaflyway.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/List-of-FNS-October-2022-Total-152-Final.pdf>).

At the 10th Meeting of Partners (MoP10) to the EAAFP in December 2018, Partners were requested to update their outdated and missing Site Information Sheets (SISs) and maps. A few sites now have updated information thanks to the efforts of National Government Partner, while more SIS are now over 10 years old. An SIS is currently considered as "outdated" 10 years after the last revision. Further discussions to balance between resources required and providing current information should be taken if the period is considered as inadequate. For the purpose of this status update, 10 years would be used.

The Secretariat also was requested to provide small funding at the time of designation of the new FNS to prepare materials to raise awareness of the site. The Secretariat has developed the scheme with interested Government Partners following the nomination of new Flyway Network Sites. As a trial (per site 1,000 USD) four countries organized the celebration with local communities, production of the leaflets on the site and informational materials, such as signboards. Partners are encouraged to develop waterbird count datasets to support the nomination of new Flyway Network Sites.

2. Status and Management of the Flyway Network Site

New Sites

As of 15 February 2023, 152 sites important for migratory waterbirds in the East Asian – Australasian Flyway have been listed as Flyway Network Sites (FNS), covering a total of 23,085,439 hectares. One site from Thailand (Buriram Wetlands) and two sites (Paleik Lake and Pyu Lake) from Myanmar are in the process of being reviewed by experts for designation.

| Country | Site Name | Site Code | Year |
|------------|------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Myanmar | Nanthar Island and Mayyu Estuaries | EAAF139 | 2018 |
| Myanmar | Meinmahla Kyun Wildlife Sanctuary | EAAF140 | 2018 |
| Bangladesh | Ganguirar Char | EAAF 141 | 2018 |

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|-------------------|--|----------|------|
| | | | |
| Republic of Korea | Hwaseong Wetlands | EAAF 142 | 2018 |
| Republic of Korea | Janghang Wetland | EAAF 143 | 2019 |
| Cambodia | Anlung Pring Protected Landscape | EAAF 144 | 2019 |
| Republic of Korea | Incheon Songdo Tidal Flat | EAAF 145 | 2019 |
| Republic of Korea | Aphaedo Tidal Flat | EAAF 146 | 2019 |
| Myanmar | Inlay Lake Wildlife Sanctuary | EAAF 147 | 2020 |
| Republic of Korea | Daebudo Tidal Flat | EAAF 148 | 2020 |
| Australia | South-East Gulf of Carpentaria: Leichhardt River to Gore Point | EAAF 149 | 2020 |
| Republic of Korea | Ulsan Taehwa River | EAAF 150 | 2021 |
| Japan | Sarobetsu Wetland | EAAF 151 | 2021 |
| China | Rongcheng Swan National Nature Reserve | EAAF 152 | 2022 |
| Republic of Korea | Gochang Getbol | EAAF 153 | 2022 |

Updating of FNS information

Since MoP 10, the following SIS have been updated and submitted to the Secretariat.

| Country | Site Name | Site Code | Year of SIS updated |
|----------------|--|------------------|----------------------------|
| Australia | Corner Inlet | EAAF009 | 2020 |
| Australia | Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula | EAAF065 | 2020 |

As of 10 December 2022, SIS of 95 FNS (63%) from 15 Partner countries have out-of-date or missing SISs (**Annex 2**).

The pre-review of the SIS (and map) for new Flyway Network Sites is done by the EAAFP Secretariat and the Science Unit. After review, the SIS and map are then referred to the relevant Working Groups/Task Forces, experts and the Technical sub-Committee to seek comments on the provided justification of the criteria met and other scientific aspects of the nomination following the MOP10 adopted process (MoP10/Document 10). After the practice since MoP10, some adjustments were proposed within Secretariat and with TsC to make the review process more clear(Annex 1).

