

Kon Ka Kinh

Criteria: A1, A2 & A3

Province(s): Gia Lai
PA Status: Nature Reserve

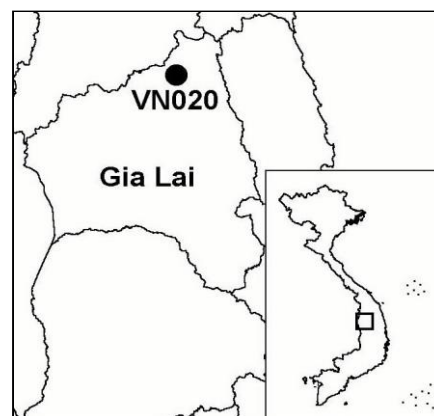
Latitude: 14°20'N
Longitude: 108°22'E
Area: 41,710 ha
Altitude Range: 570-1,748 m asl

EBA / SA:

Kon Tum Plateau EBA

Priority Landscape:

CA1 - Central Annamites

**General Description**

The IBA comprises Kon Ka Kinh Nature Reserve, which is situated in the Central Highlands. The IBA has a mountainous topography, dominated by Mount Kon Ka Kinh (1,748 m asl). The IBA supports a range of habitat types, including lowland evergreen forest, lower montane evergreen forest and a small area of upper montane evergreen forest. In many areas, the forest has been degraded by timber extraction, and, at lower elevations, the forest has been extensively cleared by shifting cultivation and now supports a range of secondary vegetation types. Kon Ka Kinh IBA is situated 12 km to the west of Kon Cha Rang IBA and is connected by intervening areas of forest. However, while both IBAs are designated as nature reserves, intervening forest areas are under the management of state forest enterprises¹.

Bird Fauna: Key Features

Kon Ka Kinh IBA supports a rich and diverse montane avifauna, including six of the nine restricted-range bird species that define the Kon Tum Plateau Endemic Bird Area. Most notable among these species is Chestnut-eared Laughingthrush *Garrulax konkakinhensis*, which was discovered on Mount Kon Ka Kinh in 1999, becoming only the third species of bird to have been discovered in mainland South-East Asia during the last 30 years². The IBA is also important for the conservation of a number of globally near-threatened species, including Siamese Fireback *Lophura diardi*, Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis* and Brown Hornbill *Anorrhinus tickelli*³.

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
Siamese Fireback <i>Lophura diardi</i>	A1, A3	NT	13	The species was recorded between February and April 1999 ³ .
Great Hornbill <i>Buceros bicornis</i>	A1	NT	13	The species was recorded between February and April 1999 ³ .
Brown Hornbill <i>Anorrhinus tickelli</i>	A1, A3	NT	16	The species was recorded between February and April 1999 ³ .
Yellow-billed Nuthatch <i>Sitta solangiae</i>	A1, A2	NT	11	The species was recorded between February and April 1999 ³ .
Black-hooded Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax milleti</i>	A1, A2	NT	8	The species was recorded between February and April 1999 ³ .
Short-tailed Scimitar Babbler <i>Jabouilleia danjoui</i>	A1, A2	NT	17	The species was recorded between February and April 1999 ³ .
White-cheeked Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax vassali</i>	A2		8	The species was recorded between February and April 1999 ³ .
Chestnut-eared Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax konkakinhensis</i>	A2		1	The three type specimens of this species were collected on Mount Kon Ka Kinh between 1,600 and 1,700 m asl in April 1999 ² .
Grey-faced Tit Babbler <i>Macronous kelleyi</i>	A2		12	The species was recorded between February and April 1999 ³ .

Biome Restricted Species: The site qualifies under criterion A3 because it supports 28 species restricted to the Sino-Himalayan Subtropical Forests (Biome 08) and 10 species restricted to the Indochinese Tropical Moist Forests (Biome 09). See Appendix 4 for details.

Secondary Criteria

Species	Status	Species	Status
Northern Pigtail Macaque <i>Macaca leonina</i> ²	VU	<i>Pinus dalatensis</i> ²	VU
Stump-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca arctoides</i> ²	VU	<i>Fokienia hodginsii</i> ²	NT
Grey-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix nemaeus cinerea</i> ²	DD	<i>Cephalotaxus mannii</i> ²	VU
Buff-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus gabriellae</i> ²	VU	Southern Serow <i>Naemorhedus sumatraensis</i> ²	VU
Impressed Tortoise <i>Manouria impressa</i> ²	VU		

Threats to Biodiversity

The buffer zone of Kon Ka Kinh Nature Reserve is inhabited by members of indigeneous ethnic groups (principally Ba Na), who mainly practice shifting cultivation and exploitation of forest products; and in-migrants from lowland areas, who mainly cultivate coffee or are involved in forestry activities. During the 1990s, high coffee prices attracted a large number of spontaneous in-migrants to the area. During this period, the biggest threats to biodiversity at Kon Ka Kinh IBA were illegal timber extraction, mainly by outsiders; hunting, mainly by local people to supplement their diets; and conversion of forest to coffee plantations and shifting cultivation. As a result of the active efforts of the government agencies responsible for forest management and protection, the first two threats have been significantly reduced, while the third has reduced as a result of a fall in the coffee price. However, a high rate of natural population growth and the potential for a recovery of the coffee price mean that forest conversion remains a major threat^{1,3}.

Threat	Severity
Agricultural intensification / expansion	• •
Selective logging / cutting	•
Hunting	•

Conservation Actions

- Kon Ka Kinh was decreed as a nature reserve in 1986, and a management board was established in 1999¹.
- A medium-sized GEF project entitled *Making the Link: The Connection and Sustainable Management of Kon Ka Kinh and Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserves* has been developed by Gia Lai Provincial People's Committee and BirdLife International and is currently awaiting approval.¹

Recommendations

- Sustainable forest management should be introduced into the intervening forest areas between Kon Cha Rang and Kon Ka Kinh IBAs.
- Permanent conservation areas, where no timber extraction is permitted, should be designated within the intervening state forest enterprises, in order to maintain a corridor of contiguous natural habitat between Kon Cha Rang and Kon Ka Kinh IBAs.
- Policies should be implemented to actively discourage in-migration to the area.
- Strict controls on forest clearance, timber extraction and hunting should be enforced.

References

1. BirdLife International and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute (2001) *Sourcebook of existing and proposed protected areas in Vietnam*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute.
2. Eames, J. C. and Eames, C. (2001) A new species of laughingthrush (Passeriformes: Garrulacinae) from the central highlands of Vietnam. *Bull. B.O.C.* 121(1): 10-23.
3. Le Trong Trai, Le Van Cham, Tran Quang Ngoc, Tran Hieu Minh, Nguyen Van Sang, Monastyrskii, A. L., Hayes, B. D. and Eames, J. C. (2000) *An investment plan for Kon Ka Kinh Nature Reserve, Gia Lai province, Vietnam: a contribution to the management plan*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute.



