

Dao Ho Song Da Cultural and Historical Site

Alternative site name(s)

Hoa Trang

Province(s)

Hoa Binh

Status

Decreed

Management board established

No

Latitude

20°42' - 20°52'N

Longitude

105°00' - 105°20'E

Bio-unit

10a - Central Indochina



Conservation status

Dao Ho Song Da, which means islands in the Black River reservoir, was included on Decision No. 194/CT of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, dated 9 August 1986 (MARD 1997). This decision decreed the establishment of a 3,000 ha cultural and historical site, for the "protection of the reservoir basin and the conservation of birds and animals" (Cao Van Sung 1995). In 1989, the Forest Resources and Environment Centre of FIPI conducted a field survey of Hao Trang island, one of the biggest islands in the Black River reservoir, which provided information for the preparation of an investment plan for the site. This investment plan was approved by Hoa Binh Provincial People's Committee later that year (Vu Van Dung pers. comm.). However, an investment plan for Dao Ho Song Da Cultural and Historical Site has never been approved by MARD, and a management board has not been formed. Furthermore, the site is not included on the 2010 list, and can be considered to have been recommended for removal from the protected areas system of Vietnam (FPD 1998).

Topography and hydrology

The Black River reservoir was formed following the construction of the Hoa Binh dam, which took

place between 1979 and 1994. The dam was built to generate hydroelectricity, and the power station at the base of the dam has one of the largest capacities in Vietnam. The formation of the reservoir has inundated a 200 km stretch of the Black River valley to a depth of up to 100 m, and created many islands.

Biodiversity value

Data on the flora and fauna of Dao Ho Song Da Cultural and Historical site are scarce. The natural vegetation of most of the islands in the reservoir was tropical evergreen forest. However, the forest on most islands experienced a degree of disturbance prior to and following the creation of the reservoir.

Conservation issues

Timber extraction on the islands and dynamite fishing in the reservoir are two of the principal threats to biodiversity at the site (Le Trong Trai pers. comm.).

Other documented values

The numerous forested islands in the reservoir have potential value for tourism. Indeed, the site already receives domestic and foreign visitors. The site has some watershed protection value for the Hoa Binh hydroelectric dam. However, as a proportion of the

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total catchment of the Black River, the area covered by Dao Ho Song Da Cultural and Historical Site is probably not very significant.

Related projects

No information.

Literature sources

Ho Thanh Hai (1995) [The classification of Hoa Binh reservoir]. Pp 320-328 in: Dang Huy Huynh, Nguyen Tien Ban, Vu Quang Con, Nguyen Thi Le, Pham Van Luc, Tran Dinh Ly, La Dinh Moi and Cao Van Sung eds. [Results of research by IEBR] Hanoi: Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources. In Vietnamese.

Hoa Binh Provincial FPD (2000) [FPD questionnaire]. Hoa Binh: Hoa Binh Provincial Forest Protection Department. In Vietnamese.

Scott, D. A. (1989) A directory of Asian wetlands. Gland: IUCN.