Sister Site Programme

There are eleven Sister Site Agreements in the East Asian – Australasian Flyway. The EAAFP encourages further cooperation between existing or potential Network sites. The Secretariat has also communicated with the site managers from existing Sister Sites, facilitated the implementation of the existing Sister Site relationship between Incheon Songdo Tidal Flat [EAAF 145] and Hong Kong Mai Po Inner Deep Bay [EAAF003], and supported the new arrangement between Higashiyoka-higata [EAAF124] and Qupaluk [EAAF 33] in February 2023 as the 10th and 11th EAAFP Sister Sites. The Secretariat will continue to expand the cooperation and network opportunities between/among sites following the new Guidelines for the EAAFP Sister Site Program (Ref.MOP11 DD.7).

| COUNTRY | CITY OR MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY | SITE NAME | SITE NAME | CITY OR MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY | COUNTRY |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| China, People's Republic | Dandong City | Yalujiang National Nature Reserve (EAAF043) | Firth of Thames (EAAF019) | Pukorokoro Miranda Naturalist Trust | New Zealand |
| Korea, Republic of | Changwon City | Junam Reservoir (EAAF095) | Kejo-numa (EAAF098) | Osaki City, Miyagi Prefecture | Japan |
| China, People's Republic | Qiqihar City | Zhalong National Nature Reserve (EAAF070) | Janghang Wetland Protected area (EAAF143) | Goyang City | Korea, Republic of |
| Australia | Brisbane City | MoretonBay, Boondall wetlands (EAAF013) | Yatsu-higata (EAAF059) | Narashino City, Chiba prefecture | Japan |
| Australia | Newcastle City | Hunter River Estuary Wetlands (EAAF010) | Kushiro Wetland (EAAF032) | Kushiro City Hokkaido | Japan |
| Korea, Republic of | Suncheon City | Suncheon Bay (EAAF079) | Arasaki (EAAF030) | Izumi City Kagoshima Prefecture | Japan |
| Japan | Nagoya City | Fujimae Tidal Flat (EAAF080) | Swan Bay Tidal Flats | Greater Geelong City | Australia |
| Korea, Republic of | Seocheon County | Yubudo Tidal Flat (EAAF101) | Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (EAAF073) | National Parks Board of Singapore | Singapore |
| China, People's Republic | Shanghai City | Chongming Dongtan National Nature Reserve (EAAF002) | Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (EAAF073) | National Parks Board of Singapore | Singapore |

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|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--------------------------------|
| Korea, Republic of | Incheon Metropolitan City | Incheon Songdo Tidal Flat (EAAF145) | Mai po Inner Deep Bay (EAAF003) | Hong Kong Special Administrative Region | China, People's Republic |
| United States of America | Bureau of Land Management Alaska | Qupatuk (EAAF133) | Higashiyoka- higata (EAAF124) | Saga City, Saga Prefecture | Japan |

Source: <http://eaflyway.net/about-us/the-flyway/flyway-site-network/sister-sites/>

ANNEX 1

List of the FNSs for which neither the SIS have been submitted nor an update provided to the Secretariat since designation (as of 15 February 2023)