Chestnut-eared Laughingthrush *Garrulax konkakinensis*

Chu Prong

Criteria: A1 & A3

Province(s): Gia Lai
PA Status: None

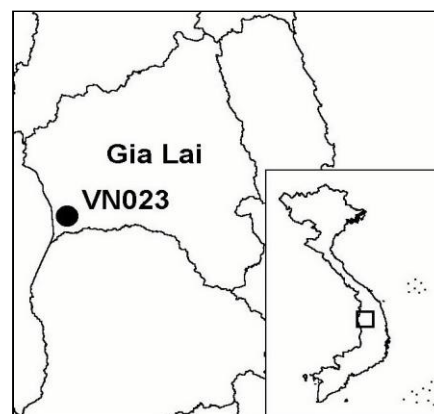
Latitude: 13°28'N
Longitude: 107°43'E
Area: 50,104 ha
Altitude Range: 70-732 m asl

EBA / SA:

None

Priority Landscape:

DF4 - Eastern Plains Dry Forests

**General Description**

The IBA comprises Chu Prong proposed nature reserve, which is situated in the Central Highlands, on the international border with Cambodia. The topography of most of the IBA is relatively flat, with an average elevation of around 200 m asl, although there is an area of low mountains in the north-west. The IBA supports a mosaic of lowland deciduous forest, lowland semi-evergreen forest, evergreen riverine forest and seasonally inundated grassland. All forest areas within the IBA have been disturbed by human activities, including timber extraction, firewood collection, and wartime spraying of defoliant. In addition, significant areas of forest have been converted into agricultural land^{1,2}. Most people living in and around the IBA belong to the Gia Rai, Muong and Kinh ethnic groups². To the south, Chu Prong IBA borders Ya Lop IBA in Dac Lac province. The two IBAs lie on opposite banks of the Ya Lop river, one of the most extensively forested rivers in the Central Highlands.

Bird Fauna: Key Features

Chu Prong IBA is one of the few sites in Vietnam to support an intact mosaic of natural habitats characteristic of the dry forests of central Indochina. For this reason, the avifauna of Chu Prong shares many affinities with those of the dry forests of eastern and northern Cambodia and southern Laos. Typical components of the avifauna present at Chu Prong include Black-headed Woodpecker *Picus erythropygius*, White-rumped Falcon *Polihierax insignis*, Rufous-winged Buzzard *Butastur liventer*, White-browed Fantail *Rhipidura aureola* and Brown Prinia *Prinia polychroa*. Chu Prong IBA supports populations of a number of globally threatened and near-threatened species, many of which are associated with permanent watercourses, which are widespread at the IBA. These species include Green Peafowl *Pavo muticus*, Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus* and Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*. In addition, Germain's Peacock Pheasant *Polyplectron germaini*, a restricted-range species, has been provisionally recorded at the IBA. If the occurrence of this species is confirmed, the IBA will qualify for inclusion within the South Vietnamese Lowlands Endemic Bird Area.

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
[Germain's Peacock Pheasant <i>Polyplectron germaini</i>]	A1, A2	VU	5	A bird, provisionally identified as this species, was heard calling in evergreen forest at 400 m asl in April 2000 ² .
Green Peafowl <i>Pavo muticus</i>	A1, A3	VU	8	Single males were heard calling on at least three separate occasions at three sites along the Ya Lop river, between February and April 2000 ² .
[Spot-billed Pelican <i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>]	A1	VU	7	The species is provisionally recorded based on reports by local people ² .
Lesser Adjutant <i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>	A1	VU	7	A single bird was observed feeding in grassland 4 km from the Ya Mo river between February and April 2000 ² .
Great Hornbill <i>Buceros bicornis</i>	A1	NT	13	The species was recorded between February and April 2000 ² .
Brown Hornbill <i>Anorrhinus tickelli</i>	A1, A3	NT	16	A single individual was observed along the Ya Lop river between February and April 2000 ² .
Grey-headed Fish Eagle <i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	A1	NT	8	A pair were observed in flight between the Ya Lop and Ya Mo rivers in April 2000 ² . The species was also separately recorded at ponds beside the Ya Lop river between February and April 2000 ² .

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
White-rumped Falcon <i>Polihierax insignis</i>	A1, A3	NT	4	Single birds were observed on several occasions along the Ya Mo river in April 2000 ² .

Notes: [] = unconfirmed record.

Biome Restricted Species: The site qualifies under criterion A3 because it supports 10 species restricted to the Indochinese Tropical Moist Forests (Biome 09) and 16 species restricted to the Indo-Malayan Tropical Dry Zone (Biome 11). See Appendix 4 for details.

Secondary Criteria

Species	Status	Species	Status
Pygmy Loris <i>Nycticebus pygmaeus</i> ²	VU	[Giant Asian Pond Turtle <i>Heosemys grandis</i>] ²	VU
Long-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca fascicularis</i> ²	NT	Elongated Tortoise <i>Indotestudo elongata</i> ²	EN
[Stump-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca arctoides</i>] ²	VU	[Asiatic Softshell Turtle <i>Amyda cartilaginea</i>] ²	VU
Black-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix nigripes</i> ²	EN	Brow-antlered Deer <i>Cervus eldi</i> ²	VU
Silver Langur <i>Trachypithecus villosus</i> ²	DD	Gaur <i>Bos gaurus</i> ²	VU
[Buff-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus gabriellae</i>] ²	VU	Banteng <i>Bos javanicus</i> ²	EN
[Siamese Crocodile <i>Crocodylus siamensis</i>] ²	CR	Southern Serow <i>Naemorhedus sumtraensis</i> ²	VU
[Asian Box Turtle <i>Cuora amboinensis</i>] ²	VU		

Notes: [] = unconfirmed record.

Threats to Biodiversity

The human population density in and around the IBA is relatively low, as a result of which the pressure placed by local communities on natural resources is low relative to that in other areas in the Central Highlands. However, people from outside the area, including military personnel, visit the IBA in significant numbers to hunt and exploit forest products. As a result, hunting pressures on populations of many key mammal and bird species are no longer sustainable. An associated threat is deliberate burning of the forest by hunters^{1,2}.

Shifting cultivation is also taking place within the IBA, with the result that natural habitats are being fragmented.

The rate of forest clearance is increasing as a result of population increase in the area, mainly due to the settlement of migrants from northern Vietnam^{1,2}. It is likely that the rate of forest clearance will increase still further in the future, with possibly irreversible impacts on the integrity of the IBA, as there exist plans to resettle 10,000 people displaced by the Song Da dam into Chu Prong district.

