

# Nai Proposed Marine Protected Area

## Alternative site name(s)

Nai lagoon

## Province(s)

Ninh Thuan

## Status

Proposed

## Management board established

No

## Latitude

11°37'N

## Longitude

109°02'E

## Bio-unit

05b - South Annam



## Conservation status

In 1999, the Asian Development Bank (ADB 1999) proposed establishing a 1,000 ha marine protected area at Nai lagoon.

## Topography and hydrology

Nai lagoon is located in Ninh Hai district, Ninh Thuan province, 7 km north-east of Phan Rang town. The lagoon is fed by streams and rivers at its northern end, and water flows out into the open sea through a channel 2 km long, 500 to 800 m wide and 7 to 8 m deep. The substrate is flat and dominated by sandy mud (ADB 1999).

## Biodiversity value

There is little information available about the biodiversity of Nai lagoon. However, preliminary studies have recorded 125 phytoplankton, 25 zooplankton, 36 seaweed, 58 mollusc and 18 crustacean species (ADB 1999).

## Conservation issues

Most of the natural mangroves in the lagoon have been cleared as a result of aquacultural pond and salt

pan construction. Sedimentation at the mouth of the lagoon threatens to block the channel connecting the lagoon with the open sea (ADB 1999).

## Other documented values

Local people are engaged in several economic activities at the site, including aquaculture. Previously, seaweed culture was well developed but the market later failed (ADB 1999). Salt production also takes place at the site (Scott 1989).

## Related projects

No information.

## Literature sources

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

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