| No. | Country | EAAF Site Code | Name of Site | Year SIS updated |
|---|------------|----------------|--|---------------------|
| Australia - Total FNS: 25 / SIS Not available by SU: 7 / SIS Outdated: 6 | | | | |
| 1 | Australia | EAAF010 | Hunter Estuary Ramsar Site | Not available by SU |
| 2 | Australia | EAAF011 | Kakadu National Park | Not available by SU |
| 3 | Australia | EAAF012 | Logan Lagoon | Not available by SU |
| 4 | Australia | EAAF013 | Moreton Bay | Not available by SU |
| 5 | Australia | EAAF014 | Orielton Lagoon | Not available by SU |
| 6 | Australia | EAAF016 | The Coorong, Lake Alexandrina & Lake Albert | Not available by SU |
| 7 | Australia | EAAF066 | Western Port | Not available by SU |
| 8 | Australia | EAAF089 | Bowling Green Bay | 2006, Outdated |
| 9 | Australia | EAAF090 | Currawinya National Park | 2005, Outdated |
| 10 | Australia | EAAF091 | Discovery Bay Coastal Park | 2004, Outdated |
| 11 | Australia | EAAF092 | Great Sandy Strait | 2005, Outdated |
| 12 | Australia | EAAF093 | Shallow Inlet Marine and Coastal Park | 2004, Outdated |
| 13 | Australia | EAAF094 | Shoalwater Bay | 2005, Outdated |
| Bangladesh - Total FNS: 6 / SIS Not available by SU: 0 / SIS Outdated: 5 | | | | |
| 14 | Bangladesh | EAAF102 | Nijhum Dweep National Park | 2011, Outdated |
| 15 | Bangladesh | EAAF103 | Sonadia | 2011, Outdated |
| 16 | Bangladesh | EAAF104 | Hakaluki Haor | 2011, Outdated |
| 17 | Bangladesh | EAAF105 | Tanguar Haor | 2011, Outdated |
| 18 | Bangladesh | EAAF106 | Hail Haor | 2011, Outdated |
| China Total SIS: 20/ SIS Not available by SU: 10 / SIS Outdated: 9 | | | | |
| 19 | China | EAAF002 | Chongming Dongtan Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 20 | China | EAAF003 | Mai Po – Inner Deep Bay | Not available by SU |
| 21 | China | EAAF004 | Shuangtai Hekou National Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 22 | China | EAAF005 | Yancheng National Nature Reserve | 2007, Outdated |
| 23 | China | EAAF006 | Yellow River Delta National Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 24 | China | EAAF025 | Poyang Hu Nature Reserve | 2006, Outdated |
| 25 | China | EAAF026 | Xingkai Hu Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 26 | China | EAAF042 | Sanjiang National Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 27 | China | EAAF043 | YaluJiang National Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 28 | China | EAAF064 | Dalai Hu National Nature Reserve | 2000, Outdated |
| 29 | China | EAAF067 | Cao Hai National Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 30 | China | EAAF068 | Shengjin Hu National Nature Reserve | 2005, Outdated |
| 31 | China | EAAF069 | Xiang Hai National Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 32 | China | EAAF070 | Zhalong National Nature Reserve | 2005, Outdated |
| 33 | China | EAAF082 | Anqing Yangtze Riverine Wetland Nature Reserve | 2004, Outdated |

