

# Hooded Crane, White-naped Crane and Black-faced Spoonbill Conservation in China

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# Self Introduction

- Dr Zhang Guogang, Ornithologist, work on bird conservation and Avian Influnza
  - National Bird Banding Center
- Professor Lei Guangchun, wetland ecologist, work on wetland sciences and water birds conservation
  - School of Nature Conservation

# Outlines

- Current Status of the Cranes and Black-faced spoonbill
- Potential sites for the habitat management
- Threats to the cranes and black-faced spoonbill conservation

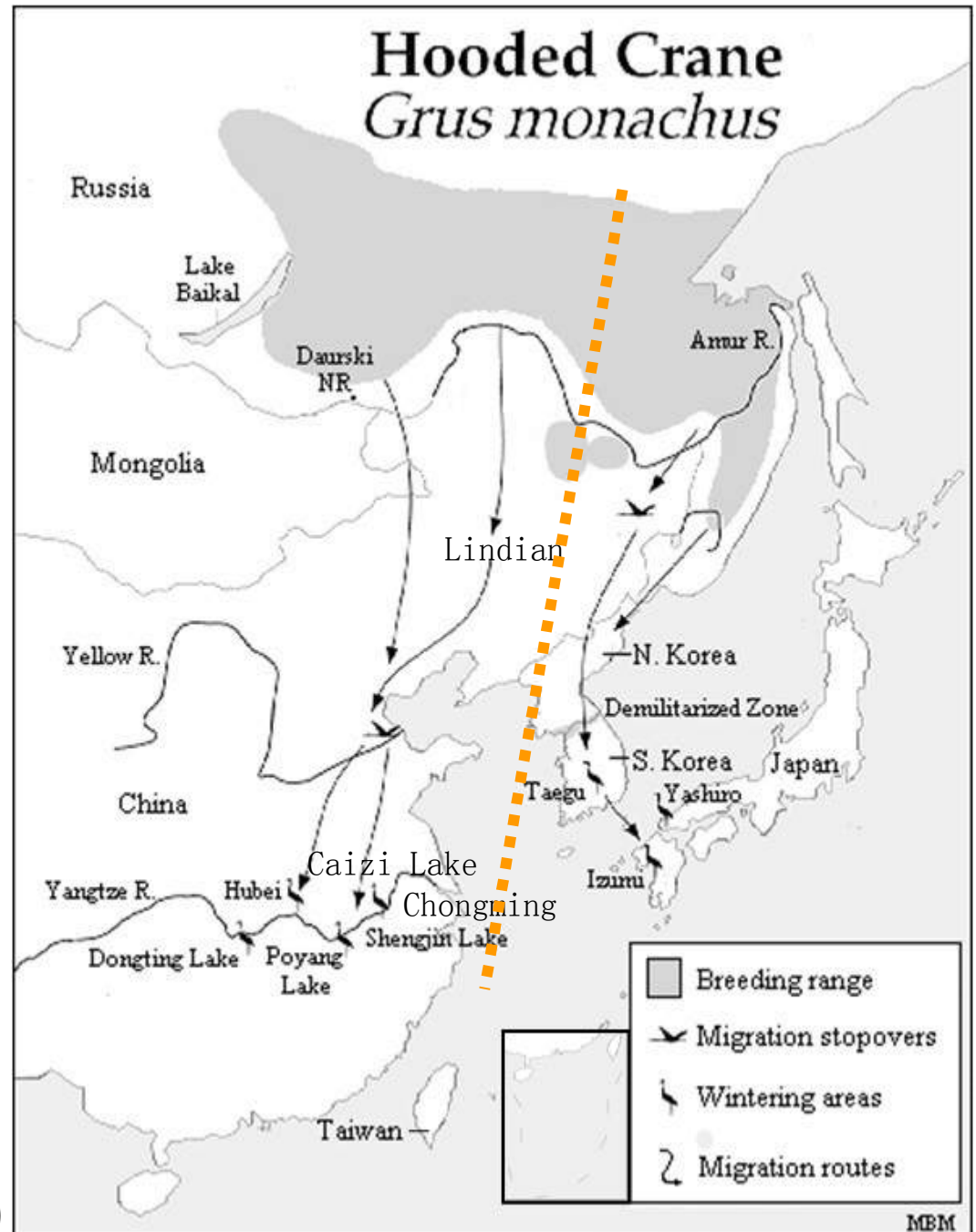
# Cranes in China



- Hooded Crane
- China National Protected Species: Class I



- Breed in Northeast of China and Russia
- Stop over in northeast and north China
- Winter at middle and lower reaches of Yangtze



(Based on Meine & Archibald, 1996)

- Small portion of Hooded Cranes breed in northeast China.
- Since the first nest was found (Li, 1993), 25 nests were allocated from 2003-2010.





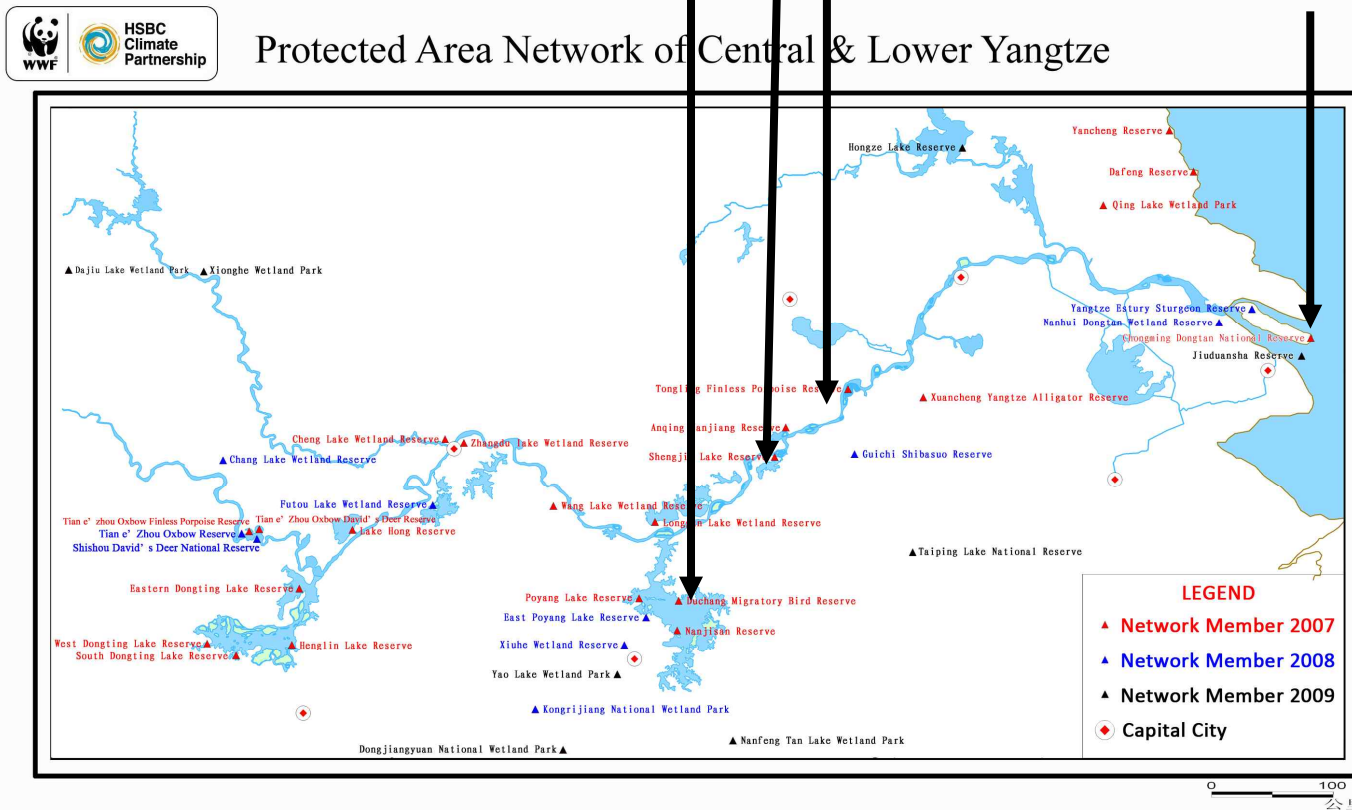
- The staging sites in China are farmland and grassland, or wetlands. They often found feeding on cereals in the farmland.





