

1[**Land Degradation & Development**]

2Dear editor:

3 I wish to submit an original article for publication in **Land Degradation &**
4**Development**, titled “**Waterbird habitat loss fringing the Yellow and Bohai seas**
5**along the East Asian–Australasian migratory flyway**” The paper was coauthored by
6Houlang Duana, XiuboYu, Shaoxia Xia, Guangshuai Zhang.

7 This study use species distribution model to report changes in area of suitable
8habitat, and the effects of natural wetland loss on habitat for 80 waterbird species
9attributed to four functional categories (shorebird, duck, heron, gull), between 2000 and
102015 in the Yellow and Bohai seas. We believe it can help practitioners obtain more
11information to avoid large-scale waterbirds species declines in China’scoasts which is very
12critical on the East Asian–Australasian Flyway.

13 Further, we believe that this paper will be of interest to the readership of **Land**
14**Degradation & Development** since it tries to explore the impacts of land degradation on
15waterbirds habitat, and provide some habitat management methods to meet the land
16degradation.

17 This manuscript has not been published or presented elsewhere in part or in entirety
18and is not under consideration by another journal. We have read and understood your
19journal’s policies, and we believe that neither the manuscript nor the study violates any of
20these. There are no conflicts of interest to declare.

21 Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you

22Sincerely,

23[Xiubo Yu]