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|--|-----------|---------|--|-----------------------------|
| 34 | China | EAAF083 | Dashanbao Black-necked Crane National Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 35 | China | EAAF085 | Hengshui Lake National Nature Reserve | 2006, Outdated |
| 36 | China | EAAF086 | Nandagang Wetland Nature Reserve | 2006, Outdated |
| 37 | China | EAAF087 | Nanjishan Wetland Nature Reserve | 2006, Outdated |
| DPR Korea – Total FNS:2 / SIS Not available by SU: 2 / SIS Outdated: 0 | | | | |
| 38 | DPR Korea | EAAF044 | Kumya Wetland Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 39 | DPR Korea | EAAF045 | Mundok Wetland | Not available by SU |
| Indonesia – Total FNS: 2 / SIS Not available by SU: 1 / SIS Outdated: 1 | | | | |
| 40 | Indonesia | EAAF008 | Wasur National Park | Not available by SU |
| 41 | Indonesia | EAAF108 | Sembilang National Park | 2012, Outdated |
| Japan – Total FNS: 34/ SIS Not available by SU: 7 / SIS Outdated: 22 | | | | |
| 42 | Japan | EAAF029 | Akkeshi-ko & Bekambeushi-shitsugen | 1999, Outdated |
| 43 | Japan | EAAF030 | Arasaki | Not available by SU |
| 44 | Japan | EAAF031 | Kiritappu Marsh | Not available by SU |
| 45 | Japan | EAAF032 | Kushiro-shitsugen | 1999, Outdated |
| 46 | Japan | EAAF033 | Yashiro | Not available by SU |
| 47 | Japan | EAAF047 | Biwa-ko | 1999, Outdated |
| 48 | Japan | EAAF048 | Biwase-wan | 1999, Outdated |
| 49 | Japan | EAAF049 | Fukushimagata | 1999, Outdated |
| 50 | Japan | EAAF050 | Hyouko-suikin-koen | 1999, Outdated |
| 51 | Japan | EAAF051 | Kabukuri-numa | 1999, Outdated |
| 52 | Japan | EAAF052 | Katano Kamoike | 1999, Outdated |
| 53 | Japan | EAAF053 | Kutcharo-ko | 1999, Outdated |
| 54 | Japan | EAAF054 | Manko Tidal Flats | 1999, Outdated |
| 55 | Japan | EAAF055 | Miyajima-numa | 1999, Outdated |
| 56 | Japan | EAAF056 | Otomo-numa | 1999, Outdated |
| 57 | Japan | EAAF057 | Sakata | 1999, Outdated |
| 58 | Japan | EAAF058 | Shiroishi-gawa | 1999, Outdated |
| 59 | Japan | EAAF059 | Yatsu Tidal Flats | Not available by SU |
| 60 | Japan | EAAF060 | Yonago-Mizudori-koen | 1999, Outdated |
| 61 | Japan | EAAF061 | Yoshino Estuary | Not available by SU |
| 62 | Japan | EAAF063 | Tokyo Port Wild Bird Park | Submitted in local language |
| 63 | Japan | EAAF071 | Kashima Shingomori | 2001, Outdated |
| 64 | Japan | EAAF072 | Utonai-ko | Not available by SU |
| 65 | Japan | EAAF076 | Osaka Nankou Bird Sanctuary | 2003, Outdated |
| 66 | Japan | EAAF080 | Fujimae-Higata | 2004, Outdated |
| 67 | Japan | EAAF081 | Kumagawa Estuary | 2004, Outdated |
| 68 | Japan | EAAF088 | Hachirogata-Kantakuchi | 2006, Outdated |
| 69 | Japan | EAAF098 | Kejo-numa | 2009, Outdated |
| 70 | Japan | EAAF099 | Furen-ko and Shunkuni-tai | 2010, Outdated |
| Mongolia – Total FNS: 11 / SIS Not available by SU: 1 / SIS Outdated: 0 | | | | |
| 71 | Mongolia | EAAF075 | Ugtam Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| Papua New Guinea – Total FNS: 1 / SIS Not available by SU: 1 / Outdated: 0 | | | | |

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|---|------------------|---------|--|-----------------------------|
| 72 | Papua New Guinea | EAAF034 | Tonda Wildlife Reserve | Not available by SU |
| Philippines – Total FNS: 4 / SIS Not available by SU: 2 / SIS Outdated: 0 | | | | |
| 73 | Philippines | EAAF007 | Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary | Not available by SU |
| 74 | Philippines | EAAF062 | Naujan Lake National Park | Not available by SU |
| RO Korea – Total FNS: 19/ SIS Not available by SU: 3 / SIS Outdated: 5 | | | | |
| 75 | RO Korea | EAAF027 | Cheorwon Basin | Not available by SU |
| 76 | RO Korea | EAAF028 | Han River Estuary | Not available by SU |
| 77 | RO Korea | EAAF078 | Gumi Haepyung wetland | Not available by SU |
| 78 | RO Korea | EAAF095 | Junam Reservoir | 2008, Outdated |
| 79 | RO Korea | EAAF097 | Nakdong Estuary | 2008, Outdated |
| 80 | RO Korea | EAAF100 | Geum River Estuary | 2010, Outdated |
| 81 | RO Korea | EAAF101 | Yubu-do Tidal Flat | 2011, Outdated |
| 82 | RO Korea | EAAF107 | Chilbaldo Islet | 2010, Outdated |
| Russia – Total FNS: 10/ SIS Not available by SU: 9 / SIS Outdated: 0 | | | | |
| 83 | Russia | EAAF020 | Daurisky Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 84 | Russia | EAAF021 | Khingansky Nature Reserve and Ganukan Game Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 85 | Russia | EAAF022 | Kytalyk Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 86 | Russia | EAAF023 | Lake Khanka Nature Reserve | Not available by SU |
| 87 | Russia | EAAF035 | Biosphere Reserve and Zapovednik “Taimyrski” | Not available by SU |
| 88 | Russia | EAAF036 | Ulug-kol in Khakaskiy Zapovednik | Not available by SU |
| 89 | Russia | EAAF037 | Lena Delta | Not available by SU |
| 90 | Russia | EAAF038 | Selenga Delta in Lake Baikal | Not available by SU |
| 91 | Russia | EAAF039 | Torey Lakes | Not available by SU |
| Singapore – Total FNS: 1/ Not available by SU: 1/ Outdated: 0 | | | | |
| 92 | Singapore | EAAF073 | Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve | Not available by SU |
| Thailand – Total FNS: 3/ SIS Not available by SU: 0 / SIS Outdated: 1 | | | | |
| 93 | Thailand | EAAF084 | Krabi Estuary and Bay | 2005, Outdated |
| USA – Total FNS: 2/ Not available by SU: 0/ Outdated: 1 | | | | |
| 94 | USA | EAAF109 | Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge | |
| Vietnam – Total FNS: 1 / SIS Not available by SU: 1 / SIS Outdated: 0 | | | | |
| 95 | Vietnam | EAAF134 | Tram Chim National Park | Submitted in local language |