- There are about 1,000 hooded cranes winter in China (WWF, 2004)

Shengjin Lake-270  
 Caizi Lake-330  
 Poyang Lake-290  
 Chongming Dongtan-110



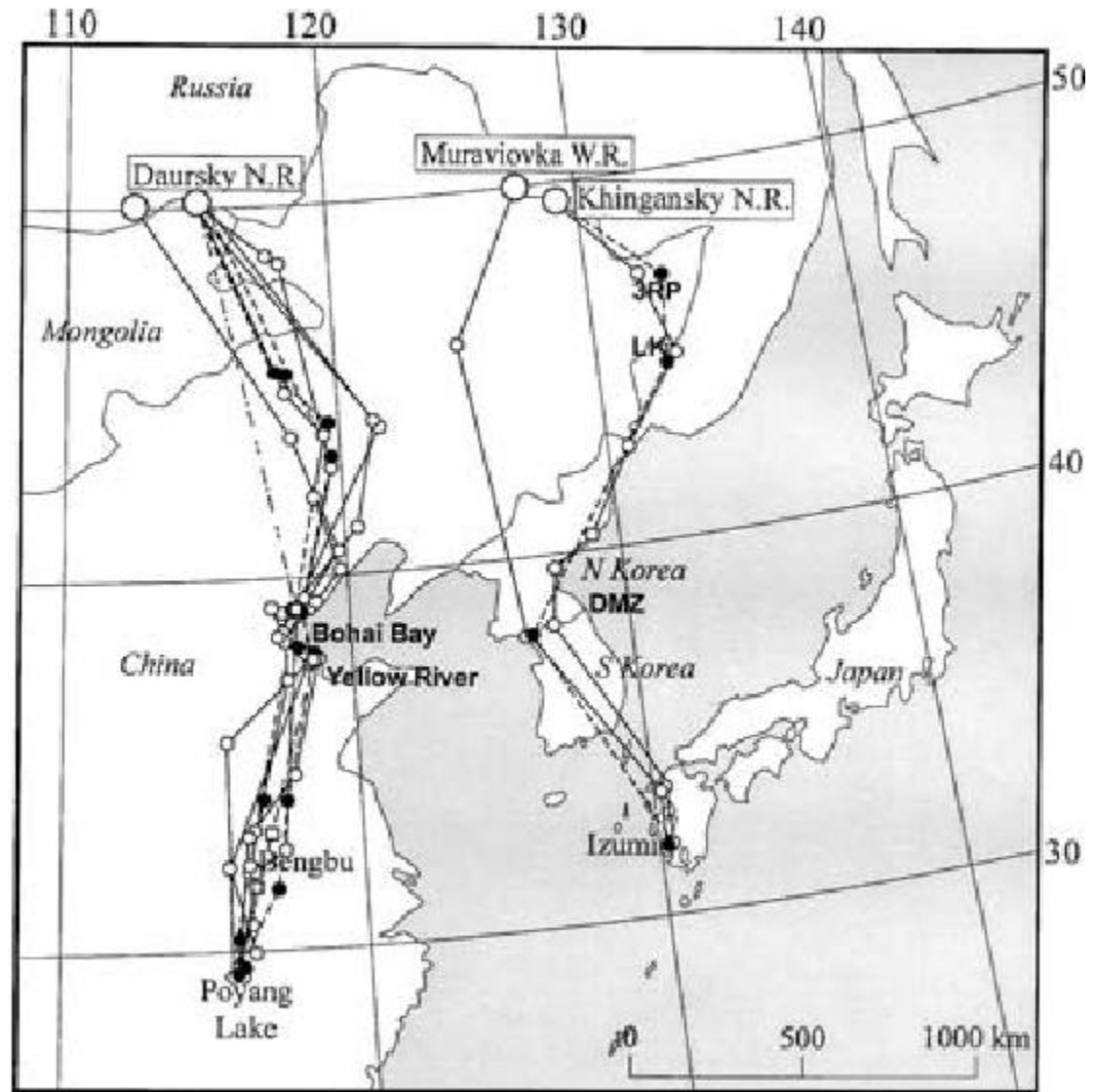
- **White-naped Crane**
- **China National  
Protected Species: Class II**



- **The Typical Breeding Ground in Northeast China**



- White-naped Cranes breed in northeast China, Mongolia and Russia.
- Northeast and Bohai Bay of China are the important stopover for the Cranes.



(From Hiroyoshi et al, 2004)



- Miyun Reservoir in Beijing was found to be very important for the cranes
- 1020 White-naped Cranes were found here in 2013.

