



SPOON

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Sent via email through: <https://eyemail.ey.gov.tw/en/MailToPremier.aspx>

TO: Premier LIN Chuan, Taiwan Executive Yuan

FROM: SPOON

RE: Opposition to construction of Road 1-4 and Jiading wetlands specified as wetland of "local" importance

This is SPOON, a voluntary organization consisting of 170 people living in Japan. We are an organization of spoonbill lovers and we track and share information about individual Black-faced Spoonbills that have been tagged as part of cross-national research project which includes scientists in Japan, Korea and Taiwan.

SPOON was formed in January 2015, to increase recognition of Black-faced Spoonbills in Japan and to help change the outcome for Fukuoka's Wild Bird Park on Island City. SPOON's vision is to incorporate nature into people's lives by enabling them to have their own avatars in the wild. We believe the relationship between nature and people will ultimately become closer and we recognize that their link to nature will help enable implementation of ecological urban planning and local economic development. Concurrently, we are working to create the connection between East Asia and Black-faced Spoonbills so that it will link people of different countries in the spoonbill's flyway to one another, and establish an ecological foundation at an individual and country-wide scale.

The members of SPOON have visited major spoonbill habitats in East Asia, such as Incheon in Korea, Fukuoka in Japan, and Jiading in Taiwan. And as for Jiading, we participated in an Eco-tourism workshop that was held there in April 2015. During that time we surveyed the local cultural, industrial and natural resources of Jiading.

Through the workshop, we discovered that Jiading was a place in close relationship with its water system, industrially and culturally. As for industry there was fishery that supports a huge variety of sea food, and as for the culture, there was shrines representing water gods and model ship making. And we also met amazing young people there, the Jiading Wetland Youth. All of these assets attracted us foreigners. But of course, what supports these to exist was the Jiading Wetlands. Wetlands supports the water quality of this area and the all the human activities around Jiading, and also supports a big population of Black-faced Spoonbill. It is not only a habitat for Black-faced Spoonbill, but for endangered species such as Oriental White Stork, Peregrine Falcon, rare and valuable species such as Little Tern, Chinese Egret, Grey Frog Hawk, Grey-faced Buzzard-Eagle, Osprey, Besra Sparrow Hawk, Crested Serpent Eagle, and other species needing protection and conservation such as Brown Shrike, Eastern Collared Pratincole, and an unusually large population of Kentish Plovers.

For this reasons Jiading Wetland must be NOT evaluated as wetland of "local" importance, and must be evaluated as "national" importance. And at the same time, the construction of the Road 1-4 will be disturbance to the birds and also for flourishing of local development and economy and must not be developed.