

The Wintering Ecology of Black-faced Spoonbill (*Platalea minor*) in Seongsanpo, Jeju province, South Korea

Chang-Yong Choi* and Woo-Shin Lee

School of Forest Sciences, Seoul National University, 151-742 Seoul, South Korea

* subbuteo@hanmail.net

Black-faced spoonbill *Platalea minor* is a highly endangered species distributed in North-Eastern Asia. We studied the wintering status of the spoonbill by using natural markings for focal sampling and continuous recording during 2002-2004. Less than 25 individuals wintered with 1-2 Eurasian spoonbill(s) *P. luectorodia* from late October to mid-April in each year, but some non-breeding juveniles stayed until late June. According to diurnal time-budget, resting (83.78%) was the most frequent behavior among 6 categories. Body maintenance, foraging, alert, locomotion and social behaviors occupied 6.82%, 4.77%, 2.29%, 2.14% and 0.21% respectively of total daytime activities. The estimated sizes of home range were 141ha by Kernel estimation and 607ha by Minimum Polygon Convex estimation. Based on resighting records of banded and PTT-attached spoonbills, we believe that Seongsanpo becomes a key site not only for wintering population, but also for migratory population which moves between wintering sites in Japan and breeding sites in the Korean peninsula. Therefore, Seongsanpo should be conserved and managed against temporally paused developmental plant as the only regular wintering site in Korea, as the stop-over ground for migratory spoonbills, and as the northernmost site of the global winter distribution.

Keywords Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor*, home range, natural markings, Seongsanpo, time budget, wintering ecology