**SAVE Meeting Minutes**

**reviewed Sep 08, revised Sep 09**

Tuesday, September 1, 2015, 6pm Pacific / 9pm Eastern

Location: Fiona's new place, 966 62nd St, Oakland

Attending: Derek (conductor, scribe), Fiona (forager), Tami; by phone: Marcia, Randy, Shanna.

**1. approve meeting minutes from July 12**

All were in favor of approving the minutes.

**2. annual newsletter and membership letter**

Fiona has received articles from everyone, and has started to lay out the new issue. She will send it around for review soon.

We were unsure how to phrase the member-appeal letter ("beg letter") accompanying the newsletter, but revisited this item after discussing the new research (see below). The letter could say that because loss of habitat is the biggest threat to spoonbills, SAVE is fostering new research needed to preserve habitat. Fiona agreed to draft the letter and include it with the newsletter for SAVE-Exec's review.

Action item (Fiona): Finish layout, draft letter, and distribute for review.

**3. research for updating fact-sheets**

As we noted at the July meeting, Tami and Pedro found roughly 40 articles in their online search of academic journals, and they organized the articles by country on SAVE’s Box. Yekang had already (in July) read and written a thorough review of the articles from Korea. We divided the remaining countries among SAVE-Exec members. Now Tami reported that she had read the Taiwan articles, and Derek read the China articles. Still unread were the articles about Japan (Fiona) and the "other"/miscellaneous-location articles (assigned to Shanna at the July meeting, though she did not know it); Marcia agreed to take the "other" articles off of Shanna's hands.

Tami and Derek said that the articles mentioning spoonbills did not deal with geometries or spatial factors, as we had hoped.

We discussed what to do with the articles and came up with these ideas:

a) SAVE should contact the authors and ask all of them a few simple questions (maybe only 2-3, because the authors may not be fluent in English) about the state of spoonbill research. SAVE does not have a strong ally in the scientific community now that Malcolm Coulter is gone, and Ki-sup Lee in Korea has not been very responsive.

b) SAVE could get grants to foster the research that we need, a suggestion by Shanna. Some local citizens' groups (such as Jiading Wetland Youth, Team SPOON / Masato's lab, and Matsumoto's group) are already counting the birds and observing them for various purposes, so SAVE could help them get grants and help direct new research on geometries. We might also help them team up with a nearby academic institution, if they are not already. Fiona considered but ruled out a variety of grants for SAVE in the past two years, because most grants pay for specific travel or pieces of scientific equipment, which would not have been relevant to SAVE. But now equipment such as rangefinders (binocular-like devices) could be useful for measuring habitats and geometries. A quick online search of rangefinders turned up models priced between $100 and $3,000, with most around $200-300. Earth Island's Global Greengrants provide up to $3,000 to local projects, so one of them could pay for 10-20 rangefinders, for example. Chris Benton or John Radke might have advice on the appropriate equipment or methods.

Action item (Tami): Send links or login information for the folders at the SAVE Box that contain the articles.

Action item (Marcia, Fiona, Tami, Derek): Read the remaining articles (Marcia: "other"; Fiona: Japan). Prepare and distribute summaries (all).

Action item (Shanna, Randy, Tami): Draft a brief overview of the research proposal (Shanna) and send it to Randy for review. Tami can also review it.

**4. Kushal's mapping proposal**

Kushalwas attending class tonight and was not at the SAVE meeting. Marcia had seen an evocative pictorial map that he drew about a man-eating tiger in India, and suggested that he might draw a pictorial map of the spoonbill flyway for SAVE. We will ask him to bring his map to show at the next SAVE meeting.

**5. Earth Island**

We get solicitations for Island Wire every two weeks, but we have not had anything urgent to write about. The spoonbill-endangering airstrip at the Southwest Coast National Scenic Area was a hot topic earlier this year -- halfway built without any environmental review -- but now it is on hold and in administrative limbo. And Derek's recent letter to *Civil Engineering* magazine debunking the Songdo "smart city" has not gotten results yet, though the editors acknowledged getting the letter; he will follow up.

Shanna is ready to write an article for Island Wire when SAVE has a topic for her.

**6. Executive Committee nominations**

Marcia invited Team SPOON (in Japan) and Jiading Wetlands Youth to nominate one member each to join our Executive Committee. Tadao told her that Team SPOON has a meeting scheduled for September 5, so they will respond to her after the meeting. JWY told her that they were very busy ("in crisis") on a campaign, so we will wait to hear from them.

**7. other business**

**a. LA205 research and final files**

Tami has been reviewing the students' files but has not uploaded everything to Box because the files total nearly 3 GB. SAVE is using 7 GB of our maximum free storage of 10 GB.

Action item (Tami): Continue to look for redundancies and other ways to reduce the file sizes, and then upload them.

**b. Sheila Dickie Award**

We decided on the recipient for this year's Sheila Dickie Award, honoring an outstanding volunteer. SAVE established the award when Sheila retired in 2011, after more than ten years of dedicated volunteering with SAVE. We will announce the award soon.

Action item (Fiona): Prepare the certificate for this year's recipient.

**8. next meeting**

Wednesday, October 7, at 6pm Pacific. We will decide a location later.