

Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve

Alternative site name(s)

Binh Chau-Dam Nuoc Soi

Province(s)

Ba Ria-Vung Tau

Status

Decreed

Management board established

Yes

Latitude

10°28' - 10°37'N

Longitude

107°24' - 107°33'E

Bio-unit

05a - Mekong Delta



Conservation status

When Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu was established, it was situated within the former Dong Nai province. This province has since been split into Dong Nai and Ba Ria-Vung Tau provinces. The site is now located in Ba Ria-Vung Tau.

Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu protected forest was established by Dong Nai Provincial People's Committee on 6 May 1978, following Decision No. 634/UB. Subsequently, in 1984, a management board for the site was established under the management of Dong Nai Provincial FPD (Anon. 1993a). The site was incorporated into the national protected areas network on 9 August 1986, following Decision No. 194/CT of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers (MARD 1997), which decreed the establishment of a 5,474 ha nature reserve for the conservation of "dipterocarp forest along the coastline" (Cao Van Sung 1995).

On 10 November 1992, following Decision No. 1124/QD-UBT of Ba Ria-Vung Tau Provincial People's Committee, the nature reserve was expanded to include a hot spring, and its name was changed to Binh Chau-Dam Nuoc Soi. An investment plan for the expanded nature reserve was prepared by Ho Chi Minh City Sub-FIPI. This investment plan gave the total area of the nature reserve as 11,293 ha, comprising a strict

protection area of 3,995 ha, a forest rehabilitation area of 5,802 ha, a coastal protection area of 730 ha and an administration and services area of 760 ha. The investment plan proposed that the name of the site revert to Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu. On 3 April 1993, the investment plan was approved by Ba Ria-Vung Tau Provincial People's Committee (Anon. 1993a).

Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve is included on the 2010 list, with an area of 11,293 ha, including 7,224 ha of forest (FPD 1998).

Topography and hydrology

Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve lies within five communes, and is bordered by Xuyen Moc Forest Enterprise to the north, Ham Tan district to the east and provincial road 328 to the west. The southern boundary of the nature reserve is a 12-kilometre stretch of coastline. The nature reserve contains three areas of low hills: the Hong Nhung group (which reaches 118 m) in the north, the Ho Linh group (which reaches 162 m) in the south, and the Mo Ong group (which reaches 120 m) in the west. There are very few streams and rivers within the nature reserve but there are some small bodies of standing water, including Nhom and Tron swamps, Coc and Linh lakes, and Binh Chau hot springs.

Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve

Biodiversity value

Forest covers 7,224 ha or 64% of the nature reserve, of which 7,117 ha is natural forest. There is only one natural forest type at Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu: semi-deciduous forest (Anon. 1993a). A total of 660 plant species, belong to 113 families, have been recorded at the nature reserve (Anon. 1993b).

In March 2000, the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR) conducted a field survey of the fauna of Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve. According to Le Xuan Canh *et al.* (2000), the nature reserve supports 49 species of mammal, 106 species of bird, 38 species of reptile and 12 species of amphibian. These include several globally threatened species, such as Bear Macaque *Macaca arctoides*, Siamese Fireback *Lophura diardi* and Pale-capped Pigeon *Columba punicea*.

Conservation issues

The major threats to biodiversity at Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve are illegal logging, the impacts of tourism and shellfish exploitation.

Other documented values

The main economic values of the site are tourism and fisheries. A small tourist resort has already been developed at the site, the main visitor attraction of which are the Binh Chau hot springs (Storey and Robinson 1995).

Related projects

No information.

Literature sources

ADB (1999) Draft coastal and marine protected areas plan. Hanoi: Asian Development Bank.

Anon. (1993a) [Investment plan for Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve, Ba Ria-Vung Tau province]. Ho Chi Minh City: Ho Chi Minh City Sub-FIPI. In Vietnamese.

Anon. (1993b) [Report on silviculture at Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve, Ba Ria-Vung Tau

province]. Ho Chi Minh City: Ho Chi Minh City Sub-FIPI. In Vietnamese.

Ba Ria-Vung Tau Provincial DARD (2000) [FPD questionnaire]. Vung Tau: Ba Ria-Vung Tau Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. In Vietnamese.

Le Dinh Thuy (1999) [Birdlife resources of Ba Ria-Vung Tau province]. Lam Nghiep [Vietnam Forest Review] July 1999: 32-33. In Vietnamese.

Le Xuan Canh, Hoang Minh Khien, Le Dinh Thuy and Nguyen Van Sang (2000) [Report on the zoological resources (mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles) of Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve, Ba Ria-Vung Tau province]. Hanoi: Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources. In Vietnamese.

Nguyen Bich Thao (1995) [An analysis of the biodiversity of Binh Chau-Phuoc Buu Nature Reserve, Ba Ria-Vung Tau province]. Dissertation submitted to Hanoi National University. In Vietnamese.

Storey, R. and Robinson, D. (1995) Lonely planet travel survival kit: Vietnam. Third edition. Hawthorn: Lonely Planet Publications.