

Dong Ampham

Criteria: A1, A2 & A3

Province(s): Attapu
Protected area: Dong Ampham NPA
Area: 180,220 ha

Latitude: 14°56'N
Longitude: 107°25'E

General description

The IBA is located within Dong Ampham National Protected Area, in southern Lao P.D.R. The topography of the IBA is predominantly hilly, although elevations rise to over 2,000 m asl in the north-east of the IBA, along the international border with Vietnam. The major vegetation types in the IBA are semi-evergreen forest and dry evergreen forest, although there are also patches of secondary vegetation following shifting cultivation (Davidson *et al.* 1997). The IBA is believed to support a significant population of Black-hooded Laughingthrush *Garrulax milleti*. In addition, the IBA is thought to support nationally important populations of Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis* and Brown Hornbill *Anorrhinus tickelli*, although the maintenance of contiguous areas of natural habitat outside of the IBA may be essential to the long-term conservation of both species. The IBA also supports a number of globally threatened mammal species, including a gibbon species *Hyllobates* sp. (Davidson *et al.* 1997).

Key bird species

Species	IBA criteria	Global threat status	Lao threat status	Notes
Great Hornbill <i>Buceros bicornis</i>	A1	NT	ARL	Aggregations of at least 10 birds were seen on several occasions at a single fruiting tree in dry evergreen forest at 985 m asl in January 1997; at least 10 were seen nearby in May 1997; and a single bird was heard calling near the Houay Jeneeit in January 1997 (Davidson <i>et al.</i> 1997). The population at the IBA is of moderate to high national significance but moderate to low global significance.
Brown Hornbill <i>Anorrhinus tickelli</i>	A1, A3	NT	PARL	A flock of at least 10 birds was seen in dry evergreen forest at 850 m asl, and several birds were seen in dry evergreen forest at 1,100 m asl, in January 1997 (Davidson <i>et al.</i> 1997). The population at the IBA is probably of moderate national significance but low global significance.
Black-hooded Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax milleti</i>	A1, A2	NT	PARL	Two flocks of about five birds were seen in dry evergreen forest at 930 and 1,150 m asl in January 1997, and a flock of at least six was seen in dry evergreen forest at 980 m asl in May 1997 (Davidson <i>et al.</i> 1997). Given the large area of suitable habitat, the population at the IBA is probably of moderate to high national significance and moderate global significance.
White-cheeked Laughingthrush <i>G. vassali</i>	A2			The species was assessed as uncommon to fairly common during surveys in January and May 1997 (Davidson <i>et al.</i> 1997). The population at the IBA is of low national and global significance.
Grey-faced Tit Babbler <i>Macronous kelleyi</i>	A2			One bird was recorded in riparian scrub along the Houay Jeneeit in January 1997, and several birds were heard at up to 960 m asl in May 1997 (Davidson <i>et al.</i> 1997). The population at the IBA is of low national significance and very low global significance.

Biome-restricted species: The site qualifies under criterion A3 because it supports 11 species restricted to the Indochinese Tropical Moist Forests (Biome 09) (Davidson *et al.* 1997). See Appendix 3 for details.

Threats to biodiversity

The major threats to biodiversity at the IBA include subsistence hunting and commercial hunting, of which the latter is perhaps a greater threat, due to the existence of an illegal cross-border trade in wildlife and the fact that species of conservation concern, such as primates, are specifically targeted. Another major threat is clearance of forest for shifting cultivation, which is being exacerbated by an increasing human population in the area. Shifting cultivation is encroaching the old-growth forest within the IBA, and has resulted in succession by fire-climax pine woodland in some areas (Davidson *et al.* 1997).

References

Davidson, P., Robichaud, W. G., Tizard, R. J., Vongkhamheng, C. and Wolstencroft, J. (1997) *A wildlife and habitat survey of Dong Ampham NBCA and Phou Khathong proposed NBCA, Attapeu province, Lao P.D.R.* Vientiane: CPAWM/WCS.