

大澳環境及發展關注協會

Association for Tai O Environment and Development

致立法會環境及衛生事務委員會

主席及各委員:

環境及食物衛生局高永文局長:

漁護署署長黃志光先生:

最近一年來漁護署牛隊在各郊區奔波拯救牛隻,積極為牛隻診療,十分值得 我們公開讚揚!今年初,有一次,牛隊一早到大嶼山搜尋一頭被車撞傷的牛,直 至黃昏仍因治療牛隻仍未收隊;同時間,又接到西貢有一隻黃牛被車撞傷,牛隊 立即趕到西貢救援另一頭牛。

這一年來,我耳聞目見牛隊在緊絀的資源和人手下和地區牛會協力的辛勞護 牛工作,我們之間的溝通改善了;我樂見牛隊接受地區牛會的意見。

我懇切請求食衛局能增撥資源以加強牛隊的工作,令他們能更有效率處理各 區牛隻問題,以及和地區牛會的協同合作,共同為牛隻的福祉而努力。

上次和漁護署代表在立法會就有關牛隻會議中,我很驚訝聽到食衛局成立牛隊的目的----是為了處理地區牛隻的投訴。我認為這目的是本末倒置的,牛隻在香港農耕社會有千年歷史,為我們祖先建設開荒,牠們在郊野和村民的深厚感情,都是應該被肯定;而不是在今日富庶文明的香港社會中,落得被遺棄的下場。被捕、被殺都因各種不能公開的莫須有投訴。如此下去,連僅餘的1000多頭黃牛,130多頭水牛將永遠絕跡於香港郊野,亦會傷了許多香港人對本土牛隻愛護的心。

記得我把被調遷的瀕危的3號女相片放上Facebook時,24小時內就有一千人分享出去,還有如雪片的信息詢問應如何拯救調遷的牛。大概,只有不聞世事的官僚,以及賣地為己任的土豪劣紳,才會無動於衷的!

要從根本去解決郊野牛隻的困境,必須與地區牛組織合作,因為他們最清楚每區牛隻的習性、生境等具體問題所在。在牛隻絕育、原區重置、牛棚建設、牧牛人試驗、交通問題、社區規劃等事情上,對郊野牛隻的影響等等;相信,只有

身體力行的關注居民和牛會,會就各方便提供可行和實際的措施。政府部門在實行一些牛隻政策時,也應該與地區團體協商和諮詢,以掌握各種外在客觀條件和具體的數據,避免如上次牛隻調遷所出現牛隻傷亡的慘痛事情。

過去,地區關心牛隻的居民和團體,都曾在各方面,就他們長期的在地觀察, 以及實際的情況,向各部門提供意見。但是,政府部門卻不大願意打開溝通之門。 我們希望往後,我們能夠和各有關政府部門就此議題作定期交流和溝通,而政府 亦樂於廣納民意,共同為牛隻福址而努力。

在此,容我再次感謝漁護署牛隊一年來的辛勞,百忙中出席的各區為牛牛問 題發聲的朋友和有關政府部門的各代表!

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大澳環境及發展關注協會主席 何佩嫻謹上 9-12-2014

附件:

1:立法會牛隻調遷申訴書2:具澳水牛牛境(都市日報)

3:改善交通黑點意見



致立法會秘書處 立法會議員黃碧雲、毛孟靜、梁耀忠、何秀蘭 環境及食物衛生局局長高永文先生 漁農自然護理署署長黃志光先生

50 頭被調遷至西貢及大嶼山的黃牛問題不恰當的調遷,對牛隻造成的傷害

1.健康方面:雖然目睹的大部份牛隻健康並無大問題,但發現有小牛的身體被打上針孔,(見圖)我們懷疑有關牛隻健康曾出現問題。梅窩3號牛在漁護署治療期間,竟在毫無通知下,被放逐到同是位於大嶼山的石壁,被發現時瘦骨嶙峋,友與西頁調遷牛一起,在1月初被西貢護牛天使主席發現,始揭發調遷50頭牛隻事件。由此可見,調遷行動的封閉、胡亂、不恰當。

