

Pac Bo Cultural and Historical Site

Alternative site name(s)

None

Province(s)

Cao Bang

Area

2,784 ha

Coordinates

22°58'N, 106°03'E

Agro-ecological zone

North-eastern

Decreed by government

Yes

Management board established

Yes

Investment plan prepared

Yes

VCF eligibility criteria met

A, C

Social screening criteria met

None

Conservation needs assessment prepared

No

Operational management plan prepared

No

Tracking tool completed

No

Map available

Yes

Management history

Pac Bo was included on Decision No. 41/TTg of the Prime Minister, dated 24 January 1977, which decreed the establishment of a 3,000 ha cultural and historical site (MARD 1997). In 1994, an investment plan was prepared by the FPD of the former Ministry of Forestry. The area of the cultural and historical site defined in this investment plan was 2,784 ha, comprising a strict protection area of 1,678 ha and a forest rehabilitation area of 1,106 ha (Cao Bang Provincial DARD *in litt.* 2000). This investment plan was approved by the former Ministry of Forestry (Cao Bang Provincial DARD *in litt.* 2000).

A management board for Pac Bo Cultural and Historical Site was established in 1994. The management board currently has five members of staff, based at one guard station (Cao Bang Provincial FPD *in litt.* 2003).

Pac Bo is included on a list of Special-use Forests to be established by the year 2010, prepared by the FPD of MARD, as a 2,784 ha cultural and historical site (FPD 2003); this list has not yet been approved by the government.

Topography and hydrology

Pac Bo Cultural and Historical Site is located in Truong Ha commune, Ha Quang district, Cao Bang

province. Pac Bo is situated in an area of limestone karst at elevations between c.400 and c.1,100 m.

Biodiversity values

Figures presented in MARD (1997) indicate that Pac Bo contains only 298 ha of natural forest, equivalent to 11% of the total area of the cultural and historical site. Although the area of remaining forest may be small, the remnant patches of limestone forest may support several globally threatened plant species, such as *Burretiodendron tonkinense* (Vu Van Dung *in litt.* 2000). However, the biodiversity value of the site has not been fully assessed.

Conservation issues

No information.

Other documented

Pac Bo Cultural and Historical Site was established to protect Pac Bo cave, where President Ho Chi Minh lived during the resistance war against the French. The site has been developed for tourism and receives significant numbers of domestic tourists each year. There is a museum at the site (Dodd and Lewis 1996).

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

Pac Bo is ineligible for VCF support because it is a cultural and historical site.

Criterion	Eligibility
A _I	NH2 - Northern Highlands Limestone
A _{II}	
B _I	Decision No. 41/TTg, dated 24/01/77
B _{II}	
B _{III}	Under provincial management
C _I	Management board established
C _{II}	

Social screening requirements

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

Criterion	Eligibility
A	
B	
C	
D	

Literature sources

Dodd, J. and Lewis, M. (1996) Vietnam: the rough guide. London: Rough Guides.

Vietnam News (2002) Uncle Ho makes his mark in border cave. Vietnam News 25 August 2002.