



Spoonbills Speak

echoes across the Pacific

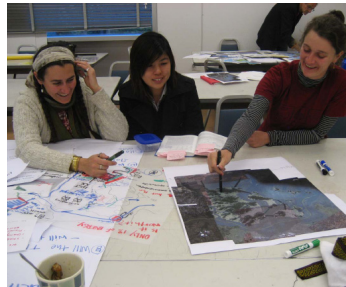
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SAVE TEAMING WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING STUDIO

The advanced environmental planning studio at U.C. Berkeley focuses again on the plight of the spoonbill in Korea. Recognizing a critical link between farm practices and food sources necessary for baby spoonbill survival, the Berkeley team will focus on a demonstration project with thirty farm families on the southeast coast of Ganghwa Island. Here, rice paddies provide the only available fresh water invertebrates and small fish essential to very young spoonbills that cannot tolerate the salt found in the diet of older birds. But farmers consider the spoonbills a pest, chase them away, stress the adult birds and reduce the foraging effectiveness. The demonstration project intends to develop mutually-beneficial farm practices and new on-farm economies for families who steward the birds.

2008 INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR PRESERVING THE BLACK-FACED SPOONBILL

Last July, Willow Lung Amman and Kristen Podolak, two University of California PhD Students, and lecturer Yoonju Chang traveled to Ganghwa, South Korea to present the work from an Environmental Planning studio on Black-Faced Spoonbill (BFS) preservation. While there has been tremendous success in habitat conservation efforts in the BFS winter habitat there have been few conservation efforts to protect the summer habitat. BFS migrate to South and North Korea during the summer to give birth and raise their chicks on small rocky islands off the coast. They forage on mudflats and in rice paddies on Ganghwa Island off the coast from Seoul. To understand the past, current, and future conditions on Ganghwa, students in the planning studio researched a range of topics including: land reclamation, cultural and historical sites, tourism opportunities, nesting and foraging locations, and development plans including a proposed tidal power plant. Willow, Kristen and Yoon's Korea presentation focused on developing sustain



able tourism options that would serve to bring attention to the BFS and preserve habitat. Attendees at the symposium included the Ganghwa People's Network, the mayor of Ganghwa and other government officials, BFS enthusiasts from as far away as Jeju (the southern tip of South Korea), academics from tourism and ecology disciplines, and local people. During the trip the group took a boat tour to visit three nesting islands, two of which were located within the DMZ. The scientists recorded the number of nesting BFS pairs and chicks while photographers captured images of the birds. The work will continue this spring with another planning studio building on the work from last spring and the symposium this past summer.

NEW NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Last year three members joined SAVE, and they are also your new editors. Chia-Chia (Gina) Ou, Jessica Lai, Yu Shih are currently undergraduate architecture students at UC Berkeley. They first came into contact with SAVE by taking Professor Randy Hester's ED 1 class. The three undergrads are all from Taiwan and share a love for Black-Faced Spoonbills. They are honored to provide hot-from-the-press information of the whereabouts of the birds and SAVE's next big plan.



2008 BIRD COUNTS FOR B-F-S

An exciting result is just in from the annual BlackFaced Spoonbill annual counts for 2008. It is the first time that over 2,000 BFs have been recorded. The total number is 2065 globally and Tainan has recorded 1030 of them. According to Tainan County Government, this number is about 200 fewer than last year. It is thought that this is because Tainan is having a warmer winter this year. Within 1030 of BFs counted in Tainan, the Chiku protection zone has 803 and Si-sao protection zone has 93. The annual bird counts was held on November 8, 2008. The Tainan County team also found ring number A08 from Hong Kong, K38 from South Korea and 9 birds with rings from Tainan.



Hi guys,

I am full and rested, so it's time to fly back to Korea! Oh wait, but I heard from Ba-Chao that Korea is building a huge canal near my beautiful Ganghwa Island! We really need your magic to SAVE our home, or else the intelligent spoonbills may have to boycott Korea...Hum, China may be a better choice...?

See you later!

Chi-chao

HELLO FROM
CHI - CHAO THE
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—Cut here and mail to SAVE—

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