# Rung Thong Dong Son Proposed Cultural and Historical Site

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Alternative site name(s)

Rung Thong

Province(s)

Thanh Hoa

<u>Area</u>

290 ha

<u>Coordinates</u>

19<sup>0</sup>52'N, 105<sup>0</sup>52'E

Agro-ecological zone

North Central Coast

**Decreed by government** 

No

Management board established

No

**Investment plan prepared** 

Yes

VCF eligibility criteria met

None

Social screening criteria met

None

Conservation needs assessment prepared

No

Operational management plan prepared

No

Tracking tool completed

No

Map available

Yes

### **Management history**

A pine plantation was established at Dong Son prior to 1945. After the end of the French colonial era, following the call of President Ho Chi Minh, a further wave of afforestation was carried out at the site. The first proposal to establish a Special-use Forest at Rung Thong Dong Son was made in 1989 (MARD 1997). Following this, in 1994, an investment plan was prepared, which proposed establishing a 290 ha cultural and historical site, comprising a strict protection area of 66 ha and a forest rehabilitation area of 224 ha. This investment plan was approved by Thanh Hoa Provincial People's Committee by Decision No. 618/UBTH, dated 4 May 1994 (Thanh Hoa Provincial FPD *in litt.* 2000).

The investment plan for Rung Thong Dong Son has not yet been approved by MARD, and 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

Rung Thong Dong Son proposed cultural and historical site is located in Dong Son district, Thanh Hoa province. The site is situated in an area of low hills, which rise from the flat coastal plain of north-central Vietnam. The proposed cultural and historical site is situated on the southern bank of the Chu river,

one of the major rivers in Thanh Hoa province, and a tributary of the Ma river, which flows into the East Sea east of Thanh Hoa city.

### **Biodiversity values**

Rung Thong Dong Son proposed cultural and historical site covers a small pine plantation with few or no biodiversity values (Vu Van Dung *in litt.* 2000).

### **Conservation issues**

Thanh Hoa Provincial FPD (*in litt.* 2000) report that the biggest threat to the pine plantation at the proposed cultural and historical site is pests.

#### Other documented values

The Dong Son area is one of the most important archaeological sites in Vietnam. During the 1920s, several bronze drums were unearthed in the area, providing evidence of a indigenous culture, which flourished in northern Vietnam during the first millenium BC.

#### Related projects

No information.

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#### **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 ineligible for VCF support because it does not meet the criteria for supporting forest biodiversity of international importance. In addition, the site is a cultural and historical site, and it is not under appropriate conservation management.

| Criterion                   | Eligibility                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A_{\rm I}$                 |                             |
| $A_{II}$                    |                             |
| $B_{I}$                     | Proposed Special-use Forest |
| $B_{II}$                    |                             |
| $\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{III}}$ | Under provincial management |
| $C_{I}$                     |                             |
| $C_{II}$                    |                             |

# Social screening requirements

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

| Criterion | Eligibility |
|-----------|-------------|
| A         |             |
| В         |             |
| С         |             |
| D         |             |

#### Literature sources

None.