Threat	Severity
Agricultural intensification / expansion	• • •
Fire	• •
Hunting	• •
Infrastructure development	•
Selective logging / cutting	• •

Conservation Actions

- In 2001, a feasibility study for the establishment of a protected area at Chu Prong was conducted, and strongly recommended the establishment of a 50,104 ha nature reserve².

Recommendations

- Chu Prong should be decreed as a nature reserve by the government of Vietnam, and a management board should be established.
- Effective controls on hunting, timber extraction, clearance of forest for agriculture and forest fire should be introduced.
- An Environmental Impact Assessment should be carried out prior to the resettlement of people displaced by the Song Da dam into Chu Prong district, and appropriate mitigation measures should be introduced. These may include restrictions on resettlement within the proposed nature reserve and buffer zone.
- An environmental awareness campaign should be conducted among local communities and local authorities, in order to generate support for the conservation of the IBA and promote its incorporation into local land-use plans.

References

1. BirdLife International and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute (2001) *Sourcebook of existing and proposed protected areas in Vietnam*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute.
2. Tran Hieu Minh, Le Trong Trai, Le Van Cham and Nguyen Van Sang (2001) [*A feasibility study for the establishment of Chu Prong Nature Reserve, Gia Lai province, Vietnam.*] Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute. (In Vietnamese.)

A Yun Pa

Criteria: A1 & A3

Province(s): Gia Lai
PA Status: None

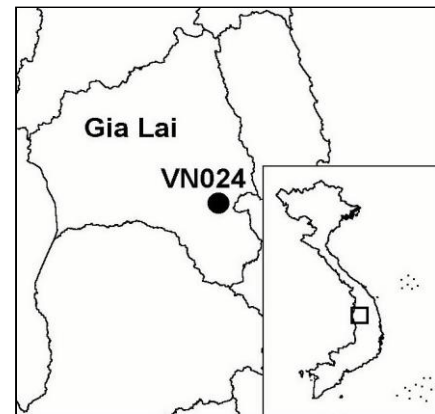
Latitude: 13°31'N
Longitude: 108°38'E
Area: 44,268 ha
Altitude Range: 150-1,200 m asl

EBA / SA:

None

Priority Landscape:

None

**General Description**

The IBA is centred on A Yun Pa proposed nature reserve, which is located in the Central Highlands. The IBA is situated in an area of hills and low mountainous, situated mid-way between the much higher Da Lat and Kon Tum plateaus. The forest cover in the IBA is over 90%, and comprises a mosaic of lowland deciduous forest, lowland semi-evergreen forest and lower montane evergreen forest. Although large areas have been subjected to selective timber extraction, the forest remains in a relatively good condition, with a closed canopy in most places. There is no permanent human settlement within the IBA and the human population density in the surrounding area is relatively low. Most local people belong to the Gia Rai ethnic minority, while most of the remainder are Kinh in-migrants from northern Vietnam^{1,2}.

Bird Fauna: Key Features

A Yun Pa IBA is believed to support one of the largest remaining populations of Green Peafowl *Pavo muticus* in Vietnam². A recent study of the habitat requirements of this species revealed that it occurs at highest densities in deciduous forest within 2 km of permanent water and greater than 2 km from permanent human settlement³. A Yun Pa IBA contains over 16,000 ha of this habitat; in particular, the IBA supports extensive lengths of wide, slow-flowing, forested streams with sandbanks along their lengths². A Yun Pa IBA also supports populations of the globally vulnerable Pale-capped Pigeon *Columba punicea* and the globally near-threatened Siamese Fireback *Lophura diardi*².

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
Green Peafowl <i>Pavo muticus</i>	A1, A3	VU	8	In April 2000, three birds were seen along the Ea Djirao stream, and footprints and feathers were seen in the same area. Local hunters reported the species to be common in the area ² .
Pale-capped Pigeon <i>Columba punicea</i>	A1, A3	VU	5	In April 2000, a single bird was seen in semi-evergreen forest along the Ea Djirao stream ² .
Siamese Fireback <i>Lophura diardi</i>	A1, A3	NT	13	A pair was observed in a small patch of scrub surrounded by semi-evergreen forest in April 2000 ² .

Biome Restricted Species: The site qualifies under criterion A3 because it supports eight species restricted to the Indochinese Tropical Moist Forests (Biome 09) and 12 species restricted to the Indo-Malayan Tropical Dry Zone (Biome 11). See Appendix 4 for details.

Secondary Criteria

Species	Status	Species	Status
Northern Pigtail Macaque <i>Macaca leonina</i> ²	VU	[Buff-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus gabriellae</i>] ²	VU
[Long-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca fascicularis</i>] ²	NT	[Southern Serow <i>Naemorhedus sumatraensis</i>] ²	VU
[Douc species <i>Pygathrix</i> sp.] ²	EN/DD		

Notes: [] = unconfirmed record.

Threats to Biodiversity

One of the major threats to biodiversity at A Yun Pa IBA is hunting. Because of the gentle topography, open forest structure and the presence of wide stream valleys hunters can access even the most remote parts of the IBA. Hunting is a particular threat to the population of Green Peafowl *Pavo muticus*, which is susceptible to ground snaring and for which there exists demand from the wildlife trade. An associated threat is fire, as hunters often deliberately burn the forest^{1,2}.

Another major threat is timber extraction. In the past, parts of the IBA were under the management of state forest enterprises. Although commercially logging has now ceased, small-scale timber extraction by local people, particularly for high-value timber species, is widespread. Although clearance of forest for agriculture is currently not a major threat, it may increase in the future, as there exist plans to settle migrants from northern Vietnam into the surrounding area^{1,2}. Another potential threat is posed by plans to construct an irrigation dam on the Ia Tul stream. The resultant reservoir would inundate large areas of riverine habitat, the key habitat for Green Peafowl, and facilitate access into the IBA.

Threat	Severity
Agricultural intensification / expansion	•
Construction of dykes / dams	• •
Fire	• •
Hunting	• •
Selective logging / cutting	• •

Conservation Actions

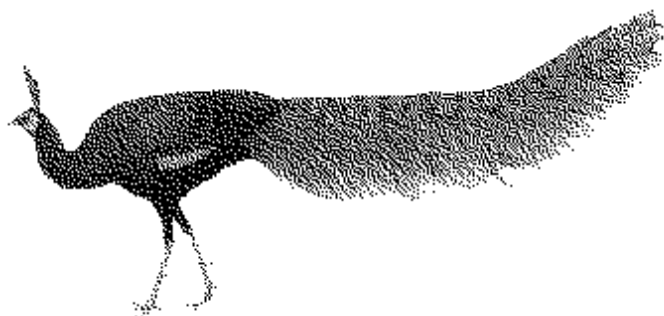
- In 2001, a feasibility study for the establishment of a protected area at A Yun Pa was prepared, and recommended the establishment of a 44,268 ha nature reserve².