ANNEX 2

ADJUSTMENT OF THE REVIEW PROCESS OF NEW FLYWAY NETWORK SITES

- 1. LOCAL GOVERNMENT/MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, NGO, NON-GOVERNMENTAL PARTNER, GOVERNMENTAL PARTNER**
 - Identification of potential sites for the Network, by reviewing available data, field surveys and determining which sites meet the criteria.
- 2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT/MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**
 - Local consultations on-site nomination with stakeholders including community members, site managers, management authorities, and relevant organizations.
- 3. LOCAL GOVERNMENT/MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, NGO, NON-GOVERNMENTAL PARTNER, GOVERNMENTAL PARTNER**
 - For the selected site, preparation of a Site Information Sheet (SIS) including a boundary map.
- 4. GOVERNMENT PARTNER**
 - Consultation on-site nomination at the state/national scale with stakeholders including experts and relevant authorities.
 - Finalizing the SIS, including the boundary map for the site nomination
 - Submission of SIS and map to the EAAFP Secretariat with a letter requesting that the site be included in the Network.
- 5. EAAFP SECRETARIAT**
 - **The Secretariat** will forward Flyway Network Site nominations from Government Partners to Science Unit for review and also cc the email to the Chair of the Technical Sub-Committee and the nominating Government Partner within **5 days** of receipt of a Flyway Network Site nomination.
 - **Science Unit** conducts a preliminary review of the SIS (**7 days**) and follows-up with the nominating Government Partner if addition information is needed (**7 days**).
 - The Science Unit will seek input from relevant **Working Groups/Task Forces** and experts on the details of the nomination (**14 days**), The Science Unit will prepare a summary of key points.
 - **Technical Sub-Committee** reviews the SIS and summary of technical comments and meeting of the criteria and then conveys to the Science Unit, the CE and Chair of the EAAFP the recommendation of the Technical Sub-Committee (**14 days**).
 - All comments on the SIS are referred back to the nominating Government Partners who revise the SIS if necessary.
- 6. EAAFP CHAIR**
 - The Secretariat advises the Chair of the Management Committee on the nomination, showing the results of the review process, and requests the Chair to endorse the nomination by writing formally to the nominating Partner and notifying them about the official inclusion of the site in the Network.
- 7. GOVERNMENT PARTNER & LOCAL GOVERNMENT/MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, EAAFP Secretariat**
 - Secretariat prepares the Certificate of Participation and delivers the required number of copies to the Government Partner for distribution.

- The Secretariat and the Government Partner agree on a date when the new FNS is announced publicly, and the finalized SIS and boundary map are posted on the EAAFP Website.
- The nominating Government Partner and relevant stakeholders organize an event at the Site to celebrate the designation of the new FNS.
- Notification to all Partners about the inclusion of the site in the Network.