到訪當日,我們發現牛群行為異常,有不停顫抖、推撞、成長牛追著母牛飲奶… 我們質疑是因為牛群被調到陌生環境而出現的情緒問題。

youtube: http://youtu.be/auH_xDc0oZI

2.環境方面:大嶼山牛隻被調遷到創興水上活動中心,草地呈沙石質,調放位置為再造草原,植物包括草亦難以生長,到訪日只見有人放置一堆草給牛群,相信是由於提供糧草不足,不少牛隻須自行到外覓食,附近林地有再植林,屬台灣相思及沙質重的植物,並非原生植物,果葉也不適合牛隻食用,草原林葉稀疏,沒有遮蔽的地方,沒有乾草可睡,義工到訪當日天氣寒冷有雨,牛群驚慌顫抖,在大嶼山未曾見過,有幼牛因到水上活動中心飲水而被魚钩刺入舌中。到訪當日,有直升機在牛群不足 100 米範圍升降,令牛群飽受驚嚇。狗隻追趕牛群,飽受驚嚇。

草源不足,牛隻要在垃圾堆中覓食。

我們認為牛群被調遷的生活環境惡劣,整體環境條件和大嶼山完全不同,完全未有考慮調遷地的環境因素,牛隻的生存條件、適應能力。有違人道立場,亦涉及虐待動物條例。

SUN 驚奇: 迫遷荒蕪地 漁署草菅牛命

http://the-sun.on.cc/cnt/news/20140305/00410_097.html

3.牛隻安全方面:被調遷牛隻放逐到一個完全陌生的環境,目的是令牠們不能尋

路回原居地,但同時亦令牛隻由於不能認路。如西貢牛被放逐到石壁,由於未能認路,有數隻誤上昂平,進入昂平市集,在垃圾堆中尋找食物,亦有被遊客以零食餵食取樂,有被店舖檔主用木棍追打,驚慌受虐。昂平山上風高寒冷,亦無遮蔽,至今有8頭牛隻仍然未能尋獲,其中一隻為幼牛,至今下落未明。而大嶼山牛隻亦有3隻未能尋獲,創興水上活動中心對出是馬路,不少車在高速公路上行走,牛隻亦容易受車撞傷。

至今,漁護署牛組仍未公開有關投訴牛隻的原因,以及採納的顧問報告書建議調 遷牛隻的內容及研究,令人難以信服,亦難以接受一個文明社會,竟然可以如此 對待一群善良的大嶼山和西貢牛!

我們期待各位議員、負責官員能認真審視這一個漏洞處處的調遷計劃!

何佩嫻草擬 大澳環境及發展關注協會主席 7-3-2014

附圖:



梅窩3號女調遷後 照片由 FOMC 提供



創興水上活動中心,草地呈沙石質



創興水上活動中心,草地呈沙石質,草亦難以生長,亦無大樹林供遮蔽



到訪當日, 有直升機在牛群不足 100 米範圍升降,令牛群飽受驚嚇



狗隻追趕牛群,飽受驚嚇。



草源不足,牛隻要在垃圾堆中覓食







生活、天熟時在水中浸泡、散出過 多熱量,以免體溫過高影響健康。 大嶼山貝澳一帶的濕地·便成為本 港所餘無幾的水牛棲息地,在大嶼 山南岸分區計劃大網核准圖上劃為 「海岸保護區」。

不過·有大嶼山居民及環保團 體近年發現,貝澳一帶濕地逐漸乾 竭·其中一個原因是農民復耕。大 嶼山居民Jean表示·近一兩年先後 有農民在貝澳老園一帶濕地復耕・ 他們先將濕地填高及圍欄·之後在 農田附近開坑修改水道將水排走,

濕地逐漸乾竭

她表示·貝澳老圍一帶原有40 頭水牛,近一年只剩下約10頭,坦 言相當傷心。Jean説:「水牛好怕事· 見到環境轉變就會避之則吉·所以 好多水牛走咗,我見到都好心痛。」 Jean表示·元朗一帶有很多荒廢農 田,希望當地農地能轉往該處復耕, 令县澳的水牛生態能夠恢復。