Recommendations

- A Yun Pa should be decreed as a nature reserve by the government of Vietnam, and a management board should be established².
- Effective controls on hunting, logging, clearance of forest for agriculture and forest fire should be introduced.
- A guard station should be built along the Ia Tul stream, in order to control extraction of timber and wildlife and to act as a focus for extension with local communities to reduce deliberate forest fires.
- Current proposals for resettlement of migrants for northern Vietnam into the surrounding area should be assessed and, if necessary, revised, in order to mitigate potential negative impacts on biodiversity.
- An Environmental Impact Assessment for the planned irrigation dam on the Ia Tul stream should be conducted, and appropriate mitigation measures should be introduced, these may include restricting the height of the dam, to limit the area of inundation, or selecting an alternative location.
- The capacity of forest protection department staff at the provincial, district and commune levels in forest protection and management should be strengthened.

References

1. BirdLife International and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute (2001) *Sourcebook of existing and proposed protected areas in Vietnam*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute.
2. Tran Quang Ngoc, Tordoff, A. W., Hughes, R., Vu Van Can and Le Van Phong (2001) [*A feasibility study for the establishment of A Yun Pa Nature Reserve, Gia Lai province, Vietnam.*] Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute. (In Vietnamese.)
3. Brickle, N. W., Nguyen Cu, Ha Quy Quynh, Nguyen Thai Tu Cuong and Hoang Van San (1998) *The status and distribution of Green Peafowl Pavo muticus in Dak Lak province, Vietnam*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme.



Green Peafowl *Pavo muticus*

Kon Cha Rang

Criteria: A1, A2 & A3

Province(s): Gia Lai
PA Status: Nature Reserve

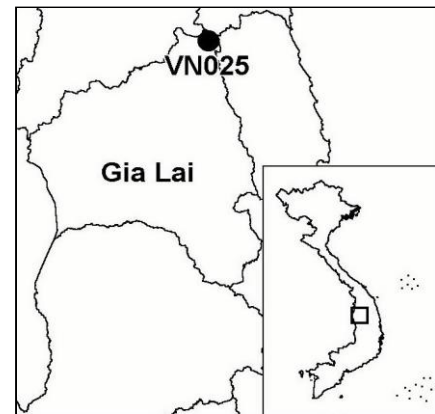
Latitude: 14°31'N
Longitude: 108°35'E
Area: 15,900 ha
Altitude Range: 800-1,452 m asl

EBA / SA:

Kon Tum Plateau EBA

Priority Landscape:

CA1 - Central Annamites

**General Description**

The IBA is situated in the Central Highlands and comprises Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserve. The topography of the site is dominated by a mountainous plateau. Natural forest, principally lower montane evergreen forest, covers 98% of the IBA. The IBA supports significant stretches of intact riverine forest, the most significant of which are along the Kon river. Prior to 1975, there were several settlements of the Ba Na ethnic minority within the boundaries of what is now Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserve. Today, however, there is no permanent human settlement inside the IBA. Kon Cha Rang IBA is situated 12 km to the east of Kon Ka Kinh IBA, to which it is connected by intervening areas of forest. Although the two IBAs are designated as nature reserves, however, the intervening forest areas are under the management of state forest enterprises^{1,2}.

Bird Fauna: Key Features

Kon Cha Rang IBA supports a rich avifauna, including five of the nine restricted-range bird species that define the Kon Tum Plateau Endemic Bird Area. The forest at the IBA is in good condition, and supports populations of a number of globally threatened and near-threatened species, including Crested Argus *Rheinardia ocellata*, Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis* and Blyth's Kingfisher *Alcedo hercules*. One of the most significant features of the site for the conservation of key bird species is the presence of extensive stretches of riverine forest, a habitat type that has been lost from most other parts of Vietnam, and one that is seriously under-represented within the national protected areas system³. The conservation importance of this habitat is highlighted by the fact that Kon Cha Rang IBA is one of only two sites in Vietnam known to support the globally threatened Masked Finfoot *Heliopais personata*.

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
Crested Argus <i>Rheinardia ocellata</i>	A1, A2	VU	15	A single female was observed and as many as 12 calling areas were located during a survey in May 1988 ⁴ . The species was also recorded in March 1999 ² .
Masked Finfoot <i>Heliopais personata</i>	A1	VU	1	Single birds were observed on the Kon river in May 1988 and March 1999 ^{1,4} .
Red-collared Woodpecker <i>Picus rabieri</i>	A1, A3	NT	11	A single male was observed at the site in May 1988 ⁴ and the species was also recorded in March 1999 ² .
Great Hornbill <i>Buceros bicornis</i>	A1	NT	13	The species was recorded in March 1999 ² .
Brown Hornbill <i>Anorrhinus tickelli</i>	A1, A3	NT	16	A single male was recorded in May 1988 ⁴ and the species was also recorded in March 1999 ² .
Blyth's Kingfisher <i>Alcedo hercules</i>	A1, A3	NT	8	The species was recorded in March 1999 ² .
Grey-headed Fish Eagle <i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	A1	NT	8	One adult was recorded in May 1988 ⁴ and the species was also recorded in March 1999 ² .
Black-hooded Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax milleti</i>	A1, A2	NT	8	The species was recorded in March 1999 ² .
Short-tailed Scimitar Babbler <i>Jabouilleia danjoui</i>	A1, A2	NT	17	The species was recorded in March 1999 ² .

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
White-cheeked Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax vassali</i>	A2		8	The species was frequently seen in flocks of 20 or more birds during May 1988 ⁴ and was also recorded in March 1999 ² .
Grey-faced Tit Babbler <i>Macronous kelleyi</i>	A2		12	A pair were observed nesting in May 1988 ⁴ . The species was also recorded in March 1999 ² .

Biome Restricted Species: The site qualifies under criterion A3 because it supports 16 species restricted to the Indochinese Tropical Moist Forests (Biome 09). See Appendix 4 for details.

Secondary Criteria

Species	Status	Species	Status
Northern Slow Loris <i>Nycticebus bengalensis</i> ²	DD	Buff-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus gabriellae</i> ²	VU
Northern Pigtail Macaque <i>Macaca leonina</i> ²	VU	<i>Podocarpus neriifolius</i> ²	DD
Stump-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca arctoides</i> ²	VU	['Indochinese' Hog Deer <i>Axis porcinus annamiticus</i>] ²	DD
Grey-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix nemaeus cinerea</i> ²	DD	Southern Serow <i>Naemorhedus sumatraensis</i> ²	VU

Notes: [] = unconfirmed record.

