

Subcommittee on Country Parks,  
Legislative Council Secretariat,  
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1 Legislative Council Road,  
Central,  
Hong Kong  
(By email only: [cb1@legco.gov.hk](mailto:cb1@legco.gov.hk))  
For the attention of Ms. Christina Shiu

**Pacific Chambers**

**901 Dina House,  
11 Duddell Street,  
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Tel: 2521 5544; fax: 2524 5912

1<sup>st</sup> November 2013

Dear Chairperson and Members,

Country Parks (Designation) (Consolidation) (Amendment) Order 2013.

The Friends of Sai Kung is a member of the Save Our Country Parks movement.

We express our wholehearted support for inclusion of Tai Long Sai Wan, Kam Shan and Yuen Tun into SKECP, KSCP and TLCP.

We respectfully wish to add a few pertinent comments on the current position on the ground in Country Parks.

With a few exceptions such as the above 3 enclaves, the Government's Country Parks enclave policy announced in 2010 and 2011 is in the process of being secretly changed and subverted behind closed doors without any consultation with the public.

Areas of high ecological and landscape value in our Country Parks enclaves which should be in the process of being protected, are in reality under unprecedented threat.

Uncontrolled environmental destruction is being driven by real estate developers, the Heung Yee Kuk and others flagrantly abusing the Small House Policy, to the enormous profit of a few.

It appears that, rather than the emphasis being to designate village enclaves as Country Park, in regard to most enclaves, the Director of AFCD is being passive. Instead, the Town Planning Board has been rubber stamping Small House applications in DPA zones and, under Outline Zoning Plans, is zoning large areas as additional "V Zone" for indigenous villagers to apply to build Small Houses. In many instances the additional V Zone consists of private agricultural lots which have been purchased by real estate development companies. This has happened in, among others, Pak Sha O, Hoi Ha in SKWCP and So Lo Pun in PCCP, 3 villages of high conservation and landscape value.

We ask the question: if only indigenous villagers are allowed to apply to build in a V Zone and are expected to own the private land on which they wish to build, why is the Town Planning Board zoning as V Zone private land which it already knows has been purchased by non-indigenous real estate developers? Events such as these as well as recent statements by the Secretary for Development stating that the Government will take into account development *pressure*, as opposed to *need*, are raising widespread public concern and deep suspicion.

The Country Parks are a public asset, not a private fiefdom and should not be damaged or sacrificed to temporary political expediency or to the greed of unscrupulous lobbies.

We respectfully urge you to be vigilant and preserve the integrity of our Country Parks for the enjoyment of all the people of Hong Kong and future generations.

Yours respectfully and sincerely,



John Wright

Secretary,

Friends of Sai Kung