**It winters in  
Central  
Yangtze,  
Poyang Lake,  
Shenjing Lake,  
Caizi Lake**



# II Key Crane habitat in China





# III Key Threats: wetland reclamation

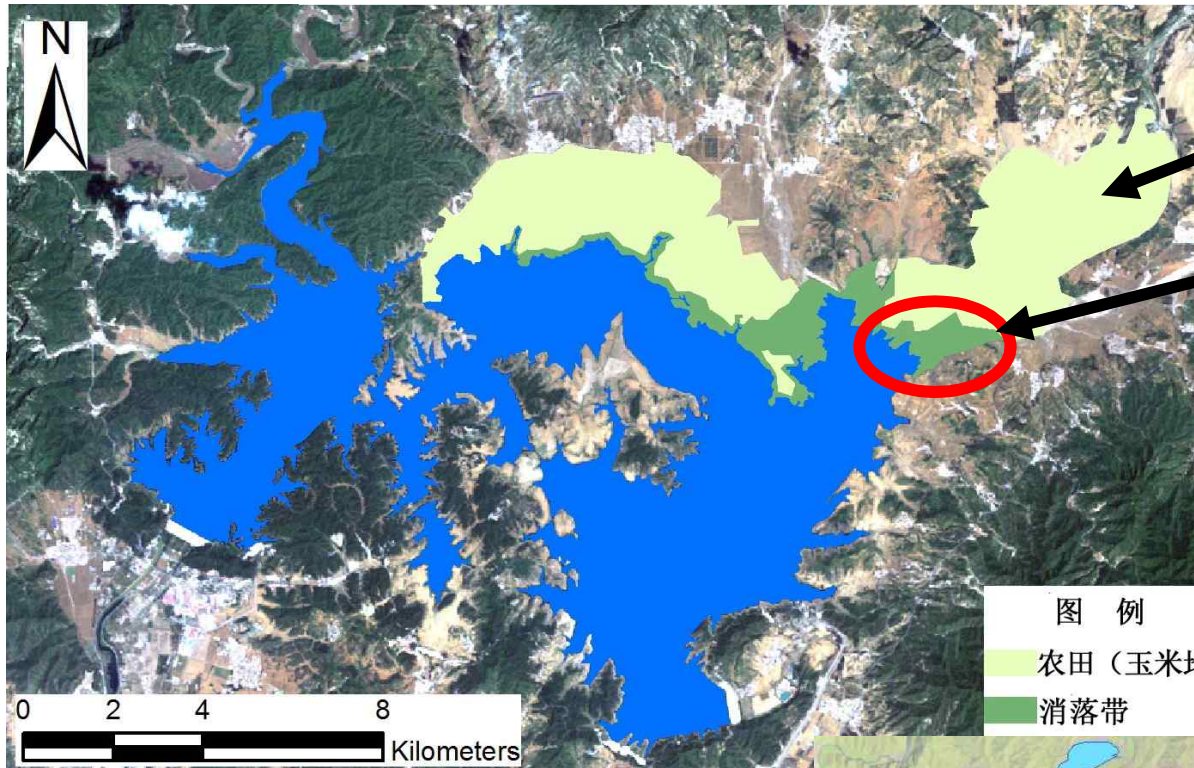


reclamation

Land use change

Water Management

Poison



Farmland

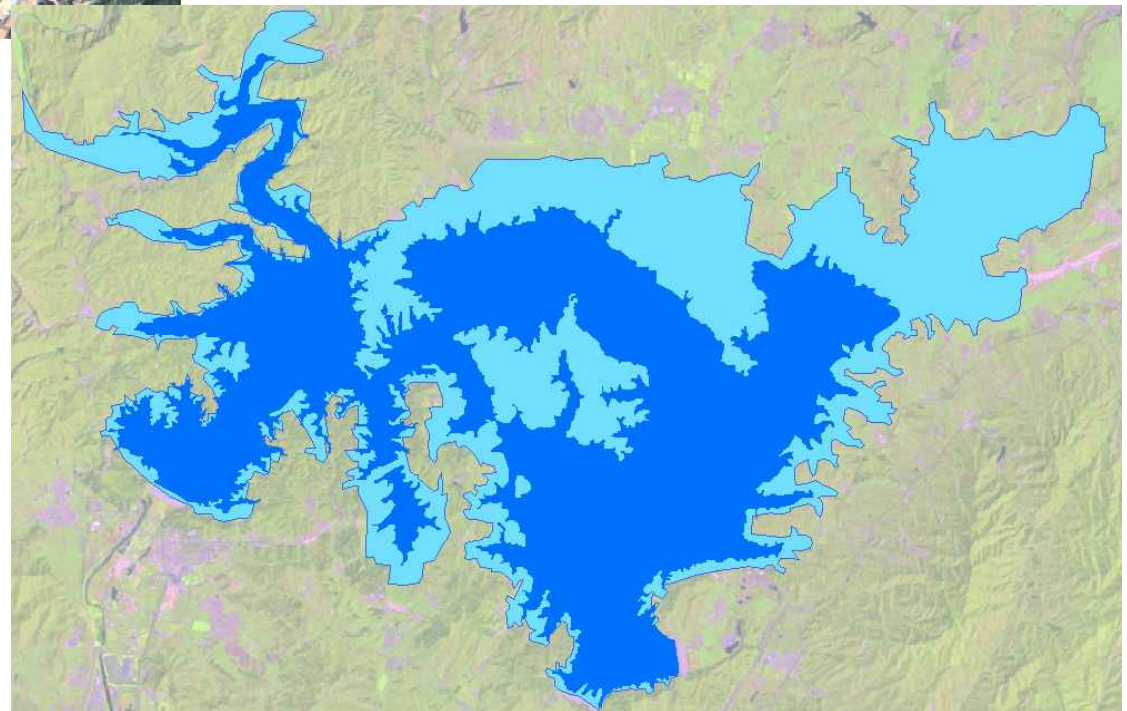
Current Crane Habitat

图例

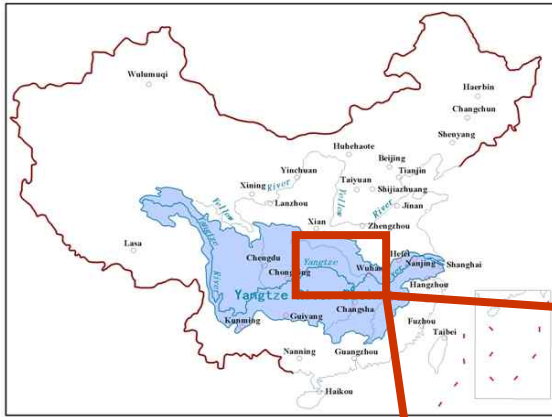
农田（玉米地）

消落带

Water Level is projected to raise by 15 meters when south-north water diversion project complete in 2014

