

Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve

Alternative site name(s)

None

Province(s)

Binh Phuoc

Status

Decreed

Management board established

Yes

Latitude

12°05' - 12°18'N

Longitude

107°03' - 107°14'E

Bio-unit

10a - Central Indochina



Conservation status

Bu Gia Map was included on Decision No. 194/CT of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, dated 9 August 1986 (MARD 1997), which proposed establishing a 16,000 ha nature reserve for the conservation of "Fabaceae and *Lagerstroemia* conservation forest, abundant birds and mammals" (Cao Van Sung 1995). When Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve was decreed, it was in Song Be province. Song Be province has now been divided into Binh Phuoc and Binh Duong provinces, and, today, Bu Gia Map is in Binh Phuoc province.

In November 1994, an investment plan was prepared for Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve (Anon. 1994), which gave the total area as 22,330 ha, comprising a strict protection area of 18,100 ha, a forest rehabilitation area of 4,200 ha and an administration and services area of 30 ha. In addition, the investment plan defined two buffer zones: a 6,280 ha area in Song Be province and a 7,900 ha area in Dak Lak province. The investment plan was approved by Song Be Provincial People's Committee in 1995 (FPD 1998). Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve is included on the 2010 list (FPD 1998). According to Anon. (1997), however, the current area of the nature reserve is 26,037 ha.

Topography and hydrology

Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve is situated in the lowlands of southern Vietnam, and attains a maximum elevation of 700 m. The principal watercourses encompassed by the nature reserve include the Dak Huyt stream, which flows along the border between Vietnam and Cambodia, and also the Dak Sam, Dak Sa, Dak Ka, Dak K'me and several other streams.

Biodiversity value

Natural forest covers 21,476 ha or 96% of the nature reserve, comprising 388 ha of rich forest, 2,798 ha of medium forest, 1,692 ha of poor forest, 5,064 ha of mixed forest and 11,434 ha of bamboo forest. Non-forested areas comprise 854 ha of the nature reserve, including scrub, bare land and water bodies (Anon. 1994).

According to the investment plan, 295 vascular plant species have been recorded at Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve (Anon. 1990). According to Anon. (1997), however, the flora of Bu Gia Map comprises 102 families, 334 genera and 628 species. Economically valuable species found at the site include *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Fagraea fragans*, *Diospyros horsfieldii*, *Chukrasia* sp., *Sindora*

siamensis, *Shorea guiso*, *Selaginella decipiens* and *S. pseudopaleifera*, *Lycopodium cernua* and *L. phlegmaria* (Anon. 1997).

The results of field surveys of conducted by IEBR between 1995 and 1997 (Nguyen Van Sang *et al.* 1997) show that Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve supports a total of 434 species of animal, 59 of which are listed in the *Red Data Book of Vietnam*. Seventy three species of mammal are listed as occurring at the nature reserve by Nguyen Van Sang *et al.* (1997). However, as this list includes data compiled from previous studies, the source of which is unverifiable. Therefore, the list should be considered as provisional, and many of the records contained within it require confirmation.

During a biodiversity survey of southern Mondulakiri province, Cambodia, by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Cambodia Programme in 2000, Tiger *Panthera tigris* was phototrapped in a forest area contiguous with Bu Gia Map (Walston *et al.* in press). This indicates that Tiger may still occur at Bu Gia Map.

Nguyen Van Sang *et al.* (1997) list 168 species of bird as occurring at Bu Gia Map, the majority of which were observed during the field surveys. Ten of these species are threatened or near threatened at national or global levels, for example Siamese Fireback *Lophura diardi* and Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis*.

Thirty species of reptile are known from the nature reserve, 12 of which are listed in the *Red Data Book of Vietnam*. A further 18 species of frog are also known from Bu Gia Map, three of which are listed in the *Red Data Book of Vietnam* (Nguyen Van Sang *et al.* 1997).

Conservation issues

The major threats to the nature reserve are presumed to be illegal logging and hunting, although no information is available to support this supposition.

Other documented values

Bu Gia Map is also a site of historical importance because it was a resistance base during the Second Indochina War. Additionally, the site protects part of the watershed of the Dong Nai river.

Related projects

Field surveys of the nature reserve's fauna and flora have been conducted by IEBR, Hanoi (Nguyen Van Sang *et al.* 1997) and the Institute of Tropical Biology, Ho Chi Minh City (Anon. 1997). In the case of the latter, fieldwork was conducted during three expeditions from 1995 to 1997. This project was financed by Song Be province. This same institute has also implemented a study of the biodiversity of Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve, starting in 1999 and continuing into 2000, which was funded by the government of Vietnam through the National Centre for Natural Science and Technology.

Literature sources

Anon. (1994) [Investment plan for Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve, Phuoc Long district, Song Be province]. Song Be: Song Be Provincial People's Committee. In Vietnamese.

Anon. (1997) [Nature elements of Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve]. Unpublished report to Binh Phuoc Provincial Department of Science, Technology and the Environment. In Vietnamese.

Nguyen Van Sang, Pham Trong Anh, Truong Van La and Le Xuan Hue (1997) [The fauna (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects) of Bu Gia Map Nature Reserve]. Hanoi: Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources. In Vietnamese.

Walston, J. Davidson, P. and Men Soriyun (in press) A wildlife survey of southern Mondulakiri province. Phnom Penh: Wildlife Conservation Society Cambodia Programme.