

## MEDIA FACTSHEET

### Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (SBWR): Past, Present and Future

Sungei Buloh is an important conservation site today and has protected status as a Nature Reserve. The area has evolved through the years — it started out as a mangrove swamp in the 1800s. During the early 1990s, it was used for housing farms, plantations and orchards. In 2002, SBWR was gazetted as a Nature Reserve. 2014 marks another significant milestone: the completion of the 31ha SBWR extension, which creates new opportunities for nature learning and exploration.

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Milestone</b>
Past	6 Dec 1993	The 87ha Sungei Buloh Nature Park (SBNP) was opened. Jurong Bird Park was invited to manage the Park for three years, after which the Parks and Recreation Department (precursor of the National Parks Board) took over.
	1994	SBNP welcomed its 100,000 <sup>th</sup> visitor.
	1997	HSBC sponsored the Park by setting up the Sungei Buloh Education Fund, in support of its nature outreach programmes.
	1999	Woodlands Secondary School became the first school to adopt the park. It was followed by Commonwealth Secondary School in 2001 and Hillgrove Secondary in 2002.
	10 Nov 2001	National Development Minister Mah Bow Tan announced that Sungei Buloh would be one of two parks to be gazetted as Nature Reserves.
	1 Jan 2002	Sungei Buloh was enlarged to 130 hectares and officially gazetted as a nature reserve. On 20 Apr 2002, it was renamed as Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve to better reflect its status.
	2002	SBWR was recognised as a site of international importance for migratory birds, with Wetlands International presenting the reserve a certificate to mark its formal entry into the East Asian Australasian Shorebird Site Network, which include Australia's Kakadu National Park, China's Mai Po and Japan's Yatsu Tidal Flats.
	20 Jan	The Kranji Nature Trail (currently the SBWR extension)

	2003	was developed to enhance visitors' experience. The Trail showcases the ecological mix of mangroves, grassland, secondary forest and sandy beach.
	2003	SBWR was recognised as an ASEAN Heritage Park.
	2008	The Draft Sungei Buloh Master Plan was launched.
	2011	Work commenced on Phase 1 of the Draft Master Plan, which focused on coastal protection.
	2012	Phase 1 was completed and Phase 2 (Development of the SBWR extension) was launched.
<b>Present</b>	<b>6 Dec 2014</b>	<b>Phase 2 is complete. The SBWR extension is open to the public.</b>
Future	Mid-2016	Phase 3: Targeted completion of enhancements to Kranji Marshes.
	End-2017	Phase 3: Targeted completion of enhancements to western end of SBWR.