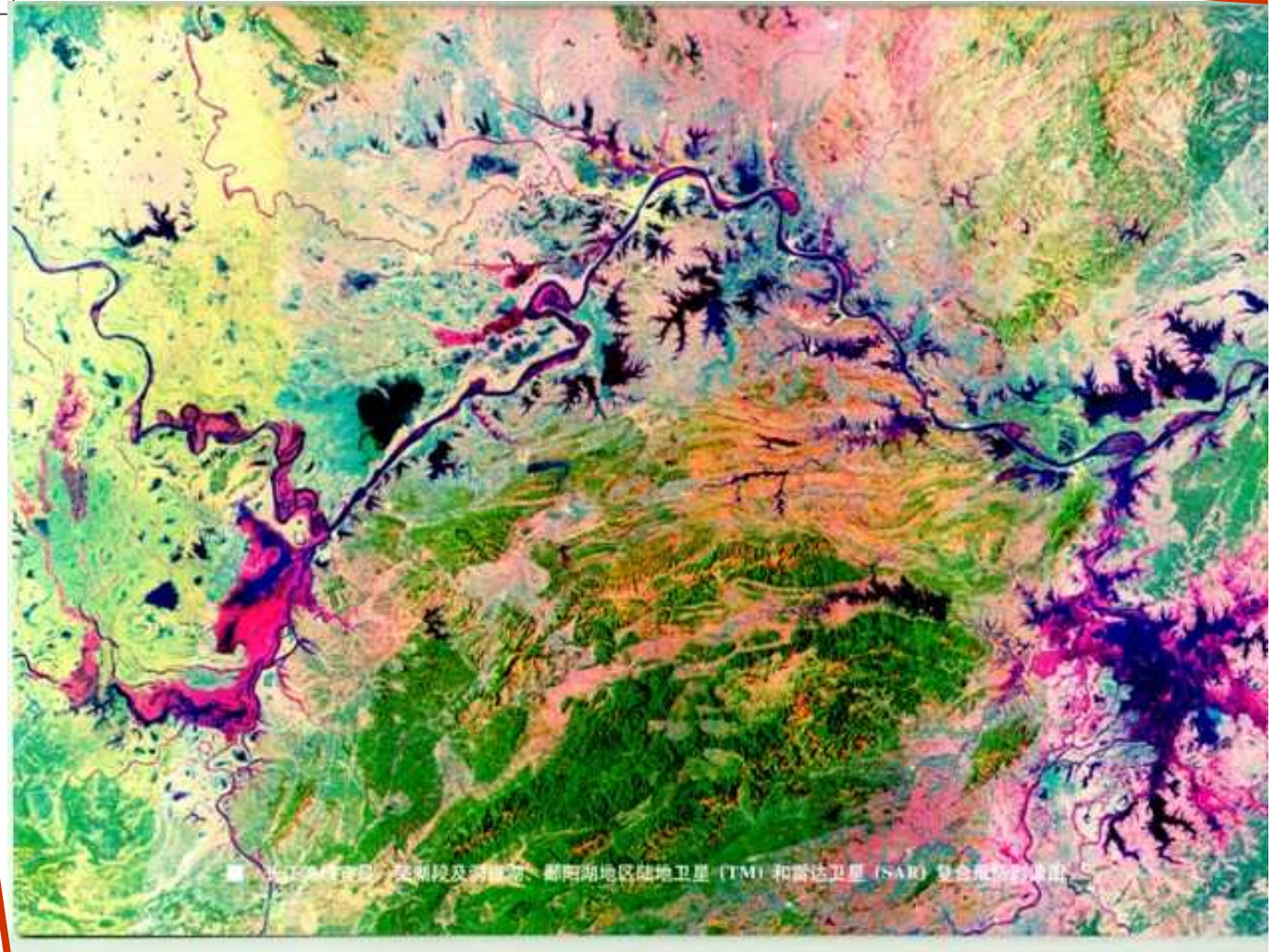




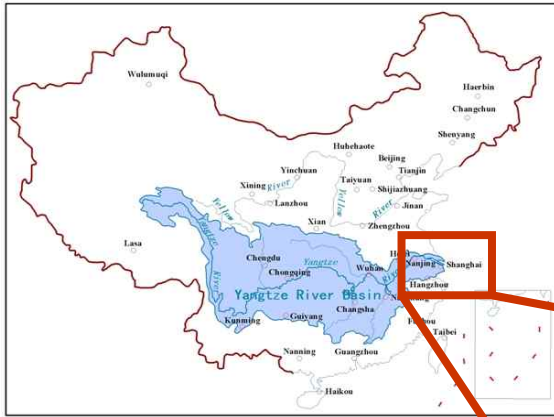


**Wetland Restoration in Central Yangtze reached a limited success only, new challenges may be even more serious**

**Asymmetric  
Erosion of  
River bed  
versus Lake**

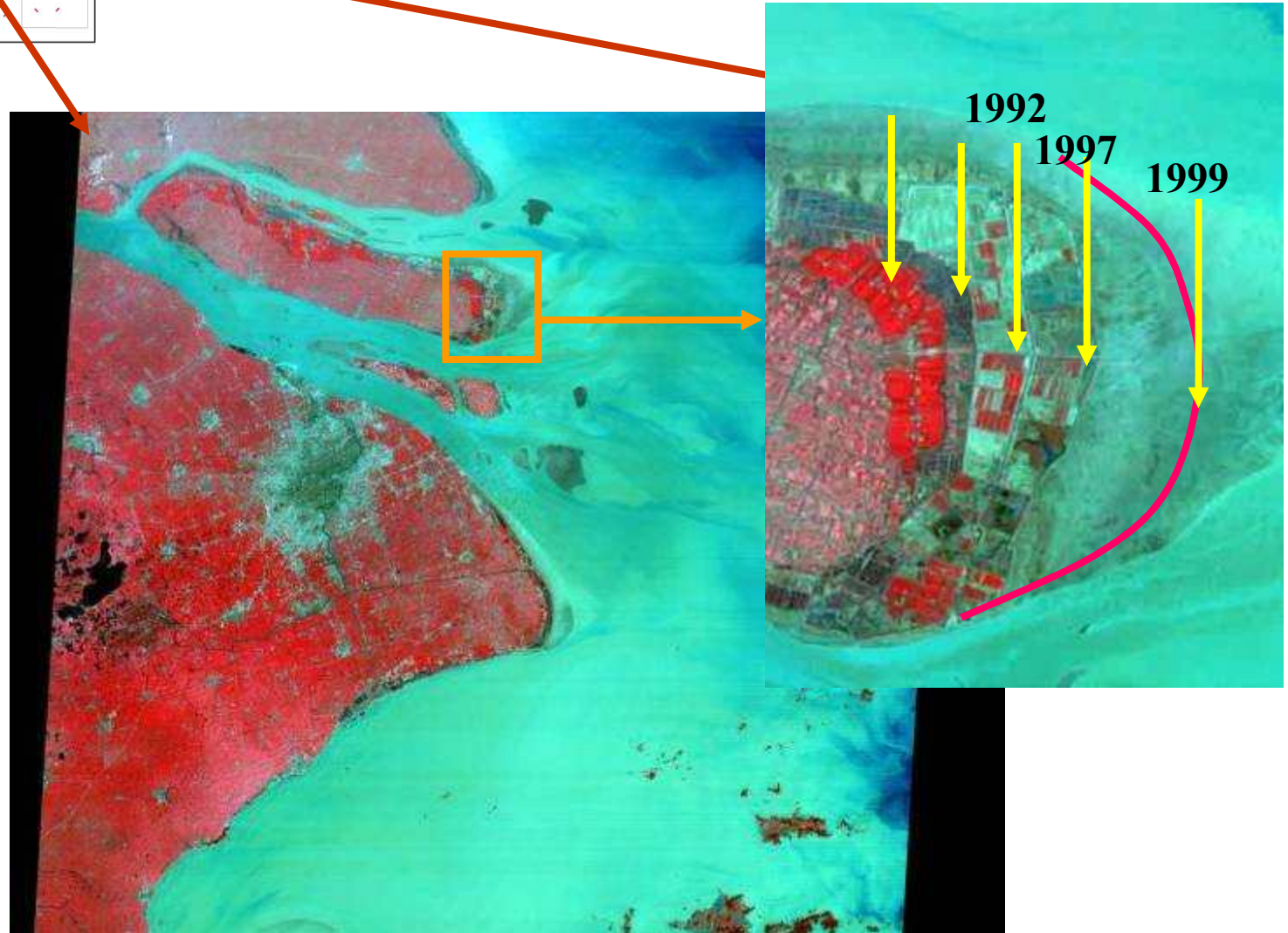






# Growing of Chongming Island soon be Reversed

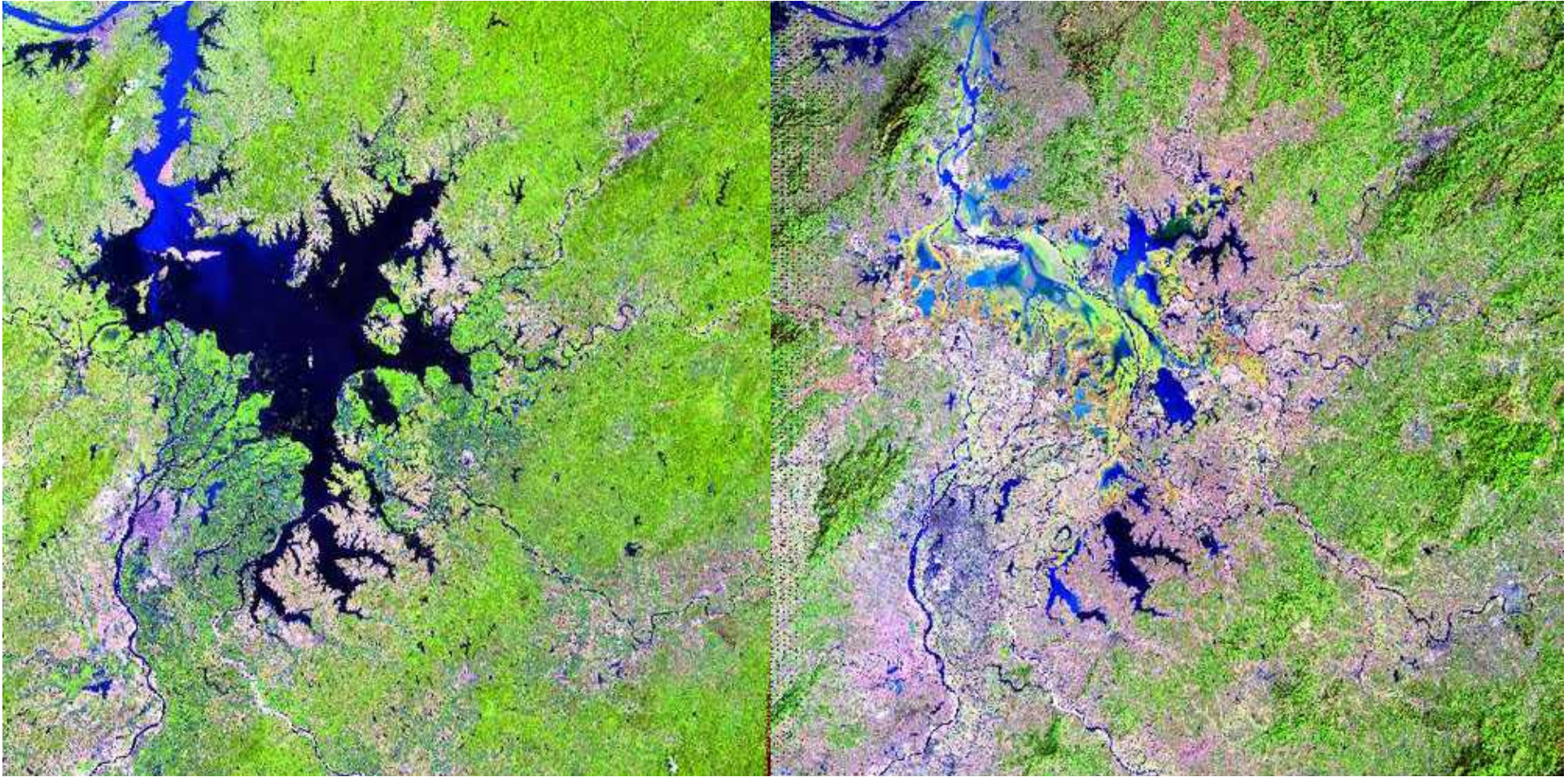
See Level Raising Worsen Coast Erosion





