

Ta Sua Proposed Nature Reserve

Alternative site name(s)

None

Province(s)

Son La

Status

Proposed

Management board established

Unknown

Latitude

21°41' - 21°25'N

Longitude

104°26' - 104°36'E

Bio-unit

10b - Northern Indochina



Conservation status

There is very little information available about Ta Sua. The site is not included on any government decision regarding the Special-use Forests system (MARD 1997). According to MARD (1997), however, a proposal to establish a 15,000 ha nature reserve at the site was made in 1995, presumably by Son La Provincial People's Committee. Based upon this proposal, Ta Sua was included on a list of proposed nature reserves prepared for discussion at the Cuc Phuong conference on the Special-use Forests system in 1997 (MARD 1997). The site is not, however, included on the 2010 list (FPD 1998).

Topography and hydrology

The precise boundary of Ta Sua proposed nature reserve does not appear to have been defined. However, the site is located in Bac Yen and, possibly, Phu Yen districts, in north-eastern Son La province. The topography of the proposed nature reserve is dominated by a ridge of high mountains, which runs along the north of the site. This ridge is a southerly extension of the Hoang Lien mountains, and forms the border between Son La and Yen Bai provinces. There are many peaks above 2,000 m along this ridge, and the highest point in the proposed nature reserve is a

c.2,770 m summit in the north-west. Ta Sua proposed nature reserve is situated in the catchment of the Black River.

Biodiversity value

Remote sensing data indicate that, at elevations below 1,500 m, forest has been almost totally cleared. However, the proposed nature reserve still appears to support significant areas of upper montane evergreen forest at higher elevations. This forest type appears to contain patches of mixed coniferous and broadleaf evergreen forest.

During October and November 1999, Ta Sua proposed nature reserve was visited by a team from Fauna and Flora International-Indochina Programme. During this visit, the team received interview data that indicate that the site may support a remnant population of Black Gibbon *Hylobates concolor* (Ngo Van Tri and Long 1999). If this information was confirmed, Ta Sua would become one of only a handful of sites in Vietnam known to support a population of the western subspecies, *H. c. concolor*, of this globally threatened species.

Conservation issues

No information.

Other documented values

The forest at high elevations at Ta Sua proposed nature reserve has an important role in protecting the water resources of local communities.

Related projects

No information.

Literature sources

Ngo Van Tri and Long, B. (1999) A report of a survey on Black Gibbon *Hylobates concolor concolor* in Son La province (north Vietnam) October-November, 1999. Unpublished report to Fauna and Flora International-Indochina Programme.