

# An Toan Proposed Nature Reserve

## Alternative site name(s)

None

## Province(s)

Binh Dinh

## Area

26,044 ha

## Coordinates

14°22' - 14°37'N, 108°38' - 108°47'E

## Agro-ecological zone

South Central Coast

## Decreed by government

No

## Management board established

No

## Investment plan prepared

No

## VCF eligibility criteria met

A, B

## Social screening criteria met

None

## Conservation needs assessment prepared

No

## Operational management plan prepared

No

## Tracking tool completed

No

## Map available

Yes

## Management history

The An Toan area is currently under the management of An Lao Forest Enterprise. The site is not listed on any government decision relating to protected areas. However, Binh Dinh Provincial FPD (*in litt.* 2003) have proposed closing the forest to logging activities and preparing an investment plan to establish a nature reserve at the site.

According to Binh Dinh Provincial FPD (*in litt.* 2003), the proposed nature reserve is located in An Toan commune, An Lao district, and has a total area of 26,044 ha. The site is not included on a list of Special-use Forests to be established by the year 2010, prepared by the FPD of MARD (FPD 2003).

## Topography and hydrology

An Toan proposed nature reserve lies about 25 km west of Hoai Nhon town, which lies in the coastal flood plain of the Giang river. The proposed nature reserve is located in the eastern part of the Central Highlands, in a belt of low mountains that connects the much higher Kon Tum and Da Lat plateaus. The proposed nature reserve is situated on an undulating plateau at an average elevation of 900 m. The highest point in the proposed nature reserve is 1,202 m, and the lowest point is 220 m. The proposed nature reserve is drained by the Ha Giao, Ve, Kon and An Lao river systems.

## Biodiversity values

An Toan proposed nature reserve is situated in the Central Annamites. Although, to date, there have been no detailed biodiversity surveys of the site, its topography and habitats are very similar to those of the contiguous Kon Cha Rang Nature Reserve in Gia Lai province (see site card), suggesting that it supports similar plant and animal communities. Together with adjacent forest areas in Gia Lai and Kon Tum provinces, An Toan has been identified as a Priority 1 Area for biodiversity conservation in the Central Annamites Priority Landscape (Tordoff *et al.* 2003).

An Toan proposed nature reserve supports 19,414 ha of natural forest and 127 ha of plantation forest (Binh Dinh Provincial FPD *in litt.* 2003). Binh Dinh Provincial FPD (2000) report that the botanical composition at the site is quite diverse, and contains several species of economically valuable species, such as the timber trees *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Podocarpus neriifolius*.

Similarly, Binh Dinh Provincial FPD (*in litt.* 2003) report the occurrence of several mammal species of conservation concern, the most significant of which is Grey-shanked Douc *Pygathrix cinerea*. Since 1996, 10 Grey-shanked Doucs have been confiscated from local people, who claimed to have captured them in An Lao district. One of the holotypes of this newly described subspecies was collected in An Lao district, Binh Dinh

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province (Nadler 1997), and may be one of the animals referred to by Binh Dinh Provincial FPD (*in litt.* 2003).

## Conservation issues

Over 600 people live within the proposed nature reserve. These people belong to the Ba Na and Hre ethnic groups. Hunting of some mammal species is evidently occurring at unsustainable levels as local people report a decline in the population of Grey-shanked Douc Langur. In addition, the proposed nature reserve is currently under the management of An Lao Forest Enterprise, which continues to exploit timber in the area (Binh Dinh Provincial FPD *in litt.* 2003).

## Other documented values

An Toan proposed nature reserve supports a significant area of relatively undisturbed evergreen forest, and has significant ecotourism potential.

## Related projects

Forest protection activities at the site are currently being supported through the national 661 Programme (Binh Dinh Provincial FPD *in litt.* 2003).

## Conservation needs assessment

A conservation needs assessment has not been conducted for the site.

## Operational management plan

An operational management plan has not been prepared for the site.

## Eligibility against VCF criteria

An Toan is currently not eligible for VCF funding because it is not under appropriate conservation management.

Criterion	Eligibility
A <sub>I</sub>	CA1 - Central Annamites
A <sub>II</sub>	
B <sub>I</sub>	Proposed Special-use Forest
B <sub>II</sub>	Nature Reserve
B <sub>III</sub>	Under provincial management
C <sub>I</sub>	
C <sub>II</sub>	

## Social screening requirements

A social screening report has not been prepared for the site.

Criterion	Eligibility
A	
B	
C	
D	

## Literature sources

Nadler, T. (1997) A new subspecies of Douc Langur, *Pygathrix nemaeus cinereus* ssp. nov. Zool. Garten N. F. 67(4): 165-167.

Tordoff, A. W., Timmins, R. J., Smith R. J. and Mai Ky Vinh (2003) Central Annamites Biological Assessment. Hanoi: WWF Indochina Programme.

Vietnam News (2002) Grey-shanked Langur found in central area. Vietnam News 31 August 2002.

Vietnam News (2002) Rare pheasants found in An Lao forest. Vietnam News 23 November 2002.