Threats to Biodiversity

Due to the remoteness of the site from permanent human settlement, the low human population density in the surrounding area, and the existence of adjacent areas of natural forest that can meet the subsistence needs of local communities for forest products, pressure on the natural resources of Kon Cha Rang IBA is very low, relative to other sites in Vietnam. However, the biodiversity of the IBA is under low levels of threat from hunting and over-exploitation of forest products. In the long-term, one of the biggest threats to biodiversity at the IBA is isolation from nearby areas of natural habitat, such as Kon Ka Kinh IBA, as a result of conversion of intervening forest areas to alternative land-uses. The impact of isolation on populations of key bird and mammal species would be potentially severe as the IBA is not, by itself, large enough to support viable populations of many of these species^{1,5}.

Threat	Severity
Agricultural intensification / expansion	●
Hunting	●
Other	●

Conservation Actions

- Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserve was decreed by the government of Vietnam in 1986.
- A medium-sized GEF project entitled *Making the Link: The Connection and Sustainable Management of Kon Ka Kinh and Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserves* has been developed by Gia Lai Provincial People's Committee and BirdLife International and is currently awaiting approval¹.

Recommendations

- A management board for Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserve should be established.
- Sustainable forest management should be introduced into the intervening forest areas between Kon Cha Rang and Kon Ka Kinh IBAs.
- Permanent conservation areas, where no timber extraction is permitted, should be designated within the intervening state forest enterprises, in order to maintain a corridor of contiguous natural habitat between Kon Cha Rang and Kon Ka Kinh IBAs
- Human settlement into the buffer zone of Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserve should be strictly controlled.

References

1. BirdLife International and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute (2001) *Sourcebook of existing and proposed protected areas in Vietnam*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute.
2. Anon. (1999) *[Investment plan for Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserve, Gia Lai province.]* Hanoi: Forest Inventory and Planning Institute. (In Vietnamese.)
3. Wege, D. C. Long, A. J., Mai Ky Vinh, Vu Van Dung and Eames, J. C. (1999). *Expanding the protected areas network in Vietnam for the 21st century: An analysis of the current system with recommendations for equitable expansion*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute.

4. Robson, C. R., Eames, J. C., Wolstencroft, J. A., Nguyen Cu and Truong Van La (1989) Recent records of birds from Vietnam. *Forktail* 5: 71-97.
5. Le Trong Trai, Le Van Cham, Tran Quang Ngoc and Tran Hieu Minh (2000) *An investment plan for Kon Ka Kinh Nature Reserve, Gia Lai province, Vietnam: a contribution to the management plan*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute.



Masked Finfoot *Heliopais personata*

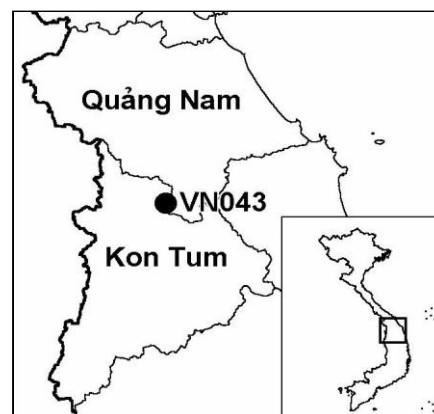
Ngoc Linh

Criteria: A1, A2 & A3

Province(s): Kon Tum and Quang Nam
PA Status: Nature Reserve

Latitude: 15°04'N
Longitude: 107°59'E
Area: 29,763 ha
Altitude Range: 500-2,598 m asl

EBA / SA:
 Kon Tum Plateau EBA
Priority Landscape:
 CA 1 - Central Annamites



General Description

The IBA is centred on Mount Ngoc Linh, which, at 2,598 m asl, is the highest point on the Kon Tum plateau. The eastern flank of Mount Ngoc Linh is located within Quang Nam province, while the western flank is located within Kon Tum province. Therefore, the IBA comprises Ngoc Linh (Quang Nam) proposed nature reserve, together with those parts of Ngoc Linh (Kon Tum) nature reserve that lie within Muong Hoong and Ngoc Linh communes. At elevations below 1,000 m asl, the natural vegetation of the IBA is lowland evergreen forest, although this has been extensively cleared on the Kon Tum province side. At elevations between 1,000 and 1,700 m asl, the IBA supports lower montane evergreen forest. At elevations above 1,700 m asl, upper montane evergreen forest is distributed, with elfin forest found at the highest elevations along mountain ridges. The upper montane evergreen forest is characterised by the presence of the endemic conifer *Pinus dalatensis*^{1,2}.

Bird Fauna: Key Features

Ngoc Linh IBA supports five of the nine restricted-range species that define the Kon Tum Plateau Endemic Bird Area (EBA). Most notably, the IBA supports two species whose global ranges are confined to this EBA: Golden-winged Laughingthrush *Garrulax ngoclinhensis* and Black-crowned Barwing *Actinodura sodangorum*. Both species were discovered on Mount Ngoc Linh in 1996, becoming the first new species to be discovered in mainland South-East Asia for over 30 years^{3,4}. While both species have since been found at other locations, Ngoc Linh IBA remains an important site for their conservation. The five restricted-range species found at Ngoc Linh IBA have different altitudinal ranges, and, therefore, it is necessary to maintain the full altitudinal gradient of natural habitats in order to conserve all species. The IBA supports the widest altitudinal gradient of natural habitat types in Vietnam, with a continuum of primary forest from 150 to 2,598 m asl². In addition to restricted-range species, Ngoc Linh IBA supports a number of subspecies confined to the Kon Tum Plateau EBA⁵.

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
Crested Argus <i>Rheinardia ocellata</i>	A1, A2	VU	15	The species was recorded in Quang Nam province on numerous occasions between March and April 1999 ² .
Golden-winged Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax ngoclinhensis</i>	A1, A2	VU	1	One specimen was collected in May 1996 and two were collected in April 1998. All three specimens were collected in Kon Tum province, in undergrowth in primary upper montane evergreen forest between 2,000 and 2,200 m asl ³ . In addition, the species was recorded in Quang Nam province between March and May 1998 ² .
Black-crowned Barwing <i>Actinodura sodangorum</i>	A1, A2	VU	1	One specimen was collected in May 1996, and a second specimen was collected in March 1998 ⁴ . Both specimens were collected in Kon Tum province, at elevations between 2,000 and 2,100 m asl ⁴ . In addition, the species was heard on a number of occasions in Kon Tum province in March 1998 ⁶ .
Brown Hornbill <i>Anorrhinus tickelli</i>	A1, A3	NT	16	The species was recorded between March and May 1998 ^{1,2} .

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
Yellow-billed Nuthatch <i>Sitta solangiae</i>	A1, A2	NT	11	The species was recorded in Quang Nam province between March and April 1999 ² .
Black-hooded Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax milleti</i>	A1, A2	NT	8	The species was observed and heard on several occasions and a specimen was collected in Quang Nam province between March and April 1999 ² .

Biome Restricted Species: The site qualifies under criterion A3 because it supports 38 species restricted to the Sino-Himalayan Subtropical Forests (Biome 08). See Appendix 4 for details.

