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Date: 17/05/2018 18:13
Subject: Re:

Proposal to protect endanger Marine life Sea Turtle n Finless Porpoise in Hong Kong by the designation of south Lamma and Soko islands and their adjacent waters as Marine Protected Areas.

Sham wan is Hong Kong only remaining area suitable for seaturtle to lay eggs .Since 1997 there has sea turtle hatchlings recorded in this beach.The number of turtle nest in Sham Wan has decline from 5 in 1998 down to 1nest a year from 2000 to 2012, then no nest ever since,except one nest recorded on a beach in Lantau.The Sham Wan beach was designated as seasonal protected area banning human activities .But there is no rules or regulations to restrict any recreation and boat activities in the water within the bay.Sea Turtles swimming in the bay are subjected to risk of being killed by colloision with all kinds of boats. In recent years 2013 ,2014,2016 each year 10 dead sea turtles in HK's southern n eastern waters had been officially recorded.But there had been live sightings of sea turtles in HK waters each year since 2013,though declining from 9 to 3 in the first nine months of 2017 .Additional protective measure is urgently needed to prevent further killing sea turtles in HK waters.We need properly managed Marine Protected Areas(MPA) banning all human n boating activities can provide safty to sea turtles and other large marine animals such as the finless porpoise.

Waters between Lo So Shing bay and Ha Mei Wan bay are areas frequent by Finless porpoise. In this area as well as waters around the Soko islands Finless porpoise has been often seen feeding .This two areas should be designated as Marine protection areas to protect HK endanger species the Finless porpoises.MPA were set up since 1996 to protect Chinese White dolphins,mangrove and coral ecology,mostly in northeast and northwest waters. But up to now Hong Kong's southern waters ,where seaturtle and finless porpoise are frequently found are not given any protection.

Marine Protection Areas in our southern waters should be established to prevent deveopment and human encroachment into endanger species feeding and breeding areas. The local population of finless porpoises has declined rapidly.now less than 200.Deaths caused by boat collision,net entanglement,marine pollution.Threats from coastal development leading to loss of feeding and breeding areas. Annual average death rate of 20 per year ,up to 29 dead finless porpoises was recorded in 2012. It is a race against time before we wipe out last of the HongKong sea turtle nesting site and its population, and deplete local finless porpoise population if no improvement to protect these endanger species.

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ex chairman of
HK Marine Conservation Society
17.5.2018

香港海岸公园及保护区自1996年成立以来提供保护给多种海洋生态及物种。但至今二十多年后生活在香港南面水域之濒危海龟及江豚仍然没受到足够法律及行政保护。搁浅死亡数量增加。本港水域内发现之死亡海龟有两年每年达到10隻。在香港水域生存的数量剧减。活体海龟在本港被发现的数据由2013年9隻减到2017年前九个月的3隻。深湾海龟窝从1998年的6窝减至2000 -2012每年1窝，到近六年没有了。2016年在大嶼山发现一窝。此海龟主要繁殖生蛋之南丫岛深湾海滩及水域，有很多泳客和游艇的活动严重危害回来生蛋之海龟和刚出生的小龟。海龟需二十年才成熟，后

便游回出生的海灘上生蛋。1998年出生的五窩幼龜，將會在這幾年開始以成年海龜游回深灣交配及生蛋。

2001年至2012年香港水域發現的死江豚平均每年20隻。最高是2012年達29隻。初步調查顯示本港及鄰近海域只有約200隻江豚。

南丫島西南蘆須城及下尾灣是江豚經常出現覓食之水域。近年南丫島東北部計劃發展，島西南及南面之海灣及水域因是瀕危物種重要生殖及覓食區必須立法保護，應規劃為海岸保護區，禁止人為破壞該自然環境及其海洋生物。另外江豚經常出現在石鼓洲，大小雅洲，及芝麻灣一帶水域。要有效保護江豚，此等水域也應設為海岸保護區，限制船速及水上活動。

香港政府及社會應及早行動制定保護政策和設施確保我們的海龜和江豚不會滅絕於本港水域。全面保護海龜和江豚的海岸保護區已拖了二十多年，現今是刻不容緩了，應立即劃定實施。否則很快香港後代看不到這些珍貴原居海獸。

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2018.5.17

Sent from my Huawei Mobile