# Poyang Lake

(The Largest Chinese Freshwater Lake)





# Local Government Proposal: Damming the Lake



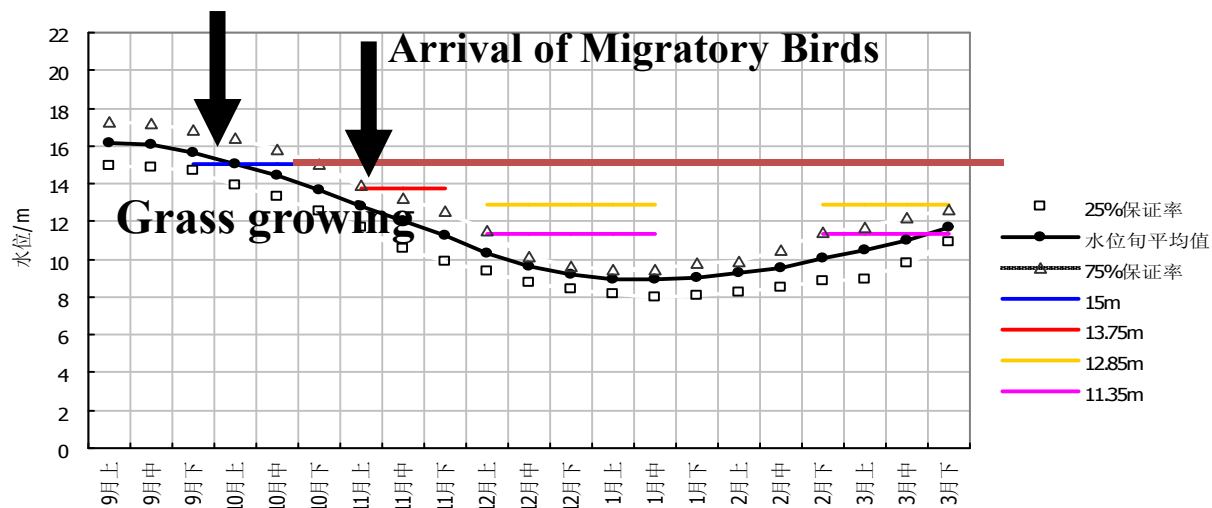
CHINA

## Scientists Line Up Against Dam That Would Alter Protected Wetlands

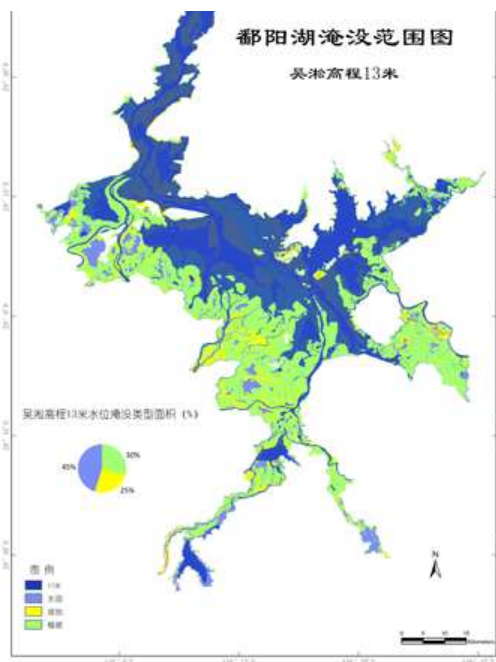
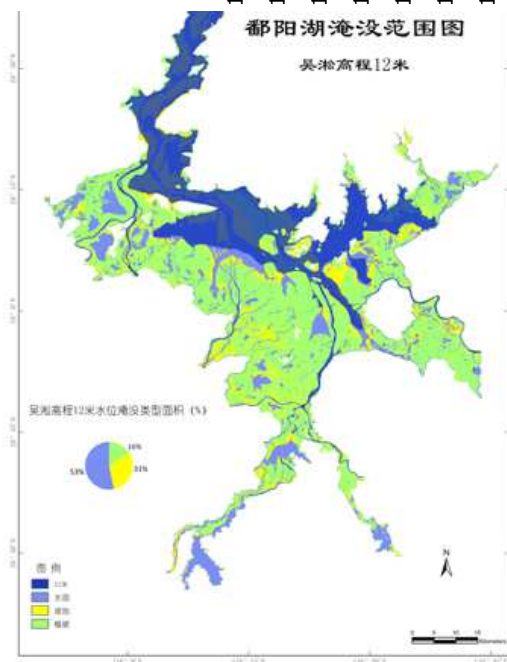
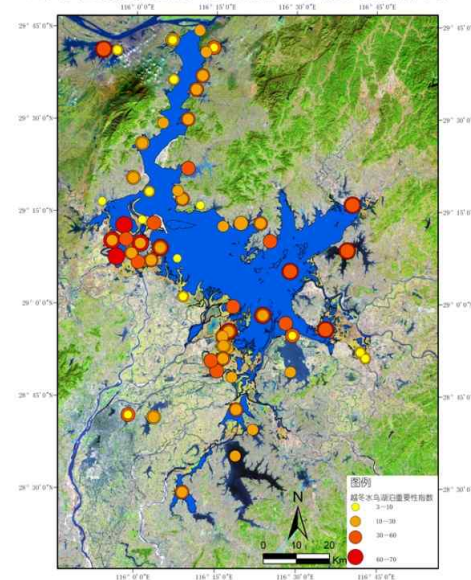
23 OCTOBER 2009 VOL 326 SCIENCE [www.sciencemag.org](http://www.sciencemag.org)



