

Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden

Lam Kam Road, Tai Po, New Territories, Hong Kong.

Tel. Nos.: (852)24839534 Fax: (852)24831877

嘉道理農場暨植物園
香港新界大埔林錦路

Hon Choy So-Yuk
Chairperson,
Panel on Environmental Affairs,
Legislative Council,
Central
Hong Kong
Fax: 2869 6794

5 December 2002

By Post and fax

Dear Ms Choy,

Re: Environmental Improvement of Shing Mun River – Ecological Enhancement

We have learnt from the Panel on Environmental Affairs, Legco website that the Civil Engineering Department is going to carry out environmental improvement work on the Shing Mun River. A Legco paper CB(1)330/02-03(05) suggested that this work would improve the environmental quality of Shing Mun River by dredging the polluted sediment and improving sewage treatment facilities along the river. It is also thought that this project would help demonstrating the importance of maintaining a clean and **ecologically sustainable river** (Para 11).

In order to achieve the project goal of maintaining the ecological sustainability of the river, we would like to recommend that ecological restoration work should also be conducted in addition to the proposed environmental clean up. For instance, the concrete-lined channel section near Tai Wai could be restored, while the concrete bank can be re-vegetated along the middle and lower section. These ecological enhancement measures not only provide more suitable habitats for aquatic wildlife, but would also greatly increase the aesthetic value of Shing Mun River for the benefit of Shatin's residents.

In view of the government commitment to ecologically sustainable rivers and our expertise in aquatic wildlife ecology, we would be happy to provide detailed ecological enhancement measures upon request.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. L. C. Wong
Conservation Officer

cc. Mr Roger Kendrick (EAP; Internal)

Hon. Choy So-yuk office (fax: 2570 5917)

Shatin District Council (The Secretariat; fax: 2681 3892)

Lisa Hopkinson (Green Lantau; fax: 3105 9713)

Ms Karen Woo/Alex Yau (WWFHK, fax: 2845 2734)

Prof. David Dudgeon (Department of Ecology and Biodiversity, fax: 2517 6082)

Secretary for Environment, Transport and Works (Dr Sarah Liao; fax: 2868 4643)

Director of Environmental Protection (fax: 2838 2155)

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (fax: 2311 3731)