被指令濕地變乾草地的農民李先 生否認刻意要將水牛趕走。65歲的 李先生稱,他原本在元朗務農,但 因地主收地,年多前在朋友介紹下,



租用貝漢老團村二萬呎荒地復耕 他聲稱·只是做了一般的工程引水 入田·沒考慮過要把附近的濕地消 失・又稱漁護署、環保署等部門曾 到農田視察、均指沒問題。他表示, 田租及其他基建設資已花了逾十萬 元·沒可能為了水牛生態環境而再

濕地淪垃圾傾倒地

原本劃作「海岸保護區」的貝澳 濕地·近年亦逐漸淪為傾倒泥頭及 建築廢料場所·大澳環境及發展關 注協會主席何佩嫻表示, 貝澳的棄 耕農地·有多處地方曾經遭傾倒泥 頭,令水牛生態地逐漸縮小,其中 個最新的堆填地點,是位於大嶼 山南分區辦事處毗鄰的濕地・堆泥 高達兩米·面積有接近一個籃球場 般大。何佩嫻表示,曾就問題向多 個部門投訴·但最終因為涉及私人



土地·投訴不得要領·她質疑「海 岸保護區」,並未得到真正保護。

何佩嫻表示・近期貝澳多株蘆 兜樹被人斬去,之後並把樹幹放在 水池旁·水牛上落水池因此容易摔 倒受傷。她質疑·連串的行動·有 人希望趕絕當區水牛·認為政府有 必要堵塞法律上的漏洞。

規劃署指無執管權

根據「大嶼山南岸分區計劃大綱 草圖」顯示·貝澳一帶濕地被納入「海 岸保護區」·規定該區不得挖掘或填 土等·除非獲城規會批准·否則不 能進行任何填土、挖土或河道改道 工程。規劃署發盲人承認·有關地 區在分區計劃大總圖上劃作為「海岸 保護區」,但之前未有納入「發展審 批地區」, 故該署未有執管權。

環保署表示·該署於8月7及13



▲复達部分濕地被人傾倒泥頭。

日曾派員到貝澳賈地視察·發現南 區鄉事委員會辦事處側有建築廢料 放於私人土地範圍內·惟並沒有工 程或傾倒活動。該署表示·根據《廢 物處置條例》,如任何人傾倒廢物而 沒有獲該土地業權人同意·即屬違 法·此外·在私人地段內擺放建築 廢物超逾20平方米總面積,必須獲 得全體土地擁有人的書面許可及預 先通知環保署。該署正跟進調查事 件有否違反《廢物處置條例》·並密 切跟進該地點的情況。

水牛從元朗來

漁護署分別於2012年及2013年委託顧問公司就 本港流浪牛數目進行調查,2012年全港約有130頭 水牛,當中約80頭在貝澳一帶;但至2013年,全港 水牛數目下降至120頭,當中約75頭在貝澳一帶。

據貝澳村民透露,由於大嶼山一帶村民昔日相 對較其他新界農村貧窮,至上世紀二十年代初,一 群貝澳村民才籌集到足夠金錢、從元朗購買島上第 一對水牛,協助耕作。這對水牛其後在島上不斷緊 衍,但在這二三十年,島上村民已陸續棄耕,這對 水牛的後代開始過其流浪生活。М



ROAD SAFETY ISSUES ON SOUTH LANTAU



Living Islands Movement (LIM) registers with regret and deep concern the increasing incidence of road traffic accidents on the South Lantau Road (SLR) involving loss of life. In particular, we offer our deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Gavin Spier, tragically killed on the SLR on Saturday 1st June 2013. We were also horrified and saddened by the incident in which 8 cattle were killed a few days later.

We believe these and other accidents highlight the urgent need to improve road safety on South Lantau. That issue should be the sole focus of government action. Removing cattle from South Lantau, as suggested by some, is not a solution to this problem. In fact it would be a backward step sending a wrong signal that any perceived obstacles to speeding traffic will be removed, thus increasing the risks to all road users.

We want to see dangerous driving eradicated from South Lantau, not the cattle. The majority of residents and especially visitors want to continue to enjoy the presence of cattle and buffaloes here.

In addition to the rising number of reported accidents, LIM is very aware that many local residents and visitors now feel insecure when using the SLR and the streets of Mui Wo, whether as motorists, cyclists, hikers or pedestrians. Speeding, aggressive driving, dangerous overtaking manoeuvres, undisciplined cycling (including use of illegal electric cycles), widespread parking on pavements and illegal driving on EVA roads are among the principal concerns.