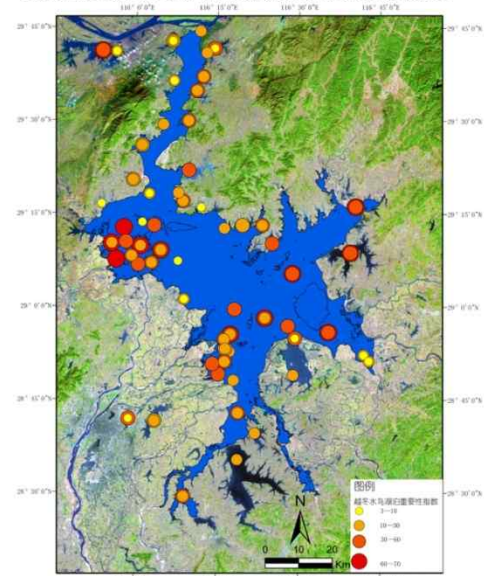
1956-2008年星子站水位与水鸟迁徙变化规律



越冬重要湖区评估及14米水位淹没情况



越冬重要湖区评估及16米水位淹没情况



# Wetland Types in Winter

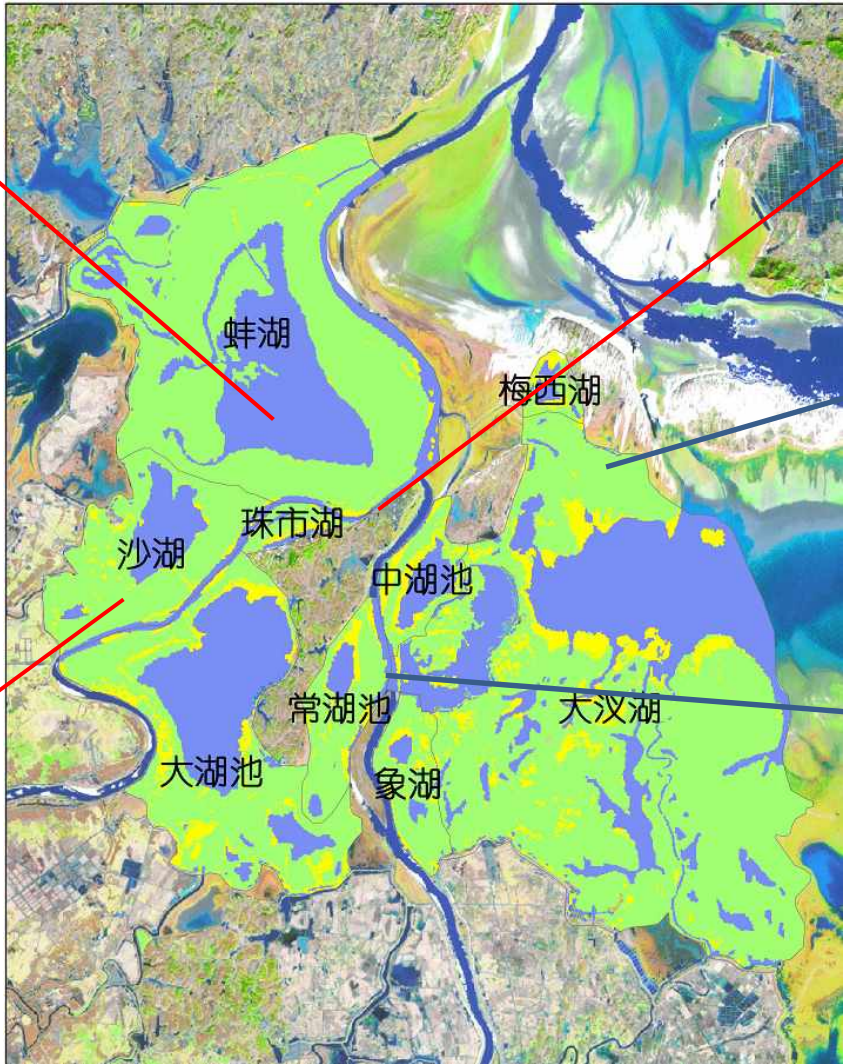
Shallow water area  
Elevation:12-13m  
浅水湖泊