Secondary Criteria

Species	Status	Species	Status
Rhesus Macaque <i>Macaca mulatta</i> ²	NT	[Keeled Box Turtle <i>Pyxidea mouhotii</i>] ¹	EN
Stump-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca arctoides</i> ²	VU	[Elongated Tortoise <i>Indotestudo elongata</i>] ¹	EN
Red-shanked / Grey-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix nemaeus nemaeus / cinerea</i> ²	DD/EN	[Wattle-necked Softshell Turtle <i>Palea steindachneri</i>] ¹	EN
[Big-headed Turtle <i>Platysternon megacephalum</i>] ¹	EN	<i>Pinus dalatensis</i> ^{1,2,7}	VU
[Indochinese Box Turtle <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i>] ¹	CR	<i>Podocarpus neriifolius</i> ^{1,2}	DD
[Chinese Three-striped Box Turtle <i>Cuora trifasciata</i>] ¹	CR	<i>Cephalotaxus manni</i> ¹	VU
[Black-breasted Leaf Turtle <i>Geoemyda spengleri</i>] ¹	EN	<i>Amentotaxus poilanei</i> ¹	VU
		[Southern Serow <i>Naemorhedus sumatraensis</i>] ²	VU

Notes: [] = unconfirmed record.

Threats to Biodiversity

The major threats to biodiversity at Ngoc Linh IBA are clearance of forest for agriculture, hunting, over-exploitation of NTFPs, timber extraction and infrastructure development. An analysis of remote sensing data indicates that the current rate of clearance of forest is very low. However, the rate may increase if the human population in surrounding areas increases, either through natural population growth or the settlement of migrants. Hunting is currently taking place at high levels, both for domestic consumption and to supply the wildlife trade. Use of snares is a particular threat for ground-dwelling birds, such as Crested Argus *Rheinardia ocellata*. Exploitation of timber and NTFPs is currently taking place at low levels, primarily to meet domestic demand. However, these activities may become unsustainable if commercial demand for these products increases².

Infrastructure development is, perhaps, the greatest threat to biodiversity at the IBA. There exist plans to build a road and develop a new economic centre near the IBA in Quang Nam province. In addition, there exist plans to build a road to Muong Hoong and Ngoc Linh communes on the Kon Tum side of the IBA. These developments may increase human pressure on the natural resources of the IBA, and open up the area to outside market forces².

Threat	Severity
Agricultural intensification / expansion	●
Hunting	● ●
Infrastructure development	● ●
Selective logging / cutting	●
Unsustainable exploitation of NTFPs	●

Conservation Actions

- In 1986, the establishment of Ngoc Linh (Kon Tum) Nature Reserve was decreed by the government of Vietnam⁸.
- In 1998, a nature reserve investment plan was prepared for Ngoc Linh (Kon Tum), and, subsequently, a management board was established⁸.
- In 2000, a feasibility study for the establishment of a nature reserve at Ngoc Linh (Quang Nam) was prepared, and approved by Quang Nam Provincial People's Committee^{1,2}.

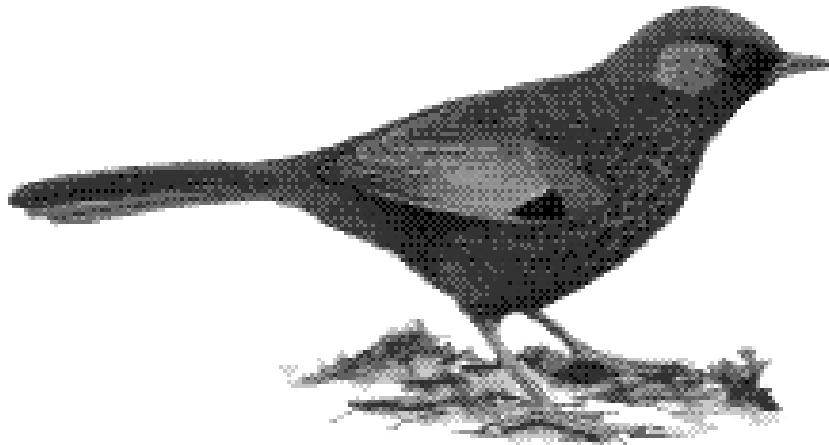
Recommendations

- Ngoc Linh (Quang Nam) should be decreed as a nature reserve, and a management board should be established².
- Integrated management planning and practical collaboration in forest protection activities between the management boards of the two protected areas should be an essential long-term management objective for the IBA.

- National social forestry programmes should be expanded in the area surrounding the IBA, in order to involve local communities in forest protection, and to reduce their dependence on forest resources.
- An integrated programme of activities to control hunting should be implemented, including enforcement of nature reserve management regulations, raising conservation awareness, control of wildlife trade and promotion of alternative sources of income².
- An integrated programme of measures to reduce the risk of future clearance of forest for agriculture should be introduced, including recognition of local communities' land tenure rights, family planning and controls on in-migration².

References

1. Le Trong Trai, Richardson, W. J., Bui Dac Tuyen, Le Van Cham, Nguyen Huy Dung, Ha Van Hoach, Nguyen Van Sang, Monastyrskii, A. L. and Eames, J. C. (1999) *An investment plan for Ngoc Linh Nature Reserve, Kon Tum province: a contribution to the management plan*. Hanoi: BirdLife International Vietnam Programme and the Forest Inventory and Planning Institute.
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Golden-winged Laughingthrush *Garrulax ngoclinhensis*

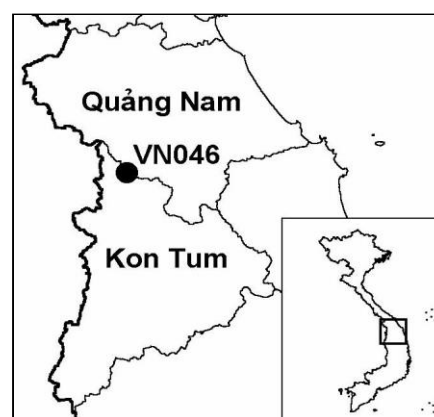
Lo Xo

Criteria: A1 & A2

Province(s): Kon Tum and Quang Nam
PA Status: Nature Reserve

Latitude: 15°14'N
Longitude: 107°45'E
Area: 15,000 ha
Altitude Range: 1,500-2,032 m asl

EBA / SA:
 Kon Tum Plateau EBA
Priority Landscape:
 CA 1 - Central Annamites



General Description

The IBA is located on the Kon Tum plateau, and is centred on the Lo Xo pass, a mountain pass along National Highway 2 (previously National Highway 14), on the border between Kon Tum and Quang Nam provinces. The IBA includes the mountain ridges on both sides of the pass in Dak Glei district, Kon Tum province, and Phuoc Son district, Quang Nam province. The areas to the west and south of the pass are within Ngoc Linh (Kon Tum) Nature Reserve, while those to the north-east of the pass are within Song Thanh proposed nature reserve. The highest points in the IBA are Mount Ngoc Ti On (2,032 m asl) and an unnamed 1,988 m asl peak. The IBA is extensively forested, and the main forest type is lower montane evergreen forest, although there exist smaller areas of upper montane evergreen forest. Lo Xo IBA is situated 15 km to the west of Ngoc Linh IBA, to which it is connected by intervening forest areas.

