

Hon Ba Proposed Nature Reserve

Alternative site name(s)

None

Province(s)

Khanh Hoa

Area

10,895 ha

Coordinates

12°02' - 12°15'N, 108°57' - 109°05'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

Hon Ba is not included on any government decision or official set of proposals regarding the national protected areas network (MARD 1997, FPD 2003). However, an investment plan to establish a 10,895 ha nature reserve at the site is currently being prepared by Khanh Hoa Provincial FPD (*in litt.* 2003).

Topography and hydrology

Hon Ba proposed nature reserve is located in Dien Khanh district, Khanh Hoa province. The proposed nature reserve is situated on a ridge of mountains that extends eastwards from the main block of the southern Annamite mountains.

Biodiversity values

During 2003, a biodiversity survey of Hon Ba proposed nature reserve was conducted by the Vietnam-Russia Tropical Centre. While the final results of this survey have not yet been published, the preliminary findings indicate that the site has a number of important biodiversity values. First, the site was found to support a large area of relatively undisturbed primary forest, including formations characterised by the presence of the conifer *Fokienia hodginsii*. Second, a number of undescribed taxa were discovered, including at least two taxa of butterfly in the

Nymphalidae family and one taxon of lizard. Third, a number of globally and/or nationally threatened species were recorded, including the butterfly *Teinopalpus aureus aureus* and a species of gibbon, presumably Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbon *Hylobates gabriellae* (A. Monastyrskii verbally 2004).

Conservation issues

A surfaced road has recently been constructed to the top of the mountain ridge within the proposed nature reserve, where the provincial authorities plan to develop a tourism site, with accommodation and restaurants (A. Monastyrskii verbally 2004). Unless appropriate safeguards are introduced, these developments threaten to place increased pressure on the natural resources of the proposed nature reserve, with potentially serious negative impacts on natural habitats and wildlife populations.

Other documented values

During the French colonial era, Hon Ba was the site of a field research station of the celebrated scientist Dr Alexander Yersin (A. Monastyrskii verbally 2004).

Related projects

No information.

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

The site is not currently eligible for VCF support because it is not under appropriate conservation management.

Criterion	Eligibility
A _I	SA3 - Southern Annamites Main Montane Block
A _{II}	
B _I	Proposed Special-use Forest
B _{II}	Nature Reserve
B _{III}	Under provincial management
C _I	
C _{II}	

Social screening requirements

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

Criterion	Eligibility
A	
B	
C	
D	

Literature sources

None.