Mudflat  
8.5-13.5m  
泥滩

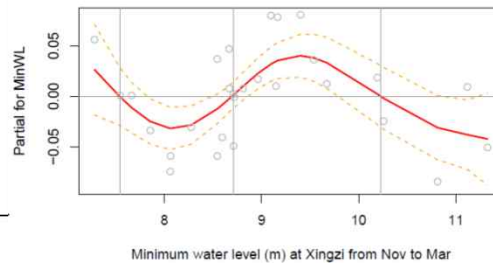
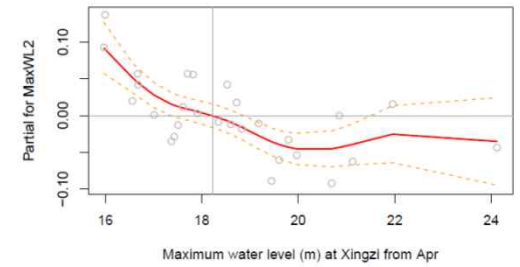
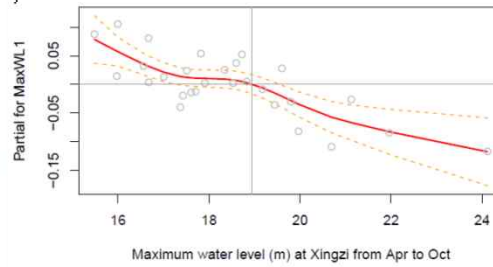
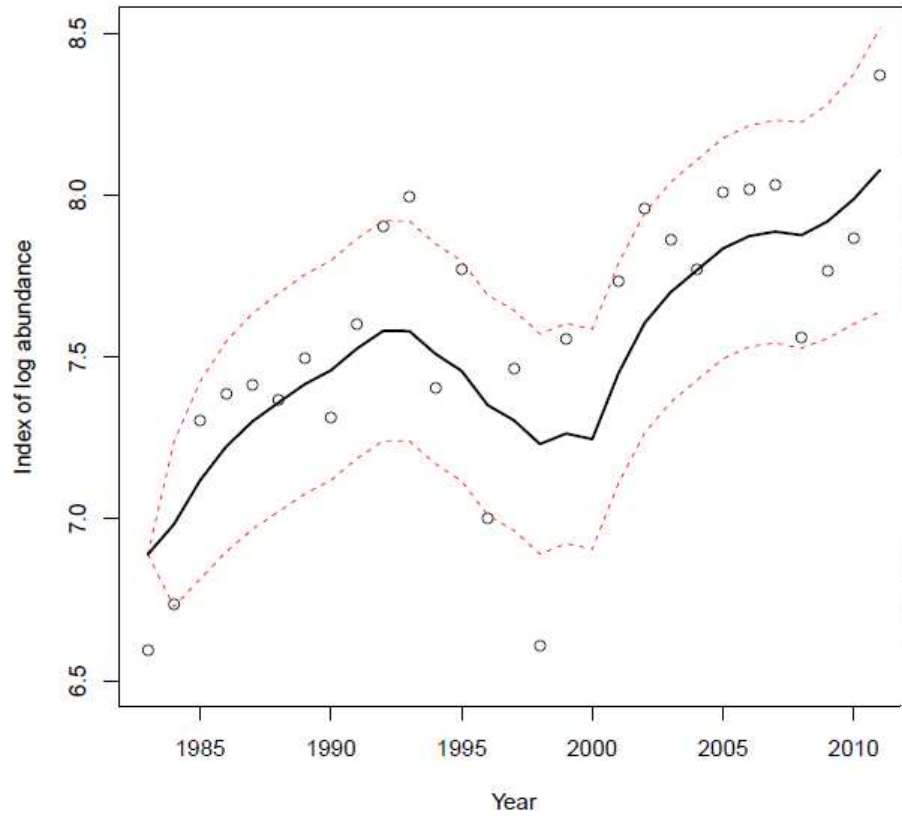
Mashes  
11.5-14m  
沼泽湿地

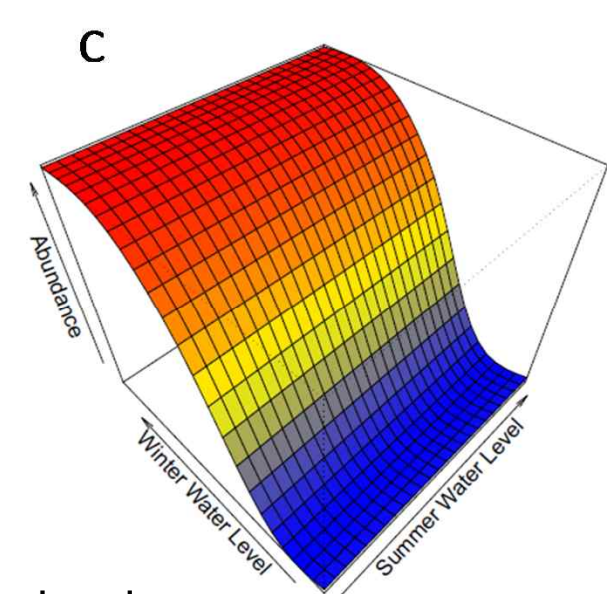
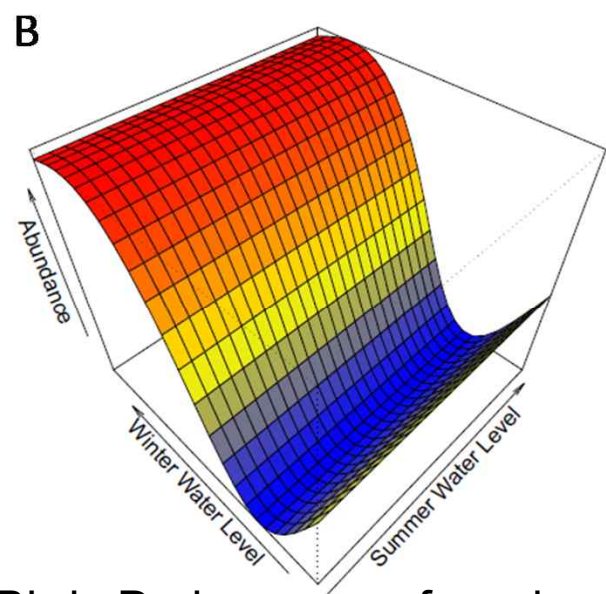
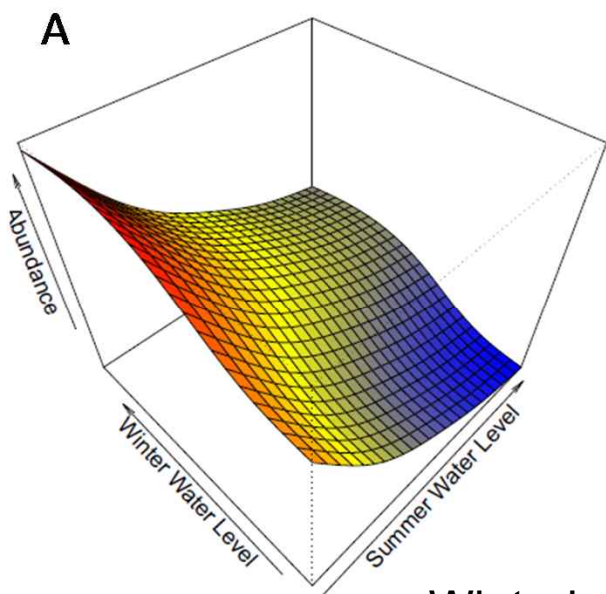
Wet Meadow  
9.5-15m  
湿草甸