Bird Fauna: Key Features

Due to disparities in survey effort, all bird records from Lo Xo IBA are from Ngoc Linh (Kon Tum) Nature Reserve, and there are currently no records from Song Thanh proposed nature reserve. Lo Xo IBA is situated within the Kon Tum Plateau Endemic Bird Area (EBA), and supports six of the nine restricted-range species that define this EBA. Most notably, the IBA supports a population of Black-crowned Barwing *Actinodura sodangorum*. This species was only discovered in 1996, and is currently known from only two other sites in the world: Ngoc Linh IBA in Vietnam and Dakchung Plateau IBA in Laos. The IBA supports suitable habitat for two other newly described species with global ranges restricted to the Kon Tum Plateau EBA: Golden-winged Laughingthrush *Garrulax ngoclinhensis* and Chestnut-eared Laughingthrush *G. konkakinhensis*. To date, however, neither species has been recorded in the IBA.

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
Crested Argus <i>Rheinardia ocellata</i>	A1, A2	VU	15	The species was heard calling on several occasions in April 1998 ^{1,2} .
Black-crowned Barwing <i>Actinodura sodangorum</i>	A1, A2	VU	1	Two pairs were observed, one at 1,000 m asl and another at 1,500 m asl in April 1998 ³ .
Brown Hornbill <i>Anorrhinus tickelli</i>	A1, A3	NT	16	The species was heard on a single occasion in April 1998 ^{1,2} .
Yellow-billed Nuthatch <i>Sitta solangiae</i>	A1, A2	NT	11	The species was seen on several occasions, and two specimens were collected in April 1998 ^{1,2} .
Black-hooded Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax milleti</i>	A1, A2	NT	8	The species was seen on a number of occasions, and two specimens were collected in April 1998 ^{1,2} .
Short-tailed Scimitar Babbler <i>Jabouilleia danjoui</i>	A1, A2	NT	17	A pair was seen and a single specimen was collected in April 1998 ^{1,2} .
White-cheeked Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax vassali</i>	A2		8	A group of four to six birds was seen in April 1998 ^{1,2} .

Biome Restricted Species: The site does not qualify under criterion A3. See Appendix 4 for details.

Secondary Criteria

Species	Status	Species	Status
Rhesus Macaque <i>Macaca mulatta</i> ²	NT	<i>Cephalotaxus mannii</i> ²	VU
Stump-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca arctoides</i> ²	VU	<i>Amenotaxus poilanei</i> ²	VU
Buff-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus gabriellae</i> ²	VU	[Southern Serow <i>Naemohedus sumatraensis</i>] ²	VU
<i>Podocarpus neriifolius</i> ²	DD		

Notes: [] = unconfirmed record.

Threats to Biodiversity

The major threats to biodiversity at Lo Xo IBA are clearance of forest for agriculture, over-exploitation of timber and NTFPs, hunting and infrastructure development. Ethnic minority communities in the buffer zone of Ngoc Linh (Kon Tum) Nature Reserve are heavily dependent upon natural resources. For example, forest products are estimated to account for 20 to 25% of the income of these households. Consequently, hunting, timber extraction and NTFP collection are widespread within the IBA, and many of these activities are taking place at unsustainable levels².

Perhaps the biggest threat to biodiversity at Lo Xo IBA is the on-going upgrade of National Highway 2, which bisects the site. Unless strict controls are put in place immediately after the completion of this work, there exists a very real danger that the upgraded road will facilitate exploitation of natural resources and act as a focus for human settlement, thereby resulting in habitat degradation and loss⁴.

Threat	Severity
Agricultural intensification / expansion	• •
Hunting	• •
Infrastructure development	• • •
Selective logging / cutting	•
Unsustainable exploitation of NTFPs	•

Conservation Actions

- In 1986, the establishment of Ngoc Linh (Kon Tum) Nature Reserve was decreed by the government of Vietnam⁵.
- In 1998, a nature reserve investment plan was prepared for Ngoc Linh (Kon Tum), and, subsequently, a management board was established⁵.
- In 1999, a nature reserve investment plan was prepared for Song Thanh, and, in the same year, a management board was established⁵.

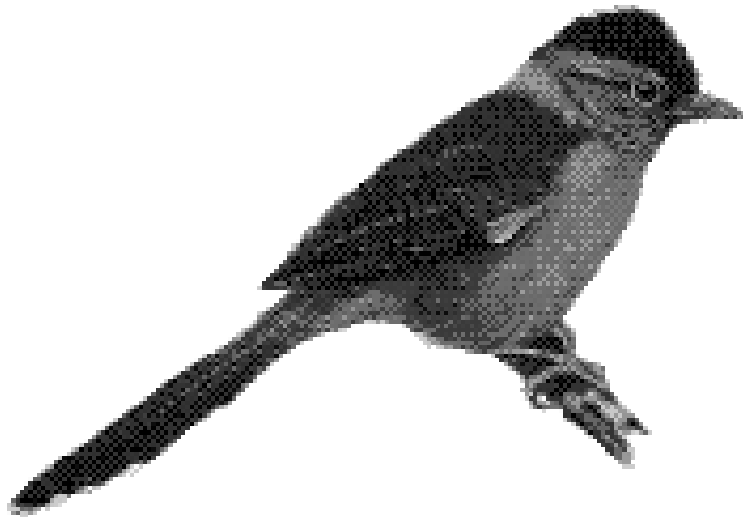
Recommendations

- The conservation management planning and law enforcement capacity of staff at both nature reserves should be strengthened.
- Strict controls should be placed on human settlement and clearance of forest for agriculture along the route of National Highway 2 (previously National Highway 14).
- Sustainable exploitation of natural resources, particularly wild animals and NTFPs, should be promoted among local communities.
- Further studies should be conducted to assess the status and distribution of key species at the IBA, in particular the status of Golden-winged Laughingthrush and Chestnut-eared Laughingthrush at the IBA should be evaluated, and the significance of forest areas within Song Thanh proposed nature reserve for biodiversity conservation should be assessed.

