

# Nui Ba Proposed Nature Reserve

## Alternative site name(s)

None

## Province(s)

Binh Dinh

## Status

Proposed

## Management board established

Unknown

## Latitude

14°03'N

## Longitude

109°08'E

## Bio-unit

05b - South Annam



## Conservation status

The exact status of Nui Ba is unclear. The site is not included on any government decision or official set of proposals regarding the Special-use Forests system (MARD 1997, FPD 1998). Nui Ba was originally established by the provincial FPD as a watershed protection forest, with a total area of 4,147 ha (Binh Dinh Provincial FPD 2000). According to MARD (1997), the establishment of a 4,000 ha cultural and historical site at Nui Ba was approved in 1994, either by the former Ministry of Forestry, the Ministry of Culture and Information, or Binh Dinh Provincial People's Committee. However, according to Binh Dinh Provincial FPD (2000), the Special-use Forest category of the site is nature reserve not cultural and historical site.

Following their review of the Special-use Forests network in Vietnam, BirdLife International and FIPI recommended establishing a 6,800 ha protected area at Nui Ba (Wege *et al.* 1999). Since this recommendation was made, there has been no field survey to assess its feasibility.

## Topography and hydrology

Nui Ba proposed nature reserve is located in Cat Trinh, Cat Hanh and Cat Tai communes, Phu Cat

district, in the coastal region of central Vietnam. The principal topographical feature of the proposed nature reserve is the 847 metre-high Mount Ba. Drainage from Mount Ba is in all directions.

## Biodiversity value

The original forest cover at Nui Ba proposed cultural and historical site has been cleared by shifting cultivation and associated forest fires. The main forest type remaining at the site is secondary forest. Binh Dinh Provincial FPD (2000) report the occurrence of a number of mammal species at the site, few of which are of high conservation importance.

## Conservation issues

There are no people living in the core zone of the proposed nature reserve. The buffer zone, however, has a population of 37,857 people, all of whom belong to the Kinh ethnic group. The principal economic activity in the buffer zone is agriculture, and there are over 15,000 ha of hill agricultural land. Shifting cultivation and forest fire are held responsible for the loss of primary forest at the site. Another major threat to biodiversity at Nui Ba is believed to be hunting and trapping of wildlife (Binh Dinh Provincial FPD 2000).

## Other documented values

Forest at Nui Ba proposed cultural and historical site protects one of the main sources of irrigation water for wet rice agriculture in Phu Cat district.

## Related projects

No information.

## Literature sources

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