

Ban Dao Son Tra Nature Reserve

Alternative site name(s)

Son Tra peninsula

Province(s)

Da Nang city

Status

Decreed

Management board established

Yes

Latitude

16°06' - 16°09'N

Longitude

108°13' - 108°21'E

Bio-unit

05b - South Annam



Conservation status

Ban Dao Son Tra was listed on Decision No. 41/TTg of the Prime Minister, dated 24 January 1977, which decreed a 4,000 ha cultural and historical site. In 1989, an investment plan was prepared, which proposed establishing a 4,439 ha nature reserve, comprising a strict protection area of 2,595 ha and a forest rehabilitation area of 1,844 ha (Anon. 1989). This investment plan was approved by the then Quang Nam-Da Nang Provincial People's Committee on 12 September 1989, and by the former Ministry of Forestry in 1992 (FPD 1998). A management board for Ban Dao Son Tra has been established, and the site is managed at the provincial level. The 2010 list includes a proposal to retain Ban Dao Son Tra Nature Reserve within the national protected areas system with an area of 4,370 ha, including 1,635 ha of forest.

Topography and hydrology

Ban Dao Son Tra Nature Reserve covers a rocky peninsula, situated to the north-east of Da Nang city. The peninsula was created when alluvium deposition created a land bridge between the mainland and three islands; Nghe, Mo Dieu and Co Ngua. Son Tra peninsula measures 13 by 7 km, and encloses the southern part of Da Nang bay. The highest point on the

peninsula is 696 m, and the surrounding waters are shallow, reaching a depth of little more than 10 m within 1 km of the shore.

Biodiversity value

At Ban Dao Son Tra between 1966 and 1969, Van Peenen *et al.* (1971) recorded Red-shanked Douc Langur *Pygathrix nemaeus nemaeus* and a form of macaque described as being intermediate between Crab-eating Macaque *Macaca fascicularis* and Rhesus Macaque *M. mulatta*. These species were also recorded by Dinh Thi Phuong Anh and Huynh Ngoc Tao (2000) between 1996 and 1998.

According to the investment plan (Anon. 1989), in 1989, the nature reserve supported 400 ha of primary forest and 2,611 ha of secondary forest. The primary forest is dominated by members of the Fagaceae, Dipterocarpaceae, Anacardiaceae, Moraceae and Sapindaceae. Other habitats present at Ban Dao Son Tra include scrub, grassland and plantation forest.

Conservation issues

Illegal use of forest resources is one of the main problems at Ban Dao Son Tra, with people hunting, and collecting wood and other non-timber forest products. Forest fire is also an occasional problem. There is a military installation on the peninsula, and it

is possible that the soldiers may occasionally hunt Red-shanked Douc Langur, the species of highest conservation importance at the nature reserve. Conversely, the presence of the military installation may reduce levels of hunting by restricting access to the peninsula.

Other documented values

Ban Dao Son Tra Nature Reserve has future potential for ecotourism due to its proximity to Da Nang city and the presence of a population of Red-shanked Douc Langur. However, the presence of the military installation on the peninsula may preclude the possibility of ecotourism development for the time being.

Related projects

Between 1989 and 1995, research was conducted by Quang Nam-Da Nang Provincial DARD, with funding from the provincial science union. This research concentrated mainly on the ecology of the nature reserve and technical issues related to plantation forest. A further study was conducted by FIPI between 1991 to 1995, although the exact nature of this work is not known.

Literature sources

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