References

1. J. C. Eames personal observations.
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Black-crowned Barwing *Actinodura sodangorum*

Kon Plong

Criteria: A1, A2 & A3

Province(s): Kon Tum
PA Status: None

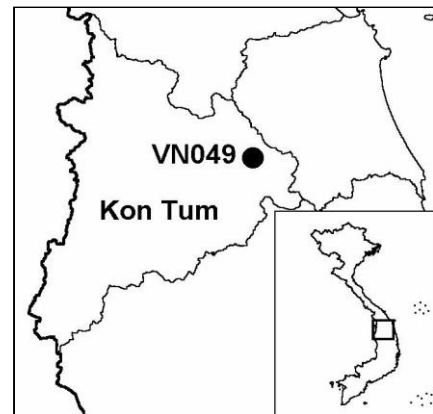
Latitude: 14°46'N
Longitude: 108°20'E
Area: 65,077 ha
Altitude Range: 1,100-1,757 m asl

EBA / SA:

Kon Tum Plateau EBA

Priority Landscape:

CA1 - Central Annamites

**General Description**

Situated on the Kon Tum plateau, the IBA comprises the Kon Plong Forest Complex, which includes Manh Canh II and Tan Lap State Forest Enterprises and Ngoc Tem Watershed Protection Forest. The topography of the IBA consists of a montane plateau dissected by a complex of valleys. The highest point in the IBA is Mount Ngoc Boc at 1,757 m asl. The natural vegetation of Kon Plong IBA is lower montane evergreen forest, including a number of forest formations dominated by conifers. However, more than 75% of the total area of the IBA has been degraded by human activities, principally commercial logging, and now supports a range of secondary habitats, including regenerating forest, bamboo forest, grassland and scrub¹.

Bird Fauna: Key Features

Kon Plong IBA is situated in the Kon Tum Plateau Endemic Bird Area (EBA). The IBA supports seven restricted-range bird species: more than are known to occur at any other site in the EBA. Most significantly, the IBA supports two species whose global ranges are confined to the EBA: Golden-winged Laughingthrush *Garrulax ngoclinensis* and Chestnut-eared Laughingthrush *G. konkakinensis*. Although the forest at Kon Plong IBA is more degraded and fragmented than that at other IBAs in the Kon Tum Plateau EBA, two globally near-threatened hornbill species have been recorded: Brown Hornbill *Anorrhinus tickelli* and Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis*. It is unlikely, however, that the IBA regularly supports a significant population of the latter species¹.

Species	IBA Criteria	Global Threat Status	Other IBAs	Notes
Crested Argus <i>Rheinardia ocellata</i>	A1, A2	VU	15	The species was heard on several occasions in primary forest on Mount Ngoc Boc between December 2000 and January 2001 ¹ .
Golden-winged Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax ngoclinensis</i>	A1, A2	VU	1	A flock of at least three birds was observed at 1,480 m asl on Mount Ngoc Boc in early January 2001 ¹ .
†Great Hornbill <i>Buceros bicornis</i>	A1	NT	13	A feather belonging to this species was found on Mount Ngoc Boc in January 2001 ¹ . The site probably does not regularly support a significant population of this species.
Brown Hornbill <i>Anorrhinus tickelli</i>	A1, A3	NT	16	The species was recorded on five occasions between December 2000 and January 2001, including flocks of 15 birds on two occasions ¹ .
Yellow-billed Nuthatch <i>Sitta solangiae</i>	A1, A2	NT	11	The species was recorded on four occasions between December 2000 and January 2001 ¹ .
Black-hooded Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax milleti</i>	A1, A2	NT	8	The species was recorded on numerous occasions between December 2000 and January 2001 ¹ .
Short-tailed Scimitar Babbler <i>Jabouilleia danjoui</i>	A1, A2	NT	17	Single birds were recorded on three occasions between December 2000 and January 2001 ¹ .
White-cheeked Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax vassali</i>	A2		8	A flock of 10 birds and a flock of 40 were recorded in December 2000 ¹ .
Chestnut-eared Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax konkakinensis</i>	A2		1	The species was recorded on a number of occasions between December 2000 and January 2001 ¹ .

Notes: † = not confirmed to regularly occur in significant numbers.

Biome Restricted Species: The site qualifies under criterion A3 because it supports 29 species restricted to the Sino-Himalayan Subtropical Forests (Biome 08). See Appendix 4 for details.

Secondary Criteria

Species	Status	Species	Status
[Northern Slow Loris <i>Nycticebus bengalensis</i>] ¹	DD	[Elongated Tortoise <i>Indotestudo elongata</i>] ¹	EN
[Pygmy Loris <i>Nycticebus pygmaeus</i>] ¹	VU	[Impressed Tortoise <i>Manouria impressa</i>] ¹	VU
Northern Pigtail Macaque <i>Macaca leonina</i> ¹	VU	<i>Pinus merkusii</i> ¹	VU
Stump-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca arctoides</i> ¹	VU	<i>Podocarpus nerifolius</i> ¹	DD
Grey-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix nemaus cinerea</i> ¹	VU	<i>Cephalotaxus mannii</i> ¹	VU
Buff-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus gabriellae</i> ¹	VU	Southern Serow <i>Naemorhedus sumatraensis</i> ¹	VU
Big-headed Turtle <i>Platysternon megacephalum</i> ¹	EN		

Notes: [] = unconfirmed record.

Threats to Biodiversity

The major threat to biodiversity at Kon Plong IBA is commercial timber extraction. A large proportion of the IBA is under state forest enterprise management, and timber extraction is currently taking place at unsustainable levels. Other significant threats include hunting and over-exploitation of NTFPs, both of which take place for domestic consumption and in response to commercial demand. Clearance of forest for agriculture is currently not a major threat to biodiversity at the IBA but may become so in the future if the local human population increases as a result of natural population growth or settlement of migrants. In this context, another potential threat is construction of roads through the IBA, which could act as foci for human settlement¹.

Threat	Severity
Agricultural intensification / expansion	•
Commercial timber extraction	• • •
Hunting	• •
Infrastructure development	• • •
Selective logging / cutting	•
Unsustainable exploitation of NTFPs	• •

As well as affecting the IBA directly, commercial forestry operations, road construction and subsequent human settlement and clearance of forest for agriculture may result in loss of contiguous areas of natural forest that currently link Kon Plong IBA with Ngoc Linh IBA to the north and Kon Ka Kinh and Kon Cha Rang IBAs to the south.

Conservation Actions

- During 2000, the World Bank-WWF Forest Alliance and the Tropical Forest Trust began developing a project to promote sustainable forest management within the IBA, entitled *Sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation in the Kon Plong Forest Complex*. This project has yet to begin implementation.

Recommendations

- Sustainable forest management practices should be introduced at Manh Canh II and Tan Lap State Forest Enterprises¹.
- Sustainable exploitation of natural resources, particularly wild animals and NTFPs, should be promoted among local communities.
- Biodiversity considerations should be integrated into plans for infrastructure development and human settlement within the IBA, in order to mitigate potential negative impacts.

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