River  
河流湿地



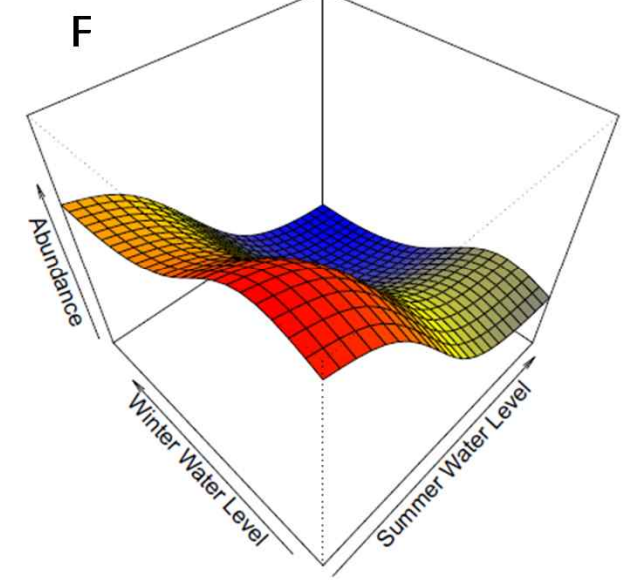
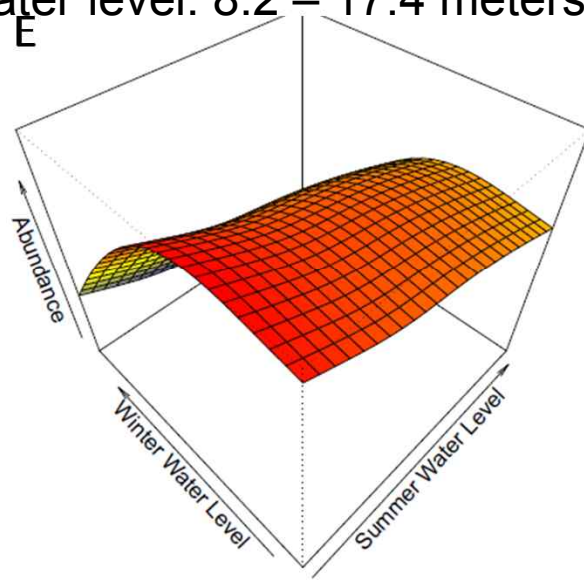
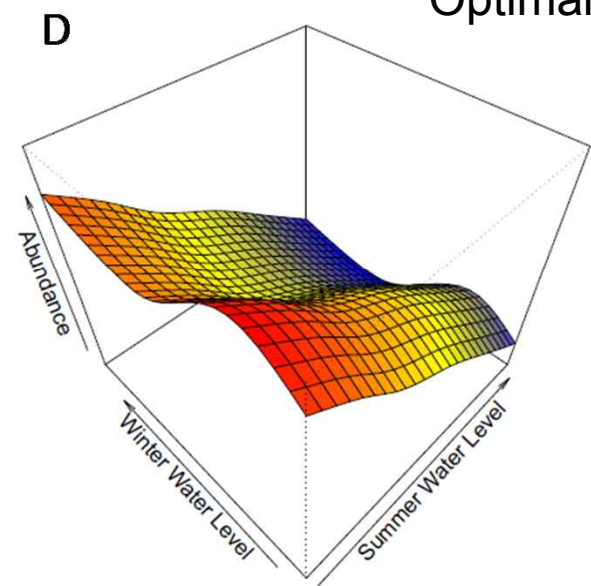






Wintering Birds Do have a preferred water level

Optimal water level: 8.2 – 17.4 meters



# The conservation on Black-faced Spoonbill and their habitats in Mainland China



By Wang Zhengji



# Surveys at breeding sites



Xingren Tuo

One nest in 2013



Yuanbao Tuo

13 nests in 2013





75 individuals were recorded in August of 2013

Feeding site: Zhuanghe River mouth

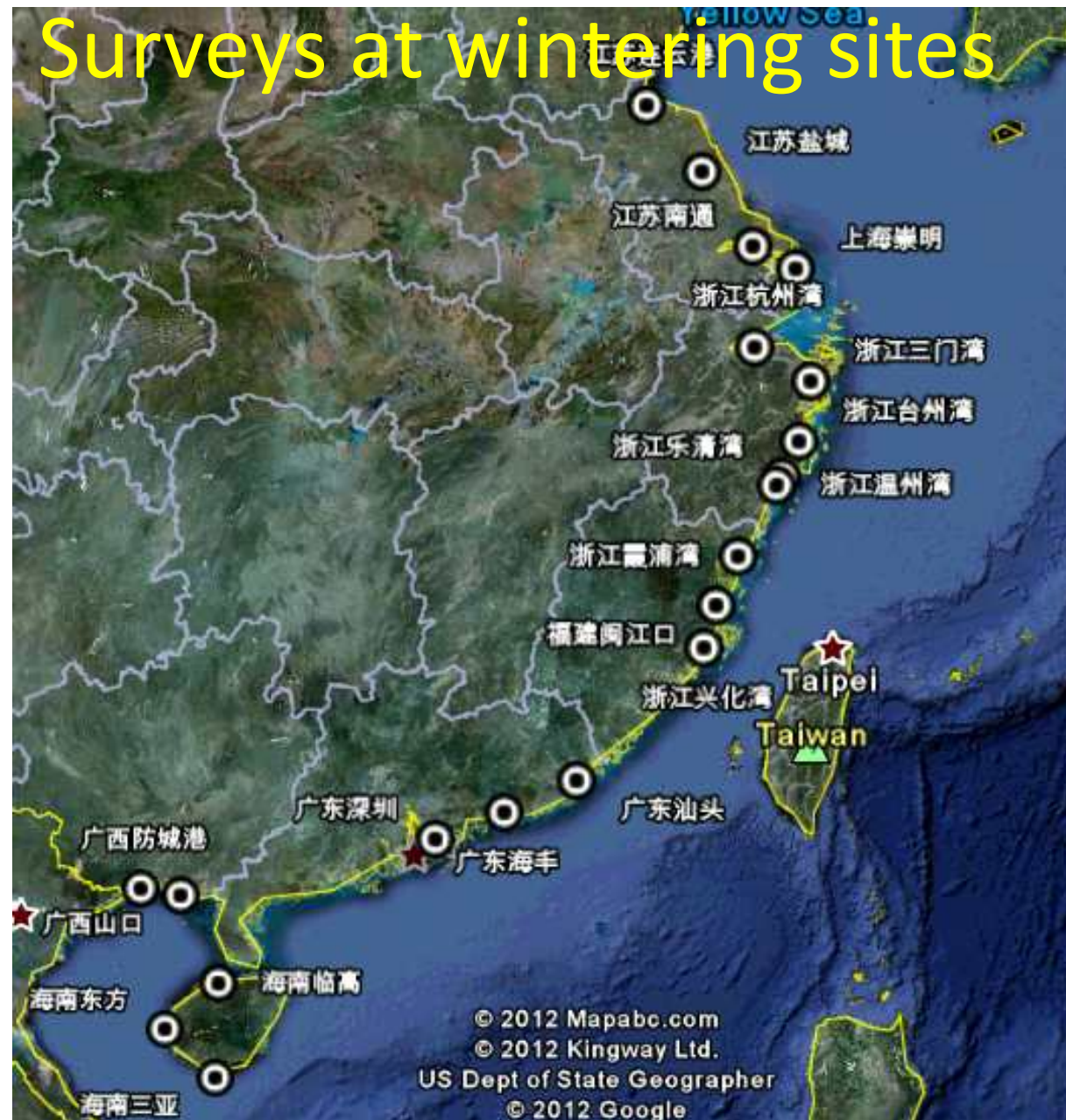
# Conservation

- The first Breeding site Xingren Tuo has been damaged, and most Black-faced Spoonbills have bred at Yuanbao Tuo
- Human disturbance including tourism and egg collection
- No effective conservation and management

# Suggestions

- Setting up national reserve in breeding site
- Strengthening the protection on feeding site  
Zhanghe River mouth
- Public awareness

# Surveys at wintering sites



# Surveys at wintering sites

- A total of 294 Black-faced Spoonbills were recorded at all wintering sites in China Mainland.
- At provincial level: 142 ind. were observed in Fujian, then 89 in Guangdong, and 47 in Hainan.
- At sites level: Xinghua Bay of Fujian :120 ind.,
  - Haiheng of Guangdong: 81 ind.
  - Dongfang of Hainan: 36 ind.





滩涂围垦、海产品采集、水域污染等威胁





风力发电场——黑脸琵鹭的栖息地

沿海红树林



# Conservation

- Mudflat Reclamation: Chongming of Shanghai, Haifeng of Guangdong, Xinghua Bay of Fujian, Lingkun Island of Zhejiang;
- Pollution: Dongfang of Hainan, Xinghua Bay of Fujian
- Wind power: Dongfang of Hainan