

Earal Proposed Nature Reserve

Alternative site name(s)

Thong Nuoc

Province(s)

Dak Lak

Status

Proposed

Management board established

Yes

Latitude

13°09'N

Longitude

108°18'E

Bio-unit

10a - Central Indochina



Conservation status

Earal is not included on any government decision relating to the protected areas system. However, Decision No. 157/QĐ-UB of Dak Lak Provincial People's Committee, dated 5 March 1994, approved the establishment of a 50 ha nature reserve to protect one of the last remaining populations of the globally threatened conifer *Glyptostrobus pensilis* in Vietnam (Dak Lak Provincial FPD 1998). According to Dak Lak Provincial FPD (2000), a management board with two members has been established under the management of Dak Lak Provincial FPD. Earal is included on the 2010 list as a 50 ha nature reserve, including 18 ha of forest (FPD 1998).

Topography and hydrology

Earal proposed nature reserve is located in Earal commune, Ea H'leo district, in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, at an elevation of around 530 m. The proposed nature reserve comprises a swampy area surrounded by coffee plantations (Vu Van Dung pers. comm.).

Biodiversity value

In the past, *G. pensilis* was distributed in many provinces in Vietnam (Vu Van Dung pers. comm.) but the species is now one of the most endangered tree species in the country, with only two known populations remaining. Earal proposed nature reserve supports 220 individuals, while Trap K'so proposed nature reserve, the other site, supports only 34 individuals (Dak Lak Provincial FPD 1998).

Conservation issues

The main threats to the population of *G. pensilis* are forest fire in the dry season and floods in the rainy season (Vu Van Dung pers. comm.). In addition, Dak Lak Provincial DARD (2000) identify the lack of a buffer zone and the proximity of the site to centres of population as obstacles to management. One guard station has been constructed at the site, and a water control programme has been implemented with the aim of reducing the water level at the site, thereby protecting the *G. pensilis* population (Dak Lak Provincial FPD 1998, Dak Lak Provincial DARD 2000).

Other documented values

No information.

Related projects

No information.

Literature sources

Dak Lak Provincial DARD (2000) [FPD questionnaire]. Buon Me Thuot: Dak Lak Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. In Vietnamese.

Dak Lak Provincial FPD (1998) [Report on implementation of management and conservation plan for *Glyptostrobilus pensilis* populations in Dak Lak province]. Unpublished report to Dak Lak Provincial People's Committee. In Vietnamese.