This heightened sense of insecurity is due to the significantly increased volumes of traffic in recent years, arising from the large number of new construction projects; higher numbers of tourists visiting South Lantau in various categories; higher demand for bus services especially at weekends; and, most of all, the apparent growth in the number of Lantau Closed Road Permits being issued to new residents, who continue to arrive at a brisk pace.

There is also reportedly a rising incidence of vehicles illegally entering the South Lantau area without a Lantau Closed Road Permit, via the New Tung Chung Road.

Moreover, the environment of "parking anarchy" that now prevails in Mui Wo particularly leads to a general sense that laws can be ignored and consideration for other road users can be abandoned. This particular phenomenon is due to the totally inadequate number of parking places in the area when compared with the much larger number of Lantau Closed Road Permits now in circulation.

South Lantau is a uniquely rural community, treasured for its recreation and natural lifestyle opportunities, but one which is facing increasing development pressure, bringing consequential traffic and road safety issues that threaten our tranquil lifestyle.

LIM firmly believes that a review of road safety, traffic regulations and policing on South Lantau is long overdue, taking into account the increased road usage and the needs of ALL road users, whether commercial, residential or recreational; vehicular, cyclist or pedestrian.

The South Lantau Road should be quite adequate for current volumes of traffic if appropriately regulated, taking into account these special conditions.

Based on the long experience of many LIM members of road usage in South Lantau, we propose implementation of the following measures, which would go a long way towards rectifying the current unsafe situation:

Highways/Transport Department to upgrade regulations and enhance improve road signage:

- * Speed limit of 50km to apply to the whole SLR
- * Speed limits of 30km through ALL villages
- * Installation of roadside electronic speedometers advising drivers of their actual speed (as seen in UK)
- * No overtaking (double white lines) on whole length of SLR except at designated passing places
- * Traffic calming and/or speed bumps at entrance and exit and middle of all villages on the SLR (as seen in rural areas in Europe)
- * Signage such as "Tong Fuk welcomes careful drivers" for each village
- * More signage warning of blind exits/entrances on bends of the SLR, and near schools and beaches where children may be present
- * Relocation of bus stops away from blind spots on the road or streets (e.g. Mui Wo)
- * Removal of restrictive railings which discourage pedestrian use of the pavements

Additional resources for Police on South Lantau:

OVERT policing:

- * Dedicated Traffic Unit for Lantau (South)
- * More speed camera sites in the effective places with permanent installation and 24/7 monitoring
- * Alcohol breath-tests carried out particularly late at night
- * Regular patrols in early morning to discourage people "racing" to catch ferries

COVERT policing:

- Unmarked police car patrols,
- CCTV in black spots,
- more frequent hidden speed checks by speed-gun
- Police with cameras to monitor e.g. drivers using mobile phones

Other Transport Issues:

- * Install license plate recognition technology at entrance to the New Tung Chung Road at Shek Mun Kap to monitor vehicles entering South Lantau 24/7 for appropriate Closed Road Permits
- * Tightening the scrutiny of Lantau Closed Road Permit applications, and increasing education measures of new permit holders as to the special characteristics of driving on SLR
- * Tachograph equipment to be installed in all buses and commercial vehicles using SLR. Practice of "gunning" (i.e. over-revving) bus engines to be eliminated through better training of drivers.
- * * Strategic review of parking arrangements on South Lantau, especially in Mui Wo, in conjunction with the Mui Wo Face Lift Scheme

CONCLUSION: LIM WELCOMES THE COMMITMENT OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY AND ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE ON SOUTH LANTAU. WE LOOK FORWARD TO PARTICIPATING IN FURTHER MEETINGS TO EXAMINE AND IMPLEMENT THESE PROPOSALS IN DETAIL.

Living Islands Movement

LIM Committee

15th June 2013

ENDORSED BY:

Green Lantau Association

ECO-Environment Conservation and Education Association

Association for Tai O Environment and Development

South Lantau Education Concern Group

Lantau Buffalo Association

Protection of Animals Lantau South (PALS